

## IN BRIEF

## Federal Judicial FJAA Assistants Association

## OFFICERS 2011-2012

**PRESIDENT - JENNY RUDOLPH**

c/o Hon. Alma L. Chasez  
 U.S. Courthouse, Room B-347  
 500 Poydras Street  
 New Orleans, LA 70130  
 Phone: 504-589-7610

**PRESIDENT-ELECT - TRACY CASTLE-DIAZ**

c/o Hon. Carmen E. Garza  
 U.S. Courthouse,  
 100 North Church Street  
 Las Cruces, NM 88001  
 Phone: 575-528-1675

**VICE PRESIDENT - GUDRUN SWOBODA**

c/o Hon. William H. Baughman, Jr.  
 U.S. Courthouse, #10A  
 801 W. Superior Ave.  
 Cleveland, OH 44113  
 Phone: 216-357-7220

**SECRETARY - CATHY B. GRAY**

c/o Hon. Jon P. McCalla  
 Clifford Davis and Odell Horton  
 Federal Building  
 167 North Main Street, Room 1157  
 Memphis, TN 38103  
 Phone: Voice: 901-495-1291

**TREASURER—CARLA GIBSON BAKER**

c/o Hon. Karen Wells Roby  
 Hale Boggs Federal Bldg. #B-437  
 500 Poydras Street  
 New Orleans, LA 70130  
 Phone: 504-589-7616

**PAST PRESIDENT—GWENDOLYN HUNTER**

c/o Hon. Lance M. Africk  
 U.S. Courthouse, #C-405  
 500 Poydras Street  
 New Orleans, LA 70130  
 Phone: 504-589-7605

**PARLIAMENTARIAN—CYNTHIA CHAPMAN**

c/o Hon. Henry F. Floyd  
 U.S. Courthouse, 2nd Fl.  
 201 Magnolia Street  
 Spartanburg, SC 29306  
 Phone: 864-591-5300



*Jenny Rudolph, President*

Hello again! I don't know about you, but time sure seems to be flying by these days. It's almost spring and in some parts of the country, it already is, since many of us had a relatively mild winter. I hope this newsletter finds each of you safe and healthy!

I also hope this newsletter finds its way into the mailbox of many new members! At a time when our positions seem to be vanishing rapidly, it is more important than ever to have the benefit of such an organization. This Association is YOUR voice. Please encourage your fellow JAs and secretaries to renew or join today! I sincerely believe the FJAA is still a great value for your money!

Every year the president of FJAA is invited to listen in on monthly calls of the Judges Secretaries Advisory Group ("JSAG"), as well as to attend the annual meeting in Washington, D.C. JSAG facilitates communications with judicial assistants and secretaries within their circuits; it recommends training programs and materials to assist judicial assistants and secretaries with chambers operations; and it reviews policies and recommendations affecting judicial assistants and secretaries, as necessary. The FJAA is honored to be involved in such an important focus group. And, you as members, have a voice in D.C. through our inclusion. As president of FJAA, I was invited to attend the annual meeting of JSAG in Washington, D.C. a couple of weeks ago. We learned that many new and interesting things are on the horizon. Please be on the look-out for the JSAG Quarterly Bulletin for very exciting information about the Learning Matrix and many other important subjects that you will find of benefit.

In the next couple of months the Nominations and Elections Committee will begin seeking nominations for our annual election. To those of you who have already expressed an interest in becoming involved, this is your opportunity. For those of you who have not yet done so, please consider what you have to offer our FJAA.

(continued on next page)

(continued) We strongly encourage your involvement and need fresh faces and talents to keep us strong. In addition to the FJAA Board of Directors and Circuit Representatives for each circuit, there are many committees within the Association that we maintain each year. Further information on how to nominate someone for a position is included within this newsletter. Please visit [www.fjaa.net](http://www.fjaa.net) for a listing of all positions and standing committees.

Our San Diego conference committee is already hard at work planning the annual conference. They are diligently working on making the agenda so that it will be educational and interesting. The hotel information and registration form are included within this newsletter. The committee prepared a wealth of information on things to do while in San Diego, which is also inside this edition. Make your hotel reservation early as the room block usually sells out fast. Please remember to use the FJAA room block and no other rates, as we are required to have a specific number of rooms in order to get the meeting space without cost.

The March 31<sup>st</sup> membership drawing winner was announced in the email sending you this edition of *In Brief*. For those of you who have renewed already, THANK YOU so much on behalf of the Association. Once again, please encourage your friends and co-workers to renew their membership or join FJAA.

Let me close by reiterating the importance of being a member of FJAA. In addition to providing educational opportunities for our members via our annual conference and our scholarship program, we are able to network and get to know other people from around the country who do what we do on a daily basis. You never know when one of these valuable contacts will be beneficial to your position. Hopefully, this year, our membership numbers will far surpass what they have been!

Happy spring!

Jenny Rudolph

## CIRCUIT NEWS



### First Circuit

Spring Greetings! I have nothing to report at this time and encourage my colleagues to send me news from their respective courts for future editions of our newsletter.

I wish to thank those Secretaries/Judicial Assistants from the Circuit and our Districts who have joined or renewed. However, the numbers are still down and we need to keep those applications and checks coming! Please reach out to **new** Secretaries/JAs and remind them of the complimentary one-year membership and remind others **not so new** about renewing or joining. Together we should promote the FJAA goals and remember that, as our Association grows, so does our collective voice. I have been a member since joining the courts in 1985 and can attest to its hard work and many achievements. Thank you. Mari Rosa Jorge

## Second Circuit

*Janet Hansen*

### Second Circuit Court of Appeals:

The Second Circuit Court of Appeals is mourning the sudden passing, on February 18, 2012, of the Honorable Roger J. Miner. Judge Miner served on the Court of Appeals since 1981.

Judge Miner was an “active” senior judge and was still sitting on the bench up until the time of his passing. We send our sincerest condolences to the Miner family and to his court family, including his Judicial Assistant Shirley Hicks.

The Honorable Christopher F. Droney was officially inducted as a Court of Appeals judge on Monday, March 12, 2012, in a Special Ceremonial Session of the Court of Appeals held at the Federal Courthouse in Hartford, CT. In addition to the many district, magistrate and bankruptcy judges in attendance from the District of Connecticut, as well as judges from the Court of Appeals, we were honored to have in attendance the Governor of Connecticut, Dannel P. Malloy, and Connecticut’s two senators, Joseph Lieberman and Richard Blumenthal. It was a wonderful affair and we welcome Judge Droney and his Judicial Assistant, Gail Szczygiel, to our Court.

### Southern District of New York:

The Honorable Denise Cote assumed “Senior Status” on December 15, 2011.

The Honorable Andrew Carter was appointed a U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of New York on December 12, 2011. At the time of his appointment, Judge Carter was serving, since 2009, as a Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of New York. Congratulations Judge Carter!

Assistant United States Attorney Jesse Furman was appointed a U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of New York on February 17, 2012. Judge Furman had previously clerked for the Honorable Michael B. Mukasey, while he was on the bench for the Southern District of New York, and for the Honorable Jose A. Cabranes of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. I had the pleasure of working with Jesse during his clerkship with Judge Cabranes, and I wish him all the best in his new career as Judge Furman.

### Western District of New York:

The dedication ceremony for the opening of the beautiful new Federal Courthouse in Buffalo, New York, is scheduled for May 3, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.



### District of Connecticut:

The Honorable Peter C. Dorsey passed away on January 25, 2012. Judge Dorsey will be sorely missed by all who had the good fortune to know him. Although he was known as a fair judge, and for being a wonderful person, he will most be remembered for his “gift of gab.” Judge Dorsey never forgot his Irish roots, treating all in the courthouse to corned beef and cabbage on St. Patrick’s Day and to his infamous “homemade” egnog at Christmas time. And so it is very fitting that the Federal Practice Section honored Judge Dorsey with an “Irish wake” and storytelling tribute on March 14, 2012. I’m sure his Irish eyes were smiling down on all. We send our condolences to Judge Dorsey’s family, and to his court family including his Judicial Assistant, Karin Miller Dillon.

The Court will be hosting the Federal Practice Section meeting on May 9, 2012 at the Ribicoff Federal Building in Hartford, CT. Demonstrations of the newly installed high-tech equipment will be provided and attorneys will be given an opportunity to try it out and become familiar with the equipment. Members of the Hartford Bar have also been invited to attend.

The Second Circuit wishes everyone a healthy, happy Spring!

