

# **ANNUAL REPORTS**

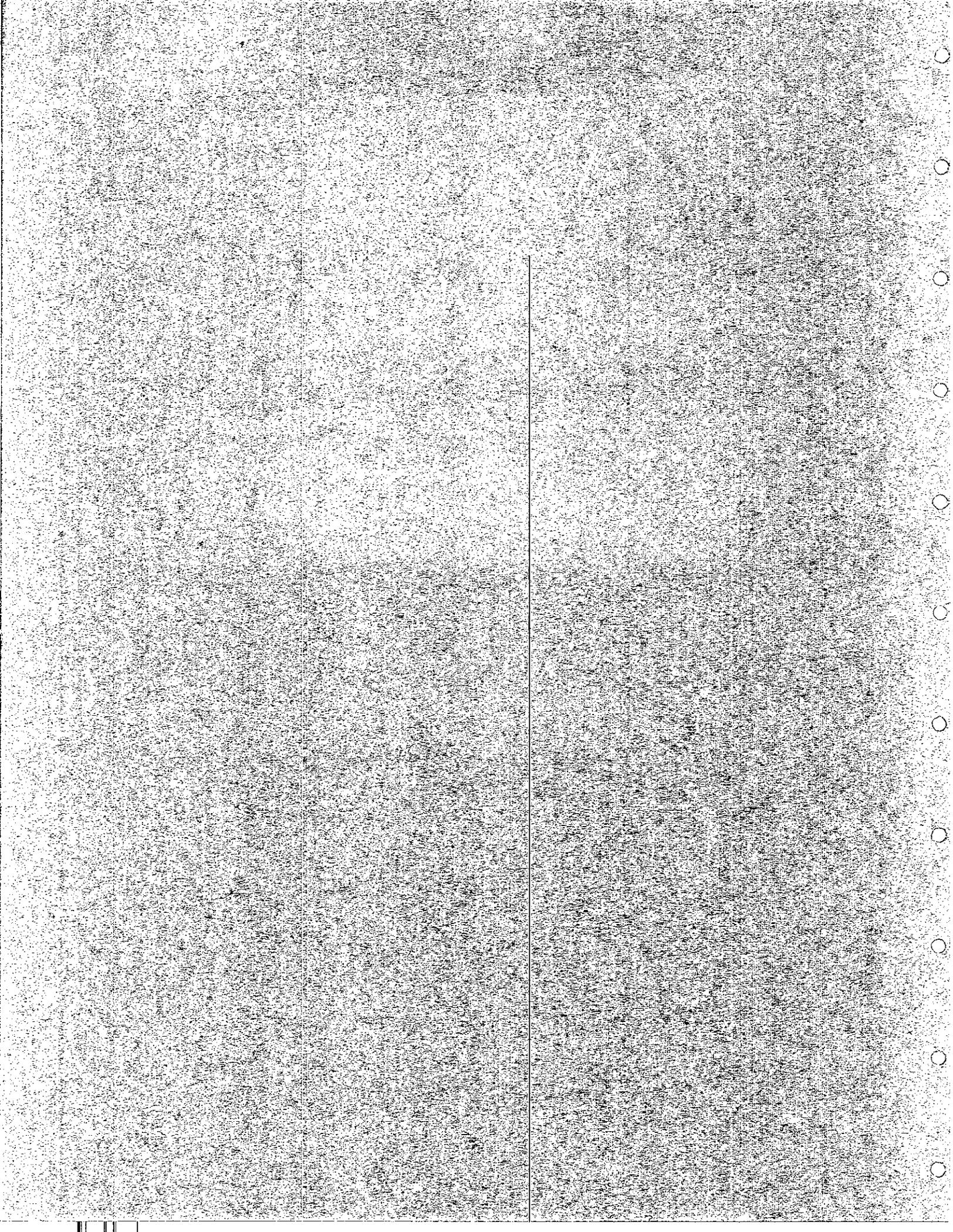
## ***Local Gender Bias and Gender Fairness Committees***

**2003-2004**

*Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Leslie Stein, Chair**  
Albany City Court  
Albany City Hall, Room 209  
Albany, NY 12207

518-434-2145



## LOCAL COMMITTEES REPORTS 2003-2004

Name of the Committee Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

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**Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair**

Hon. Leslie E. Stein, 40 Steuben Street, Suite 601, Albany, New York 12207

Phone: 518-434-2145; Fax: 518-434-5980; E-mail: lstein@courts.state.ny.us

**No. Members** 35      **Composition of the Committee** (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.):  
Judges - 6, Court Personnel - 15, Advocates - 10, Other - 4

### **New York State Courts Under Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Leadership**

**What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be as specific as possible and try to give concrete examples.**

The following are a number of related changes affecting women over the past 20 years: significantly increased number of women attorneys & much more slowly increasing number of women Judges; greater accessibility to the legal system for women of moderate means through pro se divorce clinics & forms, not-for-profit programs such as the Capital District Women's Bar Association's Legal Project; more attorneys willing to represent domestic violence victims pro bono as a result of training programs; increased sensitivity of lawyers, Judges and court personnel; Drug Courts & Domestic Violence Parts.

**What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women, particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State court system?**

The need for ongoing training of Judges, lawyers and court personnel in issues related to family law, domestic violence and immigration law. Also, the need to continue to attempt to streamline the system to avoid multiple proceedings in different courts involving related issues. Finally, to the extent the budget allows, there is a need to ensure adequate numbers of Judges, Support Magistrates, Judicial Hearing Officers, Court Attorneys and court personnel to ensure that cases are addressed promptly and that jurists have adequate time and resources to devote to each case.

**Local Committee Activities For the Past Year:** Please include, if relevant and possible, names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2003**

Written materials were distributed and displayed in various courthouse locations  
(see, for example, attached newspapers article)

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**Activities for Women's History Month 2004**

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**Other Activities in the Past Year**

- (1) February 24, 2003 Meeting - The Committee heard presentations by 3 individuals involved in the mediation process: a private attorney mediator; the executive director of a local mediation program that contracts with OCA; and the person in charge of the Unified Court System's ADR programs.
  
- (2) June 10, 2003 Meeting - Hon. Gerard E. Maney (Albany County Family Court Judge and Supervising Family Court Judge for the Third Judicial District) made a presentation to the Committee regarding the new Albany County Family Court Treatment Court.
  
- (3) September 15, 2003 Meeting and Presentation - Following a brief meeting, the Committee, together with the New York State Chapter of Kiwanis, made a presentation of children's books to the Albany and Rensselaer County Family Court Children's Centers. In attendance were Chief Judge Kaye, the Third Judicial District Administrative Judge, the Acting Coordinator of the Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children, various judges, support magistrates and court personnel from throughout the Third Judicial District, as well as court administrators from throughout the state. Also present were representatives of the Children's Centers, bar association presidents, law guardians and other attorneys and Kiwanis representatives, including the District Governor and Immediate Past Governor.

A similar presentation was made on August 16, 2003 during the course of the Kiwanis District Convention in Sullivan County in the presence of almost 1,000 Kiwanians, as well as judges and court administrators from Ulster and Sullivan Counties.

In total, approximately 2,000 books were collected by Kiwanis and distributed to the 4 Family Court Children's Centers in the Third Judicial District through this joint initiative. The event received excellent publicity in the Albany Times Union and in the NYS Jury Pool News (see attached).

(4) Membership - A description of the Committee was published in the Third Judicial District's Newsletter, "Rounding Third" (see attached), resulting in several new Committee members. In addition, through outreach efforts, other individuals from the legal community and from within the court system joined the Committee.

(5) Miscellaneous - The Committee is collaborating with the Capital District Women's Bar Association on a maternity leave survey and a local gender fairness survey.

### **Plans for Next Year**

It is hoped that the increase in the committee membership will enable the committee to undertake some initiatives that have been discussed for some time, such as drafting a Mission Statement, revising gender bias complaint forms, preparing an informational pamphlet for Family Court litigants, preparing a domestic violence fact sheet for town and village Justices.

Most Important Difficulty Confronting Your Committee \_\_\_\_\_  
Due to the large geographic area of the Judicial District, it has been difficult to coordinate many activities.

**Please attach copies** of flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee.

Please return this form by **March 1, 2004** to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel  
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
25 Beaver Street, Room 878  
New York, New York 10004

or **fax** the form to **212-428-2793**.

# Columbia & Dutchess

8-1616 ext. 2271

## Domestic Violence Awareness month



Members of the New York State Office of Court Administration's Gender Fairness Committee for the Third Judicial District and Columbia-Greene Domestic Violence were at the Columbia County Courthouse Monday to raise awareness regarding the services offered to domestic violence victims. October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. Pictured are Greene County Family Court Chief Clerk Brenda Vandermark, left; Leslie Hommel of Columbia Greene Domestic Violence, Columbia County Supreme, County and Family Court Chief Clerk Dorothy Press; Greene County Law Guardian Edgema Brennan; Esq. state Supreme Court Judge Leslie E. Stein; also Gender Fairness Committee chair, and Columbia County Deputy Clerk Diana Morelock.

Rich Azopardi/Hudson Valley Newspapers



It's, like, time to find a job.



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## GIFT OF BOOKS BINDING KIDS TO LITERACY

Troy Kiwanis Club donation helps supply court's children's center

MICHELE MORGAN BOLTON Staff writer

The state's highest judge took a brief detour from an active Court of Appeals session Monday to help acknowledge a Kiwanis Club book donation at the Children's Center of Rensselaer County Family Court.

"My heart is overflowing today," said Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye, after working the room full of judges, court officers, advocates and Kiwanians as if each were a dear, old friend.

The book project was embraced by the national civic group and the Third Judicial District's Gender Fairness Committee, led by Supreme Court Justice Leslie Stein.

Kiwanis Club members have collected and distributed more than 150,000 children's books over the past two years, said District Governor Justin Underwood, who attended the gathering with his wife, Joanne: "I'm glad some of them are coming (here.)"

Rensselaer County's children's center is run in conjunction with the Commission on Economic Opportunity and provides a safe place for children to wait while their parents deal with issues behind closed doors upstairs.

Everything is child-sized in the brightly decorated center in the Family Court complex basement, including a pair of tables for projects.

Play kitchen appliances stand near a double row of cubbies and colorful pictures and handmade art creations decorate the walls.

A packed calendar by the door posts a variety of activities each day to keep things lively, in particular, for those kids who make regular visits.

"There's just nothing better than an effort like this that provides such an important educational resource," Stein said.

Boxes that were balanced atop each other on a back-room table Monday held hundreds of titles -- from numbered reference volumes to Little Golden Books about ducks.

"I've come to Rensselaer County Family Court for a celebration," Kaye said. "But we know not every meeting of our litigants is an occasion for celebration."

Kaye's Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children has opened 32 such facilities statewide over the past seven years. Centers served more than 53,000 children last year.

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The first leg of Kaye's three-pronged initiative was to remove children from dangerous courthouse hallways.

Second was to connect families with needed services — like Head Start, food stamps and the Women and Infant Children food subsidy program, she said.

Third is the literacy component, something Kaye said she found particularly exciting.

Every child gets to take home a new book labeled with his or her own name, she said: ``Could we give a more wonderful gift? ... This is a whole new dimension of what we can do in courts."

Rensselaer County Family Court Judge Linda Griffin dissolved in tears, with others, as the gift was accepted.

Griffin is a board member with Literacy Volunteers of Greater Rensselaer County and said her two dearest avocations are children and books.

``You can't possibly expect me to leave with a dry eye," Griffin said, smiling at her own emotional reaction. ``Judge (Catherine) Cholakis and I deal every day with people who aren't literate. ... We gain the world when we teach them to read."

Sullivan County Family Court Support Magistrate Karen Linen said it was her husband's idea, two years ago, to start a book donation program for their family court center.

Then Stein agreed gathering books would be a good service project for the court's gender committee, on which Linen, a 14-year Kwonian, also serves.

``Now I can hear them when they leave saying, 'Look Mom, I got the Lorax,' " added Linen.

Kaye encouraged everyone, fellow judges included, to donate books to the centers.

``My youngest child just turned 35," she joked, before returning to court in Albany. ``I think it's time to purge the library of favorites like ``Goodnight Moon." **FACTS:PROGRAM'S PURPOSE** The Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children has undertaken three initiatives: To remove children from dangerous courthouse hallways; To connect families with needed services; To promote literacy.

#### RENSSELAER TU

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# JURY POOL NEWS

A NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTING THE LATEST COURT INITIATIVES AND RELATED NEWS

## Rochester Judge Explores Novel Trial Practices

### Also in this Issue

Meeting the Legal Needs of NY's Poor ..... 2, 3

New Service for Nassau Jurors ..... 4

Celebrating Adoptive Families ..... 6

Special Gift for Courts' Youngest Visitors ..... 7

Puzzle Fun ..... 8

The following article, written by Monroe County Supreme Court Judge Joseph D. Valentino, appeared in The Monroe Daily Record this past September 11<sup>th</sup>. Judge Valentino is a member of The Jury Trial Project, a statewide effort aimed at improving the trial process for all participants.

"If any of you has a question to ask a witness or the court, please write the question on paper and the court officer will deliver the question to me. For legal reasons, I must decide whether and how the question may be asked and what procedure to follow."

A very unfamiliar charge to the jury, and one that I had never uttered before August 2003. I am a traditionalist and as such, very slow to accept change, especially in one of the most revered traditions in our jurisprudence, the jury trial.

However, in May 2003 I was appointed to the New York State Jury Trial Project. I attended the organizational meeting for judges and was presented with a list of innovative jury trial practices for my evaluation. Visiting judges from other states who had experience using these innovations suggested that these procedures have improved jurors' understanding of the trial process and comprehension of the evidence and law.

I sat through the presentations and discussions, shaking my head with a great deal of skepticism, bolstered by

*continued on page 6*

## It's a Stellar Day for Jurors



Celebrities Mary Alice, James Earl Jones, Julia Stiles, Kristin Chenoweth and Jon Stewart at the Manhattan Supreme Court jury tribute this past November.

THE SPOTLIGHT WAS ON NEW YORK JURORS AS AN ALL-STAR CAST GATHERED at the Manhattan Supreme Court jury assembly room this past November to discuss their recent jury experiences and pay homage to the 600,000-plus citizens statewide who each year show up at their local courthouses, ready to do their civic duty.

Expressing her delight at the large

turnout of musicians, journalists, actors and other luminaries, New York State

***"Neither rain nor snow nor tragedy nor blackout stops New York's jurors from serving."***

First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Ann Pfau told an audience of jurors, judges, court officials and others that she

continues to be astonished by the dedication of jurors throughout the state, adding, "Neither rain nor snow nor tragedy nor blackout stops New York's jurors from serving."

"I didn't realize the impact I could have as a citizen," declared Tony award-winning actress-singer Kristin Chenoweth. Addressing a group of high-schoolers in the crowd, she added, "Two

*continued on page 5*

## Giving the Gift of Literacy to Courts' Youngest Visitors

IT MAY HAVE BEEN A BALMY SEPTEMBER DAY, but it was looking a lot more like Christmas inside the Rensselaer County Family Courthouse as Kiwanis Club New York District Governor Justin Underwood and his wife, Joanne, a former schoolteacher, arrived with a very special delivery—2,000 brand-new children's books.

Donated by Kiwanis Club members throughout New York, the books were collected for distribution to youngsters of Family Court litigants in Rensselaer, Albany, Sullivan and Ulster counties. In the past two years Kiwanis Club members statewide have amassed and disseminated some 150,000 books to children in need.

"My heart is overflowing today. This is the most special 20th-anniversary gift," said an emotional Chief Judge Judith Kaye of the generous donation, alluding to the 20-year anniversary of her appointment to New York's Court of Appeals.

She told those who crowded into the Rensselaer courthouse for the heart-warming presentation that the new books would be distributed among the four Family Courts' children's centers, part of a statewide network of court facilities that last year alone served over 53,000 youngsters.

The cheerful, cozy centers where youngsters can read, play or work on art and other projects as their parents attend to court business were established by the Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children, a coalition of child advocates, jurists, academics and legislators dedicated to addressing the needs of children whose lives are touched by the court system.



An emotional Chief Judge Kaye lauds New York District Kiwanis Club members for their generous donation of 2,000 brand-new children's books for distribution to youngsters of Family Court litigants in Rensselaer and neighboring counties.

Promoting literacy via a curriculum that incorporates storytelling, musical and other activities, children's center staffers also link youngsters and their families to educational, health and other vital programs.

At one point during the ceremony Judge Kaye noted that many

court employees around the state have donated books to the children's centers, enabling their young visitors to leave with a book to cuddle up with at bedtime. Calling on those in attendance to do the same, she added, "Imagine every child taking home a new book labeled with his or her own name. Could we give a more wonderful gift?"

Sullivan County Family Court Support Magistrate Karen Linen, a member of the Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee and a veteran Kiwanian, and her husband, past lieutenant governor of their local Kiwanis Club, were thinking along the same lines when they first proposed the idea for a Kiwanis Club book drive to benefit youngsters who

visit the children's centers.

"In my office in Sullivan County Family Court we share a common lobby with the children's center. I began to wonder how we could do something for the youngsters when my husband suggested donating books to the center," explains Ms. Linen, adding that Supreme Court Judge Leslie Stein, who chairs the Gender Fairness Committee, turned the suggestion into a service project for the group.

"Now I can hear the youngsters when they leave saying, 'Look mommy, I got 'The Lorax,'" reports Ms. Linen happily.

Rensselaer County Family Court Judge Linda Griffin, overcome by the Kiwanis Club members' charity and commitment to literacy, said through tears, "If there are two things that mean a great deal to me, they are literacy and children... We open the world to children when we teach them to read." ♦

### INTERESTED IN SHARING YOUR JURY EXPERIENCE WITH OUR READERS?

We'd like to hear from you. We also welcome any comments about the newsletter as well as story ideas for future issues. Please send juror anecdotes, newsletter suggestions and story ideas to:

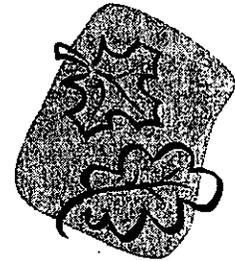
Ariene Hackel  
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ahackel@courts.state.ny.us

Jury Pool News is published quarterly  
by the New York State Unified Court  
System's Office of Public Affairs.

# Spring Into Fall?

Can it really be November? It's truly hard to believe we have gone from awaiting the first blooming lilac to planting hardy mums in the blink of an eye. As sad as it is to say goodbye to the picnics, the barbecues, the festivals and fairs, autumn has its own special flavor that we wait all year long to revisit. Like those cool crisp mornings that wake you up in a snap and make the afternoon sunshine feel ten times warmer. And how about those weekends spent apple picking and drinking hot cider with donuts? I'm sure all you football fans can't wait for Sunday afternoons to have a nice bowl of chili in front of your big-screen TV. I guess the point I'm trying to make is, we live in New York because it offers us a taste of something special all year long. Spring, if we have one, is too short, summer, if it doesn't rain all the time, is too short, fall, if it doesn't snow early, is too short, and winter, well, maybe winter is a bit too long. But we wouldn't have it any other way, because

that's what living upstate is all about. So don't be sad that summer is gone, be happy it's only seven months away. In the meantime, take advantage of the turning leaves, the tricks or treats, and all the pumpkin pie you can eat!



## The Team Roster

We have some changes to our district office line up that you all should know about. Here's the latest report:

**Captain George Byrne** - Moving up the ranks as well as upstate, this Captain's promotion brings him from Sullivan County Supreme Court. He now heads our growing security staff from the 3rd District Office.

**Lauren Clemenzi** - Promoted to Assistant Court Analyst in the District Office's Court Operations Unit, Lauren brings with her many years of experience having worked in both Troy City and Albany Family Courts.

**Patricia Pettit** - Former Chief Clerk of Norwich City Court, Patricia comes to the 3rd as a Court Analyst in our Court Operations Unit.



### Everyday Issues

<b>Making It Fit—Automation Tip</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>The Free Agent</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Home Plate Favorites</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Home and Turf</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Spring Training</b>	<b>4</b>

### Special points of interest:

- Learn about the 3rd District Gender Fairness Committee on page 2.
- No translation necessary with this cleverly written piece about the life of a Spanish Interpreter (by Sandra Camacho)
- Special letter of thanks from a 3rd District employee
- Our Year-End Stats on page 5 may include you!

ROUNDED DISTRICTS  
**Rounding Third**

# Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

The New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts was created in 1986 by then-Chief Judge Sol Wachtler to implement the recommendations made by the New York State Task Force on Women in the Courts as a result of an investigation by the Task Force into whether the role of women in "the jurisprudential scheme in the Empire State is fair under all circumstances."<sup>1</sup> Local Gender Fairness Committees, such as the one in the Third Judicial District, were also formed throughout the State to help implement these recommendations. The Gender Fairness Committee is comprised of judges, attorneys, non-judicial personnel and members of the public from throughout the district.

The current chair of the Third Judicial District (the Committee) is Hon. Leslie E. Stein. As part of its mandate, the Committee, as well as each local gender fairness committee within the district, ac-

cepts complaints from the general public, including lawyers, litigants, jurors, court watchers, members of the news media, and any others concerned about the treatment of women and men in the courts. These complaints might concern a practice or procedure in a particular court or system-wide, a specific incident, or individuals within the system, including court personnel. A complaint made to the committee is referred to the District Administrative Office for appropriate action. The complaint is kept confidential, unless disclosure is absolutely necessary, and the complainant may ask to remain anonymous. The process is often informal and varies with each situation.

In addition to receiving complaints, the Committee invites individuals, from both within and without the court system, to make presentations on subjects of interest to the members. In the past, such subjects have included domestic violence,

batterers intervention programs and alternative dispute resolution, among others. The Committee also promotes and supports programs and activities in the community, as well as within the court system, in order to increase awareness of gender bias in the courts and further the goal of gender fairness. Examples of Committee's activities include advocacy for the expansion of supervised visitation programs and assistance with annual education programs on domestic violence in the workplace.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Committee, please contact Justice Leslie Stein by email at: [lstein@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:lstein@courts.state.ny.us).

<sup>1</sup>Report of the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts, reprinted in *Fordham Urb.*, L.J. 1, 99 (1986-87).

## HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Friday, December 12, 2003

Albany County Courthouse

Rotunda

5:00-8:30pm

\$20 per person



Call Dawn at 518-487-5080 for reservations by Dec 9th

## The Free Agent

Our locker room has some extra equipment in it that might be useful in the field. Please contact Mickey Cleary at 518-445-8918 or email him at [mcleary@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:mcleary@courts.state.ny.us) if you would like any of these items.

Item #1 Older Fax Machine

Item #2 Table

Item #3 Tan disc cabinet

## Helping You Fit in with Make It Fit

Remember when you went to school and the teacher told you to hand in a 10-page paper—how you'd fuss with the margins and line spacing until it stretched out to ten pages? In the working world, you also may have page limits. A judge might put a page limit on the length of a trial brief. Or, you might have a document that covers four pages with three short paragraphs on the fourth page. You could adjust with the margins and the font size until all the text fits on a certain number of pages. But a quicker way is to let WordPerfect make the changes to fit the page limit. WordPerfect's Make It Fit feature can quickly expand or shrink the document to fit a certain number of pages.

Let's say you have a document that runs a little more than six pages and you'd like to reduce that to exactly six. Open your document, choose Format/Make It Fit from the menu bar. The Make It Fit dialog box appears and allows you to select the number of pages to shrink or expand the document to. By default, WordPerfect adjusts only the font size and line spacing, but it also allows you to select by which means you wish it to make it fit such as adjust the margins. The thing to remember is that a document can only be decreased or increased by 50 percent of its original size. So if we start with 6 pages, we cannot make it bigger than 12 pages or smaller than 3 pages. If you choose Make It Fit and don't like the results, simply click Edit/Undo from the menu bar. You can also use Make It Fit for a selected area as opposed to the entire document. This can be accomplished by highlighting the area desired and then choosing Format/Make It Fit from the menu bar. You will see that the Area To Adjust now reads Selected Area. Select your options and click Make It Fit to get your results.

Now that you know about this feature, your documents will fit neatly on your preferred number of pages. Have fun with it and never again worry about not fitting in!

*Remember when you went to school and the teacher told you to hand in a 10-page paper—how you'd fuss with the margins and line spacing until it stretched out to ten pages?*



*You are cordially invited to a complimentary  
reception hosted by Unity House*

IN RECOGNITION OF  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH  
Goldberg Auditorium Bush Memorial Hall  
Russell Sage Troy Campus  
1st & Congress Streets, Troy, NY  
Friday, October 17, 2003 from 4 -6 p.m.

Guest Speaker

**Lundy Bancroft**

Author of

Why Does He Do That? & The Batterer As A Parent

R.S.V.P. By Oct. 10, 2003 to Karla Roll at 272-5917  
(Parking Available on 1st Street and 1st & Fulton Streets)

### THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

The New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts was created in 1986 by then-Chief Judge Sol Wachtler to implement the recommendations made by the New York State Task Force on Women in the Courts as a result of an investigation by the Task Force into whether the role of women in "the jurisprudential scheme in the Empire State is fair under all circumstances".<sup>1</sup> Local Gender Fairness Committees, such as the one in the Third Judicial District, were also formed throughout the State to help implement these recommendations. The Gender Fairness Committee is comprised of judges, attorneys, non-judicial personnel and members of the public from throughout the District.

The current chair of the Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee (the Committee) is Hon. Leslie E. Stein. As part of its mandate, the Committee, as well as each local gender fairness committee within the District, accepts complaints from the general public, including lawyers, litigants, jurors, court watchers, members of the news media, and any others concerned about the treatment of women and men in the courts. These complaints might concern a practice or procedure in a particular court or system-wide, a specific incident, or individuals within the system, including court personnel. A complaint made to the Committee is kept confidential, unless disclosure is absolutely necessary, and the complainant may ask to remain anonymous. The process is informal and the role of the Committee varies with each situation.

In addition to considering complaints, the Committee invites individuals, from both within and without the court system, to make presentations on subjects of interest to the members. In the past, such subjects have included domestic violence, batterers intervention programs and alternative dispute resolution, among others. The Committee also promotes and supports programs and activities in the community, as well as within the court system, in order to increase awareness of gender bias in the courts and further the goal of gender fairness. Examples of Committee's activities include advocacy for the expansion of supervised visitation programs and assistance with annual educational programs on domestic violence in the work place.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Committee, please contact Justice Stein by e-mail at: [lstein@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:lstein@courts.state.ny.us).

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<sup>1</sup>Report of the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts, reprinted in *Fordham Urb.*, L.J. 1, 99 (1986-87).



# Memorandum

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**To:** Gender Fairness Committee Members  
**From:** Hon. Leslie E. Stein  
**Date:** February 2, 2004  
**Subject:** Gender Fairness Committee Meeting

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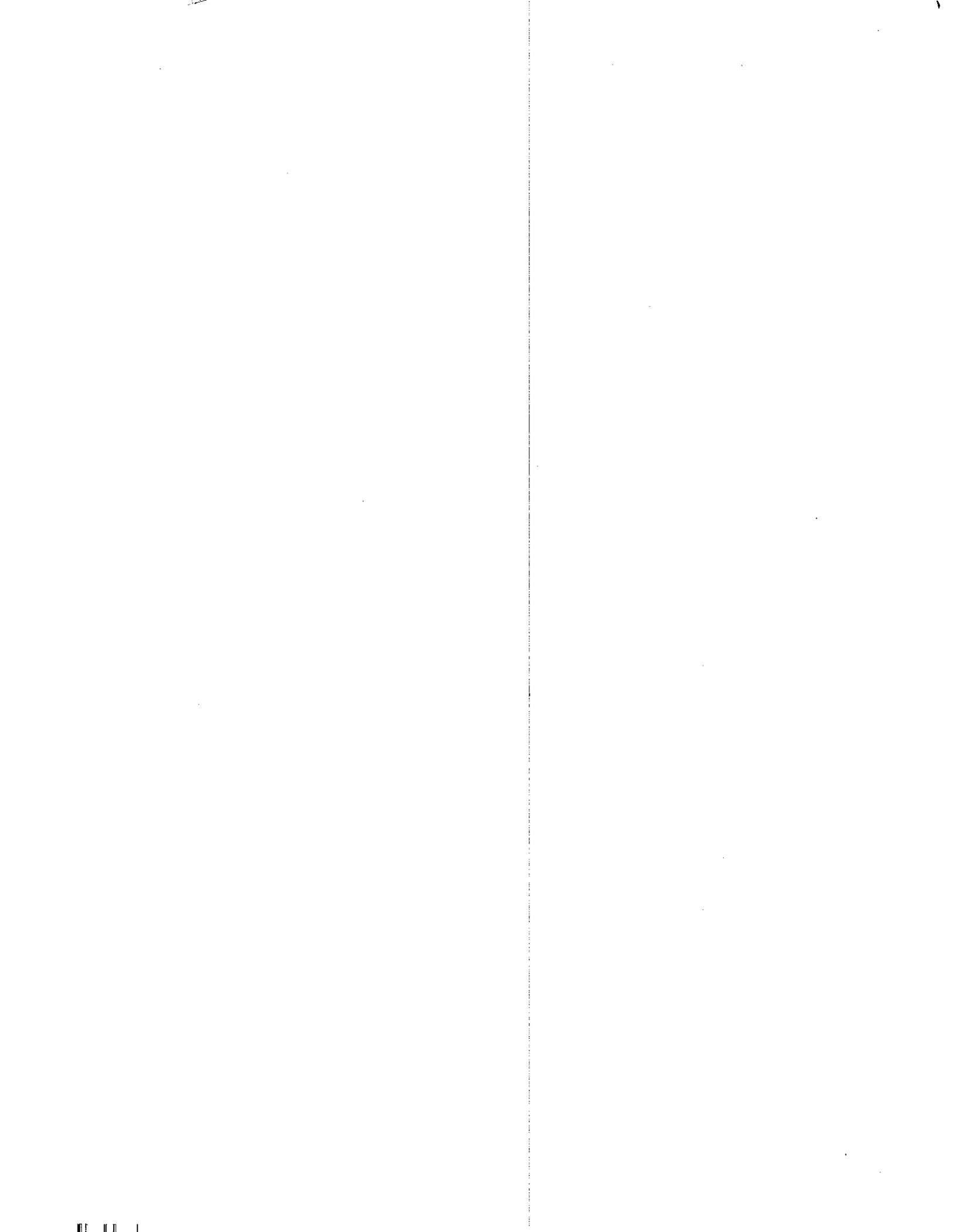
The Committee's next meeting is on Thursday, March 11, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. at the Legal Project Office. Directions attached.

Our guest speaker will be Ellen Schell, Esq. She will be speaking about sexual assault.

See you there!

swh

cc: Hon. Thomas W. Keegan  
David L. Sullivan  
Alice M. Chapman  
Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin  
Jill Laurie Goodman  
Gregory L. Murray



*Fourth Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Jo Anne Assini**  
Family Court Judge, Schenectady County  
620 State Street  
Schenectady, NY 12305

518-388-4305

**Eileen Kassner, Esq.**  
Chambers of Hon. Vincent Reilly, Jr  
Schenectady County Supreme Court  
620 State Street  
Schenectady, NY 12305

518-388-4322

**Nicole Duve, Esq.**  
Court Attorney  
Franklin County Courthouse  
355 West Main Street  
Malone, NY 12953

588-481-1732



## LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2003-2004

**Name of the Committee:** Fourth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts

**Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Co-Chairs:**

Eileen Kassner, Esq., Court Attorney, Schenectady County  
620 State Street, Schenectady, New York 12305  
518-388-4305 / [Ekassner@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:Ekassner@courts.state.ny.us)

Nicole Duvé, Esq., Court Attorney, Franklin County  
355 West Main Street, Malone, New York 12953  
518-481-1732 / [Nduve@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:Nduve@courts.state.ny.us)

**Number of Members:** 23

**Composition of the Committee:** 14 Judges, 3 Court Attorneys, 6 Attorneys at large.

**What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years?**

Over the past twenty years there has been a significant increase in awareness, by both those who work for and with the court system, as well as the general public, about issues surrounding domestic violence. With this awareness has come an increase in services designed to meet the specific needs of women and children faced with domestic violence. Most, if not all, of the counties within our district now have active domestic violence task forces designed to bring together judges, prosecutors and other attorneys, service providers and advocacy groups on a regular basis to address the peculiar needs and issues that arise in the context of family violence.

Additionally, over the past couple of years our district has made a concerted effort to educate town and village justices about domestic violence issues and the use and registration of orders of protection. As a result, now, more than ever before, victim access to orders of protection have increased as these courts, which domestic violence victims are most likely to encounter, take requests for orders of protection more seriously, issue them earlier in the course of the proceedings and with greater regularity.

More recently, our district has begun to implement the model of the Integrated Domestic Violence Court. The first such court in our district became operational in December 2003 and is a multi-jurisdictional court serving Clinton, Franklin and Essex Counties. Plans

committee, was a presentation by the Hon. Timothy J. Lawliss, Clinton County Family Court Judge, on the implementation of the district's first Integrated Domestic Violence Court. Judge Lawliss gave an overview of the goals and objectives of this family oriented model and explained how cases would be identified and transferred from the local courts.

Schenectady County, October 29, 2003

#### **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASE GOES TO COURT**

Spearheaded by the Hon. Jo Anne Assini, Schenectady County Family Court Judge, this mock trial presentation drew upon the experiences of seasoned professionals within the court system, the local bar, and community action agencies, to give audience members an eye-opening, yet balanced view, of how cases involving domestic violence travel through the court system. It also worked to raise awareness about the often complex issues that arise when trying to mete out justice for offenders, assure safety for victims and serve the needs of families in turmoil. Audience members, which included representatives from safe houses, the YWCA, county probation and social services departments, attorneys and law guardians, court personnel and high school students, were invited to participate as jurors for the mock criminal prosecution.

#### **Activities for Women's History Month 2004:**

St. Lawrence County, March 2004:

##### **HISTORY IN THE MAKING**

The Hon. Kathleen M. Rogers, St. Lawrence County Surrogate, will be visiting local classrooms in St. Lawrence County to talk about her place in history, as the first female judge elected, at the county level, in our district. Judge Rogers will be talking to students about what it took to get there and how she has seen the legal profession change for women over the course of her tenure on the bench.

#### **Other Activities in the Past Year:**

Franklin County, March 20, 2003

##### **TODAY'S DECISIONS / TOMORROW'S SOCIETY**

Designed to address areas of perceived need and to provide local town and village justices with another opportunity to obtain continuing judicial education credits, the Hon. Robert G. Main, Jr., Franklin County Multi-Bench Judge, together with the Comlinks Domestic Violence Intervention Program, the Franklin County Department of Probation and the Rural Law Center of New York, Inc., put together a program covering justice court appeals, orders of protection, sex offender registry and pre-sentence investigations. Judge Main reviewed those circumstances where the issuance of an order of protection should be considered, the appropriate way to complete the required forms and the necessity of filing all orders of protection with the state registry. Additionally, representatives from the Franklin County Probation Department covered pre-sentence

investigations, the necessity of ordering them under certain circumstances, and the complicated sex offender registration process and forms.

**Plans for Next Year:**

Continue work with the local courts on issues affecting women by offering continuing judicial education credits in conjunction with the Rural Law Center of New York.

Expand the "History in the Making" presentation to include more schools and to expose more students to women role models in a variety of areas.

**Most Important Difficulty Confronting Your Committee:**

Our district, comprised of eleven northeastern counties, is the largest in the state, and is comprised of a mostly rural, decentralized population. It is difficult to get committee members from such a large area together on a regular basis and programming efforts in the more rural areas seem to generate small return on the investment of time and resources.

A recently placed purchase order for additional video conferencing equipment, for all counties within the district, may go a long way toward overcoming these barriers. In addition to being able to bring committee members together we may also be able to use this equipment to broadcast committee programs throughout the district at times and places convenient to our target groups.

Agenda

5:00 p.m. - Gathering and Registration

5:30 p.m. - Appeals Process  
Honorable Nicole M. Duvé,  
Presiding Town Justice, Franklin County  
Court Attorney

6:30 p.m. - Dinner

7:30 p.m. - Orders of Protection  
Honorable Robert G. Main, Jr.

8:20 p.m. - Break/Questions

8:30.m. - Sex Offense Registry  
Pre-sentence Investigation  
Judy Hayle and Clayton White  
Director and Supervisor  
Franklin County Department of Probation

9:20 p.m. - Dismissal

**Dinner Menu**

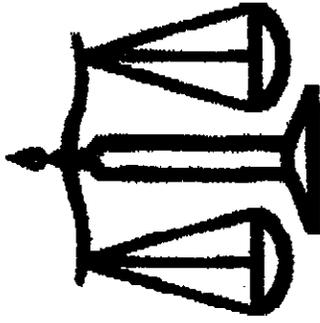
- Steak
- Baked Potato
- Salad
- Rolls
- Dessert
- Beverage

**Cost for Dinner: \$12**  
*You may pay for your meal when you arrive at the Elk's Lodge*



343 West Main St  
Malone, NY 12953  
518-483-1261  
somealjc@capital.net

**Today's Decisions/Tomorrow's Society**



**Thursday, March 20, 2003**  
5:00 p.m. - 9:20 p.m.

Malone Lodge of Elks

**3 Elective CJE Credits**  
Town and Village Justices

Sponsored by  
Franklin County Multi-Borough Court  
Courtlinks Domestic Violence  
Intervention Program  
Franklin County Department of Probation  
Rural Law Center of New York, Inc.

**Conference Speaker**



**Honorable Robert G. Main, Jr.**

- Elected Franklin County Court Judge
- Senegone, Family Court Judge and Acting Supreme Court Justice since 1/1/88
- B.A. Political Science from Middlebury College
- Juris Doctor Albany Law School
- Practiced general civil law - Military & Holland
- Formed professional corporation - Holland & Main, P.C.
- Serves as an acting Supreme Court Justice in the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District as well as the in the Supreme Court in Monroe County
- Serves on the Third Department's Law Guardian Advisory Committee by appointment of Appellate Division Presiding Justice Anthony Caronata
- Member Family Court Curators Committee
- Former Chair of the Executive Board of Trustees - Alice Hyde Medical Center
- President of the Farrer Home, an adult home
- Member of the Academic Board of Trustees and Chair of scholarship committee - Franklin Academy
- Member of the board of Mountlight Cemetery
- Member, past president of Parish Council, Lector and Eucharistic Minister - Notre Dame Church
- Member Diocese of Ogdensburgs Pastoral Council and Long Range Planning Committee

**Conference Speakers**



**Judy Hayle, Director**

- 28 Years Franklin County Department of Probation - Probation Officer/Supervisor/Director
- B.A. Sociology
- Loyola College
- Serves on the Domestic Violence Task Force, Traffic Safety, Sex Offender and Juvenile Justice Issues committee

**Clayton C. White, Supervisor**

- 18 Years Franklin County Department of Probation - Probation Officer/ Supervisor
- B.A. World History/Education
- SUNY Potsdam

Space is limited  
Early registration is appreciated

Registration Deadline  
Wednesday, March 12, 2003

To register call Tommy at  
518-463-1261 ext. 27

The only cost for this training is for your meal  
It is not necessary for you to attend the meal to attend the training  
Please indicate if you will be dining with us when you register

**Conference Location**

**Malone Lodge of Elks**

67 Elm Street  
Malone, NY 12953

**CJE Elective Credits**

Continuing education credits for town and village justices attending this seminar will be administered by the Rural Law Center of New York, Inc.

This seminar has been granted accreditation by the New York State Unified Court System and all attendees will be eligible to receive 3 CJE elective credits.

For further information, contact:  
Rural Law Center of New York  
56 Cornelia Street  
Plattsburgh, NY 12901  
(518) 561-5460

**Agenda**

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- 6:00 p.m. - Registration
- 6:30 p.m. - Dinner
- 7:15 p.m. - Assignment of Counsel,  
Criminal Arraignment,  
Divestiture Forms

Hon. Robert G. Main, Jr.  
Nicole M. Duvé, Court Attorney  
8:05 p.m. - Best Practices of Adult  
Drug Treatment Court

Hon. Robert G. Main, Jr.  
Michael J. Howley, Court Attorney  
8:30 p.m. - Best Practices of  
Integrated Domestic  
Violence Court

Hon. Timothy J. Lawliss  
Shannon A. Bessette, Court Attorney  
8:55 p.m. - Questions/Answers  
9:15 p.m. - Dismissal

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dinner Menu:**

**Prime Rib, Baked Potato, Tossed  
Salad, Rolls, Dessert and Coffee**

**\$15.00 - Tax and Tip Included**

You may pay for your meal when you  
arrive at the Elk's Lodge.

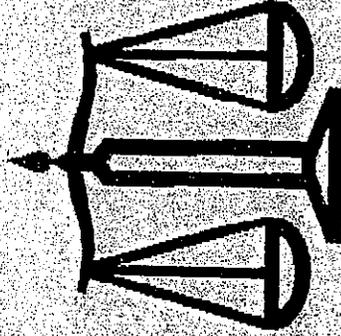
# TRAINING FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY MAGISTRATES

**When:** Thursday  
October 23, 2003

**Where:** Malone Lodge  
of Elks  
67 Elm Street  
Malone, New York

**R.S.V.P.** Karen A. Deuyour  
Secretary to Hon.  
Robert G. Main, Jr.  
County Judge  
(518) 481-1732

The only cost for the training is for  
your meal. It is not necessary for you  
to attend the meal to attend the training.  
Please indicate if you will be dining  
with us when you register.



CJE Elective Credits

Continuing education credits for Town  
and Village Justices attending this  
seminar will be administered by the  
Rural Law Center of New York, Inc.

This seminar has been granted  
accreditation by the New York State  
Unified Court System and all attendees  
will be eligible to receive 2 CJE  
elective credits.

For further information contact Rural  
Law Center of New York, Inc., 56  
Cornelia Street, Plattsburgh, New York  
12901 (518) 561-5460.

**Co-Sponsored by:**  
**Unified Court System**  
**-and-**  
**Rural Law Center of New York**

# **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASE GOES TO COURT.....**

## **YOU DECIDE**

On October 29, 2003, a mock domestic violence trial will be held at noon in Courtroom One, Schenectady County Court, 612 State Street, Schenectady, New York.

Audience members will be selected as jurors and the fate of the case will be in your hands.

Come and learn how these cases are prosecuted and experience, first-hand, how jurors make their decisions.

