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2021 - 2022

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In Brief

The Quarterly Publication of the
Federal Judicial Assistants Association

Letter from the President

Judith Stoyko

“And suddenly you just know that it’s time to start something new and trust the magic of beginning.” ~Meister Eckhart

Spring has sprung! I hope this finds you well and happy.

Although the FJAA 2022 conference in Tucson, Arizona, is still several months away, I am already looking forward to it. Mark your calendars for September 15-17! Remember, you must be a member of FJAA to attend the conference, so be sure you have paid your 2022 dues. Registration information will be coming out soon – be on the lookout! The conference committee is working diligently to assure that we have a robust agenda with interesting and knowledgeable speakers. Aside from the educational aspect of our annual meeting, there is the opportunity to make new friends and catch up with colleagues you don’t often see. This year’s conference hotel is fabulous, and you won’t want to miss this opportunity to visit the beautiful city of Tucson!

As you know, officers for the next year are sworn in at our annual conference. The FJAA will hold an election this summer for the first time since 2019 (because of COVID). Staci Momii of the Ninth Circuit will chair the Nominations and Elections Committee and will distribute and tally the ballots. If you are interested in running for office, please let Staci or me know. Specifically, the offices of secretary and treasurer will be vacant as Debby Sawyer and Yvette Garcia, respectively, have termed out. Also, a representative is still needed for the Fifth Circuit. Don’t be shy! Take this opportunity to get involved in your association. You will learn a lot about how the organization works, and you will grow personally in the process.

Judy Stoyko,
FJAA President



THE FJAA ARIZONA CONFERENCE COMMITTEE WELCOMES YOU TO JOIN US!!!

FJAA 2022 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

WE ARE BACK... LET'S PIVOT FORWARD TOGETHER IN 2022

Thursday, September 15 thru Saturday 17, 2022

We have all been waiting to meet in person and now the time has come!!

REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 16, 2022

*IT WILL BE AN EXCEPTIONAL CONFERENCE IN A BEAUTIFUL SETTING LOCATED IN
TUCSON, AZ*

20th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

(FJAA HONORING THE OCTOBER 2002 MERGING OF ASSOCIATIONS—

FJAA EST 1972 MERGED WITH FMJSA EST 1995)

SHINING A LIGHT ON YOUR HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN THE JUDICIAL CHAMBERS

SNEAK PEEK

WELCOME FROM AZ JUDGE'S

TRAINING SESSIONS AO SPEAKERS LIFE COACH SPEAKERS

AWARDS

ENTERTAINMENT

EARLY BIRD MEMBERSHIP DRAWING

"TAKE ME TO YOUR COURTHOUSE" DRAWING
(FOR MOE DETAILS SEE THE LETTER FROM THE EDITOR)

... and more

VISIT THE WEBSITE CONFERENCE TAB FOR THE REGISTRATION FORM AND AGENDA

WWW.FJAA.NET

YOU MUST BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER TO ATTEND

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT!!!

FJAA AZ Conference Committee

**Tracy Young, Pres-Elect & Conference Chair, Yvette Garcia, Treasurer & AZ Co-Chair, Julia Rudnick,
Vee Maisel, Gaby Ma, Yvonne Herran, Karen Straub, Elida Carranza and Armida Herrera**

**FJAA SCHOLARSHIP
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: 05/31/2022**

Members, and in particular new members, remember that we offer a great educational perk!

The FJAA Scholarship Program is administered by the Professional Development & Continuing Education Committee (PDCEC). The program was formed to enable and assist members in good standing to pursue educational goals and professional development by providing additional job-enhancing knowledge and skills. Eligible requests include educational courses, seminars and workshops. COVID has still very much changed the way we all work and interact, and the scholarship program has been experiencing a hiatus. However, a **scholarship of up to \$750.00 is available for award in June 2022.**

The course or training program for which the scholarship is used does not have to be applied toward a degree, but must be work- or career-related so that it benefits both the court and the individual recipient.

Please take advantage of the opportunities this excellent program offers. The scholarship recipient will be able to utilize the award to enhance skills and personal growth, which will in turn increase the recipient's value as an asset to the court. Why not apply for that job-related course you've always wanted to take, or that seminar that will help you brush up on vital skills? Additionally, COVID has seen a vast increase in educational programs offered online, so be sure and include online programs when considering advancing your job skills. Be creative, think outside the box, and apply!

