



The Communicator

MARCH 2026



MARCH 2026 IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY
ALLIANCE HAS ANNOUNCED THE
2026 THEME AS:

“LEADING THE CHANGE:
WOMEN SHAPING A
SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.”

INSIDE THIS EDITION

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**NATIONAL FEDERATION of
DEMOCRATIC WOMEN**
Leading the Way: Policies, Power, and Priorities



A Message from President West

Dear Federation Family:

As we turn another page in our ongoing pursuit of a stronger, healthier democracy, we are reminded of the power you bring to the Federation of Democratic Women!

Democracy is not a spectator sport; rather it thrives when members step forward to listen, learn, and act with courage and integrity. It is in this spirit that we thank you for your hard work this past year and for the work you will do in 2026 and beyond. In 2025, we advanced our mission through collective action, best practices, and generous volunteerism. We expanded our education and training programs to include pre-election and post-election discussions, a holiday reception, an expanded awards initiative and creative programs for young Democrats. We also built stronger coalitions with other organizations to ensure our voices are heard and that our votes count.

Moving forward, we will remain rooted in trust and inclusiveness as we foster a culture of transparency and responsiveness. Building community for women and children is at the forefront of what we do, and we will continue to elevate the voices of historically underrepresented groups. By inviting our clubs to engage in open conversations and offer critical input, NFDW will hold itself accountable to reflect the highest standards of integrity. As we face present and future challenges, our focus remains clear. We will continue to remove barriers to political participation by sharing campaign support opportunities to elect Democrats "down the ballot" from rural America to its largest, bustling cities. We will become laser focused in creating and supporting Get Out the Vote ("GOTV") strategies to win back the U.S. House and U.S. Senate. NFDW will host political training sessions and discuss political topics through our monthly book club.

We invite you to join us at our caucus meetings, regional conferences and our annual convention. The NFDW Convention will be held June 4-6, 2026 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The convention theme is: The Past, Present & Future: 55 Years of Women influencing Politics. Visit www.nfdw.com to register for the convention and to make your hotel reservation at the Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino! We invite each of you to join us in Las Vegas for inspiring guest speakers, innovative workshops, engaging roundtable discussions and heart-warming fellowship. We also encourage you to bring your ideas and another female Democrat to strengthen our ranks.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to democracy, informed discourse, and collective action. Our strength lies in our shared resolve to build a more just and democratic future for all.

Yours for the Federation,

Lovie West



The Communicator



PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

CHAIR

Pamela Williams Kelly, Esq.

Tennessee - South

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Florida - South

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Jennifer Ellis

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Amber Faith

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THE COMMUNICATOR CONTRIBUTORS

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Washington, DC - East

Mary Kuehler

Idaho - West

NFDW LEADERSHIP

OFFICERS

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DNC

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REGIONAL DIRECTORS

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PAST PRESIDENT

Gail Buckner

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APPOINTED POSITIONS

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

R. Denise Everson

Washington, DC

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Pamela Williams Kelly, Esq.

Tennessee

FOUNDER

Rilla Moran Woods

North Carolina



COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND KEY LEADERS

The National Federation of Democratic Women (NFDW) is supported by a number of active committees that help drive the organization's mission forward. President West has recently revamped the organizational structure of committees to strengthen communication and collaboration across all levels. This enhanced structure ensures more efficient coordination, clear channels for member involvement, and a unified approach to empowering Democratic women nationwide. This year, every committee is under the direction of either the President or a Vice President.

NFDW has two types of committee designations: standing committees and ad-hoc committees. Standing committees, which are indicated by an asterisk(*), of the NFDW are working groups that carry out specific functions throughout the year as specified by our bylaws. Other committees are designed to address specific areas, projects, or events not mentioned in our bylaws.

COMMITTEES OF THE PRESIDENT

All NFDW committee members are listed on the website.

ADMINISTRATION

Kristina Dixon
Chief of Staff
California
kdixon112@gmail.com

R. Denise Everson
Corresponding Secretary
Washington, DC
secretary@nfdw.com

Pamela Williams Kelly
Parliamentarian
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Shantay Walton
Assistant Treasurer
Mississippi
shantaywalton@gmail.com

BYLAWS*
Coretta Graham
Texas
Lawyergraham@gmail.com

NATIONAL CONVENTION LEADERSHIP

Audrey Dempsey
Co-Chair
Nevada
audreydempsey@mac.com

Susanna French
Co-Chair
Kentucky
susannalfrench@gmail.com

Inez James
Co-Chair
Ohio
jamespl@aol.com

COURTESY
Patricia Tansil
Mississippi
ptansil@yahoo.com



HISTORY*

Patty Farley
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pfarley_101@hotmail.com

LEGISLATIVE*

Jennifer Riley Collins
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jennifere@rileycollinsconsulting.com

PLATFORM

Kathy Adams
Chair
Georgia
k1adams@bellsouth.net

PUBLIC RELATIONS*

Pamela Williams Kelly
Chair
Tennessee
attorneypwkelly@gmail.com

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Barbara Phillips
Chair
Mississippi
barbara.phillips89@gmail.com

Chairs of the following committees have yet to be appointed: Convention Credentials, Convention Planning and Oversight, and Convention Rules.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND KEY LEADERS

COMMITTEES OF THE 1ST VP

WOMEN IN BLUE

Carolyn Fowler, Co-Chair
California
cfowler3138@gmail.com

Hazel Thomas, Co-Chair
Washington, DC
Thomashazel@aol.com

POLITICAL DIRECTORS

Rachel Green, Co-Chair
New Jersey
rcgreen328@gmail.com

Roberta Walters, Co-Chair
New Jersey
bertmk@msn.com

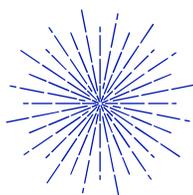
AWARDS AND INTERNSHIPS

Pat Sirois, Chair
Connecticut
pasirois@comcast.net

RESOLUTIONS*

Kelly Green
Michigan
kgreen921@gmail.com55

COMMITTEES OF THE 2ND VP



MEMBERSHIP

Celeste Garcia, Chair
Washington, DC
cagarcia007@gmail.com

PROTOCOL

Audrey Dempsey, Chair
Nevada
audreydempsey@mac.com

RISK MANAGEMENT

Toni Denis, Chair
Arizona
toni.denis@icloud.com

COMMITTEES OF THE 3RD VP

MARKETING

Telisa Franklin, Chair
Tennessee
telisafranklin@gmail.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

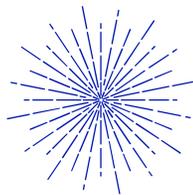
Shulandra Kerr, Chair
Mississippi
shulandra@comcast.net

TECHNOLOGY & WEBSITE

Mary Kuehler, Chair
Idaho
treasurer@ndfw.com

Michael Chandler, Consultant

COMMITTEES OF THE 4TH VP



POLITICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Barbara Scott, Co-Chair
West Virginia
bascott744@gmail.com

GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

Neena Murphy Martin, Chair
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neena.murphymartin@gmail.com

YOUNG WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

Juanita Wilchie, Chair
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drwilchie@yahoo.com

Deborah Williams, Co-Chair

Mississippi
hergame2@aol.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND KEY LEADERS

COMMITTEES OF THE 5TH VP

AUDIT*

Brook Herman

Mississippi

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CONVENTION

FUNDRAISING

Shantay Walton, Chair

Mississippi

shantaywalton@gmail.com

FINANCE*

Mary Kuehler

Idaho

treasurer@nfdw.com

BUDGET*

Mary Kuehler

Idaho

treasurer@nfdw.com



What's Your Social?
NFDW will share your news!


NFDW Women Leading the Way:
Terri Hrechkosy
2026-2027 President
Women's Democratic Club
of Utah

Democratic Women Wednesday


NFDW Women Leading the Way:
Ohio federation members
celebrating the holidays and
their impactful work in 2025

Democratic Women Wednesday

The **Social Media Committee** encourages you to follow NFDW on Facebook, Instagram and Threads. Share your social media handle with us so that NFDW can follow, share and comment on your social media posts.

[#NFDW](#)

[#DemocraticWomen](#)

[#Vote](#)

Social Media Chair: Shulandra Kerr | shulandra@comcast.net

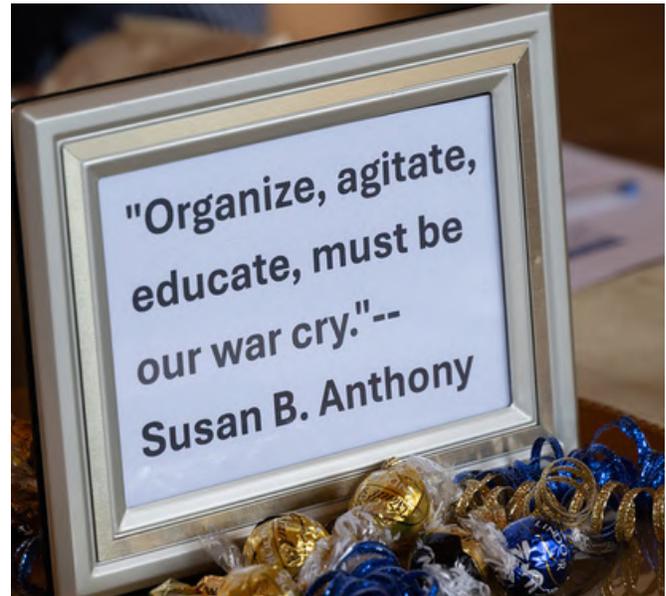
March 1 – 31, 2026

HOW TO CELEBRATE

Women's History Month 2026

✦ *2026 Theme: "Leading the Change: Women Shaping a Sustainable Future"*

Women's History Month is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture and society and has been observed annually in the month of March in the United States since 1987. Women's History Month 2026 takes place from Sunday, March 1, through Tuesday, March 31. (www.history.com)



MENTOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Sustainability includes leadership succession. If you are in a position to do so, consider mentoring a younger woman in your field. Passing down wisdom and opening doors is one of the most effective ways to shape a sustainable future.

Courtesy of Remitley

SUPPORT WOMEN-LED BUSINESSES

One practical way to honor the 2026 theme of "financial sustainability" is to vote with your wallet. Seek out and support local businesses owned by women. This helps build economic resilience within your own community.

EDUCATE YOURSELF AND OTHERS

Knowledge is power. Take time to learn about women who have made significant contributions in fields like science, politics, and the arts. Museums like the [Smithsonian American Women's History Museum](#) offer incredible digital resources and exhibits that bring these stories to light.



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

2026 MEETING CALENDAR*



MARCH

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 03/01 | Call for Bylaw Recommendations |
| 03/01 | Suggested State Dues Payments |
| 03/05 | Mississippi Women in Blue (10:00 A.M.) |
| 03/07 | Q1 Communicator Distribution |
| 03/07 | Women In Blue |
| 03/08 | NFDW EBoard Meeting (7:00 P.M.) |
| 03/08 | Growth & Development Committee Meeting
(9:00 P.M.) |
| 03/09 | Political Education & Training (PET) Committee
Meeting (8:00 P.M.) |
| 03/30 | Forty Under 40 Application Deadline |

APRIL

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 04/01 | Resolutions Due |
| 04/01 | Awards Nominations Due |
| 04/01 | Regional Directors Semi-Annual Reports Due |
| 04/04 | Q2 Communicator Deadline |
| 04/06 | PET Committee Meeting (8:00 P.M.) |
| 04/07 | Convention/Fundraising Meeting (8:00 P.M.) |
| 04/9-11 | DNC Meeting (New Orleans, Louisiana) |

* Calendar may not include all meeting dates.

