

**Addressing Issues that Arise in Family Court Cases
Involving Immigrant Survivors and Children:
Learning from Judges**

**D.C. Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants and the National Immigrant Women's
Advocacy Project, American University, Washington College of Law
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Faculty Biographies

Judge Julie R. Breslow *Magistrate Judge, D.C. Superior Court, Washington, D.C.; appointed 2002*

Judge Julie Breslow has served as a Magistrate Judge on the Superior Court for the District of Columbia since 2002. She has been assigned to Family Court for her entire tenure, and presides over a docket of child abuse and neglect cases, as well as domestic relations matters, domestic violence matters, and child support matters. She presides over all cases in D.C. foster care involving unaccompanied refugee minors and unaccompanied alien children, as well as all child custody matters where a parent or loved one has filed a custody action with a Motion for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status for a child.

Prior to joining the Superior Court, from 1999 to 2002, she served as the Chief of the Victim Witness Assistance Unit at the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia. From 1998 to 1999 Julie Breslow served as an Attorney Advisor for the United States Department of Justice, Executive Office for United States Attorneys. From 1995 to 1998, she served as the Director of the Court Services Unit, for the General Receiver at the District of Columbia Child and Family Services Agency. In 1995, Julie Breslow worked as an associate at Freer and McGarry P.C. (no longer operational) in Washington, D.C. From 1990 to 1995, she served as Assistant Corporation Counsel at the Office of the Corporation Counsel for the District of Columbia (now the Attorney General's Office) in the Child Abuse and Neglect, Juvenile Delinquency, and Child Support/Paternity Enforcement sections. Julie Breslow began her career serving as a law clerk to Administrative Law Judge Edward Terhune Miller in Washington, D.C. from 1989 to 1990. She received her J.D. from Albany Law School in 1989 and her B.A. *magna cum laude* from Union College in 1987.

Judge Rosemary Collins – *Judge (Retired), 17th Judicial Circuit Court, Winnebago County, Rockford, Illinois; appointed 1989 (National Judicial Faculty)*

Judge Collins was the Presiding Judge of the Domestic Violence Coordinated Courts Division, the Presiding Judge of the Family Law Division, and carried a full time felony trial calendar as a Circuit Court Judge. She became the first woman judge in the 17th Judicial Circuit in 1989. Judge Collins is the chairperson of the 17th Judicial Circuit's Family Violence Coordinating Council, and serves as President of the Board of Directors for Children's Safe Harbor, a safe visitation exchange and supervised visitation program. She was instrumental in founding one of the first Domestic Violence Coordinated Courts in the nation which in 2014 was chosen as one of the Office on Violence Against Women's domestic violence judicial mentor courts. In 1998, she spearheaded the opening of the Domestic Violence Assistance Center

in the courthouse, which advocates for victims of domestic violence throughout the order of protection process. Judge Collins served as a faculty assistant at the National Judicial College Mediation Program, has lectured at the University of Illinois School of Medicine and Northern Illinois University's College of Law on legal and family violence issues, and has served since 2015 as a national faculty for the Judicial Training Network training judges and court staff on immigration law issues arising in state court proceedings. Her community honored her in 2018 by awarding her the Excalibur Award and she received the Rockford Rotary's Service Above Self Award. She has received numerous state and local awards for her work on violence prevention, including the prestigious Justice Benjamin K. Miller Recognition Award.

Leslye E. Orloff, *Adjunct Professor and Director, National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project, American University, Washington College of Law*

Leslye E. Orloff is an Adjunct Professor and Director of the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) at American University, Washington College of Law. NIWAP provides training and technical assistance that supports attorneys, judges, police, prosecutors and victim advocates in their work with immigrant victims of domestic and sexual violence and child abuse. NIWAP also advocates for laws, policies and practices that enhance legal protections for immigrant women and children and immigrant victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking. Ms. Orloff's 38-year career includes working collaboratively with experts across the country to develop and implement immigration relief, public benefits access and family law protections for immigrant women, children and survivors.

She was involved in drafting the Protection for Immigrant Victims of Violence Against Women of the Violence Against Women Acts of 1994, 2000, 2005, and 2013, the Trafficking Victims Protection Acts of 2000 and 2008, legal services access for battered immigrants in 1997 and 2005 and welfare access for battered immigrants in 1996. She has also worked with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and other federal agencies to implement these laws. She was a co-founder and co-chair of the National Network to End Violence Against immigrant Women (1992-2011). Ms. Orloff has published numerous law and social science journal articles, curricula, and training materials for attorneys, law enforcement, judges and other professionals on legal rights and services options for immigrant survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other crimes.

National recognition of Ms. Orloff's work on behalf of immigrant women includes: 2015-2016 Chair Health-Mental Health Subcommittee of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Advisory Committee on Family Residential Centers; 2015 Social Educational Exchange Fellowship from the Eurasia Foundation for Gender Issues; 2012 Daynard Public Interest Fellowship, Northeastern University Law School, the 2007 Sheila Wellstone Award for her work on VAWA; the 2007 annual Maryland Rosalynn B. Bell Award; a Harvard Law School Wasserstein Public Interest Law Fellowship in 2002; and a Kellogg National Leadership Fellowship in 1994. Ms. Orloff received her J.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles and graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. from Brandeis University.