



**ADVOCACY
IN ACTION**

ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

Legislation Watch - Take Action Today!

NCJWSTL is closely monitoring the following legislation this week and we are asking you to take action:

SB 60 - This bill, The Missouri Non Discrimination Act (MONA), prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. This is a bill that NCJWSTL has been trying to help get passed for almost 20 years. MONA would ensure that more than 180,000 LGBTQ+ Missourians (in EVERY single county and district in Missouri) will be protected from being refused employment, housing, and public services just for who they are or who they love. It is more important now than ever.



**NCJW
ACTION
ALERT**

NCJWSTL will be in Jefferson City on Wednesday to testify in support of this bill. Please contact the members of the Senate General Laws Committee and urge them to vote **YES** on SB 60. [Click here](#) for the committee's contact information.

HB 453 - This bill provides that a person who pled guilty to or was found guilty of certain sexual offenses specified in the bill will be required to pay \$5,000 in restitution payable to the state to be deposited into the Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation Fund.

This bill is currently stuck in committee.

Please contact House Judiciary Committee Chair Representative David Evans at 573-751-1455 or by [clicking here](#) and request an executive session for this bill.

HJR 43 - This bill would attack our citizen initiative process by making it harder to get a citizen initiative on the ballot and more difficult for measures to pass once on the ballot.

NCJWSTL testified in opposition to HJR 43. It has already passed the House. Please contact your Senator and urge them to vote **NO** on HJR 43 if and when it comes to the floor. [Click here](#) to find your Senator's contact information.

HB 442 - This bill would allow for a person using drug manufacturer coupons for prescriptions to count the coupon's amount toward their deductible, which is currently prohibited. NCJWSTL testified in support of this bill last week. Please contact members of the [House Health and Mental Health Policy](#) and urge them to take HB 442 to a vote and vote **YES**. [Click here](#) for the committee's contact information.

Kaffe with Kalela March Meet Up: What's Next for Israel's Democracy Crisis?



When: Wednesday, March 15 | 11:00 AM CT

Where: Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

Join NCJW Israel Program Manager Kalela Lancaster for a virtual meet up in the Kaffe with Kalela series. This month, as the Israeli government continues to push through its judicial overhaul legislation, violence flares up in the West Bank, and protests swell in numbers and intensify in tactics, Kalela will chat with Esther Solomon, Editor-in-Chief of the Haaretz English Edition. A veteran analyst and journalist, Esther will share her thoughts about what might be coming next and what she feels could set the country on a better path.

Please [click here](#) to register for what will be an insightful program.

Election Protection Volunteers Needed for St. Louis City Primary

When: Tuesday, March 7

Where: Various Locations

[Sign Up Here](#)

For the March 7th City Primary, the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition (of which NCJWSTL is a member) is seeking volunteers at selected polling locations.

Information about training & supply pickup as well as links to important information about this primary will be sent to the email address you use when you sign up.

Please [click here](#) to review available slots and to sign up. You can select more than one shift!



Urge the Senate to Pass the Background Check Expansion Act Now

**WE CAN END
GUN VIOLENCE**

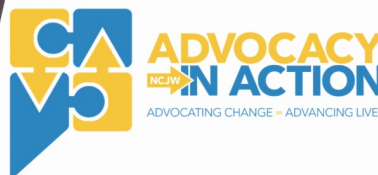
Just a few months after the horrific massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary, the Senate failed to pass a universal background check bill. Since then, there have been hundreds of mass shootings. **Now, the Senate just introduced a new background check bill** – and we need to make sure this lifesaving legislation advances as soon as possible.

[The Background Check Expansion Act](#) will require background checks for the sale or transfer of all firearms. This requirement extends to all unlicensed sellers, whether they do business online, at gun shows, or out of their home.

97% of Americans support universal background checks, and it's time for Congress to finally move this important legislation forward.

[Click here](#) to urge Senators Hawley and Schmitt to pass the Background Check Expansion Act.

March Lunch and Learn - Courts Matter to All of Us



Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT

Nicole Gorovsky

When: Thursday, March 16 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM CT

Where: Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

Did you know? 100 cases or fewer each term are typically heard by the US Supreme Court. The majority of decisions are made in the federal district and appellate courts. Federal judges make decisions that impact women, children, and families every day. Federal court decisions impact every aspect of our lives such as our ability to start a family when we choose, our religious freedoms, and our voting rights. Unfortunately, how the courts work can be confusing to a lot of us and may seem incredibly daunting. NCJWSTL has been a leading voice in the fight to ensure a fair and independent judiciary, and we are so fortunate to have as our March Lunch and Learn speaker one of the area's top courts experts (and NCJWSTL Board Member), Nicole Gorovsky.

Nicole Gorovsky is an attorney at Jenkins and Kling representing businesses in litigation. Her practice focuses on complex business and commercial litigation.

Nicole began her career in 2001 as an Assistant Attorney General in Missouri doing appellate work. She then became an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Boone County, Missouri where she prosecuted hundreds of homicides, sex crimes, and crimes against children. Then, Nicole was honored to be a Federal Prosecutor doing complex criminal litigation and appeals.

In 2011, Nicole went into private practice to do complex civil litigation including representing victims of sexual assault, bullying, and other crimes. Nicole has participated in over 50 trial, both Federal and State. She has argued in the Missouri Supreme Court, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, and in each district of the Missouri Court of Appeals.

Please [click here](#) to register for the March Lunch and Learn. Questions? Email Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org or call 314.993.5181

Take Action & Join the A-List



Now more than ever you will want to make sure that your name is on NCJWSTL's A-List for 2023! Join us as we stand together and speak out about the issues that matter most.

Together we can make a difference!

A-List sponsorship ads sustain our collaborative efforts to educate the community and elected officials about issues integral to our mission, such as birth control access and voting rights. The full-page ads will run in the St. Louis Jewish Light during 2023.

- **\$18** includes your name in the ad.
- **\$54** makes you an Advocate Plus with your name in bold.
- **\$72** makes you a sponsor with your name distinguished in color

[Click here](#) to see the A-List flyer.
[Click here](#) to see the latest A-List Ad.
Join the A-list [here](#).

Interesting Reading



At our most recent board meeting, NCJWSTL was fortunate to have Rabbi Daniel Bogard from Central Reform Congregation speak to us about the relentless attacks on his family and others from the Missouri legislature. Rabbi Bogard's son is transgender, and he often speaks about how it's not his son's peers, school or community that is bullying him. It's our state legislature. His family was recently interviewed for the Washington Post, and it's an incredibly eye opening and harrowing article.

[Click here](#) to read Ariana Eunjung Cha's article from The Washington Post, "Our State is at War With our Family": Clergy With Trans Kids Fight Back."

Want to help people seeking access to reproductive healthcare in our region?

Here is an opportunity to make a "hands-on" difference in someone's life...

NCJWSTL has partnered with local clinics to provide direct support services to patients. Help us help women in our region by ordering from our [Amazon Wish List](#). These items will be stocked at the clinics for patients in need. NCJWSTL volunteers will coordinate and deliver everything to the clinics.

- Please [click here](#) for the NCJWSTL Clinic Wish List.
- Please make sure that NCJWSTL is the shipping address when you place an order (295 N. Lindbergh Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63141).

****Thanks in advance for your help and support****

**Donate to Support NCJWSTL &
Transform Our Community**

NCJWSTL | I25

CREATING CHANGE AND IMPACTING LIVES SINCE 1895



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Celebrating Exceptional
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BBB Serving Eastern & Southwest Missouri &
Southern Illinois

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