



FJAA

OFFICERS

2018 - 2019

IN BRIEF

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL
ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION**

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Letter from the President

Cathy Gray



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Dear FJAA Members:

HAPPY SPRING!

As President of FJAA, I serve as an *ex officio* member of the Chambers Staff Advisory Group. I recently returned from the annual meeting at the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts in Washington, DC, and the cherry blossoms were just starting to bloom!

Judith Stoyko, President-Elect, also was in attendance as the Ninth Circuit Representative. Judy and I had the good fortune to hear from many of the chiefs, senior staff members, and directors of the AO. We learned of the newly created Judicial Integrity Office, led by Jill Langley, and the plans to implement an employment dispute resolution plan. You should already have received an e-mail from Director Duff asking for comments on a draft Model EDR Plan. The judiciary is taking workplace behavior seriously, and I encourage you to read the proposed plan and submit comments.

During the meeting, we had a brief time to talk with Director Duff. Everyone thanked him for successfully navigating the judiciary through the shutdown and allowing all of us to continue to receive pay. If we had to go through the shutdown, I'm glad we were judiciary employees! Beth Morris, President of Federal Bankruptcy Judicial Assistants, asked, "In light of the JA being phased out of chambers, is there a possibility of an early buyout similar to the clerk's office?" Mr. Duff didn't directly answer the question, but stated that judges are given their staffing quotas and they alone determine if they will hire a judicial assistant. Mr. Duff reminded us that he had once been a judicial assistant, is in favor of judicial assistants, and sees the value of having a JA in chambers. During the conversation, I was able to impart to him that the Chambers Staff Training Fund is very important to our association. I emphasized that it is difficult for JAs to participate in AO-led WebEx trainings and that the ability to unplug and concentrate on training at our educational conference is a great way for us to stay relevant and keep our skills sharpened. Director Duff jotted down a note after my comment on training funds. It was the only comment he wrote down. Hopefully, this is a good sign!

With that said, I encourage all of you to register for our conference in Nashville, Tennessee, September 12-14, 2019! In this edition of the newsletter, you will find the agenda and registration form for the conference. You can also register and find conference information at www.fjaa2019conference.com. I know it is going to be a wonderfully educational, social, and outright fun time and I hope to see you there!

CIRCUIT NEWS

We still have one speaker time slot to fill, but we are close to finalizing the agenda and will update it on the website as soon as confirmed.

The planning committee read the conference exit survey reviews for the past two years and have worked very hard to plan an agenda that will address your requests. Unfortunately, we can't incorporate everything, but we have tried to meet many of the requests.

In addition to planning the agenda, many hours have gone into working and re-working the budget to arrive at a registration fee as reasonable as we could get. Many items factor into the fee: audiovisual fees (which are not cheap), event liability insurance, speaker and attendee gifts, etc. Also, Tennessee has a 9.25% state tax, plus the hotel service charge for all services is 24% (which is also taxable). I think you get the idea. The registration fee in San Francisco in 2017 was \$375 where there was an 8.75% state tax and 22% hotel service charge. In two years, the registration fee has increased \$24, or about 6.5%.

If you wish to register for the conference using a personal credit card, you must do so on the conference website. Please note that you will incur a fee of approximately \$24 for this convenience. MyEvent, the website host, is a for-profit enterprise (like Ticketmaster) that generates its income by charging ticket-sales fees and credit card convenience fees. You may avoid these fees by asking your court finance department to generate a purchase order for your registration fee, or you may mail in your registration form along with a personal check.

Nashville is a hot tourist destination with many attractions. If you are a country-western fan, there is the Grand Ole Opry, Ryman Auditorium, Country Music Hall of Fame, and numerous honky tonks. If you are a history buff, you may want to visit The Hermitage, President Andrew Jackson's home. Sports fans have the NFL Tennessee Titans, as well as the NHL Nashville Predators teams. For the garden/outdoor person, Cheekwood Botanical Gardens and Museum of Art is a must. Nashville is also quickly becoming a foodie destination. Many great chefs have originated or relocated to the area. Cuisines vary from the famous Nashville hot chicken to fine dining restaurants, and everything in between. This *New York Times* article on Nashville was brought to my attention. Please check it out for a taste of what Nashville has to offer - <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/04/travel/what-to-do-in-nashville.html>.

Remember to keep checking the conference website for updates on recommended restaurants, events, etc. www.fjaa2019conference.com

Get excited, because Nashville has a lot to offer and we want to enjoy it with YOU!!

Y'all come! You will love the Southern hospitality!

Cathy



AND THE WINNER OF THE 2019 EARLY BIRD DRAWING... ..CONGRATULATIONS!!



My name is Deb Wilhelm and I work in the District of Colorado. I am the happy winner of \$100 from the FJAA's Early Bird Drawing. I started with the U.S. Courts in 2000 in Eugene, Oregon, as an Official Court Reporter for Judge Michael R. Hogan; then became a Judicial Assistant to Senior Judge B. Avant Edenfield in Savannah, Georgia; and now I am a Judicial Assistant to Senior Judge John L. Kane in Denver, Colorado. I've lived in 12 states. I love to travel!

Not only does my job allow me the time off to travel – last year to Tanzania and Rwanda – but it allows an inside view of the judiciary, meeting Supreme Court Justices and other notable judges

throughout the court system.

Going through my phone's photo library made me take stock of what my interests truly are. My quirky travel interest is visiting cemeteries. These pictures are from St. Sebastian's Cemetery in Salzburg, Austria, which was featured in the Sound of Music. My wanderlust has taken me to 6 of the continents and 49 states. My husband Pete and I are planning a trip to Antarctica so I can tag that seventh continent.



After moving to Denver in 2015, I joined a Meetup group entitled Denver Childfree Women. I am now an organizer for the Meetup group and help host events at different spots around the city. I have met many fabulous friends through this social outlet. We go to different restaurants for brunch, have game nights, book club, go hiking, rafting, and this summer I will host an axe-throwing event at one of the local venues. I've never tried it but it looks fun!

I recently became a member of the FJAA and am particularly pleased with the technical articles written by fellow members. Throughout my 19 years with the judiciary, I have made it a mission to understand our benefits, retirement planning, and how to achieve the most we can from our careers. I look forward to traveling to Nashville to learn more from my fellow members and experience the camaraderie that I believe this organization promotes.

I am grateful and happy to have won FJAA's Early Bird Drawing – which I will spend in Nashville! Hope to see you there.



2019 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 12-14, 2019



NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Name (for name badge)	Title
Judge	Court Circuit
Work Telephone	E-mail Address
You must be a member of the FJAA to register.*	Is this your first Conference? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
REGISTRATION FEE**	\$399.00 (MEMBER) \$ _____ \$299.00 (RETIREE)
PURCHASE ORDER NO.: _____	
GUEST NAME (IF APPLICABLE): _____	
GUEST BREAKFAST (2 DAYS)	\$60.00/DAY \$ _____
GUEST OPENING RECEPTION	\$60.00 \$ _____
GUEST CLOSING BANQUET	\$105.00 \$ _____
T-SHIRT SIZE: _____ (PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO EXCHANGES)	
DIETARY RESTRICTIONS: _____	
TOTAL ENCLOSED:	\$ _____

NOTE: For CLE credit, please enter state of admission and state bar number:

Mail completed registration form and check payable to “FJAA 2019 Conference” to:

Amy Robinson, Administrative Manager/Paralegal
Chambers of Hon. Bernice B. Donald
Clifford Davis – Odell Horton Federal Building
167 North Main Street, Suite 1118
Memphis, Tennessee 38103
Telephone: (901) 495-1299 E-Mail: RegisterFJAA@gmail.com

**If you are not a member of the FJAA, please submit your membership application and \$40 membership fee to your Circuit Representative or pay via PayPal online [here](#).*

****Registration deadline is July 31, 2019. There will be a 50% penalty for registrations canceled between August 1 and 31, 2019. No refunds after August 31, 2019. Registration fee includes all conference materials, educational events, hotel breakfasts, opening reception, and closing banquet.**



AGENDA

THURSDAY

2:00-7:00 PM	REGISTRATION	THE GREEN ROOM
2:00-4:00 PM	EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING	MELODY ROOM
5:00-7:00 PM	WELCOME RECEPTION Hors D'oeuvres And Cash Bar	SYMPHONY II

FRIDAY

6:00-6:45 AM	WELLNESS WALKING GROUP	MEET IN LOBBY
7:30-8:30 AM	BREAKFAST BUFFET	SYMPHONY II
7:30-8:30 AM	REGISTRATION	THE GREEN ROOM
8:30-8:45 AM	WELCOME REMARKS <i>Cathy Gray, FJAA President</i>	SYMPHONY I
8:45-9:00 AM	WELCOME REMARKS <i>Hon. Waverly D. Crenshaw, Jr. Chief Judge Middle District of Tennessee</i>	SYMPHONY I
9:00-10:00 AM	EVOUCHER <i>Ann E. Card CJA Panel Administrator Federal Public Defender Office Middle District of Tennessee</i>	SYMPHONY I
10:00-10:30 AM	OSCAR UPDATE <i>Laura Simon Program Manager, Recruitment/Court Initiatives Policy and Strategic Initiatives Division Administrative Office U.S. Courts</i>	SYMPHONY I
10:30-10:45 AM	BREAK	

10:45-11:45 AM	<p>DRINKING FROM A FIRE HYDRANT: BASIC LEGAL RESEARCH IN THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY</p> <p>Heather S. Robinson-Wilcox, Esq. <i>Lexis-Nexis</i> <i>Solutions Consultant</i> <i>Federal Government Market</i></p>	<p>1 CLE OR CPE CREDIT</p> <p><u>Pre-Approved States*</u> AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, FL, GA, HI, ND, NH, NJ, NV, OK, OR, SC, TX, VA, WI</p> <p><u>Credit Not Available</u> DC, MA, MD, MI, NC, SD</p>
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Mitch Kapur, founder of the Lotus Development Corporation and designer of Lotus 1-2-3, once wrote that "Getting information off the Internet is like taking a drink from a fire hydrant." Technological advancement has enabled humanity to retain and process seemingly endless amounts of information. Nowhere is that truer than in the American legal system. Making sense of the water pouring from that particular fire hydrant is the focus of this course on the fundamentals of basic legal research in the age of electronic research.

