



# NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE NEVER GIVE IN

APRIL 2018



Myra L. Freed

Women's History Month and International Women's Day were particularly exciting and inspirational this year, with so many women of all ages speaking out, taking to the streets and showing unity and strength all around the world. This year's Women's History Month's theme, **Nevertheless, She Persisted!** is both a reminder and a challenge to all of us, not to give up or to allow ourselves to be silenced. It is certainly what our NYWBA Founders were all about in forming our Association. Be a proud NYWBA member.

I recently returned from a Civil Rights trip down south with a group from my synagogue, to Atlanta, Birmingham and Selma. We went to learn and understand our history and country better. We met some extraordinary people who endured incredible hardships, terror and injustices, who marched with **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, and those who are continuing the fight for equal justice including through the courts at the Equal Justice Initiative. We walked in the footsteps of great heroes, young and old, whose names are known and unknown, who put their bodies and lives on the line so that they and generations after could be free.

In Atlanta, we visited the **Center for Civil and Human Rights**. For most of us the most chilling and haunting part was a near virtual experience of sitting at a segregated lunch counter, under attack, while remaining still and non-violent as the brave Freedom Riders did. It gives one a whole new understanding of true courage and what it took to remain non-violent under those brutal and vile

*(Continued on Page 2)*

### Announcements & Calendar of Upcoming Events

- 4/9 – **Trust & Estates CLE** – p. 3
- 4/10 – Civil Court Express Lunch Series – p. 3
  - 4/12 – Meet & Mingle – p. 3
- 4/16 – Program & Events Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
  - 4/17 – Criminal Law Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 4/19 – **CLE: Civil Enforcement Action Turns Criminal** – pp. 3, 6
  - 4/23 – Legislation Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 4/24 – International Women's Rights Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 4/26 – **Annual Membership Meeting, Elections, CLE** – p. 1
  - 5/15 – Program & Events Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
  - 5/15 – Criminal Law Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
  - 5/16 – Civil Court Express Lunch Series – p. 3
    - 5/21 – Legislation Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 5/29 – International Women's Rights Comm. Mtg. – p. 3

Check [www.nywba.org](http://www.nywba.org) for more Meetings, Programs & Events.

## ***NYWBA Annual Membership Meeting, Elections and Ethics CLE Program***

***Please join us at our Annual Meeting.***

Mingle with members, get updates on the Association and vote on the NYWBA and WBASNY Officers, Directors and Delegates for next year. This is one of the highlights of our year, and we hope that you will join in the festivities!

Following the Annual Meeting, a panel of distinguished ethics attorneys will present an ethics CLE program.

### ***Lights! Camera! Ethics! Why your favorite movie lawyers may need an ethics lawyer!***

A great actress once said "Everything I learned, I learned from the movies." Fortunately she was not a lawyer. Some of our favorite and most unforgettable movie characters over the years have been lawyers. These characters have made us laugh and cry and inspired us to do great things. But sometimes what we learn from the big screen may not fly in the real world where the Rules of Professional Conduct govern lawyers' conduct. Join us for a fun-filled evening where we will explore some of the ethics issues that arise in lawyer movies including the duties of candor competence, and the unauthorized practice of law. Ethics credits and popcorn to be provided.

**Date:** ***Thursday, April 26, 2018***

**Time:** 5:30 p.m. – Registration & Networking  
6:00 p.m. – Annual Meeting & Elections  
6:30-8:00 p.m. – Ethics CLE Program

**Place:** ***Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, PC***  
488 Madison Avenue, 10th Floor, NYC  
(btwn. 51/52nd Streets)

**Cost:** Meeting and/or CLE: Complimentary for members  
Meeting (only): Complimentary for non-members  
CLE Program – \$50 for non-members & Guests

**Info:** Email [EthicsRSVP@nywba.org](mailto:EthicsRSVP@nywba.org)

**RSVP:** To RSVP go to <http://bit.ly/2oFITEA>

*Light refreshments will be served.*

*NYWBA thanks Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, PC for hosting.*

*President's Message (Continued from Page 1)*

circumstances.

This year was the 53rd Anniversary of **Bloody Sunday**, considered the moment when the Voting Rights Act was birthed. As we walked over the Edmund Pettus Bridge (named after a Confederate general), we tried to understand what it was like to reach the crest, facing a hostile and well-armed police force. Then to have courage and resolve to return again and again, knowing you were facing certain brutality and possible death.

