

# “THE EVOLUTION OF ATTITUDES TOWARDS INTERRACIAL RELATIONSHIPS AND THEIR LEGAL IMPLICATIONS”

**Dr. Annette Gordon-Reed**

*Special Guest Speaker*

*Author of “ The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family”*

CLE - 2 CREDITS

THE THEODORE ROOSEVELT INN OF COURT

*Hon. Michele M. Woodard, President*

&

AMISTAD LONG ISLAND BLACK BAR ASSOCIATION

*Maurice Williams, Esq, President*

May 7, 2014

**Panelists:**

Professor Deborah Post, *Moderator*

Hon. Jerald Carter, J.C.C.

Gerald Dandeneau, Esq.

Beverly Benjamin George, Esq.

Kevin Satterfield, Esq.

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CLE - 2 CREDITS  
Professional Practice

THE THEODORE ROOSEVELT INN OF COURT  
*Hon. Michele M. Woodard, President*

May 7, 2014

**PROGRAM**

- 5:30 p.m. Sign-In
- 6:10 p.m. Presentation of Dr. Annette Gordon-Reed
- 6:15 p.m. *“The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family”*
- 7:00 p.m. Introduction of Panel
- 7:05 p.m. Panel Discussion
- 8:00 p.m. Recess

**Panelists:**

- Professor Deborah Post, *Moderator*
- Hon. Jerald Carter, J.C.C.
- Gerald Dandeneau, Esq.
- Beverly Benjamin George, Esq.
- Kevin Satterfield, Esq.

## **PROFESSOR ANNETTE GORDON-REED**

Annette Gordon-Reed is a legal scholar and historian whose persistent investigation into the life of an iconic American president has dramatically changed the course of Jeffersonian scholarship. Fascinated from childhood by the Jefferson family, Gordon-Reed began a comprehensive re-examination of the evidence about the rumored committed relationship between Thomas Jefferson and his slave Sally Hemings. Independent of her responsibilities as a law professor, she wrote her first book, *Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings: An American Controversy* (1997). While the liaison had been widely alleged contemporaneously and since, it was also largely dismissed, then and later, by archivists and historians. Although she is not a formally trained historian, Gordon-Reed drew on her legal training to apply context and reasonable interpretation to the sparse documentation about the shared lives of her protagonists at Monticello, in London, and in Paris. After publication, *An American Controversy* was received skeptically by some, but her conclusions were confirmed in 1998 when DNA evidence supported the documentary evidence of Jefferson's genetic paternity. Gordon-Reed has continued her inquiry into colonial interracial relations in *The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family* (2008), which follows the Hemings family through the nineteenth century and along markedly different paths of racial assimilation and integration. In disentangling the complicated history of two distinct founding families' interracial bloodlines, Gordon-Reed is shaping and enriching American history with an authentic portrayal of our colonial past.

1. Annette Gordon-Reed received an A.B. (1981) from Dartmouth College and a J.D. (1984) from Harvard Law School. In 2010, she joined the faculty of Harvard Law School, with joint appointments as Professor of History in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Carol K. Pforzheimer Professor at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. She was previously Wallace Stevens Professor of Law at New York Law School (1992–2010) and Board of Governors Professor of History at Rutgers University, Newark (2007–2010).

## **DEBORAH W. POST**

Deborah W. Post is Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Faculty Development and Professor of Law at Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center. She began her legal career working in the corporate section of a law firm in Houston, Texas, Bracewell & Patterson, now renamed Bracewell & Guiliani. She left practice to teach at the University of Houston Law School and moved to New York to Touro Law Center in 1987. She has been a visiting professor at Syracuse Law School, DePaul Law School, and State University of New Jersey Rutgers School of Law Newark. She also has taught as an adjunct at Hofstra Law School, UMass Dartmouth and St. Johns University School of Law. Professor Post has written for and about legal education. Among her most notable publications are a book on legal education, *Cultivating Intelligence: Power, Law and the Politics of Teaching* written with a colleague, Louise Harmon and a casebook in Contract, Contracting Law, with co-authors Amy Kastely and Nancy Ota. She has been a member of the Society of American Law Teachers Board of Governors for ten years and was co-president of that organization with Professor Margaret Barry from 2008-2010.