* All times listed are Eastern Standard Time. 99

APRIL

- 04/11 Q2 Training “The Joy and Privilege of Leadership”
04/12 (12 Noon)
04/12 NFDW EBoard Meeting (7:00 P.M.)
04/19 Growth & Development Committee (9:00 P.M.)
Political Chat: Spring Forward: Policy & Advocacy
“Women Shaping Policy: From Local Councils to Congress”
“Grassroots to Government: How Women Drive Legislative Change”
04/21 Convention/Fundraising Meeting

MAY

- 05/01 Convention Reports Due
05/02 Q2 Communicator Distribution
05/03 Deadline for State Dues
05/03 Book Club: “The Pink Wave” by Regina M. Matheson
William W. Parsons (6:00 P.M.)
05/05 Convention/Fundraising Meeting (8:00 P.M.)
05/10 Growth & Development Committee Meeting
(9:00 P.M.)
05/11 PET Committee Meeting (8:00 P.M.)
05/12 Convention/Fundraising Meeting (8:00 P.M.)
05/17 NFDW EBoard Meeting (7:00 P.M.)
05/17 Growth & Development Committee Meeting
(9:00 P.M.)
05/19 Convention/Fundraising Meeting (8:00 P.M.)
05/24 Growth & Development Committee Meeting
(9:00 P.M.)
05/26 Convention/Fundraising Meeting (8:00 P.M.)

JUNE

- 06/03-06/06 NFDW CONVENTION (LAS VEGAS, NEVADA)
06/08 PET Committee Meeting (8:00 P.M.)
06/21 Political: Pride Month + Midterm Momentum
“LGBTQ+ Women in Politics: Representation Matters”
“Mid-Year Strategy: Building Momentum for Elections”



* Calendar may not include all meeting dates.
* All times listed are Eastern Standard Time.



NFDW 2026 Convention Planning Committee

Co-Chairs: Audrey Dempsey (Nevada), Susanna French (Kentucky) and Inez James (Ohio)

Message from the NFDW National Convention Committee

We welcome each of you to the 55th National Convention as we celebrate under the theme: **The Past, Present, and Future: 55 Years of Women Influencing Politics**. We have ensured the high standards expected of us in planning, preparation, and presentation were executed from start to finish. This 55th National Convention is sure to remind us of the value of a warm smile and an embrace as we gather together in person.

Policies: We have worked hand-in-hand for months to ensure sessions and events are enjoyable and impactful.

Power: We have convened dynamic speakers, presenters, and leaders who will engage, educate, and inspire.

Priorities: We have focused our attention to the needs of today as our country faces unprecedented change.

A special thank you to President Lovie West, the Executive Board, and members for entrusting us with this important task. Thank you to our Western Regional Director Gini Ballou and to each of the federations in the Western Region that contributed to the success of this convention. Thank you to the incredibly hardworking members of the Nevada Federation of Democratic Women for their boots-on-the-ground investments. We could not have done this without you!

Democratically Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Audrey Dempsey'.

Convention Chair

Nevada Federation of Democratic Women



Full Convention Registration
Regular Admission
\$225 per person
Available until 05/03/2026

Last Minute
\$275 per person (online only)
Available from 05/04/2026 to 05/31/2026

Young Dems Registration
Regular Admission
\$185 per person
Available until 05/03/2026

Last Minute
\$235 per person (online only)
Available from 05/04/2026 to 05/31/2026

Banquet Only Registration
Regular Admission
\$150 per person
Available until 05/03/2026

Last Minute
\$200 per person (online only)
Available from 05/04/2026 to 05/31/2026



A MESSAGE FROM THE GOLDEN NUGGET HOTEL AND CASINO LAS VEGAS

Golden Nugget Las Vegas
129 Fremont Street , Las Vegas, NV 89101

Thank you for choosing the Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino for your group reservation. Envelope yourself in our world-renowned Las Vegas hotel, located in the heart of Fremont Street in downtown Las Vegas. We will have you living in style from the moment you make your grand entrance at the Golden Nugget Las Vegas. We look forward to welcoming you as a guest at our hotel and hope you enjoy your stay here in Las Vegas.

Please utilize the calendars on the registration page to select the dates of your stay: June 3, 2026 to June 7, 2026. Hotel rates start at \$83.00 per night but do not include \$35.00 daily resort fee or taxes. The last day to book any reservations will be on May 4, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. PST. If you require any assistance booking your reservation, please reach out to the Grand Nugget Las Vegas at 1-800-634-3454 and mention **Code GSNFD26**.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN AT:

<https://goldennugget.book.pegsbe.com/promo?offerCode=GSNFD26&hotel=GNLV>



THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN 55th ANNUAL CONVENTION

Hosted by The Nevada Federation of Democratic Women

June 4-6, 2026

Host Hotel Golden Nugget - Las Vegas, Nevada

The Past, Present, and Future: 55 Years of Women Influencing Politics

Wednesday, June 3, 2026

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Registration

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Pre-Convention Executive Board Meeting

Thursday, June 4, 2026

9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Registration

9:30 AM

Sponsored Tour "Mob Museum"

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Silent Auction/Vendor Setup

3:00 PM – 3:30 PM

First Time Attendees Orientation – Celeste Garcia

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

PAC Reception (Dinner on Your Own)

Friday, June 5, 2026

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Registration

8:00 AM

Breakfast

8:00 AM

Silent Auction Opens

9:00 AM – 9:50 AM

GENERAL SESSION

Video During Seating – Bruce Springsteen (MN)

Seating of the Dias – Pamela Williams Kelly, Esq., NFDW Parliamentarian

Call to Order – Lovie West, NFDW President

Presentation of the Colors - Nevada Boys & Girls Scouts

Invocation – Rabbi-Canto Jessica Hutchings, Las Vegas, NV

Pledge of Allegiance – Deb Thompson, NFDW Past Board Member

The National Anthem – Claire Watson, Idaho Young Democrat

Welcome – Audrey Dempsey, NV President

Welcome – Jan Blackhurst & Carolyn Goodman, Former Mayors, Las Vegas, NV

Welcome – The Honorable Shelley Berkley, Mayor, Las Vegas, NV

Roll Call of the Executive Board - Kim Savage, NFDW Recording Secretary

Roll Call of the States - Inez James, NFDW 2nd Vice Presidents

Credentials Report – Shantay Walton, NFDW Convention Treasurer

2026 Annual Meeting Rules – Joyce Petteway, NFDW 3rd Vice President

Appointment of Timekeepers, Pages, Tellers, and Sgt-at-Arms

2025 Convention Minutes – Kim Savage, NFDW Recording Secretary

Treasurer's Report – Mary Kuehler, NFDW Treasurer

DNC Reports – Virgie Rollins & Joanne Sullivan, DNC Board Members

9:50 AM– 10:00 AM BREAK

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Introduction of Speaker: Lovie West, NFDW President Speaker – Chairman
Ken Martin – Topic: State of the Union

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bylaws – Coretta Graham, Esq., NFDW Bylaws Chair
Legislative – Chundra Wright, NFDW Legislative Committee Member
2027 Budget – Mary Kuehler, NFDW Treasurer & Budget Chair
Resolutions – Kelly Green, NFDW Resolutions Chair
History – Patricia Farley, NFDW Historian
Public Relations – Pamela Williams Kelly, Esq., NFDW Public Relations Chair
2025 Audit – Brook Herman, Ph.D., Internal Audit Chair

12:30 PM – 12:40 PM BREAK

12:40 PM – 1:50 PM PRESIDENTS LUNCHEON (optional attire: White)

Greetings – Lovie West, NFDW President
Inspirational Message – Sandra Dunn, Sokagakkai International
Introduction of the Head Table – Susanna Bacon, Former NFDW President
Introduction of State Presidents – Patricia Farley, NFDW Southern Regional Director
Recognition of Past National Presidents – Kim Savage, NFDW Recording Secretary
Introduction of Legislative Guests – Audrey Dempsey, Nevada President
Introduction of Video – “Treasured Moments” Past Presidents – Cindy Jenks, NFDW Past President

Introduction of Speakers – Kim Savage, NFDW Recording Secretary
“NFDW Past” - Virgie Rollins, Joanne Sullivan, and Dr. Corinne Anderson, NFDW Past Presidents

Memorial Ceremony

Facilitator – Lovie West, NFDW President
Ava Maria – Dr. Brook Herman, NFDW Audit Chair

1:50 PM – 2:00 PM BREAK

2:00 PM Roundtable – “Empowering Women Leaders”

Panelist: Ellen Spiegel, Former Nevada State Assemblywomen
Panelist: Maggie Carlton, Former Nevada State Assemblywomen
Panelist: Marilyn Kirpatrick, Former Nevada State Assemblywoman Chair, & Current
Clark County Commissioner
Panelist: Julie Panzina, Nevada State Senator
Panelist: Elaine Marzola, Nevada State Assemblywoman
Panelist: Sandra Jauregul, Nevada State Assemblywoman & Majority Floor Leader
Panelist: Pat Spearman, Former Nevada State Senator & President, Pro Tempore
Panelist: Danna Lovell, Nevada Executive Director

Facilitator: Nicole Cannizzaro, Nevada State Senate Majority Leader

3 PM – 3:10 PM BREAK

3:10 PM – 4:10 PM Training Workshops

Presidents Orientation – Lovie West, NFDW President and Celeste Garcia, NFDW Membership
Chair
Service, Safety, and Self-Care – Gini Ballou, NFDW Western Regional Director
Rules, Rules, Rules – Pamela Williams Kelly, Esq., NFDW Parliamentarian

5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

COMMUNITY RECEPTION

Welcome – Lovie West, NFDW President & DNC Chairman Ken Martin

Introduction of Guests – Audrey Dempsey, Nevada State President and Gini Ballou, NFDW
Western Regional Director

VIP Introductions & Remarks – Olivia Diaz, Councilwoman

Community Service Award – Lovie West, NFDW President and DNC Chairman Ken Martin

Toast – Dr. Corinne Anderson

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN 55th ANNUAL CONVENTION

Hosted by The Nevada Federation of Democratic Women

June 4-6, 2026

Host Hotel Golden Nugget - Las Vegas, Nevada

The Past, Present, and Future: 55 Years of Women Influencing Politics

Saturday, June 6, 2026

8:00 AM Registration

8:30 AM Young Women's Leadership Breakfast – Theme: "Understanding the Assignment"

Master of Ceremony – Joseline Cuevas, Young Democrats Vice President & Community & Youth Outreach NVFDW Board Member

Greetings – Sierra Hernandez, President, Young Democrats of Nevada

Invocation – TBA (Young Democrat) Introduction of Members – Jennifer Franklin, Midwest

Regional Director Purpose & Mission – Telise Ezell-Turner, NFDW 4th Vice President

Encouragement – Susan Rutt, Eastern Regional Director 40 Under 40 Selection – Neena Murphy Martin, Growth & Development Chair

Introduction of the NFDW Young Women Leadership Cohort – Dr. Juanita Wilchie, YWL Chair

09:00AM Roundtable: "Understanding the Assignment"

Panelist: TBA (Young Democrat) Panelist: TBA (Young Democrat) Panelist: TBA (Young Democrat)

Panelist: TBA (Young Democrat) Panelist: TBA (Young Democrat)

Facilitator: Deborah Williams, Ph.D., NFDW Political Education & Training Chair

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – Lovie West, NFDW President, Telise Ezell-Turner, NFDW 4th Vice President and Neena Martin

Closing Remarks/Call to Action – Councilwoman Shondra Summers-Armstrong

9:50 AM BREAK

**10:00 AM Regional Directors' Reports
PAC Meeting – Virgie Rollins, NFDW PAC Chair**

Special Committees

Women In Blue – Christine Pelosi, NFDW 1st Vice President

Platform – Kathy Adams, NFDW Platform Chair

Risk Management – Toni Denis, NFDW Risk Management Chair

Protocol – Audrey Dempsey, NFDW Protocol Chair

11:20 AM Roundtable: Unbreakable Women Running the Labor Movement

Panelist: Jovan Johnson, Vice President, Western States Carpenters Union #1977

Panelist: Susie Martinez, Secretary/Treasurer, AFL-CIONV

Panelist: Diana Valles, President, Culinary #226

Panelist: Marle Neisess, President, Clark County Education Association

Panelist: Linda Ward Smith, President, AFGE #1224

Facilitator: Michelle Maese, President, SEIU #1107

12:20 PM BREAK

12:30 PM AWARDS LUNCHEON (Attire: Hats & Gloves optional)

Welcome – Lovie West, NFDW President
Introduction of Head Table – Rachel Green, NFDW New Jersey Co-Presidents
Inspirational Message – Gail Buckner, NFDW Past President
Introduction of Speaker – Kristina Dixon, NFDW President's Chief of Staff
Speaker: The Role of Women in Politics – US Congresswoman Dina Titus, Nevada
AWARDS – Patricia Sirois, NFDW Awards Chair

- NFDW Member of the Year
- NFDW Humanitarian Award
- Outstanding Elected Official Award
- Rilla Moran Woods Internship
- Agnes Bird Internship

2:00 – 03:00 Training Workshops

- Understanding the issues of Women in the Military, Senator Pat Spearman, NV
- Dollars & "Sense" – TBA, Shantay Walton, NFDW Assistant Treasurer
- Mean Girls Syndrome – Regina Green & Roberta Walters, NFDW Co-Political Directors

3:10 PM – 04:00 PM Silent Auction Update

Regional Meetings

Eastern & Midwest Regions – Elect History Committee members
All regions elect two Nominating Committee members and an alternate

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM BLUE & WHITE GALA

Greetings – Lovie West, NFDW President
Introductions– Inez James, NFDW 2nd Vice President
Invocation – Joyce Petteway, NFDW 3rd Vice President
Proclamations – Christine Pelosi, NFDW 1st Vice President
Introduction of Keynote Speaker – US Congressman Steven Horsford, NV
Keynote Speaker – TBA
Silent Auction Results – Gina Sims-Johnson, NFDW Growth & Development Committee Co-chair
Acknowledgment of Sponsors – Irmgard Pagan, NFDW 5th Vice President
Invitation to the 2027 NFDW Annual Convention – Susan Rutt, NFDW Eastern Regional Director
Announcements & Convention Adjournment
Benediction: TBA
Music

10:30 PM Post-Convention Executive Board Meeting

REGISTER NOW



**BOOK YOUR
HOTEL FOR THE
NFDW NATIONAL
CONVENTION**



WAYS TO BOOK HOTEL



Call (800) 331-5731 and use group code
GSNFD26
Call hotel office directly if cancellations
or revisions are required.



