

IN BRIEF

Federal Judicial **FJAA** Assistants Association

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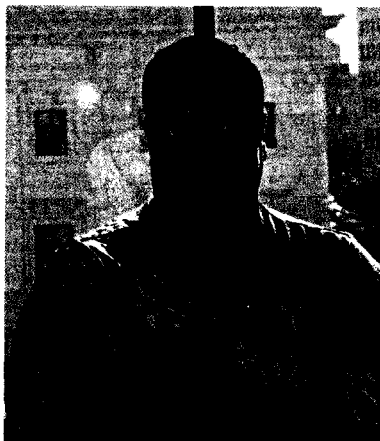
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Gwendolyn Hunter, President

During this spring season, I hope everyone is able to take a minute and enjoy the sound of birds chirping...

As I write this article, I hear the sound of birds chirping outside my guest room window. It's a pleasant reminder to me that spring, my favorite time of year, is here. This month of April, my birth month, is when I take time to regroup and make plans for the rest of the year.

I will be attending the Judges' Secretaries Advisory Group ("JSAG") Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. April 20 through April 21. I very much look forward to meeting with the JSAG members, some of whom I already know through FJAA. On a personal note, I am informed that it is cherry blossom season in D.C. and I am excited to see the blooming blossoms.

In the coming weeks, the Nominations and Elections Committee will begin seeking nominations for the next election. Please consider lending your talents to the Association. We strongly encourage your involvement. In addition to the FJAA Board and Circuit Representatives, there are various other committees within the Association that could use your assistance. Visit our website at www.fjaa.net for a list of standing committees.

Also, the Association is seeking a newsletter editor as Martha Gore, the *In Brief* editor of many years, has retired. Thanks to Martha for the tremendous job she performed as editor. More information about applying for the position is included within this newsletter.

This year's conference committee is tirelessly planning the 2011 FJAA Conference which will be held in Seattle, Washington this October. The committee has worked diligently to formulate an educational and interesting program. Included in this publication are the conference agenda and registration form.

The March 31st membership drawing winner is announced in this edition of *In Brief*. For those of you who have renewed, please accept a big THANK YOU on behalf of the Association! Encourage your friends and fellow co-workers to renew their membership or join FJAA. This year, I anticipate our membership rolls ascending to an all time high.

Finally, during this spring season, I hope everyone is able to take a minute and enjoy the sound of birds chirping...

2011 FJAA CONFERENCE

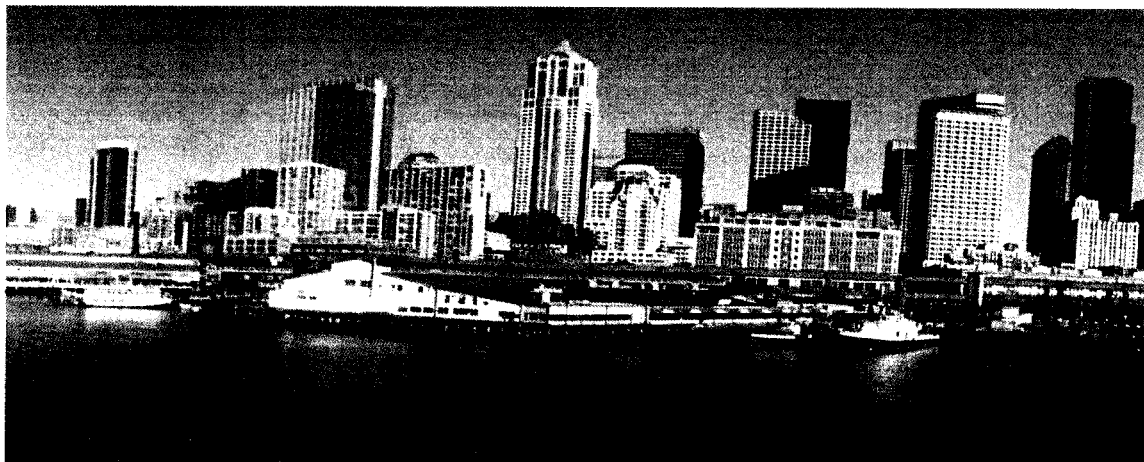
Seattle, Washington

October 6-9, 2011

All of us in the Western District of Washington extend a warm welcome to everyone attending the 2011 FJAA Annual Educational Conference in Seattle, Washington on October 6-9, 2011. We are truly proud of our city and look forward to sharing it with you. We are especially grateful to be able to host you during these difficult budgetary times. Your choice to attend this year's conference is a vote of confidence in the role of the FJAA in providing our members with valuable information and insight into the critical functions we perform daily for the U.S. Judiciary. Our hope is that you'll enjoy your time in Seattle, that you'll find the educational programs valuable for your work, and that you'll make lasting connections with your fellow JA's and secretaries that will strengthen your ability to provide valuable contributions to the Federal Judiciary.

Seattle, the Emerald City

Even for those who've never visited, the name "Seattle" conjures up strong associations. No doubt many of you think "rain." Maybe you were a fan of the bands spawned by the Grunge scene in the early 1990's, or perhaps the word "coffee" pops into your mind as you enjoy a daily Starbucks fix. The outdoors is certainly an important part of this city's identity, with its numerous scenic vistas, access to water and parks. Maybe the sight of fish flying through the air at Pike Place Market, or the insistent Jetsonesque cool of the Space Needle, comes to mind. Or maybe a pop culture reference from "Sleepless in Seattle" or "Grey's Anatomy" is first among your thoughts. Whatever you think of the Emerald City, Seattle has become a cultural touchstone much larger than its actual size. In addition to all of these things, we hope to show you other sides of this multifaceted city during your visit, maybe something totally unexpected.



Getting around downtown Seattle is very easy. The downtown is compact and largely walkable. The hotel for the conference, the Waterfront Marriott, is located across

the street from the waterfront, steps away from Pike Place Market. As the hub of daily activity in Seattle, you'll have no problem finding restaurants, coffee shops, lounges, and movie theaters within easy walking distance. In addition, bus service within the downtown core is free daily, from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm., and there are plenty of cabs available, usually lined up in front of the major hotels.

We think you'll love exploring Seattle on your own, but here are a few ideas to get you started:

1. Pike Place Market The heart and soul of Seattle, this original farmers' market dates back to 1907. Although it's Seattle's most visited tourist attraction, this is a working farmers' market, providing fresh produce and meats to area restaurants and residents alike. It's also home to craft dealers, street musicians, a newsstand selling papers from all

over the world, several fine restaurants, coffee shops, and the original Starbucks, which opened here in 1971.



2. Seattle Art Museum SAM has been around since the 1930's, but it just recently moved into its new location at First and Union—just two blocks away from Pike Place Market.