This trip was the one of the most profound, moving and memorable experience of my life. It's one that I am still processing; one that I recommend to all. It is a journey I think anyone interested in public office should be required to take.

**Rep. John Lewis** goes back every year to walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge to commemorate Bloody Sunday, bringing people from all walks of life, adherents of all religions, and colleagues from all political parties to join him. This year, a reporter asked Rep. Lewis, himself once a young activist, what was his message to the young people from Parkland now fighting for change. He said, "Never give up, never give in. You will have setbacks as we did, but never give up hope." John Lewis is a true American hero. His life and words remain an inspiration to us all. He remains an optimist, always hopeful for change for the better. We should do no less.

**Our Youth Lead the Way.** It is a terrible thing to feel we have failed our children, but an inspiration to watch the students of **Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School** stand up to all to honor their murdered friends and teachers. They are determined, gutsy, tough, irreverent and smart. They stand up to politicians, to their trolls, to the NRA and to all those who say "no" or "you can't." They call out as "BS" every phony claim that change can't be made against gun violence, or made now. They make us all proud and we should support them in every way we can. The Parkland students have accomplished legislative change in Florida. They have organized a national student walkout; 17 minutes of silence for the 17 murdered. They are organizing voter registrations and so much more. This is what Democracy looks like.

**We were strangers in a strange land.** For many, the month of April brings the joy of Spring and cherished holidays. For me, it is the celebration of Passover, the exodus from slavery to freedom, commemorated and retold at the Passover Seders. It is a reminder for us to identify with the stranger, the outsider, now more poignant and necessary than ever. Everywhere around the world thousands of people, families and children, are forced to flee their homes by war, persecution, terror, and hunger. They are vilified, attacked and demonized, including by our own officials. The question for our generation is, who do we want to be as citizens, what do we want our country to stand for in the face of this unprecedented humanitarian crisis? What can we, as bar leaders do? How will our generation be remembered and judged?

**Pride.** Congratulations to immediate Past President **Deborah G. Rosenthal** who was just nominated 2018-2019 Treasurer of WBASNY. Deborah served as our association treasurer for three years and in many other important capacities before becoming a great President of our chapter. She joins as a long line of extraordinary women from our chapter who have served on WBASNY's board, including presently, former NYWBA President **Jennifer P. Brown**, who currently serves as WBASNY Recording Secretary with great distinction. We are proud of all our chapter's members who have contributed so much to WBASNY. And we wish Deborah and her fellow officers great success in their terms.

Wishing happy holidays to all and peace to all for Spring. And never give up or give in.



**NYWBA NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

At its December 6, 2017 meeting, the *NYWBA Committee on Nominations* nominated the following candidates to serve for the positions and terms stated below. The elections will be held at the Association's Annual Membership Meeting on April 26, 2018. (See *meeting notice*, page 1.)

**OFFICERS (2018-2019)**

President:	Virginia A. LoPreto
Vice Presidents:	Amanda B. Norejko Amy B. Goldsmith Magnolia D. Levy
Treasurer:	Jocelyn L. Jacobson
Recording Secretary:	Sabrina E. Morrissey
Corresponding Secretary:	Dawn M. Cardi
Proposed: Immediate	
Past President:	Myra L. Freed, Proposed

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Directors to be Installed – Class of 2018-2021**

Yacine Barry-Wun	Julie Hyman
Leona Beane	Kay Marmorek
Melissa Ephron-Mandel	Sabrina E. Morrissey
Catherine M. Foti	

**Directors to be Installed (filling vacancies for unexpired terms)**

**Class of 2016-2019:** Meaghan E. Carey

**Class of 2017-2020:** Jennifer P. Brown & Fran R. Hoffinger

**Directors Continuing in Office**

Michael W. Appelbaum	Susan M. Moss
Hon. Laura E. Drager	Morgan Fraser Mouchette
Felice B. Ekelman	Deborah G. Rosenthal
Hon. Judith J. Gische	Francesca A. Sabbatino
Hon. Sherry Klein Heitler	Andrea Vacca
Hon. Kelly O'Neill Levy	

**COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS - Class of 2018-2020**

Yacine Barry-Wun	Hon. Kelly O'Neill Levy
Patricia Ann Grant	Hon. Lisa A. Sokoloff