This session will cover: • Model Rules & Technology • Using Citations, Party Names & Source Selection • Refining Your Search • Sections of a Case • Topic Summary Reports • Citation Services
• Research History • Public Records

11:45 AM-1:15 PM	LUNCH	
1:15-2:15 PM	<p><u>THE MODERN CAMPFIRE: DISCOVERING THE RIGHT STORIES USING ADVANCED LEGAL RESEARCH TECHNIQUES</u></p> <p>Heather S. Robinson-Wilcox, Esq. <i>Lexis-Nexis</i> <i>Solutions Consultant</i> <i>Federal Government Market</i></p>	<p>1 CLE OR CPE CREDIT</p> <p><u>PRE-APPROVED STATES*</u> AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, FL, GA, HI, NH, NJ, TX, VA, WI</p> <p><u>CREDIT NOT AVAILABLE</u> DC, MA, MD, MI, NC, SD</p>

Experimental performance artist Laurie Anderson once described technology as "the campfire around which we tell our stories." That is especially true in the legal profession. As technology has allowed greater amounts of information to be retained and legal documents to become longer and longer, attorneys and legal professionals no longer have the choice to ignore it. Indeed, becoming technologically savvy and staying abreast of advancements are at the very core of the competency of the legal profession. Explore the latest technological advancements in this course. Strategies for efficiently researching, organizing, and maintaining awareness are just a few of the topics covered.

This session will cover: • Model Rules & Technology • Search History • Finding Supporting and Limiting Cases (Shepard's) • Legal Issue Trail • Segment Searching • Researching Legal Topics
• Ethical Considerations • Misconduct During Discovery • Misconduct Related to Social Media
• Ethical Implications • Browsing Sources • Pre-Search Filtering • Search Construction • Post Search Filters • Organize Your Research • Maintaining Awareness

*If a state isn't listed as pre-approved that doesn't mean it wouldn't issue credit. Typically, that just means Lexis Nexis will have to submit the curriculum to the state each time the topic is presented. Our Lexis Nexis instructor stated she has never had a situation where someone didn't receive credit unless their state was on the list of "Not Available" states, so please know that even if you don't see your state on the pre-approved list, you should be fine so long as your state isn't listed in the not available column. The instructor also informed us that sometimes when a state is listed as not available that can mean that it doesn't require CLE.

In addition, for CPE credit, LN will issue a certificate to confirm attendance but does not report directly to the state. For CLE credit, LN does report directly to the state.

2:15-3:15 PM INFOWEB SYMPHONY I
• Travel Reporting
• Private Seminar Disclosure
• Intercircuit Assignment
• Sentencing Guidelines Count
• Judge's Biography
Speaker to be determined

3:15-3:45 PM JUDGES' TRAVEL TIPS & TRICKS SYMPHONY I
Amy Robinson
*Paralegal to
Hon. Bernice B. Donald
Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals*

3:45-4:00 PM WRAP-UP AND INFORMATION SYMPHONY I

SATURDAY

6:00-6:45 AM WELLNESS WALKING GROUP MEET IN LOBBY

7:30-8:30 AM BREAKFAST BUFFET SYMPHONY II

8:30-9:30 AM FJAA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SYMPHONY I

9:30-10:30 AM LAW CLERK ORIENTATION & CASE SYMPHONY I
MANAGEMENT
Whitney Gingrich
*Paralegal to
Hon. Jonathan E. Hawley
Central District of Illinois*

10:30-11:30 AM WRITING, EDITING, AND PROOFREADING SYMPHONY I
Henry Wigglesworth
*Attorney Advisor
Office of the Deputy Director
Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts*

11:30 AM-1:00 PM LUNCH

1:00-2:00 PM ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING SYMPHONY I
U.S. Marshals Service

2:00-3:00 PM OUTLOOK, ONENOTE, SKYPE SYMPHONY I
John L. Leonard
*Chief, Training Division
Systems Development and Support Office
Administrative Office U.S. Courts*

3:00-3:15 PM BREAK

3:15-3:45 PM BREAKOUT SESSIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED
FOR MAGISTRATE, DISTRICT, AND
CIRCUIT JUDGE STAFF

3:45-4:00 PM WRAP-UP, INFORMATION, AND SYMPHONY I
ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2020 CONFERENCE
LOCATION

6:00-9:00 PM CLOSING BANQUET SYMPHONY II
Cash Bar starting at 6:00 PM
Dinner Served at 7:00 PM

WANTED

DONATIONS!! PRIZES!

Hey ya'll, your help is needed! The Nashville Conference Committee is asking for items for door prizes. There are no rules or limits. ANY SIZE, SHAPE, RANDOMNESS OR VALUE ACCEPTED. Think of items you really like and would love to share your love of same. Maybe something that represents your state, your favorite flavor, your favorite smell, a pretty little piece of bling, something a little silly and fun, the list is endless. We will take anything, however, remember that most people will be traveling by air and will have to pack it in a suitcase.

Please let Melissa Seay know if you will be contributing, so we know what we can expect. You can either bring the donation with you to the conference and drop off at the registration table or mail it directly to Melissa at the address below.

Your participation is not only appreciated but will make this conference GREAT!

Melissa Seay
801 Broadway, Room A845
Nashville, TN 37203
melissa_seay@tnmd.uscourts.gov

FJAA April 2019 Newsletter from Legislative Committee

Equal COLA Act

Did you know that under current law, annual COLAs (cost of living adjustments) is less for FERS retirees than for CSRS in most cases? When consumer prices increase between 2-3%, FERS retirees are limited to a 2% increase, and when consumer prices increase by 3% or more, FERS retirees receive a 1% reduction in COLA, while the COLAs for CSRS are not reduced in either scenario. This unequal treatment means that FERS retirees are seeing inflation erode their earned retirement income year after year, something COLAs are supposed to prevent. However, according to NARFE, legislation has been introduced in the House to provide FERS retirees with a full COLA, making it equal to what CSRS retirees receive. Contact your representative and urge them to vote for the "Equal COLA Act" introduced by Rep. Gerry Connolly, D-VA.

When Can I Expect My Pay Raise?

Thanks to everyone who wrote their Representatives & Senators to include a pay raise in the compromise budget, Congress included a 1.9% federal pay raise retroactive to January 1, 2019. This annulled the President's executive order freezing federal pay. But when will we see this raise? According to the AO, the President has to sign an executive order formally authorizing the pay adjustment and approving new pay schedules, which will also explain how the locality portion of the pay increase will be distributed. (See memo on Jnet for updated details)

What is NARFE?

NARFE is the National Association of Active & Retired Federal Employees. NARFE fights policies that threaten our pay & benefits.

Proposals in the works	Impact on Feds
Reduce or eliminate COLAs for current & future retirees	Hundreds of thousands of dollars lost throughout retirement
Calculate annuities on the high five instead of the high three (years of service)	Ensures lower annuity throughout retirement
Replace FEHB with a voucher plan and higher premiums	Enrollees pay more - \$50,000 after just 8 years
Reduce the rate of return on TSP's G fund	Discourages investment in the safest TSP fund and reduces gains
Eliminate FERS Annuity Supplement	Threatens financial security of those nearing retirement

By joining NARFE (\$40/year), you also have access to a weekly Legislative hotline on current developments in Congress and a monthly magazine. More information is available at www.narfe.org.

FIRST CIRCUIT— Christie Clifford

FJAA – April Newsletter

FIRST CIRCUIT

By: Christie Clifford



Section of the road between Presque Isle and Caribou, two towns in northern, Maine taken in March 2019

Snow levels in Aroostook County are nearly 50 inches above normal this year. As of February 9, Caribou had received 114.3 inches of snow this season, which is 46.9 inches above the normal amount of 67.4 inches for this time of year. The snowfall record is 197.8 inches during the winter of 2007-08.

Bangor, where our Margaret Chase Smith Courthouse is located, has received 47.8 inches which is 6.5 inches above the normal amount of 41.3 inches. (Taken from Bangor Daily News article 2/11/19.)



Judge Jon D. Levy began serving as our new Chief Judge

Besides the snow, there are other more exciting things happening in Maine:

Also, as of the beginning of March, Courtroom 2 in the Edward T. Gignoux U.S. Courthouse in Portland has been completely refurbished including a State-of-the Art Audio/Visual and Infrastructure Upgrade. Great effort



Courtroom 2

was made to preserve the unique nature of the courtroom while enhancing its usability by incorporating video conferencing, hearing assistance and interpreting systems as well as video monitors in the jury box and at counsel tables. A nearly 100” LCD monitor was also installed for gallery viewing of evidence. The goal of all this work has been to provide a seamless user experience with a simple user interface while maintaining the original character of the courtroom, the focus of which is a mural by internationally known artist Dorthea Rockburne.

We have also had some staffing changes in our Clerk’s Office which has created two new case manager positions in Portland. Those announcements were posted on March 14. For those interested in applying, don’t worry – Portland has only received 39.7 inches of snow this season a meager .08 inches above normal.

We are looking forward to Spring and the snow melting soon.

SECOND CIRCUIT—Janet Hansen

NEWS FROM AROUND THE SECOND CIRCUIT:



Court of Appeals:

The Court of Appeals lost two incredible people inside of one week this month. First, on March 6, 2019, we all were stunned to learn that Anthony “Tony” Carlie passed away. Since many of us were not even aware that he was ill, this news hit us all very hard. Tony joined the Court in 1997 as a mover and administrative services clerk. All of us at one time or another have worked with Tony. He always had a smile and an infectious sense of humor. Tony was just 62 years old. On March 11, we received word that Chandella Armstrong, who worked in the Clerk’s Office as Supervisor of the Calendar Team, passed away after a long and courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. Chandella was just the best—someone you could always count on to deliver, and deliver with a smile! She served the Court for over 30 years. I know I speak for all of us in the Second Circuit Court of Appeals when I say it was an honor to have known and worked with both Tony and Chandella. They will be sorely missed.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NY

The Honorable Robert W. Sweet, a Senior Judge in the Southern District of New York, passed away suddenly at his ski home in Sun Valley, Idaho on Sunday, March 24, 2019, at the age of 96. Chief Judge Colleen McMahon said of his passing: “If ever there was a man of whom it could be said, ‘He lived until he died,’ it was Bob Sweet.” She also noted that he was hard at work on dozens of cases at the time of his passing—including one of the civil lawsuits against former Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein. Judge Sweet had quite an illustrious career. He was born in Yonkers, NY on Oct. 15, 1922, attended the Horace Mann School in the Bronx, and the Taft School in Connecticut. Judge Sweet graduated from Yale in 1944, spent two years in the Navy, and then graduated from Yale Law School in 1948. After a stint in private practice, Judge Sweet served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Southern District of NY from 1953-1955. While at Yale Law School, Judge Sweet was the roommate of John V. Lindsay, who later became the Mayor of New York City. Judge Sweet worked as Mayor Lindsay’s Executive Assistant and then as his Chief Deputy Mayor from late 1966 through 1969. In late 1969, he returned to private practice as a partner at the law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom in New York City. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter appointed him a U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of New York. He served on the bench as an active judge until 1991, when he assumed senior status. In his spare time and right up until his passing, he was an avid figure skater. We send our sincerest condolences to Judge Sweet’s family and to his Court family, and thank him for his MANY years of service on the bench!