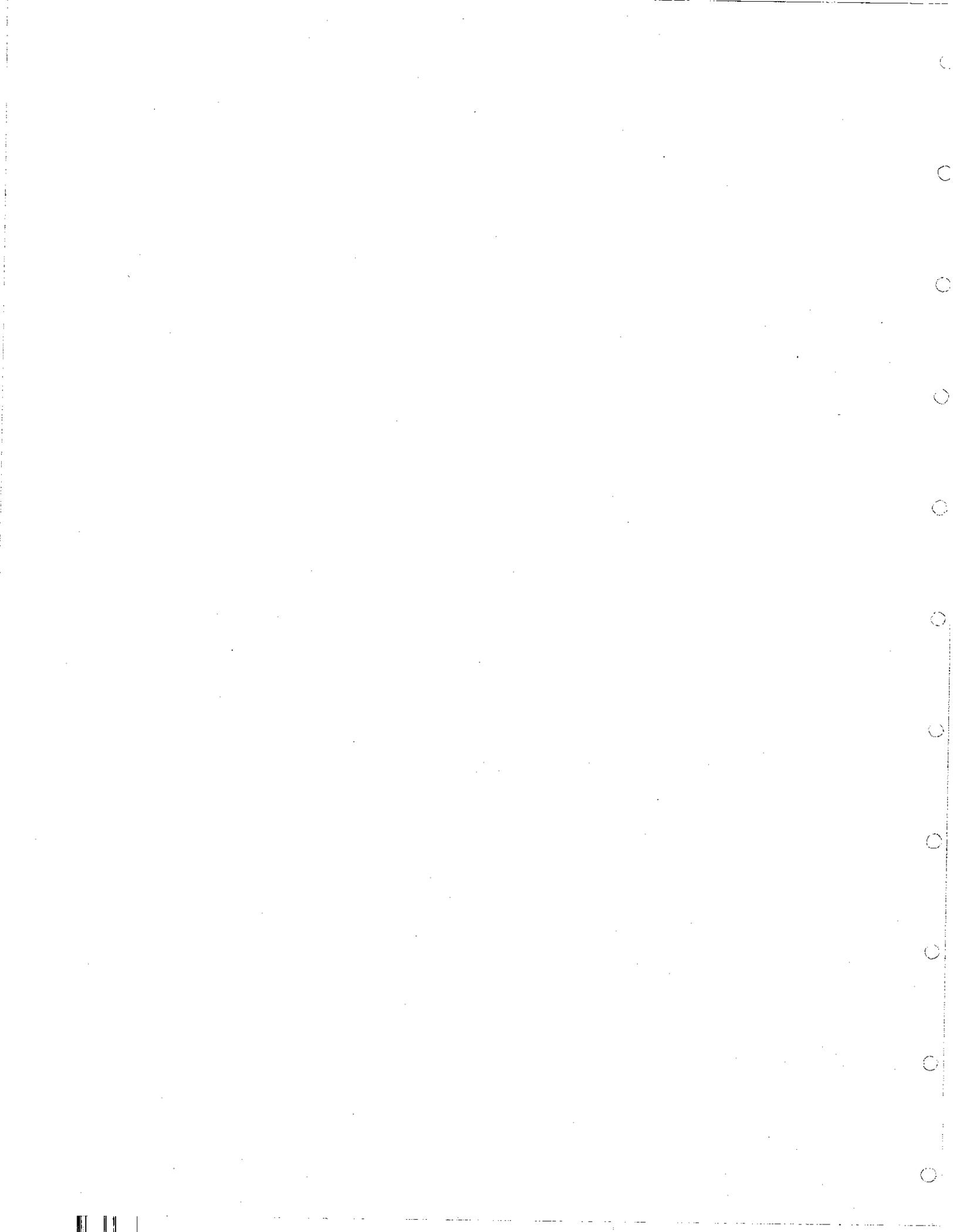
### **Participants:**

**Honorable Jo Anne Assini, Schenectady Family Court**  
**Carole Merrill-Mazurek, Schenectady YWCA Domestic Violence Coordinator**  
**Martin Burke, Esq., Domestic Violence Prosecutor, Schenectady County**  
**District Attorney's Office**  
**Joseph Pugliese, Supervisor, Schenectady Department of Probation**  
**Officer Anthony Holloway, New York State Office of Court Administration**  
**Patricia L.R. Rodriguez, Esq., Attorney and Law Guardian**  
**Karen R. Crandall, Esq., Attorney and Law Guardian**

*Fifth Judicial District Committee*

**Hon. Deborah Karalunas**  
Supreme Court Justice  
Hughes State Office Building  
333 East Washington Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202

315-428-3256



## LOCAL COMMITTEES REPORTS 2003-2004

Name of the Committee Fifth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair

Hon. Deborah Karalunas, Supreme Court Justice, 8th Floor, Hughes State Office Bldg.  
333 East Washington Street, Syracuse, New York 13202 Phone: (315) 428-3256  
E-Mail: DKARALUN@courts.state.ny.us Fax: (315) 428-3250

No. Members 16 Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

3 Judges, 3 Confidential Law Assistants and 10 attorneys

### **New York State Courts Under Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Leadership**

What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be as specific as possible and try to give concrete examples.

The number of women judges has increased from 1 in 1981 to 6 in 2004 (2 Supreme;  
2 Family Court; 2 City Court) for the District. In addition, with the creation of  
an Integrated Domestic Violence Part, there is now one judge-one family in many cases.

What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women, particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State court system? \_\_\_\_\_

**Local Committee Activities for the Past Year:** Please include, if relevant and possible, names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2003 (unless already reported).

Distribution of brochure for victims of domestic violence.

Activities for Women's History Month 2004

Other Activities in the Past Year We met and discussed issues of how to increase the number of women judges. Currently there are only 5 women judges in the District.

Due to the political nature of the issue, no formal action was taken. Publicized the work and mission of the Committee in various Bar Publications.

Plans for Next Year to be determined by the new chair.

Most Important Difficulty Confronting Your Committee \_\_\_\_\_

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Please attach copies of flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee.

Please return this form by **March 1, 2004**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel  
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
25 Beaver Street, Room 878  
New York, New York 10004

or fax the form to **212-428-2793**.



Fifth Judicial District's  
Supplemental Report on Women in the Courts

I was recently appointed to serve as a member and chair of the Fifth Judicial District's Committee on Women in the Courts. Prior to my election as a Supreme Court Judge in November 2002, I was a partner in the litigation department of a large upstate law firm. While in private practice, I served on various committees of the law firm including the hiring committee, associate review committee and women's issues committee. My observations about the problems facing women in the court system arise primarily from my experiences in private practice, not from my short tenure on the bench.

Women have made great strides in law over the past 20 years. The number of women in law schools now equals or exceeds the number of men. Likewise, female law students do as well (if not better) scholastically than their male counterparts, and offers for "plum" legal jobs are evenhandedly extended to men and women. Why, then, do we see so few women progressing to positions of power and influence in their law firms, in government and on the bench? I believe women are less successful in law because they are less likely to be mentored, less likely to be given top assignments, less likely to be given access to good clients, less likely to receive positive feedback and recognition, and more likely to be asked to participate in "soft" activities (e.g., committees, functions, *pro bono* or other non-billable assignments, etc.) for which they receive no real advancement "credit." As a consequence, women in the law are less likely to be promoted and are more likely to prematurely leave the field. It is the lack of progress and the alarming rates of attrition that are the most pressing or important remaining problems for women in the law.

While these concerns are, perhaps, best addressed in the private arena, the courts are in a position to help. Among other things, the courts can:

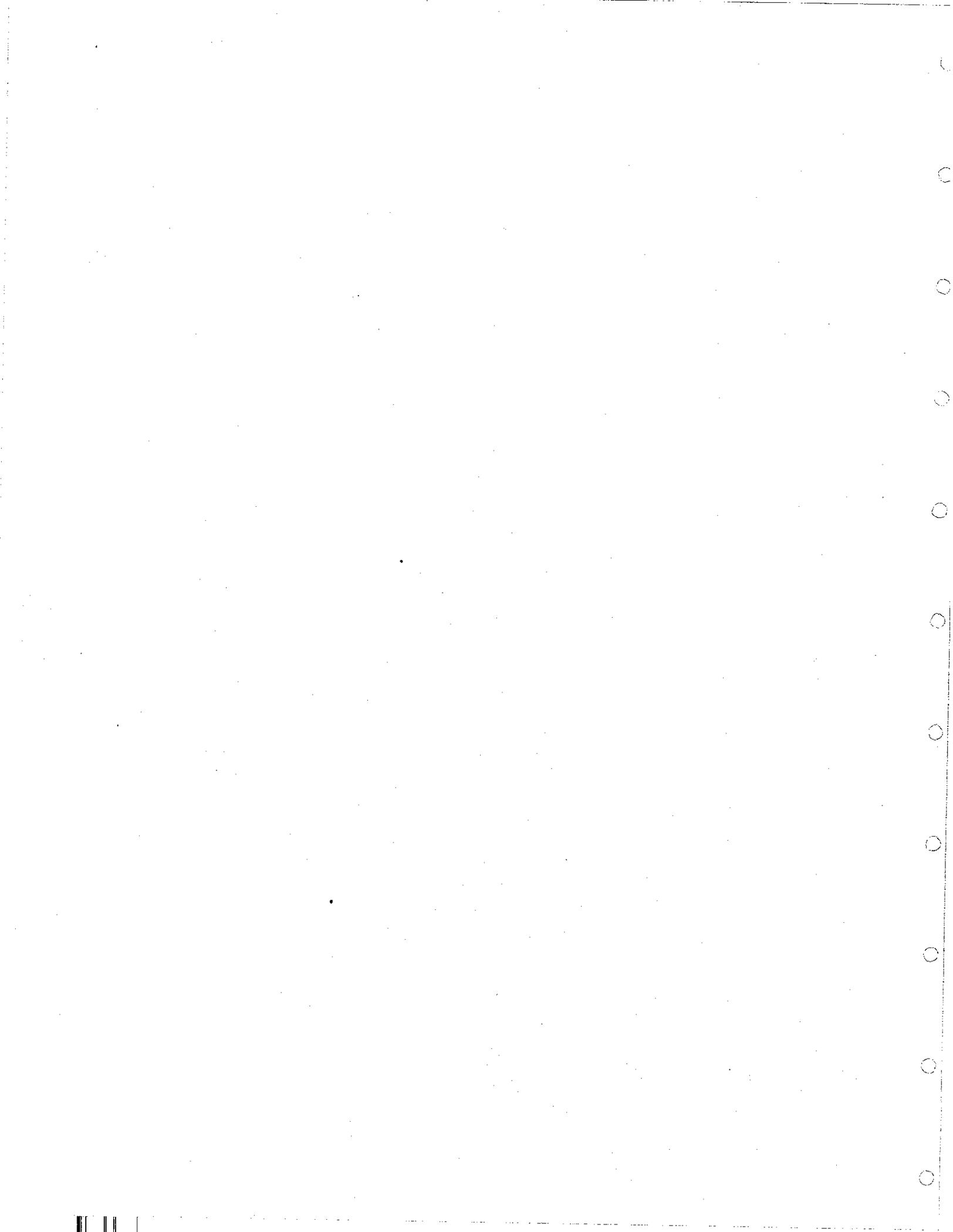
- require judges and judicial employees to regularly participate in educational programs addressing gender bias
- sponsor programs to encourage women to seek judicial positions
- balance fiduciary assignments between men and women
- in certain circumstances, schedule non-jury trials to accommodate part-time/flex-time attorney schedules
- discourage the setting of arbitrary, artificial or unrealistic deadlines
- promote policies encouraging freedom from gender bias
- recommend/recognize outstanding female attorneys for their accomplishments in the courts
- publicly recognize attorneys who engage in significant *pro bono* legal work in the courts



*Sixth Judicial District Committee*

**Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann**  
Binghamton City Court  
Governmental Plaza  
Binghamton, New York 13901

607-772-7006





**Local Committee Activities for the Past Year:** Please include, if relevant and possible, names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2003 (unless already reported).

see report sent December 9, 2003

Activities for Women's History Month 2004 see attached flier

Other Activities in the Past Year see attached minutes of most recent meeting

Plans for Next Year more of the same progress

Most Important Difficulty Confronting Your Committee \_\_\_\_\_

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Please attach copies of flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee.

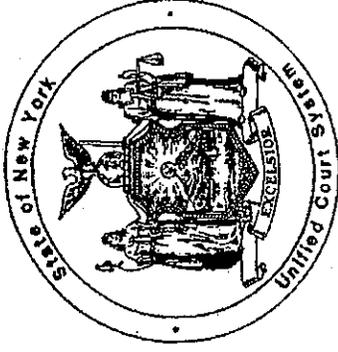
Please return this form by **March 1, 2004**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel  
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
25 Beaver Street, Room 878  
New York, New York 10004

or fax the form to **212-428-2793**.



**NEW YORK STATE  
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM**



**GENDER FAIRNESS  
COMMITTEE SIXTH JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT**

**HON. JUDITH F. O'SHEA**  
Administrative Judge

**HON. MARY ANNE LEHMANN**  
Chair

**CHRISTOPHER J. ESWORTHY**  
Deputy Chair

**PROVIDING ASSISTANCE  
TO THE  
COUNTIES OF**

**BROOME - CHEMUNG  
CHENANGO - CORTLAND  
DELAWARE - MADISON  
OTSEGO - SCHUYLER  
TIOGA - TOMPKINS**

**PROMOTING GENDER FAIRNESS  
IN THE COURTS AS IT  
RELATES TO:**

**ATTORNEYS**

**COURT PERSONNEL**

**JUDGES**

Gender fairness committees were created throughout New York State after the 1986 Report of a New York State Task Force on Women in the Courts found that gender bias in the Courts was a "pervasive problem".

The primary mission of the Sixth Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee is to provide a forum for the informal resolution of gender bias complaints from litigants, court employees and members of the bar. The Committee is empowered to receive and review complaints and where necessary to refer complaints to the appropriate forum for resolution. The referrals are monitored to assure that some action is taken. The Committee is limited to accepting complaints involving individuals who are part of the legal system, that is, lawyers and New York Unified Court System Judges and nonjudicial employees.

The Gender Fairness Committee will process oral and written complaints, however, anonymous complaints will not be processed. Complaints may be submitted to any member of the Committee. All complaints received by the Gender Fairness Committee are considered to be confidential. However there may be disclosure to the Administrative Judge and or appropriate reviewing or disciplinary body.

Members of the Gender Fairness Committee also are available to provide information regarding the rights and obligations of attorneys, judges and court personnel. They may also provide training and educational materials as needed.

**MEMBERS OF THE SIXTH  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT GENDER  
FAIRNESS COMMITTEE:**

Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann, Chair

Binghamton City Court

City Hall, Governmental Plaza

5<sup>th</sup> Floor

Binghamton, New York 13901

Phone: 607/772-7006

Christopher J. Esworthy, Deputy Chair

Commissioner of Jurors

Broome County Courthouse

P.O. Box 1766

Binghamton, New York 13902-1766

Phone: 607/778-2159

Hon. Judith F. O' Shea

Sixth Judicial District Administrative Office

State Office Building, Suite 1501

44 Hawley Street

Binghamton, New York 13901-4466

Phone: 607/721-8541

Hon. Michael V. Coccoma

Acting Supreme Court Justice

197 Main Street

Cooperstown, NY 13326

Phone: 607/547-4212

Kathryn Grant Madigan, Esq.

Levene, Gouldin & Thompson

P.O. Box F-1706

Binghamton, New York 13902

Phone: 607/763-9200

Stephen Foulk, Esq.

Law Clerk to Justice Robert S. Rose

Supreme Court Chambers

P.O. Box 1766

Binghamton, New York 13902

Phone: 607/778-2473

Emy L. Franz, Esq.

Tioga Family Court Hearing Examiner

P.O. Box 10

Owego, New York 13827

Phone: 607/687-0467

Gloria Chandler

Chief Clerk III/ Commissioner of Jurors

Otsego Supreme & County

197 Main Street

Cooperstown, New York 13326

Phone: 607/547-4364

Angela Jones

Senior Office Assistant

Norwich City Court

45 South Broad Street

Norwich, New York 13815

Phone: 607/334-1224

**FOR FORMAL DISCRIMINATORY  
COMPLAINTS CONTACT:**

Desiree Kim

Special Inspector General for Bias Matters

25 Beaver Street - 11<sup>th</sup> Floor

New York, NY 10004

Phone: 212/428-2125

**Minutes of Joint Meeting**  
**Gender Fairness Committee/Anti-Discrimination Panel**  
**October 10, 2003**  
**Binghamton, New York**

**Present:**

**On Behalf of Gender Fairness Committee:**

Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann, Chair  
Christopher J. Esworthy, Deputy Chair  
Emy L. Franz, Hearing Examiner  
Kathryn Grant Madigan, Esq.

**On Behalf of Anti-Discrimination Panel:**

Hon. W. Howard Sullivan, Chair  
Marianna Tumpek  
Sonya Korducavich  
Patricia Bradley-Jackson  
John Kelleher, Hearing Officer

**On Behalf of District Office:**

Donna J. Srnka

**Meeting Convened:**

The meeting convened at the State Office Building at  
12:00 p.m.

1. A welcome was extended to both the Gender Fairness Committee members and the Anti-Discrimination Panel members.
2. A report was given of the annual meeting in New York City by Deputy Chair of the Gender Fairness Committee, Christopher J. Esworthy. He summarized the activities of the various Gender Fairness Committees throughout the state. The meeting in New York City was held on April 30, 2003. A written summary was provided to all of the members and a discussion was had regarding possible new projects.

**Old Business:**

None discussed.

**New Business:**

1. There were no complaints made to the Gender Fairness Committee.
2. It was discussed that the brochure for the Gender Fairness Committee needed to be updated. That has taken place as of December 1, 2003.
3. Discussion of possibility of teaming up with the YWCA, the Indian Hills Girl Scouts Council, the Youth Bureau, Binghamton High School and/or Gannette News for various projects ranging from teen sexual abuse to youth at risk programs. Christopher J. Esworthy, Deputy Chair, and Kathryn Grant Madigan, Esq. volunteered to contact some of the agencies listed above to determine their interest.
4. Judge Lehmann delivered a report on the Domestic Violence Court which launched its operation October 7, 2003.
5. There was a discussion about Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Districtwide activities were to be forwarded to Judge Lehmann or Susan Leonardos of the District Office. Those have been gathered together and a report has been made as of December 12, 2003 to the statewide committee chaired by the Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin. The Bench Book for magistrates was published and distributed in the month of October.
6. Donna J. Srnka agreed to look into resources that might be available to the District Office to pursue projects and promote the Gender Fairness Committee.

**Meeting Adjourned:**

The meeting concluded at approximately 1:30 p.m.

## **Gender Bias/Gender Fairness Committee Meeting on April 30, 2003**

Frequency of meetings- the more the better, also good idea to expand the size of the committee in order to accomplish more projects.

### **Local Committee Activities**

**Queens County** did a program on Elder Abuse (signs to look for), dating violence, and teen sex abuse. It was a preventive program and proactive.

**Suffolk County** - being involved in a specific project.

**4<sup>TH</sup> District**- Having woman in the community who are role models. (Audience of girls 12-18, JD's, Pins, etc.) Reached out to woman in the community to be a mentor for a day.

Empower the Youths- Bring together female authors for a day to have a book signing.

**9<sup>TH</sup> District** - Essay contest to all the schools in the District.

They received financial contributions from the Bar. They gave a breakfast for the winners, parents, and school representatives.

The topic was: "What should woman's role be in war and conflict". There were two categories: Freshman/Sophomore and Junior/Senior. First prize was \$500, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> prize was \$250.

**Kings County** - Take your children to work day

Two Programs 7-8 year olds, and 9-17 year olds, sent name tags with Honorable and name. Bring your child to work day tee shirts. Also did a mock trial of the Three Little Pigs. They also dressed up in costumes. The judge stressed the important role of being jurors.

**6<sup>TH</sup> District** - Binghamton City Court is on schedule to opening the Domestic Violence Court which is scheduled to open in August or September.

The Inter - Agency Planning committee of the Family Violence Prevention Council is working in conjunction with the courts to develop a Domestic Violence Bench Book for use by all the judges and magistrates throughout the county and the Sixth District.

Binghamton City Court is conducting a Study of Domestic Violence Incident Reports to determine how many actually result in arrest and how many are filed in city Court as well as Family Court. This report is still in progress.

A discussion on sexual harassment regarding issues of confidentiality. We have to make it clear on who should they contact. We also need to have the information available to refer the employee.

**Model Programs:**

Breast Cancer Awareness.

Bench Book.

Monthly class in the courtrooms to educate people on court issues.

Children centers and what resources are needed.

Sessions for woman who want to become Judges.

Program for woman offenders. What is available for those that are incarcerated and those that are not. Involve Probation, Sheriff, and Domestic Violence Task Force.

**Reach out and let people know our community exists!!!**

**Panel discussion on Immigrant Domestic Violence Victims and State Courts**

Guest speaker on Criminal Law & Immigration: Sandra Bryan reviewed the immigration law for woman. What the impact of deportation on a person might have.

Jill Goodman spoke about the problems that arise in court proceedings for Domestic Violence Victims. One major problem is that the interpreter may not translate a vivid description of the domestic violence. Another is that the interpreter may give advice to the victim.

Sandra Bryan of Court Interpreting Services for OCA stated that all our interpreters are trained very well. The concern lies with the free lance or per diem interpreters, where they water down testimony, give advice, or tell the victim they are wrong for reporting the domestic violence.

Make sure everyone has the State Domestic Violence Number (1-800-942-6906) and that Brooklyn Family court is a model court on handling domestic violence issues.

Judge Lippman thanked all the committee people for their hard work and the progress that has been made. He also announced that bill 18B had passed providing \$75 for assigned council in felony cases and \$60 for misdemeanor cases.



*MOZ Copy*

JOHN T. HILLIS  
MARY ANNE LEHMANN  
ROBERT C. MURPHY

CITY COURT JUDGES

BINGHAMTON CITY COURT  
GOVERNMENTAL PLAZA  
38 HAWLEY STREET  
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK, 13901  
TELEPHONE (607)772-7006  
FAX (607)772-7041

KAREN A. AMBROZIK  
CHIEF CLERK

SHERRY L. BAKER  
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

December 9, 2003

Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin  
Chair, NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
25 Beaver Street, Room 878  
New York, New York, 10004

and

Jill Laurie Goodman  
Counsel, NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
25 Beaver Street, Room 878  
New York, New York, 10004

Re: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Dear Judge Ellerin and Counsel Goodman:

I am pleased to report that the Sixth Judicial District has had the most active Domestic Violence Awareness Month in its history. The following is a report of some of the activities of our District. It is by no means all inclusive.

1. Domestic Violence Court opens in the City of Binghamton. (After a year of planning and preparation, the Domestic Violence Court was launched in October to coincide with the completion of renovations in Binghamton City Court.) The first session of Domestic Violence Court was conducted on October 7th and the second session was conducted October 28. We anticipate that the court will meet every two weeks to review Domestic Violence cases, to monitor the defendant's compliance with Orders of Protection and the surrender of firearms and any pre-trial conditions which the court has imposed. The session on the 28th began with a calendar call of all of the cases followed by a non-jury trial and then sentencings. In attendance was a class from Broome-Tioga BOCES of

highschool students observing the court session and, after the court session, members of the team, including the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the SOS Shelter and the Crime Victims Assistance Center, as well as court personnel, had an opportunity to speak about the importance of Domestic Violence Court. The opening of Domestic Violence Court was carried on the local TV stations in conjunction with the opening of the new court facility.

2. The Inter-Agency Subcommittee of the Family Violence Prevention Council published a "Domestic Violence Bench Book" for Broome County in October and distributed the same to all of the magistrates in the county who handle any criminal matters. The launch of the book was announced at the Sixth Judicial District Judges' Meeting and a number of those judges also requested a copy of the Bench Book which included a resource list and an outline describing a judge's duties in regard to firearms and Temporary Orders of Protection. A copy of the Broome County Domestic violence Bench Book for Local Criminal Courts is enclosed.
3. The Family Violence Prevention Council engaged in a project to solicit from various businesses and service organizations the funds to buy digital cameras and equipment specifically for use in domestic violence cases to enhance the prosecution's ability to go forward with an evidence based prosecution. The letter was sent out in conjunction with a program that has been prepared utilizing members of the Council and a member of the Police Department to describe their need for this equipment and to educate the public in regard to the cases.
4. County Executive Jeffrey Kraham declared October "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" and issued a Proclamation, a copy of which is enclosed. The issuing of the Proclamation was done at a press conference by the County Executive at which a number of agencies involved in domestic violence issues were in attendance and it was

televised on the major stations throughout the county.

5. The YWCA, in conjunction with the SOS Shelter, launched its "Week Without Violence" which culminated in a "Public Policy Breakfast" on October 15, 2003. The guest speakers were the Hon. Mary Rita Connerton who discussed efforts in Broome County Family Court to launch both a Drug Court Section and a Domestic Violence Section; and Pat Ericksen, from the SOS Shelter, who discussed her agency's work in providing shelter for the victims of domestic violence and their children. A ceremony was held and a copy of the agenda for the "Week Without Violence" is attached. On October 20th, a candlelight vigil was held at Confluence Park to draw attention to the issues of domestic violence. On October 25th, in the Oakdale Mall in Johnson City, members of the SOS Shelter, YWCA, the Family Violence Prevention Council, Crime Victims Assistance Center and the various agencies involved in domestic violence work had booths for information available to the public.
6. Plans are underway to launch a Domestic Violence Court in Family Court, the Hon. Spero Pines to be presiding. By this time next year we hope to report that Broome County is one of the few counties in Upstate New York to have both a Criminal and Family Court Section of Domestic Violence Court in operation.
7. On October 7th, "Advanced Training in Interventions in Domestic Violence: Children Who Witness and Men Who Batter" was presented by the Family Violence Prevention Council. Guest speakers included Betsy McAlister Groves, L.I.C.S.W., the Founding Director of the Child Witness to Violence Project at Boston Medical Center and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Boston University School of Medicine, as well as Fernando Mederos, Ed.D. and author of Men Who Batter, an independent consultant, trainer and public speaker on intervention with men who are physically abusive. A copy of the materials is enclosed.

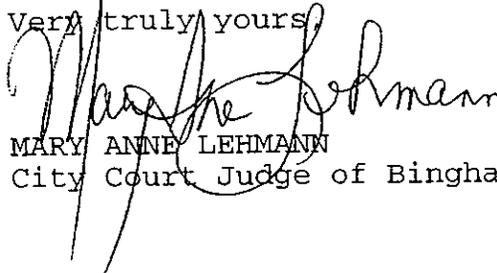
8. The Tioga County Community Response Network with the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, is sponsoring an all-day program, "Investigations for the Prevention of Family Violence." A copy of the flier announcing the program is enclosed.
9. The undersigned gave a talk on Domestic Violence Court to the Triple Cities Business & Professional Women's Organization. A copy of the "New York Courts Community Outreach Initiative" page is enclosed.
10. The Southern Tier Center for Compassionate Communication held a workshop on November 15th which was announced at the YWCA Public Policy Breakfast dealing with the issue of abusive language. The presentation was made by clinical psychologist, Marshall Rosenberg, Ph.D., discussing the need to effectively communicate in a compassionate manner. A copy of the flier is enclosed.
11. The Diocese of Syracuse, operating in Broome County, Cortland County, Chenango County, Onondaga County, Oneida County, Oswego County and Madison County, launched a brochure describing "Ruth Ministry", which is developing a program for the parish family to respond to domestic violence in their own individual communities. A copy of their brochure is enclosed.
12. The SOS Shelter took a step beyond the "Clothesline Project," which displayed tee shirts that had been decorated by victims of domestic violence and displayed at the courthouse, and made commercial jewelry to be sold to benefit the SOS Shelter, "Bearing Witness to Violence Against Women," the "Clothesline Pin" inspired by the "Clothesline Project." An example of the jewelry is enclosed as well as the card attached explaining the project. It was an effective fund-raiser.
13. The Integrated Domestic Violence Court of Tompkins County presented a "Community Domestic Violence Training" on Friday, October 31, 2003. It included two substantive components: I. "Victim Safety & Offender Accountability" and

II. "Children and Domestic Violence."  
The session lasted from 12:30 p.m.  
until 2:30 p.m. in Ithaca, New York and  
was sponsored by The Integrated Domestic  
Violence Court of Tompkins County. A  
copy of their flier is enclosed.

14. New Hope Center in Owego, New York held  
a vigil Thursday, October 16th, which  
was publicized in the Binghamton Press  
& Sun-Bulletin. It was conducted from  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the Tioga  
County Courthouse lawn. Speakers  
included Tioga County District Attorney  
Gerald Keene. A copy of the article in  
the paper is enclosed.

In closing, I know that other projects were conducted  
throughout the ten counties of the Sixth Judicial District, I am  
pleased to say that they are almost too numerous to name. The  
Sixth Judicial District continues to make substantial progress in  
this area. We hope that by next year we will be able to report  
that Broome County Family Court has an active Domestic Violence  
Part, if not an integrated court in session. It is our sincere  
hope that these efforts continue to heighten awareness in our  
District and provide a better level of safety for our citizens.

Very truly yours,



MARY ANNE LEHMANN  
City Court Judge of Binghamton

MAL/dn

cc: Hon. Judith F. O'Shea



# Broome County Proclamation

**WHEREAS:** *The people of Broome County are urged to join together with those individuals who work tirelessly to end domestic violence and to celebrate those who have survived it and mourn those who have died from it and*

**WHEREAS:** *Domestic violence results in more injuries and harm than all the car accidents, muggings and rapes in the United States combined, and it continues to occur at the same alarming rate while other violent crimes have steadily declined; and*

**WHEREAS:** *Since 1979, the SOS Shelter, Inc. has strived to end this violent cycle by educating and supporting the abused, the unseen victims in the home, including children and elders and by addressing our corporations and businesses about domestic violence; now, therefore, be it*

**RESOLVED:** *That I, Jeffrey P. Graham, Broome County Executive, do hereby proclaim this month, October 1 through October 31, 2003 to be*

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

*in the County of Broome, State of New York, honoring the SOS Shelter, Inc. for its effort and dedication to serve both the residential and advocacy needs of women and children who are victimized.*



In Witness Whereof, I have  
hereunto set my hand and  
Signature on this day,  
October 1, 2003,

*Jeffrey P. Graham*  
JEFFREY P. GRAHAM  
Broome County Executive



---

## SOS Shelter, Inc.

P.O. Box 393  
Endicott, New York 13761  
Offices: (607) 748-7453  
email: SOSShelter@stny.rr.com

September 29, 2003

### OCTOBER 2003

#### NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

##### BROOME COUNTY ACTIVITIES

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Oct. 1, 9am-5pm    | SOS Shelter Inc. information table at the Oakdale Mall Center Court  |
| Oct. 7, 8:30am-4pm | Family Violence Prevention Council conference on <i>Advanced Training in Interventions in Domestic Violence</i> at the Heritage Country Club, sponsored by SOS Shelter, Inc., Crime Victim's Assistance Center, Broome County Dept. Social Services, Family and Children's Society, Family Enrichment Network and Broome County Gang Prevention Programs/BHA |
| Oct. 6, 7-9pm      | Heritage CC., Special evening presentation<br><br>Nationally known presenters Betsy McAllister Groves, Director of the Child Witness to Violence Programs and Fernando Mederos, Independent Consultant on intervening with abusive men.  |
| Oct. 10 9am-noon   | SOS Shelter staff will provide:<br>Training for Head Start staff on domestic violence and the alcohol and drug connection.   |
| Oct. 19            | Week Without Violence starts   |
| Oct. 20, 5:30pm    | Candlelight Vigil at Confluence Park, Binghamton   |



Oct. 22, 8am YWCA Alice Mills Award Breakfast at Binghamton Club.  
Speakers will be the Honorable Rita Connerton, Broome  
County Family Court Judge and Dr. Patricia Ericksen,  
Executive Director, SOS Shelter.

Oct. 25, 9am-5pm Oakdale Mall, SOS Shelter, Inc., volunteer information  
day. "Hours for Ours".

For further information call:

SOS Shelter 748-7453

Family Violence Prevention Council 778-2153

YWCA 772-0340

## **AN INDIAN PRAYER**

### **O! Great Spirit...**

Whose voice I hear in the winds,  
And whose breath gives life to all the world,  
Hear me! I am small and weak,  
I need your strength and wisdom.

**LET ME WALK IN BEAUTY**, and make my  
eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset.

**MAKE MY HANDS** respect the things you have made  
and my ears sharp to hear your voice.

**MAKE ME WISE** so that I understand the things  
you have taught my people.

**LET ME LEARN** the lessons you have hidden in every  
leaf and rock.

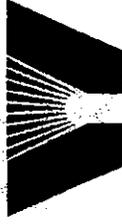
**I SEEK STRENGTH**, not to be greater than my  
brother or sister, but to fight my greatest enemy-  
myself.

**MAKE ME ALWAYS READY** to come to you with clean  
hands and straight eyes.

**SO WHEN LIFE FADES**, as the fading sunset, my  
spirit may come to you without shame.

**YWCA**

**Week Without Violence**



**YWCA**

# **Public Policy Breakfast**

**Theme: Child Abuse Prevention**

**October 15, 2003**

**Binghamton Club, Binghamton, NY**

## **YWCA Board of Directors**

Amy Vredenburgh-Simon, Chair  
Kathy Willis, Vice-Chair  
Helen Rosplock, Secretary  
Towhee Veronesi-Shupka, Treasurer

Kimberly S. Buckner  
Sarah Campbell  
Adele Everett  
Darlene Hartmann  
Maureen Konchar  
Martha Lankford  
Donna Lupardo  
Kim Merithew  
Mary Raymond  
Mary Rezeski  
Andrea Starzak  
Sherie Willard

*With great appreciation, the YWCA would like to thank our speakers for their time and commitment, as well as the SOS Shelter, United Way of Broome County, Inc., and all the volunteers and staff who make the "Week Without Violence" a successful annual event.*

**YWCA of Binghamton/Broome County**  
80 Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY 13901  
607-772-0340

## **Program**

**YWCA Public Policy Breakfast**  
8:00-9:30 am

### **Welcome**

*Carole Coppens, Executive Director, YWCA*

### **Opening Remarks**

*Amy Vredenburgh-Simon, Chair, YWCA Board*

**Presentation of Alice Mills Community  
Service Award to Vivian Blowers**

*Donna Lupardo, Member, YWCA Board*

### **Guest Speakers:**

*Hon. Rita Conneron,  
Broome County Family Court Judge*

*Patricia Ericksen,  
Executive Director, SOS Shelter*

### **Closing Remarks**

*Maureen Konchar, Member, YWCA Board  
Chair, Policy and Planning Committee*

# 2003 YWCA Annual Public Policy Breakfast

2003 Week Without Violence  
Theme: Child Abuse Prevention  
Speakers:

Rita Connerton, Broome County Family Court Judge  
Patricia Ericksen, Executive Director, SOS Shelter

Wednesday, October 22

8:00-9:30 am

Binghamton Club

83 Front Street, Binghamton

Cost: \$15 per person  
\$120 per table

**SAVE THE DATE:** Week Without Violence Kick-off  
"Peace for All" - poetry, songs, drumming... for peace!  
Monday, Oct. 20, 5:30 pm, Confluence Park, Binghamton

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR TICKET BY OCTOBER 15th. MAIL OR CALL 772-0340.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Individual # of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ # of tables: \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: YWCA of Binghamton/Broome County, 80 Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY 13901





The Integrated Domestic Violence Court of Tompkins County  
presents a

## COMMUNITY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING

in acknowledgment of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Friday, October 31, 2003  
12:30 - 2:30 pm

Human Services Building, 320 W. State Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room.

The training will include a brief informational piece on the Integrated Domestic Violence Court and two substantive components:

I. Victim Safety & Offender Accountability: This session will focus on (1) establishing safety for victims of DV, factors impacting safety and how the court process can influence safety for families at risk of DV, and (2) discussing offender accountability and healthy relationships as well as providing information about The DOORS program's goals in relation to IDVC. Presented by Heather Campbell, The Advocacy Center and Jason Stark, Tompkins County Mental Health Clinic & DOORS.

II. Children and Domestic Violence: This session will examine the impact of DV on children and teens, how abusers' actions affect children, strategies for supporting children who have witnessed violence, local resources for intervention and integrating children's exposure to DV into IDVC. Presented by Keli Pia-Miller, DV & Youth Counselor at The Advocacy Center and Heather Campbell, The Advocacy Center.

*Complimentary light snacks and refreshments to be provided.*

**PLEASE RSVP & for more information, contact:**

Kavita Pawria, 272-0466  
Integrated DV Court Legal Fellow  
[kpawria@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:kpawria@courts.state.ny.us)

Sue Robinson  
Tompkins Cty. DV Prevention Coordinator  
[srobinson@tompkins-co.org](mailto:srobinson@tompkins-co.org)



## ACTION STEPS

1. Educate yourself, your family, your community and your church
  - invite speakers
  - read
  - learn about community services for victims of abuse
  - include signs to recognize domestic abuse in bulletins, on bulletin boards, in book racks, and in restrooms
2. Ask your parish to pray for victims, their families and their abusers regularly.
3. Donate material goods to shelters and/or organize a church collection. Contact your local shelter and get a list of their needs.
4. Include a list women's shelters on your resource list of services.
5. Dedicate the last weekend in October to educate parishioners about abuse and its presence in your parish.
6. Advocate for change.
7. Ask your pastor about training.

### WASHHOT LINE NUMBERS

English 1-800-942-6909  
Spanish 1-800-942-6908  
911 for any emergency

## ASSISTANCE

**BROOME COUNTY**  
SOS Shelter  
(607) 754-4340

The Family & Children's Society  
(607) 729-6206 (not a hotline)

**CORDELAND COUNTY**  
YWCA Aid to Victims of Violence  
(607) 756-6563 or (800) 336-9622

**CHEMUNGO COUNTY**  
Crime Victims Program  
(607) 334-8244

**ONONDAGA COUNTY**  
Vera House  
(315) 468-3260  
Dorothy Day House  
(315) 476-0617

**ONEIDA COUNTY**  
YWCA Hall House  
(315) 797-7740

**OSWEGO COUNTY**  
SAFE Abuse & Assault Hotline  
(315) 342-1600

**MADISON COUNTY**  
Victims of Violence Program  
(315) 366-5000

Ruth Ministry  
Syracuse Catholic Diocese  
Respect Life Office  
240 E. Onondaga Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202-0511  
(315) 470-4418

# RUTH MINISTRY

The Syracuse Catholic Diocese  
Response to Domestic Violence

# DOMESTIC ABUSE

Domestic abuse takes on many forms. It can be physical, sexual, emotional, financial or economical, and verbal. It is used by one person as power to control another.

Domestic violence is learned behavior. It is learned in the family of origin, and is passed on from generation to generation. Children grow up to believe that violence is acceptable behavior and that it is a way to be powerful and control another person. A child raised in a home with physical abuse is more likely to be violent.

Domestic violence happens at any age and is not specific to a race, religious affiliation, education, income, or social standing. It is the most common form of violence in our society and the least reported crime. Elder abuse and dating abuse are contemporary domestic abuse issues. Victims stay in abusive relationships because of the threat of violence to their children and other family members.

The vast majority of abusers are male and their victims are female. 40% of assaults on women occurred during their first pregnancy, and pregnant women are at twice the risk of battery. In NYS if an unborn baby dies during an assault the batterer cannot be charged with murder of that unborn child.

## FACTS

- 96-99% of domestic violence victims are women
- the chance of being victimized by an intimate is 10 times greater for a woman than a man
- 47% of men who beat their wives do so at least 3 times per year
- 40-60% of men who abuse women also abuse children

# THE SYRACUSE DIOCESE RESPONSE

## RITUAL MINISTRY

Parishes can play a vital role in responding to domestic violence. Bishops can create the opportunity for a parish family to respond to domestic violence in their own community. Trained parishes can react with compassion, sensitivity, and respect. Information on recognizing the physical safety and spiritual well-being of their members. The goal is to help members learn to integrate a response to domestic violence that permeates parish life. Providing educating and making resources available to victims of domestic abuse opens a door for healing to begin.

Domestic abuse is so painful that victims and their families isolate themselves from others. The Church has the opportunity to breach that isolation by having parish actions. Religious parish staff, religious education teachers, youth ministers, respect life, family ministers, outreach, etc. to recognize signs of abuse and to convey through the everyday ministry a clear message that violence is never justified. Including information about the obligations of marriage, divorce, the roles of women and men, the nature of sin, forgiveness, and the means of salvation in homilies, sacramental preparation, confessions and sermons. The Church's opposition to violence, dispelling any confusion people may have about domestic violence. Victims may ask clergy to pray for marriage vows and children at the altar. Clergy may call for absolution and forgiveness. This then becomes the opportunity to reach out and offer resources to end the cycle of abuse.

## Scripture

One of the most disturbing facts about domestic abuse is that both victims and abusers believe that scripture justifies abusive behavior. Scripture passages taken out of context can distort actual teaching. The correct interpretation of the Bible depicts relationships based on mutuality and love. There is no biblical text that supports a person's right to abuse another. In *Galatians 3:28* it says, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." In the unity of the two, man and woman are called from the beginning not only to exist "side by side" or together, but they are also called to exist mutually equal to the other. Relationships that use physical, sexual, economic and/or emotional abuse (control/abused) are not in line with Church teaching.

## BRIEFING

### ENDICOTT

#### Fire station closed Sunday

The Northside Fire Station on Odell Avenue remained closed Sunday.

Capt. Bill Kenville said he expected it to be open today, barring any firefighters calling in sick.

The station has been closed since Saturday because a firefighter called in sick, bringing the number of workers on duty down to six. Department regulations require a minimum of seven firefighters to work a shift to keep both village fire stations open.

— Rion A. Scott

### OWEGO

#### Vigil set for Thursday

A New Hope Center, Tioga County's domestic violence and rape crisis center, will hold a candlelight vigil in observance of domestic violence awareness month.

The vigil will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday on the Tioga County Courthouse lawn. The courthouse is on Court Street in downtown Owego.

There will be guest speakers, food and music. Tioga County District Attorney Gerald Keene will speak and survivors of domestic abuse will share their stories.

For more information, call Francis Bialy at 687-6179 or Sue Nichols at 687-6887.

— Kara M. Connors

### TIOGA COUNTY

#### Scouts plan

## Study finds barriers to

By ALEXIS GRANT  
Albany Bureau

ALBANY — Despite a state law guaranteeing health coverage for emergency care, some insurers still impose conditions on getting care and one requires customers to get permission before going to an emergency room, according to a study released today.

A survey of 22 health-maintenance organizations found 45 percent

encourage customers to get permission before going to the emergency room. Forty percent impose other conditions, such as not visiting the emergency room more than once for the same problem, according to the study by two doctors at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

"These are practices that do put burdens on patients," said Dr. Charles Maddow, who conducted the study.

The goal was to evaluate compliance with a 1996 law requiring insurers

to cover emergency care and to prevent them from requiring "pre-authorization" of emergency visits. Researchers agreed not to put insurer names in the study.

While only one insurer is breaking the law by requiring "authorization" for emergency care, some of the companies' other practices violate the spirit, if not the letter, of the law, Maddow said.

But a spokeswoman for the Health Plan Association, a lobby group

*'St. Casimir's has continued to be an icon of faith'*

Bishop James M. Moynihan, on the Endicott church



Under the stained glass windows of St. Casimir's Catholic Church, Jason Wilks of Endicott joins other parishioners Sunday in the Profession of Faith during the Endicott church's Diamond Jubilee Observance of its 75th anniversary.



# 75 years and counting

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## NEW YORK COURTS COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVE

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### Chemung County

Chemung County Family Court Judge David M. Brockway joined 6th District Judges Vincent Sgueglia (Tioga), M. John Sherman (Tompkins), W. Howard Sullivan (Chenango) and Carl F. Becker (Delaware) in attending the "Sharing Success" seminar in Albany September 9th and 10th. The seminar brought Social Services, Court and other personnel together to review and work on instituting new approaches to bringing permanency for children.

Judge Brockway was part of a panel presentation for the staff of the Chemung ARC, which presented a day long conference regarding "dual diagnosis" individuals. He discussed ways in which both mental illness & developmental disabilities can impact decisions on the many types of cases dealt with by the family court system.