Janet F. Hansen

## THIRD Circuit



*Roseanna Lambiase*

Can you believe it? Today, March 14th at 1:30 P.M. the temperature outside is almost 72 degrees and it will probably go higher as the day goes on. The hyacinths and daffodils are in full bloom and the cherry blossoms in Branch Brook Park are beginning to display their glory. This usually happens in May! We have enjoyed the mildest winter ever! Well, after the last winter, we deserve a break. About now, you are probably thinking, is weather the only thing this gal has to report? Actually, I do have other news.

We have two Magistrate Judges waiting for confirmation of their respective elevations. Magistrate Judge Patty Shwartz is awaiting confirmation to fill a vacancy on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, and Magistrate Judge Michael A. Shipp will fill one of two judgeship vacancies in the District Court of New Jersey.

President Barack Obama nominated Magistrate Judge Patty Shwartz to serve on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals to replace U.S. Circuit Judge Maryanne T. Barry who assumed senior status last June. The Judiciary Committee approved her nomination and sent her name to the full Senate for confirmation on March 8th. Prior to her Magistrate Judge appointment, Judge Shwartz served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in Newark for several years, most recently as head of the Criminal Division.

Also awaiting confirmation is Magistrate Judge Michael A. Shipp who was nominated to fill one of two vacant judgeships in the U.S. District Court. President Obama nominated Judge Shipp on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and the Judiciary Committee is considering his nomination today. I'll have more details to report next time.

For the past two terms, we have had the benefit of a *pro bono* law clerk. Having an extra law clerk has been a blessing. Our courts are being inundated with dispositive motions and having the additional clerk has been a great help. If you are not already utilizing the services of a *pro bono* law clerk, you might want to discuss it with your judge. There are talented young lawyers who, due to the present job situation, are unable to find suitable employment and would be happy to work in the chambers of a magistrate or district judge, even if they don't get paid. The benefits (and there are many) may not be monetary, but it's the best job they will ever have.

That's it for now. Enjoy the wonderful springtime weather.

Roseanna Lambiase

**Note from Editor:** You can look at Roseanne's suggestion two ways: it could be the answer to the **three law clerks vs two LCs and a JA** discussion currently going on in our association, or it could be the deciding factor in your judge eventually replacing you with another law clerk. I think it all depends on your own unique situation with your judge, and only you can make that call.

The Eastern District of Virginia has a newly appointed U.S. Magistrate Judge. David John Novak, who was appointed in February, is replacing Magistrate Judge Dennis Dohnal who recently retired. He received his undergraduate degree from St. Vincent College in 1983 and his law degree from Villanova University in 1986. Judge Novak has been a Federal Prosecutor for over 20 years. He joined the United States Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of Virginia in 1994, after three years at the United States Attorney's Office in the Southern District of Texas. Judge Novak was a highly decorated Federal Prosecutor, having received numerous awards for his service. From 2009 until his current appointment, Judge Novak served as Chief of the Criminal Division for the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia. Barbara Kreuter, who has worked for four previous judges, is his judicial assistant.

Federal Judge Diana Motz, of Maryland, a longtime member of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, is one of six women named to the 2012 Maryland Women's Hall of Fame. A Clinton appointee to the court in 1994, Judge Motz was the first Maryland woman appointed to the court and only the second woman in the court's 150 year history. The former Baltimore lawyer, assistant Maryland attorney general and chief of litigation for the Attorney General's office was appointed to the Maryland Court of Appeals in 1991. She was appointed to the federal bench three years later. Judge Motz, a Johns Hopkins University and Johns Hopkins Hospital trustee, has also received the Rita C. Davidson Award from the Women's Bar Association of Maryland, that organization's highest honor, as well as the Distinguished Woman award from the Girl Scouts of Central Maryland. The Hall of Fame honors Maryland women who made "unique and lasting contributions to the economic, political cultural and social life of the state, and who provide visible models of achievement for tomorrow's female leaders."

## Fourth Circuit



*Dianne Hillman*



Hon. Diane Motz

On January 31, Gloria Burnside celebrated her retirement, having worked for the government for over thirty-eight years. Her friends, co-workers and family attended her retirement luncheon held at the Summit Club in Columbia to wish her well. Chief Judge Margaret B. Seymour, Gloria's latest boss, served as master of ceremonies. Judicial Assistant Gwen Kittrell blessed the food. Special guest speaker was the Honorable Henry M. Herlong, Jr. Upon his appointment as magistrate judge, he hired Gloria as his secretary. He pointed out that she worked for six judges during her career—two magistrate judges, one senior district judge, one Fourth Circuit judge and two chief district judges. Judge Herlong praised Gloria for her commitment to her work, family, friends, and her "other" job—real estate. Gloria has owned a real estate company for ten years and has worked part-time in the business for 28 years. Gloria also has the distinction of working in all three branches of the federal government. Her first job was at McIntyre Air National Guard followed by a job with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Serving as an administrative assistant in Strom Thurmond's Columbia office, Gloria gained her legislative experience. In 1986 she began her judicial career.

(continued on next page)

(continued)

Next, Cindi Hubbard, Past President of the Federal Judicial Assistants Association, commended Gloria for her valued membership with the association. Cindi shared that Gloria has always been a great friend, one to give advice and help, and that her presence would surely be missed at the annual conferences. With appreciation and friendship, Cindi presented Gloria with two gifts from the judicial assistants in Charleston. Chief Judge Seymour presented Gloria with a framed print of the Matthew J. Perry, Jr. Courthouse that was signed by all the judges and a certificate of retirement. Gloria also received an iPad purchased with donations from the Court family.

We all wish Gloria the best in her retirement as she enjoys her beach house and working her “other” career — real estate. Gloria said it has been a wonderful 38 years.



Judicial Assistants are Nancy Rumchak (retired), Cindy Chapman, Lisa Richberg, Kristina Kusa, Gwen Kittrell, Gloria, Dianne Hillman, Cindi Hubbard, and Janice Pearce.



## Fifth Circuit



*Glenda Signal*

Greetings from the Big Easy!

Hope this article finds all of you well and enjoying the longer evenings! Here's what's happening in our neck of the woods!

### **Appeals Court News**

Both Martha Ponder, Judicial Assistant to Judge Leslie Southwick, and Mona Martin, Judicial Assistant to Judge Edward C. Prado, retired on 12/31/2011. Judge Southwick's new Judicial Assistant is Sharon Berryman who entered on duty on 1/3/2012. Judge Prado's new Judicial Assistant is Mary Beth Byrd who entered on duty on 1/16/2012.

A very warm welcome to Judge Stephen A. Higginson who was sworn in March 5, 2012. His Judicial Assistant is Sharon Johnson.

(continued on next page)

(continued)

## US DISTRICT COURT NEWS

Once again welcome to District Court Judges Nanette Jolivette Brown (Judicial Assistant Heidi Rouselle) and Jane Triche Milazzo (Judicial Assistant Mary Medders).

On a more somber note, as a result of the impending June 5, 2012 retirement of Magistrate Judge Louis Moore, Jr., I may not be your representative much longer. I will keep you updated as to my status once Judge Moore retires.

## SIXTH Circuit

*Kelly Kopf*



**Kathy Susor** retired as Judicial Assistant to U. S. District Judge J. Daniel Breen in Jackson, Tennessee, on December 30, 2011. Judge Breen is with the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee - Eastern Division. Kathy was Judge Breen's Judicial Assistant for 17 years. A reception was held in her honor on December 15, 2011. Kathy and her husband, Ray, have planned several trips and are looking forward to spending time with their grandchildren. She is missed by the court family, but we are happy that she is enjoying her retirement.

**Taffy Elchlepp** took over Kathy's position and submitted this short bio: I am a native Californian, "transplanted" to Memphis, Tennessee in September, 2004. I worked for 14 years in the Eastern District of California, as a Courtroom Deputy Clerk to the Magistrate Judge in Yosemite National Park.

When my family and I moved to Memphis, I continued working for the U.S. Courts as a Case Manager for Judge J. Daniel Breen until he relocated to Jackson, Tennessee in 2008. I was then assigned as Case Manager to Judge Bernice Donald and served her until December, 2011. Following Judge Donald's elevation to the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, I applied for and was selected to become Judge Breen's secretary here in Jackson. I am honored to work for Judge Breen again, and look forward to being part of this Association.

Taffy Elchlepp (below)



## Seventh Circuit



*Melissa Hardin*



Greetings from the Seventh Circuit! We're all enjoying an early spring here in the mid-west. Perhaps global warming isn't all bad...as long as we don't pay for it in April with a nasty return to winter. For the news from the Seventh Circuit:

Whitney Willett in the Central District of Illinois reports that as of 3/12/12, Judge James E. Shadid (Cathy Geier, JA) will take over as Chief Judge from Judge Mike McCuskey (Michele Babb, JA). Deborah Patton in the Northern District of Illinois reports all is the same there – still waiting for the Senate to confirm two judges.

