



National Consortium on Racial & Ethnic Fairness in the Courts

SECRETARIAT: NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS, 300 NEWPORT AVENUE, WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23185
WWW.NATIONAL-CONSORTIUM.ORG

PRESIDENT/MODERATOR

Hon. Susan F. Maven
New Jersey Superior Court
1201 Bacharach Boulevard
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
(609) 402-0100 Ext.47670,
susan.maven@njcourts.gov

SECRETARY/TREASURER

H. Clifton Grandy, Esq.
Senior Court Manager, District of Columbia Courts

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hon. Scott M. Bernstein
Eleventh Judicial Circuit - Florida

Hon. Anna Blackburne-Rigsby
Chief Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Hon. Richard Blake
Chief Tribal Judge – Hoopa Valley Tribe - California

Hon. Tanya M. Bransford
Fourth Judicial District – Minnesota

Erica S. Chung
Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Mgr. - Washington

Gregory P. Conyers
Director of Diversity, State Bar of Michigan

Hon. Cynthia D. Davis, (Ret.)
Former Ex. Dir., Mississippi Judicial College

Hon. Kenneth V. Desmond, Jr.
Justice, Massachusetts Appeals Court

Hon. Donovan J. Foughty
Northeast Judicial District – North Dakota

Hon. Veronica Alicea-Galván
King County Superior Court - Washington

Hon. Deadra L. Jefferson
Circuit Court of South Carolina

Hon. Verna G. Leath
New Jersey Superior Court

Lisette McCormick, Esq.
Pennsylvania Interbranch Commission for Gender,
Racial and Ethnic Fairness

Prof. Aura Newlin
Northwest College - Wyoming

Hon. Richard Rivera
Albany Family Court – New York

Kimberley Taylor Riley, Esq.
Missouri Office of State Courts Administrator

James E. Williams, Jr., Esq.
Chair, NC Commission on Racial and Ethnic
Disparities

EMERITUS

Hon. Robert Benham – Georgia (Ret.)
Hon. Edward C. Clifton - Rhode Island (Ret.)
Karl A. Doss, Esq. - Virginia
Hon. Frederick P. Horn – California (Ret.)
Hon. Clarence J. Jones – Connecticut (Ret.)
L. Dew Kaneshiro, Esq. – Hawaii
Hon. Marilyn Kelly – Michigan (Ret.)
Hon. yvonne lewis - New York (Ret.)
Yolande P. Marlow, Ph.D. – New Jersey
Hon. Veronica Simmons McBeth – California
Hon. Ronald T.Y. Moon - Hawaii (Ret.)
Elizabeth Neeley, Ph.D. - Nebraska
Hon. Eduardo Padró - New York (Ret.)
Hon. Patricio M. Serna - New Mexico (Ret.)
Hon. Max N. Tobias, Jr. – Louisiana (Ret.)

ADVISORY BOARD

Aime Alonzo-Serrano – New Jersey
Hon. Margaret Chutich – Minnesota
Hon. Shauna Graves-Robertson - Utah
Hon. Emanuella Groves – Ohio
Shirley Ann Higuchi, Esq. – Washington, DC
Caryn L. Hines, Esq. – Maryland
Tonya K. Kohn, Esq. – South Carolina
Hon. Melissa Long – Rhode Island

June 5, 2020

The Directors and Advisors of the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts (“National Consortium”) mourn the recent death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Our condolences extend to the Floyd family as well as to other families who have lost relatives at the hands of law enforcement officers. The continuing lawful protests around the country represent the public’s frustration with the cycle of excessive force used by law enforcement officers against Black people and other people of color and the perceived inadequacy of the justice system to impose sanctions, convictions and civil remedies severe enough to deter this conduct. The National Consortium respects the rights of people to assemble to express their disapproval but denounces the use of violence, acts of vandalism and destruction of property that threatens the community and the rule of law.

The goal of the National Consortium is for every state, tribal nation and territory to maintain a judicial system that is accessible, free from bias, and fair for all, without regard to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or other demographic identifiers. To accomplish this goal, the National Consortium encourages the highest court of each state to establish committees or related entities to assist its courts in ensuring that all court users-including defendants, victims, civil litigants, witnesses and the public– are treated equitably and with dignity and respect. These committees, who comprise the National Consortium membership, exist in approximately half of the states. We encourage the committees to open a dialogue to address the concerns of their residents and court system stakeholders. The National Consortium stands ready to support and assist courts in the United States, its territories and in tribal nations to address concerns with public trust and confidence within their communities.

Hon. Susan F. Maven, Board President
H. Clifton Grandy, Esq., Secretary/Treasurer

Mission Statement

The National Consortium is committed to encouraging the highest courts of each state to create commissions to examine the treatment accorded minorities in their courts; sharing the collective knowledge of task forces and commissions with courts, law enforcement, and the community; and providing technical assistance and expertise to commissions, task forces, and other interested organizations and individuals on the subject of racial and ethnic fairness.