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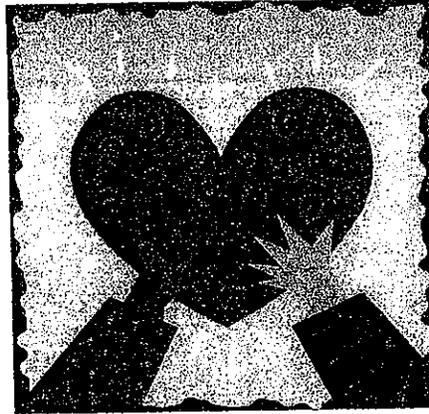
### Broome County

#### Talk on DV Court Given To The Triple Cities Business & Professional Women's Organization

On September 10th, Judge Mary Anne Lehmann of Binghamton City Court spoke at a dinner meeting of the Triple Cities Business & Professional Women's Organization. Judge Lehmann provided those in attendance with an outline of City Court's many functions including an appendix with the current City Court forms. The majority of the talk, and the questions following, concerned the new Domestic Violence Court being piloted in Binghamton City Court. Binghamton City Court was selected a year ago in June to train for, and commence, a Domestic Violence Part. Since that time, the team including victim's organizations such as Crime Victim's Assistance Center and the SOS Shelter and Defendants' groups such as the Public Defender's Office and the Family and Children's Society Batterer's Intervention Program have been training in preparation for the opening of the Court in October, fittingly Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The goal of the Court is twofold: 1) to ensure the safety of the victim's of Domestic Violence & 2) to increase the accountability of the offender through judicial monitoring.

**HOME**

# Southern Tier Center For Compassionate Communication



## **Families, Couples and Communication** with **Duke Duchscherer** Certified Trainer of Nonviolent Communication

Compassionate Communication, also known as Nonviolent Communication (NVC), is based on the work of clinical psychologist, Marshall Rosenberg, Ph.D., which enables people to express what they are feeling and needing more effectively in a compassionate manner. *Duke Duchscherer* has spent 4 years training and teaching NVC, including one year traveling and training with Marshall Rosenberg.

*"Marshall Rosenberg provides us with the most effective tools to foster health and relationships. Nonviolent communication connects soul to soul creating a lot of healing."*

**- Deepak Chopra, author of *Ageless Body, Timeless Mind***

*"Nonviolent Communication is a powerful tool for peace and partnership it shows us how to listen empathically and also communicate our authentic feelings and needs."*

**- Riane Eisler, author of *The Chalice and the Blade, Tomorrow's Children***

*"You will learn simple tools to defuse arguments and create compassionate connections with your family, friends, and other acquaintances."*

**- John Gray, Ph.D. author of *Men are From Mars, Women are from Venus***

**Location: Tabernacle United Methodist Church, 83 Main St. Binghamton**

**When: Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003**

**Registration Time: 8:30 am – 9:00 am, Workshop: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm**

**Requested Contribution (including lunch): \$40-\$60**

(No one is denied admission for lack of funds.)

Visit our website: [www.stcompassionatecommunication.org](http://www.stcompassionatecommunication.org)

**STCCC IS A NON-FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION ASSOCIATED WITH BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT VERNE DE BOURG AT (607) 798-7376**



*Mad Copy*

JOHN T. HILLIS  
MARY ANNE LEHMANN  
ROBERT C. MURPHY

CITY COURT JUDGES

BINGHAMTON CITY COURT  
GOVERNMENTAL PLAZA  
38 HAWLEY STREET  
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK, 13901  
TELEPHONE (607)772-7006  
FAX (607)772-7041

KAREN A. AMBROZIK  
CHIEF CLERK

SHERRY L. BAKER  
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

October 29, 2003

Hon. Judith F. O'Shea  
Administrative Judge  
Sixth Judicial District  
State Office Building, Suite 1501  
44 Hawley Street  
Binghamton, New York, 13901-4466

Dear Judge O'Shea:

It is with great pleasure that I present to you a copy of the Broome County Domestic Violence Bench Book for Local Criminal Courts. This book is the culmination of several months of work by the Inter-Agency Planning Committee of the Family Violence Prevention Council. In addition to the undersigned, the following people worked diligently on this manual. They include:

Joann Rose Parry, Chief Assistant District  
Attorney from the Broome County District  
Attorney's Office

Hon. Gregory A. Gates, President of the  
Magistrates Association and Justice in the  
Town of Dickinson

Rita Belk, Attorney with the SOS Shelter

Tracy Liguori, Crime Victims Advocate with the  
Crime Victims Assistance Center

Sgt. Karen A. Hendershott, New York State Police

Heather Gow, Coordinator for the Family Violence  
Prevention Council

Susan Taft, Acting Coordinator for the Family  
Violence Prevention Council

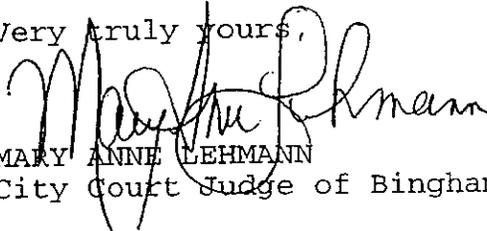
The Bench Book is being distributed to all of the Magistrates free of cost on November 5th at the Broome County Magistrates Association meeting located at the Spot Restaurant on Upper Front Street in Binghamton, New York. A social hour will begin at 6:00 p.m., dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. and a program

will be presented by Dennis McCabe, Assistant Attorney General, who is the Chair of the Family Violence Prevention Council. These Bench Books will be distributed at that time. Most of the Inter-Agency Planning Committee will be in attendance and we would be delighted to have you attend as an honored guest.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the flier announcing the meeting with the Bench Book. We continue in this community to take strong steps towards the prevention of domestic violence and we believe that the Bench Book will be a strong tool in that regard.

As always, we thank you for your continued support of all of the efforts made in this direction.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary Anne Lehmann". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

MARY ANNE LEHMANN  
City Court Judge of Binghamton

MAL/dn  
enc.



# Broome County Magistrates Association

*Hon. Donald "Dutch" Magill*

Secretary/Treasurer

2284 Farm to Market Road, Johnson City, NY 13790 Home: (607) 754-9219 Fax: (607) 754-4156

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

### November 5, 2003

**Location: Spot Restaurant  
Front Street, Binghamton, NY**

**Cocktails: 6:00 PM**

**Dinner Time: 6:30 PM**

**Program to follow Dinner**

**Program: Dennis McCabe, Asst. Attorney General**

Our speaker will be Dennis McCabe, Assistant Attorney General for the State of New York in charge of the Binghamton Office. Dennis will speak not only on matters involving the Attorney General's Office, but he will also distribute the Bench Books that have been prepared for our use as local Criminal Court Judges in dealing with issues of domestic violence. The Bench Books have been prepared by the Interagency Planning Committee of the Family Violence Prevention Council, and they are completely free to all magistrates. They contain a wealth of information on domestic violence issues including resources for expert contacts, assistance to all Judges in preparation and filing of Orders of Protection and similar matters. This should be a fascinating meeting covering a wide variety of topics.

The meeting will also include the report from the Nominating Committee.

**Please make reservations by November 3rd with:**

**Pat or Dutch Magill**

**754-9219 or e-mail to [Dutch744@aol.com](mailto:Dutch744@aol.com)**

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# Registration Form

**"Advanced Training in Interventions in Domestic Violence: Children Who Witness and Men Who Batter"**

Please Print:  
 Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the box that best describes your role:

- \* Mental Health Provider
- \* Human Services
- \* Medical Provider
- \* Early Intervention Services
- \* School Personnel
- \* Investigation / Protective Services
- \* Criminal Justice
- \* Domestic Violence Provider
- \* Parent/Foster Parent
- \* Daycare Provider

I will attend:

**10/6** \_\_\_\_\_ (\$7/person)  
 Raising Children in a Violence World  
 7-9 p.m.

**10/7** \_\_\_\_\_ (\$35/person)  
 Full day on interventions with domestic violence  
 Choose one afternoon workshop:  
 "Men Who Batter" *Fernando Mederos*  
 "Children Who Witness" *Betsy McAllister*

Please make check payable to:  
 Family Violence Prevention Council  
 36-42 Main Street, Binghamton, NY 13905  
 (607) 778-2153 FAX: (607) 778-3788

**Registration Deadline:**  
**October 1, 2003**

This state-of-the-art conference presented by the Broome County Family Violence Prevention Council is a continuing effort to reduce the incidence and severity of all forms of family violence.

- Members of the Planning Committee:
- Carol Anapolwitz, Refugee Assistance Program
  - Genyline Auguste, Mothers & Babies Perinatal Network
  - Heather Courure, Family Enrichment Network
  - Pat Daley, Family & Children's Society
  - Pat Erickson, SOS Shelter, Inc.
  - Lynne Giacobbe, Crime Victims Assistance Center
  - Heather Co-Gow, Family Violence Prevention Council
  - Karen Henderson, NY State Police
  - Gayle Huhar, Broome County Dept. of Social Services
  - Dennis McCabe, Homey General's Office
  - Sandra Bruden, Broome County Health Department
  - Donna Retak, Broome Community College
  - Rev. Nadine Ridley, Christ the King Lutheran Church

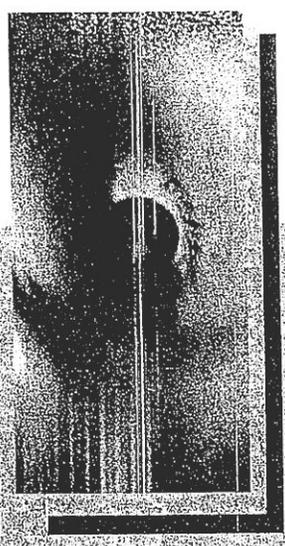


## Directions

The Heritage Country Club & Conference Center  
 4301 Watson Blvd., Johnson City, NY

Take NY State Route 17 to Exit 70,  
 (Route 201 North, the shopping mall Exit).  
 Get in the far left lane "left hand turn only".  
 Turn left at the traffic light.  
 Go straight through the next two traffic lights - the Heritage Country Club is approximately 1/2 mile up Watson Boulevard on your right hand side.  
 Parking is available in the East and West lots.

# Advanced Training in Interventions in Domestic Violence:



## Children Who Witness and Men Who Batter

**Featuring:**  
*Betsy McAllister Groves, LICSW*  
*Fernando Mederos, EDD*

**Tuesday, October 7, 2003**  
 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 Heritage Country Club & Conference Center  
 4301 Watson Blvd., Johnson City, NY

**With Special Evening Presentation**  
**Monday, October 6, 2003**  
 featuring *Betsy McAllister Groves:*  
 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

- Sponsored by:
- Broome County Family Violence Prevention Council
  - Crime Victims Assistance Center
  - SOS Shelter, Inc.
  - Broome County Department of Social Services
  - Family & Children's Society
  - Family Enrichment Network
  - Broome County Gang Prevention Program/Binghamton Housing Authority

# The Program

## Tuesday, October 7

8:30 - 9:00 Registration  
9:00 - 12:00 Children Who Witness  
Domestic Violence:  
Betsy McAlister Groves

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch

1:00 - 4:00 Men Who Batter:  
Fernando Mederos

- Who are these men?
- How can we engage them?
- What shouldn't we do?

Alternatively:  
1:00 - 4:00

Assessing and Treating  
Children Who Witness  
Domestic Violence:  
Betsy McAlister Groves

*This conference is designed to benefit the professionals that have contact with children and families.*

- These professionals include:*
- Human Service Professionals
  - Criminal Justice, Judicial/Legal Professionals
  - Healthcare Professionals
  - Mental Health Professionals

## Monday, October 6

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Evening Presentation:

"Raising Children in a Violent World":  
Betsy McAlister Groves

Discussions on:

- Media
- War
- Gangs
- Domestic Violence
- Terrorism

*This evening presentation is designed for:*

- Parents
- Daycare Providers
- Foster Parents
- Clerics

# About the Speakers

## Betsy McAlister Groves, LICSW

*Founder and Director, Child Witness to Violence Project  
Boston Medical Center*

Ms. Groves is the founding director of the Child Witness to Violence Project at Boston Medical Center, and assistant professor of Pediatrics at Boston University School of Medicine. She is the recipient of a fellowship from the Open Society Institute and is currently on leave at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Publications include articles in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *Pediatrics*, *Harvard Mental Health Letter*, and *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education*. She is a member of the Massachusetts Governor's Commission on Domestic Violence and has served as a consultant to the Massachusetts Department of Social Services, the Massachusetts Judicial Institute, and Family Communications, Inc. (producers of *Mister Roger's Neighborhood*). Ms. Groves received her Masters in social work from the Boston University School of Social Work and her undergraduate degree from the College of William and Mary.

## Fernando Mederos, EDD

*Independent Consultant, Trainer, Speaker*

Dr. Mederos is an independent consultant, trainer, and public speaker on intervening with physically abusive men and battered women and their children, including culturally appropriate programming. His specialties are: problem-solving, consultation to develop effective institutional responses to domestic violence in the criminal justice, child protection and mental health systems; culturally competent programming in institutional responses to domestic violence; facilitation of multi-agency task forces to develop collaborative systemic responses to domestic violence; and curriculum development for intervention programs for physically abusive men. He is a national trainer for the Duluth Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, the Battered Women's Justice Project in Minneapolis, and the National District Attorney's Advocacy Association in Columbia, South Carolina; and a technical assistance provider for the US Dept. of Justice, Violence Against Women Office on projects focused on coordinated community responses to domestic violence. He has published several works including: *Domestic Violence and Probation: Effective and Safe Intervention* (1995); *Battering and Conjoint Therapy: Guidelines to Assessment, Exclusionary Criteria and Rationales for Cautious Intervention* (co-authored 1999); and *Batterer Intervention Programs: Past and Future Prospects* (1999). He obtained a doctorate in education in counseling and consulting psychology from Harvard University in 1995 after conducting research comparing non-violent and maritally violent men.

# OW WOMEN INSPIRING HOPE & POSSIBILITY

# National Women's History Month

March 2004

National Women's History Project / [www.nwhp.org](http://www.nwhp.org)



80 Hawley Street  
Binghamton, NY 13901

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YWCA

and

Triple Cities  
Business and

Professional Women  
invite you to join  
their second annual

**"Women's**

**History**

**Month**

**"Celebration"**

**Tuesday, March 9, 2004**

Breakfast in the  
Riverside Room,  
Binghamton Regency  
One Sarbro Square  
Binghamton, NY

7:45 AM - 9:00 AM  
\$15.00 per person

Ask about  
advanced pay discount  
on tables of ten

Call 772-0340 Ext 222/242  
for more information

**Business and Professional Women  
of the USA**  
Mission Statement

To achieve equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education and research. To elevate the standards of women in business and in the professions. To promote the interest of business and professional women. To bring about the spirit of cooperation among business and professional women of the U.S.A.

**Websites:**  
[www.bpwusa.org](http://www.bpwusa.org)  
or  
[www.bpwyny.org](http://www.bpwyny.org)

**YWCA of  
Binghamton/Broome County**  
Mission Statement

To empower women and girls and to eliminate racism. To create opportunities for women's growth, leadership and power in order to attain a common vision: peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all people. The association will use its collective power toward the elimination of racism wherever it exists.

**Website:**  
[www.binghamtonywca.com](http://www.binghamtonywca.com)

Membership information on both organizations will be available at registration desk

**YWCA/BPW  
Second Annual  
"Women's History Month"  
Breakfast Program**

**Binghamton Regency  
Riverside Room**

**7:45 AM: Breakfast served**  
**8:00 AM: Welcome**  
**Few words by YWCA and BPW  
Representatives**

**Ann VanSavage  
Triple Cities BPW President  
will represent BPW**

**Gerry DeAngelo  
YWCA/ENCOREplus Director  
will represent YWCA**

**8:15 AM: Sandy Balzhiser  
Triple Cities BPW member  
will introduce:**

**our  
Featured Speaker  
Greta Wingate  
Professor:  
Dept. of  
History, Philosophy and  
Social Sciences,  
Broome Community College.**

**The subject will be  
Feisty Upstate Women  
including women from the  
local area**

**YWCA/BPW  
Second Annual  
"Women's History Month"  
Breakfast  
Reservation**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Street:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone: (H)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**(W)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Place of Business:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tear off and return with  
enclosed check for \$15.00  
by  
March 4, 2004  
payable to:  
YWCA**

**ATT: ENCOREplus  
80 Hawley Street  
Binghamton, NY 13901**

**Call 772-0340 Ext 222/242  
for information**

**One reservation form per person  
Form may be duplicated**



JOHN T. HILLIS  
MARY ANNE LEHMANN  
ROBERT C. MURPHY  
  
CITY COURT JUDGES

BINGHAMTON CITY COURT  
GOVERNMENTAL PLAZA  
38 HAWLEY STREET  
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK, 13901  
TELEPHONE (607)772-7006  
FAX (607)772-7041

KAREN A. AMBROZIK  
CHIEF CLERK  
  
SHERRY L. BAKER  
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

October 29, 2003

Hon. Judith F. O'Shea  
Administrative Judge  
Sixth Judicial District  
State Office Building, Suite 1501  
44 Hawley Street  
Binghamton, New York, 13901-4466

Dear Judge O'Shea:

It is with great pleasure that I present to you a copy of the Broome County Domestic Violence Bench Book for Local Criminal Courts. This book is the culmination of several months of work by the Inter-Agency Planning Committee of the Family Violence Prevention Council. In addition to the undersigned, the following people worked diligently on this manual. They include:

Joann Rose Parry, Chief Assistant District  
Attorney from the Broome County District  
Attorney's Office

Hon. Gregory A. Gates, President of the  
Magistrates Association and Justice in the  
Town of Dickinson

Rita Belk, Attorney with the SOS Shelter

Tracy Liguori, Crime Victims Advocate with the  
Crime Victims Assistance Center

Sgt. Karen A. Hendershott, New York State Police

Heather Gow, Coordinator for the Family Violence  
Prevention Council

Susan Taft, Acting Coordinator for the Family  
Violence Prevention Council

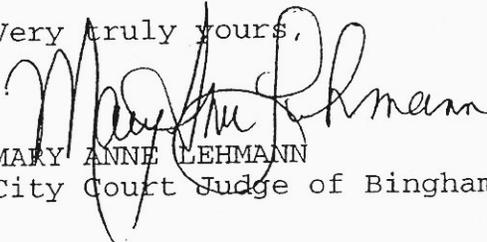
The Bench Book is being distributed to all of the Magistrates free of cost on November 5th at the Broome County Magistrates Association meeting located at the Spot Restaurant on Upper Front Street in Binghamton, New York. A social hour will begin at 6:00 p.m., dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. and a program

will be presented by Dennis McCabe, Assistant Attorney General, who is the Chair of the Family Violence Prevention Council. These Bench Books will be distributed at that time. Most of the Inter-Agency Planning Committee will be in attendance and we would be delighted to have you attend as an honored guest.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the flier announcing the meeting with the Bench Book. We continue in this community to take strong steps towards the prevention of domestic violence and we believe that the Bench Book will be a strong tool in that regard.

As always, we thank you for your continued support of all of the efforts made in this direction.

Very truly yours,



MARY ANNE LEHMANN  
City Court Judge of Binghamton

MAL/dn  
enc.



# Broome County Magistrates Association

*Hon. Donald "Dutch" Magill*

Secretary/Treasurer

2284 Farm to Market Road, Johnson City, NY 13790 Home: (607) 754-9219 Fax: (607) 754-4156

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**November 5, 2003**

**Location: Spot Restaurant  
Front Street, Binghamton, NY**

**Cocktails: 6:00 PM**

**Dinner Time: 6:30 PM**

**Program to follow Dinner**

**Program: Dennis McCabe, Asst. Attorney General**

Our speaker will be Dennis McCabe, Assistant Attorney General for the State of New York in charge of the Binghamton Office. Dennis will speak not only on matters involving the Attorney General's Office, but he will also distribute the Bench Books that have been prepared for our use as local Criminal Court Judges in dealing with issues of domestic violence. The Bench Books have been prepared by the Interagency Planning Committee of the Family Violence Prevention Council, and they are completely free to all magistrates. They contain a wealth of information on domestic violence issues including resources for expert contacts, assistance to all Judges in preparation and filing of Orders of Protection and similar matters. This should be a fascinating meeting covering a wide variety of topics.

The meeting will also include the report from the Nominating Committee.

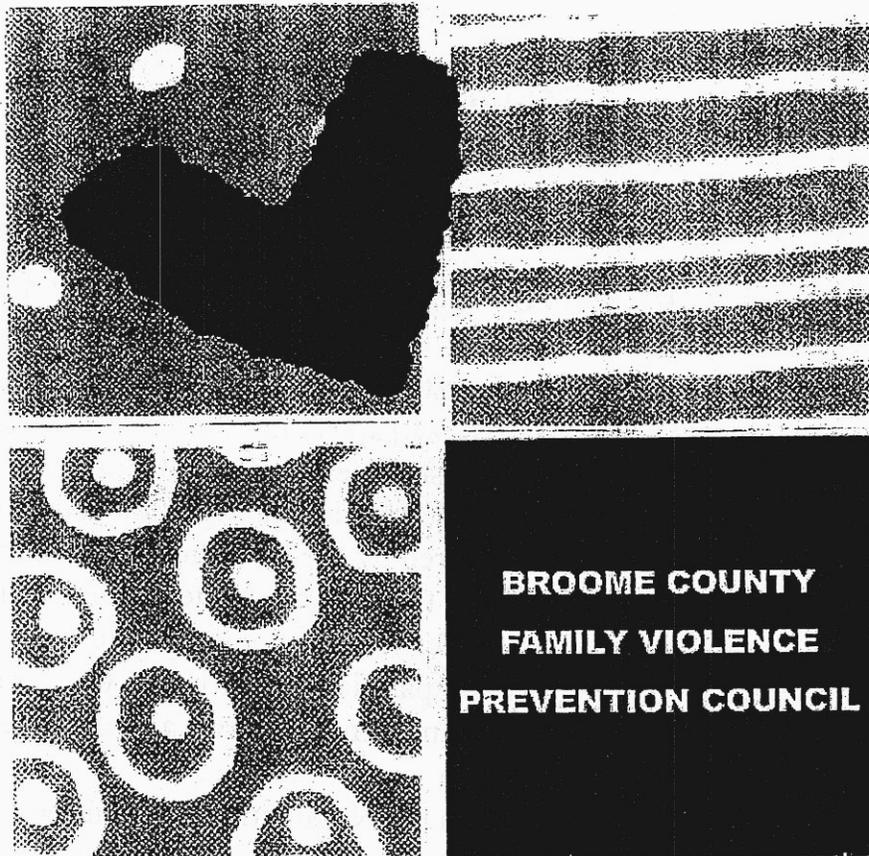
**Please make reservations by November 3rd with:**

**Pat or Dutch Magill**

**754-9219 or e-mail to Dutch744@aol.com**

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**Broome County  
Domestic Violence  
Bench Book  
For Local Criminal Courts**



**Broome County  
Domestic Violence Bench Book  
For Local Criminal Courts**

Inter-Agency Planning, Bench Book Subcommittee  
Family Violence Prevention Council of Broome County  
11/03

# GOALS OF JUDICIAL INTERVENTION IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES

To stop the violence

To protect the victim

To protect the children and other family members

To protect the general public

To uphold the legislative intent that domestic violence be treated as a serious crime, and to communicate that intent to the defendant and to the victim

To rehabilitate the offender

To provide restitution for the victim

(Source: *California Center for Judicial Education and Research Journal*,  
Summer 1990, Vol. 10, No. 2).

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
I. Definitions of Domestic Violence.....	3
II. Arraignment Procedures.....	3
III. Issuing Temporary Orders of Protection.....	5
IV. Issuing Final Orders of Protection.....	7
V. Handling Orders of Protection After Issuance.....	8
Appendix I: Order of Protection Forms .....	11
Appendix II: Resource and Referral Information.....	15
Appendix III: Outline of Firearms in Domestic Violence Cases.....	20

## I. DEFINITIONS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A. "Domestic Violence" is not defined under the Penal Law.

The Penal law does not define the term "domestic violence" however, the Legislature has defined as "family offenses" certain criminal acts when committed by certain classes of persons. See CPL 530.11(1)

B. "Family Offenses" are defined under Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.11(1).

To be a "family offense", one of the following crimes must have been committed.

- disorderly conduct
- harassment in the first or second degrees
- menacing in the second or third degrees
- reckless endangerment in the first or second degree
- assault in the second or third degree
- attempted assault/aggravated assault in the second degree
- stalking in the first, second or third degree

In addition, the defendant and complainant must be related as follows:

- legally married to each other
- formerly married to each other
- parent and child
- related by blood or marriage
- have a child in common, regardless of whether such persons have been married or have lived together

(Note that the usual "common-law" marriage, where a man and woman live together in New York State as husband and wife, is not considered a lawful marriage in this state).

C. By statute, Family Court and the criminal courts have concurrent jurisdiction over "family offenses." In "family offense" cases, the criminal court may be required to provide certain information to the victim concerning his or her option for proceeding in either or both courts if the victim appears in court for the arraignment. (See Arraignment Procedures below).

***Practice Tip:***

*Domestic violence is generally defined as a pattern of coercive tactics, which can include physical, psychological, sexual, economic, and emotional abuse, perpetrated by one person against an adult intimate partner, with the goal of establishing and maintaining power and control over the victim. (See Model Domestic Violence Policy for Counties, Jan. 1998, page 1). Children are the hidden victims of domestic violence, and their needs should also be considered.*

## II. ARRAIGNMENT PROCEDURES

**Introduction:** Police policies and procedures generally do not allow appearance tickets to be issued in “family offense” and other domestic violence cases. If the judge in the town or village where the crime was allegedly committed is not available, a judge in an adjoining municipality is permitted to arraign the defendant and issue a temporary order of protection. (See Criminal Procedure Law Sections 120.90; 140.20)

A. Arraignments in “family offense” and domestic violence cases are the same in many ways to arraignments in any other criminal cases.

1. At the time of arraignment, the court must advise the defendant of the charge or charges filed against him, furnish him with a copy of the accusatory instrument(s) and advise him of his right to counsel and an adjournment to obtain counsel.

2. The court must also consider the issue of bail.

(a) Criminal Procedure law Section 530.20 provides that when a criminal action is pending in the local criminal court, the court must or may order recognizance or bail as follows:

- i. when the defendant is charged with a misdemeanor or violation, the court must order recognizance or bail.
- ii. when the defendant is charged with a felony, the court may, in its discretion, order recognizance or bail unless the defendant is charged with a class A felony and/or it appears the defendant has two prior felony convictions. The court may not order recognizance or bail in any felony case unless and until the District Attorney has been given an opportunity to be heard on bail and the court has been furnished with a DCJS rap sheet or other report concerning the defendant’s criminal history.

(b) When bail is set and the defendant cannot post it immediately, the defendant will be remanded to the Broome County Jail.

**Practice Tip:** Factors to be considered by the Court in conjunction with recognizance and bail matters stem from the likelihood of the defendant’s returning for further proceedings, victim safety, victim notification, level of violence, history between the parties, prior Orders of Protection, ordering one of the parties out of the home, and any other matters that the Court would normally consider when setting conditions of bail or issuing an order of recognizance.

**Practice Tip:** If you are considering directing the defendant to obtain services as a condition to bail, please remember that anger management programs should not be substituted for batterer intervention programs. Batterer Intervention Program will assess each case, as anger management programs may be applicable in some instances.

3. Copies of all accusatory instruments and the circumstances of bail or release on recognizance together with a copy of any order of protection issued should be transmitted to the District Attorney within 24 hours of the conclusion of the arraignment procedure.

B. Additional procedures must also be followed for arraignments in “family offense” and other domestic violence cases.

1. The accusatory instrument must conform to the Rules of the Court. The accusatory instrument must contain the following information in the upper right hand corner:

Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_  
(relationship to alleged victim)

Alleged victim: \_\_\_\_\_  
(relationship to defendant)

If this information is not present, Part 134 of the Rules of the Chief Administrator of the Courts requires the court to insert the information.

2. Information must be provided to the complainant.

(a) The police must advise the victim of the right to see a local judge immediately to obtain a criminal court order of protection. Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.11(6).

(b) The victim may be present in court to make a request for an order of protection, but this is not required. The police, the District Attorney or other advocate may make the request on behalf of the victim.

(c) The court is required to read or give the victim the “notice of rights” and provide all of the necessary forms. Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.11(6) and 530.12 (14).

(d) If and when the victim appears, the court should advise the victim of the options to proceed in either criminal court or family court or both at the same time, and the nature of the proceedings in each court. Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.11 (2). A victim has the right to proceed directly, and without court referral, in either criminal or Family Court or both. Moreover, when Family Court is not in session, the criminal court has the authority to issue a Family Court order of protection and/or modify a temporary order of protection issued by the family court. Criminal Procedure Law Sections 530.11 (j) and 530.12 (3).

(e) The court should also advise the victim of the right to counsel in Family Court, and explain the right to have appointed counsel if the victim cannot afford to hire an attorney.

(f) The court should advise the victim of available community resources. (See Appendix I for Resource and Referral Information).

**Practice Tip:** *It is very important that the victim receives information regarding agencies and services available to assist him or her. This information should be provided by law enforcement. Make inquiry of the victim, or of the officer, as to whether such information has been provided and if not, provide the information yourself.*

*Attached to this Bench Book is a listing of various web sites, phone numbers, and referral information that is of great value to you and the victim of domestic violence. We recommend strongly that the victim be referred to the Crime Victims Assistance Center for help (Hotline: 24 hrs a day / 7 days a week).*

3. Information concerning existing orders of protection must be obtained. The court must inquire as to the existence of any orders of protection which may have already been issued by any court relating to the defendant and any person or person for whom an order may be sought at the time of the arraignment. It is recommended that the court also attempt to contact the NYS Domestic Violence Registry regarding existing orders. If the victim is proceeding in family court at the same time, the court should send copies of all the documents generated to the clerk of the appropriate family court.

### III. ISSUING TEMPORARY ORDERS OF PROTECTION

**Introduction:** A criminal court can issue an order of protection pursuant to Criminal Procedure Law Sections 530.12 and 530.13 while a criminal charge is pending. Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.12 concerns orders of protection for victims of “family offenses,” while Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.13 concerns orders of protection for victims of all other crimes.

Orders of protection are particularly important in “family offense” and domestic violence cases because the perpetrators of the violence may have continued access to the victims. It is believed that the criminal court can help deter future abuse by conveying to the defendant the significance of the order and the punishments that may be imposed if the defendant violates the order.

- A. The criminal court has authority to issue an order of protection as a condition of bail or order of recognizance in any case in which the court deems such an order appropriate. Among the factors that the court should consider are prior orders of protection, prior incidents of abuse, past or present injury, drug or alcohol abuse, and access to weapons. When issuing an order of protection, the court should indicate on the record in some manner that the conditions of the order will achieve the purpose of the order of protection. Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.12(1)(a).
- B. The conditions that may be included in a temporary order of protection are provided in Criminal Procedure Law Sections 530.12 and 530.13:
  1. Stay away from the home, school, business, or place of employment of the victim of the offense;

2. Refrain from harassing, intimidating, threatening or otherwise interfering with the victims of the alleged offense and such members of the family or household of such victims as shall be specified in the order;
3. In the case of a temporary order of protection issued in a “family offense” case, permit a parent or person entitled to visitation by a court order or separation agreement to visit the child at stated periods; refrain from committing a “family offense” or any criminal offense against the child or against the family or household member or against any person to whom custody of the child is awarded or from harassing or intimidating such persons; refrain from acts of commission or omission that create an unreasonable risk to the health, safety and welfare of a child, family or household member’s life or health; and permit a designated party to enter the residence during specified time in order to remove personal belongings not in issue in any pending proceedings.
4. In addition, under Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.14, the court must suspend any existing firearms license, order the defendant ineligible for such license and/or order the immediate surrender of any firearms owned or possessed by the defendant if the court has good cause to believe that:
  - (a) the defendant has a prior conviction of any violent felony offense; or
  - (b) the defendant has previously been found to have willfully failed to obey a prior order of protection and such willful failure involved the infliction of serious physical injury, the use or threatened use of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument, or behavior constituting any violent felony offense; or
  - (c) the defendant has a prior conviction for stalking in the first, second, third or fourth degree; or
  - (d) there is a substantial risk that the defendant may use or threaten to use a firearm unlawfully against the person or persons for whose protection the temporary order of protection issued

***Practice Tip:*** *The presence of and possible use of firearms should be of paramount concern because it affects the victim, law enforcement personnel, and anyone else likely to come in contact with a defendant who has access to weapons. Removal of firearms from the household increases the victim’s chance of survival 12-fold. An outline involving firearms in domestic violence cases is attached as an appendix.*  
*(Source: 267 Journal of American Medical Association 3043 (1992)).*

- C. Once the court determines that a temporary order of protection should be issued, the following steps should be followed:
  1. The court should use the official temporary order of protection form promulgated by the Office of Court Administration. The temporary order of protection may contain any of the conditions listed in Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.12(1), which are listed on the official form.

2. The defendant should be served with a copy of the order by handing him or her a copy of the order in court. The defendant should acknowledge service of the order by either signing the original order or by the court indicated on the order that it was served. The court should also advise the defendant of the terms of the order and their significance.
3. The victim should be mailed or provided with a copy of the temporary order of protection.
4. The order should be registered with the Department of Criminal Justice Services Registry Center as required by the Office of Court Administration.

Provide copies of the temporary order of protection to the arresting agency and, when appropriate, with the Sheriff's Department or the New York State Police. If the victim lives or works in another county, a copy should also be filed with the appropriate local law enforcement agency in that county.

5. If the victim is also proceeding in Family Court at the same time, copies of the temporary order of protection, the accusatory instrument and any other related documents should be sent to the clerk of the appropriate Family Court.
  6. A copy of the temporary order of protection should be sent to the District Attorney's Office along with the accusatory instrument and any other related documents.
- D. The temporary order of protection is effective as soon as it is issued and its contents are made known to the defendant. An expiration date must be set forth and should be of sufficient duration to protect the victim while the criminal case against the defendant is pending. The expiration date of the order can be extended as long as the case is still pending.
- E. Criminal Procedure Law Sections 530.12(4) and 530.13(2) and (3) provide that the court may issue a temporary order of protection *ex parte* upon the filing of the accusatory instrument (and for good cause shown in the case of a non-family offense). In other words, in cases where the police file with the court an accusatory instrument and request the issuance of an arrest warrant, the court may also issue at that time a temporary order of protection. The temporary order of protection will stay in effect until the defendant appears in court on the warrant.

***Practice Tip:*** While it is true that your Order of Protection is only a piece of paper, incapable of stopping bullets, knives, or fists, it does serve to reinforce to a defendant just how very serious the conduct with which he is charged may be, and it may actually serve to emphasize the need for defusing the situation.

#### IV. ISSUING FINAL ORDERS OF PROTECTION

**Introduction:** As part of the disposition of a criminal charge, the court may issue a permanent order of protection. Criminal Procedure Law Sections 530.12 (5) and 530.13 (4).

- A. The conditions of the final order of protection are the same as the conditions of a temporary order of protection. (See above.)
- B. If a final order of protection is issued as part of the disposition of the criminal charge, the court should follow the same steps it follows when issuing a temporary order of protection. (See above.)
- C. The final order of protection is effective as soon as it is issued and its contents made known to the defendant. An expiration date must be set forth on the order. The duration of the final order of protection, as measured from the date of sentencing, is set by the court and cannot exceed the following:
  - five years for a felony conviction or youthful offender adjudication
  - three years for a class A misdemeanor conviction or youthful offender adjudication
  - one year for the conviction or youthful offender adjudication for any other offense

#### V. HANDLING ORDERS OF PROTECTION AFTER ISSUANCE

- A. When a defendant is brought before the court for an alleged violation of a temporary order of protection and the court is satisfied there is a basis for the violation, the court may:
  1. Revoke an ROR order or bail if the defendant is released in his own recognizance or on bail and commit defendant to custody. Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.12(11)(a).
  2. Conduct a contempt hearing pursuant to the Judiciary Law to determine if the defendant has willful violated the order. If the court also finds that defendant's act was willful, the court may sentence the defendant to up to three months and/or impose a fine of up to \$1,000. Judiciary Law, Section 750.751.
  3. The violation of an existing order of protection may also constitute the crime of criminal contempt. If the act which constitutes the violation of a temporary order of protection is a crime or a violation, the defendant may be charged with and tried for that crime or violation, in addition to criminal contempt charges. Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.12(11)(d).

A "family offense" that occurs after issuance of a temporary order of protection is deemed a new offense and, in addition to proceeding on a violation as noted above, the victim may seek to file a new accusatory instrument and/or file a family court petition as a new proceeding. Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.12 (7).

- B. If there is a violation of a final order of protection issued as part of the disposition of a criminal charge, the court may take the following action depending on the sentence imposed:
1. If there is a pending Adjudgment in Contemplation of Dismissal (ACD), restore the case to the calendar for trial and set bail or remand the defendant to jail *in lieu* of bail.
  2. If there is a pending conditional discharge (CD), the defendant may be re-sentenced to probation or imprisonment. This can be done only after a hearing at which the prosecution must establish by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant has violated the terms of the sentence. Criminal Procedure Law Sections 530.12(11)(c) and 410.70.
  3. If the defendant is under probation supervision, the defendant may be re-sentenced in accordance with the Penal Law based on the original conviction. Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.12(11)(d). This can be done only after a hearing at which the prosecution must establish by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant has violated the terms of the sentence. Criminal Procedure Law Sections 530.12 (11) (d) and 410.70.
  4. Violation of a final order of protection may also constitute a crime or a violation. The defendant may also be charged with and tried for that crime or violation, in addition to criminal contempt charges.
- C. Any motion to vacate or modify a temporary or final order of protection must be on notice to the non-moving party, except as provided in Criminal Procedure Law Section 530.12(3-b), which sets forth the criminal court's emergency powers to modify a Family Court order upon the submission of an affidavit. (If the court exercises its emergency powers in connection with a Broome County Family Court order of protection, Family Court requests that all papers concerning the modification be faxed or delivered to the clerk of that court as soon as possible.)

***Practice Tip:*** *Should the victim request to amend or rescind your Order of Protection, you may wish to consider requiring the victim to meet with a victim advocate before you decide to change or vacate the Order of Protection. In this way, you may be more comfortable in knowing that the victim has not been influenced by a domestic violence perpetrator to do something that she or he may later regret. This also will apprise the victim of options without taking up court time.*

*The two local agencies that offer services for domestic violence victims are Crime Victims Assistance Center (722-4256) and SOS Shelter, Inc. (748-5174).*

# **APPENDIX I**

Order of Protection Forms

ORI No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Order No: \_\_\_\_\_  
NYSID No: \_\_\_\_\_

At a term of the \_\_\_\_\_ Court, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_, Broome County, State of New York

**ORDER OF PROTECTION**  
Non-Family Offense – C.P.L. 530.13'

Present: Hon. \_\_\_\_\_

People of the State of New York  
-against-

Youthful Offender (check if applicable)  
Index/Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Charges: \_\_\_\_\_

Defendant.  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

(Check one):  Ex parte  
 Defendant Present in Court

**NOTICE: YOUR FAILURE TO OBEY THIS ORDER MAY SUBJECT YOU TO MANDATORY ARREST AND CRIMINAL PROSECUTION, WHICH MAY RESULT IN YOUR INCARCERATION FOR UP TO SEVEN YEARS FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT. IF THIS IS A TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROTECTION AND YOU FAIL TO APPEAR IN COURT WHEN YOU ARE REQUIRED TO DO SO, THIS ORDER MAY BE EXTENDED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND CONTINUE IN EFFECT UNTIL YOU REAPPEAR IN COURT.**

**TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROTECTION.** Whereas good cause has been shown for the issuance of a temporary order of protection [as a condition of  recognizance  release on bail  adjournment in contemplation of dismissal],  
 **ORDER OF PROTECTION.** Whereas defendant has been convicted of [specify crime or violation]: \_\_\_\_\_

and the Court having made a determination in accordance with section 530.13 of the Criminal Procedure Law,

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the above-named defendant observe the following conditions of behavior:

(Check Applicable Paragraphs):

- Stay away from  [name(s) of protected person(s) or witness(es)]: \_\_\_\_\_
- and/or from the  home of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 school of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 business of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 place of employment of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Refrain from communication or any other contact by mail, telephone, e-mail, voice-mail or other means with [specify protected person(s)]: \_\_\_\_\_
- Refrain from assault, stalking, harassment, menacing, reckless endangerment, disorderly conduct, intimidation, threats or any criminal offense or interference with the victim or victims of, or designated witnesses to, the alleged offense and such members of the family or household of such victim(s) or witness(es) as shall be specifically named [specify]: \_\_\_\_\_
- Surrender any and all handguns, pistols, revolvers, rifles, shotguns and other firearms owned or possessed, including, but not limited to, the following: \_\_\_\_\_ . Such surrender shall take place immediately, but no later than [specify date/time:] \_\_\_\_\_ at: \_\_\_\_\_
- Specify other conditions defendant must observe: \_\_\_\_\_

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the above-named Defendant's license to carry, possess, repair, sell or otherwise dispose of a firearm or firearms, if any, pursuant to Penal Law §400.00, is hereby  suspended or  revoked (note: final order only), and/or  the Defendant shall remain ineligible to receive a firearm license during the period of this order. (Check all applicable boxes).  
**NOTE:** If this paragraph is checked, a copy of this form must be sent to: New York State Police, Pistol Permit Section, State Campus Building #22, 1220 Washington Ave, Albany, New York 12226-2252.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this order of protection shall remain in effect until \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE/JUSTICE

Defendant advised in Court of issuance of Order.

Received by Defendant \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

Service Executed Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Warrant issued for Defendant

The Criminal Procedure Law provides that presentation of a copy of this order of protection to any police officer or peace officer acting pursuant to his or her special duties shall authorize, and in some situations may require, such officer to arrest a defendant who has violated its terms and to bring him or her before the Court to face whatever penalties may be imposed therefore.

Federal law provides that this order must be honored and enforced by state and tribal courts, including courts of a state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States, if it is established that the person against who the order is sought an intimate partner of the protected partner and has been or will be afforded reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard in accordance with state law sufficient to protect that person's rights (18 U.S.C. §§2265, 2266).

It is a federal offense to: cross state lines to violate an order of protection; cross state lines to engage in stalking, harassment or domestic violence; possess, purchase, ship, transfer or receive a handgun, rifle, shotgun or other firearm or ammunition following a conviction of a domestic violence misdemeanor involving the use or attempted use of physical force or a deadly weapon; or (except for military or law enforcement officers while on duty) possess, purchase, ship, transfer or receive a handgun, rifle, shotgun or other firearm or ammunition while an order of protection, issued after notice and an opportunity to be heard, that protects an intimate partner from assault, harassment, threatening and/or stalking, remains in effect (18 U.S.C §§922(g)(8), 922(g)(9), 2261, 2261A, 2262).

Use this form for non-family offense order of protection, issued pursuant to CPL §530.13 that are not issued to protect victims of domestic violence, as defined by Social Services Law §459-a and thus are not entered onto the statewide domestic violence registry. See Exec. L. §221-a (1); CPL §530.13.

