

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN JUDGES

## DISTRICT 14 (CALIFORNIA & NEVADA) E-NEWS!

District 14 E-BLAST

**DECEMBER 2015**



### Happy Holidays From the Director!

As the holidays approach, I send you all cheers and good will! We have been busily planning for the upcoming international convention as well as our ongoing projects. As you will read, many of you have been recognized and honored for all that you do. May 2016 be another stellar year!



### Women of Color Judges Trailblazers San Diego

The Honorable Vallera Johnson, a NAWJ member and the founder and president of “Women of Color in Law” organization in San Diego, and approximately two hundred attendees celebrated and honored Seven of the First Women Judges of Color in San Diego County in an event on November 1, 2015 In La olla. All of the women featured are current or former NAWJ members, pictured on page two.





**Seven of the First Women of Color Judges in San Diego County**

**Hon. Elizabeth Riggs**



**African-American**

**Hon. Lillian Lim**



**Filipino-American**

**Hon. Tamilia E. Ipema**



**Iranian-American**

**Hon. Gale Kaneshiro**



**Japanese-American**

**Hon. Irma Gonzalez**



**Mexican-American**

**Hon. Patricia Cowett**



**Chinese-American**

**Hon. Margie Woods**



**Indonesian-American**





## CONGRATULATIONS MONTEREY COUNTY JUDGE MARLA ANDERSON

### 2015 LADY JUSTICE AWARD!

Judge Marla Anderson was honored as the recipient of the Lady Justice Award by the Monterey County Women Lawyers Association on December 3, 2015. The Lady Justice award is given to an outstanding person for a lifetime commitment to legal advocacy and community service. Judge Diana Becton, NAWJ President-Elect, was there to give remarks.



## San Diego County Superior Court Book Drive is a Success!



The books are piling up from the first annual book drive by NAWJ members of the San Diego County Superior Court bench. The local women's county jail will be opening a brand new library in January, 2016 and with the help of the NAWJ, many of the shelves will be stocked with the more than 500 books already collected during the first week. Shown in the photo are San Diego Commissioner Terrie Roberts (seated); Judge Tamila Ipema and Commissioner Pennie McLaughlin.





District Fourteen (CA, NV) News

## Color of Justice and Mentor Jet Programs Soar Triumphantly in San Diego once again.

Honorable Tamila E. Ipema chaired the sixth Color of Justice and Mentor Jet Program in San Diego on November 4, 2015. The National Association of Women Judges' Color of Justice Program was presented in collaboration with the San Diego Superior Court, Iranian-American Bar Association and the Pan-Asian Bar Association of San Diego. The participation of more than 45 Judicial Officers and attorneys as mentors made this program a huge success. The 35 students (grades 9 to 12) were from Crawford High School Law Academy. The program is designed to encourage high school students to consider pursuing careers in the law and to inspire and excite them about the study of law.

Experienced judges and lawyers of diverse backgrounds came together to share their experiences and challenges and to answer questions on a one to one basis.

The Honorable Randa Trapp, San Diego County Superior Court Judge, moderated the panel discussion "Justice System as a Career: Preparing the Way; Attorneys and Judges Making a Difference." The panel members included Honorable Irma Gonzalez (ret.) of the United States District Court, Ms. Summer Stephan, Chief Deputy District Attorney for San Diego County, Ms. Lizzette Herrera, Asst. Director of Public Service and Diversity at University of San Diego School of Law, and Ms. Safora Nowrouzi, third year law student at California Western School of Law.

Many thanks goes to the Color of Justice Program Chair, Hon. Tamila E. Ipema, Ms. Julie Myers, Ms. Amoreena Urbeck, Ms. Deanna Blanchard, Deputy Sheriff Scot Parriott, Justice Corps Students, and everyone else who worked so hard behind the scenes to make this program great!



### CONGRATULATIONS JUDGE JOAN P. WEBER!

Kudos and applause to Judge Joan P. Weber of San Diego Superior Court on her selection by the American Bar Association Torts and Insurance Practice Section to receive the Pursuit of Justice Award. This prestigious award recognizes lawyers and judges who have shown outstanding merit and who excel in providing access to justice for all.

The award will be given at the ABA Mid-Year Meeting in February 2016. There will be a reception in Judge Weber's honor following the giving of the award, on Saturday February 6, 2016 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Manchester Grand Hyatt.





During Judge Weber’s term as President of the California Judges Association, Judge Weber played an instrumental role in significant legislative reform and modernization of civil law and motion practice. Her contributions to civil litigation will enhance access to timely civil justice.



