

# **Women Trailblazers in the Law Project Oral Histories**

## **A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress  
Washington, D.C.  
2022**

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

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Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012152>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2012  
Revised 2021 October

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Women Trailblazers in the Law Project Oral Histories

**Inclusive Dates:** 2005-2018

**ID No.:** MSS85388

**Creator:** Women Trailblazers in the Law Project

**Extent:** 100 items

**Extent:** 21 containers

**Extent:** 8.4 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm2007085388>

**Summary:** Transcripts of interviews with prominent women lawyers from the American Bar Association's Women Trailblazers in the Law Project.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Bair, Sheila--Interviews.

Donald, Bernice Bouie, 1951- --Interviews.

Gorelick, Jamie S.--Interviews.

Kennedy, Cornelia G. (Cornelia Groefsema), 1923-2014--Interviews.

Kravitch, Phyllis A., 1920-2017--Interviews.

Murphy, Diana E.--Interviews.

Reno, Janet, 1938-2016--Interviews.

Schiffer, Lois J. (Lois Jane), 1945- --Interviews.

Schroeder, Pat--Interviews.

Shores, Janie L., 1932- --Interviews.

Sloviter, Dolores K. (Dolores Korman), 1932- --Interviews.

Vladeck, Judith P.--Interviews.

Wald, Patricia M.--Interviews.

White, Mary Jo, 1947- --Interviews.

Williams, Karen Hastie, 1944- --Interviews.

### Organizations

American Bar Association. Commission on Women in the Profession.

American Bar Association. Senior Lawyers Division.

Women Trailblazers in the Law Project.

### Subjects

Cause lawyers--United States--Interviews.

Corporate lawyers--United States--Interviews.

Corporation law--United States.

Courts--United States.

Government attorneys--United States--Interviews.

Judges--United States--Interviews.

Law firms--United States.

Law--Study and teaching--United States.

Law--United States.

Lawyers--United States--Interviews.

Practice of law--United States.

Public interest law--United States.

Women judges--United States--Interviews.  
Women lawyers--United States--Interviews.

## Acquisition Information

The oral histories of the Women Trailblazers in the Law Project were given to the Library of Congress by the American Bar Association in installments from 2007 to 2012. Additional oral histories were given to the Library from 2013 to 2019.

## Processing History

The oral histories of the Women Trailblazers in the Law Project were arranged and described by Karen Linn Femia in 2012. Additional oral histories were arranged and described by Pang H. Xiong in 2021.

## Other Repositories

Copies of interview transcripts given to the Schlesinger Library, Harvard University, are cataloged as "Oral history interviews of the American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession Women Trailblazers in the Law Oral History Project." The American Bar Association Senior Lawyers Division has oral histories online at [https://www.americanbar.org/groups/senior\\_lawyers/women\\_trailblazers\\_project\\_listing/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/senior_lawyers/women_trailblazers_project_listing/). The Robert Crown Law Library at Stanford University created a website for the oral histories at <https://abawtp.law.stanford.edu>.

## Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished oral histories of Women Trailblazers in the Law Project in these papers and in other collections in the custody of the Library of Congress is reserved. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division for further information. (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

Restrictions apply governing the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division for information concerning these restrictions. In addition, many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Women Trailblazers in the Law Project Oral Histories, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Administrative History

The Women Trailblazers in the Law Project was initiated in 2004 and administered by the American Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Profession. The project is currently sponsored by the Senior Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association.

## Scope and Content Note

The oral histories of the Women Trailblazers in the Law Project span the years 2005-2018. The Women Trailblazers in the Law Project was begun by the American Bar Association in 2004 and administered by the Commission on Women in the Profession. The project conducted interviews of senior women lawyers from all areas of the profession:

academia, corporations, government, judiciary, private law firms, and public interest groups. Most of the interviewees began their careers in the 1950s to the 1970s when few women were in the profession. The files contain transcripts of the interviews and some biographical material. Interviewees include Jamie S. Gorelick, former assistant attorney general and member of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States; Janet Reno, former attorney general; Pat Schroeder, former congresswoman; federal appellate judges Dolores K. Sloviter and Patricia M. Wald; and Judith P. Vladeck, prominent labor lawyer and civil rights advocate.

