

FJAA

OFFICERS

2016 - 2017

IN BRIEF

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL
ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION**

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Letter from the President

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Dear FJAA Members and all Judicial Assistants:

Happy New Year! Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President for the next year. Hopefully everyone enjoyed their holidays and is now ready to start the year out fresh. If I could offer a resolution – join or rejoin FJAA! The best perk of membership is attending our educational conferences in different cities around the country.

Last year's conference in Minneapolis offered a wealth of information on topics including Minnesota's Pro Se Project, iPads for Judges, tips for working in a multigenerational workplace, and active shooter training. We also heard from several Minnesota judges who have been involved in special judicial outreach programs including "spy court," helping to foster the judiciary in places like Rwanda, and leading the Records Review Board on the assassination of President Kennedy. Besides the educational programs, we also have fun; last year you could take your pick of scavenger hunting at the Mall of America or a Twins baseball game. Here's one last big Thank You to the Minneapolis conference committee. You all did a great job!!

This year's conference is September 7-9 in San Francisco. That conference committee is already hard at work putting together another fabulous event! Watch our website for more information: www.fjaa.net.

Besides the educational conferences, your membership gives you access to: (1) FJAA's quarterly newsletter; (2) a wealth of networking opportunities to exchange ideas and practical information relating to judicial support; and (3) FJAA's scholarship program, which assists members to pursue their educational goals by taking courses or attending seminars and workshops to enhance their job performance. Our FJAA dues also benefit social causes like the legal fight to pass the FERS sick leave credit legislation and charitable donations to the Red Cross following several natural disasters including tornadoes in Joplin, Missouri and hurricane Katrina. As a member of the FJAA, you also have the opportunity for leave sharing among members. For the small price of \$40 annually, you get so much.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our circuit representatives, executive board and all the committee members. It's a pleasure to work with so many talented individuals. I hope to see everyone in San Francisco in September!

Renew or join the FJAA with a paid membership before

March 31 for a chance to win \$100.



.....MEMBERS WANTED – JOIN or RENEW TODAY

Common Questions

Q: Why should I join?

A: Membership inspires a sense of belonging to something bigger than our individual chambers.

Q: Why does the Association want me?

A: We are independent characters and each of our chambers is as unique as its Judge. But collectively we can demonstrate the valuable contribution made through the exemplary performance of our administrative duties. The educational opportunities provided by the Association increases the knowledge base of our profession as a whole and promote individual professional development.

Q: What’s in it for me?

A: A few incentives for joining our association are monetary awards through annual scholarship application, travel opportunity to annual educational conferences, and networking with like-minded individuals to solve common obstacles.

Q: How can I become involved?

A: Being involved is not only simple, it is encouraged. Volunteer for committee positions or circuit representative, encourage membership within your District and throughout your Circuit.

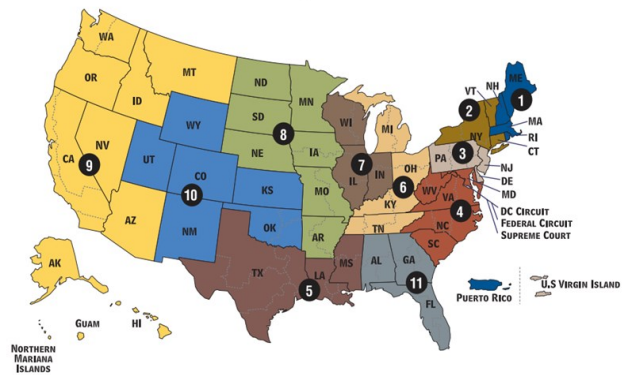
JOIN TODAY. COMPLETE THE APPLICATION ATTACHED AT THE BACK OF OUR NEWSLETTER

From: Suzanne Gammon, Membership Chair

Membership Annual Dues: \$40.00

FIRST CIRCUIT— Christie Clifford

Geographic Boundaries
of United States Courts of Appeals and United States District Courts



The District of New Hampshire has been working on instituting an Educational Outreach Program. The program reaches out to schools across the State of New Hampshire by inviting them to view a court proceeding or Naturalization Ceremony and participate in an educational program.

District Judge Landya McCafferty has presided over two Naturalization ceremonies attended by students, one on October 14th held in the courthouse and one on December 3rd at a local New Hampshire High School. Another program is scheduled before Judge McCafferty on December 16th.

After the courthouse ceremonies, the students participate in a scripted historical and modern version of the trial of William Penn, aided by Clerk's office and Chambers staff. There are costumes and head-dresses, and the students have fun play-acting the roles of court clerk, witnesses, prosecution, defense, and jurors. Following the mock trial, students may take a tour of the courthouse and meet a U.S. Marshal, a Court Security Officer, an Assistant United States Attorney, a Federal Defender, a Probation Officer, and/or a canine officer.

Naturalization Ceremony at NH High School

On November 3rd, students from a local high school viewed a sentencing hearing presided over by Judge McCafferty. After the hearing the students met the judge, the lawyers, and the probation officer to discuss their jobs at the hearing.

Dates in 2017 are filling fast and several schools have already been scheduled to participate.



Judge McCafferty and students - 1670 William Penn Trial

SECOND CIRCUIT—Janet Hansen

News from Around the Second Circuit:

Court of Appeals:

On October 26, 2016, the Court of Appeals kicked off its year-long celebration of the Court's 125th Anniversary by holding a Special Session of the Court of Appeals. Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor joined their Second Circuit Court of Appeals colleagues on the bench and offered their own special remembrances of the Court of Appeals. Immediately following, the Hands Lecture (in memory of Judges Learned and Augustus Hand) was presented by Professor John Fabian Witt, of Yale Law School, New Haven, CT, and a lovely reception was then held.