JUNE 4-6, 2026

VISIT THE 2026 CONVENTION WEBSITE: WWW.NFDWCONVENTION.COM

CALL TO ACTION



NATIONAL FEDERATION *of* DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

Leading the Way: Policies, Power, and Priorities

Lovie West, President
National Federation of Democratic Women
P.O. Box 513
Olive Branch, Mississippi
President@fdw.com

Dear Members,

The National Federation of Democratic Women is pleased to announce the launch of our 40 Under 40 Women in Leadership program on January 31, 2026.

This national initiative will recognize 40 outstanding Democratic women under the age of 40 who exemplify leadership, innovation, professional excellence, and meaningful community impact. Nominees must identify as female and be registered Democrats. We invite you to share the attached information with members and affiliates who may qualify. Applications will be accepted from January 31 through March 15, 2026, with honorees selected based on the criteria outlined in the program materials.

Thank you for your partnership and continued commitment to developing the next generation of Democratic women leaders.

Democratically Yours,

Lovie West

Lovie West
National President



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN



40 Under 40 Women in Leadership

Awards & Recognitions Program

**DEADLINE
EXTENDED to
11:59 PM EST
March 31st**

Scan for
more
information:





Notice of Call for Bylaws Amendments
Coretta Graham, Esq., Bylaws Committee Chair

NOTICE OF CALL FOR BYLAWS AMENDMENTS
National Federation of Democratic Women

Pursuant to the Bylaws of the National Federation of Democratic Women, notice is hereby given that proposed amendments to the Federation's Bylaws will be considered at the upcoming NFDW Convention, to be held on:

Date: June 4 - June 6, 2026

Time: TBD

Location: Las Vegas, NV

Members in good standing are invited to submit proposed amendments to the Bylaws Committee for consideration.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All proposed amendments must:

- Be submitted in writing
- Clearly identify the current bylaw section and the proposed amendment
 - Include a brief rationale or explanation for the proposed change
- Be submitted by a member or affiliated organization in good standing

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

All proposed amendments must be received no later than:

Deadline: April 1, 2026

Proposals should be submitted to:

Name/Title: Coretta Graham Esq. CHAIR, Bylaws Committee

Email: lawyergraham@gmail.com

Mailing Address (if applicable): PO Box 60026, Corpus Christi, TX 78466

Proposed amendments that are properly submitted and timely received will be reviewed in accordance with the Federation's bylaws and applicable rules of procedure and will be presented to the membership for discussion and action.

Issued on: January 9, 2025

By Order of: Coretta Graham

Title: Bylaws Committee Chair

National Federation of Democratic Women
PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENT
Submitted for 2026 Committee Review

National Federation of Democratic Women(NFDW)

PROPOSED Bylaws Amendments 2026 for Review at Convention

Coretta Graham, Esq.,Chair (TX); Tammy Cranfill (KY); Alice Geoghegan (MS); KimSavage(IL);
 MeriForte-Namuj (FL); Ria Chandler (KY); Deloris Sykes Williams NJ); Cindy Jenks (MO)

NFDW CURRENT BYLAW	Proposed Change	Proposer and Rationale
NFDW CURRENT BYLAW	Proposed Change	Proposer and Rationale

AWARDS COMMITTEE



**Patricia Sirois,
Chair**

The NFDW Convention in Las Vegas is fast approaching! The Awards Committee invites you to submit deserving nominees from your home state for a NFDW Award.

Featured Award:

Outstanding NFDW Member of the Year

This award is for a NFDW member who has met the following criteria:

- Current active member of the NFDW who personifies NFDW objectives (i.e., Article II, Bylaws: The objective of the NFDW shall be to unite women of the Democratic Party, to promote the cause of the Democratic Party and to encourage full participation of women in every level of the Democratic Party structure).
- Contribution by the nominee to the growth, development and promotion of NFDW.
- National scope and stature of the nominee.
- Personal political involvement by the nominee.

Nominations must be received by May 1, 2026 to be considered. Please email all documents to:
pasirois@comcast.net



**AWARD GUIDELINES, DESCRIPTIONS AND THE INTERNSHIP APPLICATION
ARE ON THE NFDW WEBSITE (WWW.NFDW.COM/AWARD-LIST).**

1971 CONVENTION FUNDRAISER

Consider making a one-time donation of **\$19.71** in honor of our founding year. Your support helps bring young Democratic women into the fold—because if we’re going to grow in the years ahead, we need them at the table now.

**1971 CONVENTION
FUNDRAISER**

Help send young Democratic women to Convention!

Invest in the Next Generation of Leaders
Foster Mentorship and Connection
Break Down Financial Barriers

DONATE NOW

**EVERY DOLLAR MAKES
A DIFFERENCE!**

nfdw1971.com

Your donation helps send passionate young Democratic women to our National Federation of Democratic Women (NFDW) Annual Convention. By covering travel, lodging, and registration costs, you’re opening the door for the next generation of leaders to learn, connect, and step into their power. Every dollar helps build a stronger, more inclusive Democratic future—led by the women who are ready to make change happen.

**DONATE AT
NFDW1971.COM**
OR

SCAN HERE ↙





WHAT TO WEAR IN LAS VEGAS

Courtesy of Travel Noire



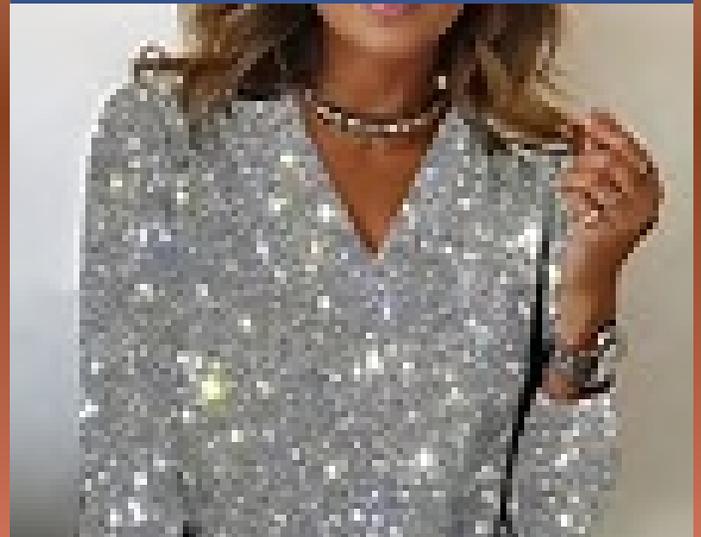
JUNE WEATHER

Summers in Las Vegas are extremely hot and dry. Daytime temperatures often soar above 100°F (37.8°C), with occasional heat waves pushing temperatures even higher. Nights are warm, but temperatures can drop significantly after sunset. It's important to stay hydrated and seek shade during the hottest parts of the day.



“SIN CITY”

Las Vegas, aka “Sin City” or “The Entertainment Capital of the World,” is a vibrant city located in the Mojave Desert of Nevada where you can go to have the most unpredictable night of your life. The city is known for its casinos, luxurious resorts, drive-thru weddings, world-class entertainment and other parts of its lively nightlife but there is something there for everyone.



CLOTHING TIPS

Casual Attire: shorts, t-shirts, sundresses and comfortable shoes for walking.

Swimwear: cover up from the blazing sun, and do not forget extra sunscreen!

Evening Attire: Many clubs and upscale venues enforce dress codes. Dress up with cocktail dresses, sequins, animal print, bedazzled accessories, killer heels & similar fashions!

A Message from the DNC



JANUARY 30, 2026

Dear DNC Members,

With so much chaos - it's hard to believe it's still only January. Although Trump's disturbing pattern of authoritarian overreach, ICE agents killing American citizens, and continued efforts to suppress the student vote can seem overwhelming at times, there are reasons to be hopeful.

Democrats are not backing down and are finding ways to hold this administration accountable daily. In addition to electoral wins, we're seeing consistent wins through the judicial system. Just this month, a federal judge dismissed a Trump DOJ lawsuit seeking Oregon's unredacted voter rolls and a federal judge in Virginia struck down the state's felony disenfranchisement law.

I urge you to remain focused on the most important work we have to accomplish this year: winning elections and holding Trump accountable at the ballot box. It is more important than ever to expand our base, increase voter participation, and stay involved in voter protection efforts. It's going to take each of us stepping up to the plate to ensure our success.

Reyna Walters-Morgan

DNC Vice Chair for Civic Engagement and Voter Participation

- Texas' 18th Congressional District Special Election Run Off:
- Election Date: January 31
- Texas Primary
- Early Voting: February 16th
- Election Date: March 3rd
- New Jersey's 11th Congressional District Special Election Primary:
- Election Date: February 5th
- New Jersey Special Election General
- Election Date: April 16th
- Arkansas Primary
- Early Voting: February 17th
- Election Date: March 3rd
- North Carolina Primary
- Early Voting: February 12th
- Election Date: March 3rd
- Georgia's 14th Congressional District Special Election Runoff
- Early Voting: February 16th
- Election Date: March 10th
- Mississippi Primary
- Election Date: March 10th
- Illinois Primary
- Early Voting Varies by County
- Election Date: March 17th



A MESSAGE FROM DNC BLACK CAUCUS VIRGIE M. ROLLINS, CHAIR

Friends,

Black History Month is a time to celebrate and honor the resilience, leadership, and contributions of the Black community. Black Americans have played a vital role in the growth and progress of our nation, shaping it for generations. This month, we honor the legacy of those who came before us and commit ourselves to building a more just and equitable future.

Yours in Service,
Virgie M. Rollins
DNC Black Caucus Chair

DNC Statement on Black History Month

In observance of the start of Black History Month, DNC Chair Ken Martin and DNC Black Caucus Chair Virgie M. Rollins released the following joint statement:

“During Black History Month, we reflect on the rich history of Black Americans and their centuries-long struggle to overcome adversity and injustice in our country. We stand on the shoulders of giants — Crispus Attucks, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Fannie Lou Hamer, Langston Hughes, Toni Morrison, Thurgood Marshall, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and so many more — who paved the way for trailblazing leaders like John Lewis, Shirley Chisholm, Barack Obama, and Kamala Harris to follow in their footsteps. Throughout February, we honor their accomplishments and affirm our steadfast belief that Black history is American history. It cannot be erased or whitewashed away by those who seek to turn back the clock.