3. The Shopping District Centered around the intersection of Fifth Avenue and Pike Street, this part of downtown features many fine clothing stores, and the main light rail station for connections to Pioneer Square and SeaTac Airport. Included in this district are a Nordstrom flagship store, Macy's, Pacific Place Mall, Brooks Brothers, Nike Town, and Anne Taylor. For serious bargain hunters, the Nordstrom Rack is located between the flagship store and Pike Place Market, at Second and Pine. This part of downtown has numerous restaurants and two multiplex movie screens.

4. Olympic Sculpture Park Located in the opposite direction from Pike Place Market, just follow the waterfront north until you hit the Sculpture Park. This is a 9 acre park owned and operated by Seattle Art Museum that is free to the public.

5. The Space Needle Easily Seattle's most recognizable landmark! It's easily accessible by taking the Monorail from downtown.



There are resources available to help make your trip most enjoyable. The official Seattle Convention and Visitor's Bureau's concierge desk is located in the atrium of the Washington Convention Center (Seventh Avenue and Pike Street). The always-friendly Ann Peavy is there to answer your questions. Follow her on Twitter @SeattleMaven from your smartphone and get answers to questions in real time! <http://www.visitseattle.org/>. The New York Times' "36 Hours in Seattle,"

published this spring, also provides an itinerary for those interested in a taste of the city outside of downtown. <http://travel.nytimes.com/2011/03/27/travel/27hours-seattle.html?src=me&ref=homepage>

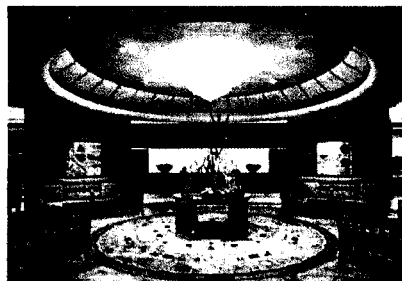
Finally, we think we've saved the best for last. The FJAA is sponsoring a dinner cruise aboard the Royal Argosy on Friday evening, October 7th. From your own private table, enjoy spectacular, ever-changing views of the city skyline, gorgeous scenery and scenic islands as you cruise Elliott Bay and Puget Sound. Boarding begins at 6:30 pm on the downtown waterfront—just steps away from the hotel. We'll set sail at 7:00 pm and return to the same location by 9:30 pm. This is a quintessential Seattle experience, and we are so happy to be able to have this as our optional event this year.

We look forward to seeing you this October!

Seattle Marriott Waterfront
2100 Alaskan Way
Seattle, WA 98121
206.443.5000
1.800.455-8254

www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/seawf-seattle-marriott-waterfront/

Reservations for the Seattle Marriott Waterfront can be secured by calling the hotel directly and referencing group **FJAA**, or electronically and referencing group code **fjcfjca**.



Hello FJAA members,

My name is Bridgett Godwin and I am the Executive Administrator to Judge Phyllis A. Kravitch at the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta, Georgia. I celebrated my 30th year anniversary with the federal government on November 13, 2010. Judge Kravitch, her law clerks and court staff surprised me with a very nice ceremony to celebrate this special occasion.

My federal service began for a very brief period as a data transcriber for the Internal Revenue Service on November 13, 1980. On January 11, 1981 I began working for the U.S. General Accounting Office and worked there for five years. On December 23, 1985 I began working for the Circuit Executive's Office at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit where I worked from 1985-1996 working in various positions, one of which was swing-pool secretary to the Eleventh Circuit judges. I credit that position for giving me the experience I needed for my current position which I have held since 1996 in the chambers of Judge Kravitch.



My experiences in the different positions I have held in the federal government have been very challenging at times and also very rewarding. I have worked with and met some very wonderful people. Going from a large office environment to a chambers was a very big change for me but the transition went smoothly and I adjusted very well. I am so honored to be the assistant to Judge Phyllis Kravitch.

Over the past 30 years I have eagerly made the change from pen & paper, typewriter, whiteout, carbon paper and mimeograph machine to computer, dictaphone, xerox machine, email, kindle and iPad. The court pay system changed from JSP to CL in all staff offices except chambers staff. The AO even changed the retirement system from CSRS to FERS. I decided to stay with CSRS. There have been a lot of changes in the past 30 years. I can only imagine what the next 30 years will bring.

Have you been with the government for 30 years?

Please share your story with us.

FJAA wants to applaud and feature members who have been with the government 30 years or more. If you would like to be recognized in In Brief, please contact your circuit representative and send in a short article about the changes you have experienced during your government tenure. Please include a photograph with your submission.

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION
2011 ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE
October 6-9, 2011**

Thursday, October 6, 2011

- 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Executive Board Meeting
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Opening Reception - Seattle Marriott Waterfront

Friday, October 7, 2011

- 7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Registration
8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. Welcoming Remarks from the Conference Committee and FJAA President, Gwendolyn Hunter
8:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Welcome to Seattle, WA - U.S. District Judge Robert S. Lasnik
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. U.S. District Judge Richard A. Jones Handling Difficult Cases
10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Break
10:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. U.S. District Judge Ricardo S. Martinez Technology and Jurors
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Deputy U.S. Marshals Craig Nelson and Raymond Fleck, Judicial Security
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Betsy Post-Garza, Esq., Lexis Representative
3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Break
3:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. Judge Phyllis Hamilton, 9th Circuit, Aging/Wellness in Chambers
4:30 p.m. - 9:15 p.m. Optional Event- Royal Argosy Dinner Cruise

Saturday, October 8, 2011

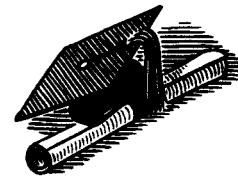
- 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. David Decker, Director of Information Technology Social Networking and Computer Security
10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Break
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Rosann Crawford, Chief Training Staff AO
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Lou Gil, Director San Antonio Training Center
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. JSAG presentation
3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Break
3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Stephanie Lawley, Judicial Assistant, Temporary Duty Assignments (TDY) at the Administrative Office
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Banquet

Sunday, October 9, 2011

- 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. FJAA General Business Meeting (All Members are encouraged to attend)
11:00 a.m. Conclusion of 2011 Annual Conference

Please note that topics and speakers are subject to change due to circumstances beyond FJAA's control.

Professional Development & Continuing Education Committee



Scholarship Blessings

It is always a good time to think of the bountiful blessings of family and all others. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my FJAA “family” for the bountiful scholarship blessing that I received in October at the annual conference in the beautiful city of Boise (it’s pronounced Boy-See, I was told!).

You see, at 53 years of age, I have decided to return to school in a big way—law school. I have been dreaming about this for 32 ½ years now--when I first walked into Judge Curtin’s chambers to start my employment (still wet behind the ears!). I didn’t know exactly what I “wanted to do with my life” then, and I spent the next 30 years trying to figure it out—when I had an extra minute! I have always loved my job as secretary to Judge Curtin, and I still love my job as judicial assistant/courtroom deputy (a/k/a “slasher”) to Judge Curtin today. But I just wanted more education. However, those four children I had just slowed me down a bit in my quest. Now that the fourth is 16 years of age, and my wonderful boss, Judge Curtin, is 89 years old, I thought to myself, “It’s now or never!” Law school was on my “bucket list,” and so it was time to pursue it.