ORI No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Order No: \_\_\_\_\_  
NYSID No: \_\_\_\_\_

At a term of the \_\_\_\_\_ Court, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_,  
at \_\_\_\_\_, Broome County, State of New York

Present: Hon. \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDER OF PROTECTION**  
Family Offense – C.P.L. 530.12

People of the State of New York  
-against-

Youthful Offender (check if applicable)  
Index/Docket No \_\_\_\_\_  
Charges: \_\_\_\_\_

Defendant  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

(Check one):  Ex parte  
 Defendant Present in Court

**NOTICE: YOUR FAILURE TO OBEY THIS ORDER MAY SUBJECT YOU TO MANDATORY ARREST AND CRIMINAL PROSECUTION, AND, RESULT IN YOUR INCARCERATION FOR UP TO SEVEN YEARS FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT. IF THIS IS A TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROTECTION AND YOU FAIL TO APPEAR IN COURT WHEN YOU ARE REQUIRED TO DO SO, THIS ORDER MAY BE EXTENDED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND CONTINUE IN EFFECT UNTIL YOU REAPPEAR IN COURT.**

**TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROTECTION.** Whereas good cause has been shown for the issuance of a temporary order of protection [as a condition of  recognizance  release on bail  adjournment in contemplation of dismissal],  
 **ORDER OF PROTECTION.** Whereas defendant has been convicted of [specify crime or violation]: \_\_\_\_\_

and the Court having made a determination in accordance with section 530.12 of the Criminal Procedure Law,

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the above-named defendant observe the following conditions of behavior:

(Check Applicable Paragraphs)

- Stay away from [A]  [name(s) of protected person(s)]: \_\_\_\_\_ and/or from the  
[B]  home of \_\_\_\_\_,  
[C]  school of \_\_\_\_\_,  
[D]  business of \_\_\_\_\_,  
[E]  place of employment of \_\_\_\_\_,  
 other \_\_\_\_\_;
- Refrain from assault, harassment, menacing, reckless endangerment, disorderly conduct, intimidation, threats, or any criminal offense against [specify party or members of party's family or household] \_\_\_\_\_;
- Permit [specify individual] \_\_\_\_\_ to enter the residence during [specify date/time] \_\_\_\_\_ to remove personal belongings not in issue in litigation;
- Refrain from [indicate acts] \_\_\_\_\_ that create an unreasonable risk to the health, safety, or welfare of [specify child(ren)] \_\_\_\_\_;
- Permit [specify individual(s)] \_\_\_\_\_, entitled by a court order or separation agreement, to visit with [specify child(ren)] \_\_\_\_\_ during the following periods of time [specify] \_\_\_\_\_, under the following terms and conditions [specify] \_\_\_\_\_;
- Surrender any and all firearms owned or possessed, including, but not limited to, the following: \_\_\_\_\_ Such surrender shall take place on or before [specify date/time]: \_\_\_\_\_ at: \_\_\_\_\_;
- Specify other conditions \_\_\_\_\_;

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the above-named Defendant's license to carry, possess, repair, sell or otherwise dispose of a firearm or firearms, if any, pursuant to Penal Law §400.00, is hereby  suspended or  revoked (note: final order only), and /or  the Defendant shall remain ineligible to receive a firearm license during the period of this order. (Check all applicable boxes).  
**NOTE:** If this paragraph is checked, a copy of this form must be sent to: New York State Police, Pistol Permit Section, State Campus Building #22, 1220 Washington Ave. Albany, New York 12226-2252.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this order of protection shall remain in effect until \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE/JUSTICE

Defendant advised in Court of issuance of Order.

Received by Defendant \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

Service Executed Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_  Warrant issued for Defendant

The Criminal Procedure Law provides that presentation of a copy of this order of protection to any police officer or peace officer acting pursuant to his or her special duties shall authorize and in some situations may require, such officer to arrest a defendant who has violated its terms and to bring him or her before the Court to face whatever penalties may be imposed therefore.

Federal law provides that this order must be honored and enforced by state and tribal courts, including courts of a state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States, if it is established that the person against who the order is sought an intimate partner of the protected party and has been or will be afforded reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard in accordance with state law sufficient to protect that person's rights (18 U.S.C. §§2265, 2266).

# FAMILY PROTECTION REGISTRY INFORMATION SHEET

\*\*\*\*\*ITALICIZED AREAS ARE REQUIRED\*\*\*\*\*

ORI No: _____	Court: _____
Order No: _____	County: <u>Broome</u>
Docket/Index No: _____	Date of Issuance: _____
Law Enforcement Agency at which Copy of Order is Filed:	
Name: _____	ORI: _____

- NEW ORDER POLICE SERVICE REQUIRED  Yes  No
- ORDER MODIFIED/FINALIZED (Date of last extension, if any: \_\_\_\_\_)

## APPLYING PARTY (Party Requesting Order)

Name: (First)	(MI)	(Last)	
Alias or Nickname: (First)		(Last)	Date of Birth:
Address: (Street)		(State)	Addr. Confidential? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(City)			Protected Party? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(Zip)			
Phone (home):		Phone (work):	
Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		Social Security Number:	
Race: <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black <input type="checkbox"/> Native American		Height: (ft) (in)	Eye Color:
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		Weight: (pounds)	Hair Color:
Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic			

## ENJOINED PARTY (Party Against Whom Order Runs)

Name: (First)	(MI)	(Last)	NYSID:
Alias or Nickname: (First)		(Last)	Date of Birth:
Address: (Street)		(State)	Addr. Confidential? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(City)			Protected Party? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(Zip)			
Employers Name:		Hours of Employment:	
Employers Address:			
Phone (home):		Phone (work):	
Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		Social Security Number:	
Race: <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black <input type="checkbox"/> Native American		Height: (ft) (in)	Eye Color:
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		Weight: (pounds)	Hair Color:
Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic			
License Plate Number:		State:	
Drivers ID:		State:	

# **APPENDIX II**

## Resource and Referral Information



## OTHER HOTLINES

<b>Domestic Violence Hotline</b> .....	1-800-942-6906
Espanol (9-5).....	1-800-942-6908
<b>National Domestic Violence Hotline</b> .....	1-800-799-SAFE (799-7233)
<b>National Organization for Victim Assistance</b> .....	1-800-TRYNOVA (879-6682)
<b>NYS Crime Victims Board</b> .....	1-800-247-8035
<b>NYS Elder Abuse Hotline</b> .....	1-800-342-3009
<b>National Runaway Hotline (Switchboard)</b> .....	1-800-621-4000
Provides 24-hour hotline for confidential crisis intervention services for teens and families. Offers information for runaways regarding shelter, counseling, food resources, transportation, etc. Offers crisis intervention. Conference calls and message services. Home Free Program provides free bus ride to runaway youth ages 12-20, who voluntarily wish to return home.	
<b>Attorney General Crime Victim Bureau</b> .....	1-800-771-7755
<b>First Call for Help (Clearinghouse for Assistance Organizations)</b> .....	729-9100 729-9121 1-800-227-5353

## BATTERERS INTERVENTION PROGRAM

<b>Family &amp; Children's Society</b> .....	729-6206
Provides clinical assessment and treatment to perpetrators of domestic violence. Treatment is conducted in a psycho-educational format. Groups meet one time weekly for 1.6 hours. Offers a sliding scale and accept most insurances. In addition, therapeutic services are available to domestic violence victims and other family members.	

## RELATED WEBSITES

<a href="http://www.opdv.state.ny.us">www.opdv.state.ny.us</a>	<a href="http://www.gulpny.org">www.gulpny.org</a>
<a href="http://www.abanet.org/domviol">www.abanet.org/domviol</a>	<a href="http://www.bcpathways.org">www.bcpathways.org</a>
<a href="http://www.fvpf.org">www.fvpf.org</a>	<a href="http://www.wnylc.org">www.wnylc.org</a>
<a href="http://www.breakingthecycleinc.com">www.breakingthecycleinc.com</a>	

## EMERGENCY SHELTER, FOOD, and SERVICES

SOS Shelter for Battered Women.....	754-4340
Broome County Council of Churches.....	724-9130
Broome County Office for Aging.....	778-2411
Broome County Red Cross.....	785-7207
Broome County YMCA.....	772-0572 772-0560
Broome County YWCA.....	772-0340
Catholic Charities of Broome.....	723-9991 729-9166
CHOW.....	723-8960
HEAP / PROBE, Inc.....	(Binghamton)..... 772-8912 (Endicott)..... 786-8727

Lend-A-Hand.....	798-1340
The Salvation Army.....	722-2987
Volunteers of America (Emergency Shelter).....	772-1156
WIC / Supplemental Food.....	1-800-688-7777
(Local).....	778-2881

**LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

- ACCORD** (Dispute Resolution)..... 724-5153  
 Provides trained mediators who assist parties to develop agreements that meet the needs of all parties involved in a dispute. Sources of referrals include Broome County Courts, police, private attorneys, school districts, and social services agencies. Individuals may also contact Accord directly. Types of cases handled include small claims, custody/visitation/child support, parent-teen, interpersonal and neighbor disputes. All cases are screened for domestic violence and the issue of domestic violence is never mediated. If domestic violence is present or if the individual feels intimidated by the other party, Accord will make every effort to refer the party to alternative services.
- Attorney General Consumer Affairs**..... 721-8771  
 1-800-771-7755  
 Provides assistance to consumers regarding various complaints, including: landlord/tenant; housing discrimination; automobile; credit, home improvement contractors, mail order fraud, telemarketing fraud, and other consumer problems. Provides referral for state agency-related problems and consumer outreach service. Auto Arbitration resolves disputes between car owners/suppliers. Provides information on many areas of consumer rights.
- Broome Lawyer Referral Service**..... 723-6331
- Legal Aid for Broome and Chenango, Inc.**..... 723-7966  
 To provide advice, counseling, advocacy, and representation for low income individuals in civil court and administrative forums.

**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

- Binghamton General Hospital  
 Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP)  
 Crisis-line (24 hr.) 1-800-451-0560
- Binghamton Psychiatric Center.....724-1391  
 Broome County Mental Health Clinic.....778-1152  
 Catholic Charities..... 729-9166  
 Family & Children's Society..... 729-6206  
 UHS Outpatient Clinic.....762-2340

## ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG SERVICES

<b>Addictions Crisis Center (ACC)</b> .....	772-4080
Medically monitored detox, room and board in a structured environment, 24-hour crisis hotline. Referrals to appropriate treatment.	
<b>Addictions Center of Broome County (ACBC)</b> .....	723-7308
Outpatient and Intensive Outpatient (IOP) treatment for substance abusers, MICA services and co-dependency services also available.	
<b>Fairview Recovery Services:</b>	
<b>Additions Case Management</b> .....	722-4080
Intensive case management services for persons with a history of non-compliance with treatment or over using crisis services.	
<b>Fairview Halfway House &amp; Merrick Halfway House</b> .....	722-8987
Male and female facilities – Halfway House services 3-6 month length of stay includes case management, relapse prevention/intervention, group and individual services, and referral to vocational/educational services in community.	
<b>Supportive Living</b> .....	722-8987
Independent, apartment based living arrangements with case management services, support groups, and recreational activities. Two programs: one for men, one for women with children.	
<b>Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center</b> .....	723-5381
60-bed facility. Work-therapy oriented, 12-step focused, Christian-based rehabilitation program. 6-month minimum stay.	
<b>United Health Services:</b>	
Binghamton General Hospital.....	Main Switchboard.....762-2200
	Detoxification.....762-2255
	Crisis Line.....762-2257
New Horizons.....	762-3232
Inpatient, outpatient and Intensive Outpatient (IOP) treatment for substance abusers, MICA services and co-dependency services also available.	
Southern Tier Drug Abuse Treatment Center.....	763-5300
Outpatient treatment – medical maintenance (Methadone and other chemotherapy as needed).	
<b>YWCA</b> .....	Supported Living Program.....772-0340

# APPENDIX III

## OUTLINE OF FIREARMS IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES

STATE LAW: CPL § 530.14

I. Where a temporary order of protection is issued under CPL § 530.12(1) or § 530.13(1)

and the court has "good cause to believe" that the defendant:

- a) has a prior conviction for a violent felony offense (PL § 70.02)
- b) has previously disobeyed a prior order of protection and such has involved:
  - 1) infliction of serious physical injury
  - 2) the use or threatened use of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument PL § 10.00(12) or (13)
  - 3) engaged in behavior constituting any violent felony (PL § 70.02)
  - 4) been previously convicted of Stalking 1° (PL § 120.60), 2° (PL § 120.55), 3° (PL § 120.50) or 4° (PL § 120.45)

the court must:

- a) suspend any existing license to possess firearms
- b) order the defendant ineligible for such license
- c) order the immediate surrender of any and all firearms

The suspension order remains in effect for the duration of the temporary or final order of protection (unless modified or vacated by court).

The order to surrender firearms should be part of the temporary or final order of protection.

Surrender order must contain:

- 1) where such firearms shall be surrendered
- 2) the date and time by which surrender must be complete
- 3) description of firearms (to the extent possible)
- 4) a direction to the police to notify the court of surrender

The court, in its discretion, may

- a) suspend the defendant's existing license
- b) order the defendant ineligible for a license
- c) order the immediate surrender of any and all firearms, owned or possessed

if a temporary order of protection has been issued and the court finds that the defendant:

- a) may use
- b) or threaten to use a firearm unlawfully against the victim or witness

The defendant is entitled to a hearing regarding the suspension of license or surrender of firearms. (Must be "commenced" within 14 days of date of order.)

- II. Where a final order of protection is issued, post conviction, revocation of the license or privileges and surrender of any and all firearms is mandatory.

The court is responsible to notify police authorities, of the locality, of the above action taken and immediately notify the state registry and NY State Police in Albany.

- III. NY Family Court Act § 842-a, mirrors the criminal statute exactly and makes suspension and revocation of license and rights, and surrender of firearms, mandatory and permissive, as laid out above.

#### FEDERAL LAW

18 USC § 922(g)(8), makes it a federal crime for a person who is subject to a qualifying protection order to possess a firearm or ammunition, or to ship or receive a firearm or ammunition in interstate or foreign commerce. To qualify under § 922(g)(8), a protection order must:

- (1) have been issued after a hearing of which the respondent received actual notice, and at which the respondent had an opportunity to participate;

- (2) restrain the respondent from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner of the respondent or child of such intimate partner or the respondent, or engaging in other conduct that would place an intimate partner in reasonable fear of bodily injury to the partner or child; and
- (3) either include a finding that the respondent represents a credible threat to the physical safety of such intimate partner or child or by its terms explicitly prohibit the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against such intimate partner or child that would reasonably be expected to cause bodily injury.

## Gun Control Act Amendments Related to Domestic Violence.

### 1. Possession of firearms upon conviction of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence. 18 U.S.C. §§ 921 and 922

- (a) For purposes of this statute "intimate partner" is defined as:
  - i. The spouse or former spouse; or
  - ii. Parent or child; or
  - iii. An individual who cohabitates or has cohabited with the person.
- (b) The Gun Control Act lists persons "disabled" from possessing firearms. This list now includes persons who have been convicted of a domestic violence misdemeanor. § 921 (a)(33)(A).
- (c) The statute specifies:
  - i. A person may not possess, ship, transport, or receive firearms or ammunition, if;
  - ii. The person has been convicted in *any* court;
  - iii. Of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.
- (d) Misdemeanor crime of domestic violence is defined as an offense that § 921 (a)(33)(A):
  - i. is a misdemeanor under state or federal law (with the right to counsel and any applicable right to jury trial either exercised or waived); and
  - ii. has as an element, the use or attempted use of physical force, or the threatened use of a deadly weapon; and
  - iii. where the crime was committed by:
    - (A) a current or former spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim; or
    - (B) a person with whom the victim shares a child in common; or
    - (C) a person who is cohabiting with or has cohabited with the victim as spouse, parent or guardian; or
    - (D) a person similarly situated to a spouse, parent or guardian of the victim (by reference to state law).
- (e) It is also unlawful for any person to sell or otherwise dispose of firearms or ammunition *to a person while knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the recipient has been convicted of such a misdemeanor.* § 922 (d)(9).
- (f) Misdemeanor domestic violence convictions result in a *permanent* ban on possession of firearms or ammunition.

- (g) Expunged convictions or pardons do not trigger the application of this ban and can even operate to reinstate the person's ability to possess firearms even after conviction. § 921 (a)(33)(B)(ii).
- (h) There is NO OFFICIAL USE EXEMPTION FOR POLICE OR MILITARY, which means that for some defendants, the conviction may mean the loss of a job.

2. **Possession of a firearm while subject to a Restraining Order.** § 922 (g)(8).

- (a) For purposes of this chapter, "intimate partner" is defined as:
  - i. spouse or former of the person; or
  - ii. parent of a child of the person; or
  - iii. an individual who cohabitates or has cohabited with the person. § 921 (a)(32).
- (b) This definition does not include people who are in a dating relationship that does not involve or has not involved cohabitation or a child in common.
- (c) § 922 (g)(8) includes individuals who are the subjects of a *final* restraining order to the list of person prohibited by federal law from purchasing, shipping, receiving and possessing firearms or ammunition.
- (e) This statute applies to a respondent who is restrained from harassing, stalking or threatening an "intimate partner" or placing the partner or partner's child in fear of bodily injury.
- (f) A qualified Order is a *final* order that was issued after reasonable *notice and opportunity to be heard* (not an ex parte order); and  
Either:
  - i. states that the respondent poses a threat to the physical safety of the victim or child; or
  - ii. explicitly prohibits the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against the intimate partner or child.
- (g) It is unlawful for any person to sell or otherwise dispose of firearms or ammunition to another person *who the seller knows or has reasonable cause to believe is subject to a qualifying restraining order.* § 922 (d)(8).

- (h) Active duty military and law enforcement have *official use exemption* from this firearm disability. This exemption does not apply to personal weapons and does not extend to use of service weapons outside the scope of employment.

### 3. Enforcement of Firearms Provisions

- (a) Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms ("ATF") is the federal law enforcement authority charged with enforcement of these crimes, but most effective response from the federal court system may be obtained if contact is made with the United States Attorney's office. The U.S. Attorney's office will examine each case to determine whether the case meets office priorities.
- (b) Where there is concern about the respondent's potential use of weapons against the victim, it would be most prudent to include within the protection order itself a provision that prohibits the respondent from possession of firearms. Such relief empowers local and state law enforcement agencies to enforce the firearm prohibitions where federal prosecution may not be forthcoming or not be timely enough to be useful.
- (c) Inclusion in every protection order a provision indicating that the respondent was served/present at the hearing will ensure that state and federal enforcing agencies know that the order qualifies under federal law.
- (d) Each protection order should include notice that federal penalties may apply to violation of the firearm ban, and of the fact that conviction may jeopardize immigration status.

*Seventh Judicial District*

**Hon. Marilyn O'Connor**  
Monroe County Family Court  
Hall of Justice  
99 Exchange Blvd.  
Rochester, NY 14614-2187

585-428-2597



## LOCAL COMMITTEES REPORTS 2003-2004

### **Name of the Committee:**

Seventh Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

### **Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair:**

Hon. Marilyn. O'Connor, Monroe County Family Court, Rochester, NY 14614, (595) 428-1904, (585) 428-2597 (fax). [MOCONNOR@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:MOCONNOR@courts.state.ny.us)

**Number of Members:** 19, including 2 judges, 4 administrators, 2 bar association presidents, 10 attorneys, 2 court security, 1 service provider.

### **New York State Courts Under Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Leadership**

**What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be as specific as possible and try to give concrete examples.**

The following is a list of important changes identified by key court administrators and judges in the Seventh Judicial District. The common denominator appears to be better service is being provided to women, to meet their individual needs. Of course, it is not only women who are affected by these improvements, but all men and women in similar fact situations and needing the services of the courts.

1. The initiation of Domestic Violence Intensive Intervention Court and Petitioner's waiting room for DV victims, coupled with establishment of Domestic Violence Registry, and domestic violence training for police.
2. Locating child care centers in the Courthouses (*Note: A photo of Judge Kaye at the dedication of the Monroe County Family Court Children's Corner will be provided to you shortly.*)
3. Locating satellite CSEU Office on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Monroe County Hall of Justice next to the Support Magistrate hearing rooms.
4. New matrimonial rules and matrimonial fee guidelines.
5. Launching of Family Treatment Court in Family Court. Two women judges have run the Monroe County Family Treatment Court, first the former Judge Taddeo and now the Hon. Marilyn L. O'Connor, FCJ. There have been many female clients served. (*Note: Most respondents in neglect cases are women, and thus most respondents in Family Treatment Court are women who are trying to get back their children.*)
6. Improvement of areas for petition preparation and information access as a result of renovations.
7. OCA leadership has initiated and emphasized Customer Quality Service Training for all levels

of court system staff. This impacts positively on all litigants—including many women.

8. Women are in more leadership roles under Judge Kaye's leadership. For example, Hon. Patricia A. Marks was appointed as the Supervising Judge for Monroe County Criminal Court and still serves in that capacity. The former Hon. Ann Marie Taddeo was appointed the Supervising Judge for Monroe County Family Court and served in that capacity until 2003. Hon. Evelyn Frazee, JSC, chairs the Statewide Parent Education Advisory Board, *i.e.*, ACT. These local appointments echo the reality of more female appointments to the New York Court of Appeals and more women in key leadership roles within OCA, and hopefully mean that the concerns of women are more apt to be recognized and understood so that they may serve as a catalyst for change.

9. The establishment of Drug Treatment Courts, for adults, juveniles and families. Rochester City Court was the first drug court in the state. Its success helped pave the way for a Juvenile Treatment Court and then a Family Treatment Court in Monroe County (discussed above).

10. The launching of Access to Justice Initiatives - Includes outreach and education to the public regarding the courts' roles and services. Each of the Counties within the District has had public "town meetings" or "open houses" at the courthouses to educate the public and meet the outreach goal.

11. Comment cards are available in each court for use by members of the public. Comments may be anonymous and are reviewed by appropriate staff.

**What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women, particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State Court system?**

Our committee has not yet identified the "most pressing" problem, since it has only recently resumed its work. However, five problems have been identified by contacting key administrators and judges. They are as follows:

1. Overly complex court structure which is difficult and confusing for parties and others using the courts.
2. Re-victimization of women in domestic violence courts through the system itself.
3. Starting, maintaining and improving problem-solving courts (such as drug treatment and family treatment courts, mental health courts) with limited resources.
4. Meeting the needs of families' primary caretakers (generally women) within an appropriate time frame.
5. Community outreach to educate the public on court services and procedures prior to crisis.

**Local Committee Activities for the Past Year: Please include, if relevant and possible, names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.**

The committee was inactive for the last few years until January of this year. Thus,

reconstituting an active committee under the leadership of Hon Marilyn L. O'Connor, FCJ, has been a significant achievement. Appropriate members for the committee are still being identified from outlying counties, but the committee has begun its work. The committee has revised its mission statement. The committee has formed a Sexual Harassment Subcommittee and will be forming more working subcommittees. The committee has collected many of the relevant publications relating to gender bias and sexual harassment and has reached the consensus that information about these issues needs to be made publicly and continually available in court houses. A plan to fill this need should be in place soon. Significant accomplishments by next year are expected.

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2003 (unless already reported).**

Although the Gender Fairness Committee did not do anything, the Seventh Judicial District hosted two court presentations on working to end Domestic Violence. One involved cultural competence in domestic violence cases.

**Activities for Women's History Month 2004.**

Again, since the committee was essentially inactive for the last few years, until January of 2004, there is nothing to report.

**Other activities in the Past Year.**

While the Gender Fairness Committee was dormant in 2003, the Seventh Judicial District as part of its regular activities, has provided training on "Children Exposed to Violence". It also sponsored a successful District-wide Court Tour Program and Speakers' Bureau educating the public regarding Court structure, services and procedures. This has been a popular and effective method of reaching the public—especially women. Sexual harassment training for District employees and Court Security was provided.

**Plans for Next Year:**

The Gender Fairness Committee has formed a Sexual Harassment Subcommittee and hopes to have in place a program for educating judges and magistrates regarding sexual harassment. The committee has tentatively determined that a needs assessment or survey similar to previous gender bias surveys should be conducted locally and perhaps statewide, so that the problems which currently exist can be identified and analyzed, appropriate recommendations can be made to help resolve them, and effective communications and educational programs put in place regarding the problems. Areas of concern are employment opportunities, appointments, promotions, assignments and training opportunities.

**Most Important Difficulty Confronting Your Committee:**

This has not yet been determined, but it is likely that funding of important work may be a problem.

**Please attach copies of flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee.**

**Please return this form by March 1, 2004, to:**

**Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel**

**NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts**

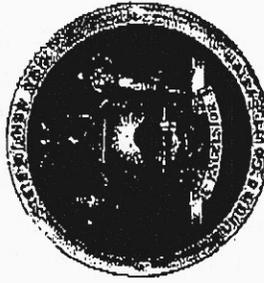
**MONROE COUNTY FAMILY COURT**

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
INTERVENTIVE  
INTERVENTION COURT**

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Hall of Justice  
Rochester NY 14614

Phone: 585/428-5787  
FAX: 585/428-5354

Website: [www.courts.state.ny.us](http://www.courts.state.ny.us)



Hours: Weekdays 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Court Advocacy Program  
(585) 428-2620

**Child Care Available**  
(Ages 6 weeks to 7 Years)  
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
INTERVENTIVE  
INTERVENTION COURT**  
(established February 26, 1998)



**SUCCESSES OF THE COURT**

- ▶ Shortened waiting times
- ▶ On-site legal services
- ▶ Secure Waiting Area
- ▶ Court Advocacy Program
- ▶ Orders of Protection processed immediately in Court
- ▶ Judges & Staff specially trained in dynamics of domestic violence
- ▶ Call to Protect Program on site



**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
INTERVENTIVE INTERVENTION  
COURT'S MISSION**

- ◆ STOP FAMILY VIOLENCE ◆
- ◆ END THE FAMILY DISRUPTION  
AND OBTAIN PROTECTION ◆

**SAFETY IN THE  
COURTHOUSE**

- ▶ Remain in locked, secured waiting area.
- ▶ Talk to advocates.
- ▶ Bring support with you (friend, relative).
- ▶ Don't leave courthouse without an Order of Protection, if granted.
- ▶ Ask for deputy to walk with you to your car, if necessary.
- ▶ Make copies of protective order for work, schools or day care provider.
- ▶ Keep protective order with you at all times.
- ▶ Call 911 for service of papers as soon after court as is safe to do so.

**ELIGIBILITY FOR FILING  
IN FAMILY COURT**

Parties must be:

- Married ~~OR~~
- Formerly Married ~~OR~~
- Have a child in common ~~OR~~
- Related by blood or marriage

BRING POLICE REPORT  
IF AVAILABLE.

**ON SITE SERVICES**

- ◆ The Legal Aid Society, Inc.
- ◆ Alternatives for Battered Women, Inc.
- ◆ Court Advocacy Program (CAP)
- ◆ Secure Waiting Area
- ◆ Spanish Interpreter
- ◆ Call to Protect Program

**PROCESS  
( May take up to several hours )**

Initial screening as to eligibility.  
 Complete basic Information Sheet.  
 Meet with Probation personnel.  
 Petition completed with the assistance of Probation staff.  
 Court file is prepared.

Testimony is taken by Family Court Judge.

If granted, Order of Protection is prepared.

Petitioner\* is given a temporary Order of Protection and a second packet for personal service upon the Respondent\*\*.

Upon return to court, Respondent\*\* will also appear, **BUT** parties will be separated and Petitioner\* will wait in the secure waiting area.

Petitioner\* may speak with court advocate any time during this process.

\* Petitioner - Person seeking Order.  
 \*\* Respondent - Person the Order is against.

**LEGAL DELIVERY OF PAPERS  
(Personal Service)**

Petitioner\* is to call 911.

Petitioner\* may be asked by Police to go to jurisdiction where Respondent\* is located.

Petitioner\* may be asked to supply a picture or to identify the Respondent\* with police assistance.

Petitioner\* should TELL the police officers of any special conditions in the Order of Protection, such as removal of firearms.

If unable to serve the papers, Petitioner\* must return to Court for an extension of the temporary order and further assistance.

**BETWEEN COURT APPEARANCES**

Petitioners\* should

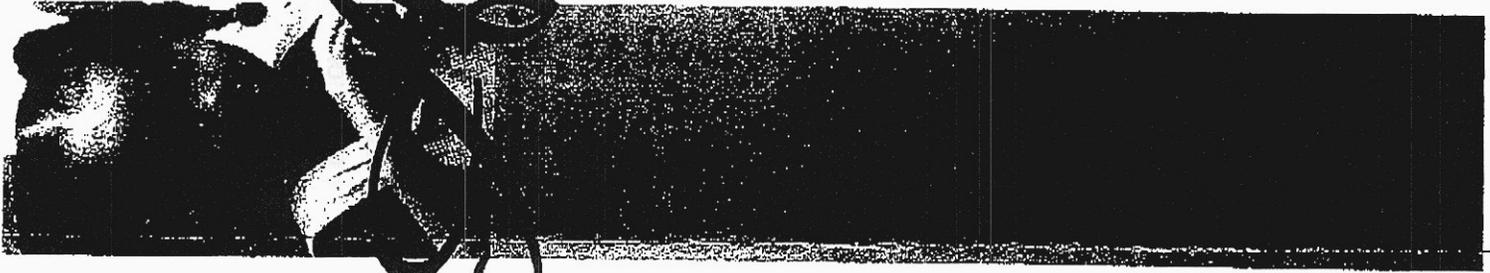
- ◆ Keep Order of Protection with them at all times.
- ◆ Have a safety plan...an Order of Protection is not a guarantee against further violence!

\* Petitioner - Person seeking Order.  
 \*\* Respondent - Person the Order is against.

## Bill of Rights for Children whose Parents are Separated

- 1 The right not to be asked to "choose sides" between their parents.
- 2 The right not to be told the details of the legal proceedings going on between their parents.
- 3 The right not to be told "bad things" about the other parent's personality or character.
- 4 The right to privacy when talking to either parent on the telephone.
- 5 The right not to be "cross-examined" by one parent after spending time with the other parent.
- 6 The right not to be asked to be a messenger from one parent to the other.
- 7 The right not to be asked by one parent to tell the other parent untruths.
- 8 The right not to be used as a confidant regarding adult matters.
- 9 The right to express feelings, whatever those feelings may be.
- 10 The right to choose *not* to express certain feelings.
- 11 The right to be protected from parental "warfare."
- 12 The right not to be made to feel guilty for loving *both* parents.

- AUTHOR UNKNOWN



ASSISTING  
CHILDREN THROUGH  
TRANSITION

# A.C.T.~

## For the Children

reducing the stress  
of a breakup on  
children

"I can see a big difference. They can talk to each other now without yelling. That helps a lot. My stomach doesn't hurt as much and I can concentrate better in school."

-CHILD

A.C.T.~For the Children  
Children's Institute Inc.  
274 N. Goodman Street, Suite D103  
Rochester, New York 14607

*“The program changed our lives. It gave us all a new direction...one of hope and healing. I see too many people oozing with anger...I don't want to go there anymore.”*

-MOTHER

### What is A.C.T.~For the Children?

A.C.T.~For the Children (Assisting Children through Transition) is a program designed to educate divorcing or separating parents about the impact of their breakup on their children. The primary goal of the program is to teach parents ways they can reduce the stress of family changes and protect their children from the negative effects of ongoing parental conflict. It is a joint project of the Supreme and Family Courts of the Seventh Judicial District and Children's Institute, Inc.

### Who are the Instructors?

The classes are conducted by psychologists, family therapists, social workers, judges, lawyers, and mediators in a classroom setting. Instructors will provide information through lecture, video tape, role-play, and discussion.

### What is the Program Format?

The program consists of two sessions held one week apart. Classes are limited to 40 people. You will not be placed in the same class as the other parent of your child(ren).

### Who do I Contact with Questions?

Please call the A.C.T. Program Administrator with questions at (585) 428-1930.

### Is this Program for Everyone?

A.C.T.~For the Children may not be appropriate when domestic abuse is present. If you are involved with an abusive partner, you should call the A.C.T. Program Administrator at (585) 428-1930 for further information before enrolling.

### When and where are Classes Held?

Please refer to the confidential enrollment form insert for a listing of class dates and times. A letter advising you of the class in which you have been enrolled, a map, and other pertinent information will be sent to you to confirm your registration.

Classes will be held in the Greater Rochester area with the specific location given in your confirming letter.

### What are the Attendance Requirements?

You must attend both classes to receive a Certificate of Completion. If you were referred by a judge, he/she will be notified of your attendance.

Registration is 1/2 hour before class. Classes start promptly. Anyone more than fifteen minutes late will be denied admittance.

If you fail to attend a class for which you have registered, you will need to submit a new registration. You will not be registered in another class until all new applicants have first been placed.

Children are not permitted to attend classes.

*“It was such an excellent program. The message of healing and rebuilding a positive parenting relationship is so important...there will be two healthier children because of it.”*

-FATHER

### Are there any Materials Provided?

Participants will be provided with a Resource Manual and Handbook for Parents which contains a compilation of places where parents and children can find help and support, a list of helpful reading materials, and informative articles.

### Is there A Fee for the Program?

A non-refundable fee as indicated on the enrollment form, payable by check or money order, must be submitted with your enrollment in order for you to be enrolled in a class. If you have health insurance coverage through Preferred Care or Excellus (BlueCross BlueShield, Blue Choice, etc.), a portion of the fee will be paid by your insurance provider. If your insurance coverage is Preferred Care Option or Blue Choice Option, the entire fee will be paid by your insurance provider. You will need to provide a copy of the insurance card showing the subscriber, identification number and expiration date with the enrollment form in order to obtain co-payment by your insurance provider. Your portion of the fee (see amount on enrollment form) must be submitted with the enrollment form in order for you to be registered for a class. Please bring your insurance identification card to the class. Please note: There will be a fee for returned checks as indicated on the enrollment form.

Limited funds are available for full or partial scholarships based on financial need. Please indicate if you want to be considered for a scholarship by checking (✓) the appropriate box on the enrollment form and providing the requested information. You will be notified if you meet the guidelines for a scholarship. Please note: You do not have to send the fee with your enrollment form when seeking a scholarship.

## Confidential Enrollment Form

This form and the applicable fee, made payable to **Children's Institute Inc.**, *must be* submitted in order to enroll unless you are seeking a scholarship. All information will be treated as **CONFIDENTIAL**.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (work) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name of child(ren)'s other parent: \_\_\_\_\_

Check (✓) as appropriate:

- Enclosed is my payment of \$75.00.
- I am insured through Preferred Care. Enclosed is my co-pay of \$40.00 and a copy of insurance card showing subscriber, identification number and expiration date.
- I am insured through Excellus (BlueCross BlueShield, Blue Choice, Via Health, etc.). Enclosed is my co-pay of \$37.50 and a copy of insurance card showing subscriber, identification number and expiration date.
- I am insured through Preferred Care Option or Blue Choice Option. No co-payment is required. Enclosed is a copy of insurance card showing subscriber, identification number and expiration date.
- I am seeking a scholarship. The number of people in my household for whom I provide support is \_\_\_\_\_. The annual gross income in my household is \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

*You will receive a letter advising you whether you qualify for a scholarship.*

*Please note: There will be a \$25.00 fee for returned checks.*

*(continued on other side)*

Please check (✓) all dates that you are available to attend from the following list of 2003 classes. There may be a waiting list due to class size limitations. You must be available to attend both sessions within a class. (You cannot choose a date from one class and a second date from another class).

Class times are:

*Mondays from 12:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. or  
Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.*

- January 04 and 11 (Saturday)
- February 03 and 10 (Monday)
- March 24 and 31 (Monday)
- April 26 and May 03 (Saturday)
- May 12 and 19 (Monday)
- June 09 and 16 (Monday)
- July 19 and 26 (Saturday)
- September 08 and 15 (Monday)
- October 18 and 25 (Saturday)
- November 17 and 24 (Monday)

*You will receive a letter advising you of the dates of the class in which you are enrolled and the class location.*

- Interpreter is required for hearing impaired.

I was referred by (please check (4) one):

- Attorney  Mental Health Professional  
 Mediator  Self

Judge (insert name) \_\_\_\_\_

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form to:

**A.C.T. ~ For the Children**  
**Children's Institute, Inc.**  
274 N. Goodman Street, Suite D103  
Rochester, New York 14607

**Please call:**

**E. Anne Wasson, Program Administrator,**  
**with questions at (585) 428-1930.**

P. 11/15  
NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES

# BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 3503 ALBANY NY

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION  
COURT USER SURVEY PROGRAM  
P.O. BOX 2060  
EMPIRE STATE PLAZA STATION  
ALBANY NY 12220-0060



## New York State Unified Court System

## Court User Comment Card

The New York State Unified Court System is committed to providing professional, courteous and efficient service. To help us do so, we welcome your comments and suggestions. After completing this card please deposit it in the collection box located in the courthouse lobby or in the nearest mail-drop. Thank you for taking the time to help us improve our service to the public.

**MARKING INSTRUCTIONS:** Use either blue or black ink or a No. 2 pencil only. CORRECT: ● INCORRECT: ○/X/□/◇

1. Name and address of the court you visited today?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. You visited our facility as a:

- Attorney
- Family Member
- Juror
- Litigant (party to lawsuit)
- Witness
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Paralegal

9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	7
8	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	1
9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	4

3. For each part of the courthouse you visited, please rate the service provided by court personnel.

	Metal Detector Lobby/Hallway				Clerk's Office				Courtroom				Jury Assembly Room			
	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
A. Polite and Courteous.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
B. Prompt and Efficient.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
C. Services and procedures were sufficiently explained.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. The court facilities were clean and well maintained.  Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree

5. In court today, how much of your overall time was spent waiting?  Little or no waiting  About 25%  About 50%  About 75%

Please share with us any comments or suggestions for improving the quality of our services at this court location.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

774950

## Who is Eligible for Juvenile Drug Treatment Court?

- Juvenile, age 8-15
- Respondent in a Monroe County Family Court Case
- Alcohol or other drug involved
- No history of violent or weapons charge conviction
- If PINS, have attempted diversion programs available through Probation
- Referred by either a Family Court Judge or Probation

## Goals of the Juvenile Drug Treatment Court

1. Provide an alternative for alcohol and other drug affected youth that will prevent or reduce out of home placement and keep our community safe.
2. Intervene in a juvenile's drug use before he/she is charged with more serious crimes.
3. Prevent recidivism in the juvenile justice and drug treatment systems.

## Monroe Family Court

Juvenile Drug Treatment Court

Hall of Justice  
Rochester, New York 14614  
e-mail: [ddebruin@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:ddebruin@courts.state.ny.us)

(716) 428-1787  
(716) 428-2687 Fax

# MONROE FAMILY COURT

# JUVENILE DRUG TREATMENT COURT

A program of the New York State

Unified Court System

**What can Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Provide?**

- **Alternative to out of home placement for juvenile participants**
- **Safety for the community through intense supervision of participants**
- **Support for families of juveniles who are involved in Drug Treatment Court**
- **Long term supervision of participants by Family Court Judge**
- **Referrals to community agencies to meet the needs of individual participants**
- **Use of graduated rewards and sanctions to encourage participants to succeed**

**Description of Juvenile Drug Treatment Court**

**Evaluation Phase:** Drug Court process begins when a Family Court Judge or Probation refers an individual to Drug Court for an evaluation. After the clinical evaluation results are presented to the Judge a determination of eligibility is made.

**Phase One:** If found to be eligible the participant reports to Drug Court on the following Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 PM. Phase One will focus on early sobriety and consists of weekly status hearings before the Drug Court Judge, attendance at assigned drug treatment and attendance at school. In addition there may be referrals to other community agencies for needs such as tutoring, recreational activities or mentoring.

Phase One will last at least six weeks.

**Phase Two:** Phase two begins when a participant has accomplished the Phase One goals which include: clean urine screens and breathalyzer tests, attendance at treatment, attendance at status hearings, attendance at school daily and compliance with the Drug Court

standards at home. When these have been demonstrated, the Case Manager will recommend the promotion to the Judge. Phase Two will last at least 12 weeks and will focus on relapse prevention and family dynamics. In this phase, status hearings are held every two-three weeks. The participant continues to be involved in any community referrals.

**Phase Three:** The final phase will last until graduation. The period between status hearings is lengthened. The participant will be able to demonstrate healthy, non-using lifestyle.

- **If a participant fails a drug test, lies to the Judge or misses a status hearing or treatment meeting or fails to participate in school or other assigned activity they could be required to extend their time in the current phase or required to repeat a prior phase of Court.**

## **October is Domestic Violence Awareness**

Monroe County Family Court's  
Domestic Violence Intensive Intervention Court  
&  
NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

presents

Gwen Wright

### **Dynamics of Domestic Violence & Culturally Competent Responses**

**October 16, 2003  
Mezzanine Level, Hall of Justice  
Room 165  
99 Exchange Blvd.**

**9:15am - 12:15pm**

**OR**

**2-5pm**

Learn about the complexities of Domestic Violence.

RSVP Carey Travis via GroupWise at [ctravis@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:ctravis@courts.state.ny.us)  
or call at 428-5773

### **October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

On October 16, 2003, The Seventh Judicial District hosted Gwen Wright, who is the Director of Training and Policy Development at the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV). She presented two three hour workshops on the Dynamics of Domestic Violence & Culturally Competent Responses. The workshops were attended by 83 people comprised of representatives from every county in the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and were from a variety of courts, including Rochester City Court,, Corning City Court, the Commissioner of Jurors and the Supreme, County and Family Courts of Wayne, Ontario, Seneca, Yates and Monroe. Employees of several non for profit agencies who work with the survivors of Domestic Violence also attended, including, Alternatives for Battered Women, the Legal Aid Society, Cayuga Co. Services and Monroe County Probation. This response demonstrates the fact that domestic violence permeates many of the different types of cases heard in the Unified Court System.

Gwen Wright talked about the diverse populations that are affected by domestic violence and how we may have to rethink our response to better identify and serve them. Her expertise is especially meaningful to those that work with the domestic violence population.



*Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Amy J. Fricano**  
Supreme Court Justice  
175 Hawley Street  
Lockport, NY 14094

716-439-7055



## LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2003-2004

Name of committee:

8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee

Name, Address, Telephone, Fax and E-mail Address of the Chair:

Hon. Amy J. Fricano, J.S.C.  
Supreme Court Chambers  
Niagara County Courthouse  
175 Hawley Street  
Lockport, New York 14094

Telephone: (716)439-7055

Fax: (716)439-7039

E-mail: [africano@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:africano@courts.state.ny.us)

Number of Members:30

Composition of Committee: judicial, confidential law clerks, chief and court clerks, court staff  
Fairly even distribution . While we do not function anti-Discrimination Panel, the Panel members are members of this Committee.

### **New York State Courts Under Chief Judge Kaye's Leadership**

What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be as specific as possible and try to give as specific examples as possible.

The most significant change for women has been in the area of domestic violence. Child abuse and child sexual abuse cases have also changed dramatically. Some of the changes originate in legislative changes (often proposed by the courts) , some in court procedures (e.g. Integrated Domestic Violence Parts), and some in non-court institutions such as police, hospitals, service providers, batters programs, shelters, etc.

Some of the legislative changes include the removal of "earnest resistance" from rape statutes, the acknowledgment of spousal rape (People v. Liberti being legislated into statute), the loosening of corroboration standards for children, the creation of new

crimes in the areas of criminal contempt, stalking,, assault, statute of limitations in child sexual abuse, and weapon restrictions when domestic violence exists.

The police and district attorneys offices in the district are clearly providing better responses to domestic violence and child abuse. The mandatory arrest law has prompted some of this, however it should be noted that several local forces had been addressing the need for better response by special training, aggressive use of the prior probable cause standard, special units of officers to follow up on cases. Several Das Offices have instituted vertical prosecution for cases involving domestic violence and child abuse. Hospitals have developed or accepted pre-developed policies about victim treatment and evidence collection. Service providers in the form of civilian advocates who assist in navigating the court system , involvement of mental health professionals ,batters programs, shelters are all developments which have added invaluable assistance in dealing with domestic violence.

Another significant development for women over the last twenty years is the visibility of women in the court system in more capacities. In the Eighth District there have been many more women elected to various benches than twenty years ago. In fact, at one point recently, the Erie county Family Court bench was approximately 80% women judges. While that is a percentage not equalled on other benches, Supreme Court has seen a significant increase in elected women judges in the last four years. Last year, Hon. Sharon Townsend, became the district administrative judge. This year, Erie County elected it first woman Surrogate, Hon. Barbara Howe.

While the jury project has benefitted all citizens, women also benefitted especially from the stream-lined reporting system. The phone-in system has relieved some of the pressure from making child care arrangements during jury service. Thanks to case law, women cannot be systematically, discriminatorily excluded from jury service. While this chair feels there is much more to done on the jury project, especially in getting judges and attorneys to make good use of juror time among other things, strides have been made. The one-day-one-trial concept used in Erie and Niagara Counties has been helpful to women as well.

