

JUDICIAL HONORS

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The Ohio State Bar Association (OSBA) honored Judge **MARY JANE TRAPP** of Florida's 11th



District Court of Appeals with the Ohio Bar Medal. The medal is the OSBA's highest honor and is awarded to those who have "given unselfishly of their time and talent by taking prominent leadership roles on the bench and in the organized bar and who have worked quietly to earn the deep admiration and respect of their colleagues and their community." OSBA also presented Justice **MELODY STEWART** of the Ohio Supreme Court with the Nettie Cronise Lutes Award, which commemorates the first woman to practice law in Ohio. Justice Stewart is the first African American woman to serve on the state's high court. Prior to becoming a justice, she was on the faculty of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.



Retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice **ANTHONY M. KENNEDY** received the Williamsburg Award, the highest honor presented by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Justice Kennedy is the second recipient of the award; Winston Churchill received the first in 1955. A ceremony was

held at Colonial Williamsburg to honor Justice Kennedy's "lifelong commitment to advancing the cause of liberty, advocating for civic education, and furthering the never-ending quest for freedom for all those who would seek it."

U.S. District Court Judge **J. MICHELLE CHILDS** of the District of South Carolina received the South Carolina Association for Justice's Outstanding Contribution to Justice Award. The award recognizes individuals who have "demonstrated exemplary leadership from the bench and ongoing contributions to the legal profession." Judge Childs also received the 2022 Charles S. Murphy Award for Achievement in Civic Service from Duke Law School, where she earned her LL.M. in 2016. She serves on *Judicature's* editorial board.

The appellate courtroom at the Bryan Simpson U.S. Courthouse in Jacksonville, Fla., was renamed in honor of Senior Judge **GERALD B. TJOFLAT** of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

Retired Judge **LESLIE E. STEIN** of the New York Court of Appeals was selected to receive the Ruth G. Schapiro Memorial Award from the New York State Bar Association's Women in Law



Section. Judge Stein served on the New York Court of Appeals from 2015 until she retired in 2021. She currently serves as the director of the Government Law Center at Albany Law School.

Judge **VANESSA RUIZ** of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals received the Lady



Justice Award for Humanitarian Aid from the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ). Judge Ruiz has worked tirelessly — along with a group of judges from the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) — to evacuate over 150 women judges from Afghanistan since the Taliban took over in August 2021. Judge Ruiz is a former president of both the NAWJ and IAWJ.

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth honored Judge **SHEILA CALLOWAY** of Tennessee's Davidson County Juvenile Court with its Senator Douglas Henry Public Official of the Year Award. Judge Calloway was recognized for implementing trauma-informed policies to improve outcomes for children and families.

U.S. Navy Secretary Carlos Del Toro announced that a new Navy oil tanker will be named in honor of the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice

RUTH BADER GINSBURG. "She is instrumental to why we now have women of all backgrounds, experiences, and talents serving within our ranks," said Secretary Del Toro.

The historical room at the federal courthouse in Kansas City, Mo., was renamed in honor of trailblazing Senior U.S. District Judge **FERNANDO J. GAITAN JR.** In 1991, Judge Gaitan became the first African American judge appointed to the U.S. District Court for the District of Missouri.

Judge **SCOTT U. SCHLEGEL** of Louisiana's 24th Judicial District Court received the National



Center for State Courts' William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence. Judge Schlegel has championed technology, especially videoconferencing and electronic signatures, to improve the efficiency of Louisiana's courts during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

The Brunswick County, N.C., Courthouse was renamed in honor of Judge **OLA M. LEWIS**, the longest-serving woman judge in the state's history. Judge Lewis was recognized in part for her innovations in drug, mental health, and DWI treatment courts.

— **ERIC SURBER**