



January 23, 2025

Dear Judge:

The National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) working in partnership with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) on a State Justice Institute (SJI) funded project is pleased to invite you to participate in the **National Judicial Network: Forum on Human Trafficking and Immigration in State Courts (NJN)**. The NJN provides a forum for judges to engage in peer-to-peer learning forums with judges from across the country, participate in webinars, communicate with other judges in a members-only confidential email group, access topic-specific publications, and attend future in-person trainings on issues that arise in state courts involving human trafficking and immigrant victims. NJN forums and webinars are intended to help judges learn more about these complicated issues and, consequently, improve access to justice for human trafficking and immigrant victims of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, and other crimes.

Judicial Peer-to-Peer Forums & Webinars

We are also inviting you to join monthly peer-to-peer forums (members-only) and webinars (wider audience) hosted by the NJN on the **first Tuesday of every month from 3 – 4pm Eastern**. Each session will be led by a judicial facilitator, with topics set in advance by the NJN's steering committee. Past topics have included: labor trafficking, commercial sex trafficking, familial sex trafficking, improving awareness of human trafficking among minority groups, immigration options and the court's role, among others. The upcoming dates are:

January 30, 2024 (Webinar) - VAWA Confidentiality Protections for Immigrant Survivors: Myths, Facts, and Best Practices

February 4, 2025 (Peer-to-Peer Session) – TBD

March 4, 2025 (Peer-to-Peer Session) – TBD

April 1, 2025 – TBD

May 6, 2025 – TBD

June 3, 2025 – TBD

NIWAP

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If you are a judge, tribal judge, magistrate, commissioner, or other judicial officer and you are interested in joining The Network, please register through this link:

- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VGY9VJM>

Once registered, you will receive regular updates and registration information for all virtual and in-person learning opportunities.

Please assist us in sharing this announcement with other judges you think might be interested in joining and participating. Judges, retired judges, tribal judges, magistrates, commissioners, and other judicial officials are all encouraged to join. We are especially interested in reaching judges in rural, tribal, smaller and urban jurisdictions throughout the United States.

We hope you can join us, and we look forward to hearing from you.

All the best,

Leslye E. Orloff
Adjunct Professor and Director
NIWAP, American University,
Washington College of Law

Hon. Abigail Aragon
Fourth Judicial District Court of
New Mexico

Hon. Susan Breall
Superior Court of California,
County of San Francisco

Hon. Rosemary Collins (ret.)
Former Presiding Judge, Family
Division
17th Judicial Circuit Court,
Rockford, Illinois

Hon. Lori Dumas
Philadelphia Court of Common
Pleas
First Judicial District of
Pennsylvania

Hon. Katherine G. Essrig
Circuit Judge, Unified Family Court,
Juvenile Dependency, 13th Judicial
District
Hillsborough County, Florida

Hon. Ramona A. Gonzalez
Presiding Judge, Lacrosse County
Circuit Court Lacrosse, Wisconsin

Abigail Hill, Esq.
Child Welfare Child
Welfare/Human Trafficking
Program Manager
Administrative Office of the Courts
Maryland Judiciary

Hon. Melissa Hemstreet
Kitsap Superior Court Judge
Girls Court
Kitsap County, Washington

Hon. Lora J. Livingston (ret.)
Presiding Judge, 261st District
Court
Travis County, Texas

Hon. Susan F. Maven (ret.)
New Jersey Superior Court - Family
Division, Juvenile Human
Trafficking Diversion Program

Rose Patterson
Chief of Education and Improvement
Office of the State Court
Administrator
Tallahassee, Florida

Hon. Victor Reyes (ret.)
Judge-In-Residence, National
Council of Juvenile and Family
Court Judges

Hon. John Romero (ret.)
Second Judicial District Court
Children's Court Division
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Hon. Toko Serita
Acting Supreme Court Justice
Queens Human Trafficking
Intervention Court
New York, New York

Hon. Gustavo Sztraicher
Judge of the Superior Court of
California
County of Los Angeles

Hon. Mary F. Weir
Associate Circuit Judge
16th Judicial Circuit Court of
Missouri
Kansas City, Missouri

Hon. Loretta M. Young
State of Delaware, Family Court
Wilmington, Delaware