Participant Bios



Judge Abigail Aragon - *Judge, 4th Judicial District Court, Las Vegas, New Mexico; appointed 2006, Chief Judge 2012 (New Mexico State Team)*

Judge Aragon was elected to the 4th Judicial District Court in 2006. She became the first woman to serve on the court and hold its chief position. She presides over a diversified docket and hears both civil and criminal cases. Her law degree is from the University of New Mexico. Before working for the 4th Judicial District Court, she was an assistant district attorney and worked in private practice. Judge Aragon is active in various civic and professional organizations.



Judge Laura Baird - *Chief Circuit Judge Pro Tempore, Ingham County Circuit Court; Lansing, Michigan; elected 2000, 2006, 2012, 2018 (Michigan State Team)*

Judge Baird has served the 30th Circuit Court in Ingham County Michigan since 2000. She is president of the Michigan Judges Association Executive board and was the President of Michigan Judges Association (MJA) in 2016. She is also affiliated with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. She has also served as the National Commissioner on Uniform State Laws (1996-2000) and was a State Representative for the 70th House District (1995-2000). She also serves on the Advisory Board for Legal Services of South Central MI. She is a Life Member of the NAACP and a Presenter at Michigan Judicial Institute.



Laura Bassein - *Senior Attorney, Institute of Public Law, University of New Mexico School of Law, Albuquerque, New Mexico (New Mexico State Team)*

Laura Bassein is an Institute of Public Law Senior Attorney with the University of New Mexico (UNM) School of Law. She works with New Mexico's Judicial Education Center and Center for Child and Family Justice, and serves as a New Mexico Supreme Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Commissioner. She has served as an adjunct faculty member with the UNM School of Law since 2008, and is a frequent trainer on a wide array of legal topics. She has also worked for the Administrative Office of the Courts on domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking issues and was Children's Court Mediation Program statewide coordinator. She worked for the Second Judicial District Court as Program Manager/Mediator of the Pro Se Mediation Program and for Michigan's Supreme Court Office of Dispute Resolution.



Judge Scott M. Bernstein – *Judge, Circuit Family Division, 11th Judicial Court of Florida, Miami, Florida; elected 1998 (Florida State Team)*

Judge Bernstein currently serves as Administrative Judge of the Family Division of the 11th Circuit of Florida. He also is Chair-elect of the Florida Conference of Circuit Judges. Judge Bernstein, elected as a Circuit Judge in 1998, asked to be assigned to Juvenile Court so he could dedicate his judicial career to the needs of children. Judge Bernstein was also the Chair of the Delinquency Case Management project for the Miami-Dade County Juvenile court. He is a former Chair of the Florida Supreme Court's Standing Committee on Fairness and Diversity. Judge Bernstein is also Immediate Past Chair of the Florida Conference of Circuit Judges. He has taught at the Florida Judicial College, the Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies, the Conference of Circuit Court Judges, the Conference of County Court Judges, and the National Judicial College. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Family Law at the Florida International University College of Law. He was elected to membership in the American Law Institute in 2015.



Judge Susan M. Breall - *Superior Court Judge, San Francisco Superior Court, San Francisco, California; appointed 2001 (National Judicial Faculty)*

Judge Breall is a judge in the Superior Court of San Francisco. As part of her juvenile delinquency assignment, she became the founder of the first Girls Court in San Francisco. Moreover, she is a member of the California Alliance to Combat Trafficking and Slavery Task Force. She is a speaker at the International Human Trafficking Summit, a national expert faculty on human trafficking for the National Council for Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Rights 4 Girls, and the U.S. Department of Justice. In addition to her anti-trafficking work, she is the former Chief of the Criminal Division of the San Francisco District Attorney's Office for all crimes of violence against women, children, elderly and intimate partners.



Judge Cynthia Brewer – *Judge, Madison County Chancery Court, Canton, Mississippi (Mississippi State Team)*

Judge Brewer has served as a chancellor of the 11th Chancery District since 2007. She hears cases in Leake and Madison counties. She is former chair of the Conference of Chancery Judges. She previously served for four years as Madison County Court and Youth Court Judge. She also served as a municipal, county and Youth Court prosecutor in Hinds County. She has been a facilitator and instructor at the National Judicial College.



Judge Barron C. Burmaster - *Chief Judge, Jefferson Parish Juvenile Court; Harvey, Louisiana; elected 2013 (Louisiana State Team)*

Judge Burmaster was elected to Section 'C' of the Jefferson Parish Juvenile Court in 2013 and serves as the presiding Judge for the Jefferson Parish Juvenile Drug Court. He served as Executive Assistant District Attorney from 2007 to 2013. Also, he was appointed to Governor Jindal's transition team as a member of the Youth Development Panel of the Crime and Public Safety Advisory Council. He served on the Louisiana Legislature's Juvenile Justice Commission Advisory board and on the Louisiana Supreme Court's Committee to establish uniform Juvenile and Family Court Rules. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Fifth Circuit Judges Association, and is a member of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the American Judges Association and both the National and Louisiana Association of Drug Court Professionals.