On December 12, 2016, the Court of Appeals held an Employee Appreciation Celebration. The following Judicial Assistants were honored for their years of service as indicated: Patrice R. Parris (J.A. to Judge Raymond J. Lohier)(5 years); Christine Stewart (J.A. to Judge Susan L. Carney)(5 years), and Sharon Vlockhausen (J.A. to Judge Denny Chin)(5 years). Margaret ("Maggie") DeBicella (J.A. to Judge Ralph K. Winter) was honored for her 20 years of service! There were many other Court personnel also honored for their years of service. In addition, Sustained Excellence Awards were distributed to various Clerk's Office staff, to Office of Legal Affairs staff, to Circuit Executive's Office staff and Library staff. A reception immediately followed in the new event space located in the renovated library on the 25th floor. The library has floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the New York City and it was an amazing view with the full moon shining down on the lights of the City.



On December 14, 2016, there will be a "Recollections of Thurgood Marshall: His Jurisprudential Influence on His Law Clerks and the Legal Profession" panel discussion with former Marshall law clerks, including Senior Circuit Judge Ralph K. Winter and Associate Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan. (The Court of Appeals is located in the Thurgood Marshall U.S. Courthouse, 40 Foley Square, New York, NY.) Over 600 people are expected to attend! This is yet another of the many exciting events planned throughout the coming year to commemorate the Court's 125th Anniversary. The list is attached on the next page and events are open to the general public:



United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
125th Anniversary Committee

Public Calendar of Events for the 125th Anniversary Year

Dated: October 14, 2016

- September 21, 2016: In celebration of the publication by the *Cornell Law Review* of a biographical anthology of all the judges appointed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit during the Court's 125-year history, the Court of Appeals will hold oral arguments at the Cornell Law School, Ithaca, New York.
- October 26, 2016: Special Session of the Court of Appeals in Celebration of the 125th Anniversary with the Hands Lecture Delivered by Professor John Fabian Witt, Yale Law School at 4:00 p.m.
- October 27, 2016: NYCLA 2016 Edward Weinfeld Luncheon at which Robert M. Morgenthau will present the Weinfeld Award to the Hon. Robert A. Katzmann, Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, 12:00 p.m. at the Museum for Jewish History, Battery Park
- November 16, 2016: *Glenn Curtiss v. Wright Brothers: A Re-Enactment of a Second Circuit Appeal* with the Hon. William C. Conner Inn of Court, at 5:30 p.m.
- December 14, 2016: *Recollections of Thurgood Marshall: A Panel Discussion with former Thurgood Marshall Law Clerks*, at 5:30 p.m.
- February 9, 2017: A Re-enactment of Three Second Circuit Appeals— *United States v. Antonelli Fireworks Company*, *Cortright v. Resor* and *United States v. One Book Entitled Ulysses* with SAO Players, at 5:30 p.m.
- March 10, 2017: *Recollections of Henry Friendly: A Panel Discussion with former Judge Henry Friendly Law Clerks*.
- April 18, 2017: *United States v. One Book Entitled Ulysses: A Story in Five Acts & An Epilogue*, a lecture by Professor Stephen Gillers, NYU School of Law, at 5:30 p.m.
- April 20, 2017: A Retrospective on the Certification Process to State High Courts in conjunction with the NYS-Federal Judicial Council, at 5:30 p.m.
- May 16, 2017: *Russo v. Central School District No. 1: A Re-Enactment of an Historical Second Circuit Appeal* with Federal Bar Council Inn of Court at 5:30 p.m.
- March/September 2017: Second Circuit/Federal Bar Council Conversations with Members of the Bench & Bar Featuring Authors of the Fordham Law Review Articles that Commemorate the Court's Contributions to the Development of the Law
- September 27, 2017: Hands Lecture on Great Judges of the Second Circuit: The Remarkable Hands—Judges Learned and Augustus Hand

NB: Unless otherwise noted, all programs will be held at the Thurgood Marshall U.S. Courthouse, Courtroom 1703, 40 Foley Square, New York, New York. A reception follows each program in the Main Lobby of the Courthouse.

SECOND CIRCUIT—cont'd

District of Connecticut News:

On December 1, 2016, James J. Tancredi was sworn in at a Special Ceremonial Session of the U.S. District Court and U.S. Bankruptcy Court as a judge on the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Connecticut. Prior to his appointment, Judge Tancredi was a partner at the law firm of Day Pitney in Hartford, CT. Judge Tancredi's chambers will be located in Hartford, CT. We send Judge Tancredi our congratulations!

Magistrate Judge William I. Garfinkel just celebrated his 20th anniversary serving as Magistrate Judge for the District of Connecticut. Judge Magistrate's chambers are located in Bridgeport, CT. Congratulations to Magistrate Judge Garfinkel on his anniversary!

Southern District of New York News:

On December 3, 2016, Judge Leonard B. Sand of the Southern District of New York passed away at the age of 88. Judge Sand was in private practice for 20 years when he was appointed to the bench by President Jimmy Carter in 1978. He presided over many prominent cases during his long judicial tenure. Judge Sand was much admired by his colleagues and will certainly be missed. We send our condolences to the Sand family, and to his Court family.

Court of International Trade News:

On October 28, 2016, Court of International Trade Judge Donald Pogue passed away suddenly. Judge Pogue was appointed to the bench by President Clinton in 1995. He served as Chief Judge of the CIT from 2010 until 2014, when he assumed senior status. Judge Pogue's Judicial Assistant, Elena Suero, attended her first FJAA conference in Minneapolis, MN, in September and I'm sure some of you had the chance to meet this vibrant, fun woman. We send the Pogue family, and Elena, our sincerest condolences!

