

## Legislation Focus of Women's Lawyers In '81

RALEIGH—The North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys in its first 1981 Governing Board Meeting mobilized to make enactment of legislation affecting women one of its major priorities. The four legislative issues supported by the association are equitable distribution of marital property upon divorce, increased and additional medical care for poor women including Medicaid for pregnant women and continued state funding of abortions for poor women, day care licensing standards and the Equal Rights Amendment.

The Equitable Distribution of Property Bill will lessen the severity of the current harsh law under which a woman would receive nothing upon divorce if her name is not on the title of any of the family property. That bill was endorsed by Governor Hunt in his "State of the State" address to the legislators.

The association supports pre-natal care for poor women under the Medicaid program and the right of a poor woman to choose to terminate a pregnancy. In an effort to provide support to the family, NCAWA supports proposed changes in day care licensing laws, particularly those which provide grades that indicate to parents the type of child care offered. NCAWA continues its support of the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

The 1981 officers of the association are Ellen W. Gerber, President, Winston-Salem; Angela R. Bryant, Vice-President, Raleigh; Leslie Winer, Secretary, Charlotte; and Linda Mace McGee, Treasurer, Boone. The North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys will vigorously renew its efforts to increase the number of female state judges, to elect the first woman to the North Carolina State Bar Council and have the first woman appointed to the North Carolina Board of Law Examiners. Although ten percent of the North Carolina lawyers are female, and although one-third of the current law school graduating classes are female, only four out of 134 district court judges are female, there are no female superior court judges, and only one out of 17 appellate court judges is female. There has never been a woman on the Council of the North Carolina State Bar, the state agency which governs and regulates the practice of law in the state, or the North Carolina Board of Law Examiners, the state agency which tests and licenses lawyers.

The members of the 1981 NCAWA Governing Board are Ms. Sharon Thompson, Durham; Ms. Jackie Morris-Goodson, Wilmington; Ms. Judy Kornegay, Greenville; Ms. Carolyn McAllister, Durham; Ms. Gwyneth Davis, Winston-Salem; Ms. Desiree White, Raleigh; Anne Duvoisin, Charlotte; Ms. Alex Jordan, Burlington; Ms. Linda Klein, law student member, UNC Law School, and Ms. Alice Penny, paralegal, Raleigh, associate member.

## Assemblywoman Waters Joins ESSENCE Board of Directors

NEW YORK—Edward Lewis, chairman of the board of ESSENCE Communications, Inc. (ECI), announced today the appointment of California State Assemblywoman Maxine Waters to the corporation's board of directors.

Ms. Waters, a former presidential appointee to the National Advisory Committee for Women by the Carter administration, has had a distinguished career in public service. At the beginning of this legislative year, she was elected majority whip by her colleagues and was appointed by assembly speaker, Leo McCarthy to the Legislature's Commis-



Ms. Waters

sion on the Status of Women. She was a delegate and chairperson of the Black Women's Caucus to the International Women's Year Conference in Houston, Texas and was cited by Time magazine as one of the outstanding leaders at the Conference. Ms. Waters has also served as Chief Deputy for Los Angeles City Councilman David Cunningham—the first black woman to reach that rank in Los Angeles history—and played a leading role in the successful campaigns of United States Senator Alan Cranston and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley.

Ms. Waters is the founder of Black Women's Forum, an organization of over 1,000 women, designed to involve black women in community activities. She has been an outspoken voice for child care, consumer protection, small business development and equal rights for minorities and women.

Commenting on Ms. Waters' appointment to the ECI board of directors, chairman Lewis said that he considered her to be one of the outstanding women leaders of the eighties and that her extensive knowledge of the problems affecting black women today, would serve as a valuable asset to the corporation.

'Accent Beauty Book' Seeks To Aid In Beauty

Col-Bob Associates, Inc. announces the publication of *Accent Beauty: A Beauty and Health Guide for Today's Black Woman* by Ms. Rosalind Johnson.

While working as editor of a Black beauty magazine, Ms. Johnson saw a need for more information about beauty care especially written for black women.

*Accent Beauty* gives information on hair care including the ancient African art of cornrowing so popular today, skin and body care, make-up, diet and exercise. Also included is a handy guide to black professional hair, skin and make-up services.

*Accent Beauty* is priced at \$3.95 and may be purchased by mail from Col-Bob Associates, Inc., 2541 Adam Clayton Powell Blvd., New York, New York 10039. Please include 65 cents for postage and handling.

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