## **HON. JERALD S. CARTER**

The Honorable Jerald Shirley Carter, the older son of Shirley and Eleanor Carter, was born on January 27, 1952 in Harlem, New York. In 1956, following the birth of their second son, Kenneth David, the Carters moved to St. Albans, Queens, where Jerald attended Saint Catherine of Sienna Elementary School. His parents, recognizing the importance of education, sent him to Holy Cross High School in Flushing, New York. There he competed on the baseball team and played clarinet in the band.

In 1970, Judge Carter entered Fisk University, a historically Black college in Nashville, Tennessee, where he played varsity baseball. During his senior year, he served as student body president and graduated cum laude in 1974 majoring in history.

Judge Carter was scouted by various major league baseball teams however, he acceded to his father's wishes and pursued a legal career. He attended his father's alma mater, The Howard University School of Law, where he excelled in criminal law winning the Jurisprudence Criminal Procedure Award. In May, 1977, he graduated #6 in a class of 126.

Upon his graduation, desirous of becoming a trial attorney, Judge Carter joined the Nassau County District Attorney's Office where he prosecuted misdemeanor and felony cases. He found the experience to be invaluable. In 1980, he entered private practice with his father specializing in criminal, labor and sports law.

In 1989, the Honorable James A. Garner, Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Hempstead, appointed Judge Carter as Associate Justice for the Village. He served with distinction for six years until his elevation in April 1996 to the Nassau County District Court. Prior to his elevation to District Court, Jerald was a partner at Carter & Ervin.

He was elected to the County Court bench in November 1997, appointed an Acting Supreme Court Justice and was recently re-elected in November 2007.

Judge Carter was a member of the Fisk University Board of Trustees and is a current member of the Board of Directors of "The Judicial Friends", an association of elected African-American Judges; Touro School of Law Board of Governors; and Judge Judith Kaye's Probation Reform Task Force. Judge Carter is a member of the Amistad Bar Associations. Among his awards Judge Carter is a recipient of the "Outstanding

Young Men in America Award”; the Norman Lent Award, for judicial excellence; The NAACP Legal Leadership Award and the COBANC *Fidelis* Jury Award, for distinguished service.

Judge Carter teaches various courses at Touro Law School as an adjunct professor where he has been recognized as the 2003 Adjunct Professor of the Year. He also serves on the schools Board of Governors. He has appeared as a television legal analyst on *Court TV, Like It Is, The McCreary Report* and *Rivera Live*.

#### **GERALD V. DANDENEAU, ESQ.**

Mr. Dandeneau concentrates his practice in the field of commercial, matrimonial, real estate, labor and ERISA litigation. He began his legal career in New York City and ultimately relocated to Long Island where he was senior counsel to the law firm of Dandeneau & Curto, LLP. Mr. Dandeneau is also former legal counsel to the firm of Curto, Barton & Alessi. Mr. Dandeneau also served in an of-counsel capacity to the firm of Bart and Schwartz, before founding Dandeneau & Lott where is currently a partner. Over the years, Mr. Dandeneau has represented a number of labor organizations in the building and construction trades, including their representative fringe benefit funds. He has concentrated his practice in commercial, matrimonial, real estate, labor and ERISA litigation, and has acted as “Of Counsel” over the years to various law firm located on Long Island. He has been a member of the Personnel Committee for the YMCAs of Metropolitan New York, which formalized all human resource policies for the YMCAs of Metropolitan New York.