Linda Rux in the 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals reports that the Dirksen Federal Courthouse (Chicago) is undergoing major renovations - i.e., asbestos removal, rewiring, new heating/cooling and lighting. This is being done on a floor-by-floor basis, necessitating a move from chambers for a little over a month. I'm sure we can all sympathize with the Chicago JAs as they have to decide what they'll need during that time, pack things up, and hope the judge doesn't decide mid-month that something packed away is now essential.



The Western District of Wisconsin has a courthouse-wide (chambers, clerk's office, bankruptcy, probation, marshals, court security and IT) cook off contest each spring. Awards are given out for the judge's/court unit executive's choice and people's choice. This year the competition was homemade "Mac & Cheese." Chambers came in a close second on the people's choice award.

### **Award Winning Recipe! Creamy Macaroni and Cheese**

- 4 strips bacon
- 1 large sweet onion, thinly sliced
- 6 ounces dry elbow macaroni
- 8 ounces mozzarella cheese, shredded (2 cups)
- 2 - 4 ounces blue cheese, crumbled
- 1 cup half-and-half or light cream
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper



**YUM!**

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. In a large skillet, cook bacon over medium heat until crisp, turning once. Drain bacon on paper towels; crumble. Reserve bacon drippings in skillet, add onion and cook for 5 to 8 minutes or until onion is tender and golden brown. Set aside.
2. Cook elbow macaroni according to package directions. Drain and place in a 1-1/2-quart casserole. Add the crumbled bacon, onions, 1-1/2 cups of the mozzarella cheese, the blue cheese, half-and half, and pepper. Toss gently to combine.
3. Bake, uncovered, for 20 minutes. Stir gently. Top with the remaining mozzarella cheese. Bake for 10 minutes more or until top of casserole is brown and bubbly. Let stand 10 minutes. Enjoy!

## EIGHTH CIRCUIT



*Leslie Walker*



Robert V. Denny Federal  
Bldg. and U.S. Courthouse



Hon. John M. Gerrard

### **New District Judge for District of Nebraska: John M. Gerrard**

On Monday, January 23, 2012, the Senate confirmed John M. Gerrard as a U.S. District Judge for the District of Nebraska. He fills the vacancy left by Judge Richard Kopf, who took senior status in December.

Judge Gerrard is a native of Schuyler, Nebraska. He received his undergraduate degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University in 1975, his Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Arizona in 1977, and his law degree from Pacific McGeorge School of Law in 1981. From 1981 to 1995, he practiced in a general litigation law firm in Norfolk, Nebraska. During this time he also served as the City Attorney for Battle Creek, Nebraska. In 1995, he was appointed to the Nebraska Supreme Court. In addition to authoring over 480 opinions for the court, he also promoted racial and ethnic fairness in the court system and pushed for technologies that would make the system more user friendly for all citizens. As a result, in 2006, he was named the Distinguished Judge for Improvement of the Judicial System and, in 2008, he received the Legal Pioneer award from the Nebraska State Bar Foundation.

Judge Gerrard's Judicial Assistant is Kathryn Miller, who has been working for Judge Gerrard since 1983. Kathy began her employment part-time while attending Northeast Community College, and worked as a legal secretary for the Judge in his general litigation law firm from 1983 until 1995. She was a member of the Legal Secretaries Association while employed in Norfolk. Kathy then relocated with Judge Gerrard to Lincoln, Nebraska, to serve as his administrative assistant after he was appointed to the Nebraska Supreme Court. After Judge Gerrard's Senate confirmation as a U.S. District Judge, Kathy began employment with the U.S. District Court as Judge Gerrard's Judicial Assistant on February 7, 2012. Kathryn is originally from Hartington, Nebraska, and is married to Andy Miller. They have one daughter, Cyrena, who is 8 years old.

We welcome Kathy to the 8th Circuit Court family.

We are also pleased to announce that U.S. District Court Judge Laurie Smith Camp was elevated to Chief Judge for the District of Nebraska, succeeding Judge Joseph Battalion.



Hon. Laurie Smith Camp  
Chief Judge

## Ninth Circuit



Gail Morgan [R] w/sister

THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT TODAY  
 DATES INDICATE THE YEAR STATES JOINED THE CIRCUIT



### Remembrance

Tucson artist Nicholas Burke has been commissioned to create a sculpture and permanent memorial to the late Chief Judge John M. Roll, which will be placed in the lobby of the DeConcini Federal Courthouse. The expected completion and unveiling is late spring or fall of 2012.

Hello from "The Last Frontier!" First, thanks to all of you who have renewed your membership, and a big welcome to our new members. Please encourage the non-members in your courts to join as well.

### WOUNDED MARSHAL AWARDED MEDAL - NEVADA

Deputy U.S. Marshal Richard "Joe" Gardner, who worked for the U.S. Marshal Service for 21 years, was on duty two years ago when he heard a shotgun blast in the lobby of the Lloyd George U.S. Courthouse. Gardner was working on the second floor of the courthouse that morning, and when he looked over the railing, he saw the body of court security officer Stan Cooper, whom Gardner had known for 15 years. Deputy U.S. Marshal Gardner exited through a door on the west side of the building where he encountered the gunman, Johnny Lee Wicks. During an exchange of gunfire, pellets from Wicks' 12-gauge shotgun struck Gardner in the torso, arm, hand, and head, but missed his vital organs.

For his actions, on January 5, 2012, at the same courthouse, Gardner was honored with a Congressional Badge of Bravery, which was created when Congress passed the Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Act of 2008 to honor exceptional acts of bravery in the line of duty. U.S. Sen. Dean Heller (R-Nev.) said Gardner acted instinctively to defend the lives of others that day, without regard for his own safety. Gardner stated he is pleased that he and other officers "have effectively protected the judiciary and its family so successfully for so many years, and that we were able to do so that day." Gardner also commented that his award represents all the work performed by the U.S. Marshals Service. "We don't look for the recognition, but it brings to the forefront that we do work very hard to protect the community day in and day out," he said. Other officers who took action during the 2010 shooting received certificates of commendation.

### Welcome to New Ninth Circuit Judges

The Honorable Morgan Brenda Christen has been appointed to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to a seat vacated by Judge Andrew Jay Kleinfeld. She received her commission on January 11, 2012. Judge Christen was an Alaska Superior Court Judge from 2002-2009, the presiding judge from 2005-2009, and an Alaska Supreme Court Justice from 2009-2011.

The Honorable Sharon Louise Gleason has been appointed to the United States District Court [Alaska] to a seat vacated by Judge John W. Sedwick. She received her commission on January 4, 2012. Judge Gleason served as an Alaska Superior Court judge from 2001-2011, and was the presiding judge of the Third Judicial District [Alaska] from 2009-2011.

The Honorable Cathy Ann Bencivengo has been appointed to the United States District Court, Southern District of California, to a seat vacated by Judge Jeffrey T. Miller. She received her (continued on next page)

(continued) commission on February 10, 2012. Judge Bencivengo served as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of California from 2005-2012.

The Honorable Thomas Owen Rice has been appointed to the United States District Court, Eastern District of Washington, to a seat vacated by Judge Robert H. Whaley. He received his commission on March 8, 2012. Judge Rice was a trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice from 1986-1987; an assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Washington from 1987-2012; deputy chief, Criminal Division from 2000-2003; chief, Criminal Division from 2003-2006; and first assistant U.S. Attorney from 2006-2012.

### Federal Courts Give Back to Communities

The Northern District of California, San Francisco, makes blankets for a community school in the city's Tenderloin area. The court's goal is to give every child his or her own blanket. A shoes and socks drive in the Northern District of California helps homeless adults in the community.



The sixth annual Battle of the Badges blood drive was held last month in the Los Angeles area. Groups from the courts, law enforcement agencies, and the fire departments vie to see who can donate the most blood to benefit the American Red Cross. The donations help accident victims, cancer patients, premature babies, burn patients, and others.

Central District of California employees participate in an annual food drive to benefit the Los Angeles Regional Food bank.

Alaska judicial staff continue to volunteer on a monthly basis at Beans Café, which provides meals to the homeless. During the month of December, the court family receives a list from the Pioneer Home which contains the names and wishes of folks without families. Each person on the list is "adopted," and the shopping and wrapping begins. It is a lot of fun!