I took the LSAT last fall, and then applied to Law School in December. I used the \$200 gift card that I had won at the annual FJAA Conference in lovely Portland last year—I had set it aside for that very purpose! In early 2010, I received my acceptance. Oh no! Be careful what you wish for!

I am now enrolled at the University of Buffalo Law School in the four-year program. I am the oldest student in the first-year class—by probably 20 years! It is overwhelming, but the semester will be at a close soon, and I will be 1/8 of the way finished. I look at it that I will be finished with the first hour of an eight-hour work day! It is overwhelming, and I must take one day at a time. My house has never been messier, and we have eaten fast food for the past week. Getting eight hours of sleep is reserved for the weekend, and my daily run has turned into a weekly run. But, when the day is done, I hope that I will be able to fulfill that one item that was most important on my bucket list. Thank you, FJAA, for assisting me in my adventure.

Janet E. Curry
Judicial Assistant to United States District Judge John T. Curtin

FJAA Scholarship Applications — other questions or inquiries, please contact:
Sheryl A. Gilchrist, PP, PLS Chair, Professional Development & Continuing Education
Committee

United States District Court
444 Southeast Quincy Street, Suite 475 Topeka, Kansas 66683
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JUDICIAL PROFILE

Honorable Justo Arenas
Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge, District of Puerto Rico

In April 2011, Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge Justo Arenas retires after 35 years of federal service. It is no coincidence that his name is “Justo”, the Spanish word for just. All those who know Justo and have appeared before him can attest to the fact that the judge does honor his name in every decision and every ruling. Judge Arenas has always strived to be fair and impartial. He will be greatly missed as one of Puerto Rico’s most balanced and humane federal judicial officers.



Justo Arenas was born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y. His father, a Spaniard, and his mother, a Puerto Rican, operated a small cafeteria/dinner business. With a great deal of sacrifice on the part of his parents, Judge Arenas attended private schools in New York for elementary, junior, and high school. After graduating from high school, Judge Arenas enrolled in the City College of New York, from which he received his undergraduate degree. His undergraduate studies were interrupted in 1968, when he was drafted to serve in the Vietnam War. Upon returning from Vietnam and after obtaining his bachelor’s degree, Judge Arenas moved to Puerto Rico and enrolled in the University of Puerto Rico Law School and was awarded his juris doctorate degree in 1974. While in law school and as part of his legal clinic requirements, Judge Arenas did an internship at the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico. Soon after obtaining his law degree, and following a very short stint in private practice, Judge Arenas was hired by Judge Juan R. Torruella—a U.S. district judge at the time and currently a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit—to be his “elbow” law clerk. Judge Arenas clerked for Judge Torruella for two years. From 1978 to 1981, Judge Arenas worked as an assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Puerto Rico. As chief of the Major Drug Traffickers Prosecution Unit in that office, Judge Arenas prosecuted all major drug conspiracies in the District of Puerto Rico, including seizures of illegal drugs on the high seas. He tried dozens of cases and argued many appeals before the First Circuit. Judge Arenas also applied for and supervised the first court-authorized wire interception in the history of Puerto Rico. Then, in March 1981, Judge Arenas was appointed to be a trial attorney for the Criminal Section of the Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division in Washington, D.C., but this appointment was short-lived. Soon after Judge Arenas assumed the position, the district judges in Puerto Rico appointed him magistrate judge.

Judge Arenas is currently in his fourth eight-year term as magistrate judge; and, in 2004, he was appointed chief magistrate judge. During his tenure, Judge Arenas was appointed discovery master in a multidistrict litigation matter dealing with the fire that consumed the DuPont Plaza Hotel, a high-profile and complex case. He has also conducted verification proceedings for the transfer of prisoners in Peru, Bolivia, the Czech Republic, Spain, and Venezuela.

Judge Arenas’ service as a transferee magistrate judge in the District of New Hampshire is also worth mentioning. Chief Judge Steven J. McAuliffe and Judge Paul J. Barbadoro, from the District of New Hampshire, shared their appreciation for Judge Arenas’ assistance, noting that, for more than 20 years, Judge Arenas routinely and unselfishly volunteered to travel from Puerto Rico to New Hampshire to assist that federal district court whenever it was without the services of a magistrate judge. During the bank failure crisis that arose in New Hampshire in the early 1990s, Judge Arenas presided over and resolved scores of FDIC cases, becoming an expert in that field and

earning the respect, gratitude, and appreciation of the New Hampshire bench and bar. Over the years, the judges and attorneys in the District of New Hampshire came to regard Judge Arenas as one of their own. At the most recent First Circuit conference in Boston, the District of New Hampshire formally recognized Judge Arenas as an honorary member of its district court. Judge Arenas was presented with a seal of that court as a symbol of his status and was included in the court's formal photographic portrait. To say he is well-liked and highly regarded in the District of New Hampshire would be an understatement.

Board of Governors of the Puerto Rico Chapter of the United Way. Until recently, he was the president of Three Kings Inc., a nonprofit organization that has been providing toys and necessary items to underprivileged children and elderly people on Three Kings Day for more than 25 years. Every November, Judge Arenas and Three Kings Inc. would begin the process of recruiting the people who would play the role of the Magi. Prosecutors, public defenders, private attorneys, federal agents, interpreters, and probation officers, among others, would grow beards ahead of time in order to impersonate two or three sets of Magi for the event that took place on January 6 every year. The Three Kings would then make a number of scheduled and unscheduled visits to deliver the toys to the kids. Undoubtedly, the cost, sacrifice, and effort involved in putting together these toy drives each year were great in terms of logistics and recruitment. But, according to Judge Arenas, bringing happiness to children on such special occasion made it completely worth the sacrifice.

Judge Arenas' history of service goes way beyond the service to his community and the legal profession. He has proudly served his country in the military. He served in the U.S. Army from 1968 to 1970 and was stationed at Bien Hoa, Vietnam, from 1969 to 1970. In 1983, Judge Arenas joined the U.S. Navy Reserve and retired in 2005 after achieving the rank of commander. In the Navy, Commander Arenas participated in multinational operations in Korea, Panama, Italy, Argentina, Chile, and Peru. Both in the Army and in the Navy, Judge Arenas was the recipient of several service medals. Judge Arenas has been very active in the international community as well. He has promoted judicial and constitutional reform by giving lectures in the Middle East, the Balkans, Central Asia, Latin America, and Africa. Subjects include constitutionalism, federalism, domestic terrorism, trial evidence, the federal judiciary, grand juries, criminal procedure, death-penalty litigation, standards of conduct, ethics, and mediation.