Judge Michael D. Burton – *Circuit Judge, 21st Judicial Circuit Court, Louis County, Clayton, Missouri (Missouri State Team)*

Judge Burton has been a judge in the St. Louis County Circuit Court since 1999. He currently serves as the alternative treatment court judge for St. Louis County. Since 2008, Burton has been the Chairman of the St. Louis County Domestic and Family Violence Council. In 2009, he started the St. Louis County Domestic Violence Court, which focuses on holding offenders accountable through the indirect criminal contempt process. Burton established an "after hours" procedure for the 90 municipalities and 60-plus police departments of St. Louis County, to assist DV victims attain orders of protection when the circuit court's Adult Abuse Office is closed. In 2016, Burton started a criminal domestic violence docket, focusing on compliance through numerous post-sentencing review hearings. In 2017, the Missouri Supreme Court appointed Burton to be the Chairman of the Missouri Commission on Combatting Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence.



Nancy Capps - *Court Services Management Analyst for the Missouri Office of State Courts Administrator in Jefferson City, Missouri (Missouri State Team)*

As part of the Children, Youth, and Family Programs unit within the Missouri Office of State Courts Administrator, Ms. Capps provides technical assistance to Fostering Court Improvement (FCI) sites, including on-site visits with juvenile and family court judges and court personnel, on model procedures and best practices, and assists with development and implementation of court performance measures and child welfare outcome measures. In addition, she staffs the Missouri Combatting Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence Commission as well as the Juvenile Court Improvement Project steering committee. She is a coordinator for both the Jurist in Residence Program through the Casey Family Programs and the NIWAP project for the state of Missouri.



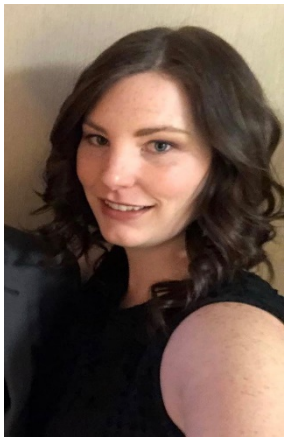
Judge Rosemary Collins – *Judge (Retired), 17th Judicial Circuit Court, Winnebago County, Rockford, Illinois; appointed 1989 (National Judicial Faculty)*

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. 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 Rosemary Cosgrove-Aguilar – *Judge, Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court, Albuquerque, New Mexico; since 2013 (New Mexico State Team)*

Judge Cosgrove-Aguilar has served as a Metropolitan Court Judge since 2013, as the Presiding Judge on Domestic Violence Solutions, Treatment, and Education Court. She was also the Special Commissioner for Domestic Violence in the Second Judicial District Court (2003 – 2013). She is also an adjunct professor of "Domestic Violence and the Law" at the University of New Mexico College of Law. She has served as Chair of the New Mexico Supreme Court Judicial Education Committee (2015, chair since 2018), is a National Council Family and Juvenile Court Judges, Domestic Violence Committee member. She is a member of the New Mexico Supreme Court Magistrate and Metropolitan Forms Committee.



Amanda Couture-Carron – *PhD Candidate, Department of Sociology, University of Toronto*

Amanda is a PhD candidate at the University of Toronto. With training in sociology and criminology, her research lies at the intersection of criminology and immigration. Her research interests focus on what makes immigrants vulnerable to: deviance, being seen as a criminal, victimization, and being unable to access justice. She has been involved in multiple research projects on immigrant and second-generation experiences, including intimate partner abuse.



Judge Ann Melinda Craggs - *Circuit Judge, Administrative Judge for Family Court, 5th Judicial Circuit, Ocala, Florida (Florida State Team)*

Judge Craggs is a Circuit Judge and Administrative Judge for the 5th Judicial Circuit Court in Ocala Florida. She was appointed in 2014 and focuses on the foreclosure docket, domestic violence and relations cases, child support enforcement cases and Baker and Marchment act cases. Previously, she was in private practice, focusing on family law and adoption. She volunteers with the YMCA and Eighth Street Elementary School Advisory Council in her community.



Judge Susan Dobrich - *Probate Judge/ Chief Judge, Cass County Probate/Family Court; Cassopolis, Michigan; elected 1995 (Chief Judge since 2014) (Michigan State Team)*

Judge Dobrich was elected Cass County Probate Judge in 1995 and has served as Probate Judge and presided over the Circuit Court, Family Division. She was appointed Chief Judge of Cass County in 2014. She was the first elected woman Prosecutor in Cass County in 1984. She is the past president of the Michigan Probate Judges Association and of the Association of Drug Court Professionals. She often serves as an adjunct professor for Michigan Judicial Institute and has served on the Governor's Task Force on Child Neglect and Abuse, appointed by Governor John Engler and reappointed by Governor Jennifer Granholm. She has served on the Michigan Women's Commission, an appointment by Governor Rick Snyder. Judge Dobrich is the current co-chair of the Tribal-State-Federal Court Forum for Michigan.



Dana Dowling Grethe - *Former Senior Attorney II at Florida Supreme Court (2007-2015) (Florida State Team)*

Ms. Grethe is a Former Senior Attorney II at Florida Supreme Court, serving from 2007 to 2015. She was a Senior Attorney in the Office of the State Courts Administrator for the Florida Supreme Court from 2004 to 2007. She was a Unified Family Court Manager and Director of four court programs – case management, pro se assistance, visitation program, and teen court from 2000 to 2004.