**NYWBA DELEGATE NOMINEES TO WBASNY BOARD (2018-2019)**

Yacine Barry-Wun	Julie Hyman
Jennifer P. Brown	Marjorie A. Martin
Elizabeth A. Bryson	Amanda B. Norejko
Dawn M. Cardi	Hon. Jacqueline W. Silbermann
Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin	Hon. Lisa A. Sokoloff
Myra L. Freed	

NYWBA wishes to acknowledge the generous gift from  
**FOUNDER AND PAST PRESIDENT  
HON. FLORENCE PERLOW SHIENTAG (1908-2009).**

Her financial bequest has helped to underwrite the cost of this Newsletter and many of our CLE programs.

## NOTICE TO MEMBERS – ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTIONS

The NYWBA Annual Membership Meeting will be held on April 26, 2018 at Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz PC, 488 Madison Avenue, NYC 10022, when the President & Treasurer will present reports on the state of the NYWBA and its finances, and the Association will hold elections for Officer, Director and Delegate positions. (See p. 2 for the NYWBA Nominations Committee Report, which includes a list of all open positions, terms of office and nominees, as well as a list of Directors continuing in office.)

Article XIV, Section 1 of the By-Laws provides that only members who are in good standing and whose membership dues were received by **January 31st may vote at the Annual Meeting. If you have not yet renewed your dues for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, please do so now!**

Article XVII, Section 10 of the By-Laws provides that any fifty members eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting may, by a writing delivered to the Corresponding Secretary not less than *forty days* prior to the Annual Meeting, propose candidates for officer or director positions to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Such petition must be received by no later than **March 15, 2018** and must be addressed to Corresponding Secretary **Dawn M. Cardi**, New York Women's Bar Association, The Chrysler Building, 132 East 43rd Street, # 716, New York, New York 10017-4019.

Immediately after the elections, NYWBA will present an **Ethics CLE Program** (See notice, page 1).

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Georgia B. Barker  
Noelle Block Lubin  
Danielle N. Carroll  
Paula B. Glass  
Wendy Heilbut  
Alaina R. Heine  
Ashley Huddleston  
Angela C. Kerins  
Beatrice Leong  
Stuart Meyer  
Laura G. Ravinsky  
Alexandra M. Santo  
Isaiah Vallejo-Juste

as of 03/16/2018

## NOTES ON MEMBERS

Congratulations to Board Member Justice **Judith J. Gische** who will be honored at the Seventh Annual Awards of Distinction Breakfast of The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Center for Elder Justice with the Champion for Justice Award on May 10, 2018.

Has something noteworthy happened to you or another member? Send your news to [Newsletter@nywba.org](mailto:Newsletter@nywba.org).



## COMMITTEE CALENDAR

**Civil Courts Committee's Express Lunch Series** continues on **April 10** and **May 16** at 1:00 p.m. at 111 Centre Street, 8th Fl. boardroom (entrance at White Street only), NYC. For info and to RSVP, email [CivilCourtsChairs@nywba.org](mailto:CivilCourtsChairs@nywba.org).

**Committee to Advance the Status of Women in the Profession** will host its second **"Meet & Mingle"** Event from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on **April 12**. The event will take place at Greenspoon Marder, LLP, 590 Madison Ave, Suite 1800, NYC. The event is free for NYWBA Members. Email [AdvanceStatus@nywba.org](mailto:AdvanceStatus@nywba.org) for more information. See notice p. 3.

**Criminal Law Committee** will meet **April 17** and **May 15** at 6:15 p.m. at The Hoffinger Firm, 150 East 58th Street, 16th Fl., NYC. For info and to RSVP email [CrimLawChairs@nywba.org](mailto:CrimLawChairs@nywba.org).

**International Women's Rights Committee** will meet **April 24** and **May 29** at 6:30 p.m. at Le Pain Quotidien, 85 Broad St., NYC. RSVP [IntlChairs@nywba.org](mailto:IntlChairs@nywba.org).

**Federal Practice and Criminal Law Committees** present a **CLE: When a Civil Action Turns Criminal**, on **April 19** at 6:00 p.m. at Crowell & Moring LLP, 590 Madison Ave., 20th Fl., NYC. 1.5 Credits. Free for members, \$35 for non-members. For info & to RSVP email [FederalPractice@nywba.org](mailto:FederalPractice@nywba.org). See notice p. 6.