Judge Arenas' achievements are a testament to the kind of judge, public servant, and human being he is, but they could not have been possible without the help of several people close to him. Gail, his loving wife of more than 30 years, has been at his side for as long as Justo has been on the bench. The two are the proud parents of two well-rounded and exceptional young men: Justin, who is currently in law school, and Mark, who was recently admitted to medical school. But to know Judge Arenas in his role as a judge is to know a very important member of the judge's extended family: His judicial assistant Nydia Luz Gutiérrez, who has been the judge's assistant for as long as the judge has been on the bench. She will retire with him in April 2011, after more than 35 years of federal service, which includes serving as a deputy clerk and a courtroom deputy. Unquestionably, Nydia Luz deserves an honorary mention in this profile for her loyalty, hard work, and professionalism in assisting Judge Arenas all these years.

Moreover, all those who have worked for Judge Arenas say without reservation that working for him was one of the most rewarding experiences in their lives. Many of Judge Arenas' former law clerks—if not all of them—concur. They say that working for the judge was always an adventure. Many of them remember that Judge Arenas always threatened to fire them if they ever cited a case that had been overruled. It is fair to say that Judge Arenas' former law clerks all had particularly strong "shepardizing" skills. All former law clerks interviewed for this profile agree that working for Judge Arenas was not only a relevant and extraordinary legal experience, but also an opportunity to grow as human beings, and they all say that they will treasure the experience for the rest of their

lives. Judge Arenas was an exceptional mentor, even though he would never see himself in such a light. He has helped form many outstanding legal professionals mainly by the example he sets.

Judge Arenas has also been extremely active in the Puerto Rico Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, having been a member for more than 30 years. In recognition of Judge Arenas' dedication to the FBA, the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association recently nominated and inducted him as a Life Fellow. In a similar show of appreciation, the Council of Past Presidents of the Puerto Rico Chapter of the FBA inducted Judge Arenas as an honorary past chapter president.

We are joined by many in the District of Puerto Rico, in the United States, and around the world in wishing Judge Arenas and Nydia Luz the best in their retirement, which is more than well deserved. We thank both of you for so many years of outstanding service and for your friendship.

[First published in the October 2010 issue of The Federal Lawyer; excerpts reprinted with permission from the Federal Bar Association.]

FJAA GOALS

- •To promote the general welfare of its members;
- •To encourage the highest ethical standards of conduct among its members;
- •To promote continuing education and professional development of its members;
- •To further the exchange of ideas and practical information relating to judicial support; and
- •To foster among its members a feeling of camaraderie and mutual confidence.

www.fjaa.net

Please take time to view our FJAA website. There is a members-only section which contains the last four newsletters, a list of current members, and the Treasurer's Report. The members-only section can be accessed with your member PIN number — type in the word "member" as the username. Changes, corrections, and additions will be made quarterly as the newsletter is posted. If you have anything you would like to have posted on our website, please send it to

gwen_hunter@laed.uscourts.gov

*First Circuit
Mari Rosa Jorge*



We welcome Lisa Garvey, Circuit Judge O. Rogeriee Thompson's Judicial Assistant. Prior to joining Judge Thompson at the Court of Appeals, Lisa was Judge Thompson's clerk in the Rhode Island Superior Court. She had worked in the Rhode Island State Court System for nine years. Lisa is married with two children. We also welcome Maria I. Branco, Judicial Assistant to Circuit Judge Bruce M. Selya. Maria joined Judge Selya's chambers on January 24, 2011. Prior to that time, she had about 9-1/2 years of federal service (United States Attorney's Office, RI, from August 1990 through July 1995, and United States District Court, RI, from July 1995 through December 1999). Maria has a Paralegal Certificate and has been working in the legal field since 1979. She lives in Massachusetts with her diabetic cat. Thank you both for taking advantage of the free, one-year membership incentive to join the Association. We know you will enjoy the educational conferences and the FJAA's many other benefits, and will stay with us for many years to come.

District of Maine

Marsha Heath, Judicial Assistant to District Judge George Z. Singal, in Portland, has been recently appointed as our First Circuit representative on the Judges' Secretaries Advisory Group (JSAG), for the next two years, in substitution of Deann Harvie, JA to Judge D. Brock Hornby, also in Portland. JSAG provides advice, assistance, and recommendations to the AO on issues involving the approximately 1,500 judges' secretaries and judicial assistants throughout the country and serves as a forum for its representatives to discuss matters of mutual interest. It also assists with developing programs to enhance chambers operations and in helping to facilitate the annual Jumpstart Workshop held in the summer of every year, which some of you may have attended. Marsha has worked for the Judiciary in the District of Maine for the past fourteen years. Congratulations Marsha—we know you will do a great job, as did Deann.

District of Massachusetts

Harvard Law School has announced the appointment of U.S. District Judge Nancy Gertner as Professor of Practice. The professorships of practice at Harvard Law School are given to outstanding individuals whose teaching is informed by extensive expertise from the worlds of law practice, the judiciary, policy, and governance. Judge Gertner has been on the federal bench since 1994. Prior to that, she had a 20-year career as a lawyer, and was celebrated for her work as a criminal defense attorney and civil rights activist. In 2008, Judge Gertner became the second woman—after Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg—to receive the Thurgood Marshall Award from the American Bar Association, Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities, for both her career as a lawyer and as a judge. She will retire from the bench in September 2011. Congratulations Judge Gertner, and good luck!

Denise Jefferson Casper took the oath of office as a United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts at a public ceremony on February 18, 2011. Judge Casper served from 2007 to 2010 as the Deputy District Attorney for Middlesex County. She previously served for six years as an Assistant United States Attorney, and was a litigator at the firm now known as Bingham McCutchen LLP. After graduating from Wesleyan University and Harvard Law School, Judge Casper clerked for the Justices of the Massachusetts Appeals Court. She has also taught at the Boston University School of Law, and has been actively engaged in civic affairs including serving on the boards of the

Big Sister Association of Greater Boston and the Massachusetts Black Women Attorneys. Judge Casper succeeds Judge Reginald C. Lindsay, who died in March 2009. She is the forty-third judge to serve on the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts since it was established in 1789. Judge Casper's Judicial Assistant is Olivia Blanchette. We welcome both of them to the court family.

Welcome to Amanda P. O'Reilly, Judicial Assistant to Magistrate Judge Timothy Hillman, in Worcester. Amanda replaces Priscilla Collins, who retired last year and is a life-time member of FJAA. We encourage Amanda to join the Association, taking advantage of the one-year free membership.

District of Puerto Rico

We extend our warmest congratulations and best wishes to Magistrate Judge Justo Arenas and his Judicial Assistant, Nydia Luz Gutiérrez, on their retirement. You will be dearly missed! See related article elsewhere on this issue.

