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September 14, 2021

### **The Hon. G. Helen Whitener Selected as Keynote for 2021 ICSEW Empowered Women, Empower Women Conference**

OLYMPIA—The [Interagency Committee of State Employed Women](http://www.icsew.wa.gov) (ICSEW) and Washington State [Women's Commission](http://www.wa.gov/women) (WSWC) have selected the Honorable G. Helen Whitener as the keynote speaker for the 2021 [Empowered Women Empower Women](http://www.icsew.wa.gov) Professional Development Conference.

The annual conference is the ICSEW's largest event. It draws more than 500 people each year and offers a variety of training sessions designed to help attendees grow and develop as leaders. The conference takes place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, November 2 via Zoom Webinar.

Cost is \$25. Visit ICSEW's website for registration information, <https://icsew.wa.gov/annual-events/pro-dev-conference/>.

Justice G. Helen Whitener was appointed to the Washington State Supreme Court in April 2020 and she was elected by the voters to retain her position on the State Supreme Court in November 2020.

Justice Whitener is the first Black woman to serve on the Washington Supreme Court, the fourth immigrant-born Justice and the first Black LGBT judge in the State of Washington. Justice Whitener is often invited to speak to organizations locally, nationally, and internationally on human rights, access to justice, and the responsibility of the judiciary to ensure the right of all who appear before the court to basic dignity and respect in judicial proceedings.

Together we can empower ourselves and those around us. Come and learn from women across the state about Diversity, Equity and Belonging. You will get to hear about what is happening in current times and will be able to take back to your workspaces tools to empower yourselves and those you serve.

This year's conference topics will emphasize diversity, equity and belonging. Complete presentation descriptions will be posted on the ICSEW website and Facebook page in the weeks leading up to the conference.

ICSEW members are governor-appointed state-employees from various agencies. The ICSEW seeks to better the lives of state employees through advocacy, outreach, opportunity, and by advising the Governor and agencies on policies that affect state-employed women. For more information about the ICSEW visit, <https://icsew.wa.gov>

To learn more about the WSWC and the work we are doing to improve the lives of women and girls in Washington, visit our website at <https://wswc.wa.gov/>.

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