### Iditarod 40

Congratulations to Dallas Seavey, 25 years old and a third-generation dog musher, who won this year's Iditarod, making him the youngest champion in the history of the race. His total time for the 975-mile race was 9 days, 4 hours, 29 minutes, and 26 seconds. For being first to Nome, Dallas Seavey wins \$50,400 and a new truck.

Iditarod 40 was a Seavey family affair this year, with three generations of Seavey men in the race. Dallas Seavey's father, Mitch Seavey, finished in seventh place. Dallas' 74-year-old grandfather, Dan, is running in his fifth Iditarod to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Iditarod Trail.

### Sage Advice

If you have a grandson who wants to spend his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday in Las Vegas, be certain to have as many family members as possible make the trip with you and the guest of honor. Also, if you are in your mid-60's and your 25- and 21-year-old grandsons insist on making memories, one of which is riding the roller coaster at New York, New York, DON'T DO IT. Nothing else need be said.

### The End

As I watch the snow fall, I am daydreaming of spring, which could arrive in May for us in Alaska! Wishing all of you a beautiful spring. If you have news from your court you would like to see in the next newsletter, please send it to me so it can be included. Also, if there are topics you would like to see in the Ninth Circuit section of the newsletter, please send the suggestions to me, and I will do my best to cover them.

**TENTH CIRCUIT****HELLO FROM TENTH CIRCUIT!***Lynda Brown*

Welcome to the new members who have recently joined the Federal Judicial Assistants Association in 2012!! Carolyn Dennis, Judicial Assistant to Senior Circuit Judge Monroe G. McKay, in Salt Lake City, Utah; Sheryl Coast, Certified Paralegal to Magistrate Judge Frank H. McCarthy, in Tulsa, Oklahoma; Mary DeRosa, Judicial Assistant to District Judge R. Brooke Jackson, in Denver, Colorado; Beverly DeHerrera, Judicial Assistant to District Judge Clarence A. Brimmer, in Cheyenne, Wyoming; and Susan McKey, Judicial Assistant to Senior Circuit Judge William J. Holloway, Jr.

**KANSAS NEWS**

Sad news from Wichita, Kansas. United States District Judge Wesley Brown, who was still sitting at the time of his death, passed away on January 23 at the age of 104. Judge Brown worked in private practice until 1958, at which time he was appointed to the Federal Bankruptcy Court by President Dwight Eisenhower. In 1962, President John F. Kennedy appointed him as a Federal District Court Judge. Judge Brown served 54 years on the bench. "His tireless work ethic was proof of his dedication to the country and his duty," Governor Sam Brownback stated.



Thelma Borresen, who is retired and an active member in FJAA, started work in Judge Brown's law office in Hutchinson, Kansas in September 1957. On April 1, 1958, Thelma became Chief Clerk of Bankruptcy Court (it was that title at the time) when Wesley Brown became "Referee in Bankruptcy." Then, on April 12, 1962, Judge Brown was sworn in as United States District Judge, Wichita, Kansas, and Thelma became Judge Brown's Judicial Assistant. Thelma retired on April 1, 1989, but kept in touch with Judge Brown and attended by his invitation the Court's Holiday Luncheon on Thursday, December 7, 2011. She said Judge Brown was an amazing and outstanding individual.

**NEW MEXICO NEWS**

The Albuquerque Bar Association announced in December 2011 that the Honorable James O. Browning received the Outstanding Judge of the Year Award. Judge Browning is a Federal Judge for the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico. Helen Brow, an active member of FJAA, is Judge Browning's Judicial Assistant.

The Albuquerque Judicial Assistants had a holiday lunch at Andaluz Restaurant in December.



Standing L-R: Debbie MacDonald, Theresa Hall, Helen Brow, Lee Jones (ret'd), Mary Anderson (Bkr), Bernadette Williams, Martha Garcia, Melissa Molina; Seated L-R: Ann Neff, Liane Mesta

Thank you, Ann Neff, for sending in the picture!

New Mexico is celebrating its 100th Anniversary of statehood. President William Howard Taft signed the proclamation on January 6, 1912, that officially created the State of New Mexico.

(continued on next page)

## OKLAHOMA NEWS

Nancy Smiley retired on March 31 after 13 years as Judicial Assistant to Senior Circuit Judge William J. Holloway, Jr. Nancy said the hardest part about retiring is leaving her friends. Nancy has enjoyed her job so much and the friendships she has made over the years. She is proud to have been a part of the judicial assistant family. Nancy is looking forward to retirement and has a “bucket list” to work on, so will be very busy.

Judge Holloway will be 89 this year and continues to sit on the bench with 44 years of service so far.



Seated: Senior Circuit Judge William J. Holloway, Jr.; Standing L-R: Nancy Smiley, Doug McBee (Permanent Law Clerk), Stacy Chen (Term Law Clerk)

Thank you to Mary Stricklin, Judge Holmes' judicial assistant, from Oklahoma, who was instrumental in compiling this information.



A new member of the FJAA is Susan McKey, who will start working for Judge Holloway in April. Susan is currently the Administrative Assistant to United States Magistrate Judge Valerie K. Couch. Susan has been with Judge Couch for 29 years – 16 years in private practice and 13 years with the Western District of Oklahoma. Judge Couch has taken a new position as Dean of Oklahoma City University School of Law and left the Court on April 8, 2012. Susan transferred to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals and began work with Senior Judge William J. Holloway, Jr. on April 2, 2012. As you can imagine, after 29 years with Judge Couch, Susan feels much sadness, but feels very blessed and excited to work with Judge Holloway and his staff. Susan stated, “But . . . Nancy Smiley will be hard shoes to fill! She is so cheerful and knowledgeable and Judge Holloway will miss her dearly.”

Susan lives in the small town of Wellston, Oklahoma, and commutes 45 minutes to Oklahoma City, where the Federal courthouse is located. She has two children, Carla, a graduate of the University of Central Oklahoma, and an insurance adjuster, and Justin, a Freshman at St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Truly, the inspiration of her life is her three year old granddaughter Brooklynn, who keeps “grandma” young and active! After her duties as mom, grandma, and judicial assistant, Susan spends her time “down on the farm” helping raise show pigs for FFA and 4-H members across the United States. Not much time for hobbies, but Susan enjoys reading and sewing. And God is always first in her life!

Happy Spring to everyone!!



Magistrate Judge Valerie K. Couch  
and Susan McKey



## ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

**Barbara Lay**  
**Executive Administrator**



### Portrait Ceremony for the Honorable Susan H. Black

On Thursday, March 8, 2012, a ceremony was held to present the portrait of Judge Susan Harrell Black to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Black has an impressive list of “Firsts” in her resume:

- The first woman from the State of Florida to serve on the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals;
- The first woman United States District Judge in the State of Florida;
- The first woman Chief Judge in the circuit, which includes Florida, Georgia and Alabama;
- The first woman state circuit judge in the Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida;
- The first woman Duval County Judge;
- The first woman Assistant General Counsel for the City of Jacksonville, Florida; and
- The first woman Assistant State Attorney for the Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida.

How appropriate that the portrait ceremony was held on March 8, International Women’s Day. Events are held on this day worldwide to mark the accomplishments and contributions to the world and mankind of many great women of the world – and Judge Black is certainly one those women. In addition to the many, many firsts that she has accomplished, Judge Black is noted for her personal efforts on a task force formed in the late ‘70s by Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren Burger that brought about the formation of the American Inns of Court. The American Inns of Court helped to improve skills, ethics and professionalism of the bench and bar – a chief objective of Judge Black’s.

Judge Black was lauded at the ceremony for her many accomplishments – things that no one else has done – but she reminded us all in her remarks that day, that it’s not just about her. Judge Black spoke of the importance of the tradition of ceremony – “marking a milestone in an individual’s career. . .” and how these ceremonies are “common occurrences in many of the institutions we value and admire.” She used as an example the United States Navy and described the military’s change of command ceremonies and the tradition that ceremony represents of continuing with the routines of the day and “acknowledges the rich history of an institution.” Judge Black said in her remarks she hoped that we all see the tradition of a portrait ceremony and ceremonies of like nature as a “tradition that recognizes not one individual, but the enduring legacy of our court and its continuing vitality.”



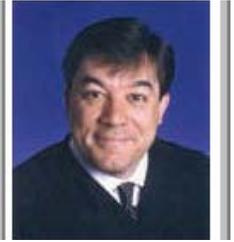
Judge Black’s portrait was presented by her former law clerk, Allegra J. Lawrence-Hardy, Esq. The portrait was unveiled by the Judge Black’s husband, Louis E. Black II, and daughter, Leigh Elizabeth Black. The portrait was painted by artist Harold Davis, Jr. Mr. Davis has been painting for more than 30 years and is known for his ability to capture his subject’s expressions and likeness. He certainly did just that in his rendition of Judge Black, by portraying her vividness and her beautiful smile.

