

FOURTH CIRCUIT

Lena D. Tapscott

Charleston, SC

J. Waites
Waring
Judicial Center
Charleston, SC



United States Courthouse Charleston, South Carolina

Submitted by Lena Tapscott



The United States Courthouse in Charleston, SC is located on the southwest corner of Meeting and Broad Streets in what is known as the “Four Corners of Law.” The U.S. Courthouse of course represents federal law. On the northwest corner, sits a courthouse built in 1792 which represents the role of county government. On the northeast corner sits the City Hall building which was built in 1802 and symbolizes the municipal government. And on the final corner sits St. Michael’s Church which was built between 1752 and 1761 and is representative of divine law.

The location of the Courthouse, which is actually a U.S. Post Office and the Courthouse (the post office sits at the center of the two buildings which comprise the Courthouse) was once the site of gallows for public executions during British rule. After the Revolutionary War, the property was the location of a police guardhouse, which was destroyed during an 1886 earthquake. According to the GSA website, in 1887 Congress authorized funds for the construction of the post office and courthouse on this very site.

South Carolina Architect, John Devereux designed the building. He selected the Second Renaissance Revival style to convey the grandeur associated with public architecture at that time. Construction of the building was not finished until 1896. The construction of the building, which is credited with playing an important role in the revitalization of downtown Charleston, cost \$500,000.

Our Chambers were originally located in the Hollings Judicial Center which was renamed the J Waties Waring Judicial Center in October of 2015. In 2020 we relocated our Chambers and we are now located in the historic (original) building and I get to admire the hallmarks of the Renaissance Revival style building such as granite, marble, huge rectangular windows flanked with pilasters, wooden molded trim along the windows and doors, red Brazilian marble wainscot and floors, grand staircases, and ornamented brass. It is truly an honor to work in such a beautiful building.



Photos from left to right: Entrance to Chambers, Chambers main hallway, and small conference room

FOURTH CIRCUIT— Continued . . .

Significant Events from the GSA Website:

1887: Funding for new Federal building authorized

1896: Construction completed

1922: Addition completed

1974: U.S. Post Office and Courthouse listed in the National Register of Historic Places

1980s: Hollings Judicial Center added

2002: Interior restoration

Building Facts from the GSA Website:

Location: 83 Broad Street

Architect: John Henry Devereux

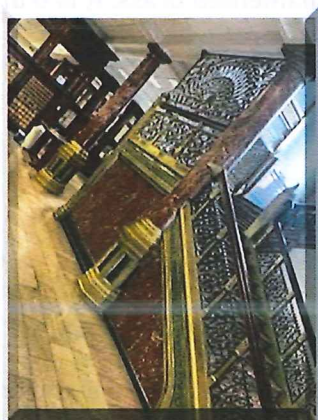
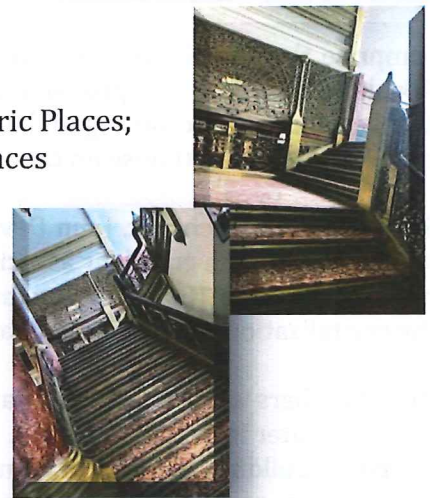
Construction Date: 1896

Landmark Status: Individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places;
Located within the boundaries of the National Register of Historic Places
Charleston Historic District and the National Historic Landmark
Charleston Historic District

Architectural Style: Second Renaissance Revival

Primary Material: Granite

Prominent Features: Corner Tower Postal Lobby Ornate Staircase



Postal Lobby
Staircase



FOURTH CIRCUIT— Continued . . .

The following is from the presentation of the Matthew J. Perry, Jr. Civility Awards presented in December 2021. We are proud to have Judge Lewis and Judge Hodges presented with this award, named after U.S. District Judge Matthew J. Perry, Jr., and is awarded to the judge and lawyer who, in the opinion of the Executive committee of the Richland County Bar Association, best exemplifies the word “civility.”