The 2021 Addition includes more interviews with Jamie S. Gorelick. Other interviewees include Sheila Bair, former chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; federal appellate judges Bernice Bouie Donald, Cornelia G. Kennedy, Phyllis A. Kravitch, and Diana E. Murphy; Lois J. Schiffer, general counsel for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and former assistant attorney general for the Environment and Natural Resources Division at the Department of Justice; Janie L. Shores, former associate justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama; Mary Jo White, former chair of the Securities and Exchange Commission; and Karen Hastie Williams, prominent lawyer.

## **Arrangement of the Collection**

This collection is arranged alphabetically by name of interviewee with the 2021 Addition listed last and arranged alphabetically by name of interviewee.

## Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
BOX 1	Abrams, Ruth I., 2009-2010 (3 folders)
BOX 1	Argett, Loretta, 2009
BOX 1	Babcock, Barbara, 2006-2007 (3 folders)
BOX 1	Barkett, Rosemary, 2006-2009 (2 folders)
BOX 1	Bellows, Carole K., 2005 (2 folders)
BOX 1	Birnbaum, Sheila L., 2010-2011
BOX 1	Black, Barbara A., 2006 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Burg, Ruth, 2005 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Campbell, Nancy Duff, 2006-2009 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Covington, Ann K., 2010 (3 folders)
BOX 2	Cranston, Mary, 2006 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Determan, Sara-Ann, 2005-2006 (3 folders)
BOX 3	Dinkins, Carol, 2005-2006 (3 folders)
BOX 3	Dupont, Antoinette, 2006-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 3	Durham, Christine, 2009-2010 (2 folders)
BOX 3	Ellerin, Betty Weinberg, 2005-2006 (2 folders)
BOX 3	Fletcher, Betty Binns, 2006 (2 folders)
BOX 3	Frankel, Tamar, 2007-2008 (4 folders)
BOX 4	Freedman, Maryann Saccomando, 2007 (2 folders)
BOX 4	Garvey, Joanne M., 2006-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 4	Gorelick, Jamie S., 2006-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 4	Greenberger, Marcia D., 2006-2008 (2 folders)

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<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
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BOX 4	Hernandez, Antonia, 2006 (2 folders)
BOX 4	Herrera, Irma, 2007 (2 folders)
BOX 5	Hills, Carla Anderson, 2007-2009 (2 folders)
BOX 5	Hostetler, Zona F., 2006-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 5	Hufstedler, Shirley M., 2005-2008 (3 folders)
BOX 5	Kimball, Catherine D., 2009-2011 (2 folders)
BOX 5	King, Carolyn Dineen, 2010-2011 (2 folders)
BOX 6	King, Patricia A., 2005-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 6	Klein, Joan Dempsey, 2006-2011
BOX 6	Lacy, Elizabeth B., 2008-2010 (3 folders)
BOX 6	Lichtman, Judith, 2006-2010
BOX 6	Mathis, Karen J., 2011 (2 folders)
BOX 6	Mayden, Barbara Mendel, 2006 (2 folders)
BOX 6	Melli, Marygold Shire, 2005 (2 folders)
BOX 7	Moody, Lizabeth, 2009
BOX 7	Murphy, Betty Southard, 2006-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 7	*Nelson, Dorothy W., 2006 (2 folders) A use restriction applies to this oral history. Please consult a reference librarian.
BOX 7	Plevan, Bettina B., 2007-2008 (2 folders)
BOX 7	Quince, Peggy A., 2009 (2 folders)
BOX 7	Reno, Janet, 2005-2008 (3 folders)
BOX 7	Resnick, Judith, 2007 (2 folders)
BOX 7	Roberts, Betty, 2005-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 8	Robinson, Barbara Paul, 2006-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 8	Roisman, Florence Wagman, 2005-2009 (3 folders)