“Over the past year, Democrats have tirelessly fought back against Donald Trump and his Republican enablers, who seek to dilute the electoral power of Black voters by dismantling key voting rights protections and redrawing electoral maps for political gain. Despite Republicans downplaying — or worse, justifying — the immoral injustices of slavery and Jim Crow, Democrats have fought and will continue to fight for a better future, one where quality health care, affordable housing, and a good education are the birthright of every American. During Black History Month, we recommit ourselves to this fight.”



First Amendment

United States Constitution

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

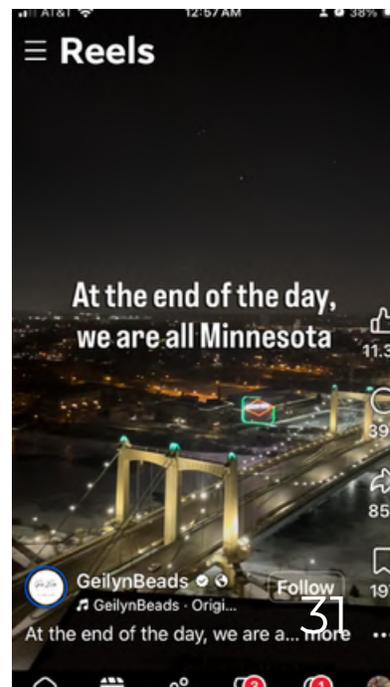
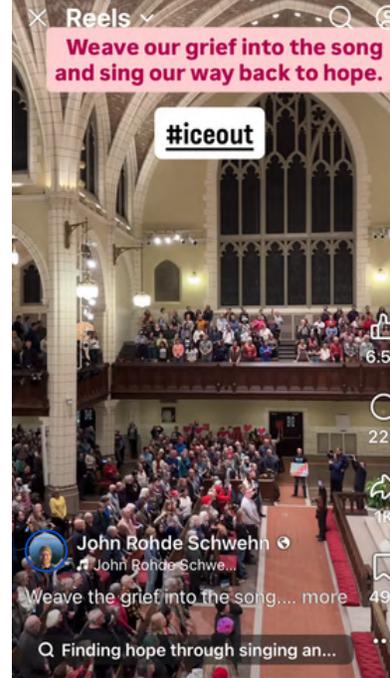
adopted on December 15, 1791 as part of the Bill of Rights

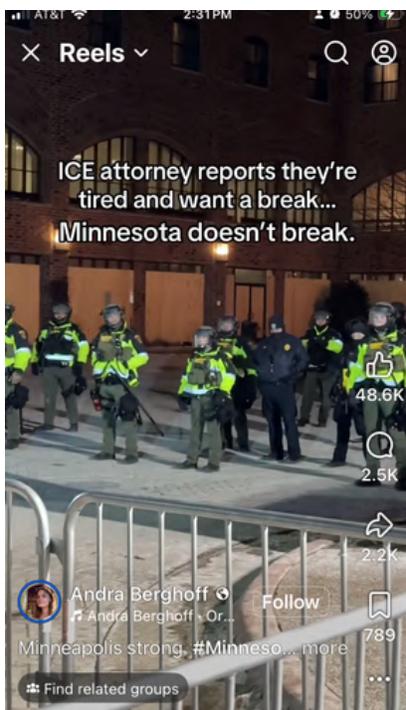
ICE "OPERATION METRO SURGE"
DECEMBER 2025 - PRESENT



THE PEOPLE TAKE A STAND

MINNEAPOLIS FIGHTS FOR DEMOCRACY





Connect NOW

- **General NFDW Email:**
info@fdw.com
- **NFDW Officers and Committee Chairs:**
See pages 4-7 in this edition of *The Communicator*



CFDW Women's Political Institute
Scholarship recipient, Foluke Akinkunmi

Stay connected with the NFDW!
Don't miss NFDW news, DNC updates, upcoming events and many opportunities to get involved. Click the "Subscribe" button below to sign up for the NFDW email list.

[CLICK TO SUBSCRIBE](#)

NFDW Quarterly Newsletter

THE
COMMUNICATOR
ARTICLE
SUBMISSION
DEADLINE

Sunday
June 7, 2026

NFDW Public Relations Standing Committee

- Pamela Williams Kelly, Esq.,
Chair (TN - South)
- Patty Cohn (FL - South)
- Jennifer Ellis (IL - Midwest)
- Amber Faith (AZ - West)

Email newsletter articles and photos to your Public Relations Committee Regional Representative, Regional Director and info@NFDW.com.

Every item in each submission may not be included in the newsletter. But look for your photos and events in other NFDW publicity/social media.

DNC WINTER MEETING RECAP

FROM THE DNC...

Virgie Rollins
DNC Representative



January 11, 2026

The Democratic National Committee met December 11-13, 2025 in Los Angeles, California. All DNC Committees – Budget Oversight, Credentials, Resolutions and Rules and Bylaws – met on Thursday, December 11, 2025. The reports were presented to the full membership later that evening.

On Friday, December 12, 2025, the DNC Caucuses met to discuss their priorities and work plans for 2026. The full DNC membership also convened in General Session on Friday afternoon, where we heard remarks from former U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris. All reports from Committees, at-large members nomination and standing committees were approved.

The Executive Committee met on Saturday, December 13, 2025. We heard from additional speakers and approved Chair Martin's appointments. Councils met on Saturday afternoon as well.

The next DNC Meeting will be held April 9-11, 2026 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In Solidarity,

[Virgie M. Rollins](#)

NFDW DNC Representative & DNC Black Caucus Chair



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

What You Need to Know?

THE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL

Changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP; formerly the Food Stamp Program) that are now law due to the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) will affect the program's response to recessions. At a time of significant uncertainty about the direction of the economy, OBBBA makes structural changes to SNAP that we find will result in the program being substantially and detrimentally less responsive to deteriorating or poor economic conditions. Unless OBBBA's SNAP cuts are reversed, those cuts will greatly diminish or end SNAP's critical role as a national automatic stabilizer. *(courtesy of www.brookings.edu)*

Changes to SNAP benefits include:

- Able-bodied adults ages 18 to 64 without dependents must now meet expanded work requirements of at least 80 hours per month to remain eligible for benefits. Previously, this requirement only applied to adults ages 18 to 54.
- Veterans, unhoused people or those recently aged out of foster care will no longer be exempt from certain work requirements.
- SNAP benefits will be more strictly limited to lawful permanent residents and U.S. citizens.
- Up to 15% of benefit costs will now be covered by states, depending on a state's payment error rate, in addition to a 25 percentage-point uptick in administrative costs, from 50% to 75%.

To learn more about how state SNAP benefits could be affected, visit:

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/snap-cuts-in-the-one-big-beautiful-bill-act-will-significantly-impair-recession-response/>

NFDW



EASTERN REGION

Susan Rutt
Eastern Regional Director



Here is a message I shared at last year's NFDW Convention at the Young Women's Leadership Breakfast. It is advice to members of every age, and I have had requests for a copy of it:

IF YOU WERE TOLD YOU ARE AGGRESSIVE, KEEP ON BEING ASSERTIVE
IF YOU WERE TOLD YOU ARE BOSSY, THAT MEANS YOU HAVE
LEADERSHIP SKILLS

IF YOU WERE TOLD YOU ARE DIFFICULT, JUST KEEP TELLING THE TRUTH
IF YOU WERE TOLD YOU ARE TOO MUCH, KEEP TAKING UP SPACE

IF YOU WERE TOLD YOU ARE INTIMIDATING, KEEP ASKING THE HARD QUESTIONS
DON'T BE AFRAID TO GET INVOLVED IN POLITICS, DON'T BE AFRAID TO RUN FOR
OFFICE, DON'T BE AFRAID TO PARTICIPATE

IN A MARCH OR PROTEST, DON'T GIVE UP IF YOU ARE TOLD YOU ARE TOO
YOUNG OR IT'S NOT YOUR TURN, OR IF YOU ARE TOLD YOU ARE TOO OLD.

REMEMBER, IT'S YOUR PARTY, TOO!

AND ABOVE ALL, JUST KEEP BEING YOURSELF.

SOME ADVICE TO FORMER YOUNG DEMOCRATS: GETTING THE MOST OUT OF
LIFE ISN'T ABOUT HOW MUCH YOU KEEP FOR YOURSELF, BUT HOW MUCH YOU
POUR INTO OTHERS.

DOLLY PARTON SAID, "IF YOUR ACTIONS CREATE A LEGACY THAT INSPIRES OTHERS
TO DREAM MORE, LEARN MORE, DO MORE AND BECOME MORE, THEN YOU ARE
AN EXCELLENT LEADER."

MAY WE CONTINUE TO BE STRONG STEWARDS OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS WE
PLAN WISELY FOR THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR ORGANIZATION.

As I was thinking about this report, I thought back on the many times I have been asked what the NFDW has to offer. The answer is simple. The NFDW offers an opportunity to meet and network and learn from talented members and organizations all across the country. It is a sharing of ideas for activities, goals, and accomplishments. Members have the opportunity to share in on-line events such as Women in Blue, the NFDW Book Club, and other trainings and discussions. In 2025, we even participated in a holiday event. Members can learn from others and, at the same time, share what they are doing. There are opportunities for awards, workshops, mentoring, and participation by young women. This can be done in person each year at our Annual Convention. As the Eastern Regional Director, along with my Assistant Regional Director Roberta Walters of New Jersey, and the Presidents of the Eastern Region, we look to share, educate, network, and plan! More to come in the future.

Your Regional Director,
Susan Rutt



CONNECTICUT
JOYCE PETTEWAY

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
SUSANA BARANANO

MAINE
BARBARA CRAY

NEW JERSEY
RACHEL GREEN &
ROBERTA WALTERS

NEW YORK
DENISE MURPHY MCGRAW

PENNSYLVANIA
LORI VARGO HEFFNER

PUERTO RICO
IRMGARD PAGAN

***"Experience History
Where It Happened!"***

CONNECTICUT UPDATES

Joyce Petteway
President, CFDW



Cheshire Democratic Women's Club First General Meeting

Connecticut Federation of Democratic Women kicked off a year of activism focusing on women's empowerment in the fight to save democracy and provide hope in dangerous times. The Cheshire Club hosted the event at a local bookstore—a signal that our organization supports reading and the First Amendment. Poet Laureate Nadia Sims read from her works, inspiring the assembly of approximately fifty members to continue “good trouble.” Democratic State Party Vice-Chair James Tickey urged peaceful resistance, especially at rallies.

Ellen Bartley, Co-President
Cheshire CT Democratic Women's Club



CONNECTICUT FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

INVITES YOU TO:

The Annual Blue Luncheon Featuring: NADIA SIMS, POET LAUREATE

Princeton Graduate, and Author

A Soft Place to Land

We Know the Dark

Apostle, Interrupted

January 24, 2026 - 12-3 PM

The Reading Room,

134 Elm Street - Cheshire, CT

Cost: \$30

Payable to: CFDW P.O. Box 492

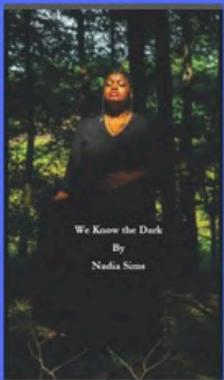
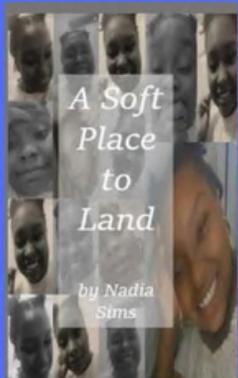
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Special Guest,

Jimmy Tickey, CT State Central

RSVP by January 17, 2026

Pat McKenney: Patmck2@yahoo.com



NEW JERSEY UPDATES



**Rachel Green &
Roberta Walters
Co-Presidents**



Kicking Off the New Year with Joy, Laughter and Sisterhood

New Jersey kicked off 2026 as only we can with our annual holiday party . NJFDW rang in the new year the best way we know how – surrounded by friends, filled with laughter, and celebrating the incredible women who make our organization shine. Our annual “Kick Off the New Year” Holiday Party, held in January, brought together members from across the state for an afternoon that felt equal parts reunion, celebration, and a joyful reset for the year ahead. It was a day to reconnect, recharge, and remember why this community is so special. Whether you’ve been with NJFDW for decades or just joined this year, the feeling was the same: you belong here. The event was filled with sisterhood, camaraderie, and the rebuilding of the energy needed as we move into 2026. Members reflected on the accomplishments of the past year, networked with new friends, and heard from local and state leaders on the accomplishments we achieved and the planning for forging ahead.