Judge Bernadette D'Souza – *Family Court Judge, Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans; New Orleans, Louisiana; elected 2012 (Louisiana State Team)*

Judge D'Souza was elected as the first Family Court Judge at Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans in 2012. Judge D'Souza received her Juris Doctor from Tulane University School of Law in 1992. She serves on the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Faculty of the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence. Due to her experience in domestic violence law and dedication to ensuring that legal services are available to all who need them, Judge D'Souza was appointed to the Louisiana Commission on Women's Policy and Research. Judge D'Souza received the City Business Icon Award to mark New Orleans' 300th Anniversary honoring leaders for their energy, innovative ideas, achievements, and commitment to excellence to move the community forward.



Chancellor Deborah J. Gambrell – *Chancery Court Judge, State of Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi; appointed 2011 (Mississippi State Team)*

Chancellor Gambrell serves the 10th District Chancery Court of Mississippi. She has been Chancellor since 2011, before which she worked as a Justice Court Judge for Forest County and for Gambrell Law Firm, PLLC. She is a member of the Mississippi Bar Association, where she served on the Committee on Professional Responsibility and the Access to Justice Committee. She is a past president of the South Central Bar Association. Judge Gambrell is a member of the Mississippi College School of Law Alumni Association, for which she was the Treasurer from 2003-2004. She has served on the Boards of Directors of many community organizations, including the Family YMCA,where she was the president from 2001 to 2002.



Kathleen Gasparian *(Community-based Organization)* – *Attorney, Gasparian Spivey Immigration and the Pelican Center, New Orleans, Louisiana (Louisiana State Team)*

Ms. Gasparian founded Gasparian Immigration in 2015 and partnered with Leah Spivey to form Gasparian Spivey in 2018. Kathleen is active in the American Immigration Lawyer's Association (AILA). She has served as the Chair and Treasurer of AILA's Mid-South Chapter and as the chair of AILA's national liaison committee to the Executive Office for Immigration Review. She serves as a Regulatory Ombudsperson for Scholar Issues for NAFSA Region III, on the Board for the New Orleans Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, and as an Adjunct Professor of Immigration Law at Loyola University, New Orleans. Kathleen has authored and co-authored a number of articles on immigration including "An Immigration Primer for Primary and Secondary Schools" in The Admissions Review, and "Adjustment of Status for the Atypical Entrant" in the 2012 Immigration Practice Pointers, published by AILA.



Judge Ernestine S. Gray – *Chief Judge, Orleans Parish Juvenile Court; New Orleans, Louisiana; serving since 1984 (Louisiana State Team)*

Judge Gray is the Chief Judge of the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court, after first being elected to Section "A" in 1984. Before becoming a judge, Judge Gray worked in private practice law, worked with the Baton Rouge Legal Aid Society and as a trial attorney with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. She is the Past President of the National CASA, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the YWCA Board of Directors and is currently Secretary of the Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. She is the President of the National Court Appointed Special Advocate Assoc. She has also served in the following programs: Chair, Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiatives; Teen Court Advisory Committee; Co-Chair, Commission on Youth at Risk (2010- Present); Treasurer (2008), President (1991-92), Vice-President (1990-91), Secretary-Treasurer (1989-90), Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.



Judge Ramona Gonzalez – *President of National Council of Juvenile and Family Courts Judges (2019), Circuit Judge of La Crosse County, Wisconsin (National Judicial Faculty)*

Judge Gonzalez is the presiding judge in La Crosse County, Wisconsin; she was first elected as a circuit judge in 1995. She is an expert on family law issues, specializing in particular on national and international matters relating to child abduction and domestic violence. Judge Gonzalez has extensive experience with the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. She is a member of the Board of Trustees and a national trainer on domestic violence issues for the National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ), a member of the NCJFCJ Family Violence and Domestic Relations Department Advisory Committee, and a member of the Advisory Committee of the Interpretation Technical Assistance and Resource Center at the Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence.



Judge W. Ann Hansbrough – *Associate Circuit Judge, 6th Judicial Circuit, Platte County, Platte City, Missouri* (Missouri State Team)

Judge Hansbrough serves on the Circuit Court of Platte County, Missouri. She worked for Swanson, Midgley, LLC from 1985 – 2004 and was the firm's first female partner and was the first female judge appointed in the history of Platte County. She has served on the Board of Directors Missouri Association of Probate and Associate Circuit Judges since 2015 and has been a member of the Missouri Supreme Court Chief Justice Realignment Task Force since 2017. She presided over the longest criminal jury trial in history of Platte County. She is also affiliated the Missouri Bar Association Family Law Committee (1990-Present); Secretary (2013), Treasurer (2012), and the Platte County Bar Association.



Judge Cheryl Hill – *Chief Family Division and Probate Judge, Marquette County Probate Court, Marquette, Michigan; elected 2012 (Michigan State Team)*

Judge Hill is a Probate Judge in Marquette County, Michigan. To which she was elected in 2012. She presides over cases involving juvenile delinquency, abuse or neglect of children by parents/caregivers, and emancipation of minors. On the probate court, she adjudicates and disposes of cases involving property of persons who have died or become incompetent. She also interprets wills and trusts, and commits the mentally ill when necessary. She appoints guardians and conservators for minors, incapacitated individuals and individuals with developmental disability. Before serving on the probate court, Judge Hill was the Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Marquette County.