The Second Circuit wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

Enjoy the season!

Janet F. Hansen

Judicial Assistant to Judge José A. Cabranes

PHOTOS AROUND
THE CITY
2ND CIRCUIT





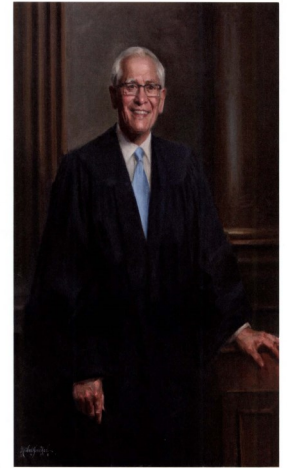
THIRD CIRCUIT—IRIS LIRIANO

Long gone are the bright and sunny days of Summer. During my lunch break, I would take a brisk walk for about 2 miles which was invigorating. Now that the weather is cold, I have decided to meet up with friends for lunch to catch up. In order to stay active, I decided to take up ice skating lessons at Montclair State University's Floyd Hall Arena. It's been a frightful yet exciting class. The classes end next week and I'm afraid I will have to take the beginner's class again but I'm looking forward to it. Prior to skating, I took swimming classes at our local YMCA. This was a challenge and a fear I had for many years until I mustered up the courage to sign up and completed the beginner's classes twice and have advanced to the intermediate class. Next Spring, I look forward to taking up swimming classes again to strengthen my swimming skills and to practice treading water. Treading water has been a great fear of mine that I hope to someday overcome it. As you can see, I have been trying to learn something new by enrolling in classes I never dreamed of taking. But I want to remain active and stay healthy. I hope to have inspire some of you and to let

you know that you're never too old and it's never too late to learn something new. Now, onto court news.

On October 1, 2016, the Hon. D. Brooks Smith commenced his role as the Chief Judge of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Smith succeeded Hon. Theodore McKee who served as the Chief Judge from May 2010 to October 2016. Judge Smith started his career in Pennsylvania and became a partner with the law firm Jubelirer, Carothers, Krier, Halpern and Smith. He held several positions from Assistant District Attorney to Special Prosecutor to the Blair County District Attorney. In December 1984, his judgeship career began. He first served as a judge for the Court of Common Pleas of Blair County and would later be appointed as an Administrative Judge of the Blair County Courts. In 1988, President Ronald Reagan appointed Judge Smith to the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania. In 2001, President George W. Bush nominated him to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. We congratulate Judge Smith and wish him well in his new position as the Chief Judge.

During the months of October and December 2016, the United States Court of Appeals and United States District Court held two portrait presentations. The first portrait presentation was of the Hon. Julio M. Fuentes, U.S. Circuit Judge. I personally attended this event and really enjoyed the speeches from the guest speakers and his family. Kind and heartfelt words were spoken of Judge Fuentes and some funny stories too. The event lasted about an hour and a reception was held out in the Great Hall in the Frank R. Lautenberg U.S. Post Office & Courthouse Building. A trio of guitarists played live music which gave a feeling of being in Spain, a country I long to visit. The gourmet food was exquisite. Sushi, baby lamb chops and slider style burgers were served among other foods. We were impressed that there was a chef cooking the burgers right on the premises. Talk about fancy! Judge Fuentes's law clerks – past and present, as well as his staff, went above and beyond to present such a beautiful reception for the Judge and his family and for all to enjoy.



The Honorable Julio M. Fuentes

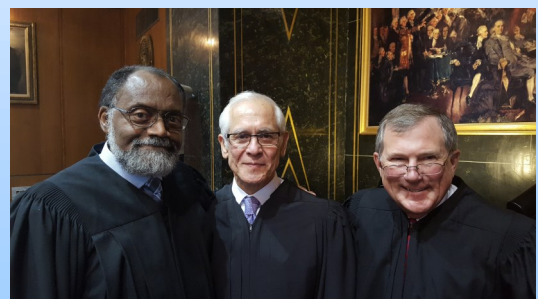
The second portrait presentation was of the Hon. John C. Lifland (pictured below) who retired from the bench in 2007. Judge Lifland served as a United States District Court Judge for the District of New Jersey from 1988 until 2007. President Ronald Reagan nominated Judge Lifland for a judgeship at the United States District Court. Prior to working there, he worked in private practice for few years. Judge Lifland served in the United States Army and then worked as a law secretary for the Hon. Thomas F. Meaney. Thereafter, he went back to private practice for several years. He is currently working as a mediator and arbitrator for JAMS which is a company that handles mediation. At the conclusion of the program, the guests were greeted at the Great Hall with a lovely reception.



I hope you all had Happy Holidays with your family and loved ones!

Here's to a new year!

Iris





FOURTH CIRCUIT

Barbara Barry

December and January have a tendency to push us to our limits. Holiday planning, year-end wrap up of cases and reports, more demands on our time and patience. Take a breath. Look back on the past year, the good the bad and the ugly, and take a moment to reflect. Give yourself credit for all that you have accomplished. Be inspired to improve in areas where you may have fallen short. One of the benefits of being human is the ability to adapt to our environment. Celebrate your resilience and strength. Maybe you had a tough year or maybe it was a year of joy and celebration, either way you made the most of it. Be as kind to yourself as you are to someone you love. We have a tendency to be too hard on ourselves. Yes, strive for perfection! But remember to breathe.