**Legislation Committee** will host its monthly meetings on **April 23** and **May 21** at 6:15 p.m. at Cardi & Edgar LLP, 99 Madison Ave. 8th Fl., NYC. For conference call info or to RSVP contact Joseph Caputo at 212 481-7770 or [jcaputo@cardiedgarlaw.com](mailto:jcaputo@cardiedgarlaw.com) by the 15th of the month.

**Program & Events Committee** will meet **April 16** and **May 15** at 6:00 p.m. at the offices of Kirkland & Ellis, 601 Lexington Ave., NYC. RSVP [events@nywba.org](mailto:events@nywba.org).

**Trust & Estates Committee** will host a **CLE** breakfast entitled **"Navigating the Landscape of Fiduciary Liability"** on **April 9** at 9:00 a.m. at Brown Brothers Harriman, 140 Broadway, 3rd Fl., NYC. For more info email [TEChairs@nywba.org](mailto:TEChairs@nywba.org).

### *Committee to Advance the Status of Women in the Profession "Meet & Mingle"*

**Date:** *Thursday, April 12, 2018*  
**Time:** 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
**Place:** *Greenspoon Marder, LLP*  
590 Madison Ave, Suite 1800, NYC  
**Cost:** *FREE*  
**Info:** Email [AdvanceStatus@nywba.org](mailto:AdvanceStatus@nywba.org)  
**RSVP:** Go to <http://bit.ly/2GIvqG4>

*Space is limited to the first 30 people who sign up.  
Beverages and light snacks will be served.*



## Making Herstory!

**Introduction by Donna Albano:** *Justice Ling-Cohan* continues to make history, as the Presiding Justice of oral arguments on March 5, 2018, at the Appellate Term, First Department, amongst the first all-female Appellate Panel, on the fifth day of *Women's History Month*.

To add to this historic event, the three women Justices were all of color. It was the first time a panel consisted of judges who were Asian Pacific American, Hispanic, and African-American.



**Justice Doris Ling-Cohan's remarks on the day she presided over this historic panel:**

First, on behalf of myself and my colleague *Justice Gonzalez*, let me welcome our newest colleague, *Justice Carol Edmead*, to the Appellate Term. We know she will serve with distinction on our court.

This is Women's History Month and how appropriate for us all to observe that this is indeed a truly historic day at the Appellate Term.

When I first started at the Appellate Term in 2014, I was the only woman of five. So you can imagine that when the assignment schedule was sent out a few weeks ago, I was very excited and the first to observe how historic this panel would be.

Today is the first time in the history of the Appellate Term that we will have an all women panel. Indeed, three of the five judges on the Appellate Term are women, for the first time.

I would be remiss if I did not note the other women who have preceded us, which include: *Judges Edith Miller* (who was the first woman and also the first African American woman to serve on this court), *Kristin Booth Glen*, *Helen Freedman*, *Phyllis Gangel-Jacob* and *Sherri Klein Heitler*, upon whose shoulders we stand.

Thank you to former *Judge Gail Prudenti*, also a trailblazer, who appointed me, and to *Judge Lawrence Marks* who appointed my colleagues, as well as the Chief Judge, the respective PJ's of the Appellate Division, First Department, who had a hand in appointing us, and *Judges George Silver* and *Fern Fisher* for their roles. Also, a big thank you to all the non-judicial staff of the Appellate Term, and particularly the women, who not only work hard every day but were so supportive of this historic panel.

I also want to acknowledge and thank our PJ, *Hon. Martin Shulman*, who assigned this historic panel for today's arguments.

I know my colleagues join me in looking to the future, when these historic "firsts" need not be observed.

## NYWBA's Annual Judicial Reception February 27, 2018, at the Yale Club



(l. to r.): *Hon. Kevin McGrath Jr.*, *Hon. Sandra Roper*, *Alston & Bird senior counsel Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin*, *Hon. Richard A. Tsai*, *Hon. Adam Silvera*, *NYWBA President Myra L. Freed*, *Hon. Edwina G. Richardson-Mendelson*, *NYWBA Past President Jennifer P. Brown* and *Hon. Lisa A. Sokoloff*. Photo: David Handschuh/NYLJ.

