



SUSAN B. CARBON OVW DIRECTOR



Susan B. Carbon is the Director of the United States Department of Justice’s Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). Ms. Carbon was nominated to this position by President Barack Obama on October 1, 2009 and confirmed by the United States Senate on February 11, 2010. As Director, she serves as the liaison between the Department of Justice and federal, state, tribal, and international governments on crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. In this role, she is responsible for developing the Department’s legal and policy positions regarding the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act and oversees an annual budget of nearly \$400 million.

Ms. Carbon was first appointed to the bench in 1991, and served as Supervisory Judge of the New Hampshire Judicial Branch Family Division from 1996 until 2010. She was a member of the Governor’s Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence and chaired New Hampshire’s Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee. She was Chair of the Grafton County, NH *Greenbook* Project, a collaboration of the U.S. Department of Justice and Health and Human Services to improve practice where child protection cases intersect with domestic violence. She was also Lead Model Court Judge in New Hampshire for the nation-wide initiative of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges to improve court practice surrounding child protection cases, focusing on foster care and adoption. Ms. Carbon also served as President of NCJFCJ from 2007 to 2008, and was President of the New Hampshire State Bar Association in 1993-94. Ms. Carbon has also worked with the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts on two of their major initiatives conducted at the Wingspread Conference Center, the *Family Law Reform Education Project (FLER Project)*, and *Domestic Violence and Family Courts*, dealing with differentiation of domestic violence in cases of child custody.

Ms. Carbon has trained judges and other professionals across the country and internationally on topics related to family violence, firearms, child custody, and child protection. She has published extensively on these and other topics, including on judicial selection and retention and judicial administration. Ms. Carbon served as faculty for the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence—a partnership of OVW, the Family Violence Prevention Fund, and NCJFCJ. In September 2006, she chaired “Firearms and Domestic Violence: A National Summit for Community Safety,” an initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Justice. She also chaired the project which produced the multidisciplinary *Effective Issuance and Enforcement of Orders of Protection in Domestic Violence Cases* (The Burgundy Book), a document used throughout the U.S. and its territories to guide professionals in their work around civil protection orders.

Ms. Carbon is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the DePaul University College of Law. Prior to becoming a judge, she was in private practice for a decade, and previously worked at the American Judicature Society in Chicago on a number of national court reform initiatives.

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