

# AdvanceSheet™

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## State bar lauds two OWLS members' pro bono work

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By Judge Elizabeth R. Lemoine

At the annual awards presentation on Oct. 23, the Oregon State Bar will honor two OWLS members who have made outstanding contributions to the legal community for their pro bono work — Jamie A. Fender and Joan P. Snyder.

Each year, the Pro Bono Challenge recognizes the lawyers, law firms, and law students who contributed the most time to direct pro bono legal services.

OWLS member **Jaimie A. Fender** will receive the Pro Bono Challenge Award in the Individual in a Firm category. Fender was the top pro bono contributing attorney who works in a law firm. She currently is an associate attorney with Black Helderline and served many years on the Executive Committee of the Oregon New Lawyers Division of the Oregon State Bar.



Jaimie A. Fender



Joan P. Snyder

Fender was selected as the 2017 Volunteer of the Year, and her five-part Continuing Legal Education series, titled "Uncommonly Discussed Veterans Issues," was named the 2017 Project of the Year. She was the 2018 chair of the

Military and Veterans Law Section of the Oregon State Bar. From 2019-21, Fender served as the co-chair of the Multnomah Bar Association's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Ambassadors subcommittee and in 2022 served as the chair of the Women in Law Affinity Group of the Oregon Association of Defense Counsel.

OWLS member **Joan P. Snyder** will receive the Active Pro Bono Member award. Snyder was the top contributing attorney who is in active pro bono status. Active pro

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## OWLS chapters do a reset

*Washington, Clackamas county groups more vibrant, resilient than ever post-pandemic*

By Kalina Lovell

OWLS Washington and Clackamas County chapters went dormant because of the 2020 pandemic. This year, both chapters are revitalizing and offering members a variety of networking opportunities that help explore different areas of their respective counties and communities while getting

to know other legal professionals.

### Washington County

The Lawyers' Association of Washington County (LAWC) kicked off its revival through the initiative of Kay Teague of KT Law in July 2023. The main event kicking off the LAWAC reset was a celebration for new admittees in October. Teague, Mary Carlich, and

Amanda Thorpe developed a steady roster of events for members.

This year, they set up lunches and online CLEs to provide opportunities for community members to join as their schedules allowed. This consistency of events has demonstrated to members that LAWAC is here to stay. Teague and Carlich plan to repeat some of their unique networking events on an annual basis, including the cupcake decorating event at Cake

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## President's Message

This last spring I had the opportunity to attend the American Bar Association Bar Leadership Institute, and I was struck by how unique OWLS is as an organization.

The gathering was primarily attended by representatives of state and regional bar associations, with a smaller number of representatives from local and national affinity bars.

Table groupings at the event were based on presumed membership size and common interests. My table assignment was with other affinity bars — those of us who were not representing unified state bars (like Oregon), voluntary state bars (like Minnesota), or regional organizations (like the Multnomah Bar Association).

From the outside this makes sense — OWLS members self-select to join OWLS based on a dedication to the OWLS mission. However, OWLS was unlike the other represented affinity organizations in that we have over 1,200 members located throughout a diverse state and two full-time staff members. Conversely, many of the affinity bar leaders I sat with represented organizations of a few hundred members and a volunteer staff. In this context, OWLS was more similar to a regional bar association in terms of size, but lacked the commonality of representing members of a set location, such as Multnomah County.

Similar to a state bar association, OWLS provides support to 13 local chapters throughout Oregon, seven of which are currently active. Each active chapter holds meetings and events geared toward the interests and needs of local communities. Like a state bar, OWLS has statewide committees in addition to the local chapters, and offers networking opportunities with other professionals (such as the recent OWLS x WIFS interprofessional networking event), career development, and CLEs.

I mention all this so members can better understand the uniqueness of OWLS and the support that membership dues and sponsorships provide the organization.

Each year, the annual operating budget is set and approved by the OWLS Board upon the guidance of the Finance Committee. The committee meets and monitors organizational finances throughout the



year and provides quarterly reports to the Board.

The majority of OWLS' operating budget comes from membership dues, which range from \$40 to \$1,000, with regular membership at \$140 per year. Throughout the year, OWLS also solicits sponsorships for major events like the Roberts & Deiz Award Celebration and the Fall CLE, both of which are significant

line-item costs in the OWLS budget. The majority of funds from sponsorships are used to offset the costs of hosting the events (including space rental, technology costs, food, and more) so that OWLS can keep these events as affordable as possible. After costs, any proceeds from sponsorships and ticket sales support the OWLS operating budget.

OWLS would not be able to function at the level it does and provide the events and services it offers to members without Executive Director Linda Tomasi and Program Coordinator Erika Maxon. Both provide daily assistance to OWLS, much of which is not seen by members. Since the pandemic, both Linda and Erika have worked remotely, thus removing the cost for office rent from the annual budget. This past summer, due to a number of unforeseen circumstances, both Linda and Erika were required to reduce their hours in order for OWLS to stay within its budget.

As we enter the renewal season for OWLS membership, the funds raised now through dues determines the programming abilities and operating budget for the next year. Due to rising costs, events such as the Roberts & Deiz Award Celebration and the Fall CLE cannot continue in the current format without sponsorships and membership dues. Providing OWLS staff with adequate compensation and expecting, at a minimum, that staff should not be required to reduce their hours is imperative to maintaining the services offered by OWLS.

As such, I ask that each of you consider renewing your membership at an enhanced level. The difference between the standard membership rate of \$140 and the first tiered enhanced level is \$60. Individuals who opt for an enhanced membership tend to renew the following year at the same or

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**Our mission is to transform the legal profession by pursuing equitable access to the legal system and equity for women and communities who are systemically oppressed.**

## President's Message

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greater enhanced level. Enhanced membership provides additional funds for the OWLS annual budget and more stability. OWLS also offers firms the ability to easily renew memberships for multiple members at the same firm. If OWLS membership is a benefit offered by your firm, be sure your administrator reaches out to Erika to renew for the group. If your firm doesn't offer this benefit, now would be a great time to suggest it!

Your support and membership are important for OWLS, precisely because we are a unique organization. As an affinity bar, our membership is composed of more than 1,200 members who identify and support the OWLS mission. If you value the services that OWLS provides, now is the time to step up. If we do not fund our work and the staff that provides it, OWLS will not be able to offer the opportunities and experiences we pride ourselves on. Join me in becoming an enhanced member and encourage your firm to sponsor OWLS events. Together, we can do more for our community.

**Marisa Moneyhun,**  
President, Oregon Women Lawyers



## OSB

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bono attorneys can only contribute hours to bar-certified pro bono programs, so they are more restricted in the pro bono activities they can participate in.

Snyder became a part-time arbitrator and mediator after her retirement from Stael Rives. Upon retiring, she immediately signed up for active pro bono status with the Oregon State Bar. Snyder volunteers regularly with the criminal record expungement program at the PCC CLEAR Clinic. She is a mediator for Multnomah County's Small Claims Court, and a mediator for OSB's Fee Dispute Panel. Especially meaningful for Snyder has been her nonlegal work, helping an Afghani family settle into the Portland area since 2022.

Congratulations to both OWLS members!

**Elizabeth R. Lemoine** is a judge in the Washington County Circuit Court.

# McCrea to receive Chief Justice Martha Walters Award

Lane County Women Lawyers is pleased to announce Shaun McCrea is the recipient of the sixth annual Chief Justice Martha Walters Award.

McCrea has served the Lane County legal community as an attorney in private criminal defense practice for over 33 years, and the greater Oregon legal community as the executive director of Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (OCDLA) for the past seven years.



Shaun McCrea

McCrea has contributed in myriad ways to the community as an attorney, volunteer and supporter of equality and justice for those who are less able to access the legal system. She also teaches trial skills at the University of Oregon School of Law and at OCDLA's Trial Skills College. In addition, McCrea lectures on trial skills and criminal defense topics.

### If you go

**What:** Chief Justice Martha Walters Award luncheon

**When:** 11:45 a.m. Friday, Nov. 15

**Where:** The Gordon Hotel, 555 Oak St., Eugene; 541-762-0555

**More:** To register, go to [2024 Chief Justice Martha Walters Award Luncheon | Oregon Women Lawyers Membership](#).

Please register as soon as possible; this event sold out in past years.

Through her work, McCrea has transformed the law through advocacy, promoted equal opportunities for individuals facing barriers in accessing our criminal justice system, and has continually invested in the next generation of young lawyers through mentorship and training.

Please join us in recognizing McCrea and connecting with fellow attorneys at the Chief Justice Martha Walters Award luncheon Nov. 15.



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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MLC Chili Cook-Off

Oct. 19, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Keizer Rapids Park, by the playground  
Anonymous judging, nominal prizes.  
Find categories, rules, and details  
here.  
[Register online.](#)

## Clackamas Women Lawyers at Trick-or-Treat on Main Street

Oct. 26, 1 p.m.  
Milwaukie  
Bring your little ghosties,  
superheroes, and unicorns for some  
family-friendly fun in Milwaukie.  
Meet in front of the historic  
Milwaukie City Hall Building (across  
from the public parking lot at  
Southeast Main and Harrison streets).  
Mingle and soak in the fun of the  
season while visiting great shops and  
small businesses that call Milwaukie  
Main Street home. For RSVP and  
questions, contact Kalina Lovell Davis  
at [klouvelldavis@gmail.com](mailto:klouvelldavis@gmail.com).

## Cascade Women Lawyers Monthly Luncheon

Oct. 30, Jan. 30, noon-1 p.m.  
Olde Towne Pizza 118 N.W.  
Greenwood Ave., Bend  
The chapter meets the last  
Wednesday of the month from noon  
to 1 p.m. The chapter will take a  
pause in November and December,  
resuming luncheons in January.

