



Avel Gordly

word article describing the realities of being Black in Portland that she sold to the Oregonian in 1937. It was the first time the newspaper paid an African American writer for a story, and Bogle would contribute many more articles to the Oregonian over the years.

**Beatrice Morrow Cannady (1899-1974)**

Beatrice Morrow Cannady was the most noted civil rights activist in early 20th century Oregon. Using her position as editor



Denorval Unthank

of the Advocate, Oregon's largest, and at times the only African American newspaper, Cannady launched numerous efforts to defend the civil rights of the approximately 2,500 African Americans in the state (in 1930) and to challenge racial discrimination in its varied forms.

**Mercedes Deiz (1917-2005)**

Mercedes Deiz was the first Black woman admitted to the Oregon State Bar and, when she was sworn in as a judge of the Multnomah County District Court on January 6, 1970, became the first woman of



Mercedes Deiz



Hattie Redmond

color to be an Oregon judge. That appointment also made her the only woman then serving in that capacity.

**Avel Gordly (1947-)**

In 1996, Avel Louise Gordly became the first African American woman elected to the Oregon State Senate. Her legislative record includes an array of initiatives that focus on cultural competency in education, mental health, and the administration of justice.

**Ancer L. Haggerty (1944-)**

Ancer L. Haggerty was the first African American to become a partner in a major Portland law firm and the first to serve as a judge on the federal court in Oregon.

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