The Hon. Matthew J. Perry, Jr. Civility Awards (2020 Awards presented to members of the Judiciary at the Richland County Bar Association’s Annual Meeting – December 2021)

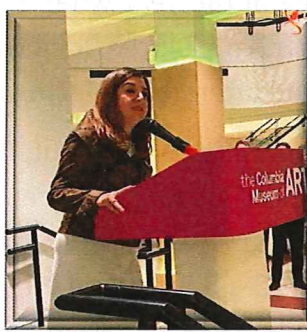
Judge Mary Geiger Lewis



Judge Mary Geiger Lewis has an outstanding reputation for being courteous and civil to all who appear before her. She has continued to demonstrate those

same traits that she possessed as a practicing attorney. Judge Lewis has dedicated her professional career to the legal profession and has contributed significantly to the bar in South Carolina and beyond, both as a skilled lawyer and a thoughtful, fair judge. She knows how difficult the practice of law is. Judge Lewis treats every person who enters her courtroom – whether they are a lawyer, witness, criminal defendant, or drug court participant – with respect and gives their case careful and patient consideration, always maintaining an open mind while having a firm understanding of the established legal principles at issue. Judge Lewis also opens her chambers to many young attorneys and law students and serves as a valuable friend and mentor. **It is a privilege to recognize Judge Mary Geiger Lewis with the 2020 Matthew J. Perry Civility Award.**

Judge Shiva Hodges



Few judges have been as active in the legal community as Judge Shiva Hodges. She shows up to events; she regularly speaks at CLEs; she is approachable. She is also well known for the

unfailing respect she shows to all members of the Bar, new and experienced, prominent, or pedestrian. Her commitment to dispute resolution through mediating discovery disputes herself rather than encouraging motions practice for cases on her docket is an example to all. One of her nominations notes, “I attribute her excellent judicial temperament to her character, but also to her having role models like Judge Perry and Judge Anderson.” Judge Hodges is one of the youngest federal judges in the country and without a doubt one of the finest. **It is an honor to recognize her dedicated service to the Bar over the last eleven years on the bench with the 2020 Matthew J. Perry Civility Award.**

FOURTH CIRCUIT— Continued . . .

ABOUT US ...

Hello, all. I have been the Judicial Assistant for The Honorable Mary Geiger Lewis of the District of South Carolina for almost three years now.

I have three primary passions: (1) my four indoor cats and outdoor ferals; (2) French language and culture; and (3) flower gardening.

Spring is my favorite time of the year when I really enjoy working in my yard, sprucing it up for the spring and summer. I absolutely love warm (even hot) weather and spend a lot of time outdoors on weekends and after hours during the spring and summer.

While I was still working as a legal assistant, I returned to the University of South Carolina to obtain my degree in French language. My employer was very supportive of this effort and allowed me to work part-time and attend classes part-time to accomplish this challenge. I graduated in spring of 2015. I have travelled to France on three occasions. My first trip was a study abroad while attending the university to the Loire region where I was able to visit many French châteaux. My next trip was to the Provence region which was quite memorable. But my very favorite trip was to Paris a few years ago and I am anxious to return one day.

Being a widow for almost ten years now, my cats fill my life with joy at home. In addition to my indoor cats, I care for some friendly feral (all TNR'd), to whom I have become very attached, at my home, and also volunteer for Safe Cats Coalition to feed a small feral colony not too far away on the weekends.

My goal at my age is to stay engaged with life, stay busy and keep moving!

Submitted by Kathy Collins

FOURTH CIRCUIT— Continued . . .

Recipes From Our Circuit

Boone Dip

Original recipe yields 8 servings

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 (3 ounce) jar bacon bits, fresh or prepared
- 2 green onions, chopped (or more to taste)

Directions:

- Step 1 - Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- Step 2 - Mix Cheddar cheese, cream cheese, mayonnaise, bacon bits, and green onions together in a bowl; transfer to an 8-inch square baking dish.
- Step 3 - Bake in preheated oven until dip is bubbling and cheese is melted, 15 to 20 minutes.
Alternatively, this dip may be prepared in a small crock pot to keep it warm for serving at a party or tailgate.

Serve with Fritos, crackers, or Tostitos.

Can use other types of cheese, such as Monterrey Jack or Mexican.

Can use sour cream instead of mayo to lower the calorie count.