## OAAP/OWLS Wellness Retreat

Nov. 1-2  
Retreat Schedule  
Hood River Inn, 1108 E. Marina Way,  
Hood River  
The theme for 2024 is "Gathered &  
Engaged in the Gorge," focusing on  
building engagement, community,  
and connection. Bringing our whole-  
hearted, authentic self to relationships  
can be a challenge. Hear from dynamic  
and informative speakers on this topic.  
The retreat also features yoga, delicious  
food, crafts, creative opportunities,  
and space for relaxation. As always,  
we will be applying for MCLE credits,  
including 2 MHSU, 1 Ethics and 1 Access  
to Justice.  
[Register online](#) by Oct 30.

## Josephine County Women Lawyers Monthly Luncheon

Nov. 6, Dec. 5 noon-1 p.m.



La Burrita Restaurant, 1501 N.E. F St.,  
Grants Pass  
The chapter meets the first Wednesday  
of each month for networking,  
discussing court situations, and the like.  
No RSVP necessary.

## Working Parents Committee Luncheon

Nov. 7, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
Barran Liebman, 601 S.W. Second  
Ave., Portland  
Connect and learn more about the  
OWLS Working Parents Committee  
at a luncheon hosted by Barran  
Liebman, preceding the 2024 OWLS  
Annual Fall CLE.  
[Register online.](#)

## OWLS Annual Fall Conference

Nov. 7, CLE 1-4:15 p.m., Reception  
4:30-6 p.m.  
The Hilton, 921 S.W. Sixth Ave.,  
Portland.  
Join OWLS for "The Impact of  
Generative Artificial Intelligence  
and the Legal System" CLE. The Fall  
Reception follows, where OWLS will  
present Justice Aruna Masih with  
the Katherine H. O'Neil Volunteer  
Service Award. Individual registration  
and reception-only tickets can be  
purchased online. For sponsorship  
opportunities, contact [Linda@oregonwomenlawyers.org](mailto:Linda@oregonwomenlawyers.org).  
Application is being made for MCLE  
credit.  
[Register online.](#)

## Clackamas Women Lawyers "Coffee-Around" Networking with New Admittees

Week of Nov. 11  
Lake Oswego, Oregon City and Happy  
Valley  
Meet in small groups at coffee shops  
in Lake Oswego, Oregon City and  
Happy Valley for informal networking

and conversation with new OSB  
admittees. Sign-up link coming soon.  
To learn more, contact Heather  
Decker.

## Queen's Bench Monthly Luncheon

Nov. 12, noon-1 p.m.  
Multnomah County Courthouse,  
1200 S.W. First Ave., Courtroom 13D,  
Portland  
The Queen's Bench 2024 speaker  
series theme is transition, purpose,  
and value. Explore how to identify  
and pursue purpose and values, and  
how to find comfort in transition and  
growth. Queen's Bench presentations  
are on the second Tuesday of the  
month at noon.  
[Register online.](#)

## Chief Justice Martha Walters Award Luncheon

Nov. 15, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.  
The Gordon Hotel, 555 Oak St.,  
Eugene  
Join Lane County Women Lawyers in  
celebrating recipient Shaun McRea,  
executive director of the Oregon  
Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.  
The CJMWA recognizes a Lane County  
attorney who has demonstrated  
leadership in the pursuit of equal  
justice for all, has transformed the  
law through advocacy to create  
or encourage equal opportunities  
for individuals facing obstacles to  
achievement, and whose innovative  
approach to workplace culture or  
mentoring promoted advancement in  
the legal profession for all.  
[Register online.](#) Standard ticket \$40;  
Equal Justice ticket \$75.

## MLC Expungement CLE\*

Nov. 19, noon-1 p.m.  
Salem  
Details will be forthcoming.  
Expungement event to follow in  
January.  
\*CLE credit will be applied for.

## LAWC Virtual CLE\* – Battling Burnout w/ Molly Chen

Nov. 20, noon-1 p.m.  
Virtual via Zoom  
Join us for an illuminating hour about  
lawyer burnout — how to recognize  
it and keep it at bay without

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## Upcoming events

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sacrificing professional success and growth.

\*Mental Health CLE credit will be applied for.

[Register online](#). No cost for members, \$5.00 for non-members.

### Queen's Bench Holiday Luncheon Honoring Women Judges

Dec. 10, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Sentinel Hotel, 614 S.W. 11th Ave., Portland

The Queen's Bench's annual Holiday Luncheon celebrates the achievements of Oregon's women judges. Festivities will begin at 11:30 a.m. with live music. The program will begin at noon, paired with a holiday-inspired lunch. Tickets and RSVP details coming soon. [Sponsorships available here](#).

### OWLS Online – New Admittee Welcome

Dec. 12, noon-1 p.m.

Virtual via Zoom

December topic: Unbook Club, "Say the Right Thing, Part 1"

Unbook Club is a watch party and discussion series with Professors Kenji Yoshino and David Glasgow, co-founders of the Meltzer Center for Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging at NYU School of Law. They will discuss their book 'Say the Right Thing,' a practical, shame-free guide for navigating conversations across differences at a time of rapid social change. Reading the book is recommended, but not required. OWLS Online is a subcommittee of the Transformation Committee. More details about hosting or volunteering are available on the OWLS website. [RSVP here](#). No cost.

### OWLS Office

Closed for winter break Dec. 25-Jan. 1.

### MLC Expungement Event

Jan. 11, 9 a.m.-noon

Salem

Details will be forthcoming.

### Save the Date

2025 Roberts & Deiz Celebration is Friday, May 16. [Details to come](#).

# It's time to renew your OWLS membership

**T**hank you for your membership. Your ongoing support keeps OWLS going and allows the organization to continue to provide unique programming and opportunities for women and others in the global majority at all stages of their legal careers.

OWLS has accomplished much in its 35-year history. We are especially proud of all that our members have achieved — leading law firms, courts, governmental bodies, nonprofit organizations, and more.

Yet, more work remains as we continue to pursue our mission to transform the legal profession by promoting equitable access to the legal system and equity for women and communities who are systemically oppressed.

Please be sure to check your email inboxes for a personalized link to our online

renewal system or visit <https://membership.oregonwomenlawyers.org/>.

If you are able to renew your membership at an enhanced level, we would be very grateful. Now through Dec. 31, you may reactivate your OWLS membership at the Early Bird rate of \$140 for regular membership. OWLS also offers sliding scale options.

We hope that you have found value and community through your OWLS membership, connecting you through the listserv, in-person and virtual events, programs, CLEs, committees, and statewide chapters. If so, please renew now and encourage your colleagues to do the same.

Thank you again for your ongoing support of OWLS. Our work is important, and you are vital in helping us complete it. Together, we will continue our transformative work for decades to come.



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- Many firms have embraced **hybrid schedules** and many candidates are seeking flexibility.
- Your ability to define and promote **internal culture** is crucial to attracting talent.
- Prioritizing a positive candidate experience by establishing **repeatable processes and proactive communication** is key.
- Advancement in DEI best practices has shown that representation is critical at every level, and firms are tasked with creating **welcoming and inclusive environments**.
- The pandemic's toll on workforce well-being has highlighted a need for benefits that include accessible tools and resources to **support mental health**.

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# Meet Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge Chanpone Sinlapasai

By Kalina Lovell

*"My judgeship does not end at 5 p.m."*

— Judge Chanpone Sinlapasai

When Judge Chanpone Sinlapasai rose to the bench in 2021, she brought the perspective of an ethnic Lao refugee. Her experience allows Judge Sinlapasai to empathize with individuals appearing before her who describe barriers and hardships such as having no car, money, or phone to make a court appearance.

Judge Sinlapasai is on a mission to make the judicial system accessible to all members of the community and build awareness of the legal processes' impact upon individuals. Procedural fairness for those who appear before her is essential, whether the case she is overseeing is a criminal or civil matter. Not everyone has the privilege of understanding the basics of how the judicial system works. Judge Sinlapasai relishes her opportunities to continually teach fundamentals while simultaneously being a learner herself, overseeing a general docket at the Multnomah County Courthouse.

As a young child, Judge Sinlapasai fled the war in Laos with her family and spent time in a refugee camp in Thailand before resettling in the United States. After arriving in the U.S., being a member of a refugee family meant sharing an apartment with up to 20 other family members in Stockton, California, to comply with repayment of resettlement costs required of refugees.

When asked why she chose Oregon and Lewis & Clark for law school, Judge Sinlapasai said it was partly because "when I got off the plane, it smelled like Christmas." Oregon's seasons invigorate Judge Sinlapasai, who had spent years in Stockton, where green was lacking and the weather was monotone. Oregon's natural beauty, including her favorite hiking spot — the waterfalls at Silverton Falls State Park — have allowed her to find much-needed solitude and healing during stressful moments in her legal career and life.

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Since rising to the bench in 2021, Judge Chanpone Sinlapasai has coordinated visits with (from top) the Tongan Parliament, student leaders, the European Union, among others.



## Judge Sinlapasai

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Law school was a necessity for Judge Sinlapasai to achieve her dreams of helping and serving. Having successfully navigated her own journey, Judge Sinlapasai continues to build the legal community by mentoring law students and young lawyers and those who appear before her on the bench. Being available and accessible to the legal community is important to Judge Sinlapasai in her service.

Applying for a judicial role took multiple years of internal analysis for Judge Sinlapasai. In 2016, her perspective shifted due to the federal government's separation of powers and court rulings that had drastic impacts on the global community and her international clients. Ultimately, she applied and joined the bench in 2021 and is halfway through her first term with the Multnomah County Circuit Court. The fights she pursued throughout her legal career and her family experience navigating the complicated federal immigration, social services, and criminal justice system is an indispensable perspective Judge Sinlapasai brings to the bench.

While on the bench, Judge Sinlapasai has coordinated visits from the European Union, Mexican Consulate, Japanese Consulate, Tongan Parliament, and student leaderships. Representatives from over 14 different countries have visited and engaged with the Multnomah Bar Association and Multnomah County judges since Judge Sinlapasai joined their ranks. In addition, Judge Sinlapasai and many others on the bench have put together the Multnomah County Courthouse booth at various cultural festivals to be accessible to all Oregonians.

