



**NAWJ District 7 Report**  
**District Director – Hon. Michelle M. Rick**  
February 10, 2017

**MICHIGAN**

**Face of Justice**

The State Bar of Michigan recently published an [online article](#) on the Faces of Justice program held in May. Read about how the Faces of Justice program is modeled on NAWJ's Color of Justice [here](#). The Equal Access Initiative, Juvenile Outreach Workgroup of the State Bar is looking to replicate the program on a regular, ongoing basis. They meet monthly. They are hoping to present the program to students in the Flint public schools next.

**MentorJet**

The next event will be held at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Grand Rapids, MI on March 8. Mentors and mentees are being recruited.

**Women Lawyers Association of Michigan (WLAM) Mid-Michigan**

Judge Rick will be speaking at the Mid-Michigan WLAM Annual Conference as part of a judicial panel discussion in March on family law matters.

**OHIO**

**NAWJ Ohio State Chair Judge Mary Margaret Rowlands Awards District 7 2017 Access to Justice Scholarship**

Judge Mary Margaret Rowlands presented the 2017 Access to Justice Scholarship to University of Akron third year law student Kenton Steele. This year, the scholarship was offered to a student who participated in Akron Law's Summer Trial Academy. Mr. Steele exemplifies the mission of NAWJ and the qualities the scholarship is designed to advance. Drawing from her pre-judicial career as a trial lawyer, Judge Rowlands worked with Professor Dana Cole to create the Summer Trial Academy in 2015. The Summer Trial Academy is a highlight of Akron Law's commitment to trial advocacy training. It is modeled after similar programs at Harvard Law and Gerry Spence's Trial Lawyer College. Twenty four students spend each morning, afternoon and evening for two weeks with volunteer trial lawyers from the community working through trial preparation, culminating in trials heard by local judges with incoming law students sitting as jurors.

Judge Rowlands earned her J.D. from The University of Akron School of Law in 1989 and has been a judge on the Summit County, Ohio, Common Pleas Court since 2009. She is dedicated to diversity and equality in the legal profession, protecting individual rights, fairness and equality in the courts, and equal access to justice.