## CONGRATULATIONS COMMISSIONER DARLENE WHITE

### The recipient of the Judge of the Year Award!

The Honorable Darlene White was **the recipient of the San Diego Family Law Bar Judge of the year award in November 2015**. The purpose of the award is to recognize a Family Law Judge for their contribution to the Family Law community. Commissioner White is in charge of the East County settlement conference panel and she serves on numerous committees. She has been an asset to the Family Law bench since 2010. **Congratulations Commissioner White!!!**



## CONGRATULATIONS JERRILYN T. MALANA

### The Recipient of the 2015 Community Legacy Award!

Jerrilyn Malana is a shareholder at Littler: Employment & Labor Law Solutions Worldwide, and a NAWJ member. Ms. Malana was also the co-chair of the Friends Committee for the NAWJ 2014 Annual Conference in San Diego that was a huge success.

The **Community Legacy Award** is presented to an outstanding individual who exemplifies service and leadership, and whose contributions have made a substantial impact to the legacy of Pacific Arts Movement in the San Diego region. Jerri is a past President of the San Diego County Bar Association and past President of Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego. She has served on numerous Boards including Pacific Arts Movement, San Diego Opera, Union of Pan Asian Communities (UPAC), and Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego. Currently, Jerri is President of the University of California San Diego (UCSD) Alumni Association, and she serves as a trustee on the UCSD Foundation. She also serves on the Boards of the Alliance for Hope International and Crawford High School Academy of Law. Jerri has been recognized by multiple organizations for her work in the community including being named a “Trailblazer” by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association.

**Congratulations Jerri!**







**Judge Tilisha T. Martin**

**SAN DIEGO SUPERIOR COURT**

Judge Tilisha T. Martin took the oath of office on November 23, 2015. A La Mesa resident, Judge Martin, 45, previously served as the supervising attorney at the Dependency Legal Group of San Diego, Minor Counsel's Office since 2010. In addition, she was a deputy public defender at the San Diego County Public Defender's Office from 2005 to 2010 and prior to that, was the community court coordinator for the Downtown San Diego Partnership's Clean and Safe pro-

She holds master's degrees in justice management and social work from the University of Nevada, Reno, and San Diego State, and is also a graduate of Cal Western School of Law and UC Berkeley.





## **REMINDER FOR MEMBERS: DISTRICT 14 DUES ARE DUE:**

Please remember to pay your District 14 dues. Our nominal \$25 additional dues payment are for our specific District 14 needs. The \$25 payment should be sent to Sharon DeCastro in our national office: NAWJ, 1341 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 4.2, Washington, D.C. 20036. Please specify that your payment is for "District 14 dues."



## **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

Do not miss out the early-bird registration for the International Conference in Washington, D.C. that ends December 31, 2015.

By now we hope you have all marked your calendars for the 13<sup>th</sup> Biennial International Conference in Washington, D.C., May 26-29, 2016. This is going to be a once in a life-time experience with more than 800 women judges from around the world participating in this historic conference in Washington, D.C. Do not miss out! The conference will be completely booked so make your registration as soon as possible. There is a \$50 discount for the early bird registration that ends December 31, 2015. Please go to [www.nawj.org](http://www.nawj.org) and make your reservation today!

Please feel free to contact me at [asant@contracosta.courts.ca.gov](mailto:asant@contracosta.courts.ca.gov) or your regional/state chairs above with information about awards, retirements, color of justice, mentor jet or any other NAWJ programs presented in your area.

*Anita Santos*



Judge, Contra Costa County Superior Court  
NAWJ District 14 Director  
December 2015 E-blast





**UPCOMING CONFERENCES YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS:**

***Plan to Attend!***

**The National Association of Women Judges  
is proud to host the  
2016 IAWJ Biennial Conference  
May 26-30, 2016  
Washington, D.C. USA**

**Women Judges and the Rule of Law:  
Assessing the Past, Anticipating the Future**

*NAWJ looks forward to welcoming you to Washington, D.C.!*  
More information:  
<http://www.iawj.org/BiennialConference2016WashingtonDC.html>

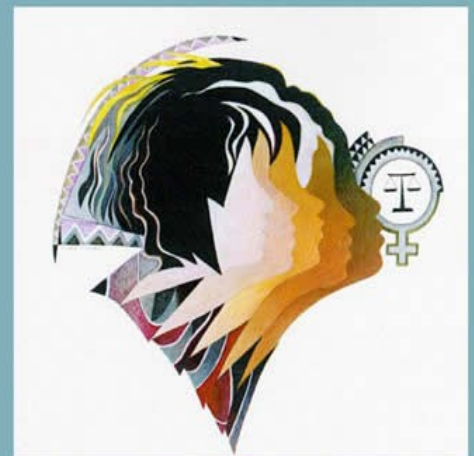


*Also, please mark your calendars for the  
NAWJ 38<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE that will take  
place in beautiful*

*Seattle, Washington: October 5-9, 2016 at the  
Sheraton Seattle Hotel*



*The Planning Committee is hard at work  
to provide us with incredible educational  
programs as well as lots of fun activities  
in Seattle!*



**Faces of Justice**

National Association of Women Judges  
38<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
October 5-9, 2016  
The Sheraton Seattle Hotel