Here is an idea I read about that I am going to try in the coming year. Mason jars are all the rage now; they can be used for a ton of things other than their original purpose. (Something we Southerners have always known;-) Pick one up at the dollar store and label it however you choose. Over the course of the coming year, take a moment to jot down your happy moments on a slip of paper. It could be anything from life changing event to something small like a phone call from someone you haven't heard from in a while. After you write it down, put the paper in the jar. At the end of 2017, take a moment to reminisce by reading the notes you have collected. In all likelihood you will have a jar full of happiness.

Best wishes for the coming year - may your jar never be empty!



FIFTH CIRCUIT—Penny Stautberg

Welcome to Yvonne Cooper, Circuit Judge Carolyn King's new JA.

Circuit Judge W. Eugene Davis has announced his taking senior status effective December 31, 2016.

Northern District of MS

Mag. Judge S. Allen Alexander retired on September 30, 2016

Bankruptcy Clerk David Puddister retired on September 30, 2016 and is replaced by Shallanda "Che" Clay

Mag. Judge LeRoy D. Percy sworn in on October 3, 2016

Southern District of TX

District Judge Lee H. Rosenthal became chief judge on November 13, 2016

U.S. District Judge Mary Lou Robinson assumed senior status in February 2016, after serving more than 60 years as a Judge.

Northern District of TX

On May 1, 2016, U.S. District Judge Barbara M. G. Lynn became Chief Judge for the Northern District of Texas, replacing U.S. District Judge Jorge Solis, who retired after 24 years of service. Judge Lynn is the first woman to serve as Chief Judge for any federal court in Texas.

Eastern District of TX

District Judge Michael H. Schneider retired on October 1, 2016

Western District of TX

New Magistrate Judge Betsy Chestney comes on board in January. She will be replacing retiring San Antonio Magistrate Judge Pamela Mathy who will retire in January.



Western District of LA

The U.S. Courthouse in the Shreveport division of the Western District of Louisiana will be renamed The Tom Stagg United States Court House. Judge Stagg passed away in June 2015.

Middle District of LA

On Friday, October 14, 2016, the ceremonial portrait of the late Judge Alvin Rubin was unveiled in Baton Rouge. Judge Rubin was a United States Circuit Judge in Fifth Circuit. Judge Rubin assumed senior status on July 1, 1989, and passed away 1991.

Eastern District of LA

Judge Helen "Ginger" Berrigan took senior status on August 23, 2016. She served the Eastern District of Louisiana from 2001 to 2008, when she became Chief Judge.

Magistrate Judge Sally Shushan retired on July 31, 2016, after serving as a Magistrate Judge for 17 years.

Janis van Meerveld became a Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana on July 29, 2016.

SIXTH CIRCUIT—Debby Sawyer



I would like to thank the FJAA membership for allowing me to serve as your Sixth Circuit Representative for the upcoming year. I am very excited and look forward to getting to know as many people as possible. Although I have only been a JA for a short time, I have been with the Judiciary for over 6 years. Prior to that I was a paralegal for 20+ years. During that time, I have been involved in leadership positions in paralegal organizations both local and national, and can say with certainty that association membership is essential to our professional development and career development.

FJAA has a great deal to offer in both of those areas. My goal as your new representative and as an FJAA member is to be an encouragement to every member and every judicial assistant across the country to get involved, be a positive influence, and have passion for FJAA and for our profession.

If I can be of assistance in any way, please feel free to contact me any time.

Happy New Year

From

Sixth Circuit

Debby

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY JUDGE LUDINGTON

By Suzanne Gammon



Our court family celebrated Honorable Thomas L. Ludington's decade of service here in the Northern Division of Michigan's Eastern District. Judge Ludington was nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed in June 2006. On October 14, 2016, a surprise open house for Judge Ludington was hosted by chambers staff and attended by past and present court employees and Judge Ludington's family.

Thanks to our Information Technology Department, those unable to attend but wishing to participate were joined via Skype. I have served as Judge Ludington's Judicial Assistant from day one and was able to create a power point presentation capturing the timeline from Judge's investiture ceremony to the present. Anecdotes and photography were included from the Magistrates Chambers, Marshals and Court Security officers, probation and pretrial

services employees, IT staff and all of Judge's past and present chambers staff, as well as before and after images from various construction projects Judge Ludington inspired.

In addition to shepherding some 3,400 civil and criminal cases to conclusion and mentoring 12 law clerks over his ten years, Judge Ludington spearheaded multiple projects to improve the quality of our workplace environment and the public's experience at this Court House. Our divisional office is housed on the second and third floors of a 1930s era post office building and has not benefitted from any sort of renovation since the installation of air conditioning in the early 1960s.

At Judge Ludington's prompting, in June of 2009 the Court pursued a work space utilization study. Project input was solicited from all stakeholders, including each onsite court employee. The work was completed in June 2012. The reconfigured space resulted in the installation of an employee fitness center and a dedicated break area. Later projects included mechanical and structural improvements that further enhanced the workplace environment.



I am happy to report that Judge Ludington thoroughly enjoyed the event, visiting with each attendee, and is looking forward to his next decade with the Court.



The Honorable Robert Holmes Bell, United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan is taking senior inactive status effective January 31, 2017, after serving almost thirty years on the federal bench. Judge Bell is a native of the Lansing, Michigan area. He received his undergraduate education at Wheaton College (Illinois) where he earned a B.A. degree in 1966. He received his law degree from Wayne State University Law School in 1969.

After law school Judge Bell began the practice of law as an assistant prosecuting attorney for Ingham County from 1969 through 1972 when he was elected a Michigan District Judge by defeating an incumbent judge. He was elected a Michigan Circuit Judge in 1978 and served the position until 1987. Judge Bell was appointed by President Ronald Reagan as United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan, and took the oath of office on August 6, 1987. He moved his courtroom from Lansing to Grand Rapids in August of 1990. Since his appointment he has served regular and extensive assignments from the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals to sit on that court by designation. Judge Bell was the chief judge of the Western District of Michigan from 2001-2008.

