

Spring 2019 Newsletter

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CWLC's founders pictured left to right:
Abby Leibman, Sheila Kuehl, Jenifer McKenna

Founded in 1989, the California Women's Law Center was the first law center in the state dedicated solely to addressing the comprehensive and unique legal needs of women and girls. For 30 years, CWLC has served as an advocate in California, working in collaboration with others to protect, secure and advance the rights of women and girls and promote gender equality.

Today, CWLC continues our work to advance women's rights focusing on economic security, gender discrimination, violence against women and women's health. Please visit our website by [clicking here](#) to learn more about the important work we are doing!

[Join Us! 2019 Pursuit of Justice Awards Lunch](#)

The California Women's Law Center will host our annual Pursuit of Justice Awards lunch on Wednesday, May 29, 2019 at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. We hope you will join us in recognizing the phenomenal leaders who have positively impacted the lives of women and girls in California and across the country. Our 2019 honorees are: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, CWLC Board Treasurer and O'Melveny and Myers Partner Chris Hollinger, and Salesforce President and Chief People Officer Cindy Robbins. Dee Dee Myers, the Executive Vice President, Worldwide Corporate Communications and Public Affairs at Warner Bros. Entertainment, will be the Mistress of Ceremonies, and special guests include Lilly Ledbetter and Nancy Solomon.

Please join us for an inspiring afternoon at our 2019 Pursuit of Justice Awards lunch on May 29th. The VIP Reception will begin at 11:30 a.m. and the program will begin at 12:00 noon. For tickets and sponsorship opportunities, please visit bit.ly/POJ2019 or contact us at cwlc@cwlc.org.

[Distinguished Guest Speaker Series with Women Jurists](#)



Pictured left to right: Judge Hatchett, Judge Brown-Yazzie, Judge Alexander, Professor Goodwin.

In recognition of Women's History Month, in March CWLC and the University of California, Irvine School of Law's Reproductive Justice Initiative hosted a panel titled "A Discussion with Women Jurists" at the Skirball Cultural Center. Moderated by UCI Law School Chancellor's Professor Michele B. Goodwin, the conversation with women jurists included the Honorable Judge Pamela G. Alexander from the Hennepin County District Court in Minnesota, the Honorable Chief Judge Michelle Brown-Yazzie of the Mescalero Apache Tribe in New Mexico, and the Honorable Chief Judge Glenda Hatchett of Fulton County Juvenile Court in Georgia. The

evening's program also included a visit to the Skirball's popular *Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg* exhibition.

CWLC thanks Judge Alexander, Judge Brown-Yazzie, and Judge Hatchett for sharing your experiences and for celebrating Women's History Month with us! To view photos from the event, [click here](#).

CWLC's Breastfeeding Accomplishments

Protecting the Rights of Pregnant and Parenting Students and Employees

In February, CWLC released our 2019 *ABC's of Breastfeeding* report card for Los Angeles County school districts, which updated our 2016 publication of the *ABC's of Breastfeeding in Los Angeles County*. In 2015, California passed a law mandating that lactating students and employees are entitled to specific accommodations including a private, clean space to express milk. Despite enactment of the law, in 2015 only 10 out of 81 districts in Los Angeles had adopted lactation accommodation policies for employees and students, and few had posted their Title IX Coordinator contact information.

Over the last two years, CWLC has prioritized bringing the Los Angeles County school districts into compliance and we are happy to report that as of this month, 63 districts have both employee and student lactation accommodation policies in place, and all 81 districts now have Title IX Coordinator contact information posted and accessible.

To download the full 2019 *ABC's of Breastfeeding* report card, visit www.cwlc.org.

Click below to read the articles written about CWLC's "ABC's of Breastfeeding" report card!

- LA Schools Drastically Improve Breastfeeding Accommodations, Report Says
- Downey Unified gets 'A' grade for supporting breastfeeding students
- Most Long Beach area school districts aced an assessment on their breastfeeding policies, but this is why one district failed

CWLC has begun a statewide analysis of lactation accommodation policies which we hope to publish in early 2020.

CWLC Standing up for Students' Safety and Rights

Over the last two years, the current administration has marginalized women and girls on several fronts, and in January proposed new regulations that will strip away vital protections for survivors of sexual assault and harassment in schools. To fight back against [resist] the effort to weaken or eliminate important protections for victims of sexual assault and harassment on

college campuses, CWLC responded to the U.S. Department of Education with comments and asked our supporters to also submit comments. Read CWLC's comments here [link].

The new regulations have not gone into effect and [timing of comments/enforcement]. CWLC will continue to advocate and educate our opposition to these harmful regulations, and work to ensure victims have the ability and the support they need to seek justice.

Training

Pregnancy and Lactation Accommodations

In March, CWLC and the Center for WorkLife Law hosted a training titled "Pregnancy and Lactation Accommodations in Los Angeles County School Districts," which discussed pregnancy leave rights and the legally required accommodations for lactation in schools. CWLC's 2019 "ABC's of Breastfeeding" report card was also discussed. This webinar qualified for one hour of MCLE credit. To view the recorded training, [click here](#).



Title IX In-Person Training CWLC, in collaboration with BreastfeedLA and Cerritos College Title IX Coordinator Dr. Valyncia, presented at the California Community Colleges Conference in March on schools' legal responsibilities to protect breastfeeding students and employees.

Dr. Valyncia shared a program she created at Cerritos College as a direct result of a presentation CWLC and others gave at the Region 8 Community College Title IX Coordinators meeting in 2018. The program, called Pregnant SEAS (Pregnant Scholars Expecting Academic Success), provides

one-on-one student consultations and trainings on pregnancy rights and more. Thank you, Dr. Valyncia, for working to ensure all students at Cerritos are supported!

Upcoming Trainings

Domestic Violence Restraining Orders in California Courts

Join CWLC and the Family Violence Appellate Project for a training titled "Domestic Violence Restraining Orders in California Courts" on Thursday, May 30 from 12:00 – 1:00 PM. This informational webinar will explore the different types of restraining orders that can be issued to protect a domestic violence survivor and discuss common issues that arise before judges when applying for or requesting transfer or renewal of an order between the family and juvenile court systems. The webinar qualifies for one hour of MCLE credit. To register, [click here](#).

CWLC Interns

Columbia Caravan

CWLC was pleased to host four Columbia Law School students for the fifth year in a row. Joining us on their spring break, Chelsi DeTurk, Rachel Horn, Megan Hirsh and Laura Lee created a “know your rights” pamphlet clarifying the law around domestic violence restraining orders. This document will be published in the coming weeks, so please keep an eye out for it!

We thank our Columbia Law School students for spending their break with CWLC. If you or someone you know is in law school and would be interested in interning with us, please visit our website by clicking [here](#).

CWLC Alumni Spotlight

Lanna Lan (Columbia Law School, Spring 2016 CWLC Intern)

Lanna interned with CWLC in the Spring of 2016 with a cohort of volunteers from Columbia Law School. Lanna graduated with a JD in 2017 and while at school she was involved in the Journal of Gender and Law and the Columbia Law Women’s Association. She credits law school for giving her confidence in her abilities to advocate for what she believes is right. Lanna is currently a corporate associate in New York at Simpson Thacher focusing on Capital Markets.