Add garlic powder and more onion for a bit more flavor if you like.

Submitted by Sheila Cox, Greenville, SC

Mary Alice's Hoagie Dip

Level: Easy

Prep: 25 min

Total: 25 min

Yield: 8 servings

(From: Food Network Magazine)

Ingredients:

- 1 medium onion
- 2 pickled pepperoncini peppers
- 1/2 head iceberg lettuce
- 1 large tomato, halved and seeded
- 1/4 pound deli-sliced genoa salami
- 1/4 pound deli-sliced ham
- 1/4 pound deli-sliced prosciutto
- 1/4 pound deli-sliced roast turkey
- 1/4 pound deli-sliced provolone cheese
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 1/2 teaspoons dried basil
- 1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 10-to-12 inch round loaf Italian bread
- 8 hoagie rolls, cut into pieces.

Directions:

- Chop the onion, pepperoncini, lettuce and tomato into bite-size pieces.
- Dice the meats and cheese.
- Combine chopped vegetables, meats and cheese in a large bowl.
- Add the mayonnaise, olive oil, oregano, basil and red pepper flakes and stir until everything is all mixed up and tasty.
- Refrigerate until ready to serve.

- Carve out the center of the bread loaf to make a bowl (don't cut through the bottom) and cut scraps into bite-size pieces. Serve the hoagie dip in the bread bowl, with the extra bread and hoagie rolls to scoop it up.

- Sometimes I add in a little bit of "Beano's Original Submarine Dressing" to give the mixture just a dash more flavor and keep the meats and cheeses from getting too dry.

Submitted by Sheila Cox, Greenville, SC

FIFTH CIRCUIT—

Russell B. Long
Federal Bldg.
Baton Rouge, LA



The Context

The Russell B. Long Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse is located in Baton Rouge within the former Victory Park district. The historic district of the city is home to the former federal courthouse, built in 1932. The new courthouse was constructed as an annex to this original, which was completed in 1933. The new courthouse was strategically designed to reinforce the logic and style of the original. An additional influence came in the form of a hundred year old oak tree, which was part of a larger oak grove present on the site. Together the grove and the historic courthouse formed the basis for the modern design.

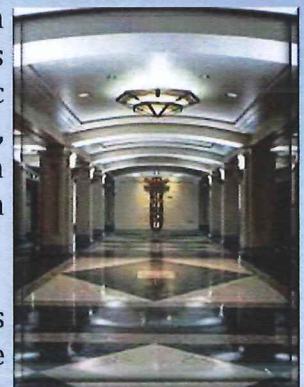
The building contains one Special Proceedings Courtroom, two District Regular Courtrooms, two Magistrate Courtrooms as well as offices of the U.S. Attorneys. Designed by in a joint venture between Newman and Grace, Architects, Inc., Raymond Post AIA Architects, Holly and Smith Architects, Inc. and E. Bean McNaughton Architects, the process began in 1989. In 1989, construction began, with the official opening in 1994.

The Building

The building was conceptualized around a central public space that transects the courthouse and defines the primary public spaces of the building. With this organizing element, the symmetrical plan is based around the notions of clarity, order and efficiency. While the new courthouse is clearly modern, the materials and design of the exterior and interior were strongly influenced by the art deco style and materials used in the existing 1932 courthouse. Two unique torchere columns of nickel-silver and bronze mark and frame the entrance, symbolizing traditional courthouse porches and columns, while a large, concave structural glass wall at the monumental entrance provides views of the pre-existing live oak trees from the interior lobbies and balconies.

The exterior walls of the building are clad in limestone paneling, keeping with the materials utilized in the original 1932 Courthouse. The buildings windows are double glazed in aluminum frames. The walls in the main lobby and public areas are all finished in drywall with terrazzo floors. Within the courtrooms, the walls were finished in both painted drywall and acoustical panels with stained wood wainscot and trim moldings. In each of the courtrooms, the area behind the bench has been accentuated with wood paneling.

While the current build out of the Courthouse provides enough courtrooms for the existing jurisdiction, future expansion options were designed into the built form, as the offices of the U.S. Attorneys can be converted into three additional courtrooms. Information courtesy of GSA at <https://courtsweb.gsa.gov>.