Judge Bell's interest in education is reflected in service as a lecturer at the Federal Judicial Center, on the Board of Trustees of Cornerstone University, and as a Distinguished Professor of Law at Cooley Law School in Grand Rapids, along with numerous other civic endeavors. Judge Bell was appointed by Chief Justice Roberts to serve as chair of the Criminal Law Committee for the United States Judicial Conference, a three year appointment, commencing October 1, 2010.

Dynamic Duo Departs

I had the pleasure of reminiscing with Judicial Assistant Donna Vinson and District Judge Gerald E. Rosen in early December. The two are leaving the Court to join the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services (JAMS) at the end of January, 2017. I posed several questions to Judge Rosen about his accomplishments and motivation and, with a chuckle his initial response to each was “because of Donna of course”. The banter continued with Donna declaring that Judge Rosen’s best characteristic is allowing others to speak their peace and being receptive to hearing their opinion; his worst, “the inability to say no to anything!” Despite the mutual teasing, Judge Rosen’s appreciation and respect for Donna’s abilities was consistently apparent. “Donna has been my partner, friend and ‘Court wife’ for all of the significant things I have done in my 27 years on the Bench. The highlight was our work together on the Detroit Bankruptcy - a high profile highly contentious historic case. All of the lawyers loved Donna - not so much me - all of the time.”

The conversation eventually settled into a thoughtful walk down memory lane. The two have been linked professionally for over 32 years beginning in 1984 at the law firm of Miller Canfield. Judge Rosen was nominated to the United States District Court, Michigan Eastern District by President George H. W. Bush in 1990, and he asked Donna to accompany him. When asked what he found most challenging about the move to the Court, Judge Rosen responded “transitioning from advocate to neutral.” Donna’s response was “adjusting from adhering to the rules to enforcing them.”

Among his various pursuits during his term as District Judge, Judge Rosen served on many court committees, wrote and published numerous articles on a wide range of legal issues, and was an Adjunct Professor of Law teaching Evidence at the University of Michigan Law School, Wayne State Law School, University of Detroit Law School and Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Most recently he completed his term as Chief Judge. Judge Rosen chose not to reduce his case load or employ an additional judicial assistant to perform the added administrative tasks. At times Donna found the load grueling, especially during the Detroit Bankruptcy proceeding, but wouldn’t have missed the opportunity. Once she figured out her role as Judicial Assistant to the Chief Judge, she indisputably adapted well.

Donna commented that as assistant to the Chief Judge she was exposed to an astounding volume of highly confidential and sensitive matters. Her effective performance on the job required a high degree of organization for timely administration and absolute confidentiality. In addition to her formal responsibilities, Donna successfully lobbied on behalf of our JAs for added member travel authorization to the FJAA conferences and personally spoke to each incoming District and Magistrate Judges about the advantages of staffing chambers with a Judicial Assistant. As time consuming and challenging as the chief’s position was, she now feels a sense of loss in returning to the “normalcy” of a JA in a “district” judge chambers. She actually misses the hub-bub of daily brush fires and contact with a multitude of individuals, and so welcomes the entry into a new chapter in her career.



In acknowledgement of Judge Rosen's many accomplishments during his tenure as Chief, the Court presented him with a Resolution of Appreciation. Some of the highlights of his extensive legacy include his work on the Court's Juror Selection Plan together with the implementation of a public outreach program related to jury duty, the creation and implementation of a judicial disability rule for MIED that has been emulated throughout the judiciary, numerous modernization and renovation projects throughout the District, and creation of the President's Wall in the Levin Courthouse.

As the daughter of a Baptist minister, Donna Vinson's spirituality and strong relationship with the Lord comes as no surprise. What may come as a surprise is that she enjoys ballroom dancing and is an avid golfer. And even more surprising, she is a Canadian citizen who crosses the border each morning, Monday through Friday, to work at the Court. Donna has three beautiful and accomplished daughters, and one grandson who is the delight of her life. She will dearly miss her co-workers and friends here at the Court, but reminds us that her new office is close by and invites us to visit regularly. We will miss you too Donna Vinson and wish both you and Judge Rosen the best in your new endeavor.

Judge Rosen concluded our conversation with "a door opened and Donna and I are walking through it."

**WISHING YOU ALL THE BEST
IN YOUR NEW ENDEAVORS
FROM
THE SIXTH CIRCUIT COURT
FAMILY**

SEVENTH CIRCUIT

Whitney Gingrich

Update from the CDIL:

Jill Zeeck joined the Central District of Illinois Court family on August 8, 2016 as Judicial Assistant to Senior District Judge Joe Billy McDade. Jill comes to the Court with 34 years of legal experience having worked as a legal assistant, paralegal and office manager in various law firms in Springfield and Peoria, Illinois. When she is not at the courthouse, she teaches a body sculpting class in Havana, Illinois, enjoys traveling and home renovation projects and is active in her local church including singing in the choir, providing special music and teaching a bible class. Jill says she is excited to begin this new chapter in her long legal career from the other side of the bench! (Submitted by Whitney Gingrich of CDIL, Peoria Division)



We lost a dear member of our court family on September 2, 2016. Charles Hudson Evans was sworn in as United States Magistrate Judge for the Central District of Illinois, Springfield Division, on October 30, 1977 and served until his retirement in 2012. Judge Evans was a favorite among the federal family in Springfield and his smile and easy laughter were definitely missed in the hallways. Before his legal career, Judge Evans served as a member of the U.S. Fourth Fighter Group, formerly the Eagle Squadron, stationed at the Canadian Royal Air Force Base "Debden" in Saffron Walden, England and flew P51's from 1944-1945, flying 80 missions over Europe. I personally never tired of hearing his remembrances of WWII and of his beginning years as a Magistrate Judge. Things have certainly changed since 1977! His Judicial Assistant, Dorothy Roy, had been with him since the beginning and also retired in 2012. I think of them both often when I walk by his former chambers.