Judge Aida M. Delgado-Colón was recently appointed the District of Puerto Rico's Chief Judge. Judge Delgado succeeds Judge Fusté, upon completion of his seven-year term. Judge Delgado's judicial career commenced in 1993, when she was appointed U.S. Magistrate Judge—the first woman to hold said position in Puerto Rico. In 2006, before completing her second term as a magistrate judge, she was elevated to the position of U.S. District Judge, becoming the second woman to hold the position in the District. Before joining the Judiciary, Judge Delgado formed part of the Federal Public Defender's Office for twelve years. During said period, she occupied several positions within the office, including Acting Federal Public Defender—the first woman to hold the position there as well. At present, Judge Delgado is the District of Puerto Rico's representative in the First Circuit Judicial Council and a member of the Committee on Court Administration and Case Management of the Judicial Conference. She forms part of various District Court committees, and holds several liaison assignments as well. We wish her, and Wanda Marcano, her Judicial Assistant, the best in their new endeavors. Wanda is a member of FJAA.

Second Circuit

Janet F. Hansen

Due to a technical glitch, news from the Second Circuit was not printed in the December newsletter. Even though some of our news is now “old news,” it is still newsworthy nonetheless:

In honor of Court of Appeals Judge Wilfred Feinberg's 90th birthday on June 22, his former law clerks (103 of them!) created a scholarship fund for a first year law student at Columbia Law School. Judge Feinberg graduated from Columbia Law School in 1943. The goal was to reach at least \$150,000 in donations, but contributions went well over the mark, totaling over \$200,000. On November 11, 2010, Columbia Law School held a reception to celebrate the establishment of “The Honorable Wilfred Feinberg '43 Scholarship.” The scholarship idea came from Judge Feinberg's first law clerk, Stanley Lubman, who clerked for him in 1961. The scholarship is a wonderful honor for the Judge and a gift that will benefit Columbia Law School students for years to come.

Kelly Easton, Judicial Assistant to the Honorable Glenn T. Suddaby, informs me that our colleagues in the Northern District of New York have formed a knitting group called “The Knitwits.” They are knitting and crocheting hats for cancer survivors. The hats are collected and delivered to a local hospital. In addition, every year there is a collection bin for toys, winter hats and gloves, etc. for

needy kids. They put several collection bins throughout the building and then the items are delivered to a local charity. Hats off (no pun intended) to our NDNY colleagues! I think they are an inspiration to us all—shall we start a Circuit wide knitting effort?

The Second Circuit Court of Appeals, in conjunction with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, sponsored their annual “Toys for Tots” toy drive. In addition, they worked in conjunction with City Harvest, and collected food donations to feed the hungry (food was distributed to over 800 community feeding programs!). Donations for both programs were collected in December at 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY. Great job!

The Second Circuit participated in the 2010 Appellate CM/ECF Symposium held in November in sunny San Diego, CA. The intensive two-day program was incredibly informative, and appellate JAs are looking forward to using CM/ECF more extensively in the Second Circuit Court of Appeals in the coming months. Pictured from left to right are Oliva George, Training Specialist; Andrew Contreras, Chief Deputy Clerk; Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe, Clerk of Court (back row); Ann Pisacano, JA to Judge Sack; Barbara Whelton, JA to Judge Hall; Sue Meyer, JA to Judge Wesley; Janet Hansen, JA to Judge Cabranes and the Second Circuit Rep (b a c k row); and Eniola Ajayi, Project Manager CM/ECF.



Picture Courtesy of Ann Pisacano, J.A. to Judge Robert D. Sack

And now for our recent news:

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Judge Raymond J. Lohier, Jr. and his Judicial Assistant, Patrice R. Parris. Judge Lohier was appointed to the Court of Appeals on January 3, 2011, and his chambers are located in New York City. Prior to his appointment, Judge Lohier was an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District U.S. Attorney's Office. Welcome Judge Lohier and Patrice!

One of our members, Jeanette Santos, (J.A. to Judge Debra Livingston of the Court of Appeals) is now home on maternity leave. We wish Jeanette a fast, smooth delivery as her baby boy enters the world, and we send our best wishes to the Santos family for good health and lots of happiness! Congratulations on this very special arrival!

We would like to congratulate Peggy Irving (Former Chief, Article III Judges Division, Office of Judges Programs, AO) on her retirement. Thank you Peggy for all you have done for JAs! Peggy was one of the JA's staunchest allies in the AO—always available to help us in all matters, large or small, and also protected our backs even when we didn't know our backs were exposed! Peggy, we wish you a very happy and fulfilling retirement. Enjoy and thank you!

We also would like to welcome Michelle Reed to her new position at the AO—she has been appointed Acting Division Chief. Michelle is another protector of JAs. Congratulations Michelle! We look forward to working with you in the years to come!

The Court of Appeals is in the midst of developing the chambers component of CM/ECF and will be going live soon. We look forward to joining the other Circuits who have already implemented this new case management system.

We wish everyone a very Happy Spring!

Janet F. Hansen
Judicial Assistant to Judge José A. Cabranes
U.S. Court of Appeals

Third Circuit - Roseanne Lambiase



Please send us your news!!!

Fourth Circuit Suzanne Thorne Barber

Donna Cowan has been appointed as the Fourth Circuit representative on the Judges' Secretaries Advisory Group (JSAG). She replaces Sandy Hanning, who has served since 2008. Congratulations to Donna on this appointment And thanks to Sandy for her service to all Fourth Circuit JA's.



Congratulations to the following newly appointed judges: Hon. Albert Diaz, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit; Hon. Max Cogburn, District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina; Hon. James K. Bredar, District Judge for the District of Maryland; Hon. Catherine C. Eagles, District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina; Hon. John A. Gibney, Jr., District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia; Hon. Ellen Lipton Hollander, District Judge for the District of Maryland; and, Hon. Cheryl A. Eifert, U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia. So much activity in the Fourth Circuit should help to boost our membership numbers. If you know the JA's for these newly-appointed judges, please encourage them to join the FJAA.

U. S. Senior Judge Robert Earl Maxwell, Northern District of West Virginia, passed away on November 20, 2010, after serving 45 years on the bench. He was 86 years old. Our sympathies to his court family.

5TH CIRCUIT NEWS**Lisa P. Martin****NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI
TONI EVERETT RETIRES AFTER 26 YEARS**

Toni Everett began working for Judge Biggers on June 4, 1984. Toni says that she has loved every minute of it, and could not have worked for a better person. What she has enjoyed most is the opportunity to learn something new every day. She fought back tears as she said that she never once dreaded coming to work. "The people in the court family have been great. I am going to miss everyone." Toni said that some of her fondest memories come from when she first started and there was only one Magistrate Judge to handle as many as 500 cases. She said the work load was intense, and there was a lot of travel involved, but Judge Biggers would make sure that they would learn something or see something along the way on each of those trips. In her last few days, Toni hopes "to leave things well; I want to make sure that the Judge will be taken care of." When she retires, she said she can't imagine not working on something. Toni plans on doing some volunteer work. Her main goal is that she always wants to feel satisfied at the end of the day; she doesn't want to feel like she's wasted anything. For now her plans are to simply "do some good, give back." Toni has relocated to Florida to be near her daughters, sisters and grandchildren.