(continued on next page)

(continued)

### A New Judge for the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals

On February 15, 2012, the United States Senate confirmed the appointment of Miami District Court Judge Adalberto Jose Jordan to the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Stanley Marcus of the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals administered the oath to Judge Jordan on February 24 in Miami. Judge Jordan will fill a vacancy on the court created when Judge Susan H. Black took senior status in February 2011. When he was a young boy, Judge Jordan came to the United States with his family from Cuba. Judge Jordan attended Miami University School of Law and graduated second in his class. He clerked for Judge Thomas Clark of the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals and also for Judge Sandra Day O'Connor on the Supreme Court. Judge Jordan worked for the law firm of Steel, Hector & Davis and, after a short time, became a partner with that firm. In 1994, after about five years with the firm, Judge Jordan became an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida. In March 1999, he was appointed by then President Bill Clinton to the District Court for the Southern District of Florida, to fulfill a vacancy left by Judge Lenore Nesbitt, where he was serving when confirmed in February. The 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court family is happy to welcome Judge Jordan and his Judicial Assistant Elsa Pazos to the court of appeals. Elsa has been with Judge Jordan for almost 20 years, working with him at the law firm as well as with the courts.



COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS - COURT OF APPEALS FEDERAL  
- COURT OF APPEALS D.C. CIRCUIT

*Sharon Deare*

I would like to thank all those JAs who participated in the laying of Wreaths Across America project. This project consisted of a network of volunteers who lay over 220,000 memorial wreaths at 545 locations in the United States and beyond. Our court volunteers provided their time and effort to the Arlington National Cemetery, which is the largest amongst veteran grave sites. That is a lot of wreaths to be placed! If you are interested in learning more about this awesome program try googling Wreaths Across America or <http://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org> to see about participating in your home town.

It is with great sadness that I have to report the loss of Senior Judge Thomas J. Lydon. He died Thursday, March 1, 2012. Judge Lydon was appointed to the United States Court of Federal Claims by President Ronald Reagan on October 1, 1982. He formally retired on August 1, 1987, but continued to serve the Court as a Senior Judge. We send our condolences to the staff and family of Senior Judge Lyndon. He played an important role in our court history and will be missed.

Circuit Judge Alan D. Lourie has been chosen to receive the Outstanding Public Service Award from the New York Intellectual Property Law Association. The award will be given at the 90th Annual Dinner in Honor of the Federal Judiciary on Friday, March 23, 2012 at the Waldorf Hotel in New York.

Judge Evan Jonathan Wallach's investiture is to take place on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

We wish you all a bright and sunny spring!





**FJAA**  
**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**July 1, 2011 - February 29, 2012**  
**by Carla Gibson Baker**



**BALANCE SHEET**

**ASSETS**

Chase Business Classic Checking	11,131.03
Chase Business Savings	15,001.02
Wells Fargo Conference Account	<u>3,476.85</u>

**TOTAL ASSETS** **\$29,608.90**

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

Unrestricted Net Assets	32,447.76
Net Income	<u>(2,838.86)</u>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** **\$29,608.90**

**PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT**

**INCOME**

Interest-Savings	9.97
Membership Dues*	5,540.00
Miscellaneous Income	250.00
Special Events Income	<u>2,217.00</u>

**TOTAL INCOME** **\$8,016.97**

**EXPENSES**

Accounting Fees	701.25
Outside Contract Services	125.00
Postage, Mailing Service	89.75
Supplies	176.26
Other Operations	83.88
Other Costs	2,264.80
Conference, Convention, Meeting	7,114.89
Travel and Meetings	300.00

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **10,855.83**

**NET INCOME** **(\$2,838.86)**

\*Consist of 187 Members (158 Regular Members, 17 Retired Lifetime Members, & 12 New Members)

## Scholarship: Educational Encouragement

I was seeking a learning experience for personal development and a refresher, and this class was the perfect mix. I was not as well informed as I would have liked with respect to current politics and other aspects of American history, which is the reason I chose to take an "American Government" class. This class definitely helped me connect the timeline of American history.

Continuing one's education is important in maintaining good overall health. And keeping the brain stimulated with increased knowledge is key to warding off the dreaded aging process. Use it or lose it!

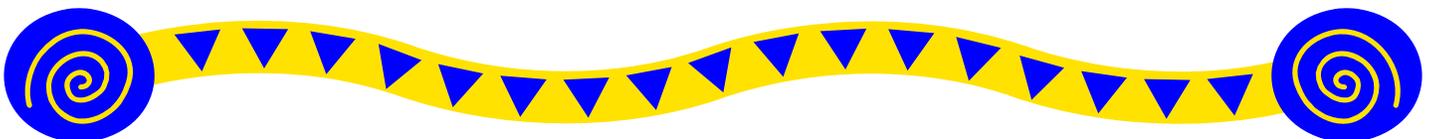
It is obvious that the future of our chosen career is in jeopardy. Newer judges are reluctant to hire assistants, leaving us without alternatives if our current positions change. As a result, we should continue to seek further educational opportunities to maintain our competitive edge.

I am truly grateful to have received the FJAA scholarship. The assistance inspires me to continue down new educational avenues. I encourage all of you to further your education -- either law school or even a knitting class -- because it will boost your confidence and create a healthier you.

Anne M. Wolf  
Judicial Assistant to the  
Honorable James B. Zagel

Once again, I would like to thank everyone responsible for my receiving an FJAA scholarship towards my paralegal certificate. I passed my four month course with a 94 average. It was grueling, but worth every minute of the effort and hard work involved. We had our graduation ceremony on January 20, 2012 and I received a beautiful framed Certificate which is now proudly displayed on a wall in my home. At the ceremony, each speaker emphasized that they knew how tough the course was and how our family members had to pretty much lose us for those four months. I really feel that I made a significant accomplishment in my life and one that I plan to be using now and in the future.

Marcy G. Gatell  
Judicial Assistant to the  
Honorable Robert A. Mark



FJAA Scholarship Applications — For 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  
785-338-5485

[sheryl\\_gilchrist@ksd.uscourts.gov](mailto:sheryl_gilchrist@ksd.uscourts.gov)

## 2012 FJAA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Enclosed is my check for \$30 payable to the **Federal Judicial Assistants Association** for membership year January 1 through December 31, 2012. (Retired members only: \$25 annually or \$100 lifetime membership.)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge: \_\_\_\_\_ Court: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Circuit: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(court address if active, home address if retired)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday (mm/dd): \_\_\_\_\_

Check if you are retired:

Renewal

New Member

### STANDING COMMITTEES:

Annual Conference

By-Laws

Long-Range Planning

Public Relations/Newsletter

Audit

History and Archives

Membership

Ways and Means

Budget and Finance

Legislative

Nominations/Elections

Professional Development/Continuing Education

I am interested in working on the committee(s) selected above.

I am interested in being a Circuit Representative for my Circuit.

**PLEASE SEND THIS FORM AND YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE TO YOUR CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVE.  
The Representative for your Circuit is:**

**Please refer to the Circuit Representative List found at page 34.**

To obtain additional information about the Federal Judicial Assistants Association, please visit our website at <http://www.fjaa.net/FJAA/FJAA.html>

Membership renewals are due during the month of January.  
Keep our Association strong!

***Please pay your dues promptly.***

***Your active membership will ensure access to the "Members Section" of our website and to the FJAA Newsletter.***

# FEDERAL JUDICIAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION 2012 ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

Conference Registration Form  
San Diego, California - October 4-7, 2012

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name & Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
Court

\_\_\_\_\_  
Circuit

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fax

\_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail address

Is this your first FJAA conference? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Name of Guests \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee includes all conference materials, educational events, continental breakfasts, opening reception and closing banquet. Persons eligible for membership must join FJAA if they wish to attend the conference.

Membership Registration Fee	\$235	\$ _____
Retiree Registration Fee*	\$150	\$ _____

\*Includes opening reception, continental breakfasts, and closing banquet.

Guest Fees:

Continental Breakfast - 3 days	\$45	\$ _____
Opening Reception	\$40	\$ _____
Closing Banquet	\$65	\$ _____
Optional Friday night event**	\$65 (Old Town)	\$ _____

Member Optional Friday night event**	\$65 (Old Town)	\$ _____
Total enclosed		\$ _____

Closing Banquet: Make one selection per member and/or paid guest :

# \_\_\_\_\_ Steak # \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken or # \_\_\_\_\_ Fish

Registration deadline is August 20, 2012. Notification of cancellation must be received by September 4, 2012. No refunds will be given after September 4, 2012. Note: Meeting space expense for the Association Business Meeting has been waived by the hotel, there is no charge to the participant for Association Business Meeting space.