SECOND CIRCUIT—Janet Hansen, Cont.

Please accept my apologies for not including the following three items earlier; although they may not be new, they are newsworthy nonetheless!

The Honorable Robert D. Sack, Senior Circuit Judge, along with his Judicial Assistant, Ann Pisacano, celebrated 20 years at the Court of Appeals on August 6, 2018. Judge Sack commemorated the event on October 6, with current, former and future law clerks, and their spouses and partners, at a cocktail reception held at his home, followed by a wonderful dinner celebration at his favorite restaurant. At the event, the Judge's wife, Anne, presented the Judge and his Judicial Assistant each with a quilt created from the T-shirts she had made for the Judge's law clerks each year. A picture of the beautiful quilt is shown here. The special event was enjoyed by all.



Quilt created by Anne Sack to Commemorate Judge Sack's 20 years on the bench

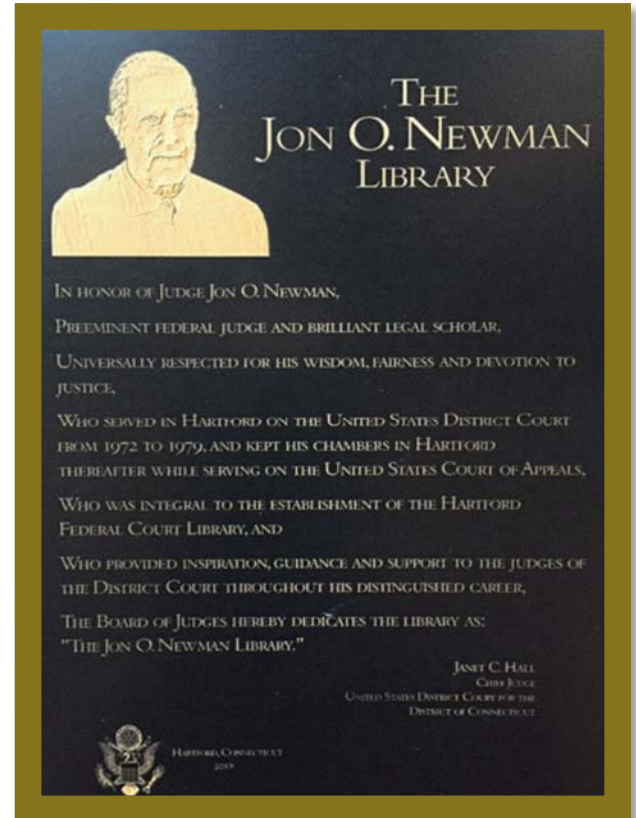
Four Second Circuit Court of Appeals Judges were appointed 20 years ago, in 1998. That first year on the bench, Judge Sack's wife created T-shirts for the Judicial Assistants of those four Judges. Pictured here in 1998 are Mary Wiczorek (now retired), Judicial Assistant to the Hon. Chester J. Straub, the 58th Second Circuit Judge, Chris Marascalchi, Judicial Assistant to the Hon. Rosemary S. Pooler, the 59th Second Circuit Judge, Ann Pisacano, Judicial Assistant to Judge Sack, the 60th Second Circuit Judge, and Theresa Bartenope (retired), Judicial Assistant to the Hon. Sonia Sotomayor, the 61st Second Circuit Judge. The Hon. Sonia Sotomayor, as you know, is now Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.



SECOND CIRCUIT—Janet Hansen, Cont.

District of Connecticut

On October 24, 2018, the Jon O. Newman Library was dedicated in his honor during a special ceremony held at the Abraham Ribicoff Federal Building and U. S. Courthouse, 450 Main Street, Hartford, Connecticut. The Library is located on the second floor of the Courthouse. Here is a little background on Judge Jon O. Newman: Judge Newman was born in New York City in 1932, but moved with his family to Connecticut at the age of eight. He attended the Hotchkiss School, Princeton University, and Yale Law School. He served as a law clerk for Judge George T. Washington of the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and as a senior law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren. Judge Newman practiced law in a variety of private and government settings, and he also served as U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut from 1964-1969. In 1971, Judge Newman was nominated as a Judge for the District of Connecticut by President Richard M. Nixon. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter nominated him to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Newman served as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals from 1993-1997. In 1997, Judge Newman took senior status. In 2016, Judge Newman was awarded the Edward J. Devitt Distinguished Service to Justice Award for his illustrious career and significant contributions to the advancement of justice and the rule of law.



At the dedication ceremony, Chief Judge Stefan R. Underhill, U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut, presented opening remarks and introductions of the following speakers: Judge Robert N. Chatigny, District Judge for the District of Connecticut, Judge José A. Cabranes, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and Senator Richard Blumenthal, U.S. Senator, Connecticut. Chief Judge Underhill presented the plaque to Judge Newman. A copy of the plaque is above. Congratulations to Judge Newman on this well-deserved honor.

Well, that's about all we have for now. We wish everyone a safe, healthy and Happy Spring!

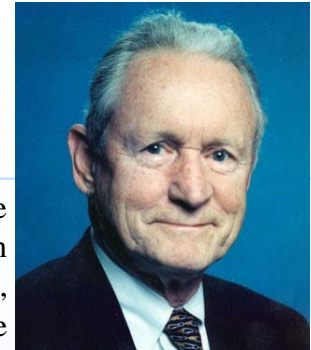
Janet F. Hansen

Judicial Assistant to Judge José A. Cabranes

THIRD CIRCUIT—Iris Liriano



On December 9, 2018, we lost the Hon. John J. Gibbons – one day after his 94th birthday. Judge Gibbons was born in Newark, NJ on December 8, 1924 but grew up in Belleville, NJ (my hometown). After graduating high school, Judge Gibbons served in the U.S. Navy from 1943 until 1946. Thereafter, he attended College of the Holy Cross where he received his Bachelor of Science. In 1950, Judge Gibbons



Hon. John J. Gibbons

graduated from Harvard Law School with a Bachelor of Laws. Subsequently, he joined the law firm of Crummy & Consodine where he worked for several years. In 1969, President Nixon nominated Judge Gibbons to sit as a Circuit Judge and he was confirmed on December 17, 1969. In 1987, he became Chief of the Third Circuit until 1990 when he retired. Judge Gibbons returned to a law firm that was renamed Gibbons, Del Deo, Dolan, Griffinger & Vecchione. However, the current name of the law firm is Gibbons. Judge Gibbons is survived by his four daughters, 3 sons, 13 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson, his sister and a brother. On January, 8, 2019, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, NJ hosted a celebration of “the life and legacy” of Hon. John J. Gibbons for his friends and family. After the event, a reception followed.



Judge Rodriguez and his wife

On January 16, 2019, the District Court for the District of New Jersey honored Judge Joseph Henry Rodriguez for his 35 years of service. His former law clerk, the Hon. Ann. Marie Donio, created and presented a video at the event. During the ceremony, speeches touched on his accomplishments as well as his family life. Judge Rodriguez spoke about his career before and after he became a Judge. Since Judge Rodriguez recently turned 88, his colleagues celebrated his birthday. We congratulate Judge Rodriguez with his years of service to the Court and wish him many more years on the bench!

The Third Circuit will soon be having a new United States Circuit Judge join the bench. Paul Matey who is currently working at the law firm of Lowenstein Sandler has been confirmed by the Senate. Before joining Lowenstein, Paul held a position of senior vice president and general counsel at University Hospital in Newark. In addition, he worked as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey. We welcome Paul Matey to the Circuit!

FOURTH CIRCUIT — Lena Tapscott

From Lena Tapscott

Sweet Retirements:



Since around August of 2018 we have had many retirements in our immediate Charleston Court Family— many of whom helped to show me the ropes in some way:

Our Courtroom Deputy, Mrs. Eunice Ravenel-Bright, who took me under her wing when I came to work in the Clerk's office in 2007 and became our Courtroom Deputy when I became a Judicial Assistant to the Honorable Richard M. Gergel in 2010. Mrs. Eunice retired in September 2018 after 36 ½ distinguished years of service to our court system.

We call her Mama Eunice, so as you can gather, this one is still hard to talk about - but maybe I'll be able to in a later issue!!!! :) Fortunately, Eunice and I only live a neighborhood apart so we still get to spend time together - and she has this wonderful habit of just dropping by with her famous homemade she crab soup and cornbread and many of her other wonderful dishes that she continues to spoil our court family with!

On March 21, 2019, Eunice and I attended a retirement ceremony for one of our awesome Supervising U. S. Probation Officers, Donald J. Simmons. Upon graduation from Francis Marion College, Donald began his career as a Program Director at a Boys Club here in Charleston. In 1986 he moved to Alabama where he also served as a Program Director of yet another Boys Club. In 1989 Donald moved back to the Charleston area and was hired as a probation officer with the South Carolina Dept. of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services. In June 1997, he began his career with the United States Probation Office as a probation officer assistant. In January 1998 he was promoted to Mental Health/Sex Offender Specialist, supervising a very high risk caseload, and then in 2015 he was promoted to Supervising United States Probation Officer.

Donald was a caring advocate for the defendants on his caseload, a helpful mentor for all he worked with, and an all around blessing to our entire court family....always greeting everyone he encountered with a warm smile and friendly words. We wish Donald well on his retirement but we will miss him dearly.

HAPPY RETIREMENT

FOURTH CIRCUIT — Lena Tapscott, Cont.

The Charleston Court Family has lost a legend.....

On February 2, 2019 our court family lost our beloved retired US Marshal/Court Services Officer, Fred Stroble. Fred, as we called him, was born on February 17, 1938 and lived a life full of historical accomplishments. After his high school graduation, Fred attended LaSalle University in the Navy followed by six years in the Naval Reserve. In 1962, Fred joined the Charleston Police Department as a Patrolman. At this time, African American members of the patrol were not allowed to drive patrol cars or patrol white neighborhoods; however he performed his duties with dignity and with grace. In 1964 he became the first African American Motorcycle Officer and in 1969 he joined the Charleston County Sheriff's Office as the first African American Deputy Sheriff. Fred later became a deputy with the U.S. Marshal Service where he served for 23 years. He had the privilege of serving on special assignments in every state in the United States as well as the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. The infamous Watergate Trial in Washington, DC was one of his many assignments. Following his retirement from the Marshal Service he served for many years as one of our Charleston Court Services Officers which is where I had the pleasure of meeting this distinguished gentlemen.