(Submitted by Les Blagburn of CDIL, Springfield Division)



Seventh Circuit News continued....

Update from WIWD:

We just went live on new e-voucher system for CJA vouchers (criminal cases). As some judges are less computer-literate than others, all the JA's have rights to get reports and make sure the vouchers are moved along in a timely manner.

WIWD also just completed renovations to add 4 new offices in our chambers / law library area on the fifth floor, so that all law clerks are now on the same floor as the judges. Our courthouse is unique in that all judges' chambers are on the same floor, but with Judge Crabb becoming the first senior judge our court has had since 1987, we did not have enough offices for all law clerks on the fifth floor. The work was done on weekends, for minimal disruptions. (Submitted by Melissa Hardin of WIWD)

Update from the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals:

Sharon Anderson, JA to Circuit Judge Flaum, retired on January 3, 2017. Her last day in the office was December 30, 2016. She said her decision to retire was very bittersweet and hard to make - leaving a great Judge and so many wonderful friends. She had been in the Dirksen Federal Building for 37 years - 5 years with District Counsel - IRS; 2 years with the U.S. Attorneys Office (NDIL) and 30 years with the Honorable Joel M. Flaum, U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit.

She became eligible at 55 (under CSRS) in November 2016. She and her husband have a 13 year-old daughter that keeps them very busy!!! She also has a 27 year-old stepson and a six year-old granddaughter and is looking forward to spending even more time with them !!! Additionally, she volunteers with Religious Ed for her Catholic Church and for her daughter's Cheer Team. She plans to travel a little (St. John VII, Naples, FL and Las Vegas) and enjoy life!!! She celebrated with coworkers with a wonderful Retirement Luncheon on December 1st, 2016. (Information submitted by Sharon Anderson before her retirement.)

EIGHTH CIRCUIT— Karen Labriola

News from the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals:

The Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals sat En Banc at the U.S. Courthouse in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for the portrait ceremony of U.S. Circuit Judge Michael J. Melloy on Friday, November 4, 2016. Judge Melloy's current law clerks and 43 former law clerks from around the country, plus family and friends, were in attendance.



Michael J. Melloy was born in Dubuque, Iowa. He was the son of William J. Melloy, Jr., and Patricia Melloy. He graduated from Wahlert High School in Dubuque. He then attended Loras College, where he graduated in 1970, magna cum laude. Judge Melloy then spent two years in the United States Army. Upon completion of his military service, he enrolled at the University of Iowa College of Law in its first accelerated program. He graduated from the University of Iowa College of Law with high distinction in 1974.

Upon graduation, Judge Melloy returned to Dubuque, and joined the law firm which is now known as O'Connor & Thomas, P.C. He became a partner and then shareholder of the firm. He practiced general civil and commercial litigation. Judge Melloy was active in civic, political, and religious activities in Dubuque. In January 1986, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals appointed Judge Melloy as United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Iowa. He served in that position until he was appointed to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Iowa in August 1992, by President George H.W. Bush. Judge Melloy became Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Iowa on January 1, 1993, and completed a seven-year term as Chief Judge on December 31, 1999.

In February 2002, Judge Melloy was appointed as a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit by President George W. Bush. Judge Melloy served as an active judge of the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals until February 1, 2013, when he assumed senior status. Judge Melloy continues to hear cases and serve on the Eighth Circuit as a senior judge. During his tenure as a senior judge he also has served with the Third, Ninth, and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeal.

News from the District of Minnesota:

Magistrate Judge Kate M. Menendez took the oath of office on April 28th. The formal investiture was held on September 16th at the Minneapolis Courthouse. Speakers included Senior Judge Ann D. Montgomery, Chief Federal Defender Katherian Roe, and Magistrate Judge Menendez's brother, Adam Menendez. Magistrate Menendez replaced Magistrate Judge Jeffrey J. Keyes, who retired.



Magistrate Judge Menendez has served as a Federal Public Defender for the past 18 years, joining the office in 1997 as a Soros Justice Fellow. She soon became an Assistant Federal Defender. Since 2006, Menendez has been the Office's Chief of Training. She received her B.A. with honors from the University of Chicago, and graduated magna cum laude from New York University School of Law. She clerked for the late Honorable Samuel J. Ervin, III, on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals after law school. Magistrate Judge Menendez is a frequent instructor at local and national seminars, and has served as an Adjunct Professor at St. Thomas and Hamline Law Schools. She serves on the Criminal Subcommittee of the Eighth Circuit Jury Instruction Committee, and has been a member of the Federal Bar Association and the Minnesota Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. Since 2011, Magistrate Judge Menendez has been a Minnesota State Bar Association Certified Criminal Law Specialist.

District Judge Donovan W. Frank took senior status effective October 31, 2016. He was appointed by President Clinton to be the thirty-first federal judge selected for Minnesota and took the oath of office on November 2, 1998, succeeding Judge David S. Doty, who took senior status. Judge Frank will continue to work full-time.