Please return complete registration form with your check payable to "FJAA Conference Fund" to:

Ms. Dianne Hillman  
Chambers of Chief Judge David C. Norton  
United States District Court  
United States Courthouse  
700 Stewart Street, Room 15128  
Seattle, WA 98101-1271

\*\* Optional events are non-refundable as of September 14, 2012.

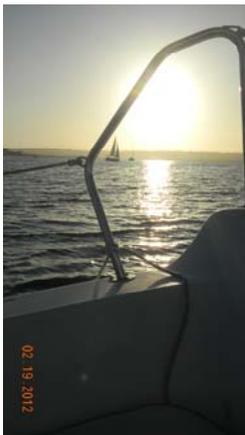


2012 FJAA EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE—  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA  
October 4—7, 2012

*The Westin San Diego*  
400 West Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101  
Phone: 619-338-3613

Room rate is \$133 (plus taxes) per night  
*For reservations visit*

<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1110210036&key=7E34B>



America's Finest City  
is waiting to welcome you!

For more information on our beautiful city,  
visit

<http://www.seeyouinsandiego.com>

# Fun Things to Do in San Diego 2012

Welcome to paradise! “Fun Things to do in San Diego 2012” is a compilation of suggestions from the Judges and departments heads in the Southern District of California. This is our gift to you to help you and your family get the most out of your visit to our beautiful city. This is a collection of our favorites—the places we go and the things we do ourselves in and about San Diego. We share it with you in hopes that you will enjoy your stay in our city and depart with happy memories of the time you have spent here.

***\*\*While we know the temptation is great, we strongly recommend that you do not travel south of the border at this time due to security concerns.***



## Table of Contents

Suggestions from:

Circuit Judge Margaret McKeown	Page 1
District Judge Bill Enright	Page 2
District Judge Marilyn Huff	Page 3
District Judge Jeff Miller	Page 4
District Judge Janis Sammartino	Page 5
Magistrate Judge Jan Adler	Page 6
Magistrate Judge Ruben Brooks	Page 7
Magistrate Judge Nita Stormes	Page 8
David Sultzbaugh, Chief, U.S. Probation Office	Page 9
Sam Hamrick, Clerk of Court	Page 10



# Judge Margaret McKeown

Favorite places to visit with out-of-town guests:

**Morning coffee at the Torrey Pines Glider Port:** (2800 Torrey Pines Scenic Drive, La Jolla; 858-452-9858) The glider port is perched atop a bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean. You get a gorgeous view of the Pacific, along with a ringside seat to watch the gliders. There is a little snack bar for coffee, good omelettes, and the like. This is a wonderful place to find peace and quiet and to relax with the newspaper. It is located adjacent to the Salk Institute, which is a lovely location for a short walk.



**The Highs and Lows of La Jolla:** La Jolla, sometimes referred to as “the jewel,” offers shopping, restaurants, and the Museum of Contemporary Art. For a spectacular view, try lunch or a drink at the top deck of George’s at the Cove (1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla; 858-454-4244) Inside dining is pricier and more formal. Then walk down Prospect Street to 1325 Cave Street, where you will find the entrance to the La Jolla Caves, 145 steps down to the ocean where you can view the inside of the caves. Admission is just \$2.00. After leaving, take the short but enjoyable hike on the Coast Walk trail.



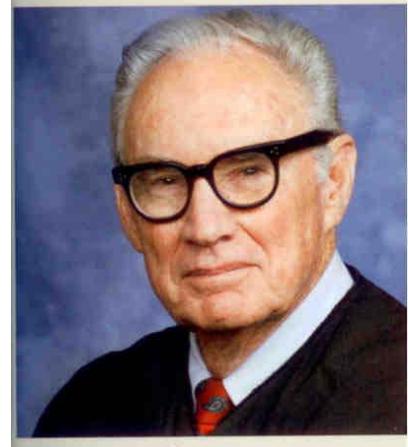
**Hike in Torrey Pines State Park and Lunch at the Lodge at Torrey Pines:** (11840 N. Torrey Pines Road; La Jolla, CA; 858-550-6565) A perfect afternoon—a hike on one of the many trails at Torrey Pines State park and then lunch at the Lodge at Torrey Pines. (Amazingly, you cannot picnic in the park!) The Lodge is adjacent to the 18th green of the Torrey Pines Golf Course, on six and one-half acres overlooking the Pacific Ocean. The California craftsman-style hotel recently has undergone a huge renovation modeled after the Gamble and Blacker houses in Pasadena—two of the best examples of early 1900s craftsman-style architecture. Look in the lobby for the architectural details or simply sit on the deck and watch the sunset.

Favorite restaurant: **Market Restaurant + Bar** (3702 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, CA 92014; 858-523-0007) Chef Carl Schroeder offers up amazing, fresh California cuisine in a friendly atmosphere. Central to the menu are vegetables from the nearby Chino Farms, which is also worth a visit.

Favorite place to visit with kids: **Star of India:** (1492 N. Harbor Drive, San Diego; 619-234-9153) The Star of India, a windjammer built in 1863, has traveled around the world 21 times, was used to shuttle immigrants from England to New Zealand, and also was used in the Alaskan salmon trade. This nautical museum is a “must see” for the whole family, especially children.



# Judge William Enright



## Favorite place to visit with out-of-town guests:

Take a drive down Morena and then Midway Blvds all the way out to the end of Point Loma to visit the old lighthouse at the Cabrillo National Monument. On the way, you will pass Fort Rosecrans cemetery, a beautiful and serene resting place for our service family.



## Favorite restaurant:

Phil's BBQ located at 3750 Sports Arena Blvd (at Hancock Street), San Diego, CA  
Telephone: 619-226-6333  
[www.philsbbq.net](http://www.philsbbq.net)

## Favorite place to visit with kids:

Dog Beach in Ocean Beach is open to canines any time. On weekends there can be up to 100 dogs there. To reach Dog Beach, take I-8 west toward The Beaches. Where I-8 ends, turn left onto Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, then bear right staying on Sunset Cliffs toward the town of Ocean Beach. Turn right onto Point Loma. The entrance to the Dog Beach is the first turn on the right.





# Judge Marilyn Huff

Welcome to San Diego — America's Finest City. If the sun is out, I recommend a visit to the local beaches. Combine a trip to the historical Hotel Del Coronado with a beach visit to **Coronado Shores**. Rent a bike in the area near the hotel and ride down the Strand on the bike path. After you bike back, you may take the ferry between Coronado and San Diego or take a harbor cruise around the San Diego Bay.



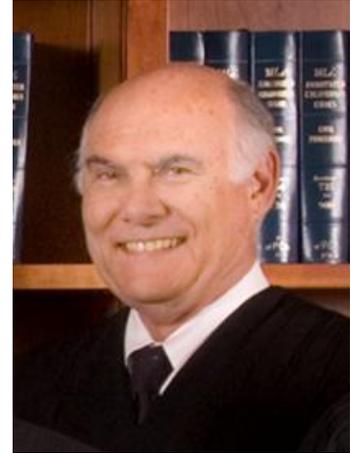
Another interesting beach area is located in La Jolla. Visit the **La Jolla Cove** area, and wander the shops of La Jolla; Drive over to La Jolla Shores for swimming. If you are a runner, the area between the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club beach and the Scripps Pier is great for jogging. While in the area, visit the Stephen Birch Aquarium.

Body surfing is better at Torrey Pines State Park near Del Mar. There are trails above the beach area for hiking—pay attention to signs warning hikers not to get too close to the cliffs.

Near downtown, **Balboa Park** has many attractions. Visit the Museum of Man, the Timken Art Museum, the Natural History Museum, the Aerospace Museum, the Museum of Photographic Art, and the world famous San Diego Zoo. The zoo has huge displays of animals, including Pandas! A large variety of botanical specimens makes for interesting strolls through the zoo. Ride the bus for general overview of exhibits or view the entire area from the sky ride. Phone (619)231-1515 for entrance fees and updated information.



# Judge Jeffrey Miller



## Self Realization Fellowship Garden (overlooking the Pacific)



Exit I-5 northbound at Encinitas Boulevard off-ramp. Travel west (left) to Pacific Coast Highway, then south through old Encinitas to the garden located at the south end of the city. One block further, you will find “Swami’s,” one of the finest surfing spots anywhere.