The application, along with additional scholarship information, can be found on the website at fjaa.net and must be **submitted to me by email** by May 31, 2022.

For other questions or inquiries, please contact:

Emily J. Smith, Scholarship Chair
731-421-9206
emily.smith@tnwd.uscourts.gov

U.S. District Court
111 S. Highland Ave., Room 444
Jackson, TN 38301



Association News and Upcoming Events

AND THE WINNER IS...



Thank you to all who participated in the membership drive and the Early Bird Special! There were 153 entrants this year! We are happy to announce that a winner of the \$100 has been randomly selected for 2022.

Congratulations to:

Debbie Baker

Judicial Assistant to Judge Jon P. McCalla

Memphis, TN

Letter from the Editor

I hope you all enjoy this edition of *In Brief*. I don't know about you, but I truly enjoy the pictures and histories of the courthouses we have featured in this edition. Each featured courthouse is the home court of one your FJAA Circuit Representatives or officers. I am enjoying the pictures and stories so much that I invite you to send in photos and stories for inclusion in a special edition of *In Brief* called *Take Me to Your Courthouse*, which will be published on August 15, 2022. Please send them directly to me at Cathy.Geier@ilcd.uscourts.gov prior to August 1, 2022, for inclusion in this special edition. All who participate will have their names entered into a drawing which will be held at the conference banquet, so get your courthouse stories in!

Speaking of the July *In Brief*, the newsletter staff, along with the FJAA Board of Directors and Circuit Representatives, have decided on a new look for your quarterly newsletter. The new format will debut in July. After all, what better time to debut a new look than 2022, the year that we are finally getting back to normal, resuming pre-pandemic activities, and, most exciting of all, preparing to attend our first FJAA Educational Conference since 2019!

Thank you so much for being a member of FJAA! I look forward to seeing more of your courthouse pictures and stories in the coming months.

Cathy Geier
Editor/Chair, Newsletter Committee

FIRST CIRCUIT

Christie Piche

Portland, ME

Edward T.
Gignoux U.S.
Courthouse
Portland, ME



District of Maine

Submitted by Christie Piche

In Maine, we have two Federal Courthouses that are about 130 miles apart. The first one is the Edward T. Gignoux Courthouse—156 Federal Street, Portland Maine



Construction of this Courthouse began in November, 1908. The building was completed in February, 1911 and dedicated on July 20, 1911. James Knox Taylor (1857-1929), the Supervising Architect of the United States Treasury from 1897 to 1912, designed the building in the Second Renaissance Revival style.

Knox designed a trapezoidal building with an interior courtyard to be constructed in two phases. The U-shaped first phase of construction was completed in 1911. In 1931-32, under the direction of James A. Wetmore, Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury Department, Knox's original design was completed, closing the U.

In 1988, the U.S. Courthouse was renamed in honor of Judge Edward T. Gignoux, a veteran of 26 years on the bench, who had gained notoriety when he presided over the contempt trial of activists who attempted to disrupt the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in 1968.

In 1996, the courthouse underwent extensive modernization, which added two new courtrooms in the 1931-32 addition. The principal features and details of the first and second floors of the 1911 construction were rehabilitated and restored. As a result of the project, the Edward T. Gignoux U.S. Courthouse was awarded an Institutional Preservation Award from Greater Portland Landmarks in 1999.

Margaret Chase Smith Federal Building and Courthouse

202 Harlow Street, Bangor Maine

The Margaret Chase Smith Federal Building and Courthouse, located near the Kenduskeag Stream in Bangor, Maine, was constructed in 1968 and includes court and federal agency office functions. It is considered to be an important example of regional mid-century architecture. It was named after a congresswoman and senator from Maine who was the first woman to serve in both houses in Congress and the first woman to represent Maine in both.



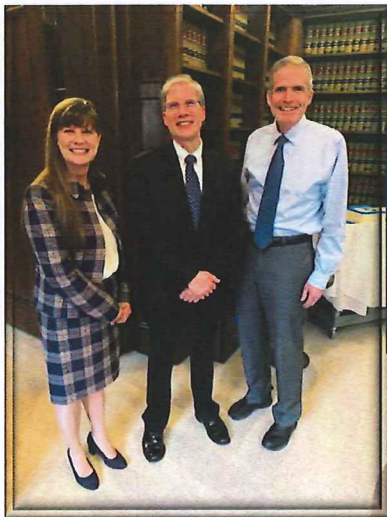
FIRST CIRCUIT— Continued...