Judge Andrea Price Janzen – *Judge, Section B Jefferson Parish Juvenile Court; New Orleans, Louisiana; elected 1996 (Louisiana State Team)*

Judge Janzen was elected to Section "B" of the Jefferson Parish Juvenile Court in 1996. She served as an Assistant District Attorney in Jefferson Parish and as an assistant in the Juvenile Court. She created the Felony Child Abuse Prosecution Unit of the Jefferson Parish District Attorney's Office in 1989. Before being elected, she was President of the Board of Directors of the Jefferson Children's Advocacy Center. She was a member of the Louisiana Children's Code Committee and of the Jefferson Parish Inter Agency Task Force. Currently, she is a member of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and is a Past President of the Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the 5th Circuit Judges Associations She was also appointed to serve on the Youth Development Advisory Council.



Judge Pamela Taylor Johnson – *Judge, Division B of Juvenile Court of East Baton Rouge Parish; Baton Rouge, Louisiana; elected 1994 (Louisiana State Team)*

Judge Johnson serves on Division B of the Juvenile Court for the Parish of East Baton Rouge. Before her election she was a Partner of Johnson, Ritzie, Taylor and Thomas. She served as the Managing Attorney for the Capital Area Legal Services Corporation, General Counsel for the Louisiana Department of Education, Co-Counsel for the Louisiana landmark case Clark vs. Edwards, making it possible for African Americans to become elected to the Judiciary in the State of Louisiana. As a judge she helped create an alternative school program to serve at-risk youth. She also created the Juvenile Justice Community Task Force, which led to the creation of the first Juvenile Drug Court Program in the State of Louisiana. She has served as faculty for the Louisiana Judicial Council/NBA, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and Adjunct Professor at Southern University Department of Criminal Justice.



Annie Johnston – *Director, El Pueblo Immigration Legal Services, Seashore Mission, Biloxi, Mississippi (Mississippi State Team)*

Ms. Johnston is the Director of El Pueblo Immigration Legal Services, which serves the immigrant population of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. She is a BIA Accredited Immigration Attorney who received her Juris Doctorate and a Master's Degree in International Development from Tulane University's School of Law. She worked for three years for the Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans, working with immigrant survivors of abuse and prosecution. She also worked for Cueria Law Firm LLC and as a Law Clerk for Butler Mordock, PLC.



Judge Joey Kilgore – *Chancery Court Judge, State of Mississippi, Sixth Chancery District, Philadelphia, Mississippi, appointed 2010 (Mississippi State Team)*

Judge Kilgore presides as a Chancery Court Judge in Mississippi. Prior to his judicial appointment in 2010, Kilgore worked as a partner with the law firm of *Alford, Thomas and Kilgore,* gaining additional experience as a special master in chancery court and as a youth court referee in Kemper County. He also worked as a board attorney for the Philadelphia Public School District and for Philadelphia Utilities.



Michael LaRiviere – *Investigator, Salem Police Department; Salem, Massachusetts (National Faculty)*

Officer LaRiviere is a veteran Law Enforcement Officer and Law Enforcement Trainer and Educator with experience in developing immigration, domestic violence, sexual assault and elder abuse response policies, procedures and training programs on a national level. He has worked with The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), The National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), The National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) as well as numerous other federal, state and local law enforcement professionals on the development and implementation of policies, procedures and training programs. As a member of the Congressionally Appointed 24 member DoD Task Force on Domestic Violence he was assigned to the Law Enforcement Protocol Workgroup tasked with developing policies, procedures and regulation recommendations for the DoD on their response to domestic violence.



Eva Lessinger - *Director of Programs, New Orleans Family Justice Center, New Orleans, Louisiana (Louisiana State Team)*

Ms. Lessinger has been dedicated for over a decade to work in the fields of reproductive health, women's empowerment, and trauma healing. Eva is a social worker by training and presently serves as the Director of Programs at the New Orleans Family Justice Center, a multidisciplinary agency dedicated to addressing interpersonal violence and trauma. Eva takes an intersectional, feminist, and human rights based approach to examining issues of power and equity within direct social services and advocacy work. Eva is particularly passionate about immigrants' rights, reproductive justice, and learning to stay hopeful about our capacity for change.



Judge Lora J. Livingston - *Local Administrative Judge (Chief Judge), 261st District Court, Travis County, Austin, Texas (National Judicial Faculty)*

Judge Livingston became the first African-American woman to serve on a district court in Travis County, Texas in 1999. Since 2011, she has served as the Local Administrative Judge (Chief Judge) for the Travis County Courts. As the Local Administrative Judge (Chief Judge), Judge Livingston is responsible for implementing and executing the local rules of administration and supervising the expeditious movement of court caseloads for all of Travis County. Judge Livingston has been active in local, state and national bar association activities and has served on the boards of the Texas Equal Access to Justice Foundation, Texas Access to Justice Commission, the National Center on Women and Family Law, the National Association of IOLTA Programs, the Judicial Section of the State Bar of Texas, and the Board of the Texas Center for the Judiciary.