Mr. Dandeneau has also represented a diverse group of clients for litigation purposes, including Creative Bath Products, Inc., Sammis-Coldwell Banker, Dairy Barn Stores, Oak Tree Dairy, Inc. and Circuit Sales International Components Corp. His representation of labor organizations has included representation before the National Labor Relations Board and the New York State Labor Relations Board. He is admitted to Federal Courts for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York and to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, where he has argued various appeals in connection with labor and employment-related matters. His litigation experience includes numerous trials at the State and Federal levels. Mr. Dandeneau has also served as a member of the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans.

Mr. Dandeneau has lived a greater portion of his life on Long Island. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree with honors from Lafayette College, Easton, PA in 1970 (major American Civilization) and a Juris Doctorate Degree from Fordham University School of Law in 1973.

#### **KEVIN H. SATTERFIELD, ESQ.**

Academic History:

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, MA - Criminal Justice

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, BA - Government

Employment History:

1996 - 2006: Suffolk County District Attorney's Office

Specialized Units:

- 1) District Court - Prosecuted all types of misdemeanor crimes,  
and conducted over 20 trials, and numerous pre-trial Hearings.
- 2) Drug Court - prosecuted drug cases: Conducted trials and pre-trial Hearings also, but with an  
emphasis on steering the accused into drug treatment.
- 3) Law Office of Kevin Satterfield

Defend clients charged with misdemeanor and felony crimes

Conduct Hearings and Trials

Also handles Personal Injury and Family Court matters



# Beverly Benjamin George, Esq.

## Law Office of Beverly Benjamin-George, P.C.

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### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal of the LAW OFFICE OF BEVERLY BENJAMIN-GEORGE, P.C., a general practice law firm located in Jamaica, Queens. My areas of practice include, but are not limited to foreclosure defense, personal injury and wrongful death litigation, Surrogate court practice, family law, general litigation and landlord-tenant law.

### EDUCATION

Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center at Touro College, Huntington, NY (2001);  
York College (CUNY), Jamaica, NY - Bachelor of Science — Management Information Systems – (1987).

### BAR ADMISSIONS

Admitted to the New York State Bar; the United States District Court— Eastern and Southern Districts.

### EDUCATOR/LECTURER

Queens College (Flushing, New York)	Adjunct Professor	2009 – Present
New York State Trial Lawyers		
• Lecture - For Paralegals: Personal Injury Practice		7/2005; 7/2004; 7/2003
National Bar Association		
•	Lecture – Foreclosure and Matrimonial Law	4/2013

### WORK HISTORY

Law Office of Beverly Benjamin-George, P.C.	Principal	2014 - Present
George Beer, LLP (Jamaica, New York)	Partner	2010 - 2014
Vernon & Associates, P.C. (Jamaica, New York)	Associate	2007 - 2009
Dansker & Aspromonte Associates (New York City)	Trial Attorney	2004—2007
Gary B. Pillersdorf, P.C. (New York City)	Law Clerk/Managing Attorney	1998—2004
SAGA, Inc. New York, NY	Account Executive/Software Trainer	1993—1998

### COMMUNITY SERVICE & VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

**Brooklyn Volunteer Lawyers Project** of the Brooklyn Bar Association.  
Volunteer attorney representing individuals filing for Chapter 7 Bankruptcy.

**Queens Volunteer Lawyers Project** of the Queens County Bar Association  
Volunteer attorney representing homeowners in foreclosure in Queens County.

**Friends Of The Antigua Public Library** – New York, Inc. - President & Founder  
Lead this advocacy non-profit, which works to promote literacy and literary arts in Antigua & Barbuda. Also lead the “Friends Book Club” and the Collecting Memories Project™, which collects oral history, short stories and photographs throughout the Antigua & Barbudan Diaspora.

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- New York State Foreclosure Defense Bar
- Women’s Bar Association – Queens Chapter
- New York State Trial Lawyers Association
- New York State Bar Association
- Amistad Long Island Black Bar Association
- Queens Volunteer Lawyers Project