

INBRIEF

Federal Judicial **FJAA** Assistants Association

OFFICERS 2013-2014

STEPHANIE LAWLEY
PRESIDENT

c/o Hon. Timothy Burgess
U.S. Courthouse
222 West 7th Avenue, Box 33
Anchorage, AK 99513-9513
Phone: 907-677-6203

GUDRUN M. SWOBODA
PRESIDENT-ELECT

c/o Hon. William H. Baughman, Jr.
Carl B. Stokes U.S. Courthouse
801 W. Superior Avenue, 10A
Cleveland, OH 41113
Phone: 216-357-7220

CATHY B. GRAY
VICE PRESIDENT

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

REBECCA BAERTSCH
SECRETARY

c/o Hon. Donovan W. Frank
Warren E. Burger Federal Building
316 North Robert Street, Room 724
St. Paul, MN 55101
Phone: 651-848-1290

SUSAN GARNER
TREASURER

c/o Chief Judge Julie E. Carnes
Richard B. Russell Federal Building
and U.S. Courthouse
75 Spring St., SW, Room 2167
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: 404-215-1511

CYNTHIA P. HUBBARD
PAST PRESIDENT

c/o Hon. Patrick Michael Duffy
Hollings Judicial Center Annex
81 Meeting Street, 3rd Floor
Charleston, SC 29401
Phone: 843-579-1460

CYNTHIA CHAPMAN
PARLIAMENTARIAN

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

Dear Judicial Assistants,

Summer Solstice—June 21st on the calendar—is the mid-point of summer in Alaska. We celebrate solstice in Alaska because after that date, our daylight hours begin to dwindle. Even though we still enjoy 18-20 hours of daylight each day, we know to take advantage of every hour of daylight. I hope you have found some time for rest and relaxation this summer. The long, lazy days remind us to take a little time out for ourselves and spend time doing something we love.

I attended the Judicial Secretaries Advisory Group (JSAG) annual meeting in Washington, DC in late April. I am hopeful that all the JSAG Representatives have reported back to Judicial Assistants in their circuits with updates from the meeting. The JSAG Reps are a conduit for information for JAs and the AO. I encourage you to take time to read their summary of the JSAG meeting and utilize them as a resource.

It is also election season for the FJAA Board. As members, you should have received a ballot and hopefully exercised your right as a FJAA member to vote for the 2014-2015 FJAA Board. You probably noticed that the Treasurer position lacked a nominee. If you are interested in serving the FJAA Board in this very important capacity, I would love to talk with you about the duties. I feel confident that we can fill this position with the right person. Feel free to contact me if you see yourself serving in this capacity.

The FJAA Board is planning a mid-year meeting in September so that the Board can begin planning for our next FJAA Conference and the upcoming year. We are excited about the future and would like to extend our thanks to all of you who have renewed your membership and stayed with us during this past year of uncertainty. Our sustainability would not be possible without your continued commitment. The FJAA Board is grateful that you chose to weather this storm with us.

Whether it is cheering on your favorite baseball team, tending your garden, soaking up the sun at the beach or simply doing nothing at all—take time out for your own personal All Star break—because I can assure you that you are somebody's All Star! And it is probably the person who wears that black robe in your chambers! If they have not taken the time this summer to tell you, take it from me—you are an All Star! And YOU are who keeps all the players on the field! Enjoy the rest of your summer days and do something just for you!

All Best, Stephanie Lawley

P.S. Check out our New Hire list this issue! At our JSAG teleconference, the attorney advisor said this is the largest list of new hires for July in the last five years. I note that Arizona has eight—six new judges were appointed there in May and they all hired JAs! This is exciting!!



CIRCUIT NEWS



First Circuit
Joan Ausman

Gary Wentz, First Circuit Executive to Relocate

A letter from Gary to the 1st Circuit staff:

“Last month marked thirteen years since I came to Boston to serve as Circuit Executive. As many of you know, I moved here from the Tenth Circuit in Denver and before that I began my career at the Seventh Circuit in Chicago. I have thoroughly enjoyed each of these assignments and have been fortunate to work with many outstanding professionals along the way. Earlier today I spoke to Chief Judge Lynch and informed her that I have decided that the time is right to return to the private sector and to take on an exciting new opportunity in Chicago. My last day in the office will be Wednesday, July 30.

The Judiciary is all about people. It is about forming trusting, collaborative relationships that accept different perspectives. It is about knowing that

well intentioned people often differ, and that our different perspectives can make us collectively stronger when we listen. It begins and ends with “we” and not with “I.” No one in the Judiciary builds anything worthwhile alone. I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish in our time together. It has been a remarkable and truly unexpected journey. I leave with wonderful memories and cherished friendships. Most of all, I know that I am grateful beyond words that both those memories and friendships will continue in the chapters to come.”

Chief Judge Sandra Lynch has appointed Susan Goldberg to assume the position of Acting Circuit Executive until the position is filled.

We wish you all the best in your future endeavors Gary!

Andrea K. Johnstone, Magistrate Judge United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire

The New Hampshire District Court is pleased to announce the appointment of Magistrate Judge Andrea Johnstone, who has filled the vacancy created with the elevation of former Magistrate Judge Landya B. McAfferty to an Article III District Judge.

Judge Johnstone was born in 1963 in Elizabeth, New Jersey. She completed her undergraduate studies at Wheaton College and earned a J.D. from Hofstra University in 1988. Upon graduation, she served as a law clerk in the New Hampshire Superior Court. She went on to specialize in labor and employment law with Gallagher, Callahan & Gartrell, PC, and later with Bernstein, Shur, Sawyer & Nelson, PA. She served as General Counsel for the Elliot Health System from 2012 to 2013, and more recently as Special Counsel to the University System of New Hampshire until her appointment to the court. Additional accomplishments include co-authoring Labor and Employment Law in New Hampshire and twice receiving the New Hampshire Employment Lawyer of the Year award. She has also served as a volunteer mediator for the New Hampshire Human Rights Commission, a board member for NH Kids Count, and trustee of Proctor Academy.