6th Circuit News**WDTN**

Magistrate Judges Tu M. Pham, and Diane Vescovo, WDTN, were recently reappointed to an eight year term as magistrate judges. This is Judge Pham's second reappointment and Judge Vescovo's third reappointment.

Circuit Judge Ronald Lee Gilman took senior status on November 21, 2010, exactly 13 years after President Bill Clinton appointed him to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in November of 1997. Rather than retire, Judge Gilman has simply reduced his caseload by 25% and will continue to hear appeals both within the Sixth Circuit and as a visiting judge with other circuits around the country.

***Beverly D. Gerken***

The Clerk's Office for the WDTN held a training session for the judicial assistants/secretaries on the new features of CM/ECF Version 5.0. One of the features I'm excited about is that it has the capability to do a full text search. You will be able to search documents and docket text in the court's live and archive servers.

The Clerk's Office IT systems team held a Security Training class titled, "Don't Click, Part II" to discuss how to recognize your role in IT security and how to protect yourself and the network from computer viruses and malicious software.

On February 18, 2011, the Court Family held a Lasagna Bake Off. First Place Winner: - Folsom Family Lasagna Fricassee- Ms. Patricia Brignole grew up in the home town of Johnny Cash -- Dyess, Arkansas. And it was here that she not only learned "to walk the line", but also to cook what she terms a "lasagna casserole." This wonderful blend of noodles, meat sauce, and cheese is so powerfully good it will put a ring of fire around its competition. Second Place Winner: The West-Memphis Lasagna A-la-mode Ms. Phyllis Barnett, the HR Specialist in the District Court, draws from her superb culinary skills and experience to bring us an entry straight from the tenured and regionally renown area of West Memphis, Arkansas. And, while most of the court family knows Phyllis as a shy and mild-mannered HR professional, what most do not know is that she is a cooking super-woman far surpassing the likes of Martha Stewart, Rachal Ray, and any of the Reality TV cooks of the day. Phyllis is best known for her cakes and other confections, but she is a true contender in this Lasagna Bake-Off. We had 9 participants and approximately 72 pounds of lasagna. All court staff got to taste test and votes were tallied following the input of three Court celebrity judges in an American-Idol-styled competition. The Chief Judge has tasked us with making the next bake-off something a bit more healthier :-). The law clerks brought in an array of desserts. 1st place winner received a 3' metal fork and 2nd place received a 3' metal spoon to accent their walls.

SDOH

My name is Donna Vinolus, but I prefer to go by my nickname which is "dj." I worked part-time for Judge Rice from 1999 until 2003 when he served as Chief Judge of our District. When Judge Rice's JA retired, I was asked if I was interested in coming back to work and I jumped at the chance! I have been married to my husband, Athan, for 18 years and have two boys, Alexander (almost 15) and Nicholas (almost 13). The hobbies that I enjoy when I have time include decorative painting, interior decorating, and reading. I was blessed to spend seven years being a stay-at-home mom. I enjoy being back at work, especially when I work with such great people in the Dayton courthouse. DJ has already taken advantage of the one-year free membership. Welcome aboard.

NDOH

Congratulations to Bettye Rhinehart (NDOH) for being selected as the new Sixth Circuit rep for the Judges Secretaries Advisory Group (JSAG) for a two year term. Special thanks to Karen Hillebrand (EDMI) for her excellent work during her term.

SEVENTH CIRCUIT NEWS

I'd like to introduce two new Judicial Assistants in the Seventh Circuit, Dawn Monroe is Judge Lynn Adelman's (Eastern District of Wisconsin), and Tanya L. Brown, who goes by the name TL, is assistant to the Honorable Tanya Walton Pratt (Southern District, Indiana), the first African-American federal judge in Indiana history.

Dawn began her career with the district court on July 28, 2008, as a Court Services Generalist. She provided secretarial assistance to the district judges and magistrate judges when their secretaries were either ill or on vacation. She started working for Judge Adelman when his assistant retired in September of 2010. Outside of work, Dawn especially enjoys gardening, reading and doing jigsaw puzzles.



Melissa Hardin

TL worked for 10 years as a Legal Assistant with the law firm of Dann Pecar Newman & Kleiman,

and then started working with Judge Pratt in 1992 as her paralegal at the law firm of Walton & Pratt. She then went on to serve as her Court Administrator during Judge Pratt's first term on the Marion County Superior Court bench. Afterward, TL returned to the law firm of Dann Pecar where she remained for another 12 years until Judge Pratt called her following her confirmation; it was an offer too good to refuse so she again left Dann Pecar to join our federal court family in July 2010. TL and her husband, Earnest, Sr., have been married for 36 years and are the proud parents of three adult children and proud grandparents of seven grandchildren, ranging in age from 17 years to 18 months old. They are avid competitive bowlers and can be found most nights at one of their local bowling alleys. When not bowling, TL likes to write murder mysteries; so far she's written two full length mysteries -- not published yet but we'll let you know when that happens so everyone can go get a copy.

We also have news from two of our retired members. Shirley Newsome has been appointed by the Mayor of Chicago as to serve as Alderman of the Fourth Ward. Her term will run until May 16th. Then, instead of running for a full term as Alderman, she plans to return to her volunteer activities.

Ferle Terry reports that District Judge David Coar (Chicago) recently retired. Ferle was his first secretary when he started his judicial career as a Bankruptcy Judge in 1986 and worked with him for 8 years, until he moved over to District Court. While Ferle worked with Magistrate Judge Arlander Keys for the next 13 years, she kept in contact with Judge Coar and attended a wonderful weekend of parties for him organized by his current crop of law clerks. After 24 years on the bench, Judge Coar had 2 judicial assistants, 1 courtroom deputy and 35+ law clerks.

Have a great spring! Melissa

EIGHTH CIRCUIT NEWS



Rebecca Baertsch

Happy spring! I am pleased to welcome two new Eighth Circuit members to the FJAA:

Colby Jackson joined Magistrate Judge Nannette A. Baker in the United States District Court - Eastern District of Missouri on February 8, 2011. Judge Baker filled the vacancy created by the appointment of Judge Audrey Fleissig to District Judge. Since 2008, Colby has served as Judicial Administrative Assistant to Judge Baker in the Missouri Court of Appeals - Eastern District located in Saint Louis, Missouri. Prior to working with Judge Baker, he spent ten years working in an administrative assistant capacity. Colby recently graduated from Saint Louis University with a Bachelor's of Science in Computer Science. He intends to pursue his Juris Doctorate at Saint Louis University beginning in the fall of 2012. In his free time, Colby enjoys golfing, reading, camping, traveling, and spending time with his nieces and nephews.

Melissa Erstad began working for the District of Minnesota's newest Magistrate Judge, Steven E. Rau, in January. Melissa has been with the District of Minnesota since April 2007 and was the Assistant to the Chief Deputy and Court Reporter/Court Interpreter Coordinator. Prior to joining the Court, she was a paralegal for a St. Paul law firm. Melissa lives in Minneapolis with her husband, Eric, and their son, Sawyer. She enjoys snowboarding, running, and playing superheroes in her free time.

