



March 7, 2025  
Midyear Report  
Report from District 3  
Honorable Lisa James-Beavers

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The members of District 3 have been very busy meeting to plan our Color of Justice program, which will be held on April 3, 2025, at the Mitchell H. Cohen U.S. Courthouse in Camden, NJ. The Committee consists of: Honorable Kim Belin, Administrative Law Judge; Elizabeth Davies, Deputy Attorney General; Erin Gallagher, Esq.; Honorable Rosemary Gambardella, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge; Gina Labrecque, Deputy Attorney General; Honorable Lourdes Santiago, Judge of the Superior Court (ret.); Honorable Siobhan Teare, Judge of the Superior Court (ret.); Honorable Karen Williams, Judge of the District Court of NJ; me as Chair; and Laurie Denham, NAWJ Executive Director.

The program will consist of four parts: a keynote speaker, Honorable Michael Noriega, Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court; a panel on civics featuring Gina Labrecque as moderator and U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Christine Gravelle, Superior Court Judge Charles Dortch; and Superior Court Judge Gwendolyn Blue; a panel on careers in the law moderated by Deputy Attorney General Elizabeth Davies and featuring Administrative Law Judge Kim Belin, Assistant U.S. Attorney Jason Richards, Paralegal Rucha Dubli, and Assistant Deputy Public Defender Felicia Felder; and the last part will be lunch. There will be opening remarks by the Chief Justice of the U.S. District Court Renee Bumb, U.S. District Court Judge Karen Williams and me. We will attempt to make the program as interactive as possible and have the students ask and answer questions. The theme is **“Empowering Youth to Become Informed Leaders.”**

In addition, I attended the following events and engaged in the following activities after attending the NAWJ conference in October:

- The Rutgers Law School Professionals of Color Reception honoring the affinity bar associations on November 13, 2024;
- Worked with my assigned mentee through the Association of Black Women Lawyers of NJ after assignment on November 23, 2024;
- Minorities in the Profession Section of the NJ State Bar Association Black History Month Program on February 19, 2025;
- The Black History Month celebration of Rowan College at Burlington County honoring Honorable Marie White Bell, first Black Superior Court Judge in Burlington County, NJ, now retired, on February 21, 2025;
- The Association of Black Women Lawyers of NJ's U.S. Supreme Court swearing in ceremony on February 26, 2025 in which I sponsored two of the members. We were able to meet the Honorable Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson; and,
- Recovery Court Graduation – Superior Court of New Jersey on March 7, 2025.
- I look to doing outreach to Philadelphia and Delaware in 2025.