## Jewish Lawyers Guild 42nd Annual Dinner, March 19, 2018



(l. to r.): *Advisory Council member Amy Saltzman*; *NYWBA Director Julie Hyman*; *NYWBA Director Leona Beane*; *Nadine C. Johnson*, *Court Attorney*; *Joyce Y. Hartfield*, *Executive Director of the Franklin Williams Judicial Commission* and *Hon. Debra A. James*, *Supreme Court Justice*



## NYWBA Foundation Makes Key Grant to Legal Momentum

By *Martha E. Gifford, Esq.*

Stepping in to extend a helping hand to a sister organization in need, the NYWBA Foundation has made a grant under extraordinary circumstances to Legal Momentum for its National Judicial Education Project (NJEP). NJEP is a unique, award-winning project that pioneered judicial education about gender bias and was the catalyst for and advisor to over 50 high-level task forces on gender bias in state and federal courts nationwide. NJEP educates judges, attorneys, and justice system professionals about the ways in which gender bias can undermine fairness in criminal, civil, family, and juvenile law, with a particular focus on sexual assault cases and cases involving the intersection of sexual assault and domestic violence. NJEP has created extensive resources and provides training on these issues to promote the fair adjudication of these cases. For more information, see <https://www.legalmomentum.org/national-judicial-education-program>.

In early November 2017, Legal Momentum announced that the Office on Violence against Women (OVW) of the Department of Justice had denied in full NJEP's application for continued funding after mid-2018 under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). OVW had funded NJEP for more than 20 years. Despite NJEP's success, capacity and funding limits have allowed fewer in-person trainings than it would like to present. NJEP has therefore used some of its funding to complement its training programs by making a wealth of resources and materials available free of charge on its website. The cruel irony of DOJ's decision is that Legal Momentum (then the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund) was the organization that brought experts and organizations together in 1990-94 to draft and pass VAWA, continues to take a lead role in drafting and working to pass each VAWA reauthorization, and was also instrumental in achieving passage of legislation that made OVW a permanent part of the DOJ.

On November 15, I attended an event at which Legal Momentum's President **Carol Robles-Roman** was a speaker. In a private discussion, she told me that the amount of the funding that NJEP had sought was \$600,000, essentially its entire budget for this fiscal year.

Shortly after this discussion, I put on the Foundation's agenda a proposal to make a small grant to Legal Momentum for NJEP. Thanks to Foundation President **Gretchen Schumann**, the Board reviewed the proposal and voted on December 11 to make a grant of \$5,000, contingent on receiving and approving a completed application from Legal Momentum. As a member of Legal Momentum's Board of Legal Advisers, I had been invited to a small reception for supporters on December 13. I let Ms. Robles-Roman and NJEP Executive Director **Lynn Hecht Schafran** know of the Foundation's decision. At the reception, they invited me to announce the grant. I talked about the Foundation, its activities, and its mission, and explained why the Board had made this decision, noting that while \$5,000 is a small amount in relation to the lost funding, the Foundation has limited resources and this amount is as large a grant as the Foundation has ever made out of funds the Board has raised itself. Because most of the reception guests were substantial donors, I asked them to make stretch gifts to Legal Momentum as a response to the Foundation's stretch gift. Ms. Robles-Roman led a round of applause to the Foundation.

The Foundation received, reviewed, and formally voted to approve the application for funding, and has made the grant. The Board is especially pleased that the funds are being used for a specific, important project. To quote from

the application, ". . . this grant from the NYWBAF will cover the personnel [and related design] costs of modernizing NJEP's website resource pages allowing greater reach and enhanced user-friendliness of NJEP's resources." Legal Momentum will publicly acknowledge the grant in its newsletter, on its website and in NJEP's promotion to courts, lawyers and judicial educators of the completed modernized resource pages.

*Martha E. Gifford is a Co-founder and Director of the NYWBA Foundation, Inc. She is also a past president of NYWBA (1994-95) and WBASNY (2001-2002).*

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

#### **NYWBA's 2018 Annual Awards and Installation Dinner**

**The President's Special Award**  
will be presented to

**Honorable Rolando T. Acosta**  
Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, First Department  
and

**Honorable Deborah A. Kaplan**  
Administrative Justice, Supreme Court,  
New York County, Civil Branch

**NYWBA's Award of Special Recognition**  
will be presented to

**Honorable Karla M. Moskowitz**  
Associate Justice (ret.), Appellate Division,  
First Department

**Tuesday, June 12, 2018  
Three Sixty°**

10 Desbrosses Street  
Tribeca, New York

Cocktails at 6:00 p.m.  
Silent Auction to benefit the  
NYWBA Foundation and its Grant Programs  
(including the Betty Weinberg Ellerin Fund)

Dinner and Program at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, email [Dinner@nywba.org](mailto:Dinner@nywba.org)  
RSVP information will be available shortly.



