Williamsburg, Va. (Nov. 20, 2014) — Judge Barbara Rodriguez Mundell (Ret.), is being inducted into the National Center for State Courts’ Warren E. Burger Society during NCSC’s Annual Recognition Luncheon November 20, 2014. The luncheon, held at the Willard InterContinental Hotel in Washington, D.C., is being hosted by Arkansas Chief Justice Jim Hannah, president of the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) and chair of the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) Board of Directors.

The Warren E. Burger Society honors individuals who have volunteered their time, talent, and support to the National Center in exceptional ways. It is named for the former Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court who helped found the NCSC in 1971.

Judge Mundell is being recognized for her tireless work protecting the legal rights of the poor and disadvantaged. She became the first female and the first Hispanic Presiding Judge of Maricopa County Superior Court in 2005. Judge Mundell served on the Arizona Judicial Council and served with distinction as chair of the Commission on Judicial Conduct and helped to create the Spanish DUI Court, one of the first in the nation, as well as developing a Mental Health Court.

Judge Mundell is a former member of the NCSC Board of Directors and has served on the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government Executive Session. She is also a member of the National Association of Women Judges.

Burger Society inductees are selected by a committee chaired by Texas attorney Charles M. Noteboom, who commissioned a portrait of Chief Justice Burger that hangs in the National Center’s headquarters in Williamsburg, Va. Each inductee receives a limited edition of that portrait, which is signed and numbered by the artist, Fran Di Giacomo.
There are 1,986 prints of the portrait, the first two of which are owned by Chief Justice Burger’s children and the last of which was owned by the late U.S. Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, who took his oath from the retiring Chief Justice Burger in 1986.

The National Center for State Courts, headquartered in Williamsburg, Va., is a nonprofit court reform organization dedicated to improving the administration of justice by providing leadership and service to the state courts. Founded in 1971 by the Conference of Chief Justices and Chief Justice of the United States Warren E. Burger, NCSC provides education, training, technology, management, and research services to the nation’s state courts.

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