Magistrate Judge Johnstone began her term of service on June 16, 2014. Joan Ausman, Judicial Assistant to Judge Paul Barbadoro, is also serving as Judicial Assistant to Magistrate Judge Johnstone.

New Chief USPO, D.N.H.

Jonathan Hurtig was recently appointed to serve as the Chief United States Probation Officer in the District of New Hampshire following Chief Tom Tarr's retirement in January of 2014. Jonathan has been a U.S. Probation Officer in the District of Massachusetts since 1998 and had served as a Type I Deputy Chief in that District since 2007.

**A Sad Farewell to Our Colleague and Friend, Gail Rice, Judicial Assistant to Hon. Norman Stahl,
First Circuit Court of Appeals and FJAA Member**



Gail F. Rice, age 57, passed away on Saturday, June 21, 2014, at her home in Cape Elizabeth, Maine, after a two-year battle with cancer. She was born on June 17, 1957, in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, and graduated from Gardner, Massachusetts, High School in 1975. She received her Associate degree in office management from Westbrook College and a Bachelor of Science degree in linguistics from the University of Southern Maine. She also attended University of Maine in Orono, working towards a Master's Degree. Gail recently retired after 36 years of working for the federal courts in Maine and most recently as Judicial Assistant to the Honorable Norman Stahl, First Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston. She leaves behind her husband of 37 years, Robert A. Rice III, two sons, and many other family members and friends.

Gail was a founding member of the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation. She was active in St. Alban's Church singing in the choir and was a member of the Alter Guild. Gail loved to ski and go for long walks and hikes. She was an accomplished knitter and loved gardening and cooking. She attended several FJAA conferences in recent years and was on the conference planning committee for the 2009 Portland, Maine, FJAA Conference.

Gail had a quiet, unassuming, kind, and gentle nature and she will be missed greatly by her family members, friends, and colleagues. Gail is pictured on the right. On the far left is retired FJAA member, Linda Haukedahl (North Dakota) and next to her is Linda Tsiatsios, also retired, D.N.H.



Second Circuit
Janet Hansen

News from the Second Circuit Court of Appeals:

The Second Circuit held its Judicial Conference in beautiful Saratoga Springs, NY, June 11-13, 2014. The Program and Planning Committee worked creatively under the guidance of Conference Chair Judge Victor Marrero, of the Southern District of New York, to develop thought-provoking plenary session programs. The Committee brought together distinguished groups of notable speakers as presenters for this year's overarching Conference theme: Cyber-Security in an Age of Cyber-Terrorism. The Committee planned sessions throughout the Conference that delved into the various aspects of the larger theme. The Conference opened with a keynote address delivered by Department of Homeland Security Secretary, Jeh Johnson, followed by a primer on Cyber-Terrorism. Subsequent program panels explored issues that are germane to the legal profession and society as a whole relating to national security, international relationships, private industry, and the media.

The Court of Appeals held its Annual Court Fitness Event from June 16 through June 27, 2014. Employees were encouraged to record their daily cardiovascular exercise mileage; whether it be from riding a bike, using an elliptical machine, swimming, walking, or running—including walking or running back and forth over the Brooklyn Bridge which accounted for three miles round trip! Everyone who completed their 26 mile goal during this time period received a certificate of completion, in addition to many health benefits! Congratulations to all who participated in, and completed, the marathon!

District of Connecticut:

Chief Judge Janet C. Hall presided over the formal investiture of Judge Jeffrey Meyer on Friday, May 30, 2014, at the U.S. District Courthouse, New Haven, Connecticut. Judge Meyer filled the seat vacated by the late Judge Mark R. Kravitz. Judge Meyer is a graduate of Yale College and Yale Law School. From 1989 to 1990, he clerked for Judge James L. Oakes of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, followed by a clerkship with Justice Harry A. Blackmun of the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Meyer worked at various law firms, was staff attorney for Vermont Legal Aid, and then served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the District of Connecticut from 1995-2004. (continued)

He also served as senior counsel to the Independent Inquiry Committee into the United Nations Oil for Food Program in Iraq from 2004-2005. Since 2006, Judge Meyer has been a Professor of Law at Quinnipiac University School of Law. He is also a Senior Research Scholar in Law and Visiting Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School. We send a hearty welcome to Judge Meyer and wish him every success in his new endeavor!



(Photo courtesy of Robin Tabora, Clerk, District of Connecticut. Left to right: Senator Richard Blumenthal, Judge Jeffery Meyer, and his father, State Senator Edward Meyer)



I am very sad to report that after a long and courageous battle, our beloved colleague, Amelia Koffman, passed away on Wednesday, July 16, 2014. As anyone who ever met Amelia knows, she was a kind and beautiful spirit, and was just full of life! Many of us within the Second Circuit have our own special fond memories of Amelia and feel very fortunate to have known her (and perhaps some members in the FJAA do as well as Amelia was a longtime FJAA member and she attended many conferences). We were all blessed to have worked with her for so many years. We send our heartfelt condolences to her husband Mody, and their daughters, Shelli and Naomi. Her laughter, kindness, and friendship will be sorely missed! She was indeed a beautiful person--inside and out!

Amelia's family would like to thank everyone who made leave sharing donations to Amelia. Your kindness was very much appreciated!