Judge News ...

Maine:



HON. D. BROCK HORNBY RETIRES as of
2/28/22



US MAGISTRATE JUDGE JOHN H. RICH III retired on of April 1, 2022 – Per his wishes we held a very small ceremony for him.

Pictured: New Magistrate Judge Wolf on the left, Judge Rich center, and Magistrate Judge Nivison on the right.

US MAGISTRATE JUDGE KAREN FRANK WOLF sworn in on April 1, 2022 as the next Magistrate Judge (replacing Judge Rich).



FIRST CIRCUIT— Continued...

Other news from the District of Maine . . .

DEANN HARVIE RETIRES

Deann Harvie retired on March 31, 2022, after 36 years of service with the federal judiciary in Maine. Prior to 1986, she was a judicial assistant in the Cumberland County Superior Court, and a bookkeeper/office manager/ legal secretary in several Portland law firms. In 1986, Deann went to work with Magistrate Judge D. Brock Hornby 1986-1988, then Chief Judge Gene Carter in 1988, Magistrate Judge David Cohen 1988 from 1991 and then back to District Court Judge D. Brock Hornby from 1991 to 2022.

Deann's last email to us as she signed off her account on Thursday was:

May you have the Hindsight to know where you've been

The Foresight to know where you're going

And the Insight to know when you're going too far.

But we do not need to say goodbye to Deann, because she is staying as a retired member of the FJAA.

News from Puerto Rico . . .

GUSTAVO GELPI

Gustavo Gelpi, was nominated to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, by President Joe Biden on May 12, 2021 and confirmed by the United States Senate on October 18, 2021.

Judge Gelpi was a federal judge with the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. He joined the Court in 2006 after being nominated by President George W. Bush. He served as the chief judge of the court from 2018 to 2021. At the time of his appointment, he was a magistrate judge for the District.

News from New Hampshire . . .

The Honorable Joseph A. DiClerico, Jr., 81, died Saturday, April 2, 2022 at the New London Hospital surrounded by family.

After graduating from law school in 1966, he served for a year as law clerk to the Honorable Aloysius J. Connor, United States District Judge for the District of New Hampshire. The following year, he served as law clerk for the five Justices of the New Hampshire Supreme Court, an experience he found to be interesting and challenging since he was the first person in the court's history to hold that position.

In 1992 he was nominated by President George H. W. Bush to be a District Judge on the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire. In 2007, rather than retire outright, he became a Senior Judge, carrying a reduced caseload, and continued in that capacity until his death.

SECOND CIRCUIT
Samantha Gencarello
New York, NY

**Daniel Patrick
Moynihan**
**U.S.
Courthouse**
New York, NY



Courthouse History – Daniel Patrick Moynihan Courthouse

Submitted by Samantha Gencarello

The Daniel Patrick Moynihan Courthouse is home to the Southern District of New York and is located in lower Manhattan at 500 Pearl Street.

Groundbreaking for the courthouse took place on March 29, 1991 and the building was completed in 1994 with an official opening on June 3, 1996.

The courthouse was named after Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan in 2000 under legislation that was sponsored by Senator Chuck Schumer. Senator Moynihan worked to get the courthouse built, which is why it is named after him.

The Daniel Patrick Moynihan Courthouse is the second largest federal courthouse in the United States. It is 27 stories tall, houses 44 courtrooms and provides court support and administrative services to the United States Marshals Service and the Office of the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York.

In the lobby of the building you will be greeted by Lady Justice, and you can visit the exhibit “New York’s Moynihan,” presented by the Museum of the City of New York.

In May 2016 a new security pavilion was opened at the courthouse named after former Chief Judge Loretta A. Preska. The Loretta A. Preska Pavilion is a 3,250-square-foot facility alongside the courthouse where up to 160 people can be screened at multiple airport-style screening machines. This pavilion mitigates security threats at one of the busiest courthouses in the nation and one of the courthouses in which many terrorist cases have been prosecuted.

