Press Release

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Summit County Court of Common Pleas, General Division Judge Mary Margaret Rowlands elected to serve as Secretary of the National Association of Women Judges

Judge Mary Margaret Rowlands, of the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, General Division, has been elected as Secretary of the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) for the 2024-2025 term.

Judge Rowlands accepted the position on the executive leadership team during the NAWJ Annual Conference, which was held in San Diego, California, in mid-October 2024



"I would like to express my gratitude to the National Association of Women

Judges for entrusting me with this prestigious position. I am fully committed to advancing the NAWJ strategic plan in collaboration with my fellow officeholders," stated Judge Rowlands.

"This election reflects the deep respect and trust that Judge Rowlands has earned from her peers. It's heartening to see her esteemed reputation recognized in such a meaningful way," expressed NAWJ President Honorable Michelle Rick, Judge on the Michigan Court of Appeals, 4th Judicial District.

Judge Rowlands is active in many professional and community organizations, the NAWJ and the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) being among the most meaningful.

In 2017, 2018, and 2019, Judge Rowlands was selected to serve as an IAWJ delegate to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. She was one of only 20 judges worldwide honored to join the delegations. The collective action at the United Nations was gratifying and supportive of her highest priorities, overcoming barriers to gender equality and ensuring equal access to justice.

Since its formation in 1979, the NAWJ has been a driving force in the American judiciary, inspiring and leading efforts to achieve fairness and equality for vulnerable populations. The mission of the NAWJ is to promote the judicial role of protecting the rights of individuals under the rule of law through strong, committed, diverse judicial leadership, fairness and equality in the courts, and equal access to justice.

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To learn more about the National Association of Women Judges, visit <u>https://www.nawj.org/</u>. For more information on Summit County Court of Common Pleas, General Division Judge Mary Margaret Rowlands, visit <u>https://www.summitcpcourt.net/judges/honorable-judge-mary-margaret-rowlands/</u>.

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