

**Congratulations on your election as President of the NCWBA. How long have you been on the board of the NCWBA and what caused you to initially get involved with the NCWBA leadership?**

I have served on the board of the NCWBA since the summer of 2008. I actually joined the NCWBA board during the same week that my term as NHWBA president ended. While serving as the NHWBA President, I had the opportunity to attend my first NCWBA Summit meeting in San Francisco with Kristin Mendoza and Holly Haines. I had heard wonderful things about the national Summit from other NHWBA past presidents and was not disappointed. What immediately struck me during my first Summit meeting was that so many of the issues that we were discussing and addressing at the women's bar level here in New Hampshire were also being addressed in many other women's bar organizations throughout the country. The ideas, programming suggestions and best practices being shared at the Summit were amazing. It just seemed like a natural transition for me to move from the NHWBA presidency onto the board of the NCWBA and it is such an honor to be serving as the current NCWBA president.

**What are some of your priorities for your term as President?**

Since the NCWBA is the "Voice of the Women's Bar," we are always looking for opportunities to serve as a liaison between our member organizations and other national organizations on the issues facing women in the legal profession. We use our programming, listserv, newsletter, website, social media, and regional teleconferences to facilitate communication among our member organizations, as well as to identify the issues they are facing that might benefit from being addressed at a national level. My goal this year is to continue these efforts, with a particular emphasis on the following:

- (1) I want to continue to focus our efforts on educating our members about how to support women and minority appointment/election to the state and federal judiciary.
- (2) I want to assist our members to lead in an inclusive fashion so that they can maximize the participation of the women in their geographic area and gain the benefits of diverse perspectives.
- (3) I want to aid our member organizations in engaging men in the dialogue and provide further educational opportunities that focus on the role of male sponsors to women who seek to advance to positions of power within the workplace.

In October our board of directors will be meeting in Washington, DC for several days. During that time, we will be having a briefing on the status of federal judicial nominations by Amy Matsui, Senior Counsel and Director of Women and the Courts from the National Women's Law Center. We will also have the opportunity to meet with women bar leaders from the DC area, as well as female military JAG officers who have participated in past NCWBA Summits and leaders of the Military Spouse JD Network.

On February 5th in San Diego, we will be presenting a program in collaboration with the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession at the 2016 midyear meeting, which recognizes the important role men must play in advancing true diversity in the legal profession. If you are planning to attend the February ABA meetings, I hope that you will join us for this program!