



NEWS RELEASE

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Lawyers Club Executive Director Elaine Lawrence to Retire After 10 Years of Service

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SAN DIEGO – Lawyers Club of San Diego, which for nearly 50 years has advocated for the advancement of women in law and society, will bid farewell in 2021 to its longest serving executive director, Elaine Lawrence.

Lawrence, who began serving as executive director of Lawyers Club in August 2011 and has had a long career as a “servant leader” for nonprofit organizations, will retire effective April 30, 2021.

“We are deeply grateful for Elaine, who is often referred to as the rock of our organization,” Lawyers Club president Yahairah Aristy said. “I count it among my blessings that I have this opportunity to work with her and benefit from the tremendous asset of her leadership as I serve as president of Lawyers Club.”

Lawrence came to Lawyers Club from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, where she served for six years as chief of staff. Before that, she spent 11 years as executive director of Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley, Mass. She received her Bachelor’s degree from Northeastern University and her MBA from Simmons College’s Simmons School of Management in Boston.

Lawrence, who looks forward to spending time in retirement with her husband and family, said she has been pleased to see Lawyers Club survive, grow and flourish through the years. She noted that leaders of other legal nonprofits and bar associations around the country often contact her for advice and look to Lawyers Club as an example of a successful organization.

“We have come a long way,” Lawrence said. “We have grown beyond the ways typical benchmarks of total members, bank balances, and numbers of programs and attendees would reveal. Our core values speak to equality, inclusion, and diversity. Our strategic plan supports the development and empowerment of our members to succeed. Our mission to advance the status of women in the law and society is at the fore of everything we do. While the pandemic forced major adjustments to operations, we are currently in a good position to sustain the life of the organization well beyond the upcoming 50th anniversary. I am grateful to have had members’ support, trust and friendship, and I look forward to witnessing Lawyers Club’s continued success in the years to come.”

Aristy praised Lawrence for her dedication to Lawyers Club over the years.

“Since 2011, Elaine has dedicated her life to the well-being and growth of our bar association,” she said. “During her tenure as executive director, Elaine has solidified the organization’s day to day operations. She has fortified our fiscal position by nurturing relationships with sponsors and members. She has strengthened our board, staff and leadership providing steady, insightful and dynamic guidance. She has been called upon to share her wisdom with other executive directors in California and beyond. Simply stated, Elaine is a rock star, and we will miss her. Luckily for all of us, her legacy will remain as a beacon of light and a stable foundation for the new executive director.”

Lawyers Club is seeking applicants for the position of executive director and hopes to fill the position in April 2021.

About Lawyers Club of San Diego

Lawyers Club, founded in 1972 with the mission “to advance the status of women in the law and society,” has more than 1,100 members comprised of female and male attorneys, judges, elected officials, business owners, law students and others in the San Diego community, who share Lawyers Club’s mission and goals. For more information about Lawyers Club, visit www.lawyersclubsandiego.com.

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