NJFDW Shows Up in Style for a History-Making Day.

The women of NJFDW didn’t just attend the inauguration of our 57th Governor— we showed up with purpose, pride, and that unmistakable spark that happens when women gather to witness history together. Watching New Jersey swear in its 57th governor, only the second woman ever to hold the office, felt like a collective exhale and a collective rise all at once. You could see it on the faces of those in attendance – joy, hope, and that quiet fire that says, “We’re not done yet.”

Throughout the ceremony, NJFDW women and supporters stood shoulder to shoulder – longtime leaders, new members, mentors, mentees – all taking in a moment that reflects exactly why our organization exists. Representation matters. Women’s leadership matters. And being present for milestones like this reminds us how powerful it is when women support one another in public life.

And then came the inaugural ball – a night full of sparkle, celebration, and connection. Attendees traded winter coats for evening gowns, shared hugs and stories, and danced with the kind of energy that only comes after a long season of hard work and hope. It wasn’t just a party; it was a celebration of progress, perseverance, and the women who keep pushing New Jersey forward.

As one NJFDW member put it, “Days like this remind us why we show up – not just for ourselves, but for every woman watching.” NJFDW is proud to have been part of this historic day, and we carry its momentum with us into everything we do next.



NEW YORK UPDATES



Denise Murphy McGraw
President



New York Democratic Women Making History & Shaping 2026 Election

In New York, Democratic women are once again demonstrating what real political leadership looks like—shaping the ticket, guiding nominations, and making history at the 2026 New York State Democratic Convention. At the top of the ticket, New York Democrats designated an all-female team for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, with Governor Kathy Hochul and former New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams receiving overwhelming support. The designation marks a historic milestone in New York politics and underscores the growing influence of women in statewide leadership.

Women leaders were deeply engaged throughout the convention, organizing on the floor, counting votes, and ensuring candidates met the threshold to advance to the primary ballot. “I was proud to serve as a whip for Comptroller Tom DiNapoli and help secure the votes needed for his designation,” said Denise Murphy McGraw, President of the New York State Federation of Democratic Women. “This is what Democratic women do in New York—we organize, we count votes, and we deliver results.”

2026 Democratic designation results in New York included:

- Governor / Lieutenant Governor
- Kathy Hochul and Adrienne Adams - 85.3%
- Antonio Delgado and India Walton - 14.7%
- Comptroller
- Thomas P. DiNapoli - 89.99%
- Drew Warshaw - 10%
- Attorney General
- Letitia James - 100%

Candidates receiving at least 25 percent of the weighted vote advanced to the Democratic primary ballot, with all campaigns accepting the results. “This is exactly why this Federation was founded,” said Lena Bishop of Binghamton, founder of the New York State Federation of Democratic Women. “We created this organization so women would have real power in New York’s Democratic Party. Watching women lead this process and make history at the top of the ticket shows how far that work has come.”

From nominations to statewide leadership, Democratic women in New York continue to set the standard.



PENNSYLVANIA UPDATE



**Lori Heffner
President**

Tsunami of "Blue" in PA

Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women Officers

President - Lori Vargo Heffner
1st Vice President -Deanne McNally
2nd Vice President - Trinette Cunningham
3rd Vice President- Lisa Kennedy
4th Vice President- Shantale Galloway
5th Vice President- Mary Ann Kapacs
6th Vice President- Joanne McGaghan
Corresponding Secretary- Dr. Juliann Mangino
Recording Secretary - Tracey Lynn Arriola
Treasurer- Maryann Piccioni

Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women is gearing up for an outstanding 2026. Coming off a blue tsunami with 89% of races in 2025 being swept BLUE, we are energized to keep the momentum going. Our great Governor Josh Shapiro, along with Lt. Governor Austin Davis have been endorsed by our state party and are leading the way in their reelection bid. We have 4 congressional districts which are highly targeted to flip back blue and we are hoping to bring victories in the state house and state senate races to complete the circle. Women are stepping up across the state to run for these seats as well as continue their great work in legislative forums to protect our democracy.

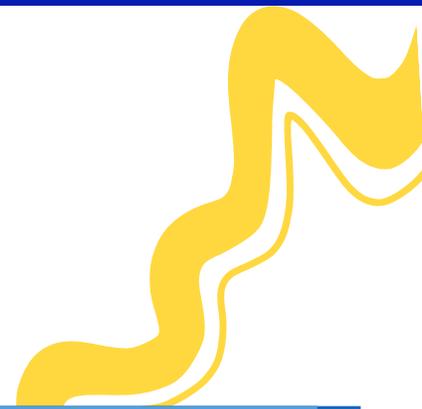
We are planning to head to Harrisburg on March 24 to meet with legislators for our Annual Women in Blue event. We are looking forward to present our issues as well as hear updates on key bills that support and protect women and families. We are also looking to host two statewide days of action, our first slated for the spring, to promote and support candidates in every region. As we host the America 250 celebration this July in Philadelphia , we seek to renew the promise that our nation's founders created there. Although the landscape looks different from back then, our issues remain the same -freedom from tyranny, and preservation of the fundamental right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness!



MIDWESTERN REGION



Jennifer Franklin
Midwestern Regional Director



MIDWESTERN REGION

ILLINOIS

KIM SAVAGE & LEE FRANKLIN

INDIANA

ROXANNA LUCAS MURRAY

KANSAS

CASSIE WOOLWORTH

MICHIGAN

MARILYN CONNER

MISSOURI

TAMMY HARTY

NEBRASKA

KRIS KINZIE

OHIO

EDNA BORDERS

OKLAHOMA

BETTYE RECTOR

MIDWESTERN
REGION
CONFERENCE
2026

“Rebuilding one brick at a time”
Midwestern Regional Director
Jennifer Franklin

14 MARCH, 2026
11:00AM
EST

SPEAKER
JUDGE FARAH L.
EMEKA

JOIN US

[https://us02web.zoom.us/
meeting/register/derlo-
FvR8eZf-S5X2dlmg](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/91234567890)

“Midwest Nice”

KANSAS UPDATES



Cassie Woolworth
President

KFDW: How Women WIN in Kansas

The Kansas Federation of Democratic Women has been on the move—and we're excited to invite you to be part of what's next. We're launching a brand-new program, "How Women WIN in Kansas," featuring candid conversations with women who have actually done it: our current elected officials.

[Cindy Q1.mov](#)

They'll share real-world tips, lessons learned, and strategies for getting elected in Kansas—because let's be honest, the path is tougher when you're a woman, and you shouldn't have to navigate it alone.

Mark your calendar:

Join us for our KFDW Convention on May 2nd in Topeka at the Country Club. You'll hear from Chrystal Watson, the new Wyandotte County Mayor, along with inspiring leaders from across the state. Expect an eclectic, energetic, and empowering day of connection and insight. Registration is just \$99, and that includes lunch and a full day of programming you won't want to miss.

Looking ahead, we're being intentional about supporting women at every stage:

- Quarter 1: Helping you decide if running for office is right for you (see [Nikki Q1.mov](#))
- Quarter 2: Teaching you how to raise the money to win

We also encourage you to join us at local monthly meetings—your presence strengthens our engagement, our impact, and our financial sustainability.

Stay informed and inspired:

- Subscribe to our newsletter: <https://kfdw.org/newsletter/>
- **Join us monthly** as we host gubernatorial candidates, U.S. Senate candidates, and House representatives

If you care about women winning elections in Kansas—this is your moment. **Come learn, connect, and lead with us.**

Cassie



Bettye Rector
President

Oklahoma First Quarter Report

Oklahoma Federation of Democratic Women's Clubs
First Quarter Report
January 31, 2026

OFDW currently has ten clubs representing nine of the 77 counties in Oklahoma. Membership last year was under 500. The membership count will be updated during the month of February as our bylaws require us to file a membership and financial report with the Oklahoma Democratic Party by February 15 th each year.

During the last quarter our clubs have held meetings, town halls, rallies, and protest marches. We have organized door knocking and phone banking for candidates facing elections in February. Our clubs participated in the Martin Luther King Day parades last month. Our clubs held food drives in November and angel tree collections in December.

Presently we are planning to celebrate 60 years of Oklahoma Federation of Democratic Women's Clubs' Conventions. And for the last twenty-five years they've all been held at the same Embassy Suites in Oklahoma City. So we have two special anniversaries to celebrate this year. The convention is April 10-11 and we are planning our sessions now to include democracy issues, economic concerns, immigration, education, and women's health. Additionally, we plan to participate in the NFDW convention in Las Vegas in June.

Bettye Rector, President
bettyerector@gmail.com
918-760-2150



SOUTHERN REGION



Patty Farley
Southern Regional Director

What is happening there in Minnesota is a test of our country's commitment to justice, due process and human dignity. Other states will be next. There is research that shows that nonviolent protests are twice as likely to succeed as armed conflicts. But those that engage over 3.5% of a population have never failed to create change. Protesting has the power to bring about transformative change. During a historic election season, exercising that fundamental First Amendment right remains more critical than ever. There are organizations giving training on being safe during protests. I would like to share recommendations I have compiled from various online sources for your safety.

First, Plan and Educate Yourself

Try to bring a partner to a demonstration or participate with a group. Have a plan for where to meet if you are separated, as can easily happen in a crowd, and a contingency plan if you aren't able to use your cell phones or choose not to. If you are part of a larger group, set up a group text to help you communicate in case you are separated. Make sure someone not attending the demonstration knows where you are going. Before you go, identify a location away from the area where you and your group will meet if you need to leave quickly. Carry your identification, a credit card and cash, transit passes, and medical alert bracelet. Bring paper and a pen, and a list of contact numbers in case you don't have access to your cell phone. Write phone numbers on your arm/body with permanent markers. Fully charge your cell phone and bring along a power block or charger. Your cell phone could be used in surveillance. Disable the thumbprint or facial recognition unlock. Ensure you are dressed appropriately for the season.

Dress for anonymity and your safety. Avoid standing out in the crowd. Keep easily identifiable tattoos or scars covered to reduce your chance of being identified. Long sleeves and pants, gloves, and goggles can also help protect your skin and eyes from tear gas or rubber bullets. (Opt for glasses instead of contact lenses, too, since the latter can trap pepper spray in your eye.) Bring energy snacks and a full water bottle - enough to last four to eight hours. If you have a medical condition, be sure you have medical alert identification on you in case you have an emergency in the crowd.

When you arrive at the event, be aware of what is happening around you. Are protesters and counter-protesters remaining peaceful? Is the crowd becoming alarmingly congested and it would be wise to move to the periphery? Be aware of the behaviors of others near you. If these behaviors could provoke violence, move away. Look at the items people are carrying. Could these items be dangerous, used to instigate, or escalate violence? If you sense danger, move away. When the crowd is moving, move with the crowd, but look for openings to make your way incrementally towards the periphery and out of the congestion if you are concerned. Stay on the outside edges of the crowd and maintain your options to exit quickly and safely. Most of all—Use your common sense, be smart and be safe.

Your Regional Director,
Patty Farley



ARKANSAS
GRACIE ZIEGLER

FLORIDA
PATTY COHN

GEORGIA
JUNE KRISE

KENTUCKY
TAMMY CRANFILL

LOUISIANA
LISA TOMKIES

MISSISSIPPI
BROOK HERMAN

NORTH CAROLINA
PAULA SHELTON

SOUTH CAROLINA
MERRILL CHAPMAN

TENNESSEE
GLENDA WHITFIELD

TEXAS
CORETTA GRAHAM

WEST VIRGINIA
PAM VAN HORN

"Well, I Declare!"

GEORGIA UPDATES



**June Kris
President**

Leading the Charge for Democracy



GEORGIA FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

First Quarter 2026

GFDW.org



THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 12, 2026
9:00AM - 1:00PM

Georgia Federation of Democratic Women
WOMEN IN BLUE
LEADING THE CHARGE FOR DEMOCRACY

SIGN UP TODAY!
secure.actblue.com/donate/2026women-in-blue



GEORGIA STATE CAPITOL
204 WASHINGTON STREET SW
ROOM 230 CAP
ATLANTA, GA 30334

GFDW ELECTIONS

GFDW President June Kris and her administration are focused on preparing to elect the next team of GFDW Leaders! The GFDW Spring Meeting, being hosted in Augusta, GA, by the CSRA Democratic Women's Council, will be held on April 18, 2026. The event promises to be a day filled with plenty of fun and camaraderie.