This year, Judge Sinlapasai helped lead the first Multnomah County Courthouse Love Day, offering members of the community free marriage ceremonies at the courthouse. This was more than just officiating the ceremonies, but required coordination with OWLS, MBA, county commissioners, the vital statistics office, and countless volunteers. Couples were offered free wedding dresses, cakes, interpreters, and waivers of all fees associated with marriage. After the event, it was determined that some communities did not see the courthouse as a welcoming space and did not participate. As a community builder and bridge maker, Judge Sinlapasai hopes to



*Judge Chanpone Sinlapasai helped lead the first Multnomah County Courthouse Love Day, offering community members free marriage ceremonies.*

expand Love Day statewide in the future and make sure that the event addresses concerns of community members who did not see the courthouse as a welcoming space, perhaps bringing the event to those communities.

Judge Sinlapasai loves to build the definition of the legal community and make it

accessible to all. Her openness to speak with law students and community members helps her build that community on the bench. It is a skill she learned in private practice. For Judge Sinlapasai, being part of the community and using her ability to see through multiple lenses is essential and critical to her success.

*Kalina Lovell is an associate attorney at SBH Legal.*



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Six of the early women judges, from left, Judges Mercedes Deiz, Laurie Smith, Betty Roberts, Jean Lewis, Helen Frye, and Kathleen Nachtigal, on Feb. 8, 1982, the day Justice Roberts was sworn-in to the Oregon Supreme Court.

A LEGAL MILESTONE IN OREGON

# 200 women judges – and counting

By Trudy Allen

On July 26, Gov. Tina Kotek appointed Keri J. Smith to the Benton County Circuit Court. She was sworn in on Aug. 16 and became the 200th woman to assume the bench, having been appointed or elected to a permanent judicial position serving Oregon. We have been closely watching for this milestone this year. Until February 2024, there had been 195 women who had achieved this status, and in early March this number suddenly jumped up to 198 after Kotek appointed three women on one day (Feb. 16) — the first time more than two women had ever been appointed on one day in Oregon.

It was just under 100 years ago, in 1926, when Gov. Walter Pierce appointed the first woman judge in Oregon: the Hon. Mary Jane Spurlin, to the Multnomah County District Court. She was sworn-in on April 1, 1926, and there was much fanfare among women. But although this was a permanent position, Judge Spurlin’s service was short-lived. When she ran for election in November 1926, she lost to a man, and she left the bench at the beginning of January 1927. It wasn’t until 1961 that Gov. Mark Hatfield appointed the Hon. Jean Lewis to the Multnomah County Circuit Court. Her service lasted significantly longer — 17 years. Besides being the first woman circuit court



Above: The first five women to serve on appellate courts in Oregon. From left, Justices Susan Leeson, Betty Roberts, and Susan Graber, and Judges Virginia Linder, and Mary Deits. Photo taken in 2002.



Left: Judge Mercedes Deiz and Justice Betty Roberts in 1991.

judge in Oregon, she had the distinction of being the first judge in the nation to grant a single man an adoption.

Starting in 1969, the trend of women assum-

ing the bench began to have some momentum. In that year Gov. Tom McCall appointed the Hon. Mercedes Deiz to the Multnomah County District Court, and she became the third woman on our list of women judges in Oregon — and the first Black woman appointed as a judge in the Pacific Northwest. She rose to the circuit court two years later and served a total of 22

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## Judges

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years; with reluctance she took senior judge status in 1992, only because of the mandatory retirement age (75) for judges.

Some of these women have served on several courts, so the number 200 doesn't fully reflect the number of judicial positions involved. For instance, the fourth woman to assume the bench in Oregon, the Hon. Helen Frye, was first appointed by Gov. McCall to the Lane County Circuit Court in 1971 and then in 1980 was nominated by President Jimmy Carter to be the first woman on the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon — as an Article III judge.

Likewise, the Hon. Anna Brown, the 29th woman on our list, was appointed by Gov. Barbara Roberts in 1992 to the Multnomah County District Court and then in 1994 to the Multnomah County Circuit Court before being nominated in 1999 by President Bill Clinton to the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon; she was the seventh woman to serve in the federal judiciary for Oregon — and the third female Article III judge.

More recently, the Hon. Adrienne Nelson (No. 74 on our list) was appointed by Gov. Ted Kulongoski in 2006 to the Multnomah County Circuit Court, appointed by Gov. Kate Brown in 2018 to the Oregon Supreme Court, and then nominated by President Joe Biden in 2023 to the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon as an Article III judge. She's the second Black woman judge in Oregon, the first Black on an appellate court in Oregon, the second woman of color on the Oregon Supreme Court and the first Black woman to serve on Oregon's U.S. District Court.

A total of 18 women have been on the federal benches that serve Oregon, including five as U.S. magistrate judges, four on the Bankruptcy Court and three on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. There have been six women Article III judges, with the Hon. Amy Baggio's assumption of this bench on Aug. 21.

A total of 18 women have served on the Oregon Court of Appeals and 10 women have served on the Oregon Supreme Court. The Hon. Betty Roberts was the first woman on each of these courts, starting in 1977 and moving to the Supreme Court in 1982.

Most of the women first attained the bench by appointment (or by another process other than election, such as confirmation by Congress). The number who attained a seat by election without first being appointed is still



*Four early women judges, plus the OWLS panel moderator in 2000: From left, Judge Virginia Linder (Oregon Court of Appeals), Justice Susan Leeson (Oregon Supreme Court), OWLS moderator Jennifer DeWald (in background), Judges Deanne Darling (Clackamas County), and Anna Brown (U.S. District Court).*

relatively small, at 35.

It's noteworthy, however, that as early as 1982 two women reached the 13th position on our list by being elected to the Multnomah County Circuit Court without first being appointed: Judges Nely Johnson and Dorothy Baker. The peak — and most exciting — year for elections was 2006, with six new women on the circuit courts and with Justice Virginia Linder's historic election to the Oregon Supreme Court. She was the first (and still the only) woman to attain this court without first being appointed. Since that year, there have been three years (2012, 2016 and 2018) when three women won elections without first being appointed.

The number of appointments ramped up considerably with Gov. John Kitzhaber, starting in 1995. In that year he appointed the Hon. Deanne Darling to the Clackamas County District Court; she was the 43rd woman on our list and the first woman judge in Clackamas County.

Brown holds the record (among governors) for the number of appointments of women to the courts in Oregon. She made 56 appointments between 2015 and 2022. The next most by any governors were 36 by Kitzhaber and 32 by Kulongoski.

Quite a number of the women on this list — 34, in all — have been particularly supportive of OWLS and/or the OWLS Foundation, having served on one of both of their boards. Of those, four were on the Founding Board of OWLS in 1989-90: Hon. Mercedes Deiz, Hon. Betty Roberts, Hon. Nancy Campbell, and Hon. Ellen Rosenblum. Four have been presidents of OWLS: Hon. Marilyn Litzenberger, Hon. Debra Pilcher Velure, Hon. Allison Boomer, and Hon. Jacqueline Alarcón. Two have been historians of OWLS: Hon. Virginia Linder and Hon. Mary Mertens James. The OWLS Foundation was established by a steering committee in 1996-97, and four of these women served on that

committee: Hon. Mercedes Deiz, Hon. Betty Roberts, Hon. Susan Leeson and Hon. Marlyn Litzenberger. Judge Litzenberger was later a president of the OWLS Foundation, as were Justices Betty Roberts and Aruna Masih.

In the last 30 years, the momentum has built significantly, and 160 women have been added to our list. Even with all this to celebrate, further progress is needed, of course. Among the gaps that need closing, there are still three judicial districts in Oregon in which there has never been a woman judge: Baker County, Lake County, and District 24 (Grant and Harney Counties), all in eastern Oregon. There has only been one woman judge in District 10 (Union and Wallowa Counties): the Hon. Mona Williams. Unfortunately, her service was short-lived. After being appointed by Brown in May 2018 and assuming the bench on June 11, 2018, she lost the election that November. It's reminiscent of Judge Spurlin's experience — and hopefully not something that will be repeated.

As a result of the election this past May, there are two new women judges who attained a seat by election without first being appointed: Christine Herbert to the Jackson County Circuit and Laurie Norman to the Josephine County Circuit Court. On July 18, Kotek appointed Herbert to the already-vacant position she was elected to in May, and on Aug. 30 Judge Herbert was sworn in as No. 201 on our list. Norman will assume the bench on Jan. 6, 2025, when her term begins. And so the counting continues!

If you would like more information about the progress for women judges, [see the Fall 2015 issue of the \*AdvanceSheet\*](#).

*Trudy Allen is the historian and secretary of the OWLS Foundation. She is a member of the Oregon Women Judges project, of which OWLS is a co-sponsor. She has retired from the practice of law.*



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# Masih to receive O'Neil volunteer service award

At the Fall Reception on Nov. 7, OWLS will present Oregon Supreme Court Justice Aruna Masih with the Katherine H. O'Neil Volunteer Service Award. This annual award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions through volunteer service in the legal community. It highlights sustained and impactful volunteerism, particularly efforts that advance the mission of OWLS, which is to transform the legal profession by pursuing equitable access to the legal system and equity for women and systemically oppressed communities.



Aruna Masih

Justice Masih was appointed to the Oregon Supreme Court in 2023 by Gov.

Tina Kotek, making her the first South Asian and Indian American to serve on the state's highest court. Justice Masih, an experienced attorney with over two decades of legal practice, specialized in employment and civil rights cases.

Justice Masih's dedication to community service extends beyond her legal work. She has been actively involved in organizations like OWLS, OWLS Foundation, multiple affinity bar associations, and the Classroom Law Project. Throughout her career, she has advocated for workers' rights and social justice, emphasizing fairness and inclusion in the legal system. Justice Masih's receipt of this award, like her appointment to the court, reflects her deep commitment to public service and her community.