## Quail Gardens

Exit I-5 northbound at Encinitas Boulevard off-ramp. Travel east (right), following signs to Quail Gardens, where you will encounter a great number of exotic plants and trees.





# Judge Janis Sammartino

## Beach walk in La Jolla

For a beautiful and relaxing afternoon stroll, park at the La Jolla Shores parking lot located on La Jolla Shores Drive. Then, starting at the Marine Room [2000 Spindrift Dr.] head north along the beach to the Scripps Pier. Have lunch or dinner following your walk at Barbarella's Restaurant and Bar located at 2171 Avenida de la Playa; 858-454-7373.



## Beach walk in Del Mar

In Del Mar, consider having a meal at Jake's Del Mar [1660 Coast Blvd, Del Mar; 858-755-2002] and then take a walk along the beach in either direction.



# Judge Jan Adler



## Favorite places to visit with out-of-town guests:

- Go hiking at Torrey Pines State Reserve (*my personal favorite*)
- Take the ferry between downtown San Diego and Coronado
- Take a harbor cruise on San Diego Bay
- Visit Cabrillo National Monument and the Old Lighthouse



## Favorite places to eat:



**The Burger Lounge** in Coronado located at 922 Orange Avenue, Coronado, CA 619-435-6835; in downtown San Diego located at 1608 India Street; 619-237-7878

**Old Town Mexican Café** located at 2489 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, CA; (619)297-4330

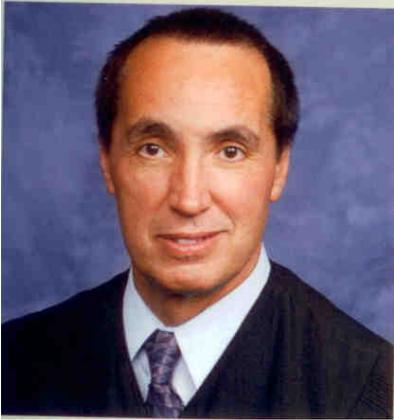
**Bandar** in the Gaslamp District (Persian cuisine) located at 845 4th Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101; 619-238-0101; [www.bandarrestaurant.com](http://www.bandarrestaurant.com)

## Favorite places to visit with kids:



- San Diego Zoo
- San Diego Wild Animal Park
- Petco Park for a Padres Game
- Legoland
- Sea World





# Judge Ruben Brooks



## **The Old Globe Theatre**

Theater-lovers can enjoy a first-rate production at the Old Globe Theatres in Balboa Park. Many New York shows have had pre-Broadway runs at the Old Globe, including “Into the Woods” and “The Full Monty.” At the Lowell Davies Festival Theatre, Shakespeare and other productions are performed outdoors during the summer months. At the Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre, smaller productions are performed in the round. Visit their website at [www.theoldglobe.org](http://www.theoldglobe.org) to see what’s playing during your stay in San Diego, or call (619)234-5623 (ext. 1) for ticket information.



## **Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay**

This is an outdoor concert venue near Humphrey’s restaurant on Shelter Island with a capacity of approximately 1400. Concerts are performed from May through October in all different genres of entertainment. Check out their website at [www.humphreysconcerts.com](http://www.humphreysconcerts.com) to see if any of your favorite bands are playing during your stay in San Diego.



# Judge Nita Stormes

Favorite place to visit with out-of-town guests:

**La Jolla Cove and La Jolla Shores Beach:** I like to take out-of-town guests to La Jolla Cove and La Jolla Shores Beach. The Cove and the beach are quintessential San Diego. The coastline is breathtakingly beautiful and both locations offer plenty of people-watching. You can take a surf lesson or explore the La Jolla caves via sea kayaks. After seeing the Cove, you can head

up to Prospect Street, visit the many high-end shops, and have a gelato.

**The Old Point Loma Lighthouse, Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, and the Point Loma Tidepools:** Most tourists know about the world-famous San Diego Zoo and Sea World, but not as many have seen the Point Loma Lighthouse, Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, and the Point Loma Tidepools. The view of San Diego Bay from the Old Point Loma Lighthouse is nothing short



of spectacular. The Lighthouse was built in 1854. Its light guided sailing ships into San Diego Bay for 36 years before a more fog-friendly venue was chosen. There is a real sense of history here, one of Spanish explorers and fallen soldiers. The crosses of over 96,000 veterans fleck the hillsides. No other place in San Diego provides such peace, reverence, and beauty in equal measure. The nearby Point Loma Tidepools offer a sense of adventure and discovery as one peers into the fascinating world of what is left behind in the rocky inter-tidal zone after the ocean recedes. Crabs, clams, sea urchins, starfish, and a plethora of plant life capture the attention and imagination of their human observers. Bring some kind of surf socks or water sandals. The rocks get slippery!



**Favorite Restaurant:** Alfonso's of La Jolla. If you like great Mexican food, memorable Margaritas, and friendly people, you will like Alfonso's. This is a place that feels like home. We have had countless great times here over the past 25 years. Alfonso's is located at 1251 Prospect Street, La Jolla, CA; (858)454-2232.



**Favorite place to take children:** I am a fan of the beach. Splurge and spend a night or two at the Hotel Del Coronado. Take the kids to the pool and the beach. Rent an umbrella, throw a frisbee, take a long walk on the sand, help the kids build a sandcastle. Take them boogie boarding. Rent bikes and take the kids for a ride along the bike path toward Imperial Beach. Bring plenty of sunscreen and please put the kids in a rash guard! You will be glad you did.



# David Sultzbaugh, Chief U.S. Probation

## Favorite place to visit with out-of-town guests:

**Indian Casinos** (Barona, Viejas, Pachenga, Harrah’s Rincon, Pal-  
ma Valley, Ocean’s 11) —especially for Hawaii family and  
friends. Hawaii has no gambling and they have cheap food.



**Old Town**—Historical; that’s where San Diego was born.

**Mission Beach**—Classic beach, restaurants, and boardwalk.  
And it is fun to ride the roller coaster.



**Little Italy** — Authentic Italian food, culture and atmosphere.

## Favorite Restaurants:

**Extraordinary Desserts** located at 1430 Union Street, San Diego, (619)294-7001, is  
unique; the desserts are “extraordinarily” scrumptious.

**World Famous** located at 711 Pacific Beach Drive, San Diego, (858)272-3100, has great  
views of the water, casual dining and reasonable prices.

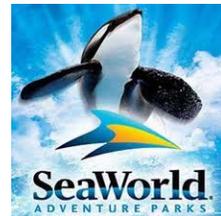
**Red Sails Inn** located at 2614 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego, (619)223-3030, has great  
views of the water, casual dining and reasonable prices.

**Osaka Japanese Food** 4242 Camino Del Rio North, San Diego; (619)283-6844, for sushi  
and **Hodad’s** 5010 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach; (619)224-4623, for burgers. We are a  
surf and turf town, so guests must try the local “best of the best.”

**Croce’s** located at the corner of 5th and F in downtown San Diego. The food is unique and  
tastes excellent. And, of course, the music is classic.

## Favorite place to visit with kids:

**Sea World**— Lots of kids and adult-friendly activities and entertainment.  
Interactive-outside. The types of animals are incredible.



**Balboa Park**—museums, puppet show, carousel, hiking. On Tuesdays, free  
admissions to museums.



**Boomers** located at 6999 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, San Diego;  
(858)560-4212. It’s a mini amusement park without the amuse-  
ment park prices.



# Sam Hamrick, Clerk of Court

To get to know San Diego, you have to enjoy the outdoors and a fun way to see San Diego is by walking. However, be warned, San Diego has its hills and comfortable shoes are a must. La Jolla is an enjoyable walk whether you are window shopping in town or seal watching along the shore. San Diego has one of America's best beaches in Coronado where you can walk with the Pacific Ocean on one side and the beautiful Del Coronado Hotel on the other. Finally, there is Balboa Park, known for the World Famous San Diego Zoo, museums, and, Spreckels Organ Concerts, the park is also a people-watcher's paradise with beautiful gardens and a restful atmosphere.



After a brisk walk, fine food is in order. I live in the Bankers Hill section of San Diego and my favorite neighborhood restaurants include:



## Hob-Nob Hill Restaurant

This is a casual comfort-food establishment well within per diem range. Historic pictures of San Diego adorn the walls. The atmosphere is great with friendly efficient service where you can enjoy dining or hobnobbing with the locals. A short taxi ride from downtown, the Hob-Nob is located at 2271 First Avenue, 619-239-8176.

## Imperial House Continental Restaurant

The Imperial House is a casual comfortable restaurant with high-backed red leather booths, wood paneling, and talented live entertainment. Prices are reasonable and the menu vast for either lunch or dinner. Every time I go to the I-House, I wonder why I don't go more often. It is close to downtown at 505 Kalmia Street, between Fifth and Six Avenues, 619-234-3525.