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BOX 8	Roraback, Catherine G., 2006 (2 folders)
BOX 8	Rovner, Ilana Diamond, 2007 (2 folders)
BOX 8	Schafran, Lynn Hecht, 2006-2007 (3 folders)
BOX 9	Schafran, Lynn Hecht, 2006-2007
BOX 9	Schaible, Grace Berg, 2006 (4 folders)
BOX 9	Schroeder, Mary Murphy, 2006-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 9	Schroeder, Patricia, 2006-2008 (2 folders)
BOX 9	Seymour, Stephanie K., 2006-2008 (3 folders)
BOX 9	Shapiro, Norma L., 2007-2008 (2 folders)
BOX 10	Siegel, Shirley Adelson, 2006-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 10	Singer, Linda R., 2007-2009 (2 folders)
BOX 10	*Slaughter-Harvey, Constance, 2010 (3 folders) A use restriction applies to this oral history. Please consult a reference librarian.
BOX 10	Sloviter, Dolores K., 2006-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 10	Smith, Fern M., 2007-2008 (2 folders)
BOX 11	Tucker, Marna S., 2006-2008 (2 folders)
BOX 11	Vladeck, Judith P., 2005 (2 folders)
BOX 11	Wahl, Rosalie E., 2006
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BOX 11	Wald, Patricia M., 2006 (3 folders)
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BOX 11	Whittemore, Anne Marie, 2010-2011 (2 folders)
BOX 12	Williams, Wendy Webster, 2006-2012
BOX 12	Winston, Judith A., 2005-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 12	Wolf, Miriam, 2007 (3 folders)

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BOX 12	Zobel, Rya W., 2008 (3 folders)
BOX 13	2021 Addition
BOX 13	*Areen, Judith, 2003-2014 (4 folders) A use restriction applies to this oral history. Please consult a reference librarian.
BOX 13	Bair, Sheila, 2013-2014 (2 folders)
BOX 13	Barnett, Helaine M., 2018
BOX 14	Bellows, Laurel G., 2017-2018
BOX 14	Benshoof, Janet, 2013-2015 (3 folders)
BOX 14	Bernstein, Joan Z., 2013 (3 folders)
BOX 15	Cabraser, Elizabeth J., 2014-2015
BOX 15	Cordell, LaDoris H., 2012-2013
BOX 15	Donald, Bernice Bouie, 2006-2007 (2 folders)
BOX 15	Freeman, Frankie Muse, 2014
BOX 15	Fuentes, Sonia Pressman, 2013-2014 (2 folders)
BOX 15	Gertner, Nancy, 2012
BOX 16	Gorelick, Jamie S., 2014-2016
BOX 16	Guinier, Lani, 2009-2010 (2 folders)
BOX 16	Hall, Joan M., 2013
BOX 16	Hollis, Sheila Slocum, 2016 (2 folders)
BOX 17	Hollis, Sheila Slocum, 2016 (3 folders)
BOX 17	Karmel, Roberta S., 2013
BOX 17	Kaye, Judith S., 2009-2010
BOX 17	Kennedy, Cornelia G., 2012
BOX 17	Kravitch, Phyllis A., 2013
BOX 18	Lardent, Esther F., 2006-2012 (2 folders)
BOX 18	Murnane, Linda Strite, 2013 (2 folders)
BOX 18	Murphy, Diana E., 2006-2010 (2 folders)
BOX 19	Murphy, Diana E., 2006-2010 (4 folders)
BOX 19	*O'Neil, Katherine H., 2010-2013 (3 folders) A use restriction applies to this oral history. Please consult a reference librarian.
BOX 20	Putzel, Constance K., 2014
BOX 20	Raeder, Myrna S., 2013 (2 folders)



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<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
BOX 20	Ramo, Roberta Cooper, 2010-2012 (2 folders)
BOX 20	Schiffer, Lois J., 2006-2011 (2 folders)
BOX 20	Shen-Jaffe, Ada, 2012
BOX 21	Shores, Janie L., 2010-2011 (2 folders)
BOX 21	Smith, Selma Moidel, 2013-2014 (2 folders)
BOX 21	Wald, Patricia M., 2006 (2 folders)
BOX 21	White, Mary Jo, 2013-2015
BOX 21	Williams, Karen Hastie, 2006