2026 GFDW WOMEN IN BLUE

GFDW members from across Georgia will gather at the Capitol for this year's Women in Blue Day! Legislators, candidates, and officers will address attendees on important issues such as voter suppression, healthcare, affordability and saving our democracy! With the high stakes of the upcoming 2026 elections, GFDW is ready to lead.

Joining us as a speaker will be the incomparable Judge Penny B. Reynolds. A 2026 candidate for Georgia Secretary of State, Judge Reynolds will be inaugurating one of GFDW's newest chapters at this year's Women in Blue.



VOTING UNDER ATTACK - AGAIN!

Georgia is once again at the forefront of political chaos. The Democratic Party of Georgia and other Democratic organizations, including GFDW, are concentrating on ongoing efforts to disenfranchise voters in the state. Recently, the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation confiscated 700 boxes of election records from the Georgia's Fulton County Board of Elections. A lawsuit has been initiated to demand the return of those records.

TENNESSEE UPDATES



Glenda Whitfield
President

From Waste to Wages: Tennessee's Economic Potential in Recycling

TENNESSEE FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

Hello from Tennessee:

The State that cast the final vote needed to ratify the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote.

The theme for Women's History Month is "Leading the Change: Women Shaping a Sustainable Future". The theme highlights women's critical roles in creating lasting solutions for environmental sustainability, economic justice, social equity, and community resilience.

In the Tennessee General Assembly there are ten Women Democrats leading the change, five Senators and five Representatives. Noteworthy bills sponsored by these women include:

- Eliminating the Grocery Tax by Closing Corporate Tax Loopholes
- Stricter Gun Laws for Domestic Violence Offenders
- Expanding Affordable Health Care (Medicaid)
- Providing Youth Mental Health Services
- Protecting Women's Healthcare

One promising bill introduced by Democratic Senator Heidi Campbell is titled, "From Waste to Wages: Tennessee's Economic Potential in Recycling". Tennessee is running out of landfill space. The proposed bill solves this problem without raising taxes. It modernizes recycling, creates jobs, and saves counties and cities millions each year. This is exactly the kind of solution Democrats should be championing for a cleaner and greener environment.

The Tennessee Federation of Democratic Women (TFDW) applauds our women leaders at the local level, in the State House and Senate, and within the Tennessee Democratic Party (TNDP). Rachel Campbell, TNDP Chair, is building a stronger alignment between the Party and our Legislative Democratic Caucus. This collaboration enhances meaningful engagement opportunities for local county parties and activists across the state. Chair Campbell will be one of the speakers at TFDW's Annual Convention on April 18, 2026. This year our country is celebrating America's 250th Anniversary. At convention we will celebrate the important contributions of women in the fight for liberty and justice for all.

From grassroots activism, community empowerment, and effective policies, Women Will Change the World!

Sincerely,
Glenda

Glenda Whitfield
President, TFDW



WEST VIRGINIA UPDATES



Pamela Van Horn
President

WVFDW Leads Successful Candidate Recruitment

The West Virginia Federation of Democratic Women joined with other state Democratic organizations including the WVSDEC, WV House Democrats, WV Senate Democrats, WV County Chairs, and WYDs to complete a wildly successful candidate recruitment for the 2026 election.

To prepare, we engaged our members with training on candidate recruitment and support at our WVFDW Spring Summit in May 2025. We held two strategic workshops: So, You Want To Run for Office? This included a PowerPoint they could use to speak with candidates and a video of the training. Panel with Elected Officials: Running for Office: What candidates need + how can Democratic Women help.



Kayla Young & Anitra Hamilton

At our 61st Annual Meeting in September, our members were equipped with strategies to develop prospect lists and work with like-minded groups. We also trained on how to talk with potential candidates honestly about what it really takes to run for office.

Our clubs joined with their local DEC's and organizations to brainstorm, pitch, pitch, and pitch again potential candidates.



Christy Cardwell

Many of our members stepped up to put their names on the ballot, leading to West Virginia's largest group of female candidates in modern memory. The filing period ran from January 12- 31. There were 106 Democratic candidates for 119 seats up in the West Virginia Legislature. 60 of the candidates are women. In addition, there are 10 Democrats running for the 1 US Senate seat and 2 US House of Representatives seats. We also have 45 county races contested by Democrats in our 55 counties. There are more than 733 Democrats running for offices from county executive committee to United States Senate.



Mayor Amy Goodwin

The West Virginia Federation of Democratic Women will provide training for our candidates and club members, direct contributions to female nominees, and significant financial investment in GOTV efforts this fall.

WESTERN REGION

Gini Ballou
Western Regional Director



NFDW Western Regional Overview - Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Washington: The Best of the West!

We are excited to be co-hosting the NFDW 55th Annual Convention, June 3-6, 2026 in Las Vegas, NV! Hope everyone plans to join us there! In the Western Region, we are all contributing to the success and carrying parts of the workload. We look to be setting a model for the future of having the Region involved and not just the Host state. Nevada President, Audrey Dempsey, has set a goal to have the Best Convention Ever & the Western Region is here to help make it happen!

This year we welcome new state presidents Monica Wilson in California, Susan Herring in Washington, Terri Hrechosky in Utah, and Idalia Luchega-Tena in New Mexico! We thank the outgoing presidents and appreciate their leadership both while in office and during the transition. Here in Idaho, I look to learn so much from these women and bring it home to help get more women elected and engaged!

It was an honor to speak at the Arizona Federation's annual luncheon. President Judy Stahl did an awesome job creating a fun and informative program that was well attended. I was joined as speakers with NFDW 1st Vice President Christine Pelosi, Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego, and Arizona Secretary of State Adrian Fontes. In March, I'll be speaking at the Washington State Luncheon in Olympia, I'm looking forward to it and appreciate the invitation.



ARIZONA

JUDY STAHL

CALIFORNIA

MONICA WILSON

IDAHO

GINI BALLOU

NEVADA

AUDREY DEMPSEY

NEW MEXICO

JULIA BROWN

WASHINGTON

CARIN CHASE &
SUSAN HERRING

UTAH

CATHERINE VOUTAZ

"Nature's Playground!"

ARIZONA UPDATES



Judy Stahl
President

Power in the Southwest: AZDW is on the Move

Hello Arizona Democratic Women and friends:

The Chinese New Year of the Fire Horse will be ushered in on February 17th. It will be an exciting year; a year for powerful action. Yet, let's pause for a moment and consider exactly what action to take that will be beneficial and effective.

We've all watched, with the accompanying severe stress to the nervous system, as disaster and destruction of our country, our federal government, and our Constitution has unfolded over the last (has it really been?!) 10 years since Don The Con (the con man, the convicted felon) commandeered the Republican Party. In 2016, that party's "leaders" responded not with a bang, but with a whimper. In fact, let's be honest, they responded with total impotence. They rolled over like the spineless cowards that they are. Infuriating? Yes. Surprising? No. But, no matter how we got here, no matter who's to blame, we all suffer the consequences. And here we are.

The latest attack on our country by The Con in our highest office is an attempt to bilk our nation of 10 Billion— with a B—dollars through a personal lawsuit filed against the IRS. Fun fact: the IRS is us! Another fun fact: that amount of money is more than 80% of the entire budget for the IRS in 2025.

<https://www.cnbc.com/2026/01/14/irs-budget-cut-2026.html>

Some President, huh!

Add that violation of our country by Don The Con to all the other horrors that we're learning about. In this month's letter, I'm not going into the vile revelations about billionaires in the Epstein Files, including The Con. It's easy to be overwhelmed. What to do? I definitely recommend turning off the news. Completely. For a day, or a week. Get out in nature. Play with your pets. Make a pie. Read a novel. Or have a card game with your family and friends. Better yet, check out the Venerable Monks and their Walk for Peace.

<https://dhammacetiya.com/walk-for-peace/live-map/>

I'm not saying we should pull the blanket over our heads. Just be discerning. Make good choices about where you get your information. Heather Cox Richardson is a champion.

<https://heathercoxrichardson.substack.com>

I also recommend the Pivot podcast with Kara Swisher and Scott Galloway.

<https://podcasts.voxmedia.com/show/pivot>

Scott Galloway has just started a campaign for February that's worth your consideration and action.

<https://www.profgalloway.com/resist-and-unsubscribe/>

Find the action that inspires and builds you up. Act, and act locally! Especially for those of us in the beautiful state of Arizona, we are in a swing state. What we do here between now and the elections in November actually really, Really, REALLY matters!

Sincerely,
Judy Stahl

Women in Blue Luncheon

March 17th, 2026 10:00am



Join the Arizona Democratic Women
for their annual luncheon this spring
sponsored by



Senator Mitzi Epstein

CALIFORNIA UPDATES

Monica Wilson
Chair, CA Democratic Party
Women's Caucus

Leadership for Prop50

As Chair of the California Democratic Party Women's Caucus and California President of the National Federation of Democratic Women, I am proud to share the impactful work our Caucus has advanced over the past year. The California Women's Caucus has continued to lead with purpose—supporting and uplifting Democratic women candidates at the local, state, and federal levels, with a clear focus on women of color, LGBTQ+ women, and women from historically underrepresented communities. One of our most significant accomplishments this past year was our leadership role in the successful passage of California Proposition 50 in November. The Women's Caucus helped mobilize Democratic women across the state, educate voters, and partner with allied organizations to advance an equity-driven, values-based campaign that translated grassroots organizing into a statewide electoral win.

The Caucus was also proud to honor Monique Limón on her historic appointment as California State Senate Speaker Pro Tem—the first Latina to hold this position. Her leadership represents a milestone for representation in California and a powerful reminder of the importance of building and sustaining pathways for women to lead at the highest levels of government. Building on this momentum, the California Women's Caucus is focused on strengthening party infrastructure and cultivating the next generation of leaders. Current initiatives include the development of a statewide mentorship program to support women seeking elected office and leadership roles within the California Democratic Party; and the planning of a convening for caucus chairs, communications chairs, and emerging leaders to align strategy and share best practices. The Caucus is creating a youth communications pipeline to train and elevate young women in political messaging and digital organizing.

This victory demonstrates what is possible when Democratic women organize and lead with purpose—and California is proud to lead by example alongside our NFDW sisters nationwide.



IDAHO UPDATES



Gini Ballou
President

Leading the Way for Idaho Democratic Women

The Idaho Democratic Women's Caucus (IDWC) continues to lead with strong legislative engagement, advocacy, and organizing across the state. In December of 2025, we hosted a well-attended Legislative Preview on Zoom. We plan on hosting a Legislative Update in February of 2026. (2026 Legislative Update.png)

Our annual Frank Church Breakfast remains the state's kickoff to the State Central Committee meetings and our largest fundraiser, bringing Democratic women together to connect, organize, and hear from inspiring speakers. The breakfast also coincides with NFDW's Women in Blue, where IDWC leaders help elevate Idaho voices on the national stage.

Last year's Women in Blue Day at the Capitol brought together women from across Idaho to stand in solidarity and engage directly in the legislative process, and we are proud to continue this tradition again this year. We plan on having this year's event on President's Day to enable more women to attend this important event. (2026 IDWC Women in Blue.png)

Members regularly mobilize for rallies, protests, and grassroots actions across the state demonstrating a strong and unwavering commitment to democracy and justice. Even in a super-majority state, our members refuse to be sidelined and continue to organize, advocate, and make their voices heard in communities large and small. (idahoprotestpicture.jpg)

IDWC continues to support Democratic candidates across Idaho, helping achieve the historic milestone of placing candidates on the ballot in every district and county in 2024. Our members actively volunteer their time and energy in competitive races both locally and in neighboring states. (kayleeandgini.png)

The IDWC remains a welcoming and powerful force for women working to protect rights, strengthen democracy, and build a better future for Idaho.