SIXTH CIRCUIT

Jennifer Hodge

Jackson, TN

U.S. District
Courthouse

Jackson, TN



Brief History of the United States District Court in Jackson, Tennessee

The United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee covers 22 counties in west Tennessee and Benton County in Middle Tennessee. It is comprised of two divisions, the Eastern Division located in Jackson, Tennessee, and the Western Division located in Memphis, Tennessee. The main office for the Western District is located in Memphis. However, Jackson, is where the first District Court was located in the District.

On June 1, 1796, Tennessee was the 16th state to join the union. At that time, the entire state of Tennessee was merely one district. The “Midnight Judges” Act of 1801 passed by President John Adams near the end of his term, impacted Tennessee by dividing the state into two judicial districts, the Eastern District out of Knoxville and the Western District out of Nashville. With the divide, Jackson, became part of the Western District out of Nashville, Tennessee until 1838, when a third district was created in the actual western portion of the state. This third district made Jackson home to the Western District of Tennessee and changed the Nashville region to the Middle District of Tennessee.

After the third district was added, the new Western District Court convened in downtown Jackson at the First Presbyterian Church with the Honorable Morgan Welles Brown presiding. Court hearings continued in a similar manner in churches or the county courthouse until 1885, when a dedicated courthouse and post office was built. This building later underwent renovations and additions in 1910 but held Federal Court proceedings for almost 50 years.

In 1934, nearly a century after the first District Court convened in Jackson with Judge Brown, a Federal Building & Post Office was constructed. In addition to the District Court, the building also housed other federal offices and entities, including a Social Security Office and an IRS Office. In 1988 Congress designated the name of that building as the Ed Jones Federal Building and United States Courthouse, where Federal Court proceedings continued until 1998.

In 1998, the city of Jackson decided to demolish the four-story Downtowner Motor Inn, which over the years had developed a reputation as being a house of ill repute. This building was adjacent to the Ed Jones Federal Building and eventually was constructed into the home of the United States Courthouse. However, along the journey, some interesting and tragic stories emerged.

One story occurred in the summer of 1974, as a beautiful African-American young woman, who had recently graduated from Jackson High School, attended a party at the Downtowner Motor Inn. After having been reported missing, the girl, Verna Warlick, was found face down in the swimming pool, the circumstances of her death had never been determined. Those who attended high school with her, including Judge Breen’s case manager, reported her as a very sweet young lady, who was often seen wearing gaucho pants and boots. As tragic and mysterious as her death was, many current and former occupants of the United States District Court in Jackson, have reported seeing her silhouette roaming the courthouse or felt the presence of Verna, a very kind and sweet spirited ghost who continues to frequent the Courthouse in gaucho pants and boots.

SIXTH CIRCUIT— Continued...

Brief History of the United States District Court in Jackson, Tennessee, Cont.

Another story occurred the night of May 4, 2003, as an F4 tornado, followed by a trailing F2 tornado ripped through west Tennessee, leaving a mile-wide path of destruction as it continued on the ground for nearly 65 miles. In its path was the recently built United States Courthouse. While the concrete structure of the Courthouse survived, it had been hit and severely damaged. The wind of the storms reached 240 mph resulting in blown out windows and extensive roof damage. With so much structural damage, extensive water and wind damage occurred to the inside of the building. While the damage was assessed and the restoration began, the new building occupants temporarily moved back into the Ed Jones Federal Building to work, which included drying out original paper orders and docket sheets that were left saturated after the raging storm. After months of clean-up and restoration, the United States District Court tenants were able to return to their building, where they remain to present day.

The contents of this article were contributed by Jackie Logue, Former FJAA Past President and retired Judicial Assistant to the Honorable James D. Todd; Evelyn Cheairs, Judge Breen's case manager; Sonya Pettigrew, Deputy in charge; and former Magistrate Judge Edward G. Bryant's book, *A History of the Federal Court in Jackson*.

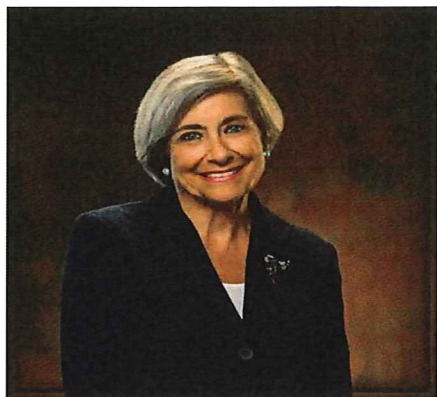


The United States Courthouse is located at the site formerly known as the Downtowner Motor Inn, Jackson, Tennessee



Aftermath and reconstruction of the United States Courthouse following the 2003 tornadoes

SIXTH CIRCUIT— Continued...