*NYWBA Criminal Law and Federal Practice Committees  
Present a CLE Program:*

***When A Civil Enforcement Action  
Turns Criminal***

*Speakers:*

***Rebecca Monck Ricigliano and Arlen Pyenson***  
*Crowell & Moring LLP*

***Staci Yablon and Cristina Isabel Calvar,***  
*Winston & Strawn LLP*

**Date:** *Thursday, April 19, 2018, 6:00 p.m.*

**Place:** *Crowell & Moring LLP*  
*590 Madison Avenue, 20th Floor, NYC*

**CLE:** *Credits 1.5\**

**Cost:** *Free – NYWBA Members\*\*  
\$35 - Non-members*

**RSVP:** *Email [FederalPractice@nywba.org](mailto:FederalPractice@nywba.org)*

**Info:** *Email [FederalPractice@nywba.org](mailto:FederalPractice@nywba.org)*

*\* 1.5 CLE credits (Professional Practice Pending): The NYWBA is an accredited CLE provider. Approval of CLE credit is pending in accordance with the requirements of the NYS CLE Board for the above-listed credit hours for established attorneys and as transitional credit hours for newly admitted attorneys.*

*\*\* Free NYWBA members, \$35, non-member: Full and partial scholarships based on financial need are available. For info on the guidelines and to apply, contact CLE Co-Chairs Amy B. Goldsmith or Ariel Chesler at [cle@nywba.org](mailto:cle@nywba.org) or 212-216-1135. All requests are confidential.*

***Reflections by Esthe Kim,  
New York Women's Bar Association  
Foundation Fellow Fellow at Her Justice***

Last fall, I had the great privilege of interning at **Her Justice**, a nonprofit legal services organization based in lower Manhattan, as the New York Women's Bar Association Foundation Fellow.

I am a third year law student at New York University School of Law. I was interested in the fellowship as an opportunity to give back to the community. In my first and second years of law school, I volunteered with the Domestic Violence Advocacy Project on campus and developed a strong desire to help individuals who have been victims of domestic violence.

At Her Justice, I was able to see the law as a tool for both empowering and protecting women. I worked on both immigration and domestic violence cases. I conducted intake calls with women seeking Her Justice's services relating to domestic violence. Under the supervision of Senior Staff Attorney Esther Limb, I also worked on immigration cases and met or spoke with clients to help them file employment authorization documents, documents to adjust their immigration status, and a motion to reopen proceedings to terminate a prior deportation order. I also helped draft affidavits from clients regarding why the court should terminate a prior deportation order or grant a fee waiver for filing documents. Lastly, I witnessed proceedings at the immigration court and helped with legal research on issues, including seeking asylum or withholding of removal.

The most rewarding part of the fellowship was working directly with the clients and providing legal services to women in need. Her Justice helps to bridge the gap in access to legal services for women and helps them break away from abusive relationships through legal assistance and counselling. Her Justice also plays a critical role in helping many individuals attain legal immigration status through VAWA petitions and U-Visa applications, and other avenues.

I am truly grateful to the New York Women's Bar Association Foundation for granting me this opportunity to intern with Her Justice. Through the internship, I have gained a deeper understanding of the widespread need for legal immigration services among individuals suffering from domestic violence. Hearing clients' stories helped me to realize that for many individuals, leaving their violent circumstances means that they need to find work and secure a means of supporting themselves. Helping clients attain legal status is an important way that Her Justice serves its clients and furthers its mission. Beyond this fellowship, I plan to continue to serve the community through pro bono service and volunteer work, especially to assist low-income individuals.

*Esthe Kim is a 3L at New York University School of Law.*

***Time's Up Legal Defense Fund Seeks Attorneys  
to Join Legal Network for Gender Equity***

The Legal Network for Gender Equity of the National Women's Law Center (NWLC) will provide access to legal representation, resources, and information to those facing sexual harassment and/or sexual discrimination on the job, at school and in the health care system. In addition to seeking attorneys with experience and interest in handling sexual harassment or discrimination cases, NWLC is looking for attorneys with experience and an interest in handling defamation matters.

