

HONORABLE MICHELLE L. KAZADI



Judge Michelle L. Kazadi was appointed to the bench of the Los Angeles Superior Court by Governor Gavin Newsom on July 9, 2021.

Prior to her appointment, Judge Kazadi practiced law for more than 20 years and was designated a Certified Family Law Specialist by the California State Board of Legal Specialization. Judge Kazadi was also a seasoned mediator, specializing in high conflict family law matters. In addition to her family law litigation practice, Judge Kazadi was also an adjunct professor at West Los Angeles College, where she taught courses in law and paralegal studies.

Judge Kazadi had the privilege and honor to serve as the 46th President of Black Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, Inc. (BWL) for the 2020-2021 board year. Notwithstanding the raging pandemic, it was important to continue the great work of BWL despite all the challenges faced in this past year. In true BWL form, under Judge Kazadi's leadership, BWL continued to provide intriguing monthly meetings and seminars, made a concerted effort to honor the BWL history and maintained a strong presence in the community given the historic level of need as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Judge Kazadi instituted a direct donation campaign where BWL provided financial support to organizations that furthered the mission of BWL to promote charitable, educational and community-based services. In addition to direct donations, BWL also provided its annual Thanksgiving donation of food and gift cards to Prototypes, an organization that rebuilds the lives of women, children and communities impacted by substance use, mental illness, and domestic violence. One of the most important accomplishments during Judge Kazadi's tenure as BWL President was the roll out of the BWL pro bono initiative, *Learn, Help, Do!* This project allowed BWL to partner with three organizations whose missions are dedicated to improving the lives of vulnerable persons of color.

Judge Kazadi has a history of commitment to her community. In addition to her work with BWL, she also served on several boards for both professional and community-based non-profit organizations. Judge Kazadi's board memberships included: California Lawyers Association Family Law Executive Committee; Los Angeles County Bar Association - Access to Justice Committee; Open Paths Counseling Center; and Advisory Board member of the Diamond in the Raw Foundation.