Court of International Trade:

As a follow up to an entry in the last newsletter, Austin Basile (son of Fidelis Basile, J.A. to Judge Mark A. Barnett) has landed in Fiji, and much to his mother's dismay, absolutely loves it and wants to live there forever! You can see why in the pictures shown below:



It is always nice to have faces to go with names. Below is a photo of the two newest Judicial Assistants at the Court of International Trade: Fidelis Basile (Judge Mark A. Barnett) and Golda Lawrence (J.A. to Judge Claire R. Kelly). Welcome Ladies!



That's all we have for now. We send everyone our best wishes for a wonderful and safe summer! Enjoy!!! Janet F. Hansen

THIRD Circuit

Iris Liriano



There have been a slew of retirements in the District of New Jersey and the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. It seems like once one person retires, here comes the next one—which is good news and bad news. The good news is that the retiree will be looking forward to a new chapter in their lives fulfilling a hobby, a passion, or a dream. The bad news is that the Judicial Assistant will more than likely be replaced by a law clerk.

In the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, two Judicial Assistants have retired. The first Judicial Assistant is Trini Heim who retired on July 3, 2014. Trini was a Judicial Assistant for the Hon. Maryanne Trump Barry for 21 years. To give you a little history on Trini, she started working for the federal government in 1968 at the Naval Ship Repair Facilities in Guam. Next, she worked for the Naval Shore Electronics Engineering Activity. In 1977, Trini and her family moved to New Jersey. Trini was employed by the U.S. Marshal’s Service but due to lack of advancement, Trini left and joined the U.S. District Court in 1983. Thereafter, Trini joined the Court of Appeals and worked for the Hon. Leonard Garth. When Judge Garth

decided to take senior status, Trini decided to return to the Clerk’s Office for job security. At the Clerk’s Office, Trini worked as a swing-pool secretary for Magistrate and District Court Judges. In 1993, Judge Barry’s secretary retired and Trini replaced her. In Trini’s words, this was a beginning of a wonderful relationship between her and Judge Barry. Judge Barry and her law clerks held a retirement party for Trini at the Trump Towers in New York City. I hear it was fabulous! During her retirement, Trini is expected to visit her family on the West Coast where everyone will meet at Spanaway, Washington. During her retirement, Trini may work part-time at a supermarket but is unsure. On her bucket list, Trini wants to travel to Rome, Italy and St. Petersburg, Russia with her husband John. Happy traveling, Trini!



John (Trini's husband), Judge Barry, and Trini.

Our second Judicial Assistant, Clara Carli, retired on June 30, 2014. Clara worked for the Hon. Leonard Garth for approximately 17 years. In her words, Clara feels blessed and privileged to have known such supportive, helpful, and caring judges, judicial assistants, and court personnel. Prior to working for the Court of Appeals, Clara worked for various law firms. During her retirement, Clara may return to work at a law firm. Clara and her husband, Ray, are volunteers for several dog clubs where they are members. Specifically, they volunteer at the Bichon Frise Rescue group and will continue to do so.



Clara's husband, Ray, Judge Barry, and Clara.



Top Row: From left to right are Lynne Kosobucki, Susan Avery, Sylvia Locke, Andrea Battel, Suzanne Makwinski, Trini Heim, Donna Casale, Iris Liriano, and Nicole Peaks

Bottom Row: From left to right are Hon. Patty Shwartz, Clara Carli, Hon. Julio Fuentes, and Hon. Michael Chagares



FOURTH Circuit

*Krystina
Ludlow-Jones*



Judge Wilson in Roanoke, Virginia is retiring. His last day will be July 31, 2014. A few days later, he will begin teaching in Taipei, Taiwan, at National Taiwan University. He will be teaching students there about American criminal law and procedure. For now, he plans to teach for one year.

My family and I also welcomed a new addition to our family on April 10, 2014. I had a baby boy which we named Preston Micah Jones. He weighed 7 lbs. 4oz. and was 20 inches long, which is why my article is so short!



Preston, just minutes
after he was born!



Fifth Circuit
Hope Taormina

**EDLA CLERK CELEBRATES HIS ONE-YEAR
ANNIVERSARY**

On March 18, 2013, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana selected William (Bill) W. Blevins as Clerk of Court, replacing Loretta G. Whyte. Loretta G. Whyte retired in May, 2013, after over 30 years of service as Clerk and 42 years of federal judiciary service.

Bill, who is originally from Virginia, graduated from the University of Richmond with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1985. He received a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Richmond in 1995.



Although the Eastern District of Louisiana is the first federal district court clerk position he has held, Bill has served the United States Courts for many years. He was the Clerk of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Florida in Tallahassee, Florida, for 13 years. Prior to that, he was the Clerk of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas. He also served as the Chief Deputy Clerk for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Bill is married to Malinda Wilkerson Blevins. They have one son and three daughters. Their son is overseas serving in the armed forces. Their oldest daughter recently graduated from the University of Kentucky, their middle daughter is attending the University of Richmond, and their youngest daughter will be starting her senior year in high school in the fall.

In May, 2014, Bill completed one year as Clerk of Court and it was a very busy year. From September, 2013, until the summer of 2014, the Eastern District of Louisiana has welcomed a new District Court Clerk of Court, a new District Court Chief Deputy Clerk, a new Clerk of U.S. Bankruptcy Court, a new U.S. Magistrate Judge and staff, a

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new U.S. Attorney and First Assistant U.S. Attorney, and a new Federal Public Defender. The U.S. Probation Office was consolidated with the Pretrial Services Office. Among many other projects, the Clerk's Office and U.S. Probation Office have been planning the Fall 2014 launch of the newly created Shared Administrative Services Unit, which will serve both the U.S. District Court and the U.S. Probation Office, providing Procurement, Space and Facilities, Emergency Management, Budget, Audit, and Human Resources services to both court agencies.