Congratulations to Magistrate Judge Steven E. Rau who was sworn in as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the District of Minnesota on January 14, 2011. His chambers is located in St. Paul, Minnesota. Judge Rau was born and raised in Massachusetts. He received his undergraduate degree from Carleton College in 1978 and his law degree with honors from William Mitchell College of Law in 1983. After graduating from law school, he served as a law clerk to Chief Justice Douglas K. Amdahl at the Minnesota Supreme Court from 1983 to 1984. He then joined the firm of Lindquist & Vennum in Minneapolis. Since 2000, he has practiced with the firm of Flynn, Gaskins, Bennett, where he specialized in litigation of employment, business, and commercial cases. Judge Rau is very active in the Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and takes particular pride in two initiatives for which he played a major role: he FBA's Federal Transportation Program that provides quarterly bus transportation for children of mothers serving time in the federal prison at Pekin, Illinois, and the *Pro Se* Project which is a collaborative effort between the Minnesota federal court and the Minnesota Chapter of the FBA.

Congratulations to Judge Susan Richard Nelson who was sworn in as a U.S. District Judge for the District of Minnesota on December 17, 2010. Her chambers is located in St. Paul, Minnesota. Judge Nelson served the past decade as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the District of Minnesota and was nominated by President Obama to fill the judgeship previously held by Judge James M. Rosenbaum. Judge Nelson received her undergraduate degree from Oberlin College and attended Pittsburgh Law School. Following graduation, she practiced in Pittsburgh and eventually joined the Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi L.L.P. firm in 1984. Judge Nelson was an integral part of the litigation team representing the State of Minnesota and the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Insurance Company in an action against the tobacco companies. Among her many talents, Judge Nelson is a wonderful cellist.

After our harsh winter, the Eighth Circuit is very much looking forward to spring!

Ninth Circuit News



Stephanie Lawley

Kathryn Vitalie, Judicial Assistant to Senior District Judge Edward C. Reed of Reno, Nevada, retired on February 28, 2011 after nine years of service with her judge. Her fellow JAs treated her to a retirement luncheon party and presented her with flowers and a beautiful bracelet. Kathryn is looking forward to traveling with her family and friends this summer, remaining active in her church, golfing, and many days of leisure! Congratulations Kathryn, you will be missed!

Judge David R. Thompson, Senior Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge, passed away in February while in San Francisco to hear oral arguments. Judge M. Margaret McKeown recalled Thompson as “a quiet force of common sense and fairness” who “never lost his analytical edge, and never lost his heart.” Thompson was nominated to the Ninth Circuit bench in 1985 by then-President Ronald Reagan. He took senior status on Dec.31, 1998, but continued to carry a substantial caseload while also serving as the court’s death penalty case coordinator.

U.S. District Judge John Roll

On behalf of all Judicial Assistants in the Ninth Circuit, I offer our condolences to Judge Roll's staff in the wake of his tragic death. We realize that the tragedy that occurred in Tucson will inevitably continue to present difficult situations for the Arizona courts. We will strive to do our best to honor Judge Roll's memory as we serve the judiciary. President Obama recently signed into law a bill that names the soon-to-be-built courthouse in Yuma, Arizona after U.S. District Judge John Roll.



TENTH CIRCUIT

From Kansas, I received the following note from Mary Hale (USMJs Rushfelt & Waxse): "I have not renewed my membership because it looks like I will be retiring June 30 this year. Although I work for both Judge David Waxse and Judge Gerald Rushfelt, I am assigned to Judge Rushfelt and it appears that he will not be recalled again. I wanted to work another year but I'm close enough so I'll just go a bit sooner than planned. I will see more of my family, take on more jobs at church, get my house and yard in order and smell a few roses."

From Utah, Chris Ford (Sr.USDJ Campbell) wrote: "It finally happened! We broke ground for our new courthouse on February 24, 2011. The ceremony included brief remarks from Judge Tena Campbell, Senator Orrin Hatch, former Senator Bob Bennett, Governor Gary Herbert, the architects and the general manager of Oakland Construction Company. Construction should take about three years (hopefully). Downtown Salt Lake City is going to be beyond beautiful with the addition of our new courthouse and the completion of the City Creek Center four blocks north of the courthouse. City Creek boasts not only shopping and theaters but beautiful condominiums and shopping plazas and should really revitalize downtown. We have missed not having a Nordstrom in close proximity.

I also heard from another Kansas member, Sheryl Gilchrist (JSMJ Sebelius): "The best news for me is that as of February 21, 2011, Judge Sebelius was re-appointed to the bench for eight more years. Yea!! Sheryl has job security!"

And from New Mexico, we're having lunch on Friday 3/18 to honor Carla Eyberg (USMJ Scott) who will be retiring the end of this month. Carla has been with the courts for many years and we are sad to see her go. However, she will have more time to travel and enjoy the best of life.

CONGRATULATIONS to our retirees.

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

Barbara Lay

Greetings from the 11th Circuit: I intended to have this great article ready about “What I did on My Summer Vacation” But, alas, here it is almost time for my next fishing adventure in the Florida Keys in June, and I have run out of time as usual to tell you about the 7 1/2 foot Sailfish I caught off the coast of Nicaragua. We’ll save that for another day.

I’d like to give a big welcome to our new 11th Circuit members: Melanie Alig, JA to Chief Judge Lisa Godby Wood, Southern District of GA; Sandi Edwards, JA to Chief Magistrate Judge Susan Russ Walker, Middle District of AL; Katherine Farias (Kitty), JA to Judge William S. Duffey, Jr., Northern District of GA; Susan T. Garner, JA to Chief Judge Julie E. Carnes, Northern District of GA; Gina P. Griffis, Executive Administrative Assistant to Judge W. Louis Sands, Middle District of GA; Elizabeth James, JA to Judge Beverly B. Martin, 11th Circuit Court of Appeals; Carlos Pelaez, JA to Judge Rosemary Barkett, 11th Circuit Court of Appeals; and Betty Samuel, JA to Judge Charlene Honeywell, Middle District of FL. Wow! Is that a great list of new members or what! I hope you all make it to the upcoming conference in Seattle, WA. We’d love to see you there! Some of these new members have also volunteered for committee work. Way to Go!!

Congratulations to Bridgett Godwin, Executive Administrator to Judge Phyllis A. Kravitch, 30 years of federal service!

One last thing for now: thank you to all the loyal members who continue to renew their membership year after year. You all are such an important part of the FJAA. Don’t forget to reach out to each other for help or information – believe me they will come through for you.

Take care. See you next time with some great fish stories – and maybe some court news, too!

**D.C. CIRCUIT & FEDERAL CIRCUIT -
SHARON DEARE**



PLEASE SEND US YOUR NEWS!

**DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA'S OPEN DOORS TO
FEDERAL COURTS PROGRAM RECEIVES
ABA OUTSTANDING LAW DAY ACTIVITY AWARD**

Rebecca Baertsch is the Judicial Assistant to The Honorable Donovan W. Frank
and the FJAA Eighth Circuit Representative

On February 11, 2011, the American Bar Association presented one of three 2010 Outstanding Law Day Activity Awards to the United States District Court - District of Minnesota for its Open Doors to Federal Courts program. Rebecca Fanning, National Outreach Manager for the Federal Courts, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, chose the District of Minnesota's program as the only federal court program to be nominated for this award.

The Open Doors program is the culmination of twelve years of program development by the Honorable Donovan W. Frank and his Judicial Assistant, Rebecca Baertsch, who, with the assistance of volunteers from throughout the District have created an annual program that encourages young people from rural and inner city areas to pursue careers in the justice system. Each year the District of Minnesota brings together diverse students from small, rural schools and large urban schools to participate in a mock trial and a career showcase. The 2010 program attracted 40 justice system volunteers and 60 high school students, bringing the number of participants over the past 12 years to more than 400 volunteers and nearly 800 students.

Judge Frank, Assistant U.S. Attorney Ann Anaya, and Assistant Federal Defender Manny Atwal have contributed their talents as faculty members for many years and Becky Thorson, Annie Huang, Assistant U.S. Attorney David Steinkamp, and Assistant Federal Defender Kate Menendez have also participated as faculty in past years. For the past two years, Magistrate Judge Jeanne J. Graham and Training Specialist Charlie Cree have shared their talents as screen writers to write and tweak our scripts. Courthouse volunteers from both Chambers and the Clerk's Office serve each year as greeters and escorts throughout the program, enabling the students to come face-to-face with a variety of careers throughout the courthouse.

"It is critical to the diversity of the judicial system that we open the doors to our courthouses to future generations and encourage young people from rural and inner city areas to serve as future jurors and to pursue careers in the justice system" explained Judge Frank. "The Open Doors to Federal Courts program strives to show students the best of the civil and criminal justice system. All participants encourage the students to follow their dreams. This is the mission of the District of Minnesota's Open Doors to Federal Courts program and I am pleased that the District has received national recognition for its efforts in this regard."

Assistant U.S. Attorney Ann Anaya echoes the same sentiments, "It has been a true pleasure to be involved in the program and witness the sparks of interest in legal careers brighten the eyes of the participants."

There are a countless number of other attorneys and staff who have volunteered to serve as witnesses for the mock trials, and each year there are approximately five interactive career showcase presenters ranging from Pretrial Services and Probation Officers, Secret Service Agents, FBI Agents, Deputy U.S. Marshals, State Troopers, Police Officers, and Court Reporters. It is thanks to the numerous volunteers that the District of Minnesota is able to put on such a high quality program deserving of this award. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who has participated in the Open Doors to Federal Courts program over the past 12 years!



Welcome to New Hires:

- 1st Circuit - Sandra Marques, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Gustavo A. Gelpi
- 2nd Circuit - Carolyn Della Pietra, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Vanessa Lynne Bryant
- 4th Circuit - Christina A. Ergott, Secretary to Hon. William M. Nickerson
- 4th Circuit - Kathy T. Lancaster, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Max O. Cogburn
- 5th Circuit - Jackie R. Losset, Judicial Assistant to Circuit Judge James E. Graves
- 8th Circuit - Colby D. Jackson, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Nannette A. Baker
- 9th Circuit - Candace T. Knab, Secretary to Hon. Edward C. Reed
- 10th Circuit - Sharon L. Kindred, Secretary to Hon. William Joseph Martinez
- DC Circuit - R. Marlene Taylor, Secretary to Hon. Robert L. Wilkins
- Fed Circuit - William Todd Ambrose, Administrative Assistant to Hon. Kathleen M. O'Malley

2011 JSAG Representatives:

- 1st Circuit - Marsha Heath
- 2nd Circuit - Janet Hansen
- 3rd Circuit - Pam Jewell
- 4th Circuit - Madonna Cowan
- 5th Circuit - Eva Gonzalez
- 6th Circuit - Bettye Rhinehart
- 7th Circuit - Melissa Hardin
- 8th Circuit - Heather Krafft
- 9th Circuit - Debra Newman
- 10th Circuit - Darlene Toal
- 11th Circuit - Martie Kantor
- DC Circuit - Annette Huskey Mains
- Court of International Trade - Sarah Mallo

FJAA MEMBERS NEEDED

If you have not sent in your renewal membership, or if you haven't joined FJAA, it's never too late — contact your circuit representative listed in this newsletter—guarantee your copy of the Newsletter in your electronic mailbox and an opportunity to participate in the annual educational conference.

Wanda Pownall (11th Circuit - retired) is the lucky winner of the \$100 membership drawing for paying her dues prior to the March 31st deadline. Way to go Wanda!



CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVE

Please stay in touch with your circuit representative with newsworthy items for the next issue of the newsletter.

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Go to www.fjaa.net for a complete list of officers, circuit representatives, committee memberships, and other great information.

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Keep your issues of *In Brief* coming to your electronic mailboxes. If you have not sent in your renewal membership, mail your check to your circuit representative today. Your membership must be current in order to continue receiving the FJAA Newsletter. A listing of circuit representatives is also within this newsletter. Go on line at www.fjaa.net for more information.

You are invited to write articles for our Newsletter. Help keep our membership informed not only in reporting in and about the Circuits but also submitting informational and educational articles. Stories of interesting travels, special triumphs, and fundraising achievements are also welcome.

The purpose of the Federal Judicial Assistants Association (FJAA) is to promote the general welfare of its members: to encourage the highest ethical standards of conduct; to promote continuing education and professional development; to further the exchange of ideas and practical information related to judicial support; and to foster a feeling of camaraderie and mutual confidence among its members. *In Brief* is a non-copyrighted, in-house publication of the FJAA. Circulation includes members and potential members of the FJAA. Opinions recited herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the FJAA.

FJAA MEMBERSHIP REPORT - AS OF APRIL 8, 2011
WE HAVE 277 PAID MEMBERS

FJAA TREASURER'S REPORT

Thank you for the honor and privilege to serve as your FJAA Treasurer. As your new Treasurer, I have implemented the use of Intuit's QuickBooks Financial Software for maintaining our books. I look forward to providing you with reports of our finances.

As of March 31, 2011, our Chase Checking Account balance is \$13,898.95 and our Chase Savings Account balance is \$14,987.35.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted by
Carla Gibson Baker,
FJAA Treasurer

Help Wanted

FJAA is seeking an Editor to publish its quarterly *In Brief* newsletter. Our previous editor, Martha Gore, has retired after many wonderful years of service. FJAA will provide all software necessary for publishing the newsletter. Are you willing to help?? If you or someone you know would be great in this very important position, please contact jenny_rudolph@laed.uscourts.gov for additional details.