Celebrate Justice Masih at the OWLS Fall Reception at 4:30 p.m. Nov. 7 at the Hilton Hotel in downtown Portland.

# AI is changing the future of law. Are you ready?

The use of artificial intelligence in the legal profession will be the topic of the Fall CLE from 1-4:30 p.m. Nov. 7.

Speakers and panelists will share their insight and expertise on the issue. They include [Mattie Neustadt](#), an international legal adviser on digital law who has experience in the United States and Europe covering privacy, cybersecurity, data protection, governance, artificial intelligence, and intellectual property. Maxine Tuan, executive director of the St. Andrew Legal Clinic, will discuss the clinic's use of AI to provide a better and more efficient client experience. There will be a question-and-answer period.

[Register online here.](#) [Sponsorship information is here.](#) A reception presenting Justice Aruna Masih with the Katherine H. O'Neil Volunteer Service Award will follow the CLE.



Mattie Neustadt



Maxine Tuan

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# OWLS seeks board members

This spring, the OWLS Board of Directors will have openings. If you have played a leadership role with an OWLS chapter, committee, or other affinity

bar organization, and are interested in serving on the OWLS Board in support of the OWLS mission, please consider serving on the board. Board members provide financial oversight, strategic direction, fundraising, and help to shape the future of OWLS programs and policies. The OWLS board is an active board.

Board elections occur in April, with new members taking office May 1 for a three-year

term. Meetings are held approximately eight times a year and members are limited to two three-year terms.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. For consideration for the 2025-26 board year, please complete this [statement of interest](#) and send your current resume to OWLS President Marisa Moneyhun at [owlsresident@oregon-womenlawyers.org](mailto:owlsresident@oregon-womenlawyers.org) by end of business Feb. 9.



Megan Livermore

In this edition of the *AdvanceSheet*, we peek behind the scenes of the Oregon State Bar's Professional Liability Fund and learn a little more about OWLS member and Professional Liability Fund CEO Megan Livermore.

Livermore is an Oregon attorney who practiced business and real estate law for over 15 years, primarily in Eugene, before joining the PLF as its CEO in July 2021.

The Professional Liability Fund provides malpractice coverage to Oregon attorneys and investigates, evaluates, and administers claims. The PLF helps practitioners address claims, but also works hard to avoid claims in the first place — providing legal education and resources, plus free and confidential personal and practice management assistance available to every member of the Oregon legal community.

**Q: If you weren't a lawyer, what would you be?**

**A:** A park ranger. There is nothing I love more than being out in nature. The forests of the Pacific Northwest are my happy place.

**Q: What's your favorite book?**

**A:** I don't have a favorite — too many books have touched my life to have just



Livermore says she doesn't take a lot of pictures of herself, but is obsessed with taking photos of the flora she finds when she is out hiking. She considers these photos more representative of her than any selfie she might take. She shared recent photos of a wild iris, left, and a tiger lily (also called a Columbia lily).



one favorite. I read one such book recently:

"Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption," by Bryan Stevenson. I also really enjoyed two novels by Fredrik Backman — "Anxious People" and "A Man Called Ove." They were much-needed lighter fare after Stevenson's tome and the requisite soul-searching it evokes.

**Q: Have you ever broken a bone, and how?**

**A:** Yes, I broke my right wrist in the seventh grade. I was riding my bike down a dirt path and hit a rock. I flew over the handlebars and my bike landed on my wrist, which at that moment happened to be resting on the same rock that flipped me off my bike.

As a bonus, it turned out to be a memorable trip to the emergency room. At a U of O football game earlier that day, a player from the visiting team had been seriously injured and required the attention of much of the ER staff. So I had to wait eight hours to have my arm set. (The hospital in Eugene was much smaller in the '80s).

**Q: If you could own any wild animal, and there were no ethical problems associated with it, what would it be?**

**A:** I wouldn't, only because I much prefer to be out in the wild with the animals.

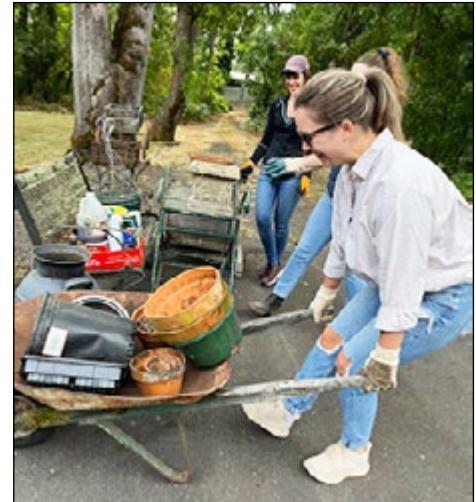
**Q: What would someone be surprised to know about you?**

**A:** I once interrupted the filming of an Angelina Jolie movie at an Oregon prison. It was the mid-'90s, and I was expected at the Columbia River Correctional Institution to meet my boss, the Department of Corrections' public information officer, because we were there to oversee the filming on behalf of the DOC. By the time I arrived, filming had already started, and when I drove in on the road that is the main entrance to the prison, I found myself right in the middle of the scene they were filming (with Jolie, as I recall, though it has been 30 years).

As my old, beat-up, college-era Honda Accord was not part of the scene, filming had to stop while I made my way into the parking lot. I have always loved to make a dramatic entrance, so anyone who knows me will tell you that this was par for the course.

— Ayla Ercin





Above left and below: OWLS Community Service Committee members participated in West Tuality Habitat for Humanity's "Rock the Block" event Aug. 17 in North Plains. Above right: Keturah Taylor steadies the wheelbarrow she's using to haul items during the day of service. (Gina Ko)

## OWLS 'Rocks the Block' with Habitat for Humanity

By Gina Ko

The Oregon Women Lawyers' Community Service Committee had a great time at "Rock the Block" with West Tuality Habitat for Humanity in North Plains on Aug. 17.

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization that helps families build and improve places to call home. The organizers believe affordable housing plays a critical role in strong and stable communities and is a foundation for breaking the cycle of poverty.

In 1990, a small group of community-conscious Forest Grove residents started a local chapter of Habitat for Humanity. West Tuality Habitat for Humanity has since helped to build homes for multiple families in western Washington County, revitalized neighborhoods, and provided services to allow many elderly residents to age in place.

"Rock the Bloc" is one of the recurrent programs run by West Tuality Habitat for Humanity that coordinates volunteers to help with neighborhood cleanups, waste removal, landscaping, home repairs, and maintenance for low-income homeowners. The program is particularly useful for older community members, who may have mobility issues impeding their ability to address those creeping piles of discarded projects and mementos we all seem to accumulate, which then become a safety issue.

OWLS members participating in the event assisted homeowners and also had a great time getting to know one another.

The OWLS Community Service Committee



OWLS Community Service Committee members assisted low-income homeowners with tasks like home repairs, cleanup, and landscaping.

plans to do an annual Habitat for Humanity project. If you are interested in participating, please look for volunteer sign-ups, which are expected to start in spring. West Tuality Habitat for Humanity also has other opportunities for

service, which require no building skills. To volunteer with West Tuality Habitat for Humanity, visit: [www.westtualityhabitat.org/volunteer](http://www.westtualityhabitat.org/volunteer).

Gina Ko is an Assistant Attorney General at the Oregon Department of Justice.

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# Sharnel Korala Mesirow



# OWLS Foundation Board president

By Shangar S. Meman

When I think of the American dream, few stories shine as brightly as that of Sharnel Korala Mesirow, whose journey is a testament to the resilience, determination, and unwavering spirit it takes to turn that dream into reality.

When she was 6 years old, Korala Mesirow's parents made the bold choice to leave their war-torn homeland of Sri Lanka, seeking refuge and a brighter future in Portland, Oregon. Her parents, from opposing sides of a civil war that lasted nearly 30 years, took an extraordinary leap of faith to provide a better life for their family — a courageous act that would set the stage for Mesirow's inspiring journey.

Growing up in a new land, Mesirow quickly learned the meaning of resilience. She was constantly bridging two worlds, balancing the traditions and values of her Sri Lankan heritage



Sharnel Korala Mesirow, 6, with her parents when they first moved to America from Sri Lanka. Her father has been the biggest influence in her life.

with the fast-paced demands of American life. As a child, she was often her family's advocate, navigating cultural differences and making her voice heard while always staying true to her roots. It was through these formative experi-

ences that Mesirow discovered her passion for the law — a space where justice rises above the barriers of race, language, and faith.

During law school, Mesirow served as a Certified Law Student in Lane and Multnomah counties, honing her courtroom skills and deepening her commitment to her community. Her early legal career as a family law litigator at Gevurtz Menashe Larson & Howe, P.C., exposed her to some of the most challenging legal battles — high-conflict divorces and emotionally charged child custody disputes. In that environment, Mesirow not only thrived but also grew, thanks to the mentorship of a remarkable team of attorneys who challenged one another to be the best advocates possible.

With over two decades of experience, Mesirow has remained steadfast in her belief in the power of the American justice system to ensure that every voice is heard, no matter how big or small. As a claims attorney at the Oregon State Bar Professional Liability Fund (PLF) since 2013, Mesirow expertly handles an immense caseload, often juggling up to 100 legal malpractice claims spanning various areas of law. Her work requires a keen intellect, masterful negotiation skills, and an innate sense of empathy — qualities that she embodies every day.

When reflecting on her career, Mesirow doesn't point to her legal victories or accolades as her greatest achievements. Instead, she

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[Continued on page 15](#)

Sharnel Korala Mesirow with her husband and sons at Grand Tetons National Park. The family visited three national parks this summer — Yellowstone, Glacier and the Tetons.



## Mesirow

*Continued from page 14*

measures her success by the impact she's had in service to others — whether it's guiding a client through a personal crisis or supporting a fellow attorney facing a malpractice claim. For Mesirow, service is not just something she does; it is who she is. And despite the demands of her profession, she has always found time to give back. Her leadership extends far beyond the courtroom, as she's served as the board chair of Faithful Friends (part of the Friends of the Children organization), contributed to the Campaign for Equal Justice and the Multnomah Bar Association, and now stands as the president of the Oregon Women Lawyers Foundation Board.

