

## CV of LaDORIS HAZZARD CORDELL

### **Education:**

B.A., Antioch College, 1971  
J.D., Stanford Law School, 1974

### **Professional:**

#### **May 2010-July 2015: Independent Police Auditor, City of San Jose**

Appointed by the Mayor and San Jose City Council following a national search. Elevated the profile of the office to national prominence.

Conducted intakes of citizen complaints; participated in Internal Affairs (IA) interviews of subject officers; audited 1,300 investigations of citizen complaints conducted by IA; made 92 recommendations to SJPD to improve its policies and procedures, such as,

- the collection and analysis of stop data (pedestrians and vehicles),
- the utilization of body-worn cameras,
- expansion of the definition of use of force to include provocation and proportionality, and
- prohibition of choke holds.

Consulted by the Kenyan government and a United Nations consultant, the New York City Police Monitor, community groups in Pasadena and Santa Rosa, CA, Greensboro, North Carolina, Dallas, Texas, Sonoma County, and Oakland, California; Stanford University, Washington State civilian oversight office, New Mexico's police oversight commissioner, National Council on Crime and Delinquency, Washington D.C., Colorado civilian oversight office, the University of Minnesota, and the California Highway Patrol,

#### **January, 2003-to 2017: On-camera legal analyst for CBS-5 News**

#### **January 2004- January 2008: Palo Alto City Councilmember**

In this contested citywide election, ran a successful grassroots campaign in which she accepted no monetary contributions. Led the successful effort to bring independent civilian oversight of the police to the City of Palo Alto.

#### **March 2001-January 2009: Vice Provost and Special Counselor to the President for Campus Relations, Stanford University**

Supervised the Office for Campus Relations, that included five offices with 30 employees (Ombuds, Sexual Harassment Policy, WorkLife, Diversity & Access, and The Help Center); reported directly to the President of the university; prepared the university's annual affirmative action plan, advised university management on matters related to equal employment opportunity and non-discrimination, and was the university's Title IX Compliance Officer.

In 2008, conducted the university's NCAA Certification process that resulted in Stanford's athletic program's certification for ten years.

Interviewed Anita Hill, Julian Bond, Jocelyn Elders, Faye Wattleton and Billie Jean King at public events sponsored by the university.

Created the Community Treasures program that recognized the community service of Stanford University staff.

Conducted the university's sexual harassment trainings of staff and faculty.

**June 1988- February 2001: Judge of the Superior Court**, Santa Clara County, San Jose, California (elected in 1988 in a county-wide contested election)

Presiding Judge of the Superior Court Appellate Department, 1993

Supervising Judge of the Master Settlement Calendar, 1993  
(implemented an innovative approach to settling complex family, probate, criminal, dependency, and delinquency cases)

Supervising Judge of the Family Court, 1990-1992  
Created Supervised Visitation Project, the first of its kind in the nation, where senior citizens monitor court-ordered visits between children and non-custodial parents.

Implemented case management system in the family court that resulted in more efficient and humane handling of family cases; backlog of cases awaiting trial dates was reduced from several months to 8 weeks; settlement rate increased from 70% to 96%.

Designed and conducted educational programs for family court lawyers and litigants, including training program for paralegals, orientation videotape for litigants, programs on representing children in family court, and training program for pro tem judges.

Supervising Judge of the Probate Court, 1994-1995  
Created the G.R.E.A.T. Project (Guardianship Review and Evaluation Assessment Team) in which private citizens volunteered to monitor children who are placed in court-ordered guardianships.

**April 1982- June 1988: Judge of the Municipal Court**, Santa Clara County, San Jose, California (appointed in 1982 by Governor Jerry Brown)

Presiding Judge, 1985-1986; restructured the calendaring system to diversify case assignments for judges resulting in greater efficient in handling cases

Justice Pro Tem, State Court of Appeal, Sixth District, 1986 (3-month assignment, appointed by the Chief Justice of the California Supreme

Court), authored eleven opinions, one of which was certified for publication.

First judge in California to order convicted drunk drivers to install breath devices in their vehicles. These devices are now mandated throughout the country.