Court facilities are beginning to reflect women friendly changes. Some court houses now have rooms to accommodate children and families , when parents must attend court.

As an employer, the court system in the Eighth District has accommodated women employees with job sharing opportunities.

What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women , particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State court system?

Prompt and certain collection of child support judgements, probably poses the single greatest difficulty facing the most women. While garnishment and license consequences are steps in the right direction, other enforcement procedures should be explored. As pistol permit officer in county court, information was provided on the applicant's status in any child support payments. The pistol permit process and equipment likely to be purchased upon approval indicates the applicant has recreational funds in the household budget. As a result, many old judgements were paid. Legislative ideas to simplify judgement collection in child support cases should be developed, e.g. Tying payment of judgements to other legal events.

Fast resolution of matrimonials remains a challenge to the courts despite "expedited" procedures. Prompt enforcement of orders, especially temporary orders, also remains a ground for further change. The elimination of stereotypical thinking and the cultivation of an atmosphere of fairness is always difficult but necessary.

**Local Committee Activities for the Past Year.** Announcements, etc. attached.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness month 2003:

The Committee chose to present a series of workshops in four district locations. In each place, the invitations went to "stakeholders" such as police, defense bar, prosecutors, service providers such as victim-witness groups, mental health, treatment providers, probation, etc.

The kick off workshop was held in Erie County, show casing the then about to be started Integrated Domestic Violence Part. Hon. Judith Kluger discussed the state wide initiative and local development Both Justices involved in the operation of the part described what they expected to do and stages of expansion. Local law enforcement gave information on street response to domestic violence as well as available services. Court employee Jean Levy gave a very moving statement of her own survival of domestic violence. As our mission also includes informing employee about court system

policy on domestic violence, one speaker summarized the policy and handed out court brochures. An impressive short video of a child listening to violence between his parents closed the program.

In Genessee, Chautauqua and Niagara Counties , we used a similar format, but had a single speaker give the basics of the new Erie IDV part. Jean Levy told her personal story in each venue. Again, court policy and brochure were provided. Speakers were sought in each location to describe the local community approach and services available. Each session included question/answer period which led to discussions we were hoping to prompt, revisiting what is being done about domestic violence in each area and to cross pollinate ideas for improvement.

In all, the committee felt that each session was highly successful in achieving its goals. Approximately 200 tot 250 people attended.

#### **Activities for Women's History Month 2004:**

The committee will begin preparing for or bi-annul luncheon honoring women in the law which will be held next April. This year we will be entering the names of the 2003 honorees on our plaque in a special ceremony at the Fourth Department in Rochester. Arrangements are under way to have PJ Pigott involved in the presentation. The honorees will be invited along with the full committee.

#### **Other activities in the Past Year:**

See 2002-2003 report attached.

#### **Plans for Next Year:**

Expand our traveling program to other locations in the district, and highlight the next IDV part currently planned for Wyoming County.

Hold the bi-annual awards luncheon with the goal of exceeding the 300 attendees at the 2003 event.

#### **Most important difficulty confronting your committee:**

The committee is very proactive, but time constraints can result in the over-commitment of our outstanding members.

Respectfully submitted

Hon. Amy J. Fricano  
8<sup>th</sup> District Chair

*Ninth Judicial District Committee to  
Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts*

**Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman**  
Judge, Court of Claims  
140 Grand Street, 5th Floor  
White Plains, NY 10601

9-14-428-2310



## LOCAL COMMITTEES 2003-2004

### **Name of the Committee:**

Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts

### **Name, Address and Telephone and Fax Numbers of Chair:**

Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, New York State Court of Claims, 140 Grand Street, Suite 507, White Plains, NY 10601, [Telephone] (914) 289-2310, [Fax] (914) 289-2313, [truderma@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:truderma@courts.state.ny.us)

**No. of Members:** 38

**Composition of the Committee:** Judges, Attorneys, Director of the County Office for Women

### **New York State Courts Under Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Leadership**

What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be as specific as possible and try to give concrete examples.

Gender neutral language is used by members of the bench and bar.  
Women are represented on all levels of the judiciary.

What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women, particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State court system?

Through the committee's essay contest for high school students, we have learned that gender stereotypes permeate among the students. The court system should continue all of its educational efforts and broaden them to reach the schools.

### **Local Committee Activities for the Past Year**

#### **Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2003:**

The committee organized seminars in Rockland and Westchester Counties entitled, "Women, Ethics, Law and the Movies III: What's Wrong with These Pictures?" Several

other organizations joined as co-sponsors. Hon. Carol S. Klein, Hon. William E. Sherwood, Hon. William P. Warren and Victoria L. Lutz, Esq., Executive Director of the Pace University School of Law Women's Justice Center, were the speakers in Rockland County. Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Hon. John W. Sweeny, Jr., Hon. Sam D. Walker and Victoria L. Lutz, Esq. were the speakers in Westchester County. Movie clips were played and the panelists discussed the ethical issues raised. Scenes from "The Client," "Legally Blond," "Erin Brokovich," and "Class Action" were featured. Attorneys in attendance were able to earn CLE credit through Pace.

#### **Activities for Women's History Month 2004:**

The committee sponsored an essay contest open to all high school students in the Ninth Judicial District. The topic was, "In 2004, a woman has been elected President of the United States. As her speech writer, draft that part of the inaugural address relating to gender issues and to her status as the first female President." Local bar associations contributed to the cash prizes which will be awarded at a breakfast in the courthouse on April 23, 2004.

#### **Other Activities in the Past Year:**

The committee produced a Spanish version of its pamphlet entitled, "How Decisions About Child Custody are Made." The target audience was litigants in the Family Court and Matrimonial Part of the Supreme Court. The pamphlet is being distributed in the courts. The English version continues to be available in the courts and is on the websites of the Westchester County Office for Women and the Office of Court Administration.

On April 25, 2003 we held a breakfast in White Plains to award the student winners of our 2003 Essay Contest in recognition of Women's History Month. At the breakfast, Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman and Hon. Francis Nicolai, Administrative Judge of the Ninth Judicial District, presented the winners with their prizes. The students, their parents, school administrators, teachers, bar leaders, judges, attorneys and committee members joined in the celebration.

During the course of the year we had various speakers at our meetings, including Sherrill Spatz, Inspector General, Office of Court Administration; Elizabeth Candreva, Assistant Managing Inspector General for Bias Matters, Office of Court Administration; Hon. Robert Spolzino, Justice of the Supreme Court sitting in the Matrimonial Part in Westchester County; Daniel Weitz, Esq., State ADR Coordinator; Hon. Allen Hochberg, Support Magistrate; and Michelle Katz, Ph D, Head of the Rockland County Probation Forensic Department.

**Plans for Next Year:**

We intend to present a CLE program in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month and will again sponsor a high school essay contest in celebration of Women's History Month. We are also planning to publish a pamphlet on the topic of child support.

**Most Important Difficulty Confronting Your Committee:**

Since the geographic area of the Ninth Judicial District is very large, it is difficult for participants from all the counties to attend meetings.

**The Ninth Judicial District  
Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts  
The Pace Women's Justice Center  
The Rockland County Women's Bar Association  
and  
The Women's Bar Association of Orange & Sullivan Counties**

**Present**

**WOMEN, ETHICS, LAW, AND THE MOVIES III:  
What's Wrong With These Pictures?**

**DATE:** October 7, 2003

**TIME:** 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** Suffern Library  
210 Lafayette Avenue  
Suffern, NY 10901

**SPEAKERS:** The Hon. Carol S. Klein  
The Hon. William E. Sherwood  
The Hon. William P. Warren  
Victoria L. Lutz, Esq.

**COST:** \$45.00 including dinner

Two hours of CLE ethics credit will be offered and dinner will be provided.  
For more information and to RSVP please call Judy Russo at (914) 422-4424  
by September 30, 2003. Space is limited.

This program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of 2 credit hours, which credit hours can be applied toward the ethics requirement. The course is sponsored for CLE accreditation by the Pace Women's Justice Center. Full and partial scholarships for this program based on financial need are available. For information on the guidelines, and to apply, please contact Judy Russo at (914) 422-4424. All requests are confidential. This program is suitable for transitional (i.e., newly admitted) and non-transitional attorneys.

**The Ninth Judicial District  
Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts  
The Pace Women's Justice Center  
The Westchester Women's Bar Association &  
The White Plains Bar Association**

**Present**

**WOMEN, ETHICS, LAW, AND THE MOVIES III:  
What's Wrong With These Pictures?**

**DATE:** October 27, 2003

**TIME:** 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** New York State Judicial Institute  
Pace University School of Law  
78 North Broadway  
White Plains, NY 10603

**SPEAKERS:** The Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman  
The Hon. John W. Sweeny, Jr.  
The Hon. Sam D. Walker

Victoria L. Lutz, Esq.

**COST:** \$80.00 including dinner and 2 CLE ethics credits

**For more information and to RSVP please call Judy Russo at (914) 422-4424  
by October 20, 2003. Space is limited.**

This program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of 2 credit hours, which credit hours can be applied toward the ethics requirement. The course is sponsored for CLE accreditation by the Pace Women's Justice Center. Full and partial scholarships for this program based on financial need are available. For information on the guidelines, and to apply, please contact Judy Russo at (914) 422-4424. All requests are confidential. This program is suitable for transitional (i.e., newly admitted) and non-transitional attorneys.

# Westchester

- ◆ Selection of Fine Arts Appraisers ..... 5
- ◆ WBASNY Convention Highlights ..... 8
- ◆ Practice Management Tip ..... 10
- ◆ Upcoming Events ..... 12

INSIDE



# Women's Bar Association

A Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York

## Gender Fairness Essay Contest Winner



L to R: Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman with Robi Schlaff, proud mother of Matthew Goodman, who won 1st prize in the Ninth Judicial District Gender Fairness Essay Contest, and Kathy N. Rosenthal.

# OFF THE RECORD



NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK STATE COURT OF CLAIMS  
P.O. BOX 7344, ALBANY, NY 12224  
www.nyscourtofclaims.state.ny.us  
May 2003 - Vol. 11, No. 2

## GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE CELEBRATES WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The Ninth Judicial District to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts held a breakfast on April 25, 2003 to recognize the winners of its Annual Essay Contest in celebration of Women's History Month. Administrative Judge of the Ninth Judicial District Francis Nicolai and Court of Claims Judge Terry Jane Ruderman, presented the awards.

Students were asked to write on the topic, "What role should women play in military conflict?" In the freshman/sophomore category, Matthew Perrigino, from Iona Preparatory School, won First Prize and Leona Liu, from Clarkstown High School North, was the Runner-up. In the junior/senior category, Matthew Goodman,

from Horace Greeley High School, won First Prize and Emily O'Neill, from Poughkeepsie High School, was the Runner-up. The generosity of various individuals, professional organizations and bar associations enabled the committee to award cash prizes. Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Committee Chair, was pleased to note that this year the committee received more entries from a greater number of high schools than it had in previous years. The committee anticipates that this contest and awards breakfast will be held again next year and is hoping for even greater participation in the district. The students read their essays to the 50 assembled guests. The Committee members, as well as the White Plains court staff, joined in the celebration.



L-R: Hon. Francis A. Nicolai, Administrative Judge, Ninth Judicial District; Leona Liu from Clarkstown High School North, Emily O'Neill from Poughkeepsie High School, Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Matthew Goodman from Horace Greeley High School and Matthew Perrigino from Iona Preparatory School.



# Ninthline

News from the Ninth Judicial District

July/August 2003

Ninthline

## Gender Fairness Breakfast



Hon. Francis A. Nicolai, Administrative Judge, 9th JD; Leona Liu, Clarkstown High School North; Emily O'Neill, Poughkeepsie High School; Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, New York State Court of Claims; Matthew Goodman, Horace Greeley High School; and Matthew Perrino, Iona Preparatory School.

The Ninth Judicial District to promote Gender Fairness in the Courts held a breakfast on April 25, 2003 to recognize the winners of its Annual Essay Contest in celebration of Women's History Month. Administrative Judge of the Ninth Judicial District, Hon. Francis A. Nicolai and Court of Claims Judge, Honorable Terry Jane Ruderman, presented the awards.

Students were asked to write on the topic, "What role should women play in military conflict?" In the freshman/sophomore category, Matthew Perrigino, from Iona Preparatory School, won first prize and Leona Liu, from Clarkstown High School North, was runner-up. In the Junior/Senior category, Matthew Goodman, from Horace Greeley High School won first prize and Emily O'Neill, from Poughkeepsie High School was runner-up. The students read their essays to the 50 assembled guests. The Committee members, as well as bar leaders, joined in the celebration.

The generosity of various individuals, professional organizations and bar associations enabled the committee to award cash prizes. Committee Chair, Honorable Terry Jane Ruderman was pleased to note that this year, the committee received more entries from a greater number of high schools than it had in previous years. The committee anticipates that this contest and awards breakfast will be held again next year and is hoping for even greater participation in the district.



# NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2003

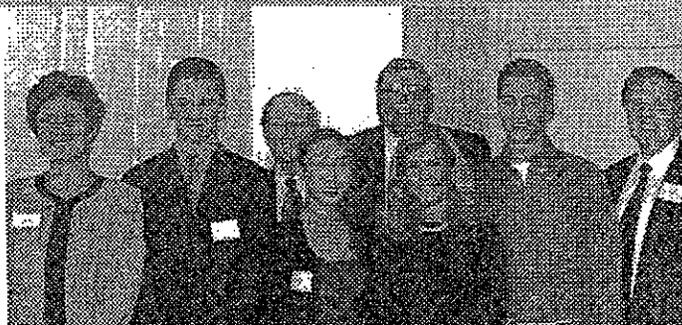
PAGE 6

JUNE 2003

## AWARD GIVEN TO WINNERS OF GENDER FAIRNESS ESSAY CONTEST

Members of the Judiciary, the Bar, and the public assembled to honor and congratulate the 2003 winners of the Ninth Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee Essay Contest, the topic for which was: "What roles should women play in military conflict?" The purpose of the contest is to increase awareness of gender-based issues in high school students. More than 100 students from all over the NJD submitted essays this year. The Honorable Terry Jane Ruderman, NYS Court of Claims Judge, and the Honorable Francis A. Nicolai, Administrative Judge for the NJD, presented the awards to four winners who were selected from Westchester, Rockland, and Dutchess Counties.

The winners of the 2003 Ninth Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee Essay Contest were:



Back Row: Kathy Rosenthal, President Westchester Women's Bar; Matthew Perrigino, J. Radley Herold, Immediate Past President Westchester County Bar; Hon. Francis A. Nicolai, Ninth Judicial District Administrative Judge; Matthew Goodman; Peter P. Zeltner, Pres. Westchester County Bar Institute. Front Row: Leona Liu; Emily O'Neill.

**Matthew Perrigino**— from Iona Prep School, 1st Place in the Freshman/Sophomore category

**Matthew Goodman**— from Horace Greeley High School, 1st Place Junior/Senior Category

**Leona Liu**— from Clarkstown High School North, 1st Runner Up in the Freshman/ Sophomore Category

**Emily O'Neill**— from Poughkeepsie High School, 1st Runner Up in the Junior/Senior Category



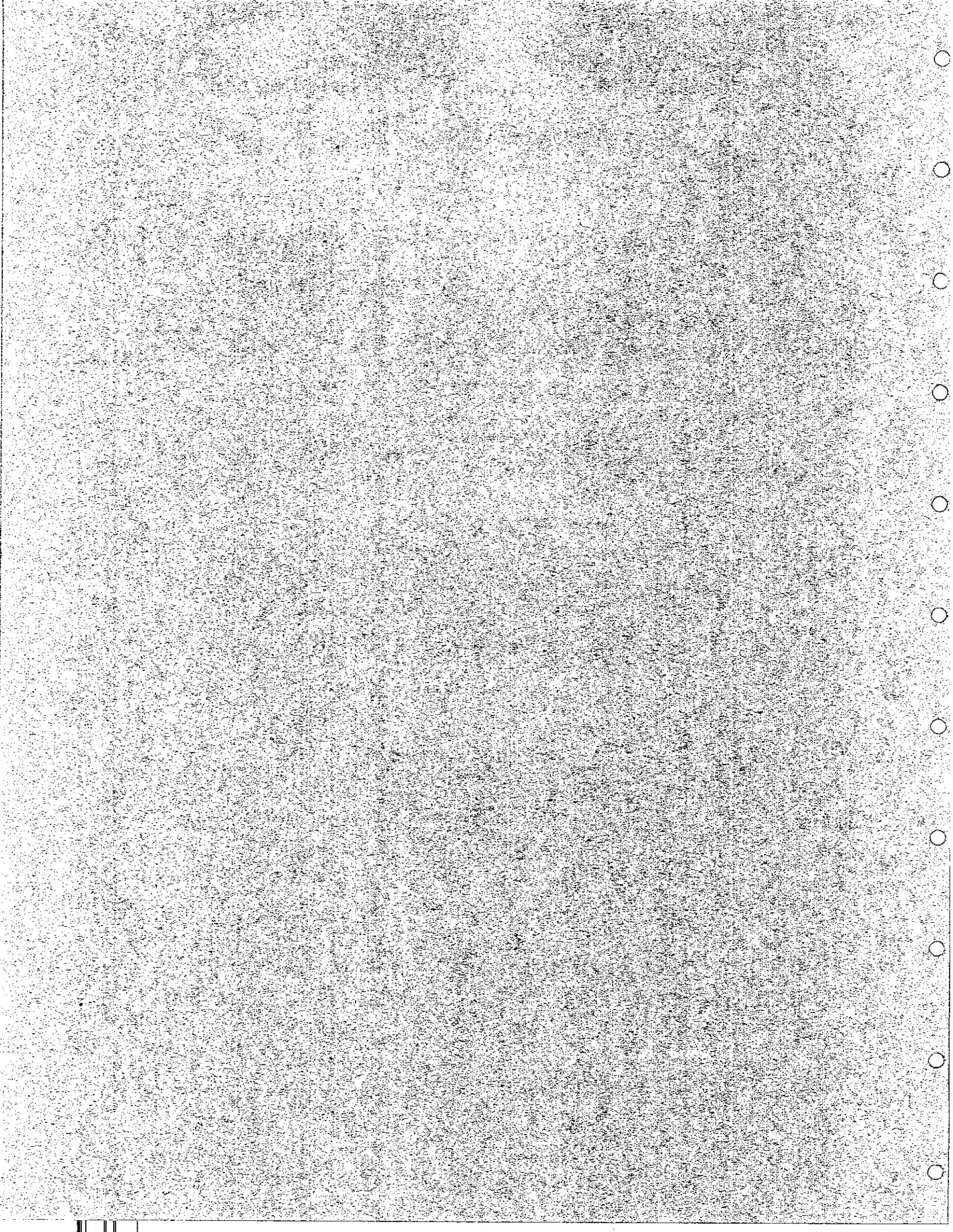
*Nassau County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts*

**Hon. Claire Weinberg**  
County Court Judge  
262 Old Country Road  
Mineola, NY 11501

516-571-2628

**Hon. Denise Sher**  
Chair Emeritus  
District Court Judge  
99 Main street  
Hempstead, NY 11550

516-572-2166



## LOCAL COMMITTEES REPORTS 2003-2004

Name of the Committee Nassau County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts

Name, Address and Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-Mail Address of the Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Hon. Claire I. Weinberg, 262 Old Country Road, Mineola, New York 11501

516-571-2628

Fax 516-571-6300

e-mail: cweinber@courts.state.ny.us

No. Members 39 Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.)

Our committee is composed of judges, advocates, administrators and court personnel

from all parts of the Courthouse.

### **New York State Courts Under Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Leadership**

What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be as specific and try to give concrete examples?

There are many more women attorneys and judges. Those women have attained leadership positions in law firms, bar associations and in the Courts.

Women litigants are treated with respect.

What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women, particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State court system?

Educating the victims of domestic violence as well as the public (jurors) that this behavior is unacceptable and illegal. How do we get victims to follow through on valid complaints?

Local Committee Activities for the Past Year: Please include, if relevant and possible, names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2003 (unless already reported)

See Rider

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Also attached is copy of program and picture of the plaque presented to Judge Kluger.

She also received a disc of the program.

Activities for Women's History Month 2004 We shall be honoring 5 Judges who have been pioneers on the bench.

Other Activities in the Past Year There have been several meetings of our entire committee, which is large and several meetings of subcommittees to plan programs for our October program.

Plans for Next Year We are setting up a subcommittee to plan our program for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

---

Most Important Difficulty Confronting Your Committee Our Committee continues to receive excellent cooperation from our new supervising judge, Hon. Anthony Marano as we did from the Hon. Edward McCabe.

**Please attach copies of flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee.**

Please return this form by March 1, 2004, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel  
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
25 Beaver Street, Room 878  
New York, New York 10004

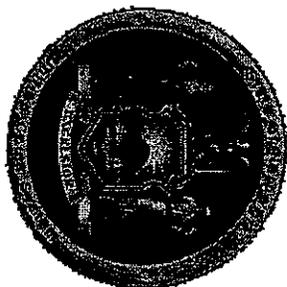
or fax the form to 212-428-2793.

## RIDER

On October 8, 2003, our keynote speaker was the Hon. Judy Harris Kluger. Judge Kluger addressed the issue of the Integrated Domestic Violence Court and how such courts aid victims and families. The stress of one family in different courts, with different attorneys and the possibility of conflicting orders of protection makes like difficult not only for the parties but also for local police responding to the scene of a domestic dispute.

We also took the opportunity to present a plaque to the Hon. Edward G. McCabe, the retiring Administrative Judge of Nassau County in recognition of his efforts for the advancement of women in the Nassau County Court System.

**The Honorable Edward G. McCabe  
The Nassau County Judicial Committee on  
Women in the Courts**



*Breaking The Cycle*

**Hon. Edward G. McCabe**  
Administrative Judge of Nassau County  
**Hon. Claire I. Weinberg**, Chair  
Nassau County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts

Keynote Speaker  
**Hon. Judy Harris Kluger**  
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge  
for Court Operations and Planning

Wednesday, October 8, 2003  
1:00 p.m.  
Nassau County Supreme Court

## The Honorable Judy Harris Kluger

Hon. Judy Harris Kluger is the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Court Operations and Planning for New York State. She is leading a new initiative to restructure court operations to establish a one family-one judge model for domestic violence cases. This sweeping reform of the State court system involves reorganizing a system that currently requires families affected by domestic violence to see as many as three different judges to resolve criminal, family and matrimonial matters in domestic violence cases. By creating Integrated Domestic Violence Courts, Judge Kluger plans to have the one family, one judge model available to all litigants in New York State by the year 2006.

Judge Kluger's professional experience began with the complicated issues of families. As a prosecutor in Kings County, she became Bureau Chief of the Sex Crimes and Domestic Violence Bureau and then Chief of the Criminal Court Bureau. In 1988, she was appointed to the Criminal Court bench. In 1993, she became a key member of the development team at the Midtown Community Court where she presided for three years.

As Administrative Judge of the New York City Criminal Court from 1996 to 2003, Judge Kluger applied a problem-solving and innovative approach to court operations. In addition to implementing the Red Hook Community Justice Center in Kings County, the Criminal Court, under Judge Kluger's leadership, developed specialized approaches for domestic violence and drug cases. Judge Kluger created Domestic Violence Courts throughout the city using post dispositional compliance and linkages with community-based programs to improve victim safety and increase offender accountability. These courts, for the first time, centralized the domestic violence caseload within the Criminal Court and brought judicial continuity and social services into the courtroom to assist victims and monitor defendants. The success of these courts evolved naturally into the Integrated Domestic Violence Court concept where it has become clear that families in crisis are better served by an integrated multi-jurisdictional approach. By December 2003, eleven Integrated Domestic Violence Courts will be operating in New York State.

Judge Kluger's dedication and efforts in the area of domestic violence were recognized in 1999 when she received an award from the Mayor of New York City for outstanding leadership in breaking the cycle of domestic violence.

Judge Kluger is an active member of professional associations, committees and advisory boards. She is co-chair of the Local Courts Advisory Committee of the Chief Administrative Judge and is a member of the Advisory Committee for Statewide Implementation of Court-Supervised Drug Treatment. She is a frequent speaker and panelist on criminal justice issues.

### Welcome and Opening Remarks

Hon. Edward G. McCabe

Administrative Judge of Nassau County

### Pledge of Allegiance

Hon. Denise L. Sher

Judge of the Nassau County District Court

President,

Nassau County District Court Board of Judges

### Remarks

Hon. Claire I. Weinberg

Judge of the Nassau County Court

Presiding Judge,

Nassau County Domestic Violence Court

Hon. Susan T. Kluver

Judge of the Nassau County District Court

President-Elect,

Nassau County Bar Association

Sandra Oliva, MSW,

Executive Director,

Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Hon. Joseph A. DeMaro

Justice of the Supreme Court of Nassau County

### Keynote Speaker

Hon. Judy Harris Kluger

Deputy Chief Administrative Judge

for Court Operations and Planning

### Presentation to Judge Kluger

Hon. Edward G. McCabe

Hon. Claire I. Weinberg

### Closing Remarks

Hon. Edward G. McCabe

Administrative Judge of Nassau County

NY LAW JOURNAL  
Tuesday, Mar. 2, 2004  
p. 16, col. 4

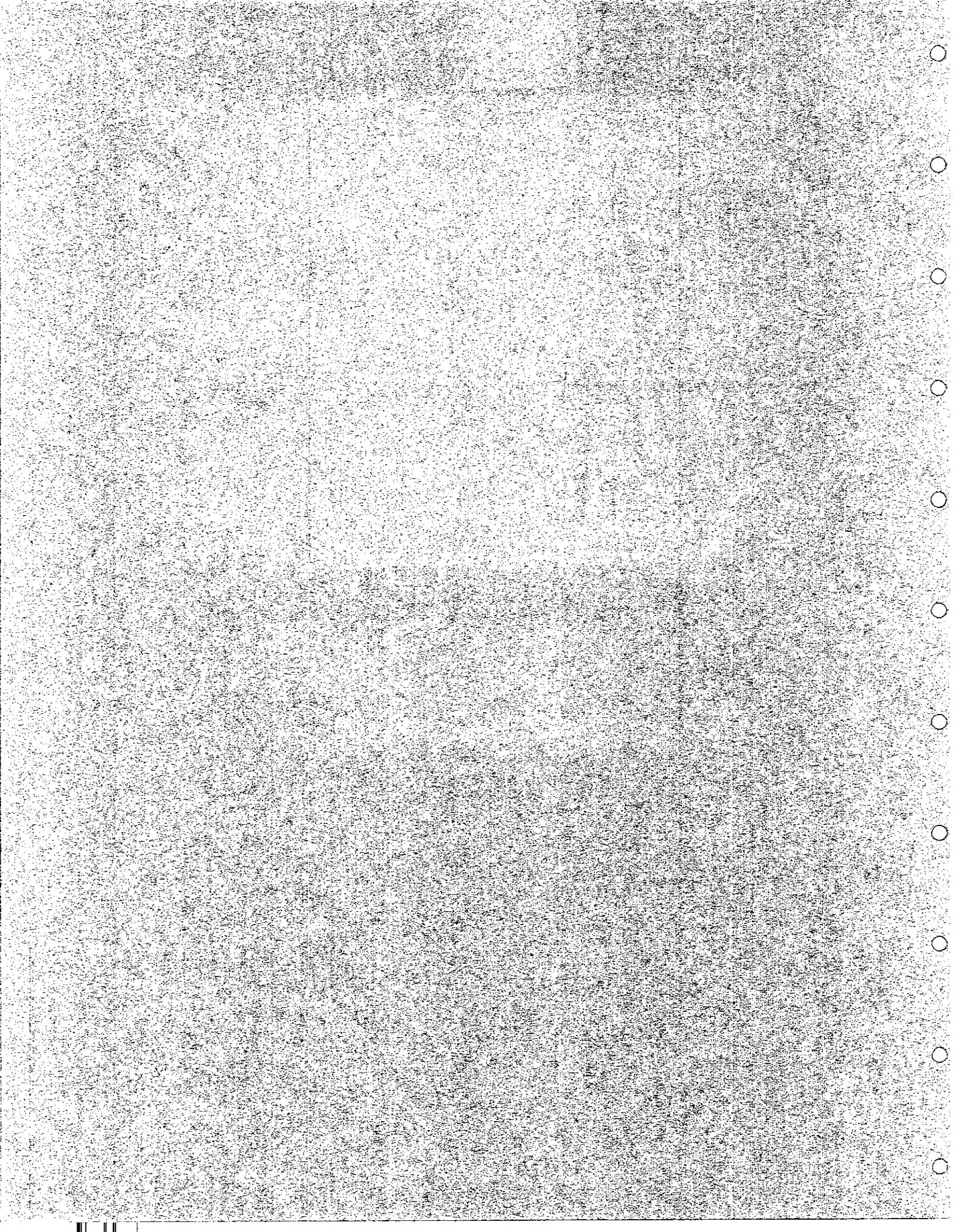
THIS WEEK'S NEWS

**THE NASSAU County Court System** will celebrate Women's History Month with a ceremony honoring women pioneers in the judicial system on March 18 at 12:45 p.m. in Mineola Supreme Court's Calendar Control Part Courtroom. Administrative Judge Anthony Marano and Nassau County Court Judge Claire E. Weinberg will preside over the event, which will recognize several women judges in Nassau County

*Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee*

**Hon. Hertha C. Trotto**  
Suffolk District Court  
Central Islip  
400 Carleton Ave.  
Central Islip, NY 11722

631-853-7418





## SUFFOLK COUNTY WOMEN in the COURTS

### 2003-2004 ANNUAL REPORT

Name & Address of Chair:

**Hon. Hertha C. Trotto**

Acting County Court Judge  
Suffolk County District Court  
400 Carleton Avenue  
Central Islip, N. Y. 11722

E-mail: HTROTTO@courts.state.ny.us

Telephone: 631-853-7418

Fax: 631-853-5401

**Meetings in the Past year:** June 20, 2003 (luncheon), September 30, 2003, October 29, 2003, November 18, 2003, December 17, 2003 (holiday luncheon), January 7, 2004, February 4, 2004, March 1, 2004 (Women's History Event)

**Membership:** Approximately 40 members, including: Judges, a Support Magistrate, Social Services Commissioner, Court personnel from various departments, individuals from local law schools, attorneys in private practice, members of the Suffolk County Women's Bar, the Suffolk County Bar, the Suffolk County Criminal Bar and the Amistad Black Bar Associations, women's services, domestic violence courts, county family violence task force, and members of the local community.

#### **New York State Courts Under Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Leadership:**

##### *Advances in the Past Twenty Years:*

Many positive changes were identified at our Committee's discussion of this question. It appears that the most significant change for women, particularly those served by Suffolk County Courts during the past twenty years, is that women (as litigants, attorneys, judges & employees) have become more visible, more empowered by and more invested in the justice system. In Suffolk, twenty years ago, there were no women judges; now there are approximately twenty, serving in various courts. There has been an increased presence of women in the ranks of court officers, clerks, court administrators and support magistrates, as well as many more women attorneys and advocates. Women litigants are more confident and comfortable knowing they are no longer negotiating a "male only" system.

To make court appearances easier we now have Court based children's centers. This was made possible in large measure as a result of Judge Kaye's establishment of the Permanent Commission on Justice for Children and due to the efforts of the Hon. Mary Werner and Cheryl Zimmer. Our District Court Children's Center promotes literacy, reading skills, and has available information about community resources and outreach services. This is a vast improvement from the time when children had no safe place to wait while parents attended to business in the Court.

In general, there is increased community outreach, better deployment of resources to women and children, and recognition that services, resources and pamphlets must be provided in other languages. There has been a growing level of attention to child support matters. Our specialized parts of the Court now focus on domestic violence and drug problems. (Drug Court, IDV Court, Domestic Violence Part, Family Drug Treatment Court). These advances, which are positive for all litigants have been particularly beneficial to women, many of whom lack community support systems and personal resources prior to accessing court services.

### *Issues That Need to Be Addressed:*

The Committee identified the lack of legal representation in matrimonial cases and custody matters, as the most pressing problem that needs to be addressed in the future. Even with active and ambitious pro-bono efforts in our county, there are still litigants, especially women, who are not able to access legal representation. Another area of concern is the lack of sufficient community mental health resources. Dual diagnosed individuals with both mental health and substance abuse issues are of particular concern.

It is hoped that the areas where advances have been noted will continue to see progress, while improvements are achieved in matrimonial representation and mental health services.

### **Local Committee Activities for the Past Year:**

#### **Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2003**

On October 23, 2003, the committee sponsored a program entitled "How to Protect the Children We Love". The program consisted of sessions in Central Islip and Riverhead on two very timely topics: Bullying and Date Rape. The well-attended programs included lectures by experts from VIBS, a local victims' advocacy agency and an educational outreach counselor from SCOPE. The speakers were outstanding and each supplied many resource pamphlets. Refreshments were provided after the formal presentations and attendees were able to speak individually with the presenters. The program was chaired by the Hon. Isabel Buse and Margaret Natale.

#### **Activities for Women's History Month 2004**

***Celebration:*** On March 1, 2004, the Women in the Courts Committee recognized Women Court Employees in Research and Technology. Our Keynote Speaker was the Hon. A. Gail Prudenti, Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, Second Dept. The Hon. H. Patrick Leis III, Suffolk County Administrative Judge, also addressed the standing room only crowd which consisted of court personnel, many bar association representatives and friends of the court. The program included an innovative slide show depicting the recognized women at work and a delightful medley of patriotic songs by the Hamptones, a group of about 15 ten year old girls from Our Lady of The Hamptons Regional Catholic School. The main focus of the program was to recognize the work of women in Computer and Technology Services; Library Services; and Court Attorneys and Law Assistants. The most senior woman in each area gave a presentation recalling the advancement of women in each specialty as it developed in the Court system and recognized all women employees in their department. The Women in the Courts Committee presented each representative with a beautiful commemorative plaque to be shared with their colleagues. After the formal program, attendees enjoyed a reception sponsored by the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association and viewed the pictorial display and historical time lines of women judges and support magistrates. Photos of all past Women's History Celebrations were also on display. The program was chaired by Sue Fox and Kathleen Leppla with many committee members assisting in the effort.

***Pictorial Display:*** Month long exhibit of our photo history display of Women Judges and Support Magistrates in the main lobby of the Cohalan Court Building. The permanent display was expanded this year and now includes photo portraits of all women judges and justices and support magistrates. The beautifully detailed time lines were expanded to include all Town and Village Justices and the Support magistrates.

***Pamphlets:*** Colorful pamphlets were published reviewing the accomplishments of women in the departments being recognized at the Women's History event. These pamphlets contain many photographs and recollections and will become part of the permanent Women's History Collection.

#### **Other Committee Activities:**

***Luncheon Honoring Cheryl Zimmer, Esq.:*** On June 20, 2003, outgoing Committee Chair Cheryl Zimmer was honored at a luncheon for her hard work over the past years on many innovative projects that have benefitted the Court and the local community. The program included remarks by the Hon Alan D. Oshrin, past Administrative Judge, whose wit, warmth and wisdom will be missed by all. The Committee presented Cheryl with a gift and a beautiful orchid sent by Justice Ellerin. The event was organized by Hon. Hertha C. Trotto and Katherine Logiudice.

***Breast Cancer Awareness Month:*** During the week of October 6<sup>th</sup>, the Women in the Courts Committee, in conjunction with the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association, sponsored the Annual Courthouse Alert in both Riverhead and Central Islip. The project included staffing informational tables at prominent locations in the public areas of the Courthouses to provide a variety of pamphlets about breast cancer, ovarian cancer and prostate cancer. Many visitors to the courts including attorneys, litigants and prospective jurors as well as court personnel received valuable information during the Alert. The Alert was coordinated by Theresa Whelan and Carrie Vasiluth.

***Children's Center Food Drive:*** From October 15<sup>th</sup> through November 24<sup>th</sup>, members of the Women in Courts Committee helped with the annual food drive in District Court to gather items for Thanksgiving baskets for needy families identified by the Children's Center. Members of the Committee also donated funds so that turkey vouchers could be included in the baskets. The generosity of Court personnel and members of the Committee resulted in a much nicer holiday for those in need. This project was organized by Barbara Loeffler.

***Holiday Luncheon:*** On December 17, 2003, The Committee held its Holiday Luncheon at the Culinary Institute, New York Institute of Technology. The Hon. H. Patrick Leis III, Administrative Judge gave greetings to all and a gift was presented to Hon. Hertha C. Trotto, Committee Chair. Attendees generously donated hats and mittens for the Children's Center Mitten Tree, which were distributed to children in need who visited the children's center over the cold winter months. Toys and teddy bears were also collected for donation to the holiday gift drive. The luncheon was organized by Joan Hudson and Katherine Logiudice.

***Literacy Initiative--Bagels and Books Breakfast:*** In keeping with Justice Kaye's Literacy Initiative, each child that visits the District Court Children's Center receives a brand new book as a gift, in the hopes that they will become more involved in reading books. On December 18, 2003, the Women in the Courts Committee, in conjunction with the District Court Children's Center Advisory Committee and the Children's Center, sponsored a breakfast to honor Devin Edwards, an eighth grader who presented the center with over 1,000 new children's books that he personally collected as a holiday gift to the center. Devin, accompanied by his proud parents was an inspiration to all. He received a plaque from Family and Children's Services, the agency that operates the District Court Children's Center. His generous gift will be a great help with this ongoing project. The breakfast was organized by Victor Rossomano and the Hon. Hertha C. Trotto.

**Project Assist:** This ongoing project is located in the Cohalan Court Complex. It consists of approved resource pamphlets which are available at no cost to litigants and visitors to the Court Building. The Hon. Elizabeth Emerson organized this project, meeting with many agencies in the local community in order to gain their cooperation and support. The pamphlets are kept up to date and an initiative is underway to increase offerings in other languages.

**Teddy Bears for Tots:** This is an ongoing project of the Family Court initiated by the Hon. David Freundlich, Supervising Judge. The project provides Teddy Bears to many of the children in Family Court matters including adoptions and abuse and neglect cases. Members of the Women in Courts Committee are actively involved with the project. A special project with the Girls Scouts resulted in a large donation of Teddy bears. Others donate Teddy Bears as often as they can. The effect on children in the Family Court has been enormously positive. The Hon. Lynn Green and Cheryl Zimmer are the liaisons for this project.

**Courtyard Kids:** Members of the Women in Courts Committee, Victor Rossomano, Sue Fox and Kathleen Leppla, served on an advisory Committee which facilitated the establishment of paid child care services for children of Court employees. The Imagine Early Learning Center is located on the Federal Courthouse grounds adjacent to the Cohalan Court Complex and had its grand opening in 2003. Many Court employees now take advantage of this very convenient resource. Women in Courts Committee members continue to be involved with the Center and keep the Committee up to date on any relevant issues.

**Plans for the remainder of the Year:** Our full committee will meet two more times before we adjourn for the summer. In April, the Committee will view the slide show prepared for Women's History Month as well as the photos from the event. The Committee will also start planning our programs for next year. Copies of past statewide Annual Women in the Courts Reports will be distributed and a planning committee will be formed to make suggestions. In May, Hon. Marion T. McNulty, the newly appointed Supervising Judge of the Matrimonial Parts in Suffolk County, will join us for a brown bag lunch. We hope to learn more about how those cases are handled as many Committee members have an interest in that area. Various sub-committees will continue to meet throughout the summer so we can be ready for our October programs for Breast Cancer Alert and Domestic Violence Awareness.

**Plans for Next Year:** In addition to our ongoing programs and projects we will consider the following:

**Women Offenders in Suffolk County:** A sub-committee will continue to meet with representatives of the local committee of the NYS Advisory Committee for Women to assist with a program on Women Offenders in Suffolk County. The current working focus is on locally incarcerated women and families of inmates—male or female.

**Impacts of Violence on Children:** Our domestic violence sub-committee will explore a possible program involving members of the County Executive's Task Force on Family Violence or on our own focused on the impacts of violence on children. A model for this event might be the NYS Summit on Children held several years ago at Pace Law School. Linda O'Donohoe is liaison to the County Executive's Task Force.

# WOMEN IN THE COURTS COMMITTEE LUNCHEON

By: PATRICIA HERLIHY, Outreach Coordinator



Pictured l to r: Hon. Alan D. Oshrin, Cheryl Zimmer, Esq., and Hon. Hertha C. Trotto

A luncheon was held on June 20, 2003 to honor Cheryl Zimmer's leadership and contribution to the Women In the Courts Committee, as its Chairperson. Cheryl spent countless hours devoted to programs which enriched the lives of court employees, children of the Child Care Center and the public. Some of the programs she worked very hard on were the Domestic Violence Programs, especially the Roundtable Seminar; the Breast Cancer Awareness Program; Teddy Bear Day in Family Court and the Literacy Luncheon to benefit the children of the Child Care Center in District Court. Cheryl's leadership and kindness will be missed. However, she leaves the Committee in the very capable hands of our new Chairperson, the Honorable Hertha C. Trotto!

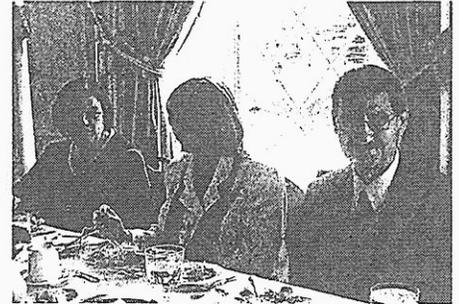
On behalf of the Committee, thank you Cheryl. It has been a pleasure to work with you!



Pictured l to r: Cheryl Zimmer, Esq., and Hon. H. Patrick Leis, III



Pictured l to r: Lynn A. Green, Esq., and Hon. Deborah E. Kooperstein



Pictured l to r: Lynn Fullshire, Esq., Theresa B. Whelan, Esq., and Chief Clerk Victor V. Rossomano

## TEDDY BEARS FOR TOTS

By: CHERYL ZIMMER, Principal Law Clerk

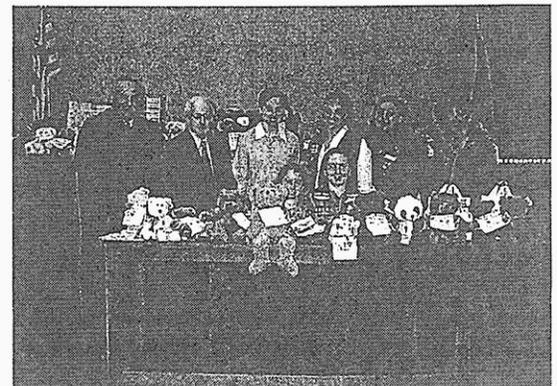
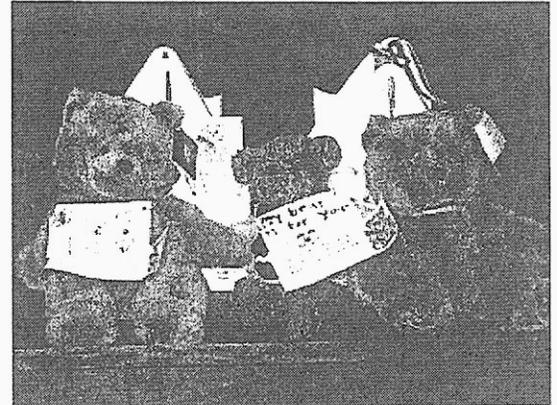
A very special event, "Teddy Bears for Tots", took place in the Suffolk County Family Court on April 2, 2003, at 3:00 p.m. in the Cohalan Court Complex. Sponsored by the Suffolk County Women in the Court's Committee, the event featured the presentation of several hundred teddy bears by the Suffolk County Girl Scouts to Judge Freundlich who accepted them on behalf of the Suffolk County Family Court.