Due to COVID, the reception for the recipients of this award could not be held in 2020. Judge Trauger will be honored and presented her award at a reception to be held in Washington, DC on March 26, 2022.

Judge Aleta A. Trauger Selected for Prestigious Award

Judge Aleta A. Trauger was recently selected as the 2020 recipient of the Sixth Circuit American Inns of Court Professional Award. This award recognizes Judge Trauger's distinguished public service career, exemplified by the values of professionalism, ethics, and civility.

Judge Trauger's legal prowess was recognized early in her career. Even before her admission to the bar, she received permission from the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee to appear on behalf of plaintiffs in a lawsuit brought to desegregate Tennessee's higher education system. Then, as a young Assistant U.S. Attorney, she and a colleague led the prosecution of Tennessee Governor Ray Blanton and two of his aides for extortion. Of the many lawyers who appeared in this nationally high-profile case, Judge Trauger was the only woman.

Judge Trauger's career is characterized by being the first, or one of the first women, to hold each position she has held. She was the first woman to serve as Criminal Chief and First Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Middle District of Tennessee, the first female chief of staff to the Mayor of Nashville, the first woman selected to be a Middle District of Tennessee Bankruptcy Judge, and the first woman to serve on the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee. Judge Trauger was a founder of the Nashville Lawyers' Association for Women, a founding member of the Tennessee Lawyer's Association for Women, and has been a long-time member of the National Association of Women Judges. She is now the first woman to be selected by the Sixth Circuit for this important award.

Most recently, Judge Trauger has spearheaded the monumental task of building a new federal courthouse in Nashville and has seen the court through a recent period of unprecedented change. After losing the services of two senior and two active district judges, Judge Trauger became the court's vital institutional memory and managed a more-than-doubled caseload, all while serving as a mentor, teacher, and trusted advisor to her colleagues at the court.

SIXTH CIRCUIT— Continued...

IS ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP FOR YOU?

By Debby Sawyer

Belonging to a profession often creates a desire in a person to have a say in its future. This can take you down the path of leadership.

What is leadership? Merriam Webster Collegiate Dictionary defines leadership as “the capacity to lead” or “the act or an instance of leading.” A leader is defined as “a person who leads,” or “a person who holds a dominant or superior position within his field, and exercises influence over others.” Marvin Shaw, a leading authority on group research, found the following correlations between individual traits and leadership: ability, sociability and motivation. Additional traits related to the three main traits are intelligence, scholarship, insight and verbal facility (ability); dependability, activity, cooperativeness and popularity (sociability); and initiative, persistence and enthusiasm (motivation). While possessing these traits alone will not make a leader, persons having some or all of them are more likely to be a leader than those who do not.

Leadership participation in FJAA means more than paying your dues or attending the annual conference. Opportunities abound to volunteer for a committee, write an article for the newsletter, present at a seminar, or run for office. These are all steps that you can take to become involved in your profession through association leadership. Sometimes assuming association leadership sounds scary, and I will admit that sometimes it is. However, it builds confidence and provides an opportunity to shape your future and the future of your profession. While not everyone can just jump in and be a leader at any time in their career, most people can build leadership skills by volunteering for positions that test their skills and stretch their limits. Before you realize it, people are asking for your opinion and advice, and acknowledging your leadership potential. Because your leadership goals could at times interrupt your work day, you may want to get buy-in from your supervisor or judge. Emphasizing the professional development opportunities that association leadership provides to you, and at no cost to your employer, is a good place to start. Build your association leadership goals into your annual performance goals. Explain how your professional involvement gives a positive image of your office and to the court.

I’m not going to pretend that leadership is not a lot of work, because it can be and often is. Done right, it can also be a lot of fun. I find it very rewarding to serve my profession at a level where I know I am enhancing it and its value to the court.

Do you have what it takes to be a leader? Are you ready to start your leadership journey? I challenge you to become involved with FJAA, other than just being a member. If you really want to do something special for your profession, be a leader! I think you’ll be glad you took that first step.