SPONSORED BY THE IDAHO DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CAUCUS

2026 ANNUAL WOMEN IN BLUE DAY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2026

- Meet at Garden Level Rotunda at 10:00am
- Introduction on House Floor at 10:30am
- Introduction on Senate Floor at 11:00am
- Advocacy Training at 11:30am
- Capitol Building Tour at 12:30pm

LET'S PACK THE GALLERY IN SHADES OF BLUE!



2026 VIRTUAL IDAHO LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

FEBRUARY 12, 2026
7:00PM - 8:30PM MT

FEATURING
SENATOR ALI RABE &
REPRESENTATIVE ILANA RUBEL

SPONSORED BY
THE IDAHO DEMOCRATIC
WOMEN'S CAUCUS

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



NEW MEXICO UPDATES



Honorable Idalia
Lechuga-Tena
President



New Presidency in New Mexico



Under the leadership of President, Honorable Idalia Lechuga-Tena, the New Mexico Federation of Democratic Women has seen several positive milestones, including its first-ever statewide retreat on November 14, 2025, bringing together women from across New Mexico to set goals for 2026.

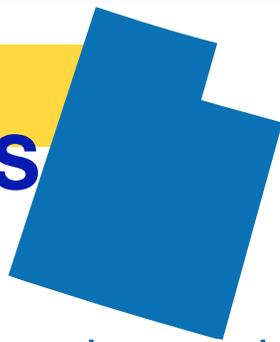
The Federation fed over 200 attendees at the State Central Committee meeting on October 15, 2025, in Socorro and hosted a table on Opening Day of the New Mexico Legislature at the DPNM Legislative Dinner on January 20. Women in Blue, held January 29 in Santa Fe, was a success, featuring the President's Award of Excellence presented to Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and a luncheon attended by 120 guests.

Upcoming events include:

- Pre-Primary Convention March 7 in Ruidoso
- Blue Gala on April 25 at Isleta Resort and Casino
- Attendance at the National Convention June 3-6 in Las Vegas
- Fall Meeting October 2-4 in Shiprock during the Northern Navajo Nation Fair
- NMFDW Holiday Party and meeting on December 6, 2026 in Santa Fe.



UTAH UPDATES



Catherine Voutaz
Immediate Past
President

New President Elected in Utah



Quarter Four Meetings:

- October: Justice for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives with the Director of Indian Affairs and MMIR of Utah.
- November: Our Public Lands & Management with the Southern Utah Alliance and the Utah Public Lands and Policy Office
- December: Messages of Hope & Resilience with Journey Of Hope and The Other Side

Our new President, Terri Hrechkosy, was elected in November for 2026-2027. The Club assisted with Utah State Candidate Recruiting which closed on January 8th. In Utah, Dems are contesting 90% of the seats this year (HD, SD, SBOE) which is the best in over 20 years. Our 1st meeting for 2026 Candidate endorsements was organized and in 2025 the Club raised \$22k planned to be distributed in 2026 to candidates. We have 8 Democrats running for Congress in the CD1 which is the new CD (determined by the 3rd District judge). 190 democrats are running up and down the ballot.

The 1st WDC meeting of 2026 (Legislative session) on Jan 3rd had 92 registered attendees (raised net \$1,200), and we currently have 387 active paid members. The 130th year anniversary of the Women's Democratic of Utah will be held on May 15, 2026 in Salt Lake City (Utah's club was organized in 1896). A new club chapter is now formed in Southern Utah (Iron, Kane, Washington) - 27 members - their first formal meeting was held on January 24th.





Statement of Solidarity

Washington State Federation of Democratic Women

Statement of Solidarity from the Washington State Federation of Democratic Women
The Washington State Federation of Democratic Women stands in full solidarity with the people of Minnesota—and with communities across the nation—who are defending constitutional democracy against political violence and intimidation. For nearly 250 years, the United States has relied on democratic institutions, not force, to resolve conflict. That commitment remains essential to our shared future.

The U.S. Constitution was intentionally designed to prevent political violence by channeling disagreement into lawful, accountable processes. It rests on a fundamental principle: that even our deepest differences must be resolved through elections, courts, and representative governance—not through threats or acts of violence.

Mass political violence represents a rejection of this constitutional framework, whether or not its perpetrators understand it as such. When personal belief is elevated above constitutional duty, violence gains tacit legitimacy and democracy itself is endangered. We reject that path unequivocally.

Across Washington, Democratic women continue to lead at every level of government—advancing reproductive freedom, healthcare access, education funding, housing stability, and protections against gender-based violence. Through year-round organizing and partnership with the National Federation of Democratic Women, we remain committed to electing Democratic women, defending democracy, and advancing equity and opportunity for all.

We stand with Minnesota. We stand with all states and communities committed to the rule of law, peaceful civic engagement, and the enduring promise of American constitutional democracy.

WSFDW 2026 UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 8TH, International Women's Day Brunch! Details and ticket information to follow! Enjoy Brunch, meet candidates and hear from our guest speakers! - Thurston County Chapter

WSFDW Joins WA State Democrats Convention: June 19-21 in Spokane

*Did
you
miss it?*



NATIONAL FEDERATION DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

Leading the Way: Policies, Power, and Priorities

Gaby Fraser

October 11, 1955 - January 2, 2026



It is with much sadness that we share the loss of Gaby Fraser, President of the **Metropolitan Women's Democratic Club** in Washington, D.C. We will miss her warm smile, stunning style, and perfectly timed humor.

Gaby served on the executive boards of the DC Federation of Democratic Women, Ward 7 Democrats (Corresponding Secretary), and Ward 8 Democrats. She was a mighty force in her community and in DC politics. Her impact was vast and her service was consistent.

An official resolution will be sent to the family and filed in the NFDW archives. A press release/statement from her family is below. We extend our deepest condolences and sincere thoughts to the Fraser family, friends, and colleagues.

May she rest in honor,

Lovie West
National President

Holiday Reception

Come together with your Democratic sisters to celebrate the holiday season.



NFDW Holiday Reception
 Sunday, December 21, 2025
 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. ET
 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. CT
 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. PT
 Via Zoom



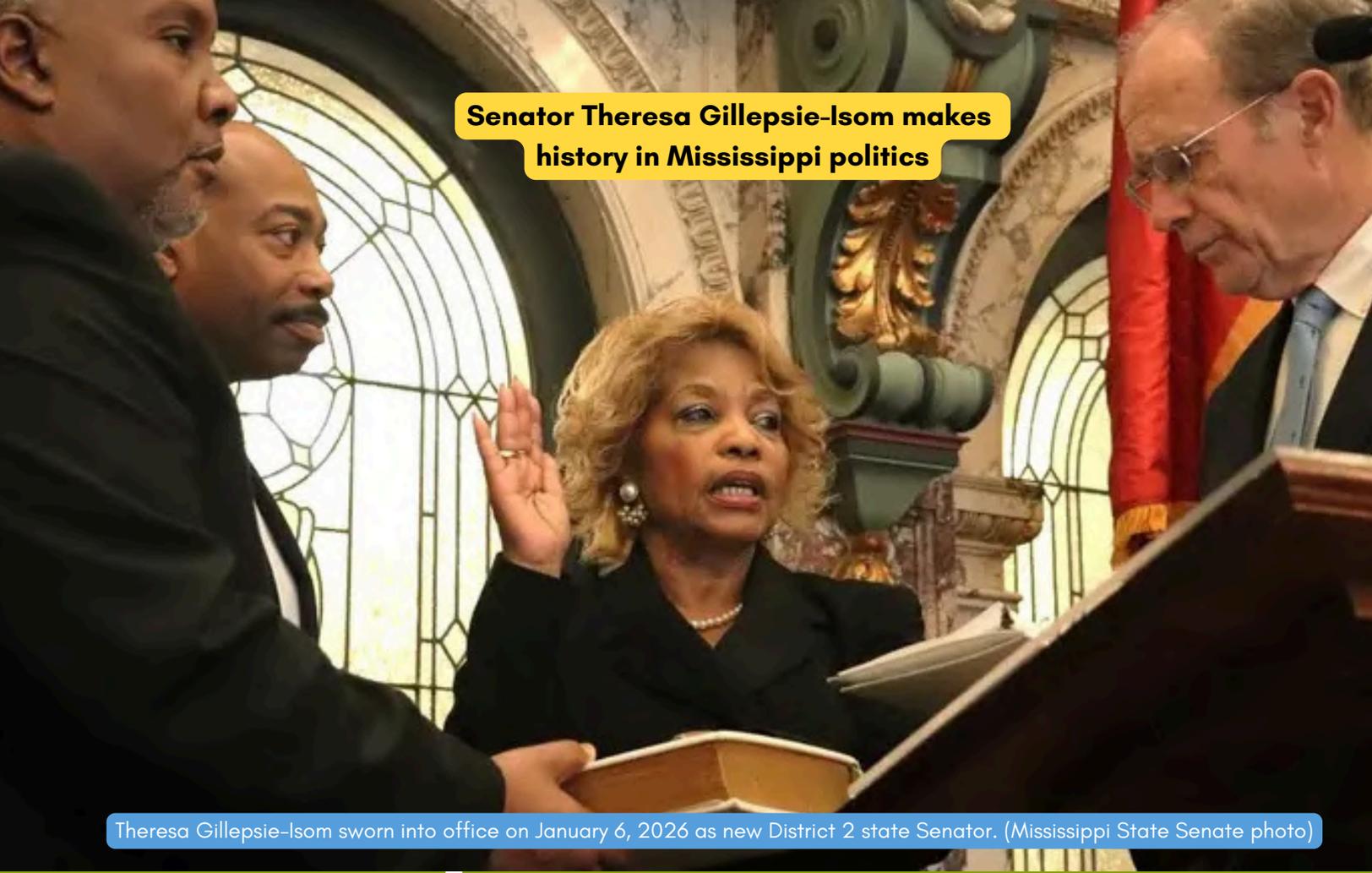
Please share any favorite holiday appetizer and beverage (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) recipes so that we can compile and exchange them before the reception. Send your favorites to Gina Sims Johnson at gigsomeone62@gmail.com.

Holiday Sweater Contest



Gina Sims-Johnson - 11

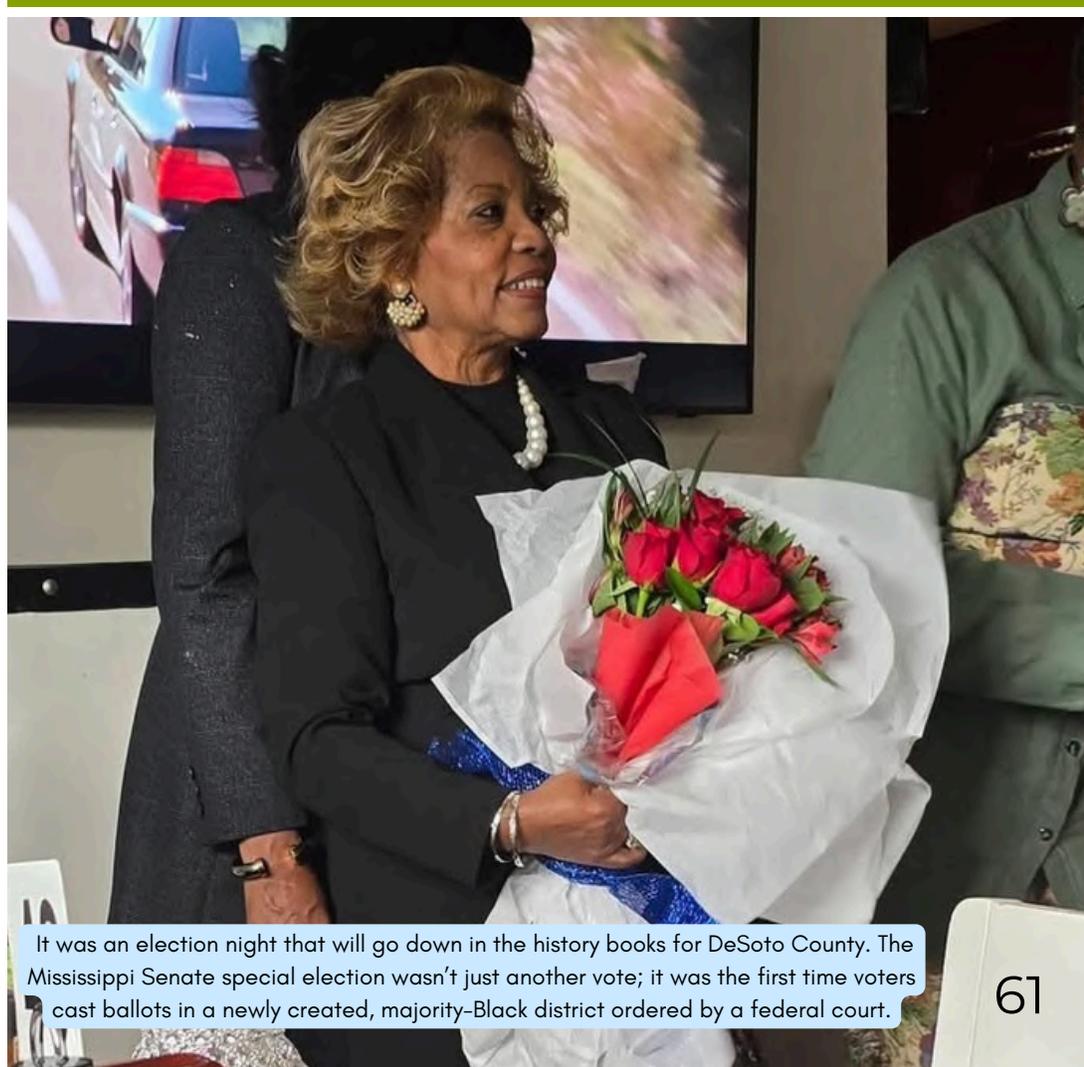
Senator Theresa Gillespie-Isom makes history in Mississippi politics