Established the first formal restitution program for crime victims in Santa Clara County in partnership with the National Conference of Christians & Jews, Santa Clara County

Created an educational video program for high school students entitled “You Be the Judge”

**September 1978-April 1982: Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Stanford Law School**

Implemented a minority recruitment program that made Stanford Law School the leader in the nation in its enrollment and retention of law students of color

**1976-1982: Private Practice, East Palo Alto, California**

First attorney to open a private law practice in East Palo Alto, a predominately African American and Mexican American community; law practice included criminal defense, personal injury, family law, and federal civil rights litigation

**1975-1976: Earl Warren Intern, NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund**

First person in the western region of the United States to receive an Earl Warren Fellowship

**Community Service:**

Interviewer/Moderator for the Commonwealth Club of Northern California. Interviewees included David Brooks, Ralph Nadar, Tavis Smiley, Randall Kennedy, Ian Haney-Lopez, Adam Benferado, Talib Kweli, Kim Kardashian, President Obama’s Senior White House Advisor Valerie Jarrett, Leslie Stahl of “60 Minutes,” and Caitlyn Jenner.

Chairperson (pro bono) of Blue Ribbon Commission on Custodial Operations of the Santa Clara County Jails in aftermath of the murder of a mentally ill inmate by jail guards. (2016)

Member (pro bono) of San Francisco District Attorney’s Blue Ribbon Panel’s investigation into misconduct of SF police officers involved in texting scandal’s. (2016)

Chairperson of Task Force on Racial Discrimination, San Jose State University after racial bullying of an African American student came to light. (2014)

Co-founder of African American Composer Initiative (2014)

Advisory Board, Stanford Medical Youth Science Program (2005-2009)

Board of Trustees, Stanford Charter Schools (2005-2009)

Board of Trustees, Mills College, Oakland, CA (1995-2001)

Board of Trustees, United Way of Santa Clara County (1990-1999)  
Board of Trustees, National Conference for Community & Justice (1995-2006))  
Board of Trustees, Lucile Packard Foundation for Children (1994-2006)  
Board of Directors, Community Working Group, Inc. (2004-2008))  
Advisory Board, East Palo Alto Mural Art & Music Project (current)  
Board of Trustees, Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (1993-1995)  
Sponsor and participant in AIDS Walk, Santa Clara County (2003)  
Founder, African American Donor Task Force (to increase the donor pool of African Americans for blood, bone marrow and organs, 1990-1992)  
Project Diversity Steering Committee for City of San Jose (task force formulated a policy adopted by the City Council which opened the city's boards and commissions to people of color, 1991)  
Advisory Committee, San Francisco Family Violence Project (1987)  
Chairperson, Board of Directors, East Palo Alto Community Law Project (1982-1985)

1988: participant in South Africa's first Human Rights Conference; while in that country, was detained by the South African police; was the subject of an award-winning PBS documentary "Color of Justice" based upon that South Africa visit.  
1996: public exhibition and auction of her art work was held at the Palo Alto City Hall and at Foothill College; all proceeds from the sale of the drawings were donated to the Support Network for Battered Women, and Child Advocates of Santa Clara County.  
1998, 1999, and 2000, 2015: created calendars which featured her original cartoons for Legal Advocates for Children and Youth, the East Palo Alto Mural & Music Project, and the Teen Leadership Council, nonprofit organizations. Calendar sales generated several thousand dollars for the organizations.  
2002: a public exhibition and auction of her art work was held at Palo Alto City Hall; all proceeds were donated to the East Palo Alto Mural Art Project.

Featured in highly acclaimed documentaries:

"Cruel & Unusual" (California's 3-strikes law)  
"Color of Justice" (detention by South African police)  
"Retro Report- NY Times/" (3-strikes law)  
"Juvenile Justice"

Guest appearances include "Court TV," "The Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell" (MSNBC), NPR's "Sunday Weekend Edition," KQED television and radio, NPR's "Tell Me More," "Democracy Now!," "The Montel Williams Show," CBS, NBC, ABC local news, "Good Morning, America," and "Nightline."

