



International Federation of Women Lawyers
(FEDERACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE ABOGADAS)
Grand Bahama Chapter

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
International Women's Day 2026

The International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) Grand Bahama Honors the Life and Legacy of Jethlyn Aletha Burrows

On this International Women's Day, the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) Grand Bahama Chapter proudly honors the life and enduring legacy of Mrs. Jethlyn Aletha Burrows, née Musgrove — an esteemed Counsel and Attorney-at-Law, former judicial officer, and devoted advocate for justice, equality, and women's rights.

Born on October 9, 1955, in Nassau, New Providence, Mrs. Burrows embodied academic excellence and public service from an early age. A distinguished graduate of Queen Mary College, University of London, she initially pursued a career in education, earning advanced qualifications in teaching before answering her calling to the law. She was admitted to The Bahamas Bar in 1988, marking the beginning of a formidable legal career defined by intellect, integrity, and service.

Over the course of more than three decades, Mrs. Burrows served the Commonwealth of The Bahamas with distinction. Her career spanned private practice, public service, and the judiciary. She held pivotal roles within the Ministry of Consumer Affairs and the Registrar General's Department, where she played a foundational role in establishing and leading the Freeport branch. In 1995, she was appointed Stipendiary and Circuit Magistrate, later advancing to Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court and Vice President of the Bahamas Industrial Tribunal's Northern Region, where she adjudicated complex labor and industrial disputes with fairness and precision.

Following her retirement from the judiciary in 2011, Mrs. Burrows returned to private practice, eventually establishing Musgrove Burrows Law Chambers in 2016. Her work spanned employment law, family law, civil litigation, and alternative dispute resolution, reflecting both breadth and depth of expertise. In 2020, she earned a Diploma in International Arbitration from the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, further strengthening her commitment to progressive and equitable legal processes.

It was within FIDA, however, that Mrs. Burrows' global impact on women's rights was most profoundly felt. A member since 1993, she rose to serve as Regional Vice President for North America and the Caribbean and, notably, as International President from 2014 to 2017. During her tenure, she championed initiatives advancing gender equality, access to justice, and legal

protections for women and girls worldwide. She also proudly hosted FIDA's 36th International Convention on Grand Bahama in 2017 — a historic milestone for the region and a testament to her leadership on the world stage. It was during the 38th Triennial Convention held in Cali, Colombia, from the 4th to the 8th November 2024 that Jethlyn was awarded the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award, in recognition of her exemplary commitment to advancing the organization's goals and her lifetime dedication to women's rights and the legal profession. This award, a high honor presented at each Triennial International Convention, is given to a prominent female attorney who epitomizes the values and mission of FIDA.

Beyond the courtroom, Mrs. Burrows was a dedicated Anglican, long-standing Vestry member, community servant, and mentor. A Distinguished Toastmaster and active member of Pilot International, she believed deeply in service, leadership development, and uplifting others. She balanced her professional accomplishments with devotion to her family, sharing 39 years of marriage with her husband, Wilfred "Gary" Burrows who predeceased her, and raising two sons grounded in the same values of integrity and service that defined her life.

Mrs. Burrows' untimely passing has left a profound void within the legal community, the women's movement, and the nation at large. Yet her legacy endures — in the institutions she strengthened, the women she empowered, the laws she helped shape, and the countless lives she touched.

On this International Women's Day, FIDA Grand Bahama honors Mrs. Jethlyn Aletha Burrows posthumously in recognition of her extraordinary contribution to the advancement of women's rights, the administration of justice, and the development of legal leadership in The Bahamas and beyond. Her life stands as a powerful reminder that leadership rooted in integrity, compassion, and courage leaves a lasting imprint on generations to come.