## Sanfillippo's Italian Restaurant

San Fillippo's offers reasonably priced Italian fare. The good news is San Fillippo's is moving closer to downtown. It has always been my fallback restaurant. I love Italian food and they do it right. Their half portions of traditional dishes such as spaghetti, ravioli, and lasagna stretch the per diem without stretching the waistline. Sanfillippo's is a brief taxi ride up Fifth Avenue between Palm and Quince Streets.



From the coast to the mountains to the deserts, San Diego has much to offer and much to enjoy, savor your visit.

# THIS 'n THAT:

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](http://www.fjaa.net) for more information.

## 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.



- January 15, 2012
- April 15, 2012
- July 15, 2012
- October 1, 2012

## CALLING ALL FJAA MEMBERS!!!

**Elections are just around the corner**, and you are reminded that there are many positions available, including the Board, Circuit Representatives, and Committees. Please consider giving back to the Association with your time, expertise, and skills. Please submit your nominations to Flay Sambrone-Metoyer by May 1, 2012. If you are nominating someone other than yourself, be sure to check with that individual to confirm their interest in serving in a specific capacity. You can send your nominations to [Flay\\_sambrone-metoyer@laed.uscourts.gov](mailto:Flay_sambrone-metoyer@laed.uscourts.gov).

Please also keep in mind the criteria set forth in our by-laws in order to hold an office with FJAA:

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP: Judicial assistants holding current appointments** by Justices of the United States Supreme Court, Article III Judges, or United States Magistrate Judges **shall have the privilege of voting and holding elective or appointed office.**

**SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP:** Sustaining membership may be attained after retirement or upon resignation from employment as a judicial assistant to a Justice of the United States Supreme Court, Article III Judge, or United States Magistrate Judge. Such members shall be entitled to all privileges of membership **except those of holding elective or appointed office.** Sustaining members may, upon application, transfer to Individual Membership and assume all rights and privileges when circumstances dictate.

Jenny Rudolph

## 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.

### 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](http://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 [jenny\\_rudolph@laed.uscourts.gov](mailto:jenny_rudolph@laed.uscourts.gov)



## CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVES

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

### 1<sup>ST</sup> CIRCUIT MARI ROSA JORGE

c/o Hon. José Antonio Fusté  
U.S. Courthouse, #CH-133  
150 Carlos Chardon Avenue  
San Juan, PR 00918-1754 - Ph: 787-772-3121

### 2<sup>ND</sup> CIRCUIT JANET F. HANSEN

c/o Hon. Jose A. Cabranes  
U.S. Courthouse, #CH-133  
141 Church Street  
New Haven, CT 06510—Ph: 203-867-8782

### 3<sup>RD</sup> CIRCUIT ROSEANNA LAMBIASE

c/o Hon. Dennis Cavanaugh  
451 U.S. Post Office & Court House Bldg  
Newark, NJ 07101-0999—Ph: 973-645-3574

### 4<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT DIANNE HILLMAN

c/o Hon. Matthew J. Perry, Jr.  
U.S. Courthouse  
901 Richland Street  
Columbia, SC 29201- Ph: 803-765-5067

### 5<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT GLENDA SIGNAL

c/o Hon. Louis C. Moore, Jr.  
Hale Boggs Federal Building  
Room B419  
500 Poydras Street  
New Orleans, LA 70130 Ph: 504-589-7625

### 6<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT KELLY A. KOPF

c/o Hon. Michael R. Merz  
U.S. Courthouse  
200 West Second Street, Room 501  
Dayton, OH 45402 Ph: 937-512-1550

### 7<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT MELISSA HARDIN

c/o Hon. William M. Conley  
U.S. Courthouse,  
120 North Henry Street, #560  
Madison, WI 53703—Ph: 608-264-5087

### 8<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT LESLIE WALKER

c/o Hon. Paul A. Zoss  
U.S. Courthouse  
320 Sixth Street, Room 104  
Sioux City, IA 51101 Ph: 712-233-3921

### 9<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT GAIL MORGAN

c/o Hon. John W. Sedwick  
United States District Court, Alaska  
gail\_morgan@akd.uscourts.gov  
907.677.6291

### 10<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT LYNDY BROWN

c/o Hon. Bobby R. Baldock  
Joe Skeen Federal Building  
500 N. Richardson Ave., Rm 167  
Roswell, NM 88201 Ph: 575-625-2388

### 11<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT BARBARA LAY

c/o Hon. Gerald B. Tjoflat  
Byron Simpson U.S. Courthouse  
300 North Hogan St., Ste 14-200  
Jacksonville, FL 32202— Ph: 404-335-6334

### FEDERAL CIRCUIT SHARON DEARE

c/o Hon. Loren A. Smith  
U.S. Courthouse,  
717 Madison Place, N.W., #328  
Washington, D.C. 20439—Ph: 202-357-6637

### D.C. CIRCUIT SHARON DEARE

c/o Hon. Loren A. Smith  
U.S. Courthouse,  
717 Madison Place, N.W., #328  
Washington, D.C. 20439—Ph: 202-357-6637

**Go to [www.fjaa.net](http://www.fjaa.net) for a complete list of officers, circuit representatives, committee memberships, and other great information.**

## WELCOME TO NEW HIRES:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Circuit - Barbara Degel Clarke, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Joseph L. Tauro
- 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit - Vickie L. Hearn, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Kaymani D. West
- 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit - Sharon D. Berryman, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Leslie H. Southwick
- 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit - Michelle Valdez, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Diana Song Davis
- 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit - Amy L. Strother, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Leonard E. Davis
- 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit - Kathryn M. Miller, Judicial Assistant to Hon. John M. Gerrard
- 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit - Lucas V. Kimes, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Virginia M. Morgan
- 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit - Sonja K. Admundson, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Morgan Christen
- 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit - Anne E. Masneri, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Sharon L. Gleason
- 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit - Michelle M. Wales, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Karon O. Bowdre
- 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit - Scott Stevenson, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Elizabeth A. Kovachevich



## THE BACK PAGE - THE EDITOR'S SPOT!

### OSCAR Bulletin Article:

#### Court Unit Administrators Taking a Greater Role in OSCAR

A concern was raised at our monthly JA meeting in March about whether the JA function of handling the annual law clerk hiring was being transferred to the clerk's office. I contacted Michael Wade, our Human Resources Manager, to find out more about this issue. Mr. Wade explained that some of the HR departments across the country already handle all the law clerk hiring matters. In our court, the Eastern District of Michigan, HR is not focusing on shifting the work away from the JAs. Rather, he believes the article is to encourage more judges to use the service. If more judges used OSCAR, it would become the central bank, so to speak, of information for the applicants, the judges and their staff. It would also considerably cut down on the amount of applications coming in the mail.

The training that the AO plans on expanding regarding OSCAR is available to all. HR will help a new judge get up to speed with OSCAR, but it's up to the judges to determine how much assistance, if any, they need from HR when hiring a law clerk.

**Mr. Wade indicated that HR must prepare the New Appointment Applications and Interviewee Worksheet (AO 78A) which they always struggle with because of lack of information. I suggested that the JAs could make sure that this form is processed and sent to HR when the hiring season is over. He said that would be a big help.**

Maybe being a little proactive and taking whatever training is offered, being up to speed on the tools the AO is going to roll out and making sure HR gets the forms they need will go a long way in keeping OSCAR a JA function. It looks like it could be up to us.

Susan Pinkowski

GOOD NEWS!!!

The 2011 FJAA Educational Conference Summary will be up on our web site soon!

### Court Unit Administrators Taking a Greater Role in OSCAR

OSCAR provides a Court Unit Administrator interface that allows clerk's office staff to perform OSCAR functions on behalf of participating judges in their court. Functions include assisting chambers in posting and closing clerkship positions, maintaining judge profiles and hiring statuses, electronically communicating with the applicant pool, monitoring law clerk hiring across the court, running reports on data for positions and total number of applications, and receiving electronic OSCAR program updates. Court unit administrators can assist their judges in law clerk hiring and function as a direct link between the OSCAR Program Office and their court. The number of clerks' of court registering their staff as an OSCAR court unit administrator continues to grow. The Administrative Office will expand its webinars, training tools, and communications with this growing user group. 📧



Susan Eckert Pinkowski  
Newsletter Editor

*A free one-year membership for the year 2012 is available to all new JAs that are/were hired between September 1, 2011—September 1, 2012. This free one-year membership is available only to first-time FJAA members.*

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.