We congratulate Bill on his one year anniversary in New Orleans and as EDLA Clerk of Court.



Gregg Costa Confirmed to 5th Circuit Court of Appeals

On May 20, 2014, Former Texas District Court Judge Gregg Costa was confirmed to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Costa, nominated in December, is the third judge confirmed to the Fifth Circuit under President Obama and replaces Clinton appointee Fortunado Benavides. Costa received 'yes' votes from every present Senator including Texas Republicans John Cornyn and Ted Cruz. However, in his cloture vote to proceed, Costa received only 58 'yes' votes. In cloture, he earned Republican support from Senators Susan Collins (ME), Lisa Murkowski (AK), Jeff Flake (AZ), and Texas' John Cornyn and Ted Cruz. Judge Costa is the first confirmation to the federal Texas judiciary since Sen. Ted Cruz joined the Senate. Judge Costa joined the federal judiciary in 2012 as a member of the Houston-based Southern District of Texas; he was stationed in Galveston. Before his appointment, Costa was a lead prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office for Texas' Southern District in the case against R. Allen Stanford, who was eventually convicted in the second-largest Ponzi scheme in U.S. history. Costa is a native of Richardson and graduated from Dartmouth College. At the University of Texas law school, he served as editor in chief of the Texas Law Review. He also clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist in 2001 and 2002.

The Fifth Circuit has two more vacancies waiting to be filled, both are listed as judicial emergencies. The court is now made up of three Obama appointees, two Clinton appointees, four Reagan appointees, and six George W. Bush appointees. With Costa's confirmation, there are now four vacancies waiting to be filled on the Southern District of Texas Judiciary.

Now that Fifth Circuit Judge Stephen Higginson is no longer the new kid on the block, his JA, Sharon Johnson, shares a glimpse of the judge, his nomination, and first years on the bench, through her eyes:

I began working for Judge Higginson in 1998 when he was Appellate Chief at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Louisiana. It did not take long for me to realize what an extraordinary person he is. Not just because of his educational background, which includes a Bachelor's Degree from Harvard College, a Master's Degree in Philosophy from Cambridge University, and a law degree from Yale Law School, and not just because he clerked for the Hon. Patricia Wald of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and for United States Supreme Court Justice Byron R. White, but mainly because of the respect and kindness he shows to all—no matter what their position or stature.

His industrious work ethic, while admirable, inspires me and others. As an Assistant United States Attorney, he was involved in most, if not all, appeals involving the office. Some cases were large and complex (like when he defended the conviction and sentence of a former Louisiana Governor), some cases were small. I watched as he imparted the same effort into defending the government in ALL appeals. There were many nights he worked until dinner time when he went home to be with his family only to return after the children had gone to bed. A few of my fondest memories of our days at the U.S. Attorney's Office were midnight trips to the post office to make sure our briefs were post-marked before the midnight filing deadline. I did the driving while he did the worrying (that we were not going to get there on time.)

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Occasionally, he taught evening classes at local law schools. Eventually, Loyola College of Law approached him about a full time teaching position. Other than his family (and soccer), Judge Higginson has two passions – the law and teaching. With that said, Loyola’s offer to teach was too hard for him to pass on, which meant he would resign from the U.S. Attorney’s Office, who did not want him to leave. With Loyola’s blessing, the U.S. Attorney was able to retain Judge Higginson in a part-time capacity. He remained Chief of Appeals but relinquished some duties to another Assistant United States Attorney who was re-assigned to the Appellate Unit. My experience in monitoring and tracking appellate activity in that office helped make his transition to part-time a smooth one.

One day, he walked into my office, dressed a bit more formally than usual. I inquired if it was a special occasion and jokingly asked if he had a job interview. He looked surprised and said he might tell me about it someday. Finally, that day came -- he told me he was being considered for a federal judgeship. I was happy for him, but did not want to see him go. I had worked for him for nearly 14 years.

Time seemed to pass slowly as the nomination process went on. The judge did not talk much about it, but kept me in the loop about happenings. In May 2011, news came that President Obama would be nominating him for a seat on the Fifth Circuit; that following June 8, his confirmation hearing was held. Several of us at the office were able to listen to the hearing live through the internet. I felt a huge sense of pride that I work for this man. The hearing seemed to be over in a flash. Before you knew it, he was back home, business as usual, but the waiting game continued. Before a vote could be put before the full Senate, the Senate summer recess began and would not reconvene until sometime after Labor Day. And so we waited.

On Halloween night, 2011, a vote on his nomination went before the full Senate. A handful of U.S. Attorney personnel, along with Judge Higginson’s family, gathered to watch the vote. We watched as one by one, Senators came in to tender their vote. When done, the Senate unanimously approved the nomination; the vote was 88-0.

Two days later, in front of a handful of family, friends, and judicial staff, I watched as Judge Higginson was sworn in by resident judges of the Fifth Circuit. When the short ceremony was over, we went to our new offices and started our new jobs. It was not long after that he was placed on an oral argument panel—the week of December 5th to be exact, followed by sittings in January and February. He had a small reprieve in March, but that was when we had his investiture.

When I followed Judge Higginson to this Court, I thought my background in appellate work had prepared me well for the job. It did to a degree, but there was so much more to learn. That first year was a bit hectic, but as I started to learn the system, things began to fall into place. He continues his teaching, but now in a different venue. He teaches his law clerks what they need to know to be successful young lawyers; he teaches me every day.

Judge Higginson has come full circle—from writing government briefs and arguing before this Court, to hearing cases on the Court he once practiced before. What an experience! I am honored that I was able to witness this process and, even more so, to be serving as his Judicial Assistant. I am glad I came along for the ride!

