



PRESS RELEASE

**New York State
Unified Court System**

**Hon. H. Patrick Leis III
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Tenth Judicial District (Suffolk Co.)**

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Suffolk County Courts Celebrate Women's History Month

CENTRAL ISLIP, NY – District Administrative Judge, H. Patrick Leis III, is pleased to announce that the Suffolk County courts and the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee celebrated National Women's History Month today in a special ceremony held at the Cohalan Court Complex in Central Islip. The ceremony featured the Honorable A. Gail Prudenti, Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department, who delivered the keynote address.

This year, special recognition was given to women court employees who work in the legal research and technology areas of the court, such as in the law departments, in the law libraries, as law clerks to judges, as court attorney-referees and in the management information systems department. In his opening remarks to those in attendance, Justice Leis praised the many accomplishments of women in the courts who have brought an infusion of new ideas and concepts previously unthought of. These include the creation of problem solving courts like drug treatment

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courts and integrated domestic violence courts which have been created by the Chief Judge of the State of New York, the Honorable Judith S. Kaye. He thanked the women in the court's committee for its role in improving the courthouse community and for bringing a different perspective to solving the problems faced by the courts...a caring, gentle approach with special emphasis on family and children's issues. Justice Leis also made special mention of the tone of professionalism and caring which was imparted upon the Suffolk County courts by its former Administrative Judge and keynote speaker, Presiding Justice A. Gail Prudenti.

Justice Leis observed, "All of the women working in the courts in the areas of legal research and technology deserve our highest praise and recognition on this very special day. Their commitment to excellence each and every day serves to inspire us all. They truly symbolize what Women's History Month is all about."

In commemoration of Women's History Month, the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee is also sponsoring a pictorial display of the honorees as well as current and former women judges and justices and support magistrates who have served on the bench in Suffolk County. The exhibit is on display in the second floor mezzanine at the Cohalan Court Complex located between the Supreme Court and the District Court buildings. All are welcome to visit the exhibit and to celebrate the accomplishments of the hardworking and dedicated women jurists and court employees.

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