Judge Susan E. Long – *Associate Circuit Judge, State of Missouri, Division 34, Independence, Missouri; appointed 2015 (Missouri State Team)*

Judge Long was appointed as the first Associate Circuit Judge of Division 34 of the 16th Circuit Court of Jackson County Missouri in 2015. Judge Long had served as a Family Court Commissioner from 2013-2015. Judge Long was most recently with the firm of Blessing & Long, L.L.C., serving as a guardian ad litem, representing parents in parental rights cases, and representing minors in juvenile proceedings. Before being a Judge, she was selected by the Missouri Supreme Court to serve on its Regional Disciplinary Committee for Region IV. She also served as a facilitator for the Missouri Bar Association in its Complaint Resolution Program since 2002, and on its Lawyer-to-Lawyer Dispute Resolution Program Committee as facilitator and arbitrator since 2008. She also works with the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).



Mercedes V. Lorduy - *(Community-based Organization) – Co-Director, VIDA Legal Assistance, Inc., Naranja, Florida (Florida State Team)*

Ms. Lorduy is co-founder and co-Director of VIDA Legal Assistance, Inc. She currently represents farmworker women who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking. Ms. Lorduy assisted in the creation and the development of the training curriculum, manual and video "Improving Access to Justice for Immigrant Survivors," a training curriculum offered by the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Ms. Lorduy also conducts community Know Your Rights forums with the local community on immigrant's rights as victims of crime. Ms. Lorduy has trained and provides technical assistance internationally to organizations that work with victims of domestic violence and sexual violence.



Judge Kathleen M. McCarthy – *Presiding Judge of the Family Domestic Division, Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court, Detroit, Michigan; (2013 - present) (Michigan State Team)*

Judge McCarthy is the presiding judge of the 3rd Circuit Court's Family Domestic Division in Detroit, MI. She has served on the Wayne County Family Court bench since 2001 and was named the presiding judge in 2013. She has served as an adjunct professor of family law and law firm program courses at the University of Detroit Mercy Law School since 2011. She has presented at IDFA, AAML, and ICLE conferences on family law. She is past president of the Dearborn Bar Association and is active in the Wayne County Family Law Bar Association. Judge McCarthy currently sits on the executive board of the court; board of the Furniture Bank of Southeast Michigan; Wayne Mediation Center board; and board of the Arab-American Civil Rights League.



Dawn F. McCarty *Director, Michigan Judicial Institute, Lansing, Michigan (2003-Present) (Michigan State Team)*

Ms. McCarty is the director of the Michigan Judicial Institute. Her primary responsibility is to direct the delivery of education and training for all judges and judicial branch employees, as well as oversee the development and revision of MJI publications. Previously, Dawn served as a program administrator with MJI. Her principal responsibilities were to design and provide educational opportunities for new and experienced judges, new and experienced chief judges, and court managers. Dawn was a research attorney with MJI and co-authored several benchbooks (Contempt of Court, 1987; Probate Court Benchbooks Vol I-III, 1990; and the Criminal Monographs, 1992) and served as Co-Editor of two judicial periodicals (IMPACT and COLLEAGUE). She has served as an adjunct professor at Cooley Law School and as a guest lecturer at Western Michigan University.

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Sonia Medellin – *Bilingual Service Coordinator, Mattie Rhodes Center, Kansas City, Missouri (Missouri State Team)*

Ms. Medellin is a Bilingual Service Coordinator for the Mattie Rhodes Center in Kansas City, MO. She has been a lead immigrant victim advocate for the Mattie Rhodes Center for over a decade. The Mattie Rhodes Center is a nonprofit agency celebrating its 123rd year of serving the Greater Kansas City community.



Carole Murphey – *Staff Attorney, Mississippi Judicial College, Oxford, Mississippi (Mississippi State Team)*

Ms. Murphey has been a staff attorney and Research Counsel for the Mississippi Judicial College for more than 21 years. She is responsible for drafting and updating the Benchbook for Mississippi Chancery Court Judges, the Benchbook for Mississippi Circuit Court Judges as well as several other publications. She holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Mississippi School of Law.



Judge Staci O'Neal – *Judge, Madison County Court, Canton, Mississippi; elected 2017 (Mississippi State Team)*

Judge O'Neal was elected to the Madison County Court in November 2016. She has many years of experience within the county, circuit and federal courts of Mississippi. As County Court Judge, she serves as the Youth Court Judge and handles non-capital felony cases, in addition to being the Juvenile Drug Court Judge. She helped create the "Jobs4Youth" program, to help the juveniles in the Madison County Justice System get access to an education and job opportunities. Moreover, she is the author of *The Way Out* (a book to help teenagers change their lives and break free of destructive habits/ circumstances). In 2006, she opened her own law firm, handling litigation and property matters. She was appointed as the Public Defender for the Madison County Juvenile Drug Court in 2006 and as the Public Defender for the Madison County Youth Court in 2010.



Leslye E. Orloff *Adjunct Professor and Director of the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) at American University Washington College of Law (National Faculty)*

Ms. Orloff is an Adjunct Professor and Director of the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) at American University Washington College of Law. Ms. Orloff's 34-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 is a co-founder and co-chair of the National Network to End Violence Against immigrant Women (1992-2011).



Rose Patterson – *Chief of Education and Improvement, Office of the State Courts Administrator, Tallahassee, Florida (Florida State Team)*

Ms. Patterson is the Chief of Education and Improvement for the Office of the State Courts Administrator in Tallahassee, FL Ms. Patterson was Chief of Court Improvement for the Florida Supreme Court from 2000 to 2016. She was the Circuit Director of the Seventh Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program from 1997 to 2000. She was the Director of the Act Corporation BEACH House from 1994 to 1997.