#### **Awards and Honors:**

Featured in San Francisco Magazine's "Resistance" issue, February, 2017  
Leadership Award, Office of the District Attorney of San Francisco, 2017  
Crystal Gavel Award, California Association of Black Lawyers, Judicial

Section, 2017

Inducted into Black Legends Hall of Fame of Silicon Valley, 2017  
Chief Justice Earl Warren Civil Liberties Award, ACLU of Northern California, 2016  
Woman of Impact Award, Notre Dame High School, 2016  
Inducted into Stanford University's Multicultural Hall of Fame, 2016  
Community Builder Award, Silicon Valley People Acting In Community, 2015  
James McEntee, Sr. Lifetime Achievement Award, Santa Clara County Human Relations Commission, 2014  
Woman of the Year in Advocacy, Silicon Valley Chapter, National Council of 100 Black Women, 2014  
William E. B. Dubois Award, Silicon Valley NAACP, 2014  
Commendation, San Jose Human Rights Commission, 2013  
John W. Gardner Leadership Award, American Leadership Forum of Silicon Valley, 2012  
Don Edwards Defender of Constitution Liberty Award, ACLU, Santa Clara Valley Chapter, 2011  
Award of Excellence, Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund, 2006  
Community Service Award, Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, 2005  
Rose Bird Memorial Award, California Women Lawyers, 2004  
Gandhi, King, Ikeda Community Builders Award, 2004  
Named "Trial Judge of the Year" by the Santa Clara County Trial Lawyers Association, 2001  
Rosa Parks Ordinary People Award, NAACP, San Jose, 1999  
Josephine and Frank Duveneck Humanitarian Award, 1998  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Award, San Jose Peace Center, 1998  
Elected President of the United States by the Girls Scouts of Santa Clara County, 1996  
Youth Service Award, Legal Advocates for Children & Youth, 1996  
Unsung Heroes Award, Minority Access Committee of the Santa Clara County Bar Association, 1996  
Social Justice Award, San Francisco Women's Centers, 199  
Legal Impact Award, Asian Law Alliance, San Jose, 1996  
Advocate for Justice Award, Legal Aid Society of Santa Clara County, 1996  
Special Recognition Award for Community Service, Human Relations Commission, Santa Clara County, 1994  
San Jose Baha'i Community Service Award, 1992  
Don Peters Volunteer of the Year Award, United Way of Santa Clara County, 1990  
Distinguished Citizen Award, Exchange Club of San Jose and San Jose City Council, 1989  
Mayor Janet Gray Hayes Public Service Award, 1989  
Iola Williams Public Service Award, 1988  
Juliette Gordon Low Award, Girl Scouts of Santa Clara County, 1987 (first recipient)  
Woman of Achievement Award, Santa Clara County, 1985  
Achievement Award, Western Center on Domestic Violence, 1986  
Community Involvement Award, East Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce, 1982, 1983  
Outstanding Black Woman Award, Mid-Peninsula YWCA, 1983  
Public Service Award, National Council of Negro Women, 1982

**Professional Memberships:**

American Law Institute

**Publications:**

“Before Brown v. Board of Education---Was It All Worth it?”  
Howard Law Journal, Vol. 23, No. 1, 1980

“The Appearance of Justice: Judges’ Verbal and Nonverbal Behavior in Criminal Jury Trials,” Stanford Law Review, Vol. 38, No. 1, 1985 (an oft-cited landmark study of judicial behavior, co-authored with Professors Peter Blanck and Robert Rosenthal)

“Black Immigration: Disavowing the Stereotype of the Shiftless Negro,”  
Judges Journal, Spring, 1986)

“Musings of a Trial Court Judge,” Indiana Law Journal, Vol. 68, issue 4, 1993 (co-authored with Florence O. Keller, Ph.D.)

“The Joy of Judging,” Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Review, Vol. 43, No. 2, Summer 2008

Various opinion pieces published in Slate, Salon, SF Chronicle, San Jose Mercury News, and KQED radio’s “Perspectives.”

Quoted or featured in articles in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times, the San Francisco Chronicle, and the San Jose Mercury News.