Two Senior Girl Scouts, Lauren Sosulski and Chelsea Jones, from Girl Scout Troop # 570 in Smithtown made the presentation. Lauren and Chelsea worked nonstop to collect the teddy bears for this very special occasion.

According to Judge Freundlich, "These soft and adorable teddy bears will be distributed by the Family Court Judges in the days and weeks ahead to some of the many children who come into Family Court. It is hoped that these cuddly teddy bears will bring some comfort to the children during this often tumultuous time in their lives."

For Lauren and Chelsea, their heart-warming deed in collecting these teddy bears helped them earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award that a Senior Girl Scout may earn. This award is earned in five parts and represents to the recipient the culmination of the scouting experience.

Justice Oshrin observed, "The desire to work hard to help others in need truly represents the finest trait that we can instill in our children. The experience gained by these young women and others like them, in striving to achieve this award will prove to be invaluable. It will help them develop leadership skills, organizational skills, and a sense of community and commitment that will lay the foundation for a lifetime of active citizenship. I applaud them, one and all."



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED  
TO HELP STAFF TABLES FOR OUR  
ANNUAL COURT ALERT

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6<sup>th</sup> - THURSDAY,  
OCTOBER 9<sup>th</sup>

8:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

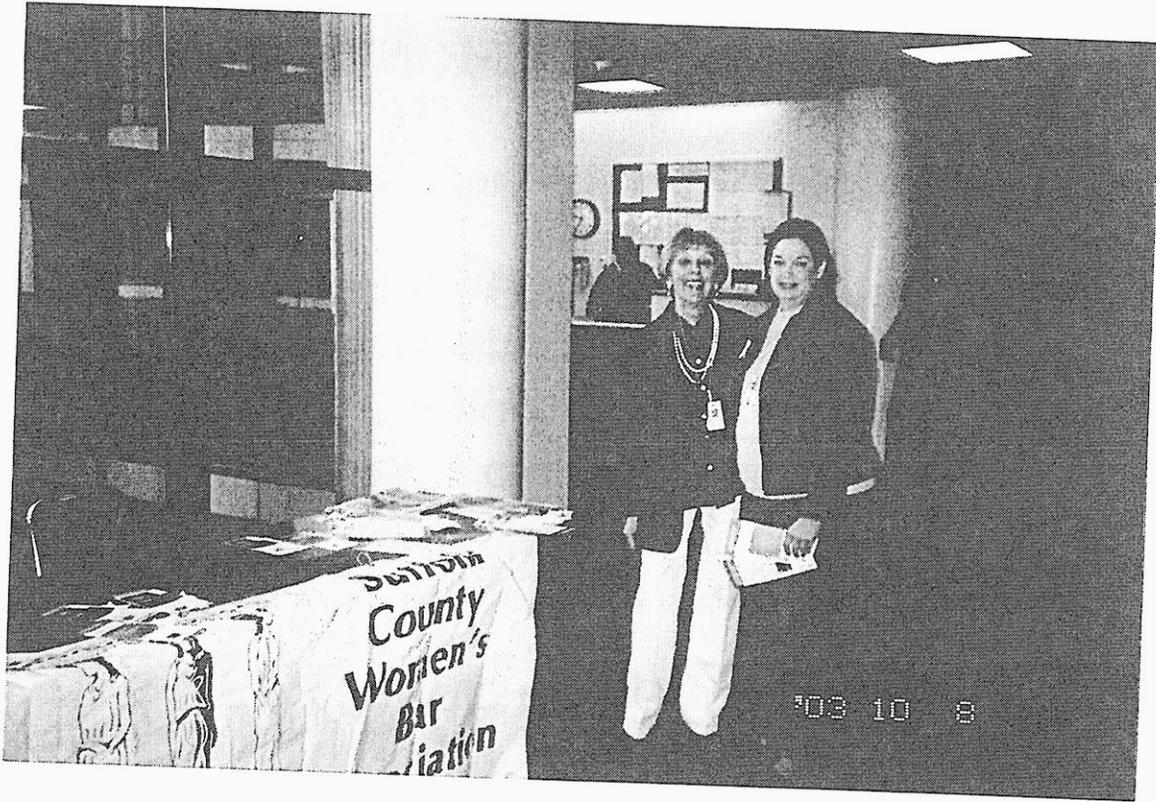
This year we will be passing out information about  
breast cancer at the following courthouses:

The Cohalan Court Complex in Central Islip  
Supreme Court and Criminal Court in Riverhead

Please contact:

For Central Islip: Carrie Vasiluth, (631) 232-2400

For Riverhead Courts: Theresa Whelan, (631) 852-2157



Adrienne  
Mirro

Lynn  
Fullshire

2003 October Breast Cancer Alert



Jennifer  
Maloney

**NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
AWARENESS MONTH**

Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee

And

The Honorable Robert Webster Oliver  
Acting District Administrative Judge

*cordially invite*

All court employees to a presentation

**HOW TO PROTECT THE CHILDREN WE LOVE**

THURSDAY, October 23, 2003

*Session 1*

12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

**DATE RAPE /DATE RAPE DRUGS**

*PRESENTED BY:*

Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk

*Session 2*

1:00 p.m- 2:00 p.m.

**BULLYING**

*PRESENTED BY:*

Suffolk County Office Promotion of Education

District Court, Central Islip

Central Jury Room

Second Floor

**Refreshments will be provided**

For more information, please call Kathy Logiudice @853-7418  
or e-mail klogiudi@courts.state.ny.us

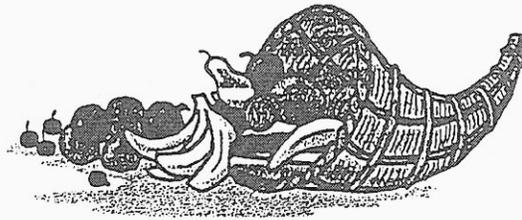
# **THE CHILDREN'S CENTER FOOD DRIVE**

The Children's Center staff is collecting  
Non-perishable food  
For the upcoming  
Thanksgiving Holiday.



We'll be putting together baskets  
For some of the families that visit the Center  
To help them enjoy the Holiday.

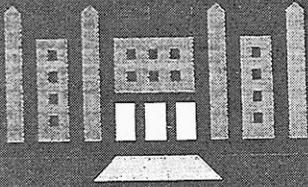
Any contributions  
Will be greatly appreciated.



*Oct 15 - Nov 24*

**Have a Happy Thanksgiving.**

*Send To Barbara - Chief Clerk's Office -*



VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 2003

# *The Full Court Press*

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE  
*Suffolk County Courts / 10th Judicial District*

## NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH OBSERVED

By: MARGARET NATALE, Resource Coordinator



The Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee marked the observance of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month through presentations held on the topic "How to Protect the Children We Love".

The lunchtime presentations for court employees were held in Riverhead and Central Islip on October 21, 2003 and October 23, 2003, respectively. Included at each presentation was a lecture on date rape and date rape drugs by Rachel Kalish, Volunteer Coordinator at The Victims Bureau of Suffolk County (VIBS). The second lecture on the topic of bullying was presented by Cindi Pierce Lee, Deputy Director of the Suffolk County Office for the Promotion of Education (SCOPE).

Both presentations were thought provoking and well received. The Honorable Hertha C. Trotto, Chairperson of the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee, expressed her gratitude to the presenters and thanked all those who were in attendance. ☞

## FOOD DRIVE HELD

By: PATRICIA HERLIHY, Outreach Coordinator



Employees of the Suffolk County courts held a food drive to benefit local needy families for Thanksgiving. The Women in the Courts Committee donated turkeys to go with the baskets. Pictured is Chief Clerk Roger Huguenin, his secretary Barbara Loeffler, Carol Roberts, of the New York State Permanent Committee on Justice for Children, and District Court Judge Trotto, Chairperson of the Women in the Courts Committee. ☞



# The Suffolk County Women in Courts

Cordially invite you to attend our  
Holiday Luncheon

Date: December 17, 2003

Time: 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Culinary Arts Institute  
New York Institute of Technology  
Central Islip Campus

All reservations must be paid in advance. Please send a check for \$20 payable to "Cash" or Joan Hudson at 67 Geery Avenue, Holbrook, NY 11741.

Our holiday gifts of new small toys and books for young children will be gratefully accepted at the luncheon.

R.S.V.P: Joan Hudson  
(631) 588-7744  
Kathy Logiudice  
(631) 853-7418  
E-Mail: [klogiudi@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:klogiudi@courts.state.ny.us)

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Pictured in back row: Cassandra Aquart, Patricia Kazlauskas, Hon. H. Patrick Leis, III, Kathleen Leppla, Hon. Patricia Filiberto, Katherine Logiudice and Chris Kelley

Front Row: Margaret Natale, Hon. Hertha C. Trotto and Hon. Georgia Tschiember.



Pictured: Patricia Kazlauskas, Kathleen Leppla, Hon. Hertha C. Trotto, Hon. Georgia Tschiember, Hon. Patricia Filiberto and Katherine Logiudice.



Pictured: Hon. Georgia Tschiember, Joan McNichol, Cheryl Zimmer and Caroline Levy.



Pictured left to right: DSS Commissioner Janet Demarzo, Martha Rogers, Carrie Vasiluth, C Caroline Levy, Joan McNichol and Joan Hudson.



The Children's Center  
The Children's Center Advisory Board  
and  
The Suffolk County Women in Courts Committee

Cordially invite you to attend a  
Bagels and Book Breakfast

A Celebration of Books  
Over 1,000 Books will be donated to the Center

Date: December 18, 2003

Time: 9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Location: Children's Center  
Cohalan Court Complex  
400 Carleton Avenue  
Central Islip, N.Y. 11722

Donations of new books for young children will be gratefully accepted and appreciated

R.S.V.P: Hon. Hertha C. Trotto  
(631)853-7418 (Secretary: Kathy Logiudice)  
E-Mail: [htrotto@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:htrotto@courts.state.ny.us)

## **Bagels and Books Celebration**

by Hon. Hertha C. Trotto

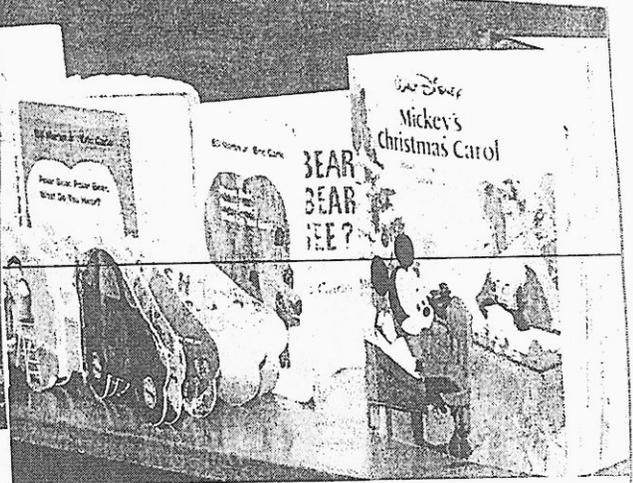
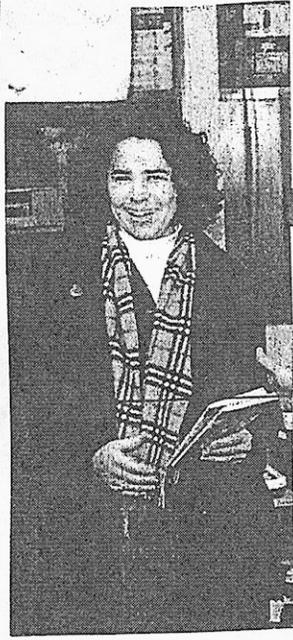
In December 2003, the District Court Children's Center Advisory Committee, the Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, and Family and Children's Services Association, the agency which manages our District Court Children's Center, hosted a very special event. This year's Bagels and Books Celebration was held in honor of Devin Edwards, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student at the Gelinas Middle School, who singlehandedly collected more than 1,000 brand new books as a holiday donation to the Children's Center because he wanted to give back to the community in a special way. The books will be given out to children attending the center to encourage them to read as part of the Children's Center Literacy Project. This program has been active in Suffolk since its introduction by Chief Judge Kaye who has previously visited the Children's Center to read to the children.

The event was well attended by members of the sponsoring committees, center staff, foster grandparents, judges, attorneys and court personnel. Speaking at the ceremony was Hon. Hertha C. Trotto, Chair of the Women in Courts Committee, and Victor Rossomano, Chief Clerk of County Court and Chair of the Children's Center Advisory Committee. A special award was presented to Devin by Richard A. Bell, Vice-President of Family and Children's Services Association, as his parents, Sandra Brooks Esq. & Dr. Lance Edwards, beamed with pride.

The event was a huge success and everyone agreed that Devin is a special person showing great concern for others. Hopefully others will be encouraged by his project. We know that many children will be treasuring their special gift book for many years to come.

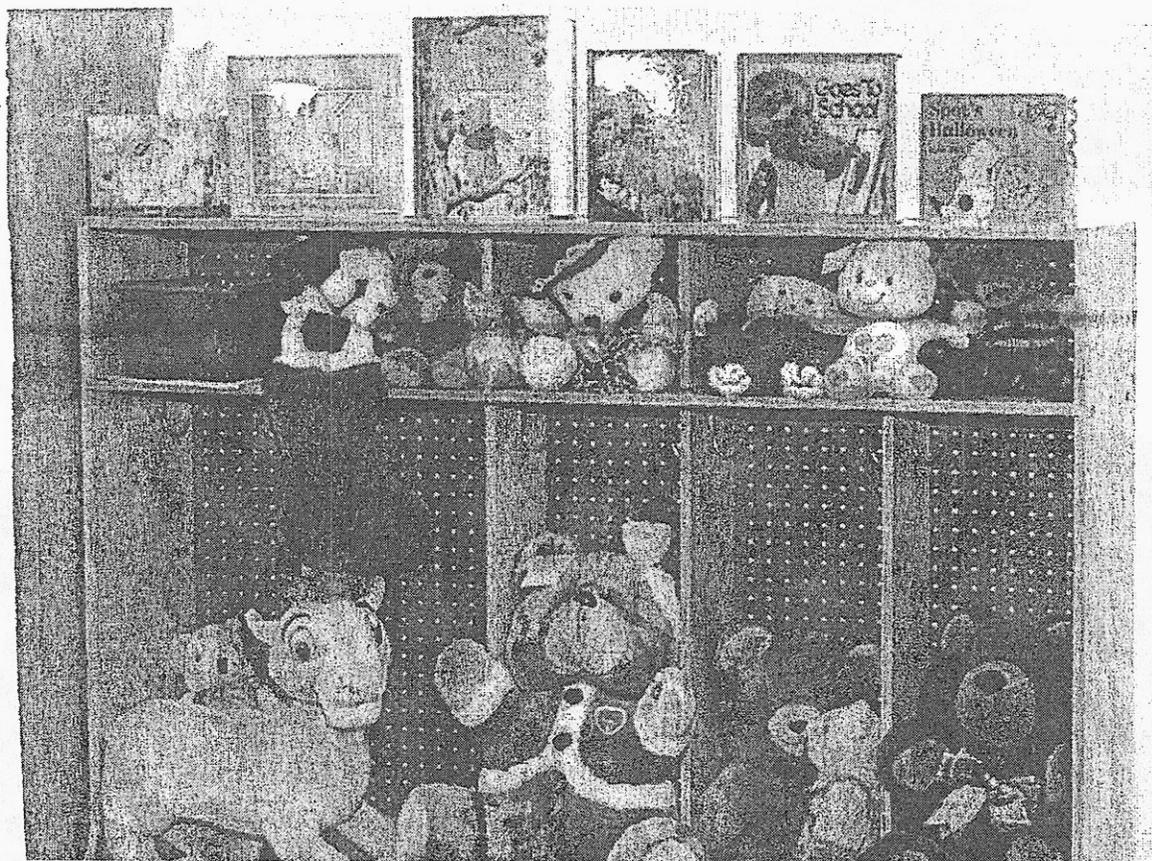
# BAGELS and BOOKS

12/03





Pictured left to right: Patricia Herlihy, Victor Rossomano, Hon. David Freundlich, Hon. Hertha C. Trotto and Wendy Meyer.



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**Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee**

invites you to celebrate

**Women's History Month**

recognizing

**WOMEN COURT EMPLOYEES AT WORK IN  
LEGAL RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Supreme Court Law Library  
Management Information Systems Department  
Court Attorneys**

*Keynote Speaker*  
*Hon. A. Gail Prudenti*  
*Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department*

**March 1, 2004  
3:00 p.m.**

**Central Jury Room  
Second Floor, Cohalan Court Complex**

**Refreshments will be served**

**RSVP Kathy Logiudice at 853-7418 or  
klogiudi@courts.state.ny.us by February 25, 2004**



# WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

MARCH 1, 2004

## Program

Presentation of the Colors - **Honor Guard**

Pledge of Allegiance - lead by **Captain Larry Mitchell**

"American Tribute/ National Anthem" - **The Hamptones**, Our Lady of the Hamptons Regional Catholic School, Southampton, NY

Welcome - **Hon. Hertha C. Trotto**, Chairperson, Women in the Courts Committee

Opening remarks - **Hon. H. Patrick Leis III**, District Administrative Judge

Keynote Speaker - **Hon. A. Gail Prudenti**, Presiding Justice, Appellate Division Second Department

**Lynn C. Fullshire**, Principal Law Librarian, Supreme Court Law Library

**Barbara Kenny, Esq.**, Principal Law Clerk, Supreme Court Law Department

**Bonnie Schmitt**, Principal LAN Administrator, Management Information Systems

Closing remarks - **Hon. H. Patrick Leis III**, District Administrative Judge

"You'll Never Walk Alone," **The Hamptones**

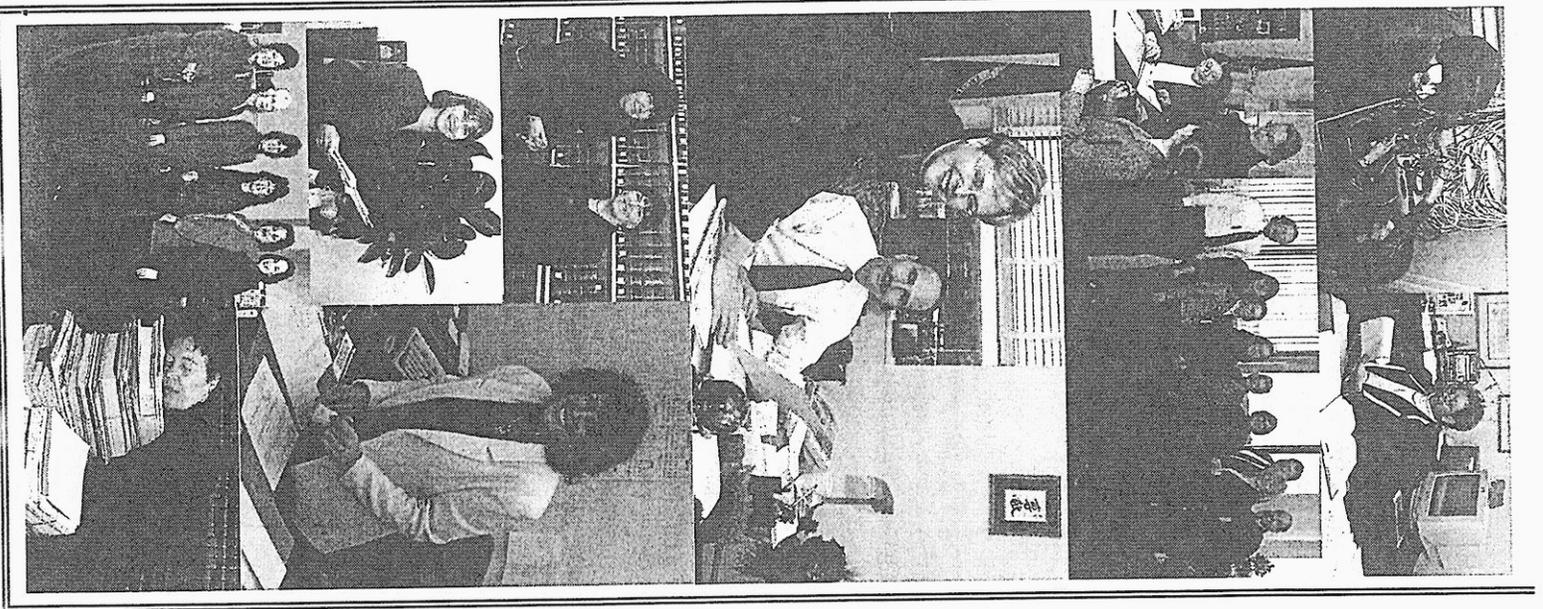
Adjournment - **Hon. Hertha C. Trotto**

Refreshments to follow  
Compliments of the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association

### SUFFOLK COUNTY WOMEN IN THE COURTS COMMITTEE

Hon. Hertha C. Trotto, Chairperson

Women's History Month Committee: Susan C. Fox, Kathy Leppla, Co-chairs;  
Lynn Fullshire, Cheryl Zimmer, Kathy Logiuidice, Martha Rogers,  
Carol Stewart, Barbara Mehrman, Hon. Isabel Buse



**Suffolk County  
Women in the Courts  
Committee**

**Celebrating  
Women  
in  
Research  
and  
Technology**



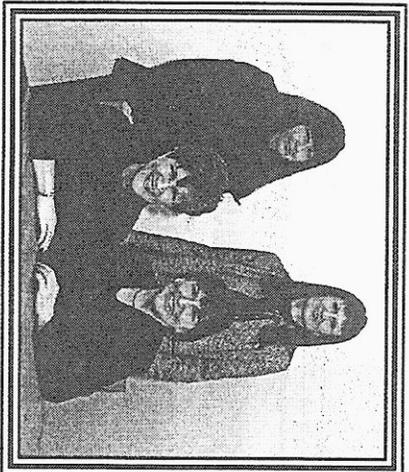
**March 2004  
Women's  
History Month  
Celebration**



## Management Information Systems

Management Information Systems (MIS) is responsible for providing the Suffolk County Courts with cutting edge technology. Over the past ten years the MIS staff has grown to a team of 9 whose goal is to enhance and expedite court operations through the use of technology. The MIS staff provides phone and onsite technical support and instruction to judicial and non-judicial court personnel on a daily basis. In addition, they are responsible for implementing policies and standards set by the Division of Technology to safeguard the confidentiality, integrity and availability of data accessed by over 900 computers within Suffolk County.

The duties of this department continue to expand as new technology evolves to expedite case resolution both in the back office and in the courtroom. Increased reliance by court personnel upon case management programs, online legal research, video conferencing, e-mail and other technical innovations, mandates that the MIS staff work closely with the Chief Clerks and department managers to assess the needs of the court. The MIS department works under the direct supervision and guidance of the District Administrative Judge and Executive Assistant in planning and implementing automation projects throughout the Suffolk County Courts.



## Court Attorneys

More than 40 female attorneys work as Law Clerks, Court Attorney-Referees or Law Department Attorneys in the Suffolk County Courts. These attorneys provide the highest level of legal services as they research and analyze the complex issues arising in court cases. Their work involves civil and criminal cases, motions, guardianship matters, commercial and matrimonial cases.

Law Clerks provide confidential assistance to individual Judges, researching and drafting opinions and jury charges, providing procedural assistance, and conducting conferences with litigants. Court Attorneys staff the Law Departments of the Supreme and County, Family, Surrogate's, and District Courts. Court Attorney-Referees may conduct hearings, take testimony, and report finding of facts to a Judge.

Technology has dramatically impacted the research capabilities of these attorneys, providing extensive automated legal research options, including internet access to treatises, case law, statutes and local municipal codes. Computers also provide instant access to legal forms, information on pending cases, and daily tracking of specific assignments.



## Supreme Court Law Library

Suffolk's Supreme Court Law Library is responsible for providing legal research and reference services to the courts, bar and public. There are three libraries, two in Riverhead and one in Central Islip, housing a collection of approximately 150,000 volumes, as well as on-line access to legal research services and 60 Cd-Rom legal databases.

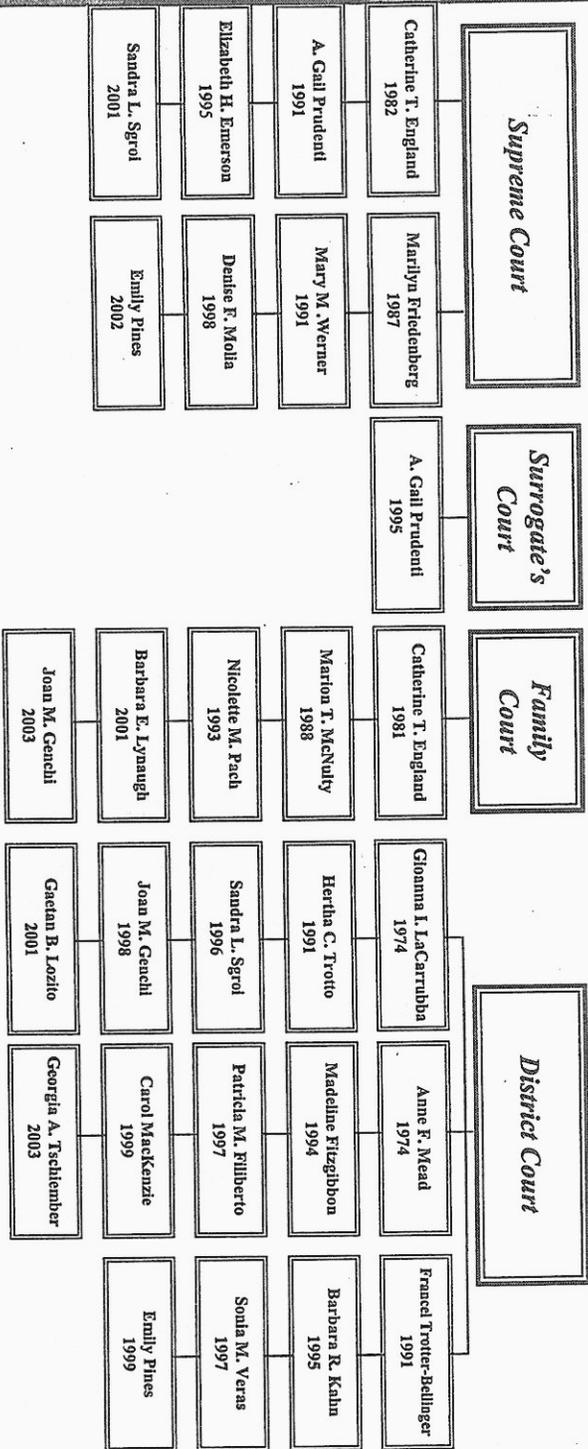
In addition to the three Law Libraries, staff coordinate 90 chambers collections as well as reference plans for the law departments of each Court. The Law Library has kept pace with technological innovations, with a centralized, fully automated technical services department handling all aspects of purchasing, vouchers, ledgers and serial control. Library holdings are searchable in an online catalog, LION, which is available both in the libraries and over the Internet. The Law Library provides legal reference services and instruction on both online services and Cd-Rom databases at each library location, and offers Lexis, Westlaw and Loislaw to the public.

The Suffolk library staff has been chosen to participate in a new Virtual Reference Desk project, which will provide real time online reference help, application sharing, and web browser sharing to the Courts and the public.

# WOMEN JUDGES AND JUSTICES OF SUFFOLK COUNTY

## Appellate Division - Second Department

A. Gail Prudenti  
2001



*Town & Village  
Women  
Justices*

**East Hampton Town**  
Catherine A. Cahill (1994)  
Lisa R. Rana (2004)

**Riverhead Town**  
Syrena Stackpole (1931)

**Town of Shelter Island**  
Katherine Z. Pope (1997)  
Helen Rosenbloom (2004)

**Southampton Town**  
Deborah E. Kooperstein (1993)  
Barbara L. Wilson (1998)

**Southold Town**  
Louisa P. Evans (1994)

**Village of Amityville**  
Debra Ann Urbano DiSalvo (2003)

**Village of Babylon**  
Jennifer Henry (2002)

**Village of Bellport**  
Lynn A. Green (1990)

**Village of the Branch**  
Jacqueline Lupichuk Skubik (1988)

**Village of Head of the Harbor**  
Anne Bowns Sayre (1989)  
Ellen Dee Fishkin (1995)

**Village of Huntington Bay**  
Joan Geiler (1973)

**Village of Lake Grove**  
Helen Thompson (1989)  
Theresa Whelan (2002)

**Village of Northport**  
Deirdre M. Butterfield (1998)

**Village of Quogue**  
Kittric D. Motz (1991)

**Village of Patchogue**  
Barbara K. Howie (1999)

**Village of Poquott**  
Gigi Spellman (2003)

**Village of Saltaire**  
Rhonda Kirschner (2002)

**THE HONORABLE ALAN D. OSHRIN**  
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, SUFFOLK COUNTY

AND

**THE SUFFOLK COUNTY WOMEN IN THE COURTS COMMITTEE**

CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO ATTEND A LUNCHEON HONORING

**CHERYL ZIMMER, ESQ.,**

FOR HER LEADERSHIP AS PAST CHAIRPERSON  
WOMEN IN THE COURTS COMMITTEE

DATE: JUNE 20, 2003

TIME: 12:45 P.M.

LOCATION: IRISH COFFEE PUB  
131 CARLETON AVE.  
EAST ISLIP, N.Y. 11730

MENU: PASTA APPETIZER, GARDEN SALAD, CHOICE OF ENTREE: (SLICED STEAK,  
CHICKEN MARSALA, BROILED FLOUNDER), WARM APPLE CRUMB A LA  
MODE, COFFEE/TEA

COST: \$26.00 INCLUDES LUNCHEON & GIFT

R.S.V.P: HON. HERTHA C. TROTTO  
(631)853-7418 (SECRETARY: KATHY LOGIUDICE)  
E-MAIL: [HTROTTO@COURTS.STATE.NY.US](mailto:HTROTTO@COURTS.STATE.NY.US)

(SPACE IS LIMITED, PLEASE REPLY PROMPTLY)



New York Law Journal

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SUFFOLK COUNTY District Court Judge Hertha C. Trotto has been named chairperson of the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee by Suffolk County Administrative Judge Alan D. Oshrin. Judge Trotto serves as an acting County Court judge and presides over the domestic violence compliance and hearing part of the District Court. She also is a founding member and past president of the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association. She succeeds past chairperson Cheryl M. Zimmer, principal law clerk to Suffolk County Supreme Court Justice Patrick Leis.

---



Karl H. Reichelt  
Regional Administrator  
U.S. General Services Administration  
and the

Board of Directors of the  
Courtyard Kids Child Development Center

invite you to attend  
the dedication of the

**Courtyard Kids  
Child Development Center**

Eleven o'clock in the morning on  
Monday, the fifteenth of September  
Two thousand and three

at the

Alfonse M. D'Amato United States Courthouse  
Central Islip, New York

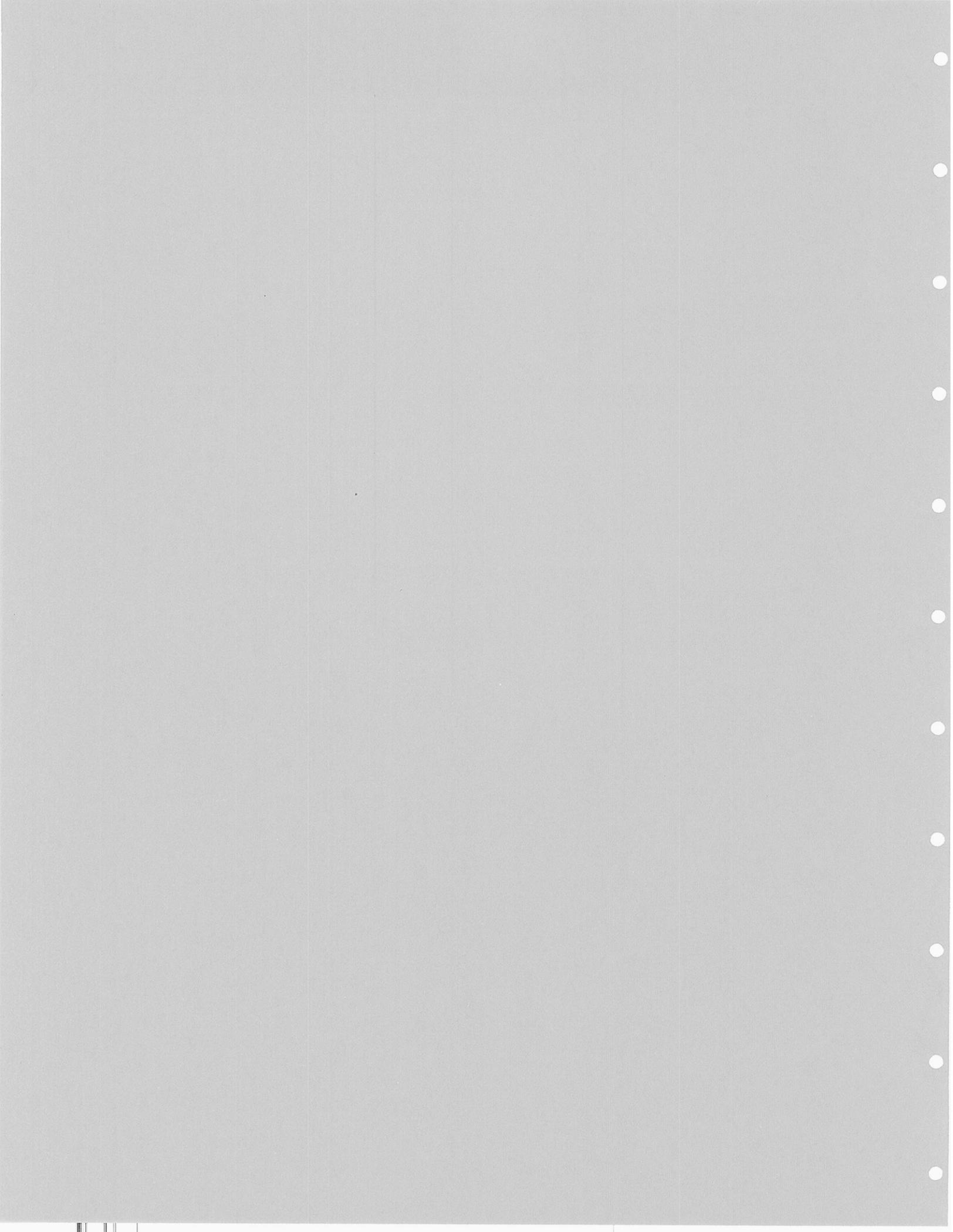
*New York City Criminal Court Anti-Bias Committee*

**Hon. Pauline Mullings**  
NYC Criminal court  
125-01 Queens Boulevard  
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

718-520-3646

**Hon. Deborah Kaplan**  
NYC Criminal Court  
111 Centre Street, Room 550  
New York, NY 10013

212-374-8483



## LOCAL COMMITTEES REPORTS 2003-2004

Name of the Committee:

Gender Fairness Committee of the Criminal Court of the City of New York

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chairs:

Hon. Deborah Kaplan

Civil Court

111 Centre Street

New York, New York 10013

(212) 374-8483

(212) 374-6321

[dkaplan@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:dkaplan@courts.state.ny.us)

Hon. Pauline Mullings

Criminal Court

125-01 Queens Blvd.

Kew Gardens, New York 11415

(718) 520-3646

[pmullings@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:pmullings@courts.state.ny.us)

No. Members:

Seven

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.):

The Committee is currently comprised of judges, court attorneys, and administrators. We are in the process of seeking advocates as well as prosecutors and defense attorneys to add to our roster.

### **New York State Courts Under Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Leadership**

What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be as specific as possible and try to give concrete examples.

As the number of non-violent women offenders has increased over time the Criminal Court has implemented drug treatment courts in all five counties of New York City to offer an alternative to incarceration, specifically designed to break the cycle of addiction and recidivism. In order to understand why this program is so significant to non-violent women offenders, most of whom are charged with property and drug offenses, two overwhelming facts need to be

cited. First, 80% or more of women prisoners in New York reported having a drug or alcohol problem prior to their arrests. And second, a large majority of women inmates have a childhood history of physical abuse and have experienced battering and/or sexual assaults as adults. By directing efforts to treat the underlying drug problems of non-violent women offenders and to offer referrals to counseling and other support services to facilitate their escape from abusive relationships our treatment courts have already helped countless women move forward to sobriety and more stable, productive lives.

Our court has also seen the introduction of the Integrated Domestic Violence court ("IDV") which dramatically improves the opportunity for victims of domestic violence to reach a resolution of the myriad of legal battles they face in our justice system. IDV allows victims to initiate and prosecute divorce and custody and other civil proceedings, as well as criminal actions against the perpetrators of the violence before the same judge. Thus, the IDV court permits an expeditious and efficient disposition for the victim not only of their criminal domestic violence complaint, but also permits them to move forward with severing the abusive relationship through divorce and obtaining appropriate civil remedies.

What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women, particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State court system?

The number of non-violent women offenders who are the main or sole caregiver for young children remains a serious problem with an often devastating impact on the children. Endeavoring to break the cycle of problems these women experience as a result of persistent substance dependency, abusive relationships and lack of economic opportunity must be viewed as an urgent priority by our court. This is a problem of substantial magnitude around the State -incarcerated women are the mothers of thousands of children and in most cases they lived with and cared for their children before their imprisonment. There are, however, steps we can take as part of our processing of these matters to help solve these problems.

First, we should implement universal screening (currently a pilot project in Kings county) of all non-violent offenders to ferret out underlying substance problems. These offenders can then be placed in our treatment courts, subject to intensive judicial monitoring and have a chance to receive the treatment and support services it offers as an alternative to incarceration.

Second, we should we should endeavor to expand the scope of the treatment courts to address the specialized needs of women offenders. The societal and economic costs of long-term separation of children from their mothers compels at least a further examination of the possibilities. One that may merit a closer look is a proposal by the Kings County District Attorney for community based alternatives to incarceration, which would include housing for the women and children, counseling, drug treatment and other support services. Regardless of the initiative or program, it is important for the long term success of our court's efforts to

address the problems faced by non-violent women defendants that we partner with counseling, job training and placement groups in addition to substance abuse treatment.

**Local Committee Activities for the Past Year:** Please include, if relevant and possible, names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

The Bronx Criminal Court hosted three events this past year. In April 2003, the Court provided an informative lecture about IDV, and the Criminal Court's Domestic Violence complex. Panelists included court administrators, attorneys from the Legal Aid Society and Safe Horizons. The lecture, intended to educate advocates about how the court system handles domestic violence cases, was attended by representatives from several social service agencies and was held at the Jewish Board for Family Services.

In May of 2003, the Voices of Women Organizing Project ("VOW") spoke at a lunch time forum. VOW is an organization comprised of women survivors who have been victims of domestic violence, and volunteer their time to educate others.

In October of 2003, the Criminal Court offered a Continuing Legal Education seminar on Domestic Violence. The instructors were the Hon. Rosalyn Richter and Hon. Clark Richardson.

The Criminal Court in celebration of Women's History Month 2004 established a city wide essay contest on Gender Bias. A copy of the announcement is attached to this submission.

In April of 2004, the Criminal Court will hold two judicial seminars at the Judicial Institute. The curriculum includes a discussion of Domestic Violence cases, focusing on victims reluctance to testify. This seminar is being coordinated in conjunction with Hon. Carol Berkman, Chair of the Gender Fairness Committee of the Supreme Court, First Judicial District.

All prostitution arrests in New York County occurring Monday-Friday are now processed at the Midtown Community Court. The defendants are screened for drug addiction and where appropriate offered the opportunity to participate in the Midtown Community Court's Alternative for Prostitution Program ("MAP"). MAP is a four session program designed to engage women trapped in a life of prostitution by addressing such issues as violence, exploitation and health risks. Through counseling, discussions and workbook exercises, the program seeks to bolster participant's self-esteem and to ultimately empower them to seek a new way of life. The Midtown Community Court also offers Health Education groups for female and transgender prostitutes as well as those charged with soliciting a prostitute.

The Committee has invited the Hon. Judy Harris Kluger, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge, to meet with Judicial and non-judicial personnel to discuss the IDV initiative and its implementation.

Plans for Next Year:

Our plans for the next year include an effort to expand membership, offer more programs and CLE seminars, and to continue with our annual essay contest. The Committee also will examine and update the Report on the Condition of Women Detainees in the Criminal Court, authored by the Hon. Angela Mazzairelli, Associate Justice, Appellate Division, First Department and this Committee approximately twelve years ago.

**Please attach copies** of flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee or send them separately.

Please return this form by **March 1, 2004**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel  
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
25 Beaver Street, Room 878  
New York, New York 10004

or **fax** the form to **212-428-2793**  
or email it to **[jgoodman@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:jgoodman@courts.state.ny.us)**



STATE OF NEW YORK  
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM  
CRIMINAL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
100 CENTRE STREET  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10013  
(212) 374-3200

JONATHAN LIPPMAN  
Chief Administrative Judge

JUANITA BING NEWTON  
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge  
for Justice Initiatives  
Administrative Judge  
Criminal Court of the City of New York

## MEMORANDUM

To: All Criminal Court Judicial and Non-judicial Staff

From: Hon. Juanita Bing Newton 

Re: Women's History Month

Date: March 25, 2004

I am pleased to announce that in recognition of Women's History Month the Gender Fairness Committee of the Criminal Court is sponsoring the Criminal Court's First Annual High School Essay contest. The contest is open to high school age students who are relatives of Criminal Court personnel. The winner of this contest will be recognized at an awards ceremony to be held in May.

The topic for this years contest is gender fairness in the law as portrayed in a courtroom drama. Movies sometime depict incidents of gender bias or, in particular, discrimination against women. While some movies merely show an incident of the unequal treatment of women, others show the discrimination along with its negative consequences or effect on the victim or others. Having been criticized by some women's organizations for some of its prior films, and wishing to expand its female audience, one movie company wishes to raise awareness of gender bias by producing a courtroom-based drama which accomplishes this goal.

Imagine you are one of several screenwriters given ten minutes to "pitch" your idea for such a movie to a movie company executive. In 500 words or less, explain the presentation you would make to the movie executive, including the title of the movie, the basic story line or plot, the main characters and suggestions as to actors to play the roles, the gender bias issue presented in the story and how it is or is not resolved by the end of the movie, and the message you intend to convey to the audience. Remember, in your brief "pitch", you will be trying to convince the executive that your movie is worth producing, that it is entertaining, that it is original and not derivative, and that it positively depicts women in a courtroom or other legal setting and will raise the viewer's gender bias awareness level.

Submissions, postmarked no later than April 30, 2004 should be sent to Hon. Deborah Kaplan, Civil Court, 111 Centre Street, New York, New York 10013. Submissions in Wordperfect format can be sent via email to [dkaplan@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:dkaplan@courts.state.ny.us).

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. It highlights the need for consistent and reliable data collection processes to support effective decision-making.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of technology in data management and analysis. It discusses how modern software solutions can streamline data collection, storage, and reporting, thereby improving efficiency and accuracy.

4. The fourth part of the document addresses the challenges associated with data management, such as data quality, security, and privacy. It provides strategies to mitigate these risks and ensure that data is used responsibly and ethically.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the importance of data governance and the role of various stakeholders in ensuring data integrity and compliance with relevant regulations and standards.

6. The sixth part of the document explores the future of data management, including emerging trends like artificial intelligence, big data, and cloud computing. It suggests ways to leverage these technologies to gain deeper insights from data.

7. The seventh part of the document provides a summary of the key points discussed and offers recommendations for implementing a robust data management strategy. It stresses the need for a proactive and continuous approach to data management.