THIRD CIRCUIT

Iris Liriano

Newark, NJ

Frank R.
Lautenberg
Post Office &
Courthouse
Newark, NJ



Frank R. Lautenberg Post Office & Courthouse

Submitted by Iris Liriano

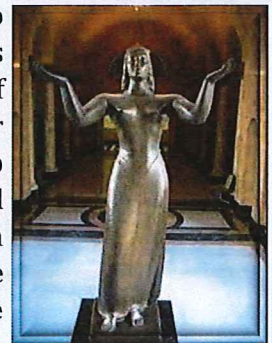


During the late 1800s, the courthouse known today as the Frank R. Lautenberg Post Office and Courthouse would succeed two erections before it became the permanent historical fixture it is today. The first post office building was created in 1857-1894. It was torn down and a second post office building would be constructed in 1894-1936. During this period, there were very few courthouses, small in size and poor in lighting. The small size of the courtroom often confused who the litigants were in a case. According to an article in "The Honorable Court", "the post office building only had

two courtrooms, the structure was far too confined to hold the post office, the District Court, and other federal agencies. It simply seemed like the size of the courtrooms were too small making it difficult to decipher the parties litigating."

In addition, the volume of work seemed too much to conduct in Newark, NJ. Attorneys had to travel about an hour away to Trenton to hold court proceedings. There was a proposal to move the courthouse to Trenton, the city of the state capital. However, the Judges and the Bar objected to that idea. Most New Jersey attorneys practiced in Northern, NJ. The move to Trenton would mean attorneys and litigants would incur additional travel time and monetary expenses. Due to the earlier imperfections of the two courthouses, a proposal was made to create a new courthouse. To build it, \$3,874,000 had to be appropriated by Congress which it did in May 1926.

Our country was in the middle of the Great Depression when construction of the new courthouse would begin. However, this project would provide jobs for those unemployed. August 26, 1932 marked the first day the project began to build the Newark courthouse and was completed by April 1934. The General contractor was N. P. Severin Company of Chicago. The architects were William E. Lehman and George O. Totten, Jr. The engineer was Major Willis B. Hayes and assistant engineers were Maceo Falco and Roy S Eyre. The architectural design was Italian classical. The façade is granite and limestone. It is five and half stories tall with 475,000 square feet. Two out of the five floors are courtrooms, Chambers, and jury rooms. The most impressive floor holds the main courtroom, Courtroom 2. It is located on the third floor boasting superb woodwork, elegant moldings and an elaborate look. It was the preferred place to hold ceremonial events even up to this day. Over the years, many special events have taken place in Courtroom 2 such as swearing-in ceremonies and portrait presentations. The corridor where Courtroom 2 resides is called the Great Hall. A Lady Justice statute stands tall in the center of it. This post office and courthouse building is so impressive that people are stunned to see the magnificent beauty created in the ceilings.



THIRD CIRCUIT— Continued . . .

Frank R. Lautenberg Post Office & Courthouse, Cont.

The building has 8 elevators, 4 freight elevators, and six stairways. The first floor is a Post Office and the second floor is where the mail is sorted. The projected cost was \$6,150,000, of which \$2,901,458 was used to purchase the land of Franklin, Mulberry and Walnut Streets. The new courthouse is compared in similarity to the Treasury Department building in Washington, D.C.

At the conclusion of the project, a ceremony and parade was held celebrating the creation of the post office & courthouse building. The Postmaster, Governor and Mayor escorted by the Essex Troop marched along the main street on Broad Street from the Newark Public Library. Afterwards, 300 guests including politicians attended a luncheon at the Robert Treat Hotel.

Fun Facts

- ◆ 2034 will commemorate its 100th Anniversary
- ◆ A cornerstone was created which embodies a lockbox full of articles in that era with newspapers, currency, photographs of old and the new post office buildings, speeches and programs.
- ◆ The courthouse now known as the Frank R. Lautenberg Post Office & Courthouse is located at 2 Federal Square, Newark, NJ 07102. It was renamed in 2000 after Senator Frank R. Lautenberg announced his retirement. Congress did so to honor the Senator's 29 years of public service to the people of New Jersey.
- ◆ Years ago, the fourth floor was occupied by various agencies such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Civil Service Bureau, Bureau of Narcotics, Secret Service and Public Works Administration. The fifth floor held offices of the Internal Revenue Department, Customs, Organized Reserves and Bureau of Industrial Alcohol. Notice how the names of these agencies will be renamed in today's age. They will all relocate to other areas of the downtown area of Newark. The fourth floor is where the Judge's Chambers, jury rooms and courtrooms sit. The walls on this floor are lined with artwork from famous people with a message displayed. Part of the Marshals Service is on the fifth floor.