Randy Pierce – *Director, Mississippi Judicial College, University of Mississippi Law School, University, Mississippi* (Mississippi State Team)

Mr. Pierce is the Director of the Mississippi Judicial College. He previously served on the Mississippi Supreme Court, as a Chancellor for the Sixteenth Chancery Court District, and as a member of the Mississippi House of Representatives. As a member of the Mississippi Supreme Court, he served as co-chair of the Supreme Court's Commission on Children's Justice. He also served as chair of the Rules Committee on the Legal profession. He is a frequent speaker at continuing legal education seminars and has served as an adjunct professor at the University of Southern Mississippi and Mississippi College School of Law. He is a member of the Mississippi Bar, American Bar Association, Mississippi Society of Certified Public Accountants, and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.



Judge Peter R. Ramsberger – *Circuit Family Judge, 6th Judicial Court of Florida, St. Petersburg, Florida; elected 1990 (Florida State Team)*

Judge Ramsberger is a Pinellas-Pasco Circuit Judge. He is an expert on Family Law and Domestic Violence, helping to train other judges on the subjects. He has served as the Administrative Judge of the circuit's Family and Unified Family court divisions and helped design and establish the circuit's Unified Family Court division. He has a master's degree from Golden Gate University and he attended Florida State University College of Law, graduating in 1983. He practiced law in Pinellas County until he was elected a county judge in 1990. In 1994, he was re-elected, and in 1997, he was appointed a circuit judge. He is a presenter on family law and domestic violence for the Florida Judicial College, and former County and Juvenile Administrative Judge.



Judge Debra Ramirez – *Judge, Second Judicial District Court, Family Court Division, Albuquerque, New Mexico; appointed 2014 (New Mexico State Team)*

Judge Ramirez is the Presiding Family Court Judge of the New Mexico Second District Court. She joined the Court in 2014 as the Domestic Violence Judge. Prior to that, she served the Second Judicial District Court as the Domestic Violence Special Commissioner from 2001-2003 returning in 2009, serving until her appointment to the bench in 2014. She serves as the Chair of the New Mexico Supreme Court's Domestic Relations Rules Committee and is a member of the New Mexico Intimate Partner Homicide Review Team.



Susan E. Reed – *Managing Attorney, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center, Kalamazoo, Michigan (Michigan State Team)*

Ms. Reed is a Managing Attorney with the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center. Susan has practiced immigration and immigrant rights law since 2003. Her particular interests include the intersection of family and immigration law, the rights of unaccompanied immigrant children, immigrant eligibility for public benefits and programs, and civil rights matters. Susan is Secretary of the Steering Committee for the Michigan Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (MCIRR) and a member of the Michigan Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). In 2013, Susan was appointed by the Michigan Supreme Court to the Foreign Language Board of Review as the LEP Populations Advocate and served as a committee member of the Court's Limited English Proficiency Implementation Advisory Committee.



Judge John J. Romero, Jr. – *Judge, Second Judicial District Court, Children's Court Division, Albuquerque, New Mexico* (New Mexico State team)

Judge Romero serves in the Second Judicial District Court in the Children's Court Division. Judge Romero is involved in his community's family violence prevention efforts and presides over the *Program for the Empowerment of Girls*, a multi-agency juvenile probation program for girls with a history of violence and trauma. Judge Romero is Co-Chair Emeritus of New Mexico's Children's Court Improvement Commission and is involved with the Tribal-State Judicial Consortium. He was the first judge in the country to be recognized as a Certified Child Welfare Law Specialist by the National Association of Counsel for Children. He serves on the Board of Directors of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and is the Board President for 2018-2019.

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Elizabeth Rourke - *Second Judicial District Court as a Domestic Violence Special Commissioner (New Mexico Attendee)*

Ms. Rourke graduated from UNM School of Law in 2001. She spent approximately two and a half years working as a domestic violence staff attorney at New Mexico Legal Aid. Ms. Rourke spent one year working as a children's court attorney for CYFD, handling abuse and neglect cases. Subsequently, she was the Legal Director at Enlace Comunitario, representing Spanish-speaking clients in family law and domestic violence cases, from 2005 through 2014. Since September 2014, she has served at the Second Judicial District Court as a Domestic Violence Special Commissioner.

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Ms. Amy Saathoff – *(In-Kind Partner) with National Council of Juvenile and Family Courts Judges (NCJFCJ) (National Faculty)*

Ms. Saathoff is the Curriculum Development Manager at the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges in Reno, NV. She is the former Director of Development and Community Relations, Committee to Aid Abused Women.



Judge Angie K. Schneider – *Judge, Twelfth Judicial District Court, Alamogordo, New Mexico; appointed 2013 (New Mexico State Team)*

Judge Schneider has served on the Twelfth Judicial District Court Bench in New Mexico since July 2013. She presides over juvenile delinquency, child welfare, adult criminal, domestic relations, mental health, civil and probate matters. Judge Schneider serves on three working committees of the National Counsel of Juvenile and attended judicial leadership training at the National Judicial College. In New Mexico, Judge Schneider serves on the Juvenile Justice Advisory Commission and the Substitute Care Advisory Commission. She also serves on the Children's Court Improvement Commission and the New Mexico Drug Court Advisory Commission. In her own community, Judge Schneider chairs the Otero County Juvenile Justice Board, the Juvenile Drug Court Advisory Board, and the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.