8. The final part of the document concludes by reiterating the significance of data in driving organizational success and the role of effective data management in achieving long-term goals.



*Anti-Bias Committee, New York County, Supreme Court, Civil Term*

**Hon. John E.H. Stackhouse**  
Justice, Supreme Court  
80 Centre Street, Room 308  
New York, New York 10007

212-374-3254



LOCAL COMMITTEES REPORTS 2003-2004

Name of the Committee The Domestic Violence Subcommittee of the Anit-Bias Committee of the Supreme Court, New York County

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair

John E.H. Stackhouse, 80 Centre Street, Room 308, New York, NY 10013 Phone 212-374-5656

Email JSTACKHO@courts.state.ny.us

No. Members 11 Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.) Judges, Court attorneys, Clerks, Secretaries and Counselors

**New York State Court Under Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Leadership**

What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be specific as possible and try to give concrete examples.

Sex is not an issue in our court as much as it used to be. We now have a large number of judges, court attorneys, lawyers, court stenographers, interpreters, court clerks and court officers who are women.

Women are not belittled as often as they used to be because of the changed atmosphere in our courtrooms.

Women are no longer referred to as baby or girlie by the courts

What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women, particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State court system?

The tremendous amount of fraud perpetrated upon wives by their husbands in the Family Court and the Matrimonial Term of Supreme Court. Husbands regularly get default divorces where their wives haven't been served properly. The deplorable condition of the womens bathrooms in all our court houses is an affront to the court and to society. Broken toilets, uncleaned toilets, cracked plaster, peeling paint, all lead to a lowering of esteem for our courts.

Local Committee Activities for the Past Year: Please include, if relevant and possible, names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2003 (unless already reported).

Five programs in 2003. 1. State-Wide take our daughters to work, 2. Domestic Violence - the Littlest Victims, 3. Count Wide Cell Phone Donation Drive, 4. Celebrating the Strength and Perseverance of Women and 5. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Program. See Attached.

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Activities for Women's History Month 2004 We are planning a program for October 2004 dealing with the culture of violence and the connection between violence in sports and domestic violence. We are also considering a program on the prosecution of domestic violence in our courts. We are also planning another cell phone drive for battered women. We are also planning a "Take Our Daughters to Work" day.

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Other Activities in the Past Year See above

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Plans for Next Year See above

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Most Important Difficulty Confronting Your Committee The most important difficulty we face is getting better attendance at our programs. We seem to encounter a lot of hostility to our programs on domestic violence, particularly from male court employees who complain that our programs should be more "balanced".

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Please attach copies of flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee.

Please return this form by **March 1, 2004**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel  
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
25 Beaver Street, Room 878  
New York, New York 10004

# *Domestic Violence Awareness Month*

## *"The Littlest Victims"*

*Thursday, October 30, 2003  
Supreme Court, Civil Branch, 60 Centre Street - New York  
12:45 p.m. - Courtroom 300*

### *Welcoming Remarks*

*Hon. Jacqueline W. Silbermann  
Administrative Judge, Supreme Court, Civil Branch*

### *Introduction of Speakers*

*Hon. John E.H. Stackhouse  
Justice, Supreme Court, Civil Branch*

### *Guest Speakers*

*Maureen Curtis, CSW*

*Director, Domestic Violence Police Program, Safe Horizons, Inc.*

*Detective Lydia Martinez*

*Special Victims Unit, New York Police Department*

*Mary E. Jenkins*

*Confidential Secretary to Supreme Court Justice Milton A. Tingling*

### *Sponsored by:*

*The Anti-Bias Committee, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County  
The New York County Clerk's Office  
The Association of Secretaries to Supreme Court Justices*

***Memorial Program***

***MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.***

***Thursday, January 16, 2003  
12:45 pm - 2:00 pm  
Rotunda, Supreme Court, Civil Branch  
60 Centre Street***

***Guest Speaker  
Hon. David Dinkins  
former mayor, New York City***

***Judges, Court Employees, Jurors, Attorneys  
and the Public are Welcome***

***Sponsored by  
The Anti-Bias Committee  
Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County  
Hon. Marilyn Shafer, Chair***

# *Women's History Month*

## *"Celebrating the Strength and Perseverance of Women"*

*Tuesday, March 18, 2003*

*New York State Supreme Court, Civil Branch*

*60 Centre Street, Rotunda*

*Reception at 5:45 p.m. - Program at 6:30 p.m.*

*Keynote Speaker*

*A'Leia Bundles*

*Author of "On Her Own Ground - The Life and Times of Madam C.J. Walker" Madam C.J. Walker's great-great granddaughter, spearheaded the national campaign which led to the 1998 United States Postal Services'*

*Black Heritage Series stamp of Madam Walker.*

*Copies of "On Her Own Ground" will be available for ~~purchase~~ <sup>signing</sup>.*

## *Recognition of Women Court Officers of Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County*

*Presentation of awards at 6:15 p.m. to:*

*Laura Anderson, Veronica Cavallo, Melanie Cornwall, Crystal Daughtry, Rita Dolan, Maureen Dourigan, Margaret Eng, Laura Golub, Robin Gutowski, Brenda Jones, Belinda Moore, Elizabeth Morgan, Lynn Riker, Marta Villarreal Foley, Crystal Walker, Tonia Wharton, Sherry Wright,*

## *and Photography Exhibit*

*Refreshments Will Be Served*

*Sponsored by:*

*The Anti-bias Committee, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, Marilyn Shafer, J.S.C, Chair*

*The Association of Black Women Attorneys, and*

*The Metropolitan Black Bar Association*

**NEW YORK COUNTY  
60 CENTRE STREET**

**TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS TO WORK DAY  
THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2003**

**AGENDA**

- 9:15 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.  
ROOM 408, 60 CENTRE STREET**      -      **RECEPTION AND ORIENTATION  
SNACKS WILL BE SERVED**
  
- 10:15 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**      -      **MOCK TRIALS**
  
- 12:15 P.M. - 1:15 P.M.**      -      **PIZZA AND SODA  
END OF PROGRAM**

**PLEASE PICK UP YOUR CHILD OR CHILDREN FROM ROOM 408  
BETWEEN 1:00 P.M. AND 1:15 P.M.**

**ANY PARTICIPANT ARRIVING LATE SHOULD PROCEED TO ROOM 408,  
AT 60 CENTRE STREET, FOR ROOM ASSIGNMENTS.**

# Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Pride Month Reception

Wednesday, June 11, 2003  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
New York County Supreme Court  
60 Centre Street - Rotunda

*Welcoming Remarks*

**Hon. Marilyn Shafer**

Justice, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County

*Keynote Address*

**Lorraine Power Tharp, Esq.**

President, New York State Bar Association

**Professor Arthur S. Leonard**

Editor, Lesbian/Gay Law Notes

*Soloist*

**Franc Perry, Esq.**

Former Court Attorney, Appellate Term, New York County

**Light Refreshments will be served**

*Presented by:*

Antibias Committee of the Supreme Court New York County  
Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Issues of the New York County Lawyers' Association  
Hon. Norman Goodman, New York County Clerk  
Lesbian & Gay Law Association of Greater New York  
LGBT Rights Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York  
Weiss, Buell & Bell

Wheelchair Accessible  
For more information call: 212-353-9118

*New York City Civil Court Committee*

**Hon. Maria Milin**  
Housing Court Judge  
111 Centre Street  
New York, New York 10013

212- 374-8469



*Gender Bias Committee of the Family Courts of the City of New York*

**Angela Gammone**  
Senior Court Clerk  
NYC Family Court  
283 Adams Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11201

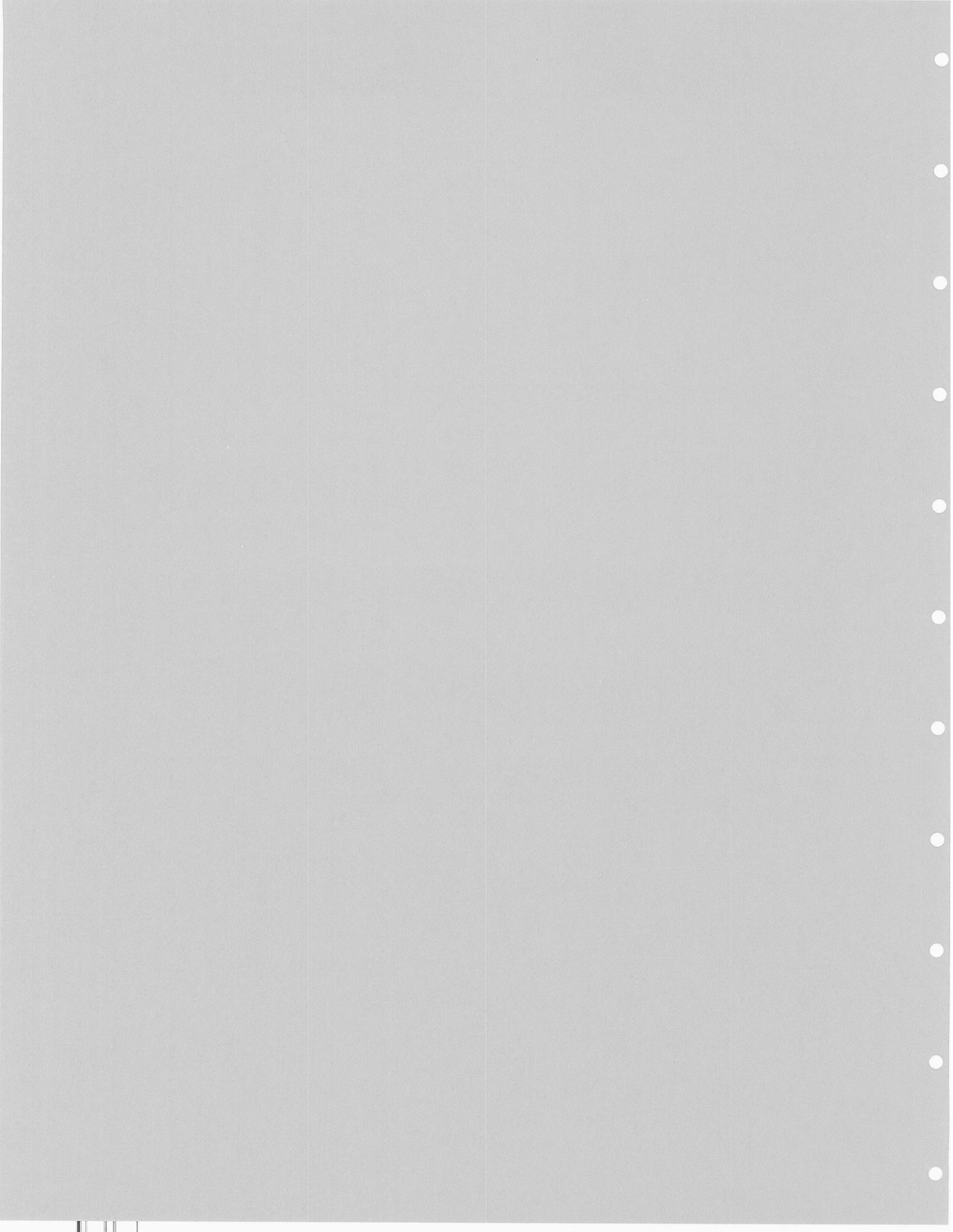
718-643-5316



*Gender Bias Committee, New York County,  
Supreme Court, Criminal Term*

**Hon. Carol Berkman**  
Supreme Court  
100 Centre Street, Room 429  
New York, New York 10013

212-374-8555



## LOCAL COMMITTEES REPORTS 2003-2004

Name of the Committee SUPREME COURT - CRIMINAL TERM, NY COUNTY

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair

CAROL BERKMAN, 100 CENTRE STREET, NY 10013,  
Fax (212) 401-9268; CBERKMAN@COURTS.STATE.NY.GOV

No. Members      Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.)     

New York State Courts Under Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Leadership

What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be as specific as possible and try to give concrete examples.

There are more women as judges, defense lawyers, prosecutors,  
clerks, COURT OFFICERS, counselors (in drug & other programs).  
There are more specialized efforts with respect to crimes particularly  
involving women: child abuse; sex crimes; battering.

What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women, particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State court system?

There is a continuing dissonance between theory & practice.  
So for example, women play an equal role as lawyers, <sup>but</sup> witnesses,  
defendants, complainants, etc., are not "politically correct."  
Adapting to this, working in this framework, is a continuing  
puzzle. An even more intractable problem is understanding  
how to deal with reluctant complainants in "battering"  
cases: respecting their autonomy while still vindicating the  
public interests invoked when private relationships become even  
allegedly violent.

Local Committee Activities for the Past Year: Please include, if relevant and possible, names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2003 (unless already reported).

A planned program (jointly with Judge Newton's CRIMINAL COURT seminar) addressing the issues briefly discussed in the immediately preceding question fell through because of the need to address pressing issues re search warrants

Activities for Women's History Month 2004

We are planning to have this program (a panel discussion about attitudes toward complainants in battering cases) at the seminars this year.

Other Activities in the Past Year

Plans for Next Year Depending on how well this year's program goes as I am planning<sup>1</sup> to attempt a "Socratic dialogue" & hoping it doesn't fall flat, I am hoping to have a similar forum for lawyers, possibly jointly with County Lawyers

Most Important Difficulty Confronting Your Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Given all the time demands on judges, & competing Committee obligations, I have been unable to secure other steady committee members.

This makes planning & executing programs very difficult.

Please attach copies of flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee.

Please return this form by March 1, 2004, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel  
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
25 Beaver Street, Room 878  
New York, New York 10004

or fax the form to 212-428-2793.



*Bronx County Supreme Court Committee*

**Hon. Richard Lee Price**  
Acting Justice, Supreme Court  
851 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, New York 10451

718- 590-3590



## LOCAL COMMITTEES REPORTS 2003-2004

Name of the Committee GENDER FAIRNESS FOR THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair

The GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE, TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, is chaired by the

Hon. Richard Lee Price, Bronx Supreme Court, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx,

New York 10451, 718-590-3590, (fax) 718-590-4824, rprice@courts.state.ny.us

1) No. Members 50 Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

See annexed #1

### **New York State Courts Under Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Leadership**

2) What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be as specific as possible and try to give concrete examples.

See annexed #2

3) What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women, particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State court system? \_\_\_\_\_

See annexed #3

4) **Local Committee Activities for the Past Year:** Please include, if relevant and possible, names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2003 (unless already reported).

See annexed #4a

Activities for Women's History Month 2004

See annexed #4 - i & ii

Other Activities in the Past Year See annexed #4 - iii

5) Plans for Next Year See annexed #5

6 ) Most Important Difficulty Confronting Your Committee \_\_\_\_\_

See annexed #6

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Please attach copies of flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee.

Please return this form by **March 1, 2004**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel  
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
25 Beaver Street, Room 878  
New York, New York 10004

or fax the form to **212-428-2793**.

## Attachments - LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2003-2004

1) No. Members: 50 Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.)

The composition of the Committee includes: Judges, Court Attorneys, Court Clerks, Court Officers, Court Reporters, Stenographers, custodial employees, and other personnel from the various courts in the Bronx, as well as the County Clerk's Office, Borough President's Office, Bronx Bar Association, the Bronx District Attorney's Office, The Legal Aid Society, The Bronx Defenders, social services advocates, local shelters and The Inspector General's Office.

### New York State Courts Under Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Leadership

2) What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be as specific as possible and try to give concrete examples.

The rise of women into leadership positions in the court system (administrative, judicial, clerical, security, stenographics, interpreters, court attorneys) brings about greater sensitivity.

#### *a) Domestic Violence :*

We have raised awareness of the impact of domestic violence, and the resources available to victims through our many educational forums and programs. This has brought about much interaction with various court personnel and with the public. Where appropriate, we have referred victims to the District Attorney's Office and to various shelters.

In addition, because of the Chief Judge's leadership the 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District now has an Integrated Domestic Violence part, which places many related issues in one court.

We share our programs with high schools, colleges, jurors and all court personnel as well as with the public. For example, in 1998 we put on a very-well received program for Hostos Community College entitled "Domestic Violence and Its Impact on the Community".

We also work in conjunction with other organizations such as the Bronx County Bar Association, Bronx Women's Bar Association, Metropolitan Women's Bar Association, Black Bar Association of Bronx County, Puerto Rican Bar Association, Hispanic Court Officers Society, New York State Court Clerks Association, New York State Court Officers Association, New York State Trial

Lawyers Association, Bronx Borough President, Tribune Society, Women's Rights Committee, NYCLA, etc., to promote awareness, to educate and to inform individuals in our District.

*b) Legislation:*

We have participated with bar associations in support of legislation that affect women's rights and issues.

*c) Women's History Month and Special Programs:*

We honor women in all walks of life by sponsoring special programs to recognize their achievements.

We are also involved with mentoring and with "Bring Your Daughter To Work Day".

*d) Food and Clothing Drives:*

We have semi-annual food, toys, and clothing drives. We are thus able to provide attire for women who are seeking employment, food and household articles (including furniture) to the relocated homeless, shelters, etc.,

*e) Regular Meetings:*

At our meetings we clarify issues and find solutions to those issues. The meetings are a vehicle by which committee members can "vent" on related issues.

**3) What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women, particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State court system?**

The most pressing and important remaining problems for women, particularly those served by our district or court, that need to be addressed by the New York State court system are, indications of gender disparity or domestic violence, and the need to provide women with programs to help them gain financial stability in the face of domestic violence.

**4) Local Committee Activities for the Past Year.** Please include, if relevant and possible, names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2003:**

*a) National Domestic Violence Awareness Month - "Work Place Education Day" (October 22, 2003): "Being Accountable For Domestic Violence"*

More than 125 people attended this program, which was co-sponsored by: Association of Black Women Attorneys, Black Bar Association of Bronx County,

Bronx County Bar Association, Bronx Borough President, Bronx County Clerk, Bronx Women's Bar Association, Hispanic Court Officers Society, Law-Related Education Committee, New York County Lawyers' Association, Metropolitan Women's Bar Association, Puerto Rican Bar Association, Women's Rights Committee, New York County Lawyers' Association, Bronx Civil Court, Bronx Criminal Court, Bronx Family Court, Bronx Surrogate's Court, Tribune Society.

Speakers:

-Ruth Eichmiller, Resource Coordinator, Felony Domestic Violence Part  
-Karen Saab, Esq., Supervisor, Courtroom Advocates Project, Sanctuary for Families

-Ted Bunch, Senior Program Director, Safe-Horizon

*See flyer annexed hereto*

### **Activities for Women's History Month 2004:**

i) *Women's History Month Program (April 4, 2003):*

Over 200 people attended our April 2003 Women's History Month Program, which was co-sponsored by: Black Bar Association of Bronx County, Bronx Borough President, Bronx County Bar Association, Bronx County Clerk, Bronx Women's Bar Association, Hispanic Court Officers Society, Metropolitan Women's Bar Association, New York State Court Clerks Association, New York State Court Officers Association, New York State Trial Lawyers Association, Tribune Society, and various neighborhood vendors.

Honourees:

-Hon. Anita R. Florio, Associate Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department

-Minerva Melendez, Principal, Public School 69, Bronx, New York

-Women of Distinction certificates were given to 10 court employees.

*See flyer annexed hereto*

ii) *Women's History Month Program March 30, 2004*

Honourees:

-Gina Bolden-Rivera, President, New York Women's Agenda

-Frances Barbaccia Fusco, Assistant to the Bronx Borough President

-Marjorie Lesch, Esq.

-Hannah M. Nelson, Chief of Staff, North Bronx Healthcare Network

-Hon. Juanita Bing Newton, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge

"ComMENDable" Persons Awards:

- Dr. Harold P. Freeman, Medical Director, Ralph Lauren Center for Cancer Care & Prevention

-Adolfo Carrion, Bronx Borough President

-Women of Distinction certificates will be given to approximately 10 court/building employees.

## **Other Activities in the Past Year:**

### *iii) Food and Clothing Drives:*

- *R.A.I.N.,INC.*, June 2-6, 2003: This organization provides home care services to the elderly and disabled, counseling and training for the unemployed and those with special needs, help to crime victims, etc.  
*See flyer annexed hereto*

- *LOVE GOSPEL ASSEMBLY*, October 27-31, 2003: This church provides daily meals and weekly clothing distribution for the needy and homeless. They also provide counseling and training for the unemployed and those with special needs, etc.  
*See flyer annexed hereto*

-Our next food and clothing drive is scheduled for some time in May 2004.

## **5) Plans for Next Year:**

Our *tentative plans for next year* will include: clothing drives, a Women's History Month Program, Domestic Violence Programs, Women in the Court Programs, a program on Elder Abuse; Exercise and Health for Women; Women's Financial Stability in the Face of Domestic Violence; Single Parents; a fashion show for those women who are in need of clothing from our clothing drives and are getting back into the workforce; Women in the Courts - a panel discussion on ethical issues raised in movies and on television shows; and guest speakers on other appropriate topics.

## **6) Most Important Difficulty Confronting your committee:**

There is a lack of dedicated space for the food and clothing drive. In addition, the envelope for those donating who wish to receive receipts for tax purposes has gone missing, and flyers for the various functions we hold have been torn down. The Chair has requested a box for these drives to secure the donation paperwork.

## GENDER FAIRNESS PROJECTS AND EVENTS:

**\*FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE - Theresa's Haven** (May 27-29, 1997) - Theresa's Haven is a transitional housing facility, providing, housing, education, and other needed assistance.

**\*NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH WORKPLACE EDUCATION DAY** (October 1, 1997) - Program participants were: Victoria L. Lutz, Esq., (*What are the signs?...Are you a victim?...Are You An Abuser?...Is It Effecting Your Work?*); Norma Torres-Pabon (*Employee's personal experiences with...*); Diana Cruz (*Domestic Violence*); Anonymous Account (*A Reading of a Survivors Thoughts*); SCO Richard Dineen (*Employee's Assistance Program Coordinator*).

**\*DIVISION OF COMMUNITY PEDIATRICS OF MONTEFIORE MEDICAL CENTER - Food and Clothing Drive** (November 17-21, 1997) DCP provides a van service which delivers good and services to shelters in the five boroughs.

**\*NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH: WORK TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** (October 1, 1998) - Program participants were: Virginia Berger, Principal PC Analyst, Surrogates Court (*A Survivor Speaks out*); SCO Sergeant Richard Dineen (*Bronx Employee Assistance Coordinator*).

**\*DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ITS IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY program:** at Hostos Community College (December 1, 1998). Program participant: Family Court Judge Marjory D. Fields.

**\*FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE - Project Return Foundation - Aegis Battered Women's Shelter** (May 17-21, 1999). To benefit Aegis Battered Women's Shelter. Aegis Battered Women's program shelters and counsels victims of domestic violence.

**\*NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH: WORK TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DAY** (Oct.1, 1999). Program participants were: Mayada Logue, Manager, Corporate Affairs Program, Phillip Morris Management Corp.; Peggy Grauwiller, C.S.W., Domestic Violence Coordinator, Bronx County Supreme; Hattie Hedgepeth, Branch Chief, Bronx Investigation, Department of Probation.

**\*FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE - Theresa's Haven** (Oct. 25-29, 1999) - To benefit Theresa's Haven is a transitional housing facility, providing, housing, education, and other needed assistance.

**\*WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION** (March 9, 2000) - This program was designed to bring awareness of a "Non-Bias" workplace to all. The program honored five gifted women: Dr. Dolores Fernandez, President of Eugenio Maria de Hostos Community College; Hon. Aurelia Greene, Assemblywoman of the 77<sup>th</sup> Assembly District; Dr. Lorraine Hale, President/CEO hale House; Hon. Judith S. Kaye, Chief Judge of the State of New York; Hon. Sonia Sotomayor, Judge of the United States Court of Appeals, and was attended by approximately 275 to 300 guests.

**\*FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE - Theresa's Haven** (October 23-27, 2000) - Theresa's Haven is a transitional housing facility, providing housing, education, and other needed assistance.

**\*NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH "WORKPLACE EDUCATION DAY"** (October 24, 2000) - Program participants: Ms. Nancy Mangold, Director of Court Operations; Madeline Bigelow, Esq. Sanctuary for Families; Elisa Koenderman, Bureau Chief, Bronx District Attorney.

**\*DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WALK** (October 29, 2000) - 2<sup>nd</sup> annual walk to end Domestic Violence, the Promenade, Riverside Park, Manhattan.

**\*NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH** (October 30, 2000) - A presentation of the Bronx Felony Domestic Violence Court presentation by: Peggy Grazuwiler, Project Director - *Development of the Domestic Violence Court*; Hon. Ira Globerman, Presiding Justice - *First Year Success, Plan for Year Two*; Alicia O'Hare, Resource Coordinator - *Role of the Resource Coordinator*.

**\*TOY DRIVE: The Richmond Home Need Services** (December 19, 2000) - The Gender Bias Committee in coordination with The Bronx Women's Bar Association donated toys to benefit The Richmond Home Need Services.

**\*WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH** (March 15, 2001) - Honorees: Hon. Gloria Davis, Assemblywoman, 79<sup>th</sup> A.D.; Hon. Betty Ellerin, Associate Judge, Appellate Division, First Department; Lenore Kramer, Esq., Kramer & DeVries, LLP; Lorraine Cortes-Vazquez.

**\*WOMEN IN THE COURTS** (March 28, 2001) - We presented a Roundtable Discussion on "*Women in the Courts - "We've Come A Long Way."*" The panelists were: Hon. Alma Cordova, Family Court Judge; Hon. Sue Levy, Family Court Referee; Hon. La Tia Martin, Supreme Court Justice; Hon. Eugene Oliver, Supervising Judge, Criminal Court; Stephanie Smith, Associate Court Clerk.

**\*FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE - Thorpe Family Residence** (May 21-25, 2001) - Thorpe family residence provides transitional and permanent housing and assistance to the homeless, including victims of domestic abuse.

**\*NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH WORKPLACE EDUCATION DAY** (October 23, 2001) - Our keynote speaker was AJSC Ruth Levine Sussman who spoke about the new integrated Domestic Violence Court. Also, Ms. Lauren De Sole, Chief of Employee Relations, OCA presented pm Improving our Support EAP to Work Life.

**\*DREAM YARD PROJECT** (The Committee donated \$100 Dec.'01) - This project helps young people and parents to develop skills to express, write and perform their own stories and they certainly did at a program in our courthouse on November 9, 2001 called "Breaking the Cycle". A short play, written and performed by DREAMYARD a group of survivors. This was a very emotional presentation.

**\*FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE - Theresa's Haven** (October 23-27, 2001) - Seventy large bags donated to Theresa's Haven is a transitional housing facility, providing housing, education, and other needed assistance.

\*Formerly Gender Bias Committee

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH** (March 15, 2002) - The Honorees were: Hon. Maria Baez, NYC Council Member, 14<sup>th</sup> Council District; Sana Q. Nasser, Principal, Harry S. Truman HS; Hon. Ann T. Pfau, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Management Support & Administrative Judge, Supreme Court Second Judicial District; Elinor Tatum, Publisher & Editor-in-Chief, The Amsterdam News.

**FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE - R.A.I.N. , Inc.\*** (June 24- 28 2002) -

\*Rain Inc. provides home care services to the elderly and disabled, counseling and training for the unemployed and those with special needs, help to crime victims, etc.

**NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH** (Oct. 17, 2002) - Work Place Education Day - Program participants: Anne Paulle, Jewish Board of Family and Children Services; Dorchen Leidholdt, Esq., the Director of Sanctuaries for Families.

**FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE - Theresa's Haven** (November 4- 8<sup>th</sup>, 2002) - Theresa's Haven is a transitional housing facility, providing housing, education, and other needed assistance.

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH** (April 4, 2003) - The Honorees were - Hon. Anita R. Florio, Associate Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department; Minerva Melendez, Principal, PS 69, Bronx, New York.

**FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE - R.A.I.N. , Inc.\*** (June 24- 28 2002):

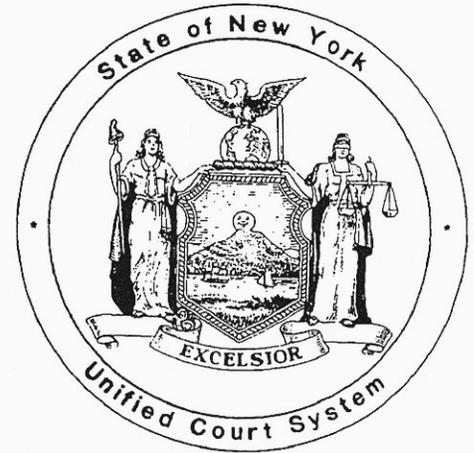
\*Rain Inc. provides home care services to the elderly and disabled, counseling and training for the unemployed and those with special needs, help to crime victims, etc.

**NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH** (Oct. 22, 2003) - Work Place Education Day - Program participants: Ruth Eichmiller, Resource Coordinator, Felony Domestic Violence Part; Karen Saab, Esq., Supervisor, Courtroom Advocates Project, Sanctuary for Families; Ted Bunch, Senior Program Director, Safe-Horizon.

**FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE - Love Gospel Assembly** (October 27-31, 2003) - Love Gospel Assembly provides daily meals and weekly clothing distribution for the needy, counseling and training for the unemployed and those with special needs, etc.

# THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

HONORABLE JOHN P. COLLINS,  
Administrative Judge, Criminal Term  
HONORABLE GERALD V. ESPOSITO,  
Administrative Judge, Civil Term  
HONORABLE RICHARD LEE PRICE,  
Chair



presents the fourth annual program for

## Women's History Month

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2003

12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

VETERANS' MEMORIAL HALL, BRONX SUPREME COURT

### *Honorees*

**HON. ANITA R. FLORIO**

Associate Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department

**MINERVA MELENDEZ**

Principal, Public School 69, Bronx, New York

### **Program Co-Sponsors**

Black Bar Association of Bronx County \* Bronx Borough President \* Bronx County Bar Association \*  
Bronx County Clerk \* Bronx Women's Bar Association \* Concourse Card Shop \* Crown Donuts \*  
D & J Variety Store \* Hispanic Court Officers Society \* Leff Prescription Center \* Loria Corporation  
\* Metropolitan Women's Bar Association \* New York State Court Clerks Association \* New York State  
Court Officers Association \* New York State Trial Lawyers Association \* The Feeding Tree Restaurant  
\* Supreme Gourmet Deli \* Tribune Society \* Yankee Tavern

### **REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED**

If you plan to attend please R.S.V.P. to Josephine M. Bastone (718) 590-3758,  
Earnestine Glover (718) 590-3961, or Maria Rivero (718) 590-2258.

To: Hon. Richard Lee Price, Chair  
12th Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

From: Josephine M. Bastone, Esq., *JMB*  
Co-Chair, Women's History Month Program Sub-Committee

Date: November 21, 2003

Re: April 4, 2003 Women's History Month Program

The Gender Fairness Committee's fourth annual Women's History Month Program took place on Friday, April 4, 2003, in the rotunda of the Bronx County Building. Approximately 200+ people attended the program.

This year's honourees were Hon. Anita R. Florio, Associate Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department, and Minerva Melendez, Principal, Public School 69, Bronx, New York. As in past years, each honouree received a plaque and bouquet of flowers.

In addition to our two honourees, Women of Distinction certificates and a rose were given to 10 court employees.

Rabbi Shmuel Herzfeld of the Hebrew Institute gave the invocation. The National Anthem and God Bless America were sung by Frank Palombo of the Bronx Borough President's Office. Opening remarks were given by Hon. John P. Collins, Administrative Judge, Criminal Term, and by Sherry Callwood on behalf of Borough President Adolfo Carrion. Hon. Gerald V. Esposito, Administrative Judge, Civil Term, who made the presentation to Hon. Anita R. Florio, gave a short background on the beginnings of Women's History Month.

City Councilperson Maria Baez and Assemblyperson Luis Diaz presented the honourees with a Citation of Merit.

Due to budgetary considerations, the amount of monies received from OCA this year was reduced. To offset this, we reduced the number of honourees. As in past years, the sub-committee has been fortunate to have the monetary assistance of a number of organizations in presenting the program. In addition to contributions by OCA, monies were donated by The Black Bar Association of Bronx County, Bronx County Bar Association, Bronx Women's Bar Association, Hispanic Court Officers' Society, Metropolitan Women's Bar Association, New York State Court Clerks' Association, New York State Court Officers Association, and the New York State Trial Lawyers Association. Loria Corporation, from whom we order our plaques, gave us a small credit

towards next year's order. Yankee Tavern, as they did last year, gave us an excellent price on the food. We received donations from local area businesses: Concourse Card Shop, Crown Donuts, D & J Variety Store, Leff Prescription Center, The Feeding Tree Restaurant, and Supreme Gourmet.

The Sub-committee is very grateful to the Office of Court Administration, bar associations, court employee unions, and area businesses that contributed to the success of this program.

A program of this magnitude could not be presented without the hard work and assistance of a number of people. The sub-committee is chaired by Earnestine Glover, chair; Josephine M. Bastone, co-chair; and Maria Rivero, co-chair. Committee members Helen Corporan, Sheila W. Feinerman, Barbara A. Remington, and Emily Sanchez ably took on additional tasks. Logistical assistance was provided by John Murray, Acting Chief Clerk; Borough President employees Sherry Callwood, Frank Palombo, Erica Stack, and Vicky Weddington; law secretary Geoff Ralls; Supreme Court Officers; and the building maintenance staff.

As in past years, feed-back from the program has been extremely positive.

**THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE**

**- ANNOUNCES -**

**A FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE  
TO BENEFIT R.A.I.N., INC.**

**DATES: JUNE 2, 3, 4, 5, AND 6 2003**

**DROP OFF SITES: SUPREME COURT - ('A' ELEVATOR) 6M DESK  
CRIMINAL COURT - ROOM 111  
FAMILY COURT - ROOM 8-10  
HOUSING COURT - 7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR STAFF LOUNGE  
DA'S OFFICE, 198 E. 161 ST., RM 941(RECEPTION AREA)**

**WHAT: CANNED FOOD GOODS, INCLUDING BABY FOOD  
(CLEAN) USED OR NEW ADULT CLOTHING  
(INCLUDING WOMEN'S BUSINESS ATTIRE)  
(CLEAN) USED OR NEW CHILDREN'S CLOTHING  
CHILDREN'S TOYS, BOOKS, DISPOSABLE DIAPERS  
HOUSEHOLD GOODS, LINEN**

**WHO: R.A.I.N., INC. PROVIDES HOME CARE SERVICES TO THE  
ELDERLY AND DISABLED, COUNSELING AND TRAINING  
FOR THE UNEMPLOYED AND THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS,  
HELP TO CRIME VICTIMS, ETC.**

**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.  
FOR INFORMATION IN EACH BUILDING, CONTACT:**

<b>SUPREME COURT:</b>	<b>JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, ESQ.</b>	<b>(718) 590 - 3758</b>
<b>CRIMINAL COURT:</b>	<b>JENNIFER STONE</b>	<b>(718) 590 - 2858</b>
<b>FAMILY COURT:</b>	<b>TRACY PARDO</b>	<b>(718) 590 - 3319</b>
<b>DISTRICT ATTORNEY BLDG.:</b>	<b>MARIA RIVERO, ESQ.</b>	<b>(718) 590 - 2258</b>
<b>HOUSING COURT:</b>	<b>GLADYS MALDONADO</b>	<b>(718) 466 - 3003</b>

To: Hon. Richard Lee Price  
Chair, Gender Fairness Committee

From: Josephine M. Bastone, Esq.   
Chair, Food and Clothing Drive Sub-Committee

Re: June 2003 Drive

The June 2003 Food and Clothing Drive was for the benefit of R. A. I. N., Inc., which maintains a facility on the Grand Concourse.

We collected approximately 75 bags and boxes of items, at collection points set up in the Supreme Court, Criminal Court, Family Court, Housing Court, and District Attorney's Office buildings. The majority of items donated were clothing, although food and baby items were also given.

A serious problem involving pick-up occurred, which was resolved..

As always, the members of the Food and Clothing Drive Sub-Committee worked hard to ensure the success of the Drive. The Sub-Committee is composed of: Josephine M. Bastone, Chair; Earnestine Glover, Gladys Maldonado, Tracy Pardo, and Maria Rivero. Jennifer Stone served as the contact person in Criminal Court. A great deal of help in dealing with the storage and pickup of items in the Supreme Court building, where the majority of the donations are stored, came from SCO Chris Barros, and court aides Mario Malave, Jason Philbert, and Ron Smith.

The Sub-Committee thanks Hon. Gerald V. Esposito, Hon. John P. Collins, and Steven B. Clark for their assistance in the Supreme Court building.



PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Earnestine Glover, Chair  
Josephine M. Bastone, Co-Chair  
Maria Rivero, Co-Chair  
Tania Antero  
Helen Corporan  
Hon. Wilma Guzman  
Sandra Jefferson  
Barbara Remington  
Emily Sanchez

Program Co-Sponsors

Association of Black Women Attorneys & Black Bar  
Association of Bronx County \* Bronx County Bar  
Association & Bronx Borough President & Bronx County  
Clerk & Bronx Women's Bar Association & Hispanic Court  
Officers Society & Law-Related Education Committee,  
New York County Lawyers' Association & Metropolitan  
Women's Bar Association & Puerto Rican Bar Association  
& Women's Rights Committee, New York County Lawyers'  
Association & Bronx Civil Court & Bronx Criminal Court  
& Bronx Family Court & Bronx Surrogate's Court &  
Tribune Society

The GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE  
For the  
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, Chair  
HON. JOHN P. COLLINS  
HON. GERALD V. ESPOSITO  
Administrative Judges

in Honor of

National Domestic Violence  
Awareness Month

*proudly presents*

“Work Place Education Day”

*in the*

Bronx County Court House

on

Wednesday, October 22, 2003  
12:30 to 2:00 p.m.  
Court Room 711



October is

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month



*Programme*

Prayer

REV. HERMES CARABALLO,  
Office of the Bronx Borough President

Anthem

MR. FRANK PALOMBO,  
Office of the Bronx Borough President

Greetings on Behalf of the Administrative Judges

HON. BARRY SALMON, J.S.C.

Remarks

HON. ADOLFO CARRION,  
Bronx Borough President

“Being Accountable for Domestic Violence”

Moderator

..... HON. WILMA GUZMAN,  
New York City Civil Court, Bronx County

Speakers

RUTH EICHMILLER,

Resource Coordinator, Felony Domestic Violence Part

KAREN SAAB, ESQ.,

Supervisor, Courtroom Advocates Project, Sanctuary

For Families

TED BUNCH,

Senior Program Director, Safe-Horizon

Closing Remarks

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, J.S.C.

GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE For the TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, Chair

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS  
HON. GERALD V. ESPOSITO  
Administrative Judges

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tania Antero  
Josephine M. Bastone  
Lucille M. Barbato  
Hon. Peggy Bernheim  
Madeline Garcia Bigelow  
J. Mark Bodde  
Sherry Callwood  
Phyllis Cherebin  
Steven B. Clark  
Helen Corporan  
Maria Cortese  
Hon. Tandra Dawson  
Donna Dodds  
Hon. Marian Doherty  
Hon. Laura Douglas  
Darlene Dove

Nilsa Moreno  
John E. Murray  
Hon. Barbara Newman  
Bernadette O'Rourke  
Tracy Pardo  
Charlene Pulakos  
Barbara Remington  
Maria Rivero  
Hon. Gayle P. Roberts  
Anthony Robinson  
Hon. Norma Ruiz  
Karen Saab  
Emily Sanchez  
Elizabeth Taylor  
Hon. Alison Y. Tuit  
Ann Wilson

Ruth Eichmiller  
Sheila Feinerman  
Hon. Anita Florio  
Ernestine Glover  
Diane Goulding  
Hon. Wilma Guzman  
Hon. Arlene H. Hahn  
Marilyn Israel  
Sandra Jefferson  
Esther Kelly  
Emma Ketteringham  
Hon. Sallie Manzanet  
Hon. La Tia W. Martin  
Theresa McDermott  
Susan McPartland  
Hon. Donna M. Mills  
Dierdre Moore

GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE  
For the TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
851 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, New York 10451



In recognition of

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE  
Chair

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS  
HON. GERALD V. ESPOSITO  
Administrative Judges

THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE  
presents its annual program for

**"Work Place Education Day"**

Wednesday, October 22, 2003  
12:30 to 2:00 p.m.  
Courtroom 711

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Tania Antero
- Josephine M. Bastone
- Lucille M. Barbato
- Hon. Peggy Bernheim
- Madeline Garcia Bigelow
- J. Mark Bodde
- Sherry Callwood
- Phyllis Cherebin
- Steven B. Clark
- Helen Corporan
- Maria Cortese
- Hon. Tandra Dawson
- Donna Dodds
- Hon. Marian Doherty
- Hon. Laura Douglas
- Darlene Dove
- Ruth Eichmiller
- Sheila Feinerman
- Hon. Anita Florio
- Earnestine Glover
- Diane Goulding
- Hon. Wilma Guzman
- Hon. Arlene H. Hahn
- Marilyn Israel
- Sandra Jefferson
- Esther Kelly
- Emma Ketteringham
- Hon. Sallie Manzanet
- Hon. La Tia W. Martin
- Theresa McDermott
- Susan McPartland
- Hon. Donna M. Mills
- Dierdre Moore
- Vilsa Moreno
- John E. Murray
- Hon. Barbara Newman
- Bernadette O'Rourke
- Tracy Pardo
- Charlene Pulakos
- Barbara Remington
- Maria Rivero
- Hon. Gayle P. Roberts
- Anthony Robinson
- Hon. Norma Ruiz
- Karen Saab
- Emily Sanchez
- Lizbeth Taylor
- Hon. Alison Y. Tuitt
- Ann Wilson

Prayer ..... REV. HERMES CARABALLO,  
Office of the Bronx Borough President

Anthem ..... MR. FRANK PALOMBO,  
Office of the Bronx Borough President

Welcome & Opening Remarks ..... HON. JOHN P. COLLINS,  
HON. GERALD V. ESPOSITO,  
Administrative Judges

Remarks ..... HON. ADOLFO CARRION,  
Bronx Borough President

Being Accountable for Domestic Violence

Moderator ..... HON. WILMA GUZMAN,  
New York City Civil Court, Bronx County

Speakers  
TED BUNCH, Senior Program Director, Safe-Horizon  
RUTH EICHMILLER, Resource Coordinator, Felony Domestic Violence Part  
KAREN SAAB, ESQ., Supervisor, Courtroom Advocates Project, Sanctuary For  
Families

Closing Remarks ..... HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, J.S.C.

Program Co-Sponsors

Association of Black Women Attorneys \* Black Bar Association of Bronx County \* Bronx County Bar  
Association \* Bronx Borough President \* Bronx County Clerk \* Bronx Women's Bar Association \*  
Hispanic Court Officers Society \* Law-Related Education Committee, New York County Lawyers'  
Association \* Metropolitan Women's Bar Association \* Puerto Rican Bar Association \* Women's  
Right Committee, New York County Lawyers' Association \* Bronx Civil Court \* Bronx Criminal  
Court \* Bronx Family Court \* Bronx Surrogate's Court \* Tribune Society

**LUNCH WILL BE SERVED**

If you plan to attend, please R.S.V.P. to Earnestine Glover @ (718) 590-3961

**SURROGATE'S COURT**  
**BRONX COUNTY-STATE OF NEW YORK**  
851 GRAND CONCOURSE  
BRONX, NEW YORK 10451

LEE L. HOLZMAN  
JUDGE



MICHAEL L. PRISCO  
CHIEF CLERK

EARNESTINE GLOVER  
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

TO: Richard Lee Price  
Chair, Gender Fairness Committee  
12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District

From: Earnestine Glover  
Chair Domestic Violence Education Work Day Program

The program this year focused on the abuser. This doesn't mean that we have lost interest in the person who is being abused. What we are trying to do is educate our employees on all aspects of domestic violence. We brought in speakers who work with abusers and the people who are being abused. Updates on treatments and programs availability were supplied. How referrals are made to these programs? When an abuser would be referred and how they are chosen for referrals. These questions were answered and more by our speakers. Our speakers were.