Theresa Gillespie-Isom sworn into office on January 6, 2026 as new District 2 state Senator. (Mississippi State Senate photo)



First African American MS senator and first female senator from DeSoto County



It was an election night that will go down in the history books for DeSoto County. The Mississippi Senate special election wasn't just another vote; it was the first time voters cast ballots in a newly created, majority-Black district ordered by a federal court.



NFDW President West provided congratulatory remarks at Mississippi event honoring Senator Gillespie-Isom

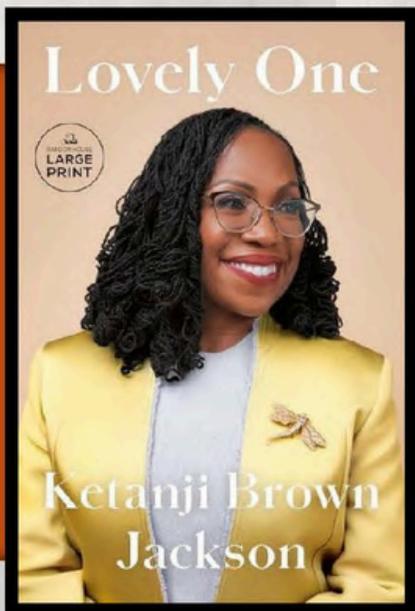
THE NFDW BOOK CLUB

Lovely One

by Ketanji Brown Jackson

“Vulnerable, tender, and infinitely inspirational, this book will make you proud of how far our country has come and riled up to help carry us where we need to go...”

- Oprah Daily



SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2026

5 P.M. EST | 4 P.M. CST | 3 P.M. MST | 2 P.M. PST

JOIN US ON ZOOM

REGISTER [https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/
LdefheoVTJaqBHk-TM6XqA](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/LdefheoVTJaqBHk-TM6XqA)

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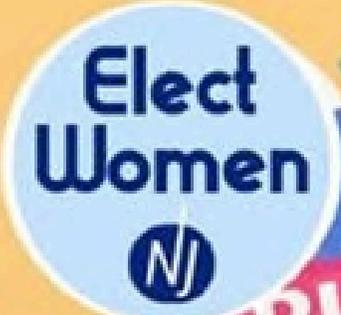


CLICK
ICON



POLITICAL EDUCATION & TRAINING COMMITTEE

Lovie West, National President | Telise Ezell Turner,
4th Vice President | Deborah Williams, Ph.D. &
Barbara Scott, Committee Co-Chairs



FREE • Thinking about RUNNING for Office?

Three Tuesday Nights • 90 Minutes Each • 7 PM Start Time

A FREE 3-Part Training Series

TUESDAY, FEB 10

DEMOCRATS 101: FINDING YOUR PLACE & YOUR ISSUES



Dyese Davis
Chainwoman
Monmouth County Democrats



Amalia Duarte
Councilwoman
Mendham Township

TUESDAY, FEB 17

FIELD, RELATIONSHIPS & THE BALLOT



Kinn Badger
Coalitions Director
NJ Democratic State Committee



Danielle Ireland-Imhof
County Clerk
Passaic County

TUESDAY, FEB 24

FINDING YOUR WHY & RAISING YOUR MONEY



Sam Parker
Former Deputy Chief of Staff
Governor Phil Murphy



Mary Knowles
Founder
Mary Knowles Media

Register once for the full series
(or attend the nights you need)

LIVE ON ZOOM

Proud to welcome



Our 2026 Outreach Partner



NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN
WOMEN IN BLUE



*Save
the
Date*



2026

**VOICES OF POWER:
WOMEN, WORKING, WELLNESS & WINNING**

SATURDAY

MARCH 7, 2026

11 AM TO 1 PM EST



VIA ZOOM

CONFERENCE

Join the National Federation of Democratic Women on March 7, 2026 for the Women in Blue Virtual Event.

11 AM TO 1 PM EST

This event is dedicated to celebrating the achievements of the 33 state organizations that comprise the National Federation of Democratic Women (NFDW).



REGISTER @ www.NFDWWIB.com





**NATIONAL FEDERATION of
DEMOCRATIC WOMEN**
Leading the Way. Policies. Power, and Priorities

NFDW ACTION

NEWS

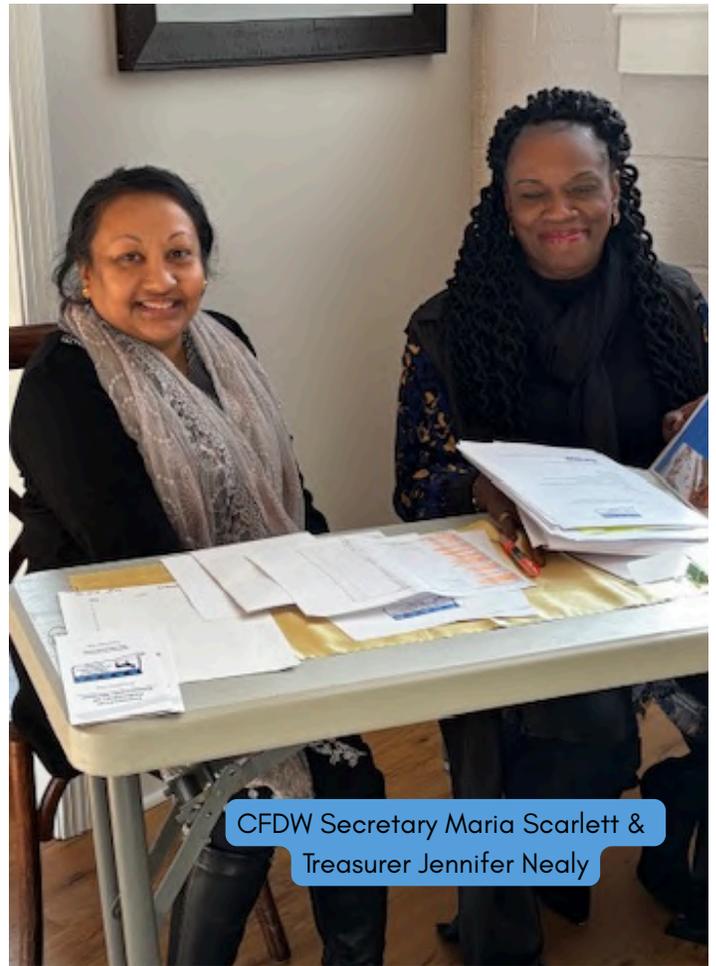
> Visit the NFDW website and social media pages for our position statements, press releases and more!

**A CALL TO ACTION
NOT ONE MORE
DOLLAR TO ICE!**

SENATORS VOTE TOMORROW
ON ICE'S FUNDING. CALL THEM
AND TELL THEM TO VOTE NO.

1-202-224-3121





CFDW Secretary Maria Scarlett & Treasurer Jennifer Nealy



You're Invited To Join Us

NFDW

"Intersectionality in Advocacy: Building Inclusive Movements" BHM Event!

A conversation with Assemblywoman Verlina Reynolds-Jackson, NJ Legislative District 15



MONDAY - February 16, 2026

7:00pm - 8:00pm ET

ZOOM

RSVP




Tennessee Federation of Democratic Women 2026 Winter Meeting



NFDW News Brief

MULTIPLE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUSES CONDEMN EEOC CHANGES

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) is expected to rescind the EEOC's Enforcement Guidance on Harassment in the Workplace that assists with enforcement and protections for women, people of color and LGBTQI+ workers.



Learn more at:

<https://capac.house.gov/press-release/democratic-caucuses-condemn-eec-move-rescind-workplace-harassment-guidance>

5

FEBRUARY

2026



NFDW News Brief

THE HELLCATS RUN FOR CONGRESS

The Hellcats, a name that pays homage to the first female Marines of World War One, include a retired Marine Corps drill instructor, a former Navy helicopter pilot, a former Marine captain and a former Army special operations officer. They are campaigning as a bloc to win 2026 Congressional seats in New Jersey, New York and Arizona.



Learn more at:

<https://www.reuters.com/world/us/could-group-women-veteran-hellcats-help-democrats-flip-house-2026-2025-12-22/>

6

MARCH
2026

CLOSING THOUGHTS

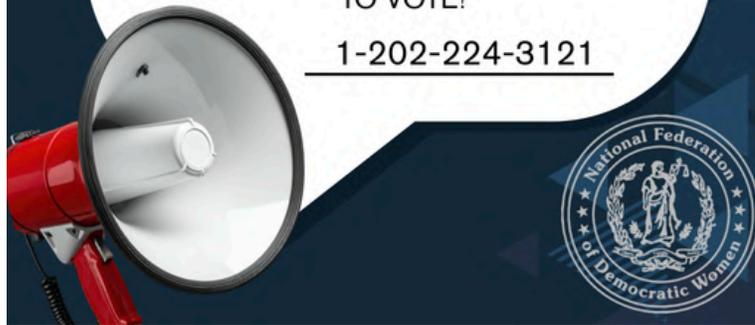
Call to Action

National Federation of Democratic Women

**A CALL TO ACTION!
CALL YOUR SENATOR TO
HOLD THE LINE. VOTE NO
ON SAVE AMERICA ACT!**

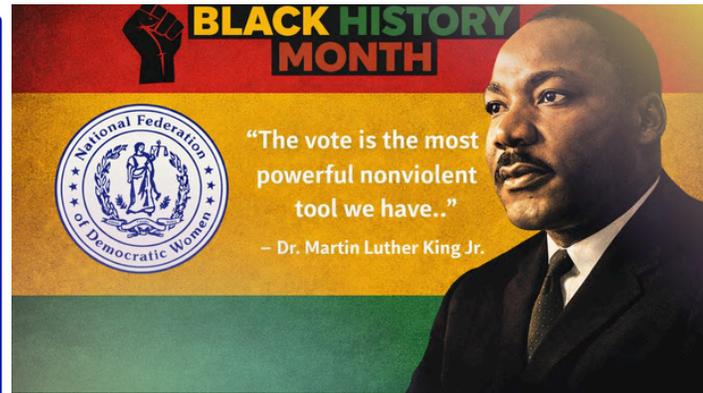
SENATORS WILL VOTE SOON ON THE SAVE AMERICA ACT, WHICH WILL AFFECT MILLIONS OF VOTERS' ABILITY TO VOTE!

1-202-224-3121



Stay connected with the NFDW! Sign up for our email list! Join a NFDW Committee. Volunteer at a NFDW sponsored event. Answer the call in 2026 and beyond!

[CLICK TO SUBSCRIBE](#)



Lena Bishop of Binghamton, founder of the New York State Federation of Democratic Women, stated: *"We created this organization so women would have real power in New York's Democratic Party."*