“Live your life in such a way that you’ll be remembered for your kindness, compassion, fairness, character, benevolence, and a force for good who had much respect for life, in general.”

— Germany Kent

FIFTH CIRCUIT— Christie Abadie

HaPpY BiRThDaY To YoU!!...

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

13th – Flay Sambrone-Metoyer
26th – Lisa Martin
27th – Pam Angelette

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

10th – Dianna Davis
13th – Pam Wood
23rd – Becky Greenup

MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

14th – Terri Scott
17th – Jenny Rudolph
21st – Karen Ballard

APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

19th – Michelle Johnson
22nd – Terri Flowers

MAY BIRTHDAYS:

5th – Barbara Alcon
12th – Adalia Mora
14th – Dwendy Pennell
26th – Lauren Webster
28th – Lisa Wallace
28th – Phyllis Simmons

JUNE BIRTHDAY:

6th – Cherie Arthur

Employment Anniversaries:

JANUARY:

32 Yrs – Penny Stautberg
16 Yrs – Hope Taormina

1 Yr – Terri Flowers
1 Yr -- Cindy Odom

FEBRUARY:

17 Yrs – Pam Angelette

MARCH:

45 Yrs – Susan Barrios
31 Yrs – Flay Sambrone-Metoyer
1 Yr – Jennifer Graig

APRIL:

5 Yrs – Dianna Davis

MAY:

6 Yrs – Barbara Alcon
24 Yrs – Donna Wisecarver

JUNE:

24 Yrs – Terri Scott
14 Yrs – Michele Johnson
1 Yr – Cherie Arthur

WELCOME TO THE FIFTH CIRCUIT; WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!



U.S. CIRCUIT JUDGE:

Judge Andy Oldham; Gina Rogers, JA

U.S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGES:

Judge Barry W. Ashe, EDLA – Gretchen Heldner, JP
Judge Robert R. Summerhays, WDLA – Linda Dupre, JA
Judge Michael J. Juneau, WDLA – Barbara Ewing, JA

U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGES:

Judge Dana M. Douglas, EDLA – Kelly Brossett-Desmond, JA
Judge Sam S. Sheldon, SDTX – Veronica Cantu, JA

U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGES:

Judge Selene D. Maddox, NDMS – Jace Ferraez, LC
Judge Edward Lee Morris, NDTX – Jana McCrory, CD

FJAA MEMBERS ON THE MOVE:

Hope Taormina, former JA to Judge Knowles, has taken over for the newly retired Gwen Hunter as JA for Judge Lance Africk.

Gina Rogers, former JA to Judge Higginbotham, is now the JA to Judge Oldham.

Fifth Circuit “Judicial Spotlight”

Sure – you can Google their names, but how much do you really know about them? Here is our Multi-Question Interview Series to help you get to know a little bit more about our wonderful Judges within the Fifth Circuit.

JUDGE DON R. WILLETT

5TH CIRCUIT JUDGE

Assumed Office January 2, 2018



Early riser or night owl?

Night owl.

If you weren't a judge, what would you like to be?

I'm metabolically hardwired for the cloistered, contemplative, nerdy life of appellate judging, but if I weren't on the bench, I might enjoy being a university president (or Batman).

On a relaxing Sunday, what would be your ideal thing to do?

After church, read, nap (!), then grab an early dinner and movie with my wife and the wee Willetts.

Dessert or no dessert?

Multiple desserts.

Sweet tooth or salt-a-holic?

Both.

Kale or “No way!”?

What's kale? Just kidding, though I have heard that if you add some olive oil to your kale, it's easier to scrape off your plate.

Favorite flavor of ice cream?

Great Divide from Blue Bell, a combination of Dutch chocolate and homemade vanilla. But my all-time favorite is a now-discontinued Blue Bell flavor called Dos Amigos, a Hispanic-influenced version of Great Divide: Mexican chocolate and Mexican vanilla, with a swirl of cinnamon.

Favorite pet?

Dogs. But my daughter currently has a Mini Lop rabbit named Dutch (after President Reagan).

Favorite kind of food?

Seafood in New Orleans, followed by bananas foster.

Favorite book?

1776 by David McCullough, *Empire of the Summer Moon* by S.C. Gwynne, and anything from C.S. Lewis.

Favorite movie?

A trio of trilogies: *Godfather*, *Dark Knight*, and *Lord of the Rings*. (Sidebar: In my chambers is a long hallway adorned with a dozen framed movie posters of Hollywood's most iconic legal films.)

Favorite hobby?

Movie night with *Team Willett*.

Favorite kind of music?

I have eclectic tastes, but I came of age during two of America's greatest musical decades: the 70s and 80s.

Favorite vacation spot?

In the summer, Colorado and Lake Winnepesaukee (New Hampshire). But my favorite family getaway was our Disney cruise over Christmas 2013.

Favorite sports team?

1980 U.S.A. Olympic Hockey Team; Duke basket-ball (since I'm a three-time Duke alumnus); Dallas Cowboys (since I grew up in small-town Texas)—I still have a voicemail that Roger Staubach left me several years ago; Hickory Huskers (from Hoosiers); Dillon Panthers (from Friday Night Lights)

Fifth Circuit “Judicial Spotlight” Cont.

JUDGE JEREMY D. KERNODLE

U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
Assumed Office November 2, 2018



Early riser or night owl?

I'm generally a night owl, but I have young kids, so I'm also an early riser!

On a relaxing Sunday, what would be your ideal thing to do?

I would attend church and then hit the trails for a picnic lunch and hike with the family.

Dessert or no dessert?

Depends on the dessert...

Sweet tooth or salt-a-holic?

Can I be both?

Kale or “No way!”?

I guess I'm weird, but I like kale (appropriately seasoned).

Favorite flavor of ice cream?

Vanilla.

Favorite pet?

I grew up with horses and hope someday to have them again. They're not really “pets,” but they're wonderful animals for kids and adults alike.

Favorite kind of food?

I like all types of food, but my favorite is probably Tex-Mex.

Favorite book?

The Bible.

Favorite movie?

Too many to name.

Favorite hobby?

I run to relieve stress, get outdoors and (attempt to) stay in shape.

Favorite vacation spot?

Anywhere in the mountains!

Fifth Circuit “Judicial Spotlight” Cont.

SELENE D. MADDOX

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI

Assumed Office October 22, 2018



Early riser or night owl?

Definitely, a night owl. If we could hold night court, I would be in heaven. On second thought, I am already there: I love my job! I enjoy rising, not too early, having coffee, and reading the newspaper while holding the paper in my hand (not holding an i-pad and/or reading online).

If you weren't a judge, what would you be?

I am having so much fun now, I am not sure I would trade my job for another one. Well, maybe a ROCK-STAR!

On a relaxing Sunday, what would be your ideal thing to do?

On a warm, sunny Sunday afternoon, work (piddle really) in my yard and have family/friends over for cookout.

Dessert or no dessert?

I enjoy an occasional dessert, if it does not contain coconut or marshmallows!

Sweet tooth or salt-a-holic?

A salt-a-holic, for sure. I occasionally crave something sweet, but not required daily. I know, that is not normal. Chips, crackers, or popcorn? Now that is another story!

Kale or “No way!”?

Much to my husband's dismay, I love Kale. While I love anything green, he says “No way!”. That means he must eat it whether he wants to or not. It's like when I prepare brussel sprouts. He at least puts 2 brussels on his plate!

Favorite flavor of ice cream?

Hands down—Pistachio.

Favorite pet?

Definitely, dogs. Talk about unconditional love and making you smile.

Favorite kind of food?

I enjoy food too much! Nothing is better than a perfectly grilled, thick steak—RARE! And I love all seafood.

Favorite book?

Any “brain dead” book where no thinking is involved—just pure entertainment.

Favorite hobby?

I love to grill and love to salt water fish in flats and bay. I am prone to sea-sickness when out in the deep water, so no deep water/offshore fishing.

Favorite kind of music?

No question, 70's Classic Rock-n-Roll!

Favorite vacation spot?

St. George Island, Florida. It is truly a place you can just relax, with no water parks or high-rise condos. I do love sand and ocean waves, so any beach will do.

FIFTH CIRCUIT— Christie Abadie, Cont.

GWEN HUNTER'S RETIREMENT LUNCHEON



Judicial Assistants in the Eastern District of Louisiana never need a reason to get together, so when a retirement luncheon was hosted for Gwen on January 25, 2019, over 20 individuals attended. Several retired Judicial Assistants also joined in the fun to extend well wishes and give retirement advice. Unfortunately, several ladies left before this photo was taken.

P.S. If you knew Gwen, you knew that she was our leopard-print-wearing JA. So as a farewell tribute, the luncheon's dress code was leopard print!

Front Row: Susan Barrios, Flay Sambrone-Metoyer, Pamela Angelette, Carla Gibson Baker, and Blanca Doll; Back Row: Denise Barbarin, Hope Taormina, Hope McDonald, Gwen Hunter, Sharon Johnson, Jenny Rudolph, Ruth Leard, and Marilyn Mosley.

CELEBRATING FORTY-FIVE YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT!

If you have been to the FJAA Conference, surely you know Susan Barrios! For those of you 45 years old or under, you can truly appreciate and respect the “lifetime” commitment of our fellow FJAA Member, Susan Barrios. Oh no, she is not what you expect of an individual who has worked FORTY-FIVE YEARS. She is as youthful as any of us could ever hope to be after working for such a period.

Susan has many titles besides Judicial Assistant to Judge Edith Brown Clement, Circuit Judge. She is known as the “Social Director” at the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. She is always the social butterfly planning monthly luncheons during court week, after hour gatherings, parties in the park, etc. She is also known as, quite literally, a Diva! For many years, she has been a member of the marching group called the “Divine Protectors of Endangered Pleasures.” They march in the French Quarter of New Orleans on the Friday before Mardi Gras. As evidenced in the picture (right), she is truly a Diva, but more importantly, she is a friend to all who know her and a dedicated servant to our judicial system. Happy Forty-Five Years, Susan!

SUSAN BARRIOS – 5TH CIRCUIT



Thanks for the memories!

