



The Anne E. Thompson Inn of Court

In 2007, Joan M. Burke, the President of the Association of Black Women Lawyers of NJ, appointed a committee to explore the possibility of creating a new chapter in the American Inns of Court. Her vision was to engender and advance the idea of assisting fellow attorneys with improving their legal and networking skills while developing a strong sense of ethics. To that end, The Anne E. Thompson Inn of Court was formed.

The Honorable Anne E. Thompson

The Honorable Anne E. Thompson was the first woman and the first Black to be appointed to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. She was also the first woman and the first Black to serve as Chief Judge of the United States District Court in New Jersey. Former President Jimmy Carter appointed her to the United States District Court in 1979. Prior to serving in this capacity, she was the first woman and the first Black to serve as a county prosecutor in New Jersey when she became the Mercer County Prosecutor. She received her Juris Doctor degree from Howard University Law School, her Master of Arts degree from Temple University and her Bachelor of Arts degree from Howard University.

Topics

*September 16, 2009
Ethics*

*October 21, 2009
Family Law
Domestic Violence*

*November 18, 2009
Municipal Practice*

*December 16, 2009
Bankruptcy Basics*

*January 20, 2010
Identity Theft*

*February 17, 2010
Collection Practice
Debtor's Rights*

*March 17, 2010
Real Estate Foreclosures &
Tax Appeals*

*April 21, 2010
Criminal Law*

*May 19, 2010
Estate Planning:
Living Wills, Trusts & Wills*

*June 16, 2010
Mock Trial
Subject: Immigration*



The

Anne E. Thompson

Inn of Court

Session 2009-2011

The American Inns of Court

The American Inns of Court is designed to improve the skills, professionalism and ethics of the bench and bar. An American Inn of Court is an amalgam of judges, lawyers, and, in some cases, law professors and law students. The Inn meets approximately once a month both to "break bread" and to hold programs and discussions on matters of ethics, skills and professionalism.

Looking for a new way to help lawyers and judges rise to higher levels of excellence, professionalism, and ethical awareness, the American Inns of Court adopted the traditional English model of legal apprenticeship and modified it to fit the particular needs of the American legal system. American Inns of Court help lawyers to become more effective advocates and counselors with a keener ethical awareness. Members learn side-by-side with the most experienced judges and attorneys in their community.

The membership is divided into "pupilage teams," with each team consisting of a few members from each membership category. Each pupilage team conducts one program for the Inn each year. Pupilage team members get together informally outside of monthly Inn meetings in groups of two or more. This allows the less-experienced attorneys to become more effective advocates and counselors by learning from the more-experienced attorneys and judges. In addition, each less-experienced member is assigned to a more-experienced attorney or judge who acts as a mentor and encourages conversations about the practice of law.

The Anne E. Thompson Inn of Court General Meeting Schedule

The general meetings are held on the third Wednesdays of the month (unless otherwise indicated) from 6 pm to 8 pm. The large group meetings from September to December will take place at

*The Trenton Club
479 W. State Street
Trenton, NJ 08618*

The 2009 – 2010 meeting dates are

*September 16, 2009
October 21, 2009
November 18, 2009
December 16, 2009
January 20, 2010
February 17, 2010
March 17, 2010
April 21, 2010
May 19, 2010
June 16, 2010*

**No meetings are scheduled for the months of July and August.*



The regional meeting locations & Lead Master Information

North Jersey

*(Essex County)
The Veterans Court House
50 W. Market Street
Newark, NJ*

*Lead Master: The Honorable Siobhan Teare,
J.S.C.*

Central Jersey

*(Monmouth County)
The Monmouth County Court House
71 Monument Park
Freehold, NJ*

Lead Master: Delores Pegram Wilson, Esq.

South Jersey

*(Burlington County)
The Law Offices of Carolyn V. Chang, Esq.
133 High Street
Mt. Holly, NJ*

Lead Master: Katherine Wade, Esq.

The Administrative Assistant for all of the above mentioned locations is Ms. Ann Watkins and her email address is law860@verizon.net