Magistrate Judge Mayeron will be retiring on February 6, 2016. We are awaiting word on the new magistrate judge. She was appointed a United States Magistrate Judge for the District of Minnesota on February 7, 2003. Magistrate Judge Mayeron received her B.A. from the University of Minnesota, 1973, *summa cum laude*, and her J.D., 1976, from the University of Minnesota Law School. Before becoming a Magistrate Judge, she practiced civil trial law for 26 years. She was the former Chair of the Minnesota State Bar Association Civil Litigation Section and the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee and was an appointee to the Minnesota Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the General Rules of Practice, ADR Task Force Advisory Committee, ADR Task Force Report Implementation Committee, and Judicial Evaluation Committee. She has trained both District Judges and Magistrate Judges in mediation. She served on the Board of MacPhail Center for Music for 12 years and was the former President of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association.

District Judge Ann D. Montgomery, along with several others, received the Minnesota Lawyer's Attorneys of the Year Award for her work and dedication to the Hispanic Legal Experience project on behalf of the Court, the Minnesota Chapter of the FBA and the Hispanic Bar Association.

Judicial Assistant Debra Lancette, Chief Judge Tunheim's Judicial Assistant, celebrates 20+ years of service at the Court. Congratulations on this milestone!!

News from the District of Nebraska:

Janet Bartels, Judicial Assistant to Chief Judge Laurie Smith Camp is retiring from federal service at the end of 2016. Chief Judge Laurie Smith Camp will be hiring a law clerk to fill her position. We wish all the best to Janet in her retirement!

Reminders:

Membership Applications --let's try to make 2017 our highest membership ever. Please consider joining and/or renewing and get your Applications in soon.

The **FJAA Annual Education Conference** will be in San Francisco, CA, from September 7-9 this year—We hope to see all of you there!

A graphic with the text "A Friendly Reminder" written in a black, cursive, handwritten-style font on a white rectangular background.

NINTH CIRCUIT—JULIE LEMM



When Timothy J. Cavan takes the bench as the new U.S. Magistrate Judge in the Billings Division, he will bring years of legal experience covering almost all areas of the law. Cavan, an assistant U.S. attorney, has defended the federal government against civil claims, represented indigent clients facing federal crimes and argued many cases to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

He has worked in private practice, doing plaintiff's work, representing small businesses and indigent criminal defendants. Cavan has practiced in state and federal courts and had cases in Wyoming and Iowa. Cavan has traveled throughout the state in his current job and has appeared before all of Montana's panel of federal judges. "I just have a tremendous amount of respect for all of them," he said. Cavan called joining the bench "a great honor."

On Dec. 1, Cavan, 58, will begin the new phase in his legal career when he is sworn in as magistrate judge. He will replace U.S. Magistrate Judge Carolyn Ostby, who announced her resignation in February after serving 14 years.

Ostby's resignation presented an "opportunity," Cavan said. "I think the timing was right," he said during a recent interview. Cavan said he thought his varied experience made him qualified for the job.

Working in a judge's chambers will be a new experience, but Ostby has been making the transition smooth, he said.

Ostby, Cavan said, is leaving her caseload "in impeccable shape" and has taken care of matters and motions needing attention, giving him time to get his feet on the ground. He also spent an afternoon with Ostby last week.

Cavan paid tribute to Ostby, who was Montana's first female federal judge, saying she is "universally respected by the bar and her colleagues" and has had a distinguished career.

Having practiced before numerous judges, Cavan said judicial temperament and how the public is treated in court are "vitally important" qualities for a judge.

Cavan started his federal court work with U.S. District Judge James F. Battin and was before retired U.S. District Judge Jack Shanstrom thousands of times.

"I don't ever recall them ever raising their voices to anybody or belittling anyone," he said.

As magistrate judge, Cavan will hear both civil cases and criminal cases. In criminal cases, magistrate judges have jurisdiction in misdemeanor cases, conduct arraignments and initial hearings in felony cases. They can issue search and arrest warrants and decide other motions. The judges can also hear felony cases with consent of the parties and can mediate civil case settlements.

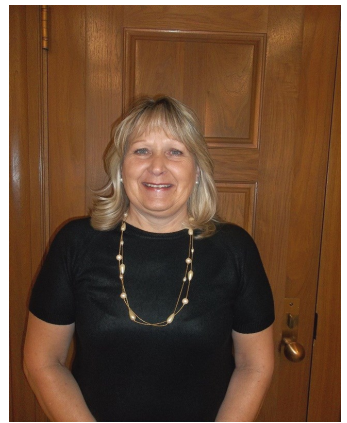
TENTH CIRCUIT—Lynda Brown

GREETINGS FROM THE TENTH CIRCUIT!

It is hard to believe 2016 has ended and 2017 is here. I wish you all the best in 2017!

NEW MEXICO NEWS:

The Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals Judicial Assistants traveled to Denver for training with the new AO travel system called JETS (Judiciary Electronic Travel System). The paper submission of travel vouchers will be discontinued and all travel reimbursements will be processed in JETS. Representatives from the AO were in Denver for training and went live the week of December 5th for the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.



Susan McKey and Rosene Coleman



Judge Bacharach and Rosene Coleman

OKLAHOMA NEWS:

On November 30th, Rosene Coleman retired as Judge Robert Bacharach's Judicial Assistant.

Rosene Coleman began her friendship and career with Judge Robert Bacharach as his legal secretary 20 years ago.

Rosene's long tenure with Judge Bacharach included his appointment as a Magistrate Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma in 1999 and his appointment to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals in 2013.

The William J. Holloway, Jr. United States Courthouse celebrated Rosene's retirement with a reception where Judge Bacharach spoke of not only losing a great judicial assistant but also a trusted friend!

Rosene memorialized her retirement with a cruise to Belize, Cozumel and Mahogany Bay with family and friends. She looks forward to new adventures with her husband, David, and their 3 children and 8 grandchildren.