FIFTH CIRCUIT— Christie Abadie, Cont.

The more we share, the more you know....

www.Fedrooms.com

“fedrooms.com” is a website for obtaining federal government rates at hotels. The website can be used for obtaining government rates *for either official business or leisure travel*. You may have had an occasion to call a hotel and request the government rate, to which they respond, “We no longer have the government rate available.” You may be able to avoid that response if you go to **fedrooms.com**. Recently, one of our JAs (Terri Flowers) was unable to secure the government rate at the hotel her judge requested, but when she tried obtaining the rate through this website, she was successful! Its “100% FREE with no booking fees or deposits required.” Give it a try!!

Thanks Terri (and Cheri Arthur, who told Terri about it) for this helpful suggestion!



**Clean Up, Clean Up, Everybody,
Everyone; Clean Up, Clean Up,
Everybody do their Share!**

Did you know...

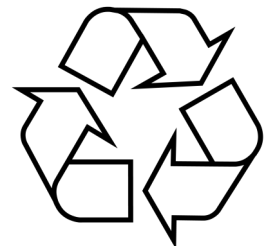
Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a TV for three hours.

Americans use 2,500,000 plastic bottles every hour. Most of them are thrown away!

Americans use 85,000,000 tons of paper a year; that’s about 680 pounds per person.

Let’s do our share – Recycle!!

Source: <http://recycling-revolution.com/recycling-facts.shtml>



FIFTH CIRCUIT—Christie Abadie, Cont.

Recipe Corner

Queso Espinaca

(Contributed by: Terri Scott, EDTX)

- 16 oz. Philadelphia cream cheese
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 10 oz. can Rotel
- ¼ cup jalapenos (diced)
- 8 oz. frozen chopped spinach (thawed & squeezed dry)
- 4 whole chicken bouillon cubes
- 8 oz. Velveeta cheese
- ½ cup milk
- ½ chopped onion

For best results, mix whipping cream, Rotel, Jalapenos, spinach, bouillon cubes, milk, and chopped onion together; place in sealed container and refrigerate overnight.

Mix all ingredients until well combined. This is best cooked in a crock pot on low setting; stir occasionally. This is a great recipe for office get-togethers!

Spicy Crackers

(Contributed by: Susan Barrios obo Debbie Lathan,
Retired JA of Judge Higginbotham, Circuit Judge)

- 1 ½ - ¾ Canola Oil
- 1 Envelope Hidden Valley Ranch Dressing Mix
- 2 Level tablespoons of red pepper flakes (or to taste)*
- 3 ½ - 4 tubes of Salteen Crackers

Mix well the first 3 ingredients in a large (at least 2 cup capacity) measuring cup or bowl.

Place the crackers in a large, air-tight container (the container must have a lid that seals tightly) and pour ingredients from measuring cup over the crackers. Put the lid on your container and gently turn/roll the container, coating all of the crackers with the mixture. Turn/roll the container occasionally over the next 24 hour period.

Crackers are ready to eat after 24 – 48 hours. Crackers will keep for weeks in a sealed container or a zip lock bag.

*Note that a freshly opened container of red pepper flakes is usually more potent.

SIXTH CIRCUIT— Jennifer Hodge

Investiture of Judge Norris and newest FJAA member Lauren McCown



While Judge Norris was sworn in as an Article III Judge for the Western District of Tennessee during a private ceremony on November 8, 2018, his public investiture was held on January 11, 2019, at the Cannon Center in Memphis, TN. The event drew hundreds and included a flag ceremony from costumed members of the National Society of Sons of the American Revolution. Vocals performances included, The Peacemakers, a musical group of singing police officers who performed the national anthem, as well as a vocal presentation by the Stax Music Academy

Singers. Speakers for the former Tennessee Senator included eight federal judges of the Western District of Tennessee, U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander, U.S. Representative David Kustoff, Governor Bill Haslam and Tennessee State Supreme Court Justice Holly Kirby.

We welcome Judge Norris as well as his Judicial Assistant Lauren McCown, whom I would like to welcome as a new member of the FJAA. Lauren worked for Judge Norris 19 years earlier until his Senate Election in 2000. By happenstance, they discovered a few years ago that they worked in office suites that were next to each other. After exchanging the exciting news of him being appointed as a Federal Judge, Judge Norris selected Lauren as his Judicial Assistant.

Lauren is honored to become a member of Judge Norris' Judicial team. She enjoys being back downtown, having lunch at The Tea Shop and reconnecting with former colleagues such as Cathy Gray and Milton Knox.



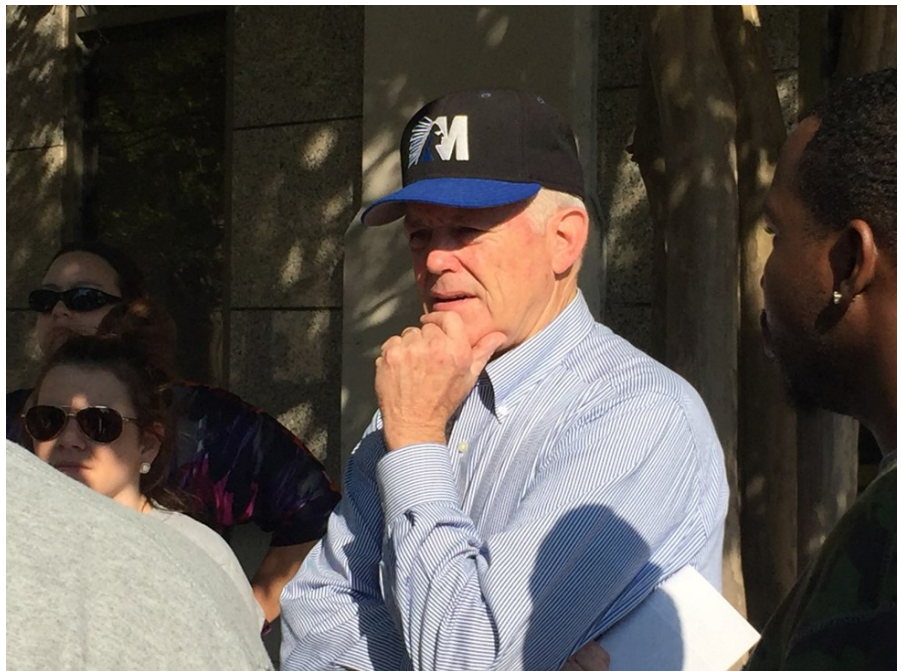
SIXTH CIRCUIT—Jennifer Hodge, Cont.

On February 28, 2019, Magistrate Judge Edward G. Bryant retired from the Court after ten years of outstanding service to the Western District of Tennessee. Magistrate Judge Bryant served in the Eastern Division location in Jackson, Tennessee, replacing Magistrate Judge S. Thomas Anderson, who is currently Chief Judge of the district.

Magistrate Judge Bryant has an illustrious and impressive career spanning many years and several different governmental entities.

A native of Jackson, Judge Bryant earned his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Mississippi. He was commissioned through the Army ROTC program in the Military Intelligence Branch but, following law school, was selected to the Judge Advocate General's Corps. Among Captain Bryant's assignments was a tour of duty teaching constitutional law at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Following his service with the Army, Judge Bryant joined the law firm of Waldrop & Hall in Jackson, where he later became a partner.

Judge Bryant was appointed by President George H.W. Bush as United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee in 1991 and served for three years. In 1995, he successfully ran for Congress for the Seventh District and was re-elected three times, serving until 2003. He was involved in the impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton and was chosen to interview Monica Lewinsky at her request, as he was known to be a fair and personable Congressman, possessing impeccable and widely-touted integrity.



Judge Bryant speaking to Drug Court participants during a “field trip” regarding the history of civil rights in Jackson, Tennessee.

Judge Bryant was appointed as a federal magistrate judge for the Western District of Tennessee on December 15, 2008. During his ten years of service to the Court, Judge Bryant has been known for his excellent sense of justice tempered with compassion. In particular, Judge Bryant has been exemplary in his administration of the Court's Drug Court program in the Eastern Division, demonstrating genuine concern for the participants. He has offered unflinching encouragement to the participants by sharing his own life stories as well as his thoughts and advice about the life changes necessary to make these participants successful and happy members of society. One drug court participant was overheard to say, “He gets down on our level when he talks to us and makes us feel like he really cares.”

Judge Bryant is also an avid historian. He authored *A History of the Federal Court in Jackson*, which was subsequently published. He has conducted thorough and ongoing research to compile a list of all attorneys who have practiced in Jackson, Tennessee. He has been a guest lecturer and has taught at Union University. Judge Bryant is a raconteur *par excellence* and his greatly-appreciated stories and anecdotes are always interesting, informative, and humorous.

Judge Bryant and his wife, Cyndi, are actively involved in their church and the community, and share a passion for watching and playing tennis. They have three sons and four grandchildren.

Following his retirement from the Court, Judge Bryant plans to continue his career in the legal field.

SIXTH CIRCUIT— Jennifer Hodge, Cont.



Please welcome Alaina Vandeventer to the FJAA family.

A Certified Paralegal since 2014, Alaina began working as Administrative Paralegal for Sixth Circuit Judge Julia S. Gibbons in early January. She is very excited about her recent transition to the judiciary, as she spent more than eight years as a litigation paralegal, working in the areas of personal injury, workers' compensation, and employment. She and her husband, Adam, have three fur babies: a cat (Zeppelin) and two dogs (Marley and Batman). In her spare time, Alaina enjoys going to local Memphis events, listening to live music, and dining at local restaurants. I think she is going to feel at home in Nashville!

I am delighted that Alaina has joined this marvelous association and I look forward to her involvement, as well as getting to know her. Alaina's email is: Alaina_Vandeventer@ca6.uscourts.gov.

FJAA SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: 5/31/2019

The FJAA Scholarship Program is administered by the Professional Development & Continuing Education Committee (PDCEC). The program was formed to enable and assist members in good standing to pursue educational goals and professional development by providing additional job-enhancing knowledge and skills. Eligible requests include educational courses, seminars and workshops. **A scholarship up to \$750.00 will be awarded in June 2019.**

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

Please take advantage of the opportunities this excellent program offers. The scholarship recipient will be able to utilize the award to enhance skills and personal growth, which will in turn increase the recipient's value as an asset to the court. Why not apply for that job-related course you've always wanted to take, or that seminar that will help you brush up on vital skills? Be creative, think outside the box, and apply!

The application, along with additional scholarship information, can be found on the website at www.fjaa.net and must be **submitted to me by email** by May 31, 2019.

