

March 29, 2015

Women quietly do extraordinary things every day. To help shed light on the resilience and strength of Hoosier women and celebrate their accomplishments and contributions to history we are releasing an article every day in the month of March. These articles showcase how women have moved Indiana and our country forward and who inspire others to do great things in their own lives.

Women in Indiana have an important role to play. You can make a difference by:

- Learning more about the issues affecting women in Indiana.
- Voicing your opinion on issues important to you
- Serving as an advocate for women
- Mentoring another woman
- Join ICW's mailing list or social media outlets to be notified of upcoming events, programs and resources available to women

Go to www.in.gov/icw to learn more about the Indiana Commission for Women and their current initiatives.

Learn more:

- **Judge Sarah Evans Barker** (<http://www.insd.uscourts.gov/content/judge-sarah-evans-barker>)
- **Odendahl, Marily**, (31 March 2014), "**Judge Sarah Evans Barker to take senior status**," *The Indiana Lawyer* (<http://www.theindianalawyer.com/judge-sarah-evans-barker-to-take-senior-status/PARAMS/article/33800>)

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Women's History Month 2015

Telling 31 stories in 31 days this March.

Judge Sarah Evans Barker

Judge Sarah Evans Barker became the first female federal judge in Indiana when she was appointed to the United States District Court, Southern District of Indiana, in March 1984 and served as chief judge between 1994 and 2001. Prior to her appointment, Judge Barker was United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. From 1977 to 1981, she was both an associate and partner at the Indianapolis law firm of Bose, McKinney & Evans. She started her Indianapolis legal career as an assistant United States Attorney, after working as a legislative assistant to Senator Charles H. Percy and Congressman Gilbert Gude in Washington, D.C., and special counsel to the Senate Government Operations Subcommittee.

Active throughout her career in judicial and bar-related organizations, Judge Barker served as president of the 900-member Federal Judges Association, 2007-2009, and continues her work on the FJA Board of Directors. She is also currently serving on the federal Judicial Conduct and Disability Committee, having recently been appointed by Chief Justice John G. Roberts. In 2004, she was appointed by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist to serve on the Special Study Committee on Judicial Conduct and Disability (the "Breyer Committee"). Judge Barker has served as a member of the Judicial Conference of the United States, its Executive Committee, Long Range Planning Committee, Standing Rules Committee, Budget Committee and the Judicial Branch Committee (ex-officio). She has also served on a variety of 7th Circuit committees and has been a member and officer of several bar associations.

Judge Barker is active in numerous civic, educational, cultural and religious organizations, including the State of Indiana Bicentennial Commission, having been appointed by then-Governor Mitch Daniels, the board of directors of Indiana University Health Partners, Inc. and the board of the Indiana Historical Society. She has previously served as a member of boards of trustees for several Indiana academic institutions, of the Connor Prairie Museum, the advisory board for the Spirit and Place Civic Festival, and advisory boards of Indiana University and its law schools, including participation on search committees for law school deans, an Indiana University chancellor and two presidents. She is a member of the Indiana Academy, a recipient of the Trailblazer Award given by the Indiana Commission for Women, a Living Legend awarded by the Indiana Historical Society, the Silver Gavel presented by the Indianapolis Bar Association, and a Distinguished Alumna of Indiana University. In addition, she has been awarded ten honorary degrees from Midwestern colleges and universities. Judge Barker is a member of the Downtown Kiwanis Club of Indianapolis, the Lawyers Club, and the Gathering.