Judge William J. Holloway, Jr.'s former judicial assistant, Susan McKey, will be replacing Rosene as Judge Bacharach's JA. Susan has been with the court family in Oklahoma for 18 years. Congratulations, Rosene!!

Judge Tim Leonard recently took inactive status and his staff all retired. There was a small come-and-go reception for Judge Leonard, his courtroom deputy, Jamie Youngberg, and his law clerk, Sheila Williams in his library on Wednesday, September 30. We wish them all the best!

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT—GAIL SHAFER

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas season and are ready for great things in the New Year!

As most of you already know, *Barbara Lay*, who was our 11th Circuit representative for many years, retired in December. I know we will all miss her and hope she continues to get healthy. Barbara always did such a great job with news from our circuit. She's a hard act to follow!

I am excited to be your new 11th Circuit representative. I live and work in Augusta, Georgia, as JA for District Judge J. Randal Hall, in the Southern District of Georgia. Judge Hall was appointed to the bench by President George W. Bush in 2008. I have had the honor of working for him a total of 16 years, with eight of that being his JA.

As your representative, I hope to provide you with information about dues, upcoming conferences, and other FJAA news. I cannot do this job alone, and hope that you will provide me with news about what's happening in your court, so that I can share it in our newsletters. I know I am proud of the Southern District of Georgia and I want to let everyone know it. So let's all try to think of at least *one thing* to share about our court in the upcoming newsletters.

Also, let's all welcome our newest FJAA member!

Helena Pantaleo

JA to Hon. Robin S. Rosenbaum

11th Circuit Court of Appeals

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Hope to have some circuit news for the next newsletter. Blessings to you all!



IN BRIEF

FJAA.NET

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS!!!!

By Debby Sawyer, ACP

CONGRATULATIONS TO TERRI QUINTOS, Paralegal to Honorable Lynn J. Bush, U.S. Court of Federal Claims in Washington, DC for being awarded the FJAA Fall Scholarship! Terri will be using her scholarship to complete a privacy law course.

Terri has a degree in paralegal studies and works as a paralegal for Judge Bush. Prior to coming to the court, she had a background in the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Privacy Act. Her passion for FOIA and the Privacy Act has continued. Recently, the Chief Judge of her court requires that all judges on the court apply for security clearances. The reasoning for these security clearances is the anticipation of new cases involving classified documents. Terri feels that this privacy law course would help deepen her knowledge in the Privacy Act and enhance her marketability with other chambers of the court, especially with the anticipation of the increased number of classified cases. The course covers the principles of privacy in the U.S. Government. It consists of two modules (Fundamentals of Information Privacy and U.S. Government Privacy) with a total of six units. It is a certified course through the International Association of Privacy Professions (IAPP). Once Terri completes this course, she will receive her Certified Information Privacy Professional/U.S. Government (CIPP/G) credential.

FJAA is thrilled to award this scholarship to Terri, and wish her the best of luck with her course and her future professional development endeavors!!!

The FJAA Scholarship Program is awarded twice per year and is administered by the FJAA Professional Development & Continuing Education Committee (PDCEC). It is set up to enable and assist FJAA members in good standing to pursue their educational goals and professional development by taking courses and attending seminars and workshops to provide additional knowledge and skills to enhance job performance.

Our next scholarship will be awarded in June 2017. If you are interested, you can find all of the information on the FJAA website or feel free to contact me. The next scholarship deadline is May 31, 2017.

This is a great benefit offered to FJAA members. It is a great tool to assist us in enhancing our skills and personal growth. And more importantly, it does not cost members anything, other than the time it takes to fill out the application.

/s/ Debby Sawyer, FJAA Scholarship Chair

Judicial Assistant to U.S. District Judge Aleta A. Trauger

USDC –TNMD

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Nashville, TN 37203

615-986-1365

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CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVES

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

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2ND CIRCUIT & court of international trade

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3RD CIRCUIT IRIS LIRIANO

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United States Post Office and Courthouse
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4TH CIRCUIT BARBARA BARRY

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SHARON DEARE

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A free one-year membership for the year 2016-2017 is available to all new JAs that are/were hired between September 1, 2016—September 1, 2017. This free one-year membership is available only to first-time FJAA members.

EDITORIAL TEAM

Gabriela Ma (Gaby) AZ District / Christina Cavazos MI Western Dist Court / Tracy Young MI Eastern Dist Court

c/o Hon. James A. Soto

c/o Hon. Paul Lewis Maloney

c/o Hon. Linda V. Parker

2017 FJAA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



FJAA membership dues (January 1 - December 31, 2017) are \$40.00.
Retired members only: \$25 annually or \$100 lifetime membership.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Judge: _____ Court: _____

Judge Type: Choose Judge Type Circuit: Choose Circuit to display Circuit Representative below

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

Telephone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Birthday (mm/dd): _____ Renewal

Check if you are retired: New Member

Date of Retirement: _____ Date of Hire as JA: _____

STANDING COMMITTEES:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Conference | <input type="checkbox"/> Audit | <input type="checkbox"/> Budget and Finance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> By-Laws | <input type="checkbox"/> History and Archives | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long-Range Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Nominations/Elections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations/Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Ways and Means | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development/Continuing Education |

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

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

- **MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE TO YOUR CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVE**
- **EMAIL THIS FORM TO YOUR CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVE AND PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP VIA PAYPAL** (To pay via PayPal you must create an account at www.paypal.com; then use the PayPal button on our website's home page.)



The Representative for your Circuit is:

Save

Print

To obtain additional information about the FJAA, please visit <http://www.fjaa.net/FJAA/FJAA.html>

Membership renewals are due during the month of January.

Keep our Association strong!

Please pay your dues promptly.

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