As Mesirow herself often says, "If you want to see change in your neighborhood, your city, or your country, then be the voice for others." Her story is not only one of perseverance and excellence but also one of profound generosity. She doesn't just live the American dream, she embodies its highest ideals by lifting others up along the way, ensuring that her success is shared with the community that helped her thrive.

Mesirow's journey stands as a beacon of hope and possibility for young women in law, inspiring them to break barriers and redefine success on their own terms. Her ability to excel in the legal profession while making an indelible impact on her community demonstrates that leadership is about more than professional success — it's about service, resilience, and staying true to your values. Mesirow has shown that with courage, perseverance, and

a commitment to uplifting others, there is no limit to what can be achieved. For those following in her footsteps, she is more than an inspiration — she is a blueprint for how to lead with purpose, proving that the future of law will be shaped by women who dare to challenge the status quo and make a difference in every space they touch.

*Shangar Meman is the owner of Meman Law P.C.*

## JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

In July, Gov. Tina Kotek appointed Elizabeth Lemoine to the Washington County Circuit Court. She was the 199th woman to assume the bench in Oregon.

Judge Lemoine grew up in Oregon and earned her law degree from the University of Oregon School of Law.

She spent much of her impressive career practicing civil litigation and labor law in circuit courts all over the state. Judge Lemoine has served as a dedicated volunteer for Oregon's Legal Aid Services for two decades, working tirelessly to increase low-income Oregonians' access to those resources.

OWLS congratulates Judge Lemoine on her recent appointment.



Judge Elizabeth Lemoine

**OWLS** Lane County Women Lawyers invites you to attend the 6th Annual CHIEF JUSTICE MARTHA WALTERS AWARD presented to **SHAUN MCCREA** NOVEMBER 15, 2024 AT 11:45 A.M. THE GORDON HOTEL | 555 Oak Street | Eugene

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\* The Equal Justice ticket covers the actual cost of attendance. Anyone who chooses the Equal Justice option will receive recognition in the event program. Tickets are available for purchase at [tinyurl.com/CJMWA2024](http://tinyurl.com/CJMWA2024) or use the QR Code by November 8:

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# Reckoning with the law of slavery and its legacy

By Kate A. Wilkinson

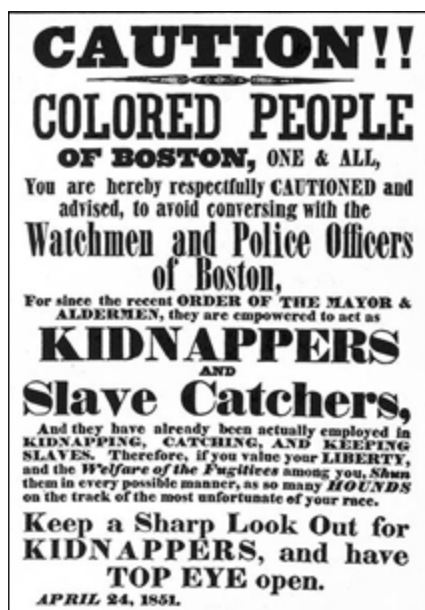
The American legal system played a critical role in providing the institutional apparatus, tools, and machinery that supported and maintained slavery. Slavery, and slave cases, infused much of American law. Cases involving people who were enslaved are part of the fabric of contracts, property, evidence, criminal procedure, trusts and estates, and many other areas.

For example, in a case involving double jeopardy and sovereignty questions, the Oregon Court of Appeals in *State v. Alexander*, 44 Or App 557 (1988) cited approvingly to *Moore v. People*, 55 US 13 (1952) for the proposition that double jeopardy is not implicated when actions arguably violate both the federal and a state law. *Moore v. People* concerned the fugitive slave laws, and whether someone who harbored a fugitive slave could be prosecuted under both state and federal laws. As the Moore Court stated there was “no doubt whatsoever that the states possess free jurisdiction to arrest and restrain runaway slaves, and remove them from their borders, and otherwise secure themselves ...”

To address the citation of legal precedents dating to slavery, Justin Simard, a law professor and legal historian at Michigan State University founded the Citing Slavery Project. Simard and his team have built a database of hundreds of cases involving enslaved people and modern cases that cite them as precedent. Continuing use of these cases inspired his 2020 article in the *Stanford Law Review*, “Citing Slavery.”

His article details that the law of slavery is still good law and that, for the most part, judges cite these cases without acknowledging that the cases grew out of slavery. Continuing to cite these cases, without acknowledging the realities of slavery and the slave system, creates and inflicts dignitary harms. It also “affirm[s] and perpetuates the formalism that allowed lawyers to serve as such successful advocates for slavery in the first place ... these stories obscure the legal system’s complicity in slavery.”

The Citing Slavery online database contains hundreds of cases, listed by state, with opinions that include slave law citations. The database details over 200 Oregon cases, with the most recent in 2016.



For example, *Ainsworth v. Duncan*, 235 Or 225 (1963) concerned whether a judgment should be set aside because the defendant and his attorney had no notice of the trial and were not present at the trial. In its opinion, the Oregon Supreme Court approvingly cited *Hughes v. Jackson*, an 1858 Maryland case, for the proposition that courts are entitled to establish governance rules. There was no mention that the Hughes case concerned a man who attempted to enter a dwelling for the purpose of “taking and carrying away his two children.” The Hughes court affirmed a lower court ruling denying a motion for a new trial because a “Negro does not have power to sue.”

Similarly, in *Lumean v. Rice*, 178 Or 462 (1946), the court cited *Van Last v. Hunter*, an 1821 New York case. Van Last concerned the validity of a will and the testator’s competence. Like many wills of that time, it contained provisions regarding enslaved people. In *Lumean*, the court cited Van Last as support for the importance of respecting testator intent. There was no mention that the will in Van Last contained provisions that included “his Negroes” in the devise to heirs.

As Simard notes, “[r]esolving basic questions of inheritance helped Southerners pass on the people they owned to their heirs.”

## Bluebook changes

In response to Simard’s work, the editors

of the Bluebook changed its rules in the 2021 edition, requiring cases involving slavery to be identified. Rule 10.7.1 (d) now requires that authors provide parenthetical information that identifies enslaved parties.

Under that new rule, a citation to *Wall v. Wall*, 30 Miss. 91 (1855) would include (enslaved person at issue). *Dred Scott v. Sanford*, 60 US 393 (1857) — stating that enslaved people were not citizens of the United States and, therefore, could not expect any protection from the federal government or the courts — becomes *Dred Scott v. Sanford*, 60 US 393 (1857) (enslaved party).

The Bluebook rule only applies to academic writing — journal articles written by law professors and students.

## Oregon

The Oregon Appellate Courts generally follow the citation practices set out in the most current version of the Bluebook.

The Oregon Court of Appeals invited Simard to present his work, and in August 2023, he and several of his students presented the origins, rationale and research about the Citing Slavery Project. Judges, staff attorneys and law clerks attended. Chief Judge Erin Lagesen commented that the project was “very valuable” and made them think deeply about the underlying foundations of our common law.” She noted that it was a salient reminder to be mindful of where our law comes from and the importance of understanding that foundation.

As far as next steps in Oregon, Chief Judge Lagesen noted that it would need to be a discussion with the entirety of the legal profession and whether that discussion should also address other questions around the foundation of our law. For instance, common law principles also include cases where women were treated as property of their husbands and fathers. She applauded the work of Simard and the important contributions made to that work by his students — “We heard directly from the students, and it is so important for the future of our profession to hear that voice.”

*Kate A. Wilkinson is the General Counsel, Office of the State Court Administrator, Oregon Judicial Department. This article reflects her personal views.*



## Shortlisted

# *Invisible: The Forgotten Story of the Black Woman Lawyer Who Took Down America's Most Powerful Mobster*

By Stephen L. Carter  
(Henry Holt & Company,  
2018, 364 pages)

Book review by Teresa Statler

Stephen L. Carter, a novelist and a professor at Yale Law School, has written an intriguing biography of his grandmother, the accomplished Black woman lawyer and prosecutor, Eunice Hunton Carter. In the 1930s and 1940s, she was one of the most famous Black women in the U.S., yet today, her name is all but forgotten. It is not surprising to have the author tell us that she “would find her path blocked — now by race, now by gender, now by politics.”

Eunice Hunton Carter, the granddaughter of slaves and a graduate of Smith College and Fordham Law School, was a prosecutor in the office of Thomas E. Dewey. In 1935, Dewey had been appointed by the governor of New York as an “independent prosecutor,” and tasked with cleaning up the various “Mob rackets” and organized crime in New York City. Dewey’s ultimate goal was to bring charges and hopefully convict the Mafia boss “Lucky” Luciano. It was Hunton Carter’s strategies and trial skills that resulted in the conviction of Luciano, often called the most powerful Mafia boss in history, in 1937. At the time, she had been out of law school only five years.

As “Invisible” begins, the author tells us that the era in which his grandmother lived “was not politically correct [and] neither will this book be.” Throughout the book, Carter refers to Black Americans somewhat jarringly as “the darker nation.” This reader thought that his pronouncements about what “the darker nation” thought or did at a particular time or in response to the happenings of certain events, were sometimes too sweeping. Nevertheless, he should be commended for reintroducing us to the inspiring true story of his grandmother and her legal career.

Carter also assures us that even though “much of what you are about to read may seem unbelievable ... [t]here were black people a century ago who did the things I will describe ... [and] who accomplished the feats that move this story.”

Hunton Carter, remembered by her grandson as a “stern and intimidating woman of

advanced years,” was born in Georgia in 1899 into a middle-class family of activists. She moved with her family to Brooklyn to escape Jim Crow laws as a young child. When she was 8 years old, she supposedly told a playmate that she wanted to be a lawyer. The author believes that from a young age, after seeing her parents’ travels and work as activists, that Hunton Carter “believed in the importance of justice.”