The NWLC has already recruited more than 200 attorneys from across the country who stand ready to provide an initial free legal consultation and, when appropriate, representation. The recently-founded Time's Up Legal Defense Fund, established by prominent actors and others in the entertainment industry, lawyers Tina Chen and Roberta Kaplan, and top public relations professionals in support of the Me Too movement, will provide financial support to the Network and will support some of the cases brought by attorneys in the Network.

The NWLC is recruiting additional attorneys to join the Network from all states. If you are interested in joining the Network, learn more and sign up at <https://nwlc.org/join-the-legal-network/>.

For questions, please contact NWLC's Legal Director, **Sunu Chandy** ([schandy@nwlc.org](mailto:schandy@nwlc.org)).

**NOTICE TO MEMBERS:  
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO NYWBA BY-LAWS**

The NYWBA Board has voted to amend the NYWBA By-Laws to provide that the outgoing NYWBA President automatically serve in the year after her term in the newly created position of "Immediate Past President." In this capacity, the Past President will automatically continue as a member of the Board and serve as an unelected officer and a member of the Committee on Nominations. The text of the amendments appears below (new text is underlined; replaced text appears with strikeouts). (The changes to Article XVII also remove some archaic text that is a residual from past By-Laws changes.) A vote to ratify these amendments will take place at NYWBA's Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday, April 26, 2018.

**ARTICLE II – OFFICERS**

SECTION 1

Text if proposed 2018 amendments pass:

The officers of the Association shall be a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President and Third Vice-President, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer. These officers of the Association shall be elected annually at the annual membership meeting ("annual meeting") in April by a plurality vote of the eligible members present and voting in person or by proxy and shall be inducted at a subsequent meeting of the Association for a one-year term commencing June 1. In addition to the elected officers, the Immediate Past President of the Association shall serve as an unelected officer for a one-year term commencing June 1. Should the Immediate Past President be unable or unwilling to serve after her term as President, this position shall not be filled.

Redlined edition showing details of proposed 2018 revisions:

The officers of the Association shall be a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President and Third Vice-President, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer. These officers of the Association shall be elected annually at the annual membership meeting ("annual meeting") in April by a plurality vote of the eligible members present and voting in person or by proxy and shall be inducted at a subsequent meeting of the Association for a one-year term commencing June 1. In addition to the elected officers, the Immediate Past President of the Association shall serve as an unelected officer for a one-year term commencing June 1. Should the Immediate Past President be unable or unwilling to serve after her term as President, this position shall not be filled.

\* \* \*

**ARTICLE XVII – COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS**

SECTION 1

Text if proposed 2018 amendments pass:

This committee shall consist of eight elected members, who shall be primary members of the Association, plus the President and Immediate Past President. The elected members of the committee shall be divided into two (2) classes of four members each. Each class shall be elected at the Annual Meeting in alternate years for a term of two (2) years to succeed those whose terms expire. Any vacancy or vacancies in the other class shall also be filled at said meeting.

Redlined edition showing details of proposed 2018 revisions:

This committee shall consist of eight elected members, who shall be primary members of the Association ~~and who shall be elected from nominations made from the floor pursuant to par. b of this Section, and,~~ plus the President and Immediate Past President.

~~Membership on~~ The elected members of the committee shall be divided into two (2) classes of four members each, ~~and the President.~~ Each class shall be elected at the Annual Meeting in alternate years for a term of two (2) years to succeed those whose terms expire. Any vacancy or vacancies ~~in the other class shall also be filled at said meeting.~~ ~~The four candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for terms of two (2) years and of the remaining candidates, those receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected to fill any vacancies.~~

~~The election of the Committee on Nominations shall take place at the annual meeting of the Association, except that the first election of the Committee after the passage of the amendment to these by laws to change the date of its election to the annual meeting shall be held at the first membership meeting after the passage of said amendment.~~

\* \* \*

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# NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

A Founding Chapter of THE WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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Current members should send updated address and contact information to [ED@nywba.org](mailto:ED@nywba.org). This will help us keep you informed about our programs, events, and other benefits of membership.

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