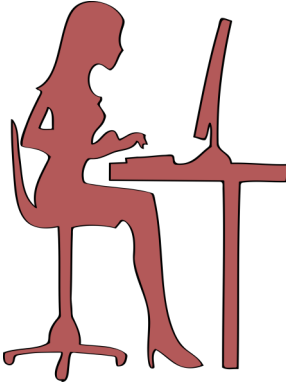
For other questions or inquiries, please contact:

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

SIXTH CIRCUIT— Jennifer Hodge, Cont.

THE DANGERS OF SITTING – IS IT THE NEXT MAJOR HEALTH RISK???

by Debby Sawyer ACP



We have become a sedentary society in the last 50 years. Most people in the workforce have occupations where sitting makes up a large portion of the work day. The number one reason for the inactivity is probably technology, and we are tied to it more than we would like to admit.

Many recent studies have determined that sitting too long can contribute to several health issues, including obesity, high blood pressure, abnormal cholesterol levels, diabetes, and experiencing depression and anxiety. Some sources even suggest that smoking is safer than sitting. The World Health Organization warned that a sedentary lifestyle could be among the top 10 leading causes of death and disability.

How does a sedentary lifestyle affect your body?

Sitting for long periods can lead to weakening and wasting away of the large leg and gluteal muscles. These large muscles are important for walking and for stabilizing you. If these muscles are weak, you are more likely to injure yourself from falls, and from strains when you do exercise.

Moving your muscles helps your body digest the fats and sugars you eat. If you spend a lot of time sitting, digestion is not as efficient, so you retain those fats and sugars as fat in your body.

Even if you exercise but spend a large amount of time sitting, you are still risking health problems, such as metabolic syndrome. The latest research suggests you need 60–75 minutes per day of moderate-intensity activity to combat the dangers of excessive sitting.

Just like your legs and gluteal muscles, your hips and back will not support you as well if you sit for long periods. Sitting causes your hip flexor muscles to shorten, which can lead to problems with your hip joints.

Sitting for long periods can also cause problems with your back, especially if you consistently sit with poor posture or don't use an ergonomically designed chair or workstation. Poor posture may also cause poor spine health such as compression in the discs in your spine, leading to premature degeneration, which can be very painful.

Sitting for long periods has been linked to heart disease. Humans are built to stand upright. Your heart and cardiovascular system work more effectively that way. Some experts say that people who are inactive and sit for long periods have a 147 per cent higher risk of suffering a heart attack or stroke.

How can you save your health from the dangers of sitting?

- Take the stairs instead of the elevator.
 - Walk over and talk to your colleagues instead of emailing them.
 - Take your lunch break away from your desk and enjoy a short walk outside if you can.
 - Organize walking meetings.
 - Be active indoors - don't let bad weather stop you from being active! You can do body weight exercises such as squats, sit-ups, and lunges.
 - Set your cellphone on a timer so that you get up from your desk every 30 minutes.
- If you're not getting enough activity in your day, it's not too
- Take the long way to the copier machine or mail room.
 - Get those 10,000 steps a day in – park farther away from your office building.
 - Stand up and walk in place while you are on the phone.
 - Take a jog up and down your parking garage.
 - Get a standing desk or improvise with a high table or counter.
 - Stand up while you read emails or reports.
 - Move your recycle bin away from your desk so you have to get up to throw anything away.

Take small steps – in the long run, the activity will be great for maintaining or increasing muscle tone, burning calories and your overall mental well-being.

SEVENTH CIRCUIT— Neva Kanelos

Four New Appeals Court Judges

(Contributed by: Neva Kanelos, JA, Seventh Circuit, Hon. Daniel A. Manion)

The Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals has a full bench of eleven after four judges have been confirmed: Hon. Amy C. Barrett, Hon. Michael B. Brennan, Hon. Michael Y. Scudder, Jr., and Hon. Amy J. St. Eve. Below are some highlights describing their backgrounds.



Judge Amy C. Barrett



Judge Michael B. Brennan



Judge Michael Y. Scudder, Jr.



Judge Amy J. St. Eve

Judge Barrett was confirmed on October 31, 2017. She was nominated by President Trump to a seat vacated by Judge John Daniel Tinder. She earned her B.A. degree from Rhodes College, Memphis, Tennessee, and her J.D. degree from Notre Dame Law School, Notre Dame, Indiana. Prior to her appointment with the Seventh Circuit, she was a Professor at Notre Dame Law School, Visiting Associate Professor of Law at University of Virginia Law School, served as Law Clerk to Justice Antonin Scalia of the United States Supreme Court, Law Clerk to Judge Laurence H. Silberman of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, and practiced law in Washington, D.C. She was teaching at Notre Dame Law School when nominated for her Seventh Circuit judgeship.

Judge Brennan was confirmed on May 10, 2018. He was nominated by President Trump to a seat vacated by Judge Terence T. Evans. He earned his B.A. degree from University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, and his J.D. degree from Northwestern University School of Law, Chicago, Illinois. Prior to his appointment with the Seventh Circuit, he served as a Judge of the Wisconsin Circuit Court in Milwaukee, was a Law Clerk for Judge Daniel A. Manion, United States Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit, clerked for Judge Robert W. Warren, United States

SEVENTH CIRCUIT— Neva Kanelos, Cont.

District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin, was an Assistant District Attorney for Milwaukee County, Staff Counsel to Wisconsin Criminal Penalties Committee, and worked with Wisconsin Governor's Task Force to Enhance Probation. He was in private practice when nominated for his Seventh Circuit judgeship.

Judge Scudder, Jr. was confirmed on May 14, 2018. He was nominated by President Trump to a seat vacated by Judge Richard A. Posner. He earned his B.B.A. degree from St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Indiana, and his J.D. degree from Northwestern University School of Law, Chicago, Illinois. Prior to his appointment with the Seventh Circuit, he served as a law clerk to Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, United States Supreme Court, and clerked for Judge Paul V. Neimeyer, United States Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit. He has worked in private practice in Cleveland, Ohio, served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, was Counselor to the Deputy Attorney General, United States Department of Justice, served as Senior Associate Counsel under President George W. Bush's administration, was General Counsel for the National Security Council, and was in private practice in Chicago, Illinois, when nominated for his Seventh Circuit Judgeship.

Judge St. Eve was confirmed on May 14, 2018. She was nominated by President Trump to a seat vacated by Judge Ann Claire Williams. She earned her B.A. degree from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, and her J.D. degree from Cornell Law School. Prior to her appointment with the Seventh Circuit, she was serving as a United States District Court Judge, Northern District of Illinois. She has been in private practice in New York City and Washington D.C., served as Associate independent Counsel for the Whitewater Independent Counsel's Office, was an Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, Adjunct Professor for Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, and Senior Counsel for Abbot Laboratories. She was a United States District Court Judge when nominated for her Seventh Circuit judgeship.

Please welcome our new FJAA members from the Seventh Circuit:

Cheryl Floryance, JA to Circuit Judge Michael B. Brennan

Katie Frac, Paralegal to Circuit Judge Amy J. St. Eve

Melissa Schoenbein, Career Law Clerk to District Judge Michael Mihm, Central District of Illinois

Kathryn Bianchetti, JA to District Judge Charles P Kocoras, Northern District of Illinois

Heather Rouleau, Career Law Clerk to Chief Judge Sara Darrow, Central District of Illinois

Thanks to all who have renewed their 2019 memberships.

SEVENTH CIRCUIT— Neva Kanelos, Cont.

News from the Central District of Illinois

(Contributed by Cathy Geier, JA, CD-IL, Judges James Shadid)

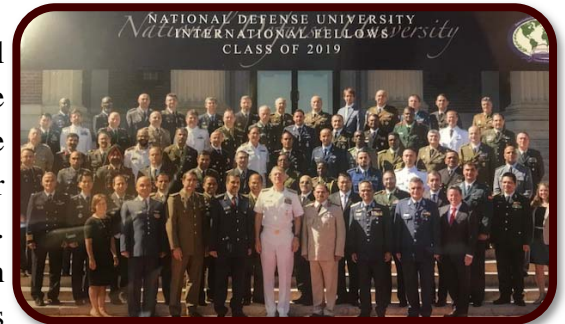


SARA DARROW BECOMES FIRST FEMALE CHIEF JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

On March 12, 2019, Judge Sara Darrow became Chief Judge for the Central District of Illinois. Judge Darrow was appointed by President Barack Obama and assumed office on August 3, 2011. She received her Bachelor of Arts in 1992 from Marquette University and her JD from St. Louis University School of Law in 1997. Judge Darrow sits in the Rock Island Division of the Central District of Illinois. Prior to joining the court she was a federal prosecutor in Rock Island for many years.

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS COME TO PEORIA

On March 19, 2019, the Judges of the Peoria Division of the Central District of Illinois welcomed students from the National Defense University from Washington, DC. This year marks the third trip the National Defense University has visited Peoria. The group spent an hour and a half with U.S. District Judges James E. Shadid and Michael M. Mihm, for an open dialogue, which was followed by a two hour reception with members of the local bar association as well as community members from various walks of life.



The National Defense University (NDU) is the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff's premier university for joint professional military education. The Chairman offers one-year fellowships to select senior officers from more than 50 nations for the International Fellows (IF) Program at NDU. The fellowship gives international military and civilian leaders the opportunity to study in either the Eisenhower School or the National War College; where after completion of the academic program qualified Fellows are awarded a Master's Degree.

The objectives of the International Fellows Program are: 1) Prepare future leaders of the Armed Forces and civilian agencies for high-level policy command and staff responsibilities. 2) Provide an understanding of factors and considerations that shape U.S. security policy and strategy. 3) Develop firsthand knowledge of the social, political, and economic factors that shape U.S. institutions. 4) Enhance the professional qualifications of the International Fellow.

Per Department of Defense direction, the International Fellows Program conducts extensive travel within the United States. The U.S. Field Studies Program (FSP) is guided by DoD policy, **“The achievement of democracy, respect for human rights, peace, and equitable economic growth depends primarily on the cooperation of people and governments. The United States can make a significant contribution to promulgating peaceful and democratic principles by exposing international students and visitors to American society, institutions, and ideals.”** As a result, the IFs travel to over 15 states where visits are tailored to the following objectives: Human Rights, Law of War, International Peace & Security, U.S. Government Institutions, Political Processes, Judicial System, Free Market, Media, Education, Health & Human Services and Diversity & American Life.

SEVENTH CIRCUIT— Neva Kanelos, Cont.