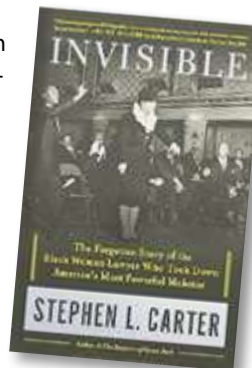
She started law school in 1927, a challenging time to begin the study of law since the New York Bar Association would not admit a Black lawyer until 1929. The author also believes his grandmother was admitted to Fordham Law School, a Catholic institution, due to its progressive policies and because it had become by necessity a haven for its students who were otherwise “targets of exclusion by legal elites.”

After graduating and eventually opening her own law practice, Hunton Carter struggled to make it a success. Daringly, she ran for Congress, the author telling us that New York Republicans “believed that an attractive Negro candidate could make inroads against the Tammany Hall [Democratic] machine that ruled New York politics, even in Harlem.”

The author tells us that at the time, “most prominent Negroes were Republicans.” Hunton Carter had previously done work for the Republican Party, for Herbert Hoover, and for New York Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia. She was seen to have a “bright political future: black and female, conservative and brilliant, charming and charismatic.”

It was interesting for a 21st century reader to learn about the various machinations and changes both the Democratic and Republican parties underwent in the early to mid-20th century, and how most Black Americans changed from supporting the “party of Lincoln” to voting Democratic, yet Hunton Carter did not.

Her grandson tells us that she never stopped being an ardent Republican and never stopped believing that the Democratic Party was “the party of racism and hate.”



Although she lost her election to Congress, by running, she put herself in the forefront of New York Republican politics and this led her to being appointed to Mayor LaGuardia’s Commission on Conditions in Harlem, and shortly thereafter, to Special Prosecutor Dewey’s staff. Carter tells us that “the hiring of a black woman prosecutor would be big news everywhere.”

Over several chapters, Carter tells us about the trial of Lucky Luciano in 1937, and the lead-up to it. The 19 white men who Dewey hired as special prosecutors along with Hunton Carter had different roles to play. It was Hunton Carter, however, who had the idea to start with a careful review of citizen complaints about “bawdy houses” in their neighborhoods. From her time in New York City courtrooms during her private practice, she remembered one attorney’s clients who always walked free from prostitution charges. “Fixed cases. Forgetful cops. Bribed judges. Crooked lawyers. Untouchable madams. Invulnerable brothels. This was not small-time corruption.”

After a raid on 80 brothels in one night in February 1937 planned by Hunton Carter, it was she who went on to interview and then “flip” the prostitutes, easing their fears of testifying against Luciano and other mob bosses.

The book goes on to flesh out the rest of Hunton Carter’s life, and since the author is her grandson, there are more than a few family reminiscences, all of which bring back this accomplished woman’s life to a wide readership. Not only do we learn about the Luciano prosecution, but also about her political work and her work for various international organizations in later life.

We also find out about her friends, Black New York society (he calls it “sassociety”) of the early and mid-20th century, her struggles with depression, how she decorated her homes, and her often strained relationships with various family members.

Sometimes Carter neglects to tell us the year something happened, and the reader

[Continued on page 19](#)

# Meet new OWLS director Jammel Gamboa Rose



"My career, to this day, is because Judge Angel Lopez took me on as a mentee. Don't be afraid to ask for help."

— Jammel Gamboa Rose

By Ashley R. Fraley

**I**n seven years, you can either be older or you can be older and a lawyer." This was the pivotal advice from a community college counselor that OWLS director, Jammel Gamboa Rose, received that propelled her past her fears and nerves into a lifelong goal.

From a young age, Gamboa Rose knew she wanted to be a lawyer. She recalled times in her childhood when she would gather all the neighborhood children and set up courtrooms, taking on the roles of judge, lawyer, and jury herself.

However, Gamboa Rose's journey to a legal career would not be the direct path that many take. Between age 17 and 25, Gamboa Rose worked in finance at a major banking institution. Little did she know this job would eventually result in the procurement of a wonderful mentorship in her legal career. When she was 27, Gamboa Rose began to think about her next steps in life. At that time, she was married with one child and another one on the way.

With her daughter in tow and an abundance of moxie, Gamboa Rose went to see a career counselor at Clackamas Community College to discuss her options. Like many women getting a "late start" on a career, Gamboa Rose knew she wanted to be a lawyer, but the seven-year commitment was daunting. The counselor's advice resounded deeply with Gamboa Rose, and she was on her way.

But Gamboa Rose would face many hardships on her journey to the bar. Shortly after starting law school she and her husband got divorced, and she instantly became a single mother.

She recalled an incident, shortly after the birth of her second child, in which a community college professor refused to allow her to postpone her exam. Gamboa Rose refused to let this stand in her way, taking her infant in under her coat and breastfeeding throughout the entire exam. Gamboa Rose passed that



Jammel Gamboa Rose and her family and friends went to Disneyland together. From left: Molly, Jack, Gordy, Madi, Sophia, Nina, Daniel, Jammel and Daniel. (Photos courtesy of Jammel Gamboa Rose)



Jammel Gamboa Rose with her husband, Daniel, on Mother's Day 2012 when she graduated from Willamette Law.

class with flying colors.

Fortunately, these types of experiences were not the only ones she encountered throughout her educational journey. She vividly remembers a wonderful feeling of camaraderie and compassion during her Willamette Law School days. Her experiences ranged from meeting one of her children's godfathers, getting inspiring

advice from Professor Yvonne Tamayo, and confidence and reassurance from the late Professor Edward Harri.

During law school, Gamboa Rose got remarried. She now lives with her husband, Daniel, and their blended family of four children ages 10, 13, 18, and 20.

After law school, Gamboa Rose applied for a clerkship with Judge Angel Lopez. After her interview, she asked whether Judge Lopez remembered her from her banking days. It turned out that she would often assist him with his accounts and discuss her desire to go to law school. Judge Lopez, realizing the journey had gone full circle, hired Gamboa Rose as his clerk.

Gamboa Rose spoke about feeling unwelcome in the legal community as one of "only a few Black female lawyers," but quickly realized her concerns were unwarranted in Judge Lopez's office. Her experience with Judge Lopez was one of support, immense and positive education, and fulfillment. In speak-

[Continued on page 19](#)

## Jammel Gamboa Rose

*Continued from page 18*

ing about Judge Lopez Gamboa Rose said, “I couldn’t have had a better mentor and leader, and he remains that to this day.

“My career, to this day, is because Judge Lopez took me on as a mentee.”

Eventually, Gamboa Rose moved on from her clerkship armed with the artillery that Judge Lopez had bestowed and began working in Multnomah County. After a few years, she transitioned to litigation at Legal Aid, specifically in family law and domestic violence.

Gamboa Rose’s good fortune continued when she met Emily Brown-Sitnick, who is “one of the most professional and dynamic attorneys” she has ever met, she said.

It was here that Gamboa Rose gained some lessons in work-life balance and self-care. However, the personal toll that domestic violence work can take became heavier with each case. Gamboa Rose had won every case she had taken on at Legal Aid but knew that a loss would be a huge setback for her because she took each case so personally.

In 2019, Gamboa Rose was offered an opportunity to return to Multnomah County as a supervisor in a transactional role. In 2023,



Jammel Gamboa Rose’s blended family, from left Madi, Daniel, Jammel, husband Daniel, Nina and Sophia (in front), visit with Santa during the holidays.

she was again promoted. This time as the contracting and procurement manager for the Multnomah County Health Department. She says she “feels purpose” in her work and knows that what she does daily has “real-time impacts” on the communities she serves.

Gamboa Rose starts every morning with a phone call to her niece Nakili and reports that “COVID brought us very close together” due to a break in the hustle and bustle of everyday life. With the guidance of her friend Brown-Sitnick,

her family recently started raising chickens. She also has maintained close relationships with friends from her law school days and with the wonderful mentors she met along the way.

When asked for words of wisdom to women who are starting on the same path, Gamboa Rose reiterated the advice her counselor gave to her and added, “Don’t be afraid to ask for help.”

*Ashley R. Fraley is an associate attorney at Gevurtz Menashe.*

## Shortlisted

*Continued from page 17*

has to flip back a few pages to get a sense of the chronology of events, but this is a minor quibble in an otherwise excellent biography.

Hunton Carter’s “accomplishments were remarkable, but there is tragedy mixed with the triumph.” Reading this book, one feels the author’s pride in his grandmother, and also his pain. The reader also feels his grandmother’s frustrations. It’s certainly an understatement when Carter tells us that “things did not always work out as neatly as they might have had she been white, or male, or both.” Carter’s skills as a novelist are on full display as the events he recounts make the reader want to keep turning the pages to find out what else happens in the life of this brilliant and once-famous woman. The book also contains many photographs, detailed endnotes, and an index.

*Teresa Statler retired from her solo immigration law practice in Portland in 2021.*

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AT THE 2024 ROBERTS & DEIZ AWARD CELEBRATION!

The Oregon Women Lawyers Foundation, the 501(c)(3) sister organization to OWLS, seeks to advance and enhance equity, inclusion and belonging in the Oregon legal profession and to promote access to justice for underserved people.

To learn more about the Foundation, our grants, or to donate, please visit [www.owlsfoundation.org](http://www.owlsfoundation.org).



# 2024 fall legislative update

By Susan Grabe

## Legislative Days

Legislative Days took place in September and will happen again in December in advance of the 2025 legislative session. These interim committee meetings are valuable for both legislators and the public to receive updates on the implementation of new initiatives from recent legislation, ongoing challenges, task force reports, and a preview of what is likely to come in the 2025 session.