Submitted by: Sharon Johnson
Judicial Assistant to
Fifth Circuit Judge Stephen Higginson

EDLA Welcomes New U.S. Magistrate Judge

Michael B. North was sworn in as Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana on March 1, 2014. A graduate of Jesuit High School in New Orleans, Magistrate Judge North received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from Louisiana State University in 1987. He worked in both worlds: for-profit (Dow Chemical) and non-profit (Cerebral Palsy of Louisiana), before deciding to continue his academic career at Tulane Law School, where he served as Editor-in-Chief of the *Tulane Law Review* and graduated first in his class. Magistrate Judge North spent 16 years in private litigation practice, handling and trying cases in state and federal courts throughout the country in diverse areas of the law including products liability, commercial litigation, labor and employment, maritime, and insurance coverage and casualty matters.

Since his days in high school, Magistrate Judge North has made community service a priority in his life. In his first year in law school, he helped establish Camp Summertribe, a residential summer camp for disabled children that continues to serve children and adults today. For the past 15 years, he has

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coached youth sports for the Jefferson Parish Recreation Department and, since 2006, has served as head coach of the 8th and 9th grade football teams at Jesuit High School. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Louisiana/Mississippi Chapter.

Magistrate Judge North and his wife Terri have two sons, Eric (20) and Jack (15).

SIXTH Circuit
Kelly Kopf



The Eastern District of Michigan, Southern Division had an interesting presentation given by the U.S. Attorney's office for the summer interns and anyone else who was interested (like me): The Case of the Underwear Bomber. Jonathan Tukel took the audience on a chronological tour of events surrounding this terrorist incident that happened on Christmas Day in 2009. Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab tried to blow up a Northwest Airlines flight from Amsterdam with almost 300 passengers on board as it approached Detroit. (I was amazed to find out that this plane was practically over my house when he activated the bomb.) The bomb did not detonate properly and only a small fire erupted which was quickly put out by the crew and some passengers. Abdulmutallab is currently serving four consecutive life sentences plus 50 years.

The slide show contained photos of the arrest inside the plane (which were later purchased by the media for \$21,000 and \$17,000). We also saw the seating chart of the plane, saw where defendant was seated (right over 17,000 gallons of jet fuel), the underwear which held the bomb, and heard witness accounts of their experiences trying to literally defuse the situation. Mr. Tukel believes that the reason the bomb did not go off as intended was because the defendant wore it in his underwear since he was given the bomb on December 8. He explained that improvised explosive devices aren't made to last long and in all likelihood it deteriorated due to the length of time next to the defendant's body.

After three days of picking a jury and finishing the testimony of one witness, the defendant decided to plead guilty to all counts in order to be able to read the speech that he had prepared. Since he couldn't accomplish his goal of destroying an American plane over American soil while becoming a martyr, he read his speech into the record and indicated that these kind of events will happen over and over until Palestine is free.

However, due to the vigilance which our security agencies work under, our country has been free from more of these terrorist events, and to that I say Amen!!!
Susan Pinkowski



Seventh Circuit
Melissa Hardin

Greetings from the Seventh Circuit! I hope everyone is enjoying their summer. The Seventh Circuit had a wet June, and July is starting out the same way. In good news, several of the courts in our circuit have new judges. We are all very happy that the Senate gridlock appears to be over, at least on this topic.

Western Wisconsin – After a 5½ year wait, Western Wisconsin finally has both judgeships filled when Judge James D. Peterson took the oath of office on May 16th. His investiture was held on May 30th, in conjunction with the local bar association's annual meeting. While Judge Peterson has currently elected to hire three law clerks, Senior Judge Crabb's JA, Susie Vogel, is also working with Judge Peterson. It is expected that when Judge Crabb no longer qualifies for staff, Judge Peterson will drop down to 2 law clerks and a JA to keep Susie on his staff.

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Northern Illinois – Judge Stanley Roszkowski passed away at the age of 91 years on July 9th. He was appointed by President Jimmy Carter in 1977. The new federal courthouse that opened in Rockford on October 29, 2011 was named for Judge Roszkowski. In tribute, Chief Judge Ruben Castillo said, “Judge Roszkowski was an outstanding jurist and a wonderful colleague. Stan was a true American hero and patriot who served his country admirably in World War II as a member of the Air Force. He flew 34 missions out of Italy in B-24 bombers. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Roszkowski was one of Rockford’s premier trial attorneys. We will miss him greatly, and our hearts go out to his entire family.”



Central Illinois – Judge Cudmore retired after over 16 years on the bench; his last day was February 7, 2014. Judge Schanzle-Haskins was sworn in on March 24th and he decided to make no changes in staff, retaining FJAA member Lesa Blagburn as his Judicial Assistant/Paralegal and Arthur Cornell as Law Clerk. Lesa had been with Judge Cudmore since he was appointed in 1997 and is looking forward to serving with Judge Schanzle-Haskins.

Southern Illinois – Southern Illinois also has two new judges. District Judge Nancy J. Rosenstangel was confirmed by the Senate on May 8, 2014, and has elected to take three law clerks. Before taking the bench, Judge Rosenstangel was the Clerk of Court for the Southern District of Illinois. District Judge Staci Michelle Yandle was confirmed by the Senate on June 17, 2014. Before taking the bench, Judge Yandle was in private practice for 20 years, most recently as a solo practitioner.

EIGHTH CIRCUIT

Susan Sandridge



Hon. M. Douglas Harpool was confirmed by the Senate on March 28, 2014, and sworn in as a United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri on March 31, 2014 in Springfield, Missouri by Hon. Beth Phillips.

He and his wife, Cindy, have six children ranging in age from 10 to 31. Three children are biological (Ashley, Justin and Tyler), and three were adopted from foster care (Kianne, Jonathan and Elizabeth).