News from the Western District of Wisconsin

(Contributed by Melissa Hardin, JA, ND-WI, Hon. William M. Conley)

The big news in my court is that we recently converted from Lotus Notes to Microsoft Outlook. This also meant that we are now on Skype for Business for instant messaging, instead of Sametime. About half the staff were able to open Outlook without any problems the first time, the other half had something go wrong, so they had to use the online version until IT got them sorted out. (In fairness, it did not take very long for IT to get everyone on Outlook properly.) Some tips:

1. Before the conversion, I had been upgraded to using Windows 10 – that certainly makes starting the Microsoft Office suite much easier each morning. If possible, before your court converts, see if you can be on Windows 10.
2. To check your judge’s NEFs, when you click on your “house”, if you get a message that says “we didn’t find anything to show here,” you have not opened the inbox correctly. You need to click on the drop-down list next to the house’s name, to see the inbox.
3. Outlook tries to be really smart. It has a “junk email” folder where it sticks emails that it thinks are not important. If you can’t find something, look here. You can right click on the email and tell Outlook that this sender is not junk.
4. If you have special email groups, you can make them again in Outlook. Go to “Contacts,” “New Contact Group” (name it) then “add Members”. To use a group in an email, click in the “to” field and change the address book to “contacts” – all the email groups that you have made should be listed here.
5. Skype for business has emoticons. I haven’t figured out how to save new ones here, so if you know, please pass along .

SEVENTH CIRCUIT— Neva Kanelos, Cont.

Judges In The News

Search and Set up news alerts with Bloomberg, Westlaw, and Lexis Advance:

(Contributed by: Neva Kanelos, JA, Seventh Circuit, Hon. Daniel A. Manion)

Bloomberg Law

To create an account:

Bloomberglaw.com

Click on the “sign in” link.

Follow prompts to create an account.

Sign onto Bloomberg Law.

Click on “Browse.”

Under Home, select “News.”

Click “News from Bloomberg Terminal.”

Click “News Search”

A pop-up box will appear, and under “People” type in the name of your judge WITHOUT punctuation

Select other options as they apply, but you may want to use “Date.”

Select “Search” or “Create an Alert.”

If you “search,” a list will generate.

If you “Create an Alert,” (found at the bottom left of the pop-up box), more options will appear.

The “Distributed to” box is for email addresses to receive alerts, but the original request is sent to you (as you are the signed-in user) email address by default.

Bloomberg 24/7 help desk phone: 888-560-2529

Westlaw

If you need to set up a Westlaw ID and password, contact your court librarian.

Sign onto Westlaw.

Click the “All Contents” tab. Then click on the (blue) “News” link.

Within the search box, type in your judge’s identifying information. Add the state or other types of information to narrow your search.

Example: Judge w/3 Daniel w/3 Manion

Click “Search.”

A list of news items will generate.

To set up the alert, click the down arrow next to the bell icon at the top left of the generated list.

Then click: Create WestClip Alert.

Within the next screen:

SEVENTH CIRCUIT— Neva Kanelos, Cont.

Basics – name the alert (example: Judge Manion in the news) (continue)

Select Content – “news” should already be checked (continue)

Search Terms – this should already be listed -- Judge w/3 Daniel w/3 Manion
(make date selections here) (continue)

Custom Delivery – select email, your email should be listed by default as the signed-in user
(select “list” of news items or the actual “documents”)
(select the format for delivery: word, pdf, etc.) (continue)

Frequency – select from options (Save)

When you reach the final screen, all created alerts will appear. To delete to older alert, click in the box to the left of the alert. Then click the “x” at the top right of the screen to delete, then confirm.

Help desk phone numbers vary with circuits. If needed, contact your court librarian for the number.

Lexis Advance

If you need to set up a Lexis Advance ID and password, contact your court librarian.

Sign onto Lexis Advance.

From the “Content Type,” tab, click “News.”

Within the search box, type in your judge’s identifying information. Add the location to search from (state, federal, etc.) in the box to the right of your search terms.

Example of search terms: Judge w/3 Daniel w/3 Manion

Click “search.”

A list of news items will generate.

To set up the alert, click the bell icon located at the top of the screen to the right of the search terms.

Using the “Overview” tab:

Title – name the search (example: Judge Manion in the news)

Search terms – will default to “Judge w/3 Daniel w/3 Manion”

Using the “Delivery” tab:

Duration – select dates

Delivery type – email and online (type in email address for delivery)

Delivery format – select type

Frequency – select frequency

Click “Create Alert.”

Delete Alerts:

Click the down arrow at the top right of screen. A list of alerts will appear. Check in the box at the left of the listed alerts.

Click “delete” to the right of the screen.

Confirm.

SEVENTH CIRCUIT— Neva Kanelos, Cont.

Retrieve a Judge’s Biography

(Contributed by: Neva Kanelos, JA, Seventh Circuit, Hon. Daniel A. Manion)

Westlaw

- Sign on to Westlaw
- Click on the “All content” tab
- Click on “Directories”
- Under Westlaw Profiler, click on “Attorneys and Judges”
- Under Profiler, type in First and Last Name, click “enter” on the keyboard
- Under Profiler Type at the left margin, select from (Judges, Attorneys, Law Faculty)
- Click on the judge’s bio in the list of options generated

Federal Judicial Center (FJC) www.fjc.com

- Click on the “judge’s link at the top left of the screen
- Select: Biographical Directory of Article III Federal Judges

SEVENTH CIRCUIT— Neva Kanelos, Cont.

Favorite Recipes



Mexican Chicken

(Contributed by: Katie Franc, Paralegal, Seventh Circuit, Hon. Amy J. St. Eve)

Place 3-4 chicken breasts (frozen or raw) in a crock pot.

Add a jar of black beans or corn salsa. (I sometimes throw in a small can of corn to add a little more veg.)

Cook on low all day while you're at work.

Shred the chicken when you get home.

Now you have chicken for tacos, quesadillas, whatever you can make with shredded chicken.

Guacamolé Dip

(Contributed by: Jonna Anderson, JA, Seventh Circuit, Hon. Michael S. Kanne)

4 avocados (lightly mashed)

Juice of one lime

1 C cherry tomatoes (sliced in half)

½ C red onion (diced)

2 garlic cloves (minced)

Freshly chopped cilantro (to taste)

Fresh ground Himalayan salt (to taste)

Optional: To spice it up, add a can of green chilies. If you like it really hot use a whole jalapeño pepper (diced) instead.

Combine all ingredients and serve with Mexican style chips. This dip also makes a great addition to hamburgers or can be served in a flour tortilla wrap.

Tip: Place one whole avocado seed in the bowl to keep your dip fresh. Refrigerate 30 minutes prior to serving to allow flavors to mingle a bit.

Refrigerate leftovers.



EIGHT CIRCUIT— Judith Kirby



What seemed to start out as an easy winter took a sharp U-turn to the ugly side. Here in Minnesota, we had 40+ inches of snow during the month of February, and many of the states in our circuit are currently facing significant winter/spring issues – flooding, late snow, ice, etc.! And that makes Spring all that much more inviting.

Things have been quiet, now that the anxiety of a potential government shutdown is behind us, and there is an actual budget for the courts in place. I am looking forward with great anticipation to our conference in Nashville in September. I always look forward to seeing many of the members I have met over the years, and occasionally, a retired member

comes back to visit, which is always a delight.

We have had a good membership drive here in the 8th Circuit, and across the organization as a whole. We have many really talented members, who have a lot to share, and there should be many new faces at our conference. Membership is always open, so if you have colleagues in your districts or your circuit who have not yet joined, please urge them to consider it.

Finally, a training opportunity is being offered at the SDSO in San Antonio for those of you whose district has converted to the Microsoft 365 Office Suite – it is called Train the Chambers (Office 365) Trainer. The course is designed for members of chambers staff to become the go-to person for Microsoft issues and training of other members of your

Now, for the news from the 8th Circuit:

North Dakota is just months away from having no full-time federal District Court Judges

Former District Court Judge Ralph Erickson was nominated by the President to serve on the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals. The U.S. Senate confirmed him to that position on a 95-1 vote in September, 2017. He took office there, and vacated his District Court office, in October of 2017. As of mid-January, 2019, there has been no nomination made for his replacement.

Judge Erickson's promotion left only Judge Daniel Hovland serving on the North Dakota District Court. Judge Hovland announced in December 2018 that he's going on senior status in November, 2019, which means he'll no longer be a full-time judge. Judge Hovland has said he'll continue to help with the district's case load, and that he expects his successor to be nominated shortly.

However, there is a backlog in these appointments across the nation.

In the meantime, Clare R. Hochhalter was appointed to the position of United States Magistrate Judge for a term of eight years effective February 8, 2019, joining Magistrate Judge Alice R. Senechal. This appointment follows the retirement of Magistrate Judge Charles S. Miller, Jr., on November 5, 2018. Magistrate Judge Hochhalter received a Bachelor of Arts degree (majors in English, History-Political Science) from the University of Jamestown in 1979, and he received a Juris Doctor degree from the University of North Dakota, School of Law in 1983.

Based in part on an article by Rob Port, Minot Daily News, January 16, 2019. The article appeared in 8th Circuit Newswatch - January 18, 2019.

EIGHT CIRCUIT— Judith Kirby, Cont.

100 year old Bhutanese refugee living in St. Louis becomes U.S. Citizen

Marielle Mohs, KMOV, January 20, 2019



Judge E. Richard Webber, Jr., far right.

SOUTH ST. LOUIS -- A small room in a South City home felt even smaller on Friday afternoon when it was packed with people for a very special naturalization ceremony.

Gobin Rai, a 100-year-old Bhutanese refugee, swore to an oath and became a U.S. Citizen, something that was a lifelong goal of his.

Judge E. Richard Webber, Jr., a senior U.S. District Court judge for Eastern Missouri, personally came to Rai's home in the Carondelet neighborhood to administer the oath since Rai is bedridden.

Rai had a Bhutanese translator, Praja Dhital, on hand for the ceremony. During the ceremony, Judge Webber Jr. gave Rai an American flag, a flag pin and a certificate, proving his citizenship. Judge Webber Jr. told Rai during the ceremony, "You're soon going to have a country of origin, a country you can claim as your own." The judge said this because up until now, Rai considered himself "stateless." He was driven out of Bhutan more than 20 years ago by violence and was living in a refugee camp in Nepal. Rai moved to St. Louis in 2012 and got a green card, which he had to have for 5 years before being eligible for the naturalization test. The U.S. Naturalization office provides disability waivers if the person has a physical and/or mental disability that lasts more than 12 months. Rai received this waiver being physically disabled at his age. This allowed him to more easily pass the citizenship test. Rai told his translator how he felt in that moment he became a U.S. citizen saying, "I want to tell all my people that this country, America, is a great country. There is no other country better than this in the world," said Rai.