The full Ways and Means (Budget) Committee and its subcommittees will not be meeting during this time. Instead, all interim budget appropriations will be handled by the Emergency Board, which has three subcommittees: Public Safety, Human Services, and General Government. These subcommittees will make recommendations to the full Emergency Board. This means the three subcommittees will organize issues differently. For example, education budget issues will be discussed in the Public Safety Subcommittee, while natural resources, energy, and environment budget issues will be handled by the General Government Subcommittee.

## Looking ahead to the 2025 session

The 2025 session will kick off with legislative training days, with the official start set for Tuesday, Jan. 18. Some issues likely to take center stage include the implementation of [HB 4002](#) (2024), which addresses the drug crisis and deflection program, behavioral health, the housing shortage and homelessness, as well as strategies to combat drought and wildfire risks in Oregon.

## Revenue forecast

Oregon's latest revenue forecast anticipates a personal income tax "kicker" of \$987 million. Under Oregon's unique kicker law, when income tax revenue exceeds the budget by 2% or more, the surplus is returned to taxpayers. Meanwhile, legislators expect \$676 million more to be available for the 2025-27 budget cycle. However, economists have urged caution, advising the state to consider liabilities against revenue expectations. Gov. Tina Kotek has also urged state agencies to be cautious when crafting their budgets, suggesting they limit increases to 1-2% and focus on core responsibilities,



considering uncertainties like inflation and employment trends.

## Ballot measures for fall 2024

Every race on the ballot is important, though some receive more attention than others. One key part of this fall's election is the ballot measures — either placed by the Legislature or qualified by petition signatures. Here's a brief overview of the five measures you'll soon be voting on:

### 1. Measure 115: Impeachment of Statewide Elected Officials

This measure amends the Oregon Constitution to allow the Legislature to impeach and remove statewide elected officials, such as the governor, attorney general, and secretary of state, with a two-thirds vote by both the House and Senate. Currently, Oregon is the only state without an impeachment process for executive officials.

### 2. Measure 116: Independent Public Service Compensation Commission

This proposed constitutional amendment would create an Independent Public Service Compensation Commission to set salaries for key officials like the governor, legislators, and judges, eliminating the Legislature's authority to set these salaries. Currently, legislators earn \$35,000 a year, and the governor earns \$98,000 — comparable to an average county commissioner but significantly lower than many state agency directors. Justices Martha Walters and Thomas Balmer have provided further commentary on this proposal, which you can find in the [bulletin article](#) they authored.

### 3. Measure 117: Ranked-Choice Voting

This measure introduces ranked-choice voting for elections to federal and state offices in Oregon, including presidential, gubernatorial, and congressional races. Voters

would rank candidates by preference, with rounds of elimination and redistribution of votes until a candidate receives a majority. Proponents argue this system ensures winners are supported by a majority of voters, while opponents worry about increased election complexity and costs.

### 4. Measure 118: Corporate Tax Increase and Revenue Distribution

This initiative proposes a 3% tax on corporate sales exceeding \$25 million, with the revenue distributed to Oregon residents who have lived in the state for at least 200 days. It's estimated that each Oregonian, regardless of age or income, would receive around \$1,600 annually. Supporters say this would reduce poverty, particularly child poverty, while opponents, including the governor and business groups, argue that it would increase consumer prices, hurt job creation, and reduce funding for schools and health care.

### 5. Measure 119: Cannabis Labor Peace Agreements

This measure would require cannabis retailers and processors to enter into "labor peace agreements" with labor organizations, agreeing to remain neutral on unionization efforts. Supporters believe it would improve worker safety and working conditions. So far, no formal opposition has been raised.

## Oregon State Bar legislative proposals

The Oregon State Bar (OSB) has also put forward seven Law Improvement Proposals for the 2025 legislative session. These proposals were approved by the OSB Board of Governors and meet statutory guidelines, OSB bylaws and [Keller](#). The proposals focus on improving Oregon's legal framework and funding for civil and immigration legal services for low-income and vulnerable Oregonians.

## Oregon State Bar Board of Governors proposals

- LC 511 – ORS Chapter 9 Omnibus Bill: This bill would allow the OSB Board of Governors to set its own quorum requirements for meetings, replacing the current two-thirds requirement in statute. It also updates references in Chapter 9 to align with rules set by the Supreme Court.

[Continued on page 21](#)

## Legislature

[Continued from page 20](#)

- Access to Justice – OSB/OJD Policy Option Package for Legal Services: This proposal addresses funding for civil and immigration legal services for vulnerable and low-income Oregonians.

### Oregon Council on court procedures

- LC 513 – Notice of Remote Location Testimony: This bill aims to amend ORS 45.400(2) to provide courts with greater flexibility in considering motions for remote testimony filed less than 30 days before an appearance.

### Oregon State Bar section proposals

- **Consumer Law section:**
  - o LC 514 – Construction Contractors Notice Requirements: This bill would require Construction Contractors Board (CCB) licensed contractors to provide a written “work completion notice” to consumers. This notice would trigger the one-year period for filing consumer complaints with the CCB.

- o LC 515 – Small Claims Notice Requirements: This bill clarifies that recipients of a Notice of Small Claim can request a jury trial if the “Total” amount on the Small Claim Form exceeds \$750, including fixed fees and costs.

- **Military and Veterans Law section**
  - o LC 518 – Evidence Code Fix: This proposal seeks to amend Rule 507 of the Oregon Evidence Code to extend certified advocate-victim privilege to military victim’s advocates, including those trained by the U.S. Department of Defense.

- **Debtor-Creditor section**
  - o LC 516 – Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) Amendments & New Article 12 re: Digital Assets: This bill would adopt the new UCC Article 12, addressing digital assets, virtual currencies, blockchain, and AI. It also corrects a drafting error in ORS 95.270(5)(b) from 2023’s HB 2330.

- **Estate Planning & Administration section**
  - o LC 517 – Estate Planning & Administration omnibus proposal: This comprehensive bill aims to amend several statutes related to probate administration:

- ORS 111.200: Corrects a drafting error regarding contested probate proceedings.
- ORS 112.105: Addresses complications for children of unmarried parents establishing parentage.
- ORS 112.238: Clarifies the application of

the harmless error statute for testator intent in wills, applying the rule to writings created at any time for decedents dying after Jan. 1, 2026.

- ORS 114.510: Provides clarity on provisions related to the Simple Estate Affidavit.

To review these legislative concepts, please visit the OSB’s Public Affairs/Legislative [web page](#). If you have questions about the bar’s legislative process or specific proposals, feel free to reach out to the Public Affairs staff at [pubaff@osbar.org](mailto:pubaff@osbar.org).

### Oregon State Bar legislation highlights

Each year, the bar produces a book detailing many of the more significant bills passed by the Legislature during the recently completed session. Bill summaries are arranged by topic, allowing lawyers to easily review those that may be relevant to their practice. Summaries are authored by volunteer attorneys who are experienced in the area of law on which they are writing, and often include useful practice tips for lawyers who are working with the new laws.

“Legislation Highlights” is available [free online](#) for bar members through [BarBooks](#).

Editions from previous years are also available and can be an invaluable tool for a lawyer researching past legislation.

If you have any questions or need more information about the “2024 Legislation Highlights,” please contact [OSB Public Affairs](#).

### Celebrate Oregon Lawyers

Mark your calendars for the [Celebrate Oregon Lawyers](#) event on Oct. 23, where the outstanding work of lawyers across the state will be recognized. Held at the Sentinel Hotel from 5-7 p.m., this event will honor the Oregon State Bar Award winners, celebrate the Pro Bono Challenge recipients, and recognize the 50-year members of the bar. It’s a great opportunity to connect with colleagues and acknowledge excellence in the legal profession. Reservations can be made online, and any questions can be directed to Cathy Petrecca at [cpetrecca@osbar.org](mailto:cpetrecca@osbar.org). Disclaimer: The views expressed here are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Oregon State Bar.

*Susan Grabe is the OSB Chief Communications and Public Affairs officer.*

*Congratulations, Justice Masih*

Join us in celebrating 2024 Katherine H. O'Neil Volunteer Service Award recipient Justice Aruna Masih

**OWLS Fall Reception**  
Thursday, November 7  
4:30 p.m.-6 p.m.  
The Hilton, 921 SW 6th Avenue  
Portland

OREGON WOMEN LAWYERS  
50 YEARS 1989-2024

# Kickin' it at a Thorns game

By Ashley R. Fraley

**O**n July 31, several members of OWLS Queen's Bench got together at Providence Park to watch the Portland Thorns take on the Seattle Reign.

The day's heat didn't stop our beloved Thorns from beating Seattle 1-0.

The OWLS attendees had a great time cheering for the women on the field and snacking on delicious stadium food and drinks.

Shout out to OWLS Board member Leona Yazdidoust for helping to organize the event.



Queen's Bench members and their family and friends, including Jessica and Eric Fauble, below left, attended a Portland Thorns soccer game July 31. Leona Yazdidoust, below right, helped organize the outing.



OREGON WOMEN LAWYERS QUEEN'S BENCH

## FALL TRAIL WALK

JOIN QUEEN'S BENCH FOR A SCENIC FALL TRAIL WALK

**DATE: SAT. OCTOBER 26, 2024**  
**DATE: 9:00 AM**  
**Meeting Place: Leif Erickson Trailhead**  
**(Free Street Parking along NW Thurman Street)**

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**

**OPTIONAL: JOIN US FOR COFFEE AT DRAGONFLY COFFEE HOUSE AFTER THE WALK**  
**(2387 NW THURMAN ST, PORTLAND, OR 97210)**



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*Illumination Coaching owner Kirsten Meneghello, left, and Alice Tang, financial adviser with BPG Wealth Management, share a laugh.*



*Attendees take notes at the Aug. 22 networking event hosted by OWLS and WIFS.*

# Harnessing the power of connections

*OWLS, WIFS events highlight networking's role in success of women professionals*

By Michelle A. Ryan

**O**n Aug. 22 and Sept. 5, women professionals gathered for two impactful networking events hosted by the Oregon Women Lawyers (OWLS) and Women in Insurance and Financial Services (WIFS).

