NEWS ADVISORY

New York State
Unified Court System

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Third Judicial District to Present "Remember the Ladies: Women and the Constitution at 250"

All-Female Color Guard of NYS Court Officers to Open Semiquincentennial CLE Program

ALBANY, NEW YORK—The Third Judicial District's Gender Fairness Committee and Equal Justice in the Courts Committee will present "Remember the Ladies: Women and the Constitution at 250" on **Wednesday, September 23**, at 12 noon in the Albany County Courthouse, 16 Eagle Street, Albany. The district serves Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Schoharie, Sullivan, and Ulster counties.

Held during the nation's 250-year anniversary, the program takes its title from Abigail Adams' March 1776 letter urging John Adams and the Continental Congress to "remember the ladies." It traces the constitutional journey of American women from their exclusion at the founding, through the suffrage movement and the Nineteenth Amendment, to modern equal protection law and the growing presence of women on the bench and at the bar.

"Two hundred and fifty years after Abigail Adams asked the founders to remember the ladies, this program lets us honor the women who answered that call and consider the work still ahead," said Judge Jose-Decker, who co-chairs the district's Gender Fairness Committee.

The event will include welcoming remarks by Judge Jose-Decker and Women's Bar Association of the State of New York President Rebekah Nellis Kennedy; a reading of the Adams letter by Hon. Rachel Kretser (Ret.), with discussion led by Judges Laura Jordan and Zainab Chaudhry, co-chairs of the Equal Justice in the Courts Committee; a presentation on the constitutional arc of women's rights by Renee Behrens, Immediate Past President of the Capital District Women's Bar Association, and Susie Sohn, President of the Women's Bar Association of Orange and Sullivan Counties; a judicial panel featuring Appellate Division, Third Department Presiding Justice Elizabeth A. Garry, Appellate Division, First Department Associate Justice Llinét M. Rosado, and Appellate Division, Third Department Associate Justice Christina L. Ryba, moderated by Justice Sherri Brooks-Morton.

The program is co-sponsored by WBASNY, the Capital District Women's Bar Association, the Women's Bar Association of Orange and Sullivan Counties, and the Historical Society of the New York Courts. It has been approved for 2.0 New York CLE credit hours (1.5 in Areas of Professional Practice and 0.5 in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion).

The public may view the program live at https://cmi.nycourts.gov/stream/live/st-jd3/st-jd3-2.

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