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## Editors' Note

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# SYMPOSIUM ISSUE: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN JUDGES

## EDITORS' NOTE

When we first learned that the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) planned to hold its 1983 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, we approached Judge Marilyn Patel (U.S. District Court, N.D. Ca.) with the idea of publishing a symposium issue covering the meeting. Her response was enthusiastic.

Judge Gladys Kessler, Washington D.C. Superior Court and Immediate Past President, NAWJ, graciously accepted our invitation to prepare an introductory article outlining the history of NAWJ. Justice Shirley Abrahamson of the Wisconsin Supreme Court was kind enough to permit inclusion of "The Woman Has Robes," her remarks to NAWJ members at their 1982 meeting. In addition, our own chief justice, the Honorable Rose E. Bird, responded favorably to our request for permission to print the luncheon speech she gave on the second day of the conference. Wendy Hepperle, the director of Office of Court Services in Alameda County and co-editor and contributing author of *Women in the Courts* agreed to write a review of the book *Framed: The New Right Attack on Chief Justice Rose Bird and the Courts*, by Betty Medsger. Finally, two leading scholars in the field of women judges, Beverly Blair Cook and Elliott Slotnick, agreed to prepare articles for us on women in the federal and state judiciary.

The NAWJ members participated in seven panel discussions during the course of their four day meeting:

### *Panel 1: Effective Communications with the Media and the Public*

Panel Coordinators:

Judge Marie Bertillion Collins, Alameda County Superior Court; and Judge Margaret Kemp, San Mateo Municipal Court.

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**Panelists:** Christen Brown, Communications Specialist, Journalist, and Psychologist; Gordon Zimmerman, Courtroom Communications Expert, Professor of Speech and Communications at the University of Nevada, and Instructor at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada.

**Panel 2: *Campaigning and Fundraising***

**Panel Coordinator:** Judge Annette La Rue, Fresno Municipal Court

**Panelists:** Joseph Cerrell, a professional campaign consultant who has advised many successful judicial candidates; Judge Linda Bergman of the District Court in Portland, Oregon; Justice Kay McFarland of the Kansas Supreme Court; and Judge Maxine Thomas of the Los Angeles Municipal Court.

**Panel 3: *Pretrial Case Management in the Federal System—"Keeping the Cost of Justice Reasonable"***

**Panel Coordinator:** Norma Shapiro, Judge, U.S. District Court (E.D. Pa.)

**Panelists:** Judge Zita L. Weinshienk, U.S. District Court (Colo.); Chief Magistrate Venetta S. Tassopoulos, U.S. District Court (C.D. Ca.); Wade H. McCree, Professor of Law, University of Michigan, former Justice for the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals.

**Panel 4: *Domestic Violence and Custody—"To Ensure Domestic Tranquility"***

**Panel Coordinators:** Judge Isabella Grant, San Francisco Superior Court; and Judge Mary Morgan, San Francisco Municipal Court.

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**Panelists:**

Judge Betty M. Vitousek, Circuit Court, Honolulu, Hawaii; Judge June Rose Galvin, Court of Common Pleas, Brooks County, Ohio; Karil S. Klingbeil, Asst. Professor, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington; Joan Kelly, Ph.D., psychologist and author, California; and Lisa Lerman, Advocacy Fellow, Georgetown Law Center, Washington, D.C.

**Panel 5: *Judicial Writing*****Panel Coordinators:**

Justice Betty Barry-Deal, California Court of Appeals; and Judge Earldean V.S. Robbins, National Labor Relations Board.

**Panelists:**

Judge Mary Murphy-Schroeder, United States Court of Appeals (9th Cir.); Judge Betty Fletcher, U.S. Court of Appeals (9th Cir.); Robert Thompson, Professor of Law, University of Southern California, and a former trial judge; Judge Earldean V.S. Robbins, Administrative Law Judge, National Labor Relations Board; Professor Elizabeth Francis, National Judicial College, and Associate Professor, English Department, University of Nevada.

**Panel 6: *Sentencing*****Panel Coordinator:**

Judge Maxine Chesney, San Francisco Superior Court

**Panelists:**

Judge Lois G. Forer, Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Judge Joseph Mattina, Surrogate's Court, Buffalo, New York; Judge Michael Greer, San Diego Superior Court, San Diego, California.

**Panel 7: *Judicial Review and Constitutional Limitations*****Panel Coordinator:**

Nina Totenberg, legal correspondent for National Public Radio

Panelists:

Justice Shirley Abrahamson, Wisconsin Supreme Court; Judge Patricia Wald, Court of Appeals, District of Columbia; Jesse H. Choper, Dean, Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley; John Hart Ely, Dean, Stanford University School of Law.

Although we had originally intended to publish brief synopses of each discussion, we encountered some difficulties with three of them: *Effective Communications with the Media and the Public*, *Campaigning and Fundraising*, and *Judicial Writing*. Owing to the nature of the subject matter under consideration, these three did not lend themselves well to transcription. Therefore, with our apologies to the coordinators and panel members whose excellent contribution will not be recognized in these pages, we chose not to publish summaries of these discussions.

With respect to *Judicial Review and Constitutional Limitation*, Deans Choper and Ely asked that their remarks not be published in this issue. Hence, one of our writers independently researched their theories of judicial review and prepared a brief statement thereof as a substitute for the Deans' comments. Her statement is followed by verbatim transcripts of Justice Abrahamson's and Judge Wald's responses to the Deans' remarks.

It is a privilege for us to present this symposium issue to our readers. We wish to thank all the NAWJ members who gave advice and assistance unstintingly. We would like to acknowledge in particular Justice Abrahamson, Judge Kessler, Judge Patel, and Judge Duggan-Sullivan. Their particular contributions to this project were invaluable. Finally, we would like to thank the writers of the Women's Law Forum, Dean Jon Pevna, and Susan Bush for their inspiration and tireless dedication.

LH & MJA

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