

THIS EVENING'S PROGRAM

6 p.m.

Board of Trustees Chair Edward R. Blumberg, Esq.
 Making the World a More Just Place Awards
 Panel discussion on Upholding the Rule of Law
 Ceremonial Champagne Toast

7:30 p.m.

President Benes Z. Aldana
 V. Robert Payant Award for Teaching Excellence
 Cocktail Reception

9 p.m.

Reception concludes



About The National Judicial College

Founded in 1963 and based on the campus of the University of Nevada, Reno since 1964, The National Judicial College remains the only educational institution in the United States that teaches courtroom skills to judges of all types from all over the country, Indian Country and abroad. The categories of judges served by the nonprofit and nonpartisan institution – trial and appellate, limited jurisdiction, administrative law, tribal and military – decide more than 95 percent of cases in the United States. For more information, visit www.judges.org.

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MIAMI CELEBRATION
 JUSTICE FOR ALL... Upholding the Rule of Law

APRIL 27, 2023
 THE BILTMORE
 CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

The mission of The National Judicial College is “to make the world a more just place by educating and inspiring its judiciary.”

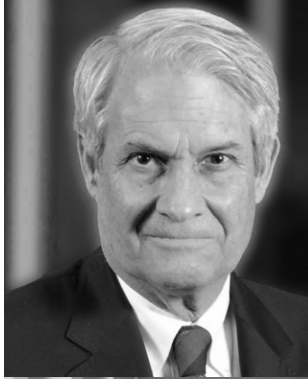
MAKING THE WORLD A MORE JUST PLACE HONOREES

Judge Rosemary Barkett

Judge Barkett has been a member of the Iran–United States Claims Tribunal located in The Hague, Netherlands, since 2013 and previously served as a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit. Prior to her nomination for that post, she was Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court.

Judge DeAndrea Gist Benjamin

In February of this year Judge Benjamin was confirmed to the United States Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit. She previously served 12 years as a judge of the South Carolina Circuit Court for the 5th Circuit and for seven years before that on the bench of the City of Columbia (South Carolina) Municipal Court.



Judge Thomas B. Griffith

Formerly a member of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, Judge Griffith is special counsel at Hunton Andrews Kurth. He was a member of the Presidential Commission on the Supreme Court of the United States and was a co-author of “Lost, Not Stolen: The Conservative Case that Biden Won and Trump Lost the 2020 Presidential Election.”



Senator Doug Jones

A former U.S. senator and U.S. attorney for Alabama, Mr. Jones is counsel at ArentFox Schiff and a distinguished senior fellow with the Center for American Progress. In the early 2000s, he successfully prosecuted two members of the Ku Klux Klan for their roles in the 1963 white supremacist terrorist bombing of a Birmingham church that left four Black girls dead. In 2022 he guided Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson through the nomination and Senate confirmation process.



Solicitor General Neal Katyal

A former acting solicitor general of the United States, Mr. Katyal is a partner at Hogan Lovells in Washington, D.C. By the time of tonight’s event, he will have likely argued his 50th case before the Supreme Court of the United States. He is a familiar face on cable news programs and has played himself on Netflix’s “House of Cards” and Showtime’s “Billions.”



Panel discussion moderator Edward R. Blumberg

The awards program will be emceed and panel conversation moderated by NJC Board of Trustees Chair Edward R. Blumberg, founder and partner in the Miami trial law firm of Deutsch Blumberg & Caballero, P.A. He is a past president of the Florida Bar, the country’s third-largest bar, and a former member of the Board of Governors of the Florida Bar and the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association.

V. ROBERT PAYANT AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Judge Michael E. Keasler

Judge Michael E. Keasler recently retired from the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals after serving for 22 years. He teaches judicial ethics, constitutional criminal law, standards of appellate review, and statutory construction to judges nationally. Judge Keasler joined the NJC faculty in 1992 and served on the Faculty Council and as a Justice Jackson Lecturer. In September 2021, Judge Keasler received the State Bar of Texas Judicial Section’s Lifetime Achievement Award.



Nancy Neal Yeend

Nancy Neal Yeend is a dispute-management specialist who maintains a national practice that includes mediation, training and dispute-management system design. She mediates cases involving real estate, construction, employment, intellectual property and a variety of contract and business matters. Widely published on mediation and related dispute-resolution topics, Ms. Yeend also authored the first study of state appellate alternative dispute resolution detailing how to create court-connected dispute-resolution programs. Ms. Yeend joined the NJC faculty in 1994.



About the Payant Award

Hon. V. Robert Payant joined the faculty of The National Judicial College in 1973, didn’t stop teaching until 2008, and served as chief executive officer of the College from 1990 until he retired in 1999. He taught, unpaid (like the vast majority of NJC instructors), in more than 100 different courses. That included more than 30 occasions after he had retired as president. In 1998, the College’s annual award for teaching excellence was renamed in his honor – and given to him. He died in 2018 at age 86.

The V. Robert Payant Award for Teaching Excellence continues to be awarded each year to outstanding faculty who have taught for the College for at least 15 years.