Judge Harpool has lived in Springfield his entire life. His father was a graphic artist for a local manufacturer and his mother was a secretary with the Springfield Public Schools, both now deceased. He is the consummate middle child. He had four brothers, including two sets of twins, one older and the other younger. One of his older brothers passed recently from cancer. He attended Springfield Public Schools graduating from Parkview High School. He and his high school debate partner won the Missouri State Debate Tournament. In the summer after high school graduation, he lost sight in his left eye as a result of a sports injury. He has been blind in his left eye since.

He attended MSU on a debate scholarship, where he served as President of the Student Government Association and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Speech and Theatre with an emphasis in Communications. He attended the University of Missouri Columbia, School of Law where he served on Law Review and the Board of Advocates. During law school he worked as youth director for a church in town. Upon graduation, he was awarded the Thomas Deacy Prize for his work in trial advocacy competitions and the Roscoe Anderson Award for work in Appellate Advocacy competitions.

The first time he ever met a lawyer was while interviewing for a courier position with a local law firm while attending MSU. After law school he returned to work for the same firm as an Associate and ultimately served as the firm's Managing Partner.

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At age 26 he was elected State Representative from the 134th legislative district. He served a total of five terms. During his last term, he served as Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. Included in legislation he successfully sponsored was legislation creating Missouri's Ethics Commission.

His law practice was primarily a civil trial practice concentrated in employment and civil rights. He was counsel of record in over 200 cases in the Western District throughout his career.

Judge Harpool is an ardent sports fan of the professional teams in Missouri, but especially the Kansas City Chiefs and St. Louis Cardinals. He closely follows both the Missouri Tigers and Missouri State Bears. Additionally, he is a history buff and normally has an audio book on history playing in his car. Otherwise, he is listening to a wide variety of music ranging from blues to Broadway Musicals.

Patricia "Pat" View began work on March 31, 2014 as the Judicial Assistant for the newly appointed Hon. M. Douglas Harpool in Springfield. Pat was born and raised in Northwest Missouri, and has always lived in Missouri. She is married to John A. View, III. They have one son together, John A. View, IV, and one rescue dog named Jasmine. Pat also has two step-daughters, Tammy and Tara, two sons-in-law, and six grandchildren. Pat attended Missouri Western State College in St. Joseph, graduating with an Associate of Science (AS) degree in Executive Secretary; an AS in Mid-Management - Banking & Finance; and a BSBA in Management. Prior to becoming Judge Harpool's Judicial Assistant, she was his legal secretary while in private practice, and also in the past was secretary to his law clerk, Kristen Roubal. Pat worked at the firms of Baird, Lightner, Millsap & Harpool; Lathrop & Gage; Cunningham, Harpool & Cordonnier; Daniel, Clampett, Powell & Cunningham; and Darniel, Clampett, Lilley, Dalton, Powell & Cunningham. Prior to that, she worked for the State of Missouri, Department of Revenue, DWI Trialde novo office in Springfield as a legal secretary; as a Computer Information Center Specialist for Department of Revenue, Information Services Division in Jefferson City; and as a Word Processing Coordinator for Missouri Western State College, Secretarial Science Department in St. Joseph. She served as the President of the Support Staff at Missouri Western State College, was a Member of the MWSC Secretarial Science Advisory Committee, and is a past recipient of the MI/I/SC Presidential Citation. Both Pat and John like to chill out at the lake—John bass fishes, and Pat rides her wave runner.



3M IP Lawyer Named New Magistrate Judge

Hildy Bowbeer was sworn in as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the District of Minnesota on June 23, 2014. She will have a formal investiture at a later date and began hearing cases on July 14. She received her law degree from the University of Michigan in 1979. She has been an attorney with 3M Company, first managing product liability and mass tort litigation and then as a member of 3M's Office of Intellectual Property Counsel. Prior to joining 3M, she was a founding partner of the Minneapolis law firm of Bowman & Brooke. She started her legal career with Gray, Plant, Mooty, Mooty and Bennett. She is a past chair of the Board of Minnesota Continuing Legal Education and served eight years on the Judicial Selection Commission.

Bowbeer was born in West Virginia and grew up in Iowa. She received her undergraduate degree in Spanish from Central College in Pella, Iowa. She clerked for Justice C. Donald Peterson of the Minnesota Supreme Court after graduation from University of Michigan.

A panel appointed by the district judges reviewed applications and screened candidates that were then recommended for interviews. That panel was chaired by attorneys Lew Remele, Jr., and Rachna Sullivan.



(continued)

Fergus Falls United States Courthouse Renamed

Chief Judge Michael J. Davis held a special session of court on April 22, 2014, to rename the Fergus Falls Courthouse to the Edward J. Devitt United States Courthouse and Federal Building. Special guests included Circuit Judge Myron H. Bright, Senator Amy Klobuchar, Representative Collin Peterson, Attorney Joshua Heggem, Attorney Richard Pemberton and Terri Devitt (daughter of Judge Devitt). A reception was held on the first floor of the courthouse following the special session of court.



Freedom Riders Exhibit Tour

On Friday, June 6, 2014, the Court hosted a reception and tour of the "Freedom Riders" exhibit, which was on display in the Minneapolis Courthouse Atrium. The exhibit examines the story of the 1961 Freedom Riders, non-violent protesters who, in interracial groups, traveled through the South and risked their lives to challenge segregated facilities. By bravely confronting violence, intimidation, and imprisonment, the Freedom Riders put pressure on the federal government to ultimately pass some of the most important civil rights legislation in American history. The Freedom Riders' efforts helped move the nation closer to its promise of "equal justice of all."