Judge Mary W. Sheffield – *Presiding Appellate Judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Southern District, Springfield, Missouri; appointed 2012 (Missouri State Team)*

District in 2012 and currently serves as Presiding Judge. She served as an Associate Circuit Judge (1983 to 2004) and then as a Circuit Judge for the 25th Judicial Circuit from 2004 to 2012. She is the former President of the National College of Probate Judges and past President of the Blue Ridge Institute for Juvenile and Family Law Judges. Judge Sheffield was appointed in 2003 to serve as one of four U.S. International Liaison Network Judges for the Hague Convention on Child Abduction. She participated in the National Convening on Trafficking and Child Welfare held at the White House, and the New York National Summit on Human Trafficking and State Courts. She currently serves as co-chair of the Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence Commission and as co-chair of the Human Trafficking sub-committee. She previously served as chair of the Family Court Committee and Domestic Violence Committee.



Judge Sharon Sigalas – *Judge, Jackson County Youth Court, Pascagoula, Mississippi (Mississippi State Team)*

Judge Sigalas was elected to the Jackson County Court in 2014. She works within the Youth Court division of the County Courts. She oversees the cases of individuals under the age of 18 who fall under the categories of delinquent child, child in need of supervision, or neglected and/or abused. She has also been involved in fighting schools from sending children to the courts for "minor violations," encouraging the school districts to follow criteria for dealing with students, and preventing minor offenses from going to court. She has the held Reunification Banquet for parents and children in the foster system and created rules to prevent "school-to-prison pipeline".



Judge Anne L. Simon – *Retired Judge, 16th Judicial District Court, New Iberia, Louisiana (Louisiana State Team)*

Anne L. Simon, District Judge Retired, received her legal education from Yale Law School and LSU. She presently serves as Juvenile Court Improvement Fellow for the Pelican Center for Children and Families of the State of Louisiana. She is frequently appointed *ad hoc* by the Louisiana Supreme Court, and is an appellate judge for the Chitimacha, Coushatta and Tunica-Biloxi Tribes. She is the author of *Blood in the Cane Field, Blood in the Lake*, and *Blood of the* Believers, crime novels loosely based upon her experiences.



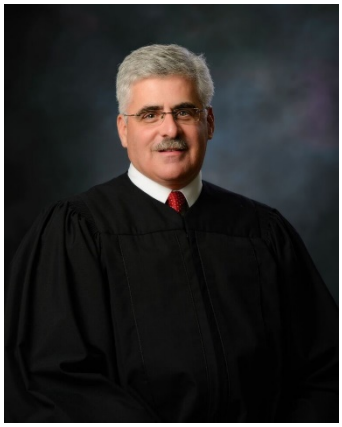
David Thronson – *Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Professor of Law, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan (National Faculty)*

Professor Thronson is the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Professor of Law at Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. He is a Former Associate Dean for Experiential Education at the Michigan State University College of Law. He researches the intersection of family law and immigration law, in particular the impact of immigration law on children. He previously taught at New York University School of Law, Seton Hall University School of Law, Hofstra University School of Law, Boyd School of Law of the University of Nevada Las Vegas, and the University of Michigan Law School. He is an Elected Member of the American Law Institute, where he is active on the Restatement of Law - Children and the Law project.



Veronica Thronson – *Clinical Professor of Law & Director of the MSU Law Clinic and Immigration Law Clinic, Michigan State University College of Law, East Lansing, Michigan (National Faculty)*

Professor Thronson is a Clinical Professor of Law & Director of the MSU Law Clinic and Immigration Law Clinic at Michigan State University College of Law in East Lansing, MI where she also teaches Immigration and Nationality Law and Domestic Violence. She was the Directing Attorney of the Domestic Violence Project at the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada from 2002 to 2010, where she represented clients in their family and immigration cases. She taught Community Property at the William S. Boyd School of Law at UNLV. Prior to that, Professor Thronson was the Director of Training and Legal Services at the New York Immigration Coalition. She has served on numerous boards and task forces and served as co-chair of the Domestic Violence Committee of the State Bar of Michigan. Currently, she is a core faculty member of the MSU Research Consortium on Gender-Based Violence and a board member of the Michigan Committee for Refugee Resettlement. In addition, Professor Thronson is a Domestic Violence Screening Mediation Trainer approved by the Office of Dispute Resolution at the Michigan State Court Administrative Office. She regularly conducts trainings for attorneys and judges, and was appointed to the faculty of The National Judicial College in 2012.



Judge John D. Tomlinson – *Probate Judge, St. Clair County Probate Court, Port Huron, Michigan (Michigan State Team)*

Judge Tomlinson is the Probate Judge for the St. Clair County Probate Court in Port Huron, MI. Judge Tomlinson is a member of the Family Division of the Circuit Court, in which he hears domestic relations and neglect abuse matters. He is also a founding team member and presiding Judge for the St. Clair County Community Mental Health Court since 2008.



