



CRAWFORD

George W. Crawford Black Bar Association



Our History, Our Future: Celebrating Attorneys of Color in Connecticut Symposium

April 13, 2012

8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Quinnipiac University School of Law
Hamden, CT**

Our History, Our Future: Celebrating Attorneys of Color in Connecticut

Welcome to the celebration!

We are delighted to welcome you to this unique symposium celebrating the untold history of attorneys of color in Connecticut. Many years ago, attorneys at the Connecticut Bar Foundation envisioned a project which would highlight and preserve the rich history of attorneys of color. The original proposal was to create an oral history archive.

In 2008, the planning committee officially convened to develop a plan for the project and to see it through to implementation. That committee, led by Judge Juliett Crawford, determined that prior to embarking on a project of the magnitude of an oral history archive it would be wise to plan a symposium with the following goals:

- to generate broad interest in the history project;
- to generate greater interest and participation in the four bar associations for attorneys of color in Connecticut and in the broader legal profession;
- to generate discussion of topics addressed;
- to generate one or more publishable articles on the symposium;
- to educate the audience regarding our legal history; and
- to inspire the audience.

A key component of our project is the development of the historical timeline that you see displayed on the wall at the entrance to this courtroom. Please stop by during the breaks to review it, add your own notes to it regarding historical events and continue to update us with information for the virtual timeline that will be displayed on the Bar Foundation website – www.ctbarfdn.org – into the foreseeable future.

It is our hope that today's program will satisfy each of these goals and that you will leave here educated, inspired and with a renewed interest in the history project on attorneys of color that will help us to continue to grow this rich and meaningful historical archive for many years to come.

Hon. Juliett L. Crawford, Judge
Symposium Co-Chair

Attorney Vanessa Roberts Avery
Symposium Co-Chair

History of Attorneys of Color Planning Committee

Hon. Juliett L. Crawford,
Co-Chair

- Connecticut Superior Court Judge
- James W. Cooper Sustaining Life Fellow, CT Bar Foundation
- Past President of Crawford

Vanessa Roberts Avery,
Co-Chair

- McCarter English, LLP
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- Office of the Chief State's Attorney, Appellate Bureau
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- Former Board Member, CT Bar Foundation
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Connecticut Bar Foundation Staff

Sandy Klebanoff, Executive Director
Liz Drummond, Assistant Director
Anne E. Goico, Finance Director
Katilyn Carling, Administrative Assistant

Program Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. **Registration and Continental Breakfast - Lobby**

Historical Timeline Display
- 9:30 a.m. **Introductions and Welcome - Grand Courtroom**

Dean Brad Saxton, Quinnipiac University School of Law;
Chair, James W. Cooper Fellows
Attorney Timothy S. Fisher, President, Connecticut Bar Foundation;
McCarter & English LLP
Attorney Vanessa Roberts Avery, McCarter & English LLP
Overview and Introduction of Keynote Speaker
- 9:45 a.m. **Keynote Speaker**

Professor John Brittain, University of the District of Columbia School of Law
- 10:30 a.m. **Break**
- 10:45 a.m. **Panel**
Leadership/Forming a Professional Identity

Moderator
Professor Sudha Setty, Western New England University School of Law

Panelists
Professor John C. Brittain, Founding Member of Crawford
Attorney Amy Lin Meyerson, Founding Member of CAPABA;
Law Office of Amy Lin Meyerson
Hon. Edgardo Ramos, U.S. District Judge, S.D.N.Y.
Attorney Asker Saeed, Founding Member of SABAC;
IAE International Aero Engines AG
- 12:00 p.m. **Break and Box Lunch Pick-Up - Lobby - Return to Grand Courtroom**
- 12:30 p.m. **Lunch Panel**
Judges/Personal Perspectives

Moderator
Professor Marilyn Ford, Quinnipiac University School of Law

Panelists
Hon. Nina F. Elgo, CT Superior Court Judge
Hon. Sheridan L. Moore, CT Superior Court Judge
Hon. Antonio C. Robaina, CT Superior Court Judge
Hon. M. Nawaz Wahla, CT Superior Court Judge
- 1:45 p.m. **Remarks by Attorney General George Jepsen**
Role of Public Leaders

2:00 p.m. **Afternoon Panel**
Mentoring, Historical Lessons Still Applicable Today

Moderator

Attorney Virginia E. McGarrity, Robinson & Cole LLP

Panelists

Attorney Sung-Ho Hwang, Law Offices of Sung-Ho Hwang

Attorney Iliia M. O'Hearn, Bracewell & Giuliani LLP

Attorney Robert R. Simpson, Shipman & Goodwin LLP

Attorney S. Dave Vatti, Deputy Chief, Violent Crime and Narcotics,
Office of the United States Attorney, District of Connecticut

3:00 p.m. - **Closing Remarks**

3:05 p.m. Hon. Juliett L. Crawford, CT Superior Court Judge

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