(Left to Right: U.S. Rep. Keith Ellison; MN Freedom Rider Robert Baum, Karen Olson Aelony, widow of MN Freedom Rider Zev Aelony; MN Freedom Rider Clare O'Connor; MN Freedom Rider Dave Morton; MN Freedom Rider Peter Ackerberg; Magistrate Judge Franklin L. Noel; and Chief Judge Michael J. Davis)

The event began with opening remarks by Chief Judge Michael J. Davis about the Court's outreach efforts and the significance and legacy of the Freedom Riders. After this, the program featured inspiring speeches by Daniel Bergin of Twin Cities Public Television ("TPT"); Honorary Chairperson, Dr. Josie R. Johnson; and Keynote Speaker, U.S. Representative Keith Ellison. Magistrate Judge Franklin L. Noel then introduced four of the Minnesota Freedom Riders: Peter Ackerberg, Robert Baum, Dave Morton, and Claire O'Connor. They each shared reflections on their firsthand experiences traveling to Mississippi and facing imprisonment and intimidation. The program concluded with closing remarks by Judge Susan Richard Nelson.

NINTH CIRCUIT

Julie Lemm



Diane Humetewa, Confirmed to Federal Bench, Makes History

The Senate voted unanimously on May 14, 2014 to confirm Diane Humetewa as judge for the U.S. District Court for Arizona, making her the first Native American woman federal judge in U.S. history and the third Native American to ever hold such a position.



The final vote was 96 – 0 in favor of Humetewa, a citizen of the Hopi Tribe who previously worked as a U.S. Attorney for Arizona under the George W. Bush administration, as well as an appellate court judge for the Hopi Tribe and as a special counsel and professor at Arizona State University. (continued)

Humetewa was nominated by President Barack Obama to the position in 2013 after his administration forced her to step down from her U.S. Attorney position in 2009.

Native Americans have long been pushing for increased representation on the federal bench, especially in regions of the country that see high numbers of tribal- and Indian-focused legal cases.

“Let’s hope Diane's confirmation is just the start of a slew of Native American federal judges,” said Chris Stearns (Navajo), who previously served as a counsel to the House Natural Resources Committee. “There is still a massive lack of representation of Indian judges in the federal courts.”

Upon Humetewa’s confirmation, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) issued a statement saying that she is “impeccably qualified” for her new role.

“NCAI greatly appreciates the efforts of the president and Senate in achieving this historic confirmation,” the organization said. “There are many qualified, talented people like Diane Humetewa in Indian country who are able and willing to serve. We eagerly anticipate many more nominations of Native people to the federal bench and other offices.”

<http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2014/05/15/diane-humetewa-confirmed-federal-bench-makes-history-154885>

Federal Judge Routinely Encourages “Parties and Counsel” to Contact Sens. Feinstein and Boxer to Address Staffing Problems

Here’s what seems to be a boilerplate item (originating in early 2013) in many decisions by Judge Lawrence O’Neill of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California:

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT TO PARTIES AND COUNSEL

Judges in the Eastern District of California carry the heaviest caseload in the nation, and this Court is unable to devote inordinate time and resources to individual cases and matters. This Court cannot address all arguments, evidence and matters raised by parties and addresses only the arguments, evidence and matters necessary to reach the decision in this order given the shortage of district judges and staff. The parties and counsel are encouraged to contact United States Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer to address this Court’s inability to accommodate the parties and this action.

I hadn’t seen such things from other courts before, and I thought I would flag this as an interesting bit of judiciary-legislative-public relations.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/volokh-conspiracy/wp/2014/07/03/court-routinely-encourages-parties-and-counsel-to-contact-sens-feinstein-and-boxer-to-address-staffing-problems/>

TENTH CIRCUIT

Lynda Brown



UTAH NEWS:

The investiture of the Honorable Carolyn B. McHugh as United States Circuit Judge was held on May 28, 2014, at 3:30 p.m. at the new United States Courthouse in Salt Lake City, Utah. Judge McHugh’s Judicial Assistant is Nancy Hughes, who previously served as Judicial Assistant to the Honorable Stephen Anderson since 1994.

(continued)



OKLAHOMA NEWS:

Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals Senior Judge William J. Holloway, Jr. died at his home in Oklahoma City on April 25, 2014, at the age of 90. Judge Holloway had a long and distinguished career, culminating in more than 45 years on the federal appellate bench, and was the longest sitting judge on the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. He was held in high esteem by his fellow judges, and known for his humility, civility, and dedication to the rule of law. Chief Judge Mary Beck Briscoe said: "We all have benefited from our association with this great man. He has taught us how we should approach our cases, always reminding us to think beyond the legal issues raised and to also remember the people whose lives and livelihood will be affected by our rulings. But more than that, he taught us kindness."

**DC CIRCUIT*****Sharon Deare***

D. C. Circuit Courthouse

US COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS

Longtime court employee (Court Secretary 1952-1961 and Clerk of Court 1961-1991) and beloved friend, Frank T. Peartree, died June 24, 2014. A memorial service was held at 10:00 a.m. on July 11, 2014, at The Cathedral of St. Thomas More.

US COURT OF APPEALS FEDERAL CIRCUIT

On Saturday, May 31, 2014, Circuit Judge Sharon Prost succeeded Chief Judge Randall R. Rader as the seventh Chief Judge of the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals. Chief Judge Prost was appointed to the Federal Circuit in 2001 by President George

Chief Judge Prost has 40 years of government service working in all three branches of the federal government. In the Executive Branch, she served as an attorney at the Federal Labor Relations Authority and the Internal Revenue Service, and as both Associate Solicitor and Acting Solicitor at the National Labor Relations Board.