Mr. Ted Bunch, Senior Program Director, Safe-Horizon.

Mr Bunch was very thorough in dispelling the hope that the abuser program was set up to cure the abuser, It is another way to work with them to come to a reasonable understanding of why they abuse and what they needed to do to stop. This particular topic needed more then the time we had allotted for Mr. Bunch. We plan to invite him again in the near future.

Ms. Ruth Eichmiller, Resources Coordinator, Felony Domestic Violence Part, Bronx County spoke very well about her duties and what the courts are trying to accomplish in the field of domestic violence. Ms. Eichmiller spoke on the different degree of charges in the felony domestic violence part.

Karen Saab, who is the supervisor of the courtroom advocates project at the Sanctuary for families agency. She spoke of the many different ways that are in place to assist women in violent relationships. They work very closely with the courts on behalf of the women in New York city who need their help.

The program was well attended by employees and other organizations who labor in the field of domestic violence prevention. We served lunch and this was made possible by the cooperation from O.C.A. and our partners in the legal field in the Bronx. This years program I believe was another step in the elimination of domestic violence.

**THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE**

**- ANNOUNCES -**

**A FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE  
TO BENEFIT LOVE GOSPEL ASSEMBLY**

**DATES:                   OCTOBER 27, 28, 29, 30, AND 31, 2003**

**DROP OFF SITES: SUPREME COURT - ('A' ELEVATOR) 6M DESK  
CRIMINAL COURT - ROOM 111  
FAMILY COURT - ROOM 8-10  
HOUSING COURT - 7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR STAFF LOUNGE  
DA'S OFFICE, 198 E. 161 ST., RM 941(RECEPTION AREA)**

**WHAT:    CANNED FOOD GOODS, INCLUDING BABY FOOD  
(CLEAN) USED OR NEW ADULT CLOTHING  
          (INCLUDING WOMEN'S BUSINESS ATTIRE)  
(CLEAN) USED OR NEW CHILDREN'S CLOTHING  
CHILDREN'S TOYS, BOOKS, DISPOSABLE DIAPERS  
HOUSEHOLD GOODS, LINEN**

**WHO:     LOVE GOSPEL ASSEMBLY PROVIDES DAILY MEALS AND  
WEEKLY CLOTHING DISTRIBUTION FOR THE NEEDY,  
COUNSELING AND TRAINING FOR THE UNEMPLOYED AND  
THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, ETC.**

**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.  
FOR INFORMATION IN EACH BUILDING, CONTACT:**

<b>SUPREME COURT:</b>	<b>JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, ESQ.</b>	<b>(718) 590 - 3758</b>
<b>CRIMINAL COURT:</b>	<b>JENNIFER STONE</b>	<b>(718) 590 - 2858</b>
<b>FAMILY COURT:</b>	<b>TRACY PARDO</b>	<b>(718) 590 - 3319</b>
<b>DISTRICT ATTORNEY BLDG.:</b>	<b>MARIA RIVERO, ESQ.</b>	<b>(718) 590 - 2258</b>
<b>HOUSING COURT:</b>	<b>GLADYS MALDONADO</b>	<b>(718) 466 - 3003</b>

To: Hon. Richard Lee Price  
Chair, Gender Fairness Committee

From: Josephine M. Bastone, Esq. *JMB*  
Chair, Food and Clothing Drive Sub-Committee

Re: October 2003 Drive

The October 2003 Food and Clothing Drive was for the benefit of Love Gospel Assembly, a facility based on the Grand Concourse.

We collected approximately 45-50 bags and boxes of items, at collection points set up in the Supreme Court, Criminal Court, Family Court, and Housing Court buildings. Due to logistical problems, we were unable to collect from the Bronx District Attorney's Office this drive. The majority of items donated were clothing, although food and baby items were also given.

Donations were down from prior drives. The fact that our flyers were repeatedly removed from the elevator bank walls may have contributed to this decline.

Another problem that has not been resolved concerns the donation envelop in the Supreme Court building. Each drive, a large manila envelop, properly identified, is placed on the counter alongside the drop-off site. Those donors wishing contribution receipts from the beneficiary for tax deduction purposes can place their name, address, and brief description of the items donated in the envelop. This year, the envelop with receipt requests "disappeared", and, despite pleas for its return, has not been recovered. I anticipate receiving many irate phone calls from donors when tax time rolls around.

It is anticipated that our May 2004 drive will benefit Sanctuary for Families. Our October 2004 drive will most likely be for the benefit of Theresa's Haven.

As always, the members of the Food and Clothing Drive Sub-Committee worked hard to ensure the success of the Drive. The Sub-Committee is composed of: Josephine M. Bastone, Chair; Earnestine Glover, Gladys Maldonado, Tracy Pardo, and Maria Rivero. Jennifer Stone served as the contact person in Criminal Court. A great deal of help in dealing with the storage and pickup of items in the Supreme Court building, where the majority of the donations are stored, came from SCO Chris Barros, and court aides Mario Malave, Jason Philbert, and Ron Smith.

The Sub-Committee thanks Hon. Gerald V. Esposito, Hon. John P. Collins, and Steven B. Clark for their assistance in the Supreme Court building.



*Brooklyn Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Matthew D'Emic**  
360 Adams Street, Room  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

718-643-8762



Supreme Court  
of the  
State of New York



MARSHA L. STEINHARDT  
JUSTICE

JUSTICES' CHAMBERS  
360 ADAMS STREET  
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11201  
(718) 643-5127

February 23, 2004

Jill Goodman  
25 Beaver Street  
Room 878  
New York, New York 10004

Re: Gender Fairness Committee

Dear Ms. Goodman:

Enclosed please find the report for activities from April to March 2003.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marsha L. Steinhardt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and a prominent dot over the 'i' in 'Steinhardt'.

Marsha L. Steinhardt

MLS:ic

**GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**April - March 2003**

**Bring Your Child to Work Day** - The "trial calendar" at Supreme Court, Kings County, on Monday, April 21, 2003 included one defendant who was a real animal! Our annual mock trial, this year, to the delight of young and old alike, was *The People vs. The Big Bad Wolf*. The most serious charge on the indictment was that of three counts of attempted murder against the three little pigs. Mother Goose was the judge in charge of the proceedings. Mr. Wolf was represented by the Wicked Witch and the people had as their attorney Woody (of "Toy Story" fame). We had costumes so that each of the players was easily recognizable. In addition to the three victims and the defendant, we heard testimony on the People's direct case from Bo Peep. The committee enlisted the assistance of our wonderful court personal to play some of the pivotal roles, including those of victim and defendant. The jury was made up of twelve regular and six alternate jurors, although everyone had the opportunity to cast a vote. Our program was also enhanced by the distribution of white tee shirts to each of the child participants. It made it easy for the volunteers to keep track of the children with a mere glance. The shirts were generously provided by a grant from the Office of Court Administration. The committee was of the opinion that this was an important safety measure. We carefully chose the day of our annual event to coincide with the school's spring recess. We had a slightly larger turnout than usual and felt that the children would not be missing valuable time from school. We intend to have this year's program on Thursday, April 8, once again during the period of time that school is closed. Many of the court employees felt that this was a good opportunity to "Bring Their Child to Work." We had sufficient time to try Mr. Wolf before three different jury panels. Once again, the parents were offered an opportunity to have their child photographed in a judge's robe. The program concluded at one o'clock to rave reviews!

**Sexual Assault Awareness Month** - Exactly one week after our serious, but lighthearted introduction to the court system of the employees children, our thoughts turned to violence and to the difficult to comprehend topic of rape. Our program, once again conceived and coordinated by court employee Grace Christie, was spell binding. We heard from two survivors of Sexual Abuse, each describing when, during their student years they were raped. Each victim currently participated in the Long Island College Hospital's Rape Crisis Intervention Program/Victims of Violence. The Program Director, Lillian Tsai spoke about the program at length - it's goals with the victims and it's long-term goal of trying to eliminate the stigma.

**Breast Cancer Alert** - October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the Gender Fairness Committee, in conjunction with JALBCA and The Brooklyn Women's Bar Association sponsored an early morning event, on October 3, in the Jury Impaneling Room, located at 360 Adams Street. Our guest speaker was Dr. Esther R. Dyer, Executive Director of the American-Italian Cancer Foundation. Dr. Dyer was most engaging and spoke about breast self-examination and the importance of annual mammography. We had materials to distribute consisting of shower cards depicting the proper method of self-examination as well as flyers listing the sites and dates of the mammography vans, offering no cost mammograms. The program was well received and were are hopeful that several (hopefully many) persons in the audience were able to take advantage of the free screening. The committee is planning a similar event for next year.

**Domestic Violence Awareness Month** - Our annual Domestic Violence Awareness Month brought us a special guest speaker on October 30. The Honorable Judy Harris Kluger, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge spoke about the relatively new Integrated Domestic Violence Courts.

**Future Events** - We are once again bestowing the Hon. Ruth Moskowitz Award to four worthy recipients (this year female). Each was the "first female to do something in Kings County." This well received, annual event is scheduled for Tuesday, March 23. Our Bring Your Child to Work Day trial will, this year (Thursday, April 8), find the People of the State of New York bringing charges against Jack and the Beanstalk. This writer was shocked to learn of his criminal activity!

The incoming chair of the Gender Fairness Committee, as of April 1, 2004:

Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic  
360 Adams Street  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201  
Tel. - 718-643-8762  
Fax - 718-643-1144  
E-mail - mdemic@court.state.ny.us

# Bring Your Child To Work Day Monday, April 21, 2003

Registration Forms are Available at the following locations:

360 Adams St., 8<sup>th</sup> floor counter and 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Library(see Brenda Pantell, ext. 8080)  
15 Willoughby St., see Sgt. Robert Petri, ext. 7917  
120 Schermerhorn St., see Captain Luz Bryan, ext. 7510  
210 Joralemon St. , see Janet Ricevuto, ext. 5122

**All registration forms must be submitted by  
Wednesday, April 16, 2003.**

***For Security Purposes, each child will be  
provided with identification that must be  
displayed throughout their participation in the  
program. No child will be permitted to  
participate without registering.***

Any questions, call Jeanette at ext. 2248.

**Bring your child to work  
Mock Trial-2003**

**The people of the State of New York  
vs  
The Big Bad wolf**

Players:

Defendant-The Big Bad wolf ( **Wolf Nose** )

Charges: Three counts of attempted murder 110/125.25 A-1 Felony  
Three counts of attempted assault 110/120.19 (1) B Felony  
Three counts of menacing in the second degree 120.14 (2) A Misd.  
Three counts of reckless endangerment 120.25 D Felony  
Three counts of criminal mischief first degree 145.12 B Felony

Victims-Pig One - **Red scarf**, Pig two- **Blue scarf**, Pig three- **White scarf**

Judge- Mother Goose ( **Bonnet** ) + Child  
Defense attorney- Wicked Witch ( **Witch Hat** ) + Child  
Prosecutor-Woody (from toy story) **Plaid shirt, vest ,cowboy hat** +Child  
Court Clerk+ Child  
Court Officer+ Child  
Twelve Jurors plus six alternates(everyone votes)+Child

Witnesses for the prosecution:

Pigs one through three- Court staff  
Little Bo Peep- Court Staff( **Staff & Bonnet** )

Witness for the Defense:

Big Bad wolf- Court staff

**No child will be involved in the part of victim or defendant.**



*Please join us in support of  
Sexual Assault Awareness Month*

*Monday, April 28, 2003  
1:00 PM - 2:15 PM*

*Brooklyn Supreme Court  
Room 774*

*Panel Discussion by Survivors of Sexual Abuse*

*conceived and coordinated by*

*Grace A. Berman*

*and*

*Lillian Tsai*

*Program Director - LICH Rape Crisis Intervention Program/  
Victims of Violence Program*

*Sponsored by:*

*Administrative Judge Ann Pfau*

*Second Judicial District Gender Bias Committee, Hon. Marsha Steinhardt, Chair*

*Domestic Violence Awareness Sub-Committee, Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic, Chair*

## **Dr. Esther R. Dyer**

Dr. Esther R. Dyer is the Executive Director of the American-Italian Cancer Foundation, the US Representative of the European School of Oncology in the United States. She joined the organization in June 2000. Her responsibilities include overall program and fundraising responsibility for the domestic and international programs of AICF. She has recently been appointed to the City Council's Task for on Access to Mammography in New York.

Dr. Dyer has extensive experience in healthcare delivery to New Yorkers. She worked for more than a dozen years as Director of Public and Community Affairs for Empire Blue Cross and Blue Shield with responsibility for community outreach, subscriber advisory committees and health education programs (1983 – 1995). After leaving Empire Blue Cross, Dr. Dyer became the Executive Director of the Greater New York March of Dimes and developed a number of outreach programs that enhanced access to health education, information and services for uninsured or underinsured women. (1995 – 1998). Prior to joining AICF, Dr. Dyer was an independent consultant developing marketing and communications programs for Columbia-Cornell Care (the physician network of Columbia and Cornell Universities), New York Medical College and the Center for Bioenvironmental Research at Tulane and Xavier Universities, New Orleans, Louisiana.

An avid supporter of the arts, Dr. Dyer lives The National Arts Club and chairs the Education Committee. In addition, she owns ArtEgg Studios, an urban creative arts center in New Orleans and is active in many arts and educational organizations.

Author of 4 books and more than 50 articles, many on healthcare and editor of "The New York Health Sciences Journal." She also serves on the board of directors of the Herzfeld Foundation, the Lower Westside Home Health Agency, Friendship Ambassadors Foundation and the International Council for Caring Communities. She has a doctorate in information studies from Columbia University, masters from SUNY Albany and an undergraduate degree from SUNY New Paltz, NY. She has a certificate in Advanced Studies from the University of Salamanca, Spain. She speaks conversational French and Spanish.



Please join us in support of  
*Domestic Violence Awareness Month*

Thursday, October 30, 2003  
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Brooklyn Supreme Court  
360 Adams Street, Room 774

Guest Speaker:

*Honorable Judy Harris Kluger*  
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge

Topic:

*Integrated Domestic Violence Court*

Sponsored by:

Administrative Judge Ann J. Pfau

Second Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee, Hon. Marsha Steinhardt, Chair

Domestic Violence Awareness Sub-Committee, Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic, Chair

*In Celebration Of*  
**Women's History Month**



The  
Gender Fairness Committee  
Proudly Presents  
The

**Ruth E. Moskowitz Award**

To

**Hon. Ann T. Pfau  
Hon. Gloria Cohen Aronin  
Hon. Anne Feldman  
Donna Farrell**

**March 23, 2004**

**1:00 PM to 2:00PM**

**Room 224**

**360 Adams Street**

**Brooklyn, N.Y.**

**Everyone Welcome, Light Reception to Follow**

**Hon. Marsha Steinhardt, Chair**

NEWSDAY

Thursday, Nov. 6, 2003

p. A45, col. 1

BOROUGHWIDE

### Learn About Jury Duty

"What You Should Know About Jury Duty" airs at 7 p.m. Monday on Queens Public Television's Channel 57, and at 8 p.m. Nov. 29 on Channel 34. State Supreme Court Justice Steven W. Fisher, administrative judge for the 11th Judicial District; Queens County Clerk Gloria D'Amica and Linda F. Fedrizzi, president of the Queens County Bar Association, will discuss the topic.

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BROOKLYN DAILY BULLETIN

Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2003

p. 14, col. 3

Do They Have To Die?

### Community Response To Domestic Violence

People packed Judge Richard Allman's courtroom yesterday, for a program in memory of Court Officer Brenda Steward, a Kings County Criminal Court employee who died as a result of domestic violence last year. Brooklyn advocates acknowledged that community responses to domestic violence need some improvement. They were joined by women fighting domestic violence across the state and nation. For details, see an upcoming edition of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle.



Supervising Judge William Miller, Brooklyn Criminal Court, center, with DV Awareness Committee Chair Peter Glick (left) and Hon. Richard Allman, Kings County Criminal Court (right).

Photo by Elizabeth Stull

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BROOKLYN DAILY BULLETIN  
 Wednesday, Mar. 24, 2004  
 p. 1, col. 4

## Leading Women Honored at Brooklyn Supreme Court

Moskowitz Awards Recognize Pioneering Women

**By Elizabeth Stull**

Brooklyn Daily Eagle

ADAMS STREET – The third annual Moskowitz Awards ceremony at Brooklyn Supreme Court on Tuesday honored four women for achieving significant "firsts," and for continuing to serve justice in the fair and impartial spirit for which Justice Ruth E. Moskowitz was famous.

In his remarks, Chief Clerk James Imperatrice said that in Justice Moskowitz' courtroom, "there were no court officers, clerks, or secretaries - there were only Kevin, Jeff, Mary Ann, Barbara. Attorneys were always treated with respect, and people always knew they had their day in court."



Recipients of the 2004 Hon. Ruth E. Moskowitz Award, at the Brooklyn Supreme Court's Women's History Month Celebration, yesterday. From left to right: First Deputy Administrative Judge Ann T. Pfau; Hon. Gloria Aronin, first woman presiding justice of the Second Judicial District Appellate Term; Hon. Anne G. Feldman, first judge (man or woman) to preside over a death penalty case in New York State since the death penalty was reinstated; and Donna Farrell, administrative court clerk, first manager (man or woman) of the Brooklyn Supreme Court Office of the Self-Represented. See story by Elizabeth Stull, p. 12. Eagle photo by Mara Bellarmino

Administrative Judge Neil J. Firetog presented the first 2004 "Ruthie" Award to First Deputy Administrative Judge Ann T. Pfau, who was Brooklyn's first woman Administrative Judge.

Judge Firetog expressed "deep and tremendous respect" for the woman who preceded him. He acknowledged that Judge Pfau is both the first person to hold the position of statewide first Deputy Administrative Judge of Management and Support, and is also the first to get a giant rat.

(Unionized court employees protested outside the Supreme Court, Tuesday, to draw attention to pending contract disputes with the state court system.)

"It goes with the pleasures and responsibilities" of the position, Judge Pfau said graciously. Accepting her award, the Brooklynite said she missed Brooklyn Supreme, adding that, "There's no better job

than being administrative judge."

Nancy Sunshine, Esq., Brooklyn's first woman appellate term clerk, presented the second Award to Justice Gloria Cohen Aronin, a lifelong Brooklynite and past president of the Brooklyn Women's Bar Association.

Sunshine praised Justice Aronin for her "wisdom, reasonableness; always firm, fair and decisive."

Justice Gloria Aronin was the first woman Presiding Justice of the Second Judicial District Appellate Term. She said she recommends the appellate term to everyone, men and women. Justice Aronin noted that about a year after she became the first woman appellate term judge, Justice Michelle Patterson became the second.

When Justice Aronin graduated from Brooklyn Law School in 1950, three percent of her classmates were women; now, women represent over half of the student body. She recognizes, though, that there is still work to be done.

"I believe that we will not have achieved equality until we have no more firsts, no more awards ceremonies, and no more gender fairness committees - at least not for women," Justice Aronin said Tuesday.

"If indeed there was such a thing as the crown jewels of the judicial system, there is little doubt in my mind that the four sparklers we honor today would be best in show," said Justice Albert Tomei, who waxed poetical as he presented the Award to Justice Anne Feldman.

Justice Feldman was the first judge to preside over a death penalty case since capital punishment was reinstated in New York. She was also the second woman judge elected to the Brooklyn Supreme Court, after Justice Moskowitz.

Justice Tomei has worked with both of them, as a friend and colleague, for many years.

"Justice Feldman is the 'supernova' of the Supreme Court bench," he continued. She's the "punctilio of fairness. Ask anyone" (except the fellow who was sentenced to life in prison, of course).

Last year, Justice Feldman presented the "Ruthie" to Justice Tomei. "It's easier to give than to receive an award," Feldman said simply, Tuesday.

Izetta Johnson then presented the fourth Award to a "true pioneer" in the justice system, Court Clerk Specialist Donna Farrell.

"'Pioneer' is derived from the French word, 'pion,' which refers to anyone paving the way and moving into uncharted areas," Johnson said. "A true pioneer, is Donna Farrell." Farrell created Brooklyn's first Office for Self-represented Individuals, now also known as the Kings County Bar Liaison Office.

Farrell said she has been visiting office spaces in the four Brooklyn court buildings for the past ten years. "If we combined all the plaques and awards hanging in these rooms, we could redesign the

Metropolitan Museum of Art," Farrell said.

She observed that only a truly exceptional person would have an award named after her, and that the Moskowitz Awards reflect "the genuine love for this remarkable woman and beloved lady."

Assistant District Attorney Karyn Stepner, who practiced before Justice Moskowitz for two years, took time after the ceremony to share memories with some of Moskowitz's family members. They said they appreciated the ceremony, too.

"I thought it was great," said Ann Lyons, Moskowitz's twin sister.

"It Helped bring her back to life," said Justice Moskowitz's son, Joel. "It was beautiful." Her daughter, Leah, also enjoyed the program.

Both Joel and Leah are in transition, this month. Joel, whose articles have appeared in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, starts a new job Monday with Air America Radio, a new liberal station on the dial.

Leah Gershon, who has been an assistant district attorney in Brooklyn, started Friday as an associate with the firm of Belluck & Fox, representing plaintiffs in asbestos litigation.

Although Gender Fairness Committee Chair Marsha Steinhardt was absent Tuesday due to a death in the family, her successor, Justice Matthew D'Emic, introduced the program. Marcia Margolin, Esq., shared several significant firsts in women's history (see an upcoming edition), and the children's chorus from P.S. 250 performed.



*Queens County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Sheri Roman**  
Justice, Supreme Court  
125-01 Queens Blvd.  
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

718-520-4416



## LOCAL COMMITTEES 2003-2004

Name of the Committee: NYS Queens County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Comm.

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair:

Hon. Sheri S. Roman, NYS Supreme Court, 125-01 Queens Boulevard, Kew Gardens, NY 11415. Office #:(718)520-4416; Fax #:(718)520-7732 ; e-mail:sroman@courts.state.ny.us

No. Members 17 Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.)

Judges, Law Secretaries, Court Officers, Secretaries, Clerks, Court Reporter,  
Private Attorney (See Attachment 1)

### **New York State Courts Under Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Leadership**

What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be as specific as possible and try to give concrete examples.

I invited our Committee members to respond to the three questions posed by the Chair. I believe their responses provide a diverse outlook on these topics.

I am going to excerpt responses from committee members

Susan Beberfall, Esq., Lt. Lynne Franzone, Dennis Lebwohl, Esq.,  
Lt. Thomas McElligott, M. J. Mezzina, Esq., and SCO Denise Mikaelian.

(See Attachment 2).

What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women, particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State court system? \_\_\_\_\_

I am going to excerpt responses from committee members

Susan Beberfall, Esq., Lt. Lynne Franzone, Dennis Lebwohl, Esq.,  
Lt. Thomas McElligott, M. J. Mezzina, Esq., and SCO Denise Mikaelian.

(See Attachment 3).

**Local Committee Activities for the Past Year:** Please include, if relevant and possible, names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2003 (unless already reported).

A reference table with resource materials was displayed in each of the three Queens Supreme Courthouses throughout the month of October. The pamphlets contained information and statistical data on domestic violence. We tried to collect a variety of pamphlets in different languages. Two complimentary luncheon programs were held in conjunction with October's Domestic Violence Awareness Month on October 16, 2003 and October 23, 2003. We provided transportation to and from each of the other courthouses, making it available to all Queens employees. The first session, entitled, "HELP FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS: SAFE HOUSES & CLERGY SUPPORT" was held at the Jamaica Courthouse. The guest speakers were: the Vice President of Long Term Programs at Safe Horizon, Allegra Perhaes, and Veronica Harris, Director of Ivy House, one of Safe Horizon's largest shelters. Also included on the panel was Rabbi David Winter of the Human Service Foundation, who spoke about clergy support.

The second session, entitled "The New Integrated Domestic Violence Court-Easing the Process for D.V. Victims" was held on Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Kew Gardens Courthouse's conference room. The speaker was Judge Esther M. Morgenstern, and this session offered 1 CLE credit for attorneys.

Activities for Women's History Month 2004 \_\_\_\_\_

**Professor Margaret Turano, Esq. of St. John's University School of Law, will give a luncheon address entitled "Women's Rights Through Literature."**  
**CLE credit will be provided (1 credit) to attorneys.**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Activities in the Past Year: **In April we coordinated the 2-day activity for "Take Your Daughters to Work /Take Your Sons to Work programs.**

Plans for Next Year:

- 1) **We are starting to plan for our October Programs for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.**
- 2) **We want to formulate new scripts for our mock trial presentation for the Take Your Daughters/Sons to Work program.**
- 3) **We are considering linking a book drive to supply new books to graduates of the Queens Treatment Court with our children's day programs in April.**

Most Important Difficulty Confronting Your Committee

**I am going to excerpt responses from committee members**

**Susan Beberfall, Esq., Lt. Lynne Franzone, Dennis Lebwohl, Esq.,**

**Lt. Thomas McElligott, M. J. Mezzina, Esq., and SCO Denise Mikaelian.**

**(See Attachment 4).**

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Please attach copies of flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee.

Please return this form by **March 1, 2004**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel  
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
25 Beaver Street, Room 878  
New York, New York 10004

or fax the form to 212-428-2793

Submitted By:



Hon. Sheri S. Roman

## Attachment 1

### NYS Queens County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

*Hon. Sheri S. Roman, Chairperson*



### 2004 Committee Members

SUSAN BEBERFALL, ESQ.	Associate Court Attorney
MAUREEN CRESCIMANNO	Secretary to Judge
JAMES DOLLIN, ESQ.	Principal Law Clerk to Judge
HON. PHYLLIS ORLIKOFF FLUG	Supreme Court Justice
LT. LYNNE FRANZONE	Lietutenant, Security Operations
HON. LESLIE G. LEACH	Supreme Court Justice
DENNIS LEBWOHL, ESQ.	Principal Law Clerk to Judge
LT. THOMAS McELLIGOTT	Lietutenant, Security Operations
M .J. MEZZINA, ESQ.	Associate Court Attorney
SCO DENISE MIKAELIAN	Supreme Court Officer
LESLIE NIZIN, ESQ.	Attorney, Private Practice
HON. SHERI S. ROMAN	Supreme Court Justice, Comm. Chair
O. RUSS RODRIGUEZ	Court Clerk Specialist
HON. PATRICIA SATTERFIELD	Supreme Court Justice
THERESA SILKIE	Principal Court Reporter
FRANCES TAYLOR	Court Clerk Specialist
THERESA WILSON	Secretary to Judge

## Attachment 2

What has been the most significant change for women, particularly those served by your district or court, during the past twenty years? Please be as specific as possible and try to give concrete examples.

"The most significant change has not been one merely of circumstances but a dynamic shift in the self-perception of women and the perception of women by society at large."

"I do not think that there has been any significant change for women within the court system in the last twenty years. As for women served by the court, I have no insight other than what I see in the criminal forum and in that regard, it appears that cases of domestic violence are now treated like criminal offenses as opposed to "situations" that need to be handled delicately."

"It is my opinion that the most significant change for women served by the courts during the past twenty years is separate Domestic Violence Courts. In these courts, full undivided attention is given consistently by the same judge... Also, now there is a unified registry of Orders of Protection which enhances the chances of enforcement."

"Overall, the equitable distribution law in the early 1980's changed the way in which support issues were decided. Ten years later new rules were adopted governing attorney-client relationships, which had a positive impact for women litigants. In addition, early case management, including preliminary conferences, has reduced the time it takes to resolve divorce actions, reducing the emotional and financial stress it places on women and families."

“I have only worked in the courts for five years so I have limited knowledge of how women were treated for the last twenty years...In my limited time I have worked in criminal parts that were solely designated for domestic violence. Having parts specifically for these issues lends itself to a more compassionate way of handling these cases. The Judges in these parts can then devote their time and energy into using and researching laws, new and old, specific to these issues and they become more in tune with how to handle each individual case... Knowing that a women can have all her issues tended to on the same day by a Judge who knows the whole situation must, I would think, make the system seem easier to use and less time consuming, with the possibility of a quicker remedy for all involved.”

“A significant change would be the amount of women working in the court system as both judicial and non-judicial personnel. It is more reflective of the society we live in. In fact, 23 of 25 ranking court clerks in the 6<sup>th</sup> judicial district are female.”

### Attachment 3

What is the most pressing or important remaining problem for women, particularly those served by your district or court, that needs to be addressed by the New York State court system?

“For women within the system, I think there continues to be an ongoing problem of parity between the sexes. For example, it seems to me that there is a tremendous disparity between the salaries of clerks, a predominantly male group, and that of stenographers, as far as I know an entirely female group, although the requirements for the jobs don’t seem to be all that different. As for the women served by the courts, I believe that their problem relates to the strides referred to above, for while domestic violence cases are treated much more seriously now, women seem to have very little input in the resolution of matters which directly affect them. For example, there are many cases which are prosecuted over the objection and without the cooperation of the female victims the laws are designed to protect. The People’s use of 911 tapes and medical records to substitute for the testimony of the female complainants has rendered these females powerless in the courts, without the option of deciding for themselves how to handle their family issues.”

“I would think that continuing effort on the courts to make the process less stressful for the families involved is one of the most pressing issues. In addition to this, allowing Judges who are working in these specialty parts to be able to continually study and use the new laws and this more streamlined court system for the best interest of everyone involved.”

“The most pressing or important problem remaining for women is to sufficiently enforce support, and to expedite the dissolution of marriages. There are too many delays between the arrest of an abusive spouse and the final divorce decree.”

## Attachment 4

### Most Important Difficulty Confronting Your Committee

“Recognizing that the needs of our court personnel need to be addressed, whether they be promotional, child-care, job sharing, etc. We can do so much more and so much better for our employees.”

“The most important difficulty confronting our committee is the fact that we do not have feedback from the community we are trying to assist. Our committee is made up of employees of the court. We should try to get input and feedback from the users of our courthouses. Find out from the public, perhaps by using a questionnaire after their cases are resolved, how we could improve the courts based on their actual experiences.”

“The difficulty of this committee is to continually explore what those issues will be, then to find ways for the laws and the courts to work together. I think for this to happen is to allow the users to have input and generate topics for discussion. This may be done by questionnaires and interviews.”

“I think that the most important issue confronting our committee is assessing what our role is- whether to address gender fairness within the court system (and of course to do this, a determination must be made as to whether there are issues of gender fairness that need to be addressed), or to deal with the general, inchoate topic of ‘women’s issues.’”

NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee  
Domestic Violence Awareness Month Program:

# **“Help for Domestic Violence Victims: Safe Houses & Clergy Support”**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2003, 1:00-2:00PM**

**5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Jamaica Courthouse 88-11 Sutphin Blvd.**

**Guest Speakers:**

**Allegra Perhaes,**

*Vice President - Long Term Programs, Safe Horizon*

**Veronica Harris,**

*Director, Ivy House Shelter*

**Rabbi David Winter,**

*Human Service Foundation*

**A LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE SERVED**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!!**

**TRANSPORTATION  
AVAILABLE:**

*from Kew Gardens & L.I.C. Courthouses*

**R.S.V.P. NECESSARY By Tues., Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>**

**For information and TO REGISTER, CALL (718) 520-4416**

*(chambers of Hon. Sheri S. Roman)*

*NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee  
Domestic Violence Awareness Month Program:*

**“The New  
Integrated Domestic Violence Court-  
Easing the Process for D.V. Victims”**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2003, 1:00-2:00PM**

*Kew Gardens Courthouse 125-01 Queens Blvd.  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room (832)*

**PRESENTER:**

***HON. ESTHER M. MORGENSTERN***

***Presiding Judge, Integrated Domestic Violence Court***

1.0 hour of CLE credit - offered for this session without cost\*

**Transportation Available:** from JAMAICA AND L.I.C. Courthouses

**LUNCH PROVIDED**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!!**

**RSVP : REQUIRED FOR LUNCH AND CLE CREDIT**

For information and

**TO REGISTER, CALL (718) 520-4416**

(chambers of Hon. Sheri S. Roman )

\* The NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee has been certified by the NYS Continuing Legal Education Board as an accredited CLE Provider.

**RSVP NECESSARY BY OCT. 21<sup>ST</sup>**





November 7, 2003

The 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District's Gender and Racial Fairness Committee invite you to attend a Domestic Violence Awareness Program celebrating the strides made against domestic violence. The program will include updates from local judges and police agencies regarding domestic violence issues, a presentation from survivor Jean Levey and some moving, educational, real life audio and visual pieces on domestic violence.

Our goal is to celebrate and educate State court employees, as well as town and village courts and those agencies that have an interest in domestic violence on procedures dealing with domestic violence within the courts.

We are hopeful that you can attend one of the following meetings:

Monday, November 17, 2003 - 12:00 Noon  
Chautauqua County Courthouse - County Court Part I, Mayville

Monday, November 24, 2003 - 12:00 Noon  
Genesee County Courthouse - Grand Jury Room - Batavia

Wednesday, November 26, 2003 - 12:00 Noon  
Angelo A. DelSignore Niagara County Civic Building  
Supreme Court - Niagara Falls

The program will last for approximately one hour. A light lunch will be served. Please call Marie Villari at (716)858-4810 or e-mail [mvillari@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:mvillari@courts.state.ny.us) to confirm your attendance.

Justice Amy J. Fricano  
Chairperson, Gender & Racial Fairness Committee  
8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MEETINGS - PRESENTED BY  
THE 8<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT WOMEN IN THE COURTS  
COMMITTEE, HON. AMY J. FRICANO, CHAIRPERSON.**

The following informational meetings have been scheduled to address the topic of Domestic Violence in the Courts. All Judicial and Non-Judicial Court Personnel are invited to attend subject to the courts' operational needs and supervisors' approval where appropriate.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2003  
CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
COUNTY COURT - PART I  
MAYVILLE  
12:00 NOON

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2003  
GENESEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
GRAND JURY ROOM  
BATAVIA  
12:00 NOON

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2003  
ANGELO A. DELSIGNORE NIAGARA COUNTY CIVIC BUILDING  
SUPREME COURT  
NIAGARA FALLS  
12:00 NOON

The program will last for approximately one hour. A light lunch will be served.  
Please e-mail Marie Villari to make a reservation no later than Friday, November 14th.

# **IN RECOGNITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH,**

You are invited to attend a lunchtime seminar on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2003 from 12:00 P.M. UNTIL 1:30 P.M.** in the 5<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR WAITING AREA OF ERIE COUNTY FAMILY COURT.

**LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ALL  
ATTENDEES.**

The program will focus on the issue of domestic violence, including a discussion of the upcoming **INTEGRATED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT** opening in Erie County, November, 2003. **Judge Judy Harris Kluger**, Statewide Deputy Chief Judge for Court Operations and Planning and responsible for the statewide implementation of the IDV Courts, will be a panelist for this presentation. **This new part will effect ALL CRIMINAL, FAMILY AND SUPREME COURTS IN ERIE COUNTY.**

**ALL COURT EMPLOYEES ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATIONAL PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT GENDER AND RACIAL FAIRNESS COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY HON. AMY FRICANO.**

Please confirm your attendance through **Nora Whalen** by e-mail at ["NWHALEN@courts.state.ny.us"](mailto:NWHALEN@courts.state.ny.us) or by telephone at 851-3252 **on or before October 24th.**

Supreme Court  
of the  
State of New York



AMY J. FRICANO  
JUSTICE

JUSTICE'S CHAMBERS  
NIAGARA COUNTY CIVIC BLDG.  
775 THIRD STREET  
NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. 14302-1710  
(716) 278-1810

October 24, 2003

The Women in the Courts Committee reminds you of the upcoming event in Erie County celebrating strides made against domestic violence. Judge Judy Harris Kluger, Statewide Deputy Chief Judge for Court Operations and Planning, who is responsible for instituting Integrated Domestic Violence Parts, will be giving a powerful presentation. The program also includes survivor Jean Levy, and some moving, educational, real life audio and visual pieces on domestic violence .

Our goal is to celebrate and educate the court employees on the development and workings of the new IDV Part in Erie County. Most importantly we will be providing information on OCA policy with respect to assisting any of our employees who may be having personal difficulties in this area.

I hope you will encourage your staffs, clerks, court reporters etc. to attend. We will also be discussing their roles in treating DV victims sensitively to assure that victims feel that the courts will be fair with them.

While I know that we are conflicting with the Judicial Candidates Luncheon, and you may not wish to attend personally, I believe this will be an extremely valuable program for staff and employees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy J. Fricano", written over the word "Sincerely,".

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS PROGRAM  
NOVEMBER 17, 2003**

**OPENING AND INTRODUCTIONS:**

**HON. AMY J. FRICANO**  
Chair, 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District  
Gender & Racial Fairness Committee

**WELCOME:**

**HON. JUDITH S. CLAIRE**  
Chautauqua Co. Family Court Judge

**WHY WE ARE HERE:**

**JEAN LEVEY**  
Allegany County Family Court

**INTEGRATED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:  
PART - ERIE COUNTY:**

**SHEILA W. SCHWANERKAMP, ESQ.**  
Project Coordinator, E.C. IDV Court

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
SECURITY ISSUES:**

**OFFICER KEN SLEIGHT,**  
Jamestown Police Dept,  
Project Crossroads

**UCS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE POLICY:**

**HON. AMY J. FRICANO**

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VIDEO**

**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

**GENESEE COUNTY  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS PROGRAM  
NOVEMBER 24, 2003**

**OPENING AND INTRODUCTIONS:**

**HON. AMY J. FRICANO**  
Chair, 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District  
Gender & Racial Fairness Committee

**WELCOME:**

**HON. ROBERT C. NOONAN**  
Genesee Co. Court Judge  
**HON. ERIC R. ADAMS**  
Genesee Co. Family Court Judge

**WHY WE ARE HERE:**

**JEAN LEVEY**  
Allegany County Family Court

**INTEGRATED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:  
PART - ERIE COUNTY:**

**HON. JANICE M. ROSA**  
Project Judge, E.C. IDV Court

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
SECURITY ISSUES**

**CHIEF DEPUTY GORDON DIBBLE**  
Genesee County Sheriff's Department

**UCS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE POLICY:**

**HON. AMY J. FRICANO**

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VIDEO**

**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**



# *Invitation*



*Domestic Violence Forum*

*sponsored by the*

*Eighth Judicial District  
Gender and Racial Fairness Committee*

*on*

*Wednesday, November 26, 2003*

*12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.*

*at*

*Niagara County Supreme Court*

*Part I*

*775 Third Street, Niagara Falls, New York*

*Hon. Amy Jo Fricano*

*Committee Chair*



*Light lunch to be served*

*R.S.V.P. to 278-1810*

# *AGENDA*

*Introduction by  
Hon. Amy Jo Fricano*

Speakers:

Edward Janese  
Niagara Falls Police Dept.

Susan LaRose  
Niagara County Domestic Violence Coordinator

Lisa M. Baehre  
Assistant District Attorney  
Niagara County, Domestic Violence Unit

Erie County IDV Part

Hon. Amy Jo Fricano  
Uniform Court System Policy on Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence Video

Ms. Jean Levy  
Domestic Violence Survivor

## LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2002-2003

Name of the Committee:

Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee

Name, Address, and Telephone and Fax Numbers of Chair:

Hon. Sheila A. DiTullio, J.C.C.  
County Court Part 3  
92 Franklin Street  
Buffalo, New York 14202  
Telephone: (716) 858-2143  
Fax: (716) 851-3334  
E-Mail: [sditulli@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:sditulli@courts.state.ny.us)

Meeting Dates in the Past Year:

Please see attached summary report (2002 Report)

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2002:

“Haven House” posters were displayed in each county courthouse in the Eighth Judicial District for the months of October and November. The collages were created by house residents and their children illustrating their feelings as victims of domestic violence.

Activities for Women’s History Month 2003:

Committee meetings as well as informal breakfast and luncheon presentations throughout the Eighth Judicial District

Other Activities in the Past Year:

Please see attached summary report (2002 Report)

**Plans for Next Year:**

**Regular Committee meetings throughout the year to continue discussions related to gender and racial discrimination, and explore avenues to ensure gender and racial fairness throughout the Eighth Judicial District.**

**Please attach copies of flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee:**

**Please see attached materials. Dimensions of "Haven House" posters preclude inclusion.**

**Please return this form by March 25, 2003, to:**

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel  
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
25 Beaver Street, Room 878  
New York, New York 10004

**EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT GENDER AND RACIAL FAIRNESS COMMITTEE**  
**2002 REPORT**  
**Committee Meetings:**

**April 30, 2002 (Buffalo, New York) Agenda:**

- Discussion of various local committee activities;
- Continuation of efforts to promote equal treatment of women and minorities in the Unified Court system;
- Discussion of assigned counsel fees for attorneys

**May 20, 2002 (Rochester, New York) Agenda:**

**Dedication Ceremony held at Fourth Department, Rochester, New York:**

- Historical Perspective on Committee's Annual Awards Luncheon presented by Harold J. Brand, Jr., Executive Assistant, Eighth Judicial District;
- Introduction of Committee Members to Justice Pigott, Presiding Justice;
- Comments by the Honorable Eugene F. Pigott, Jr., Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, Fourth Department;
- Presentation of "Hon. M. Dolores Denman Woman Leadership Award" plaque to Justice Pigott for display at Fourth Department courthouse

**June 27, 2002 (Buffalo, New York) Agenda:**

- Discussion of summer programs (August: Batavia; September: Buffalo)
- Update on May 20, 2002 meeting in Rochester;
- Discussion of domestic violence programs for Domestic Violence Awareness Month;
- Sexual harassment training presentation by Harold J. Brand, Jr.;
- Committee Awards Luncheon for spring, 2003

**August 20, 2002 (Batavia, New York) Agenda:**

- Luncheon/Meeting held in Batavia, New York; introduction of Committee and its purpose to outlying counties;
- Discussion of issues related to gender and racial bias;
- Discussion of mission and goals of committee

September 23, 2002 (Buffalo, New York) Agenda:

- Meeting with subcommittee members to discuss plans for Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October)

September 30, 2002 (Buffalo, New York) Agenda:

- Discussion of domestic violence programs to be presented during the months of October and November;
- Discussion of Committee Awards Luncheon in spring, 2003

October 16, 2002 (Buffalo, New York) Agenda:

- Breakfast/Meeting held at Buffalo City Court introducing Committee and discussing its purpose;
- Introduction of Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee to Unified Court employees;
- Discussion of issues related to gender and racial discrimination;
- Discussion of mission and goals of Committee;
- Display of "Haven House" posters throughout the Eighth Judicial District ("Haven House" is a shelter for victims of domestic violence.)

December 4, 2002 (Buffalo, New York) Agenda:

- Discussion of nominees for Award Luncheon, spring 2003

March 26, 2003 (Buffalo, New York) Agenda:

- Eighth Judicial District Women in the Courts Committee Awards Luncheon

# F A C S I M I L E



FROM: JUSTICE AMY J. FRICANO'S CHAMBERS  
Niagara County Courthouse  
175 Hawley St. Lockport, NY 14094  
NEW YORK STATE SUPREME COURT

PHONE (716) 439-7055

FAX (716) 439-7039

\*\*\*\*\*

DATE : April 6, 2004

ATTENTION: Jill Goodman,  
Hon. Sharon Townsend  
Harry Brand

PHONE:

FAX: 212-428-2793  
855-1611  
858-4828

RE: 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District's Report

13, pages including cover