Sujata Warrier – *Director of Training and Technical Assistance, Battered Women's Justice Project (National Faculty)*

Ms. Warrier is the Director of Training and Technical Assistance at the Battered Women's Justice Project. Previously she was the Director of the Community Response Policy and Training of the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence. She served as the Country Director – Bangladesh for an American Bar Association – Rule of Law Initiative for six months. She helped train lawyers to advocate for women's rights and violence against women in Bangladesh for the same program. She has worked with Chemonics International and the Egyptian government to help develop a national Egyptian strategy to address Violence against Women in Egypt. She served a facilitator for some of the sessions at the Asia Summit in New Delhi, India as well as for the Latin America Human Rights Institute, in Buenos Aires, hosted by Vital Voices. She also served as a consultant for a domestic violence institute hosted by UNDP.



Judge Mary F. Weir – *Associate Judge, 16th Judicial Circuit Court, Jackson County, Kansas City, Missouri (National Judicial Faculty)*

Judge Weir was appointed as an Associate Circuit in 2013. Prior to her appointment, she began working in 2001 as a contract attorney with Hope House, Inc., and provided legal representation to victims of domestic violence and their children. She also represented juveniles and their parents in cases heard before the Jackson County Family Court through her work as "of counsel" with the Raith Law Firm. Judge Weir served as an Assistant Missouri Public Defender from 1998 until 2001. She was also a law clerk to the Honorable Christine Sill-Rogers of Division 31 from 1995 until 1998. She has taught at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Law School as an Adjunct Professor since 2004.



Judge David Young – *Circuit Court Judge, Circuit Family Division, 11th Judicial Court of Florida; Miami, Florida (Florida State Team)*

Judge Young was a judge of the Miami-Dade County Court assigned to the Civil and Criminal Divisions from 1993 to 2000. He also was an Acting Circuit Court Judge in the Juvenile Division (presiding over both Delinquency and Dependency cases) and presided over trials brought by The Florida Bar Grievance Panels against attorney's accused of ethical misconduct. He served the 11th Judicial Circuit, Criminal Division from 2001 to 2007, and was elected again in 2016. He has served on the Judicial Qualifications Committee and on the Board of Directors of the Miami Dade Humane Society. He was the Vice-Chairperson of the City of Miami's Planning and Zoning Board and Parliamentarian of the City of Miami's Community Relation's Board. Before becoming a judge, he served as a Traffic Hearing Officer and worked in private practice.



Commissioner Loretta M. Young - *Family Court Commissioner, New Castle County, Delaware (National Judicial Faculty)*

Commissioner Young graduated from University of Delaware with a B.S. in psychology from University of Delaware and earned her Juris Doctorate from Widener University School of Law. Prior to joining the Family Court in 1995, she served as a criminal DAG in Kent County and later as private defense counsel. Currently, she serves as a Family Court Commissioner and primarily presides over the juvenile mental health diversion courts in Kent and New Castle County, juvenile criminal, domestic violence cases, PFAs and child related civil matters such as temporary visitation and custody. She is the former vice chair of the Delaware Human Trafficking Council and the chair of the Juvenile Trafficking Subcommittee.

NIWAP staff and Rowan University Evaluation Staff



Nawal Ammar – *Professor and Dean of the Faculty of College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Rowan University, Glassboro, New Jersey (Rowan University Evaluation Staff)*

Ms. Ammar is a Professor and Dean of the Faculty of College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ. She has served as the Women Studies Department Chair, Graduate Studies Director, Program Director of Paralegal Studies and Associate Dean at Rowan University. She is a Former Dean of the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology and a Former Professor at Kent State University. She was a Research Assistant at the Institute of Women Studies in the Arab, Beirut-Lebanon and the Program Director of the Institute of Community Research in Hartford, Connecticut, and the Planning and Budget Officer for the Mahoning County Sheriff's Department.



Genesis Marte – *Grant Implementation Coordinator, National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP), Washington, DC.*

Ms. Marte is the Grant Implementation Coordinator for the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project. She is a recent graduate of American University with a degree in Law and Society. She has been a dedicated member of the NIWAP team for four years, as an undergraduate intern and now as Grant Implementation Coordinator. In her role she ensures the organization and delivery of NIWAP's individual grant goals. She is an active volunteer in the DC and Maryland area, as a tutor for Life Pieces to Masterpieces an afterschool program in Ward 9. She hopes to focus her career on the welfare of women and children within the United States and Caribbean. Ms. Marte is former Clerical Assistant at Mayer Brown in Washington, D.C.



Rocio Molina – *Deputy Director, National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) at American University Washington College of Law, Washington D.C.*

Ms. Molina is the Deputy Director of the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project. As an immigration attorney, she has served immigrant survivors seeking immigration relief for over ten years. At NIWAP she leads the Family Law for Immigrant Survivors Community of Practice and Law Enforcement Roundtables and training on Language Access and U Visa. She is a Former Attorney at the Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence and a founding board member of the Community Immigration Law Center (CILC), a free walk-in clinic in Madison, Wisconsin. She is a member of the Wisconsin State Bar and graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School.



Rafaela Rodrigues - *Immigrant Women Law and Policy Fellow at National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP), American University Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C.*

Ms. Rodrigues is the Immigrant Women Law and Policy Fellow at National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project at American University Washington College of Law. Ms. Rodrigues is an SJD candidate at American University Washington College of Law and holds an LL.M. in International Legal Studies from American University Washington College of Law (AUWCL) with specialization on Gender & Law and International Human Rights. She is a Former Chief of Staff at the Ministry of Labor and Welfare, Brazil.