Educational Outreach in the Eighth Circuit - 2018 Year in Review

By Rachel E. Marshall, Public Education & Community Outreach - 8th Circuit Library Newsletter, Vol 2019, Issue No. 1

The Strategic Plan for the Federal Judiciary states that "the ability of courts to fulfill their mission and perform their functions is based on the public's trust and confidence in the system." Enhancing public understanding, trust, and confidence is something at which the courts in the Eighth Circuit excel.

Arkansas The Eastern District of Arkansas welcomed over fifty groups to the courthouse last year, and hosted the annual Arkansas High School Mock Trial Competition for over 300 students.

Iowa The Northern District of Iowa hosted groups such as Blackhawk County Sheriff's Office, Red Hat Ladies, Boy Scouts, Marion High School, and Kirkwood Community College.

The Southern District of Iowa conducted a special Constitution Day program in September 2018, which included connecting high school students in Des Moines, IA and St. Louis, MO for a courtroom simulation activity via videoconference. The court case was based on the landmark decision in *Tinker v. Des Moines*.

EIGHT CIRCUIT— Judith Kirb, Cont.



*District of Minnesota – Girl Scouts with
Magistrate Judge Hildy Bowbeer*

Minnesota The District of Minnesota once again participated in the national *Just the Beginning* program by hosting over 40 students in the Minneapolis courthouse. The day included interactions with judges, attorneys, a court reporter, a deputy U.S. marshal, and representatives from the clerk’s office, probation & pretrial services, and bankruptcy.



Western District of Missouri

Missouri The Western District of Missouri held an Open Doors program for high school students, which included participation in a mock trial. Spanning three courthouses, the district welcomed over 1,200 total tour participants in 2018, with the involvement of judges as well as assistant U.S. attorneys, FBI agents, and deputy U.S. marshals. Judges also regularly spoke off-site for schools and community organizations.

EIGHTH CIRCUIT— Judith Kirby, Cont.



Eastern District of Missouri

Together with staff from the Eighth Circuit Clerk’s Office in St. Louis, the Eastern District of Missouri hosted over 150 programs that brought in over 5,000 participants to the courthouse. In addition to tours for schools and community groups, several institutes for educators were held throughout 2018. Other programs included a monthly seminar for senior citizens, merit badge workshops for Girl and Boy Scouts, and student events for Law Day and Constitution

Nebraska The District of Nebraska Probation and Pretrial Services facilitated a career immersion program for high school students. The program included mock hearings and simulations, and enlisted the participation of judges, assistant U.S. attorneys, and assistant federal public defenders. The judges, along with probation and pretrial, hosted a “Teacher’s Law School” with the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Dakotas The District of North Dakota hosted high school civics classes and college criminal law classes for courthouse programs which included courtroom observations and interactions with judges and staff.

Judy’s Note: As we all know, it takes a lot of work to put these programs together. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members who contribute to the success of these programs, and help the members of our communities understand the importance of the Judiciary.



NINTH CIRCUIT NEWS

~ SUZANNE LOFTON

New Hires and New Members

Arizona District

VIVIAN JOHNS, Judicial Assistant to Magistrate Judge Camille D. Bibles

Vivian joined the United States Magistrate Court on February 18, 2019. Prior to that, she was a Judicial Assistant in the Coconino County Superior Court and a legal assistant at the Coconino County Attorney's Office before that. Vivian worked with Magistrate Camille Bibles many years ago at the Coconino County Attorney's Office and is excited to have the opportunity to work with her again!

Yvonne Gano, Judicial Assistant to Judge Susan Brnovich

Yvonne began her career in administrative support with the State of Arizona in 1990, where she was employed with various State agencies for over 17 years. She then worked for Maricopa County, first as a courtroom clerk and then as a judicial assistant. Yvonne is a Phoenix native. She and her husband Louie recently celebrated 30 years of marriage. They have four beautiful daughters and are also blessed with 5 grandchildren. She serves on the Women's Ministry at her church, enjoys cooking and baking for her family and bass fishing with her husband.



Susan was born in Madison, Wisconsin. The daughter of two medical doctors, Joseph and Carla Skibba, she learned at an early age the importance of family, education and service to the community. Susan graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Madison with a double degree in finance and Spanish. She spent a semester of that time in Valencia, Spain, where she gleaned valuable insight on intercultural study and communications. Susan then continued at the University of Wisconsin – Madison to earn a dual graduate degree – a Juris Doctor and Master of Science in Finance.

Judge Susan M. Brnovich

NINTH CIRCUIT - SUZANNE LOFTON, Cont.

Drawn to the natural beauty and quality of life in Arizona, Susan moved to the Valley of the Sun and began her career with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office as a Deputy County Attorney in 1994. During her tenure of almost 9 years, she specialized in family violence crimes and tried 50 felony jury trials. Susan was appointed a Superior Court Commissioner in December 2003 and served the Maricopa County Superior Court in that capacity until 2008, when she was appointed a Superior Court Judge by Governor Napolitano. Susan has served as a judge in Maricopa County's Criminal, Family Juvenile, Civil and Probate courts. She was also a member of the capital case team and presided over 3 capital cases during her criminal rotation.

On January 23, 2018, President Trump nominated Susan to serve as a United States District Judge for the District of Arizona. The U.S. Senate confirmed her nomination and she received her commission on October 23, 2018.

Susan lives in Phoenix with her husband Mark Brnovich, who is Arizona's Attorney General. Together with their two daughters, Milena and Sofija, the family of proud Arizonans continues to enjoy international travel to places like Valencia, Spain and Eastern Europe.

Judge Dominic W. Lanza



Dom was born in Seattle, Washington and was raised in the nearby town of Bellevue. He is a third-generation lawyer – his grandfather, Joseph Lanza, who immigrated from Italy as a child, and his father, James Lanza, each practiced law in and around Seattle. Dom graduated summa cum laude from Dartmouth College, where he was All-Ivy League, All-America, and Academic All-America Football player, was named the outstanding member of his graduating class, and was inducted into the school's athletic hall of fame, and graduated cum laude from

Harvard Law School, where he served as editor and transition chair of the Harvard Law Review. After graduation, he clerked for Judge Pamela A. Rymer of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, then practiced for five years in the constitutional and appellate law practice group of Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP in Los Angeles, California. From 2008 to 2018, Dom worked for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Phoenix, first serving as a line AUSA, then as chief of the financial crimes and public integrity section, and then as the chief assistant.

On January 23, 2018, President Trump nominated Dom to serve as United States District Judge for the District of Arizona. The Senate confirmed his nomination on September 6, 2018, and he received his commission on September 10, 2018. He lived in Phoenix with his wife, Jessica Post, who is a partner at Fennemore Craig PC, and their three boys, Ben, Luke, and Johnny.

NINTH CIRCUIT
Suzanne Lofton, Cont.

Hawaii District

ILENE LEE, Judicial Assistant to the Honorable District Judge Alan C. Kay

Ilene joined the United States District Court of Hawaii in October 2018. Ilene was part of the Eastern District of New York family for 15 years then transferred to the Court of International Trade for 2 years before relocating from the East Coast to Hawaii. She is thrilled to be a part of the District of Hawaii family and a permanent resident on Oahu. She has 17 years of federal service and looks forward to another 17!



TENTH CIRCUIT NEWS

~ Susan Goodwin

WELCOME TO FJAA
WE APPRECIATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Shari Akers
Judicial Assistant
Hon. Monroe G. McKay



ELEVENTH CIRCUIT NEWS

~ Gail Shafer

Hello everyone!

Hope you all survived the winter weather! It wasn't so bad here, but I'm really looking forward to Spring.

I'm excited to welcome our new members:

Tony Grooms – from the Southern District of Georgia
Judicial Assistant to Senior District Judge Dudley H. Bowen, Jr.

Sara Boswell – from the Middle District of Florida
Judicial Assistant to District Judge James S. Moody, Jr.

Jessica Lang – from the Southern District of Alabama
Judicial Assistant to District Judge Jeffrey U. Beaverstock

Our renewing members are: **Laura Stevenson**, US Bankruptcy Court in the Middle District of Florida, **Diane Quinn**, US District Court in the Southern District of Florida, **Leonor Campanella**, US District Court in the Southern District of Florida, **Marcy Gatell-Kernicky**, US Bankruptcy Court in Southern District of Florida, and **Debbie Reese**, US Bankruptcy Court in the Southern District of Georgia.

* * *

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

Gail Shafer, Cont.

The Masters golf tournament is coming soon and our town is getting ready for the crowds! It takes place the week of April 8th, and Augusta, Georgia will certainly be on the map! People come from all over to witness the most beautiful course and best tournament around. You should check it out!



This year is the inaugural year for the *Augusta National Women's Amateur Championship*. Play is set to begin Wednesday, April 4th at the Champions Retreat Golf Club with the final round being played at Augusta National on Saturday, April 6th. The event will bring the top 72 women's amateur players from around the world.



* * *

Southern District of Alabama

My name is Jessica Lang and I am new to the Southern District of Alabama and new to FJAA. I joined the Southern District on October 1, 2018, as District Judge Jeffrey Beaverstock's Judicial Assistant. Judge Beaverstock joined the Southern District as a District Judge in August of 2018 and was sworn in on October 11, 2018. We also welcome District Judge Terry Moorner as he has joined the Southern District of Alabama as well and was sworn in January 18, 2019. In addition to the two new District Judges, the Southern District of Alabama opened a new Federal Courthouse. The grand opening was held on September 7, 2018. The 155,600 gross square foot building is designed to meet the long-term needs of the courts family which includes six courtrooms and nine chambers. Tenants include U.S. District Judges, U.S. District Clerk, U.S. Magistrate Court and the U.S. Marshals Service.

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT Gail Shafer, Cont.



We also had the pleasure of hosting the 150th Anniversary of Mobile, Alabama's Bar Association Ceremony on March 28, 2019 where a celebration was held that hosted guest speakers including former Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Judge William Pryor, United States Circuit Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.



Judge Beaverstock (left), Jeff Sessions, Judge Moorer (right) 150th Anniversary of Mobile, Alabama's Bar Association

Take care everyone – Until next time,



D.C. & FEDERAL CIRCUIT

~ **Connie Roy**



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

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