In the Legislative Branch, Judge Prost was Chief Labor Counsel for the Minority of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Relations, and Minority Chief Counsel, Deputy Chief Counsel and Chief Counsel of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Judge Prost received a B.S. from Cornell University in 1973, an M.B.A. from The George Washington University in 1975, a J.D. from the Washington College of Law, American University in 1979, and an LL.M. from The George Washington University School of Law in 1984.

On June 19, 2014, Circuit Judge Alan Lourie presented the State of the Court Address at the Federal Circuit Bar Association's Bench & Bar Conference. Judge Lourie described the Federal Circuit as "very healthy and operating well."

**US COURT OF APPEALS DC CIRCUIT**

Judge Robert L. Wilkins investiture will be on September 12, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.



WELCOME!

Please extend a warm welcome to:

NEW HIRES

50 This Year Already!!

Evelyn Baez-Baez	Corinne Cohen
JA to Judge Pedro Delgado Hernandez	JA to Judge Terry Adelman
Christie-Lynn Clifford	Gwendolyn Asbel
JA to Judge Jon David Levy	JA to Judge James Donato
Daniel Bulger	Susan Gradoville
JA to Judge Margaret Mary Cangilos-Ruiz	JA to Judge George Nielsen
Lillian Niedringhaus	Marian Reece
JA to Judge Joseph Rodriguez	JA to Judge John Owens
Regina Price	Sandra Van Over
Secretary to Judge Christine Gravelle	JA to Judge Kim Wardlaw
Nancy Rumchak	Mary Farmer
JA to Judge Wallace Dixon	JA to Judge Douglas Rayes
Alexandra Eichenbaum	Debra Massey
JA to Judge Rebecca Buehler Connelly	JA to Judge John Joseph Tuchi
Jean McCoy	Clara Ortiz
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Rene Bowers	Rebecca Anderson
JA to Judge Alan Koschik	JA to Judge Roger Benitez
Sandra Hamilton	Gabriela Ma
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Patti Cuellar	Monica Villanueva
Administrative Mgr for Judge Richard Suhrheinrich	Secretary to Judge Salvador Mendoza
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Administrative Manager for Judge Eugene Siler	Secretary to Judge Michelle Friedland
Patricia Marie View	Tracy Beeson
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Jayne Schmitz	Susana Tellez
JA to Judge Terry Adelman	JA to Judge Cornelia Pillard

HELP WANTED—FJAA TREASURER

Do you like money? Do you like spending other people’s money? Writing Checks?
Do you like budgeting? Balancing the books? Tracking expenditures?

If this describes you, please consider serving as the Treasurer for the FJAA. Your term will begin on November 1, 2014. After one year, if you love the job, you may be elected to serve for up to three more years as our Treasurer. The FJAA Board is looking for a “rockstar Judicial Assistant” who has the time to spend, the attention to detail, and the heart for serving on the FJAA Board. If this sounds like you, please contact Stephanie Lawley at Stephanie_Lawley@akd.uscourts.gov. She would love to give you more details



Susan Pinkowski
Newsletter Editor



WE WANT YOU!

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

Stephanie_Lawley@akd.uscourts.gov

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.

NEWSLETTER
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A free one-year membership for the year 2013-2014 is available to all new JAs that are/were hired between September 1, 2013—September 1, 2014. This free one-year membership is available only to first-time FJAA members.

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CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVES

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

1ST CIRCUIT JOAN AUSMAN

c/o Hon. Paul J. Barbadoro
Warren B. Rudman United States Courthouse
55 Pleasant Street, Room 110
Concord, NH 03301 Ph: 603-226-7303

2ND CIRCUIT & COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE 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

3RD CIRCUIT IRIS LIRIANO

c/o Hon. Patty Shwartz
United States Post Office and Courthouse
Two Federal Square, Room 477
Newark, NJ 07102 Ph: 973-645-6596

4TH CIRCUIT KRYSTINA LUDLOW-JONES

c/o Hon. J. Michelle Childs
C. F. Haynsworth Federal Bldg. & Courthouse
300 E. Washington St., Room 116
Greenville, SC 29601 Ph: 864-241-2190

5TH CIRCUIT HOPE TAORMINA

c/o Hon. Daniel Knowles, III
Hale Boggs Federal Building, Room B335
500 Poydras Street
New Orleans, LA 70130 Ph: 504-589-7575

6TH 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

7TH CIRCUIT MELISSA HARDIN

c/o Hon. William M. Conley
U.S. Courthouse
120 North Henry Street, #560
Madison, WI 53703 Ph: 608-261-5718

8TH CIRCUIT SUSAN SANDRIDGE

c/o Hon. Scott O. Wright
Charles Evans Whittaker U.S. Courthouse
400 E. Ninth St., Room 8662
Kansas City, MO 64106 Ph: 816-512-5700

9TH CIRCUIT JULIE LEMM

c/o Hon. Robert J. Bryan
U.S. Courthouse
1717 Pacific Ave., Room 4427
Tacoma, WA 98402 Ph: 253-882-3872

10TH CIRCUIT LYNDA BROWN

c/o Hon. Bobby R. Baldock
Joe Skeen Federal Building
500 N. Richardson Ave., Rm 167
Roswell, NM 88202 Ph: 575-625-2388

11TH 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: 904-301-5670

FEDERAL/DC CIRCUITS SHARON DEARE

c/o Hon. Douglas H. Ginsberg
E. Barrett Prettyman U.S. Courthouse
333 Constitution Ave., N.W. Room 5128
Washington, D.C. 20001 Ph: 202-216-7191

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

FJAA MEMBERS NEEDED

If you have not sent in your renewal membership, or if you haven't joined the 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. A listing of circuit representatives is above. Go on-line at www.fjaa.net for more information.

Have you been with the government for 30 years?

Please share your story with us.

The 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.