Held in person at the Wells Fargo Tower and virtually, these events were generously sponsored by Littler Mendelson P.C. and featured Alice Tang, a leading financial adviser and 2023 Portland Business Journal Woman of Influence Award winner.

Tang's presentation, "Your Network Is the Key to Your Success," emphasized the critical role of meaningful relationships in achieving professional success.

Both the in-person event on Aug. 22 and the virtual session on Sept. 5 included interactive breakout sessions where participants engaged in exercises designed to build and strengthen their networks.

Tang emphasized the importance of making lasting impressions by sharing memorable stories rather than just names and job titles. During the breakout sessions, participants met new contacts, shared recent achievements, and explored ways to support one another professionally.

Tang introduced the concept of the "circle of advisers," encouraging attendees to identify key individuals who share common values, goals, and similar life stages. Participants were guided to create a list of 10 potential connections



*Attendees at the networking event included, from left, Lisa Shevlin, with Littler Mendelson; Alice Tang, BPG Wealth Management; Jessica Porter, BPG Wealth Management; and Ayla Ercin, Campaign for Equal Justice executive director.*

and commit to regular outreach, reinforcing the idea that effective networking is about creating positive and memorable experiences that make others feel valued and appreciated.

Tang also highlighted the importance of maintaining these connections through consistent follow-ups, such as thank-you notes, LinkedIn messages, and one-on-one meetings.

A key takeaway from Tang's sessions was the power of accountability in networking. She noted that individuals who set goals with a partner and regularly check in have a 95% success rate in achieving those goals. Participants were encouraged to craft their networking strategies and commit to staying accountable, underscoring the value of trust and mutual support in professional networks.

Throughout both events, Tang emphasized

the importance of collaboration in achieving long-term success, quoting an African proverb: "If you want to run fast, go alone; if you want to run far, run together." This message captured the essence of the sessions, inspiring attendees to connect with one another on LinkedIn and continue building their networks.

The OWLS and WIFS events highlighted the power of intentional networking and its critical role in the success of women professionals. Attendees left with practical tools and a renewed commitment to cultivating meaningful connections that can elevate their careers and help them thrive in their professional journeys.

*Michelle A. Ryan is a staff attorney at the Oregon Law Center and the owner of Balanced Professional.*

# LEGAL LONDON:



## *A trip to the roots of U.S. democracy*

By Judge Kathleen J. Proctor

In September 2015 I went on a “Legal London” trip. Sponsored by OWLS, the group trip was an opportunity for members to embark on a tour of London during the 800th-year anniversary of the issuance of the Magna Carta. A minimum number of people were needed, so I invited my son, then 19 years old, to go with me. Hearing the story of the Magna Carta and seeing the legal and historical sights, left a big impression on us. The Magna Carta has been credited as the inspiration for the United States’ founding documents. It felt as though we were taken back to the legal roots of our democracy.

One of the places our tour visited was the Law Society, which supports solicitors in England and Wales and is a bit like our Oregon State Bar Association. Our tour guide there was a woman solicitor. She explained that she worked part time as a guide to supplement her income, saying, it was quite difficult to break into law practice and earn a living wage as a woman solicitor in England. Unlike in the United States, it really was not possible for solicitors, male or female, to simply hang up a shingle and start their own law practice. In England, the established lawyers, whom one would look to for sponsorship, were nearly always men and this created challenges for networking. It is more difficult for women to find employment in the legal profession since without a sponsor one cannot find a job. Although these challenges still exist, barriers are being broken down.

We also learned about one of the female solicitors admitted to the Law Society. In 1914, a Court of Appeals case, *Bebb v. Law Society* had found that all women failed to fall within the definition of



Judge Kathleen J. Proctor stands outside the entrance to the Supreme Court building in Westminster, London. (Photos courtesy of Judge Kathleen J. Proctor)

“persons.” In 1919, the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act passed and women with degrees from Cambridge were allowed to pass their exams and become lawyers. Finally, in 1922, there were four women who qualified for entry into the Law Society, but only one could be first. To decide who that would be, the four women agreed to compete in a foot race.

The winner was Carrie Morrison, and she became the first woman admitted as a solicitor by the Law Society of England and Wales.

I cannot imagine the strength and bravery it took in that time to work against such great odds to become qualified to be a solicitor and then, run in a foot race to decide who would be the first admitted. I admire these women for setting such an example of perseverance.

Today it can still be daunting to put oneself out there to achieve a goal, whether running for a judicial position or finding work in a job not traditionally held by women. Yet, women continue to persevere. Without the strength and tenacity of individuals, without those willing to push invisible boundaries,

change cannot happen.

Disappointingly, as I was writing this article, I heard of a high-profile male athlete who, while speaking to a class of college graduates, undermined the career aspirations of the women in the class. He noted that while some of the women may go on to lead successful careers, he ventured to guess that the majority were most excited about their marriages and the children they would bring into the world.

I have no doubt that many men and women are indeed excited about their marriages and their potential children. However, this is 2024, 110 years since the 1914 *Bebb* decision. After the rigorous work, discipline and sacrifice necessary to attain a degree, the determination of how one might spend their time following graduation ought to be the choice of each person without others’ judgment.

As I reflect on my conversation with our woman solicitor tour guide in London, I wonder if she ever found someone willing to provide her with an opportunity to be an apprentice and then perhaps to join the Law Society. We need those women who get there first, because without them, the path is much more difficult.

Looking back on my own career, I am thankful for the people who supported me

*Continued on page 25*





Wigs are custom-made for the legal professional, with different styles for different jobs.

## Legal London

[Continued from page 24](#)

in moving forward in life and law, and those who I have also tried to support. Sometimes the support may be as simple as a kind word. But those small gestures can be invaluable when the road feels long. In my career as a lawyer, I was fortunate to work in an environment with smart, ethical, hardworking, and supportive colleagues. We sometimes shared hard truths or lent a sympathetic ear as part of that support for one another.

That OWLS trip to London continues to provide me with great memories. I respect the desire for freedom in society exemplified by the Magna Carta. I admire those who continue to work hard, who run side by side with — not over — one another to accomplish their goals.

There will always be those who are first in the race toward equality and acceptance in a particular profession. Although Morrison won that first foot race, she, and the other women with her, are all part of history. They pushed the boundaries of what was generally accepted



The Law Society in London is an independent professional body that promotes, protects and supports solicitors, the rule of law, and justice in England and Wales.

at that time and paved the way for all those who came after. They entered the Law Society, which was previously reserved only for those privileged few men with connections. There is no doubt that their strength carries forward.

I think Morrison would be proud to know that today, at least here in the U.S., there is greater diversity in the legal profession. She might also be surprised by some of the challenges that still exist. According to the American Bar Association, diversity in the U.S. population is not reflected fully in the legal profession. Notably, the percentage of women in leadership positions continues to be lower than men, but is moving toward greater inclusion.

While my son was just a teenager when we went on that “Legal London” trip, I think he enjoyed the adventure. I smile when I think about him agreeing to go with me. It

turned out to be a great time. We toured the Supreme Court building, learned about history, experienced English tea and biscuits, and saw the sights in Cambridge and other areas of England.

Our group stayed in the dorm rooms at Lucy Cavendish College. The school initially provided for the support of mature women, but now has more diversity. It was a historic and austere setting. To my son, there is no question that women, like everyone else, should choose their own path in life.

Thank you, OWLS, for sponsoring that “Legal London” trip for the anniversary of the Magna Carta. It enriched my perspective and appreciation for those who have gone before. Let us continue to transform the future for the better.

*Kathleen J. Proctor is a judge in the Washington County Circuit Court.*

## Chapters

[Continued from page 1](#)

Hoopla and the mini-golf outing that was offered this summer.

Teague said that before spearheading the LAWC revival she had not really participated in lawyer groups but has found a strong community within LAWC and OWLS. This fall, LAWC looks forward to welcoming new admittees and a holiday party. In 2025, LAWC plans to bring back their most popular events, add networking opportunities, and include out-

ings, like berry picking, that allow members to enjoy the beauty of Washington County.

### Clackamas County

Kristin Sterling, former OWLS president, has spearheaded the Clackamas County OWLS (COWLS) chapter this year. In June, Heather Decker and Kalina Lovell volunteered to co-chair the chapter revival, with Sterling serving as treasurer. The goal of COWLS leaders is to provide chapter members with opportunities to explore different areas of Clackamas County. The chapter hosted a gathering at a Lake Os-

wego concert in July, hosted by Fischer Family Law. In August, a night of kayaking in Oregon City provided a networking opportunity.

Going forward, the Clackamas chapter plans to have quarterly happy hours at food truck pods to bring people together in a casual atmosphere to meet colleagues living and working in Clackamas County. The events have been small, but COWLS plans to consistently offer a monthly event for members to meet up and explore the county.

*Kalina Lovell is an associate attorney at SBH Legal.*

## Dozens join OGALLA to show their Pride

On July 21, nearly 70 participants gathered for the annual OGALLA & OWLS Brunch & Bedazzle event held at Perkins Coie before this year's Portland Pride Parade.

Attendees of all ages and diverse backgrounds enjoyed getting creative and colorful with their shirt and poster designs this year. Smiles, conversation, and joy filled the space.

Special thanks to OGALLA for bringing abundant bedazzling supplies, Perkins Coie for hosting, volunteers who helped with setup and cleanup, and Cheryl's on 12th for the wonderful brunch.



OGALLA and OWLS members, family, and friends gathered July 21 at Perkins Coie and unleashed their creativity, painting and bedazzling T-shirts ahead of the 2024 Pride Parade. Before marching in the parade, they fueled up on a pre-parade brunch from Cheryl's on 12th. (Photos by Amber Bollman and Erika Maxon.)

### CLARIFICATION

In a story about the OWLS book drive for adults in custody at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility on Page 19 of the Summer AdvanceSheet, a photographer was not credited. Teresa Statler snapped the pictures of the volunteer effort. OWLS regrets the error.

