

FJAA

OFFICERS

2016-2017

IN BRIEF

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL
ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION**

Volume 15,

Issue 4

October 2017



Letter from the President

Melissa Hardin

Dear FJAA Members and all Judicial Assistants:

Kudos to the San Francisco conference committee for a great conference!! I'm sure you will see several positive reviews throughout this newsletter, but let me say that the speakers were varied, well informed and well received. Everyone I spoke to at the conference was having a great time enjoying the conference itself and the many attractions of San Francisco. Those of us who attended the Friday night event, a performance of Beach Blanket Babylon, had a blast! I was also part of a small group who toured the historic Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals building on Thursday morning – such a beautiful building!

For those of you who could not make it to San Francisco, during our annual association meeting, I talked about a proposal in President Trump's budget to eliminate Cost-of-Living Allowances (COLAs) for current and future FERS retirees. We all know that prices go up over time, and the COLA is what makes our annuity go up in step with those higher prices. If this passes, it will have a huge impact on the money you have to spend in retirement. Perhaps you are under the CSRS retirement system and feel safe, but if it passes for FERS, it could also happen to CSRS retirees. Please contact your Senators and Congressman/woman if you feel we deserve to keep our COLAs. I found out about this proposal because I am also a member of NARFE (National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees), which is the only group in Washington D.C. lobbying for federal employees' wages and benefits.

In case you have not yet heard, mark your calendar for our 2018 FJAA Educational Conference August 23-25 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Look for the information later in this newsletter for some of the many activities and places of interest to visit in and around Grand Rapids.

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President's Article for October newsletter continued..

I was asked to pass along to our members that the FCCA (Federal Clerk Courts Association) is collecting donations specifically to be distributed to court family members who have been affected by hurricanes. If you are able to assist those in need, you can donate at the FCCA website at

http://fcca.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=0&club_id=329997

(you do not need to be a FCCA member to donate).

Please disregard the questions on the bottom of the webpage that ask about notification and matching gifts; the webpage was designed for larger organizations that may need those services. I know that one FJAA member was almost unable to come to San Francisco because of Hurricane Harvey, and several members who came were unable to get home right away due to Hurricane Irma. Hopefully, things were not as bad as feared when you finally made it home. Our FJAA is making a donation to help our court family.

Finally, I would like to say a big **Thank You** to our executive board, circuit representatives, committee members, and all FJAA members for a fantastic year serving as your President. It has been a pleasure!!!

THANK YOU MELISSA FROM ALL OF US AT THE FJAA !!!!





***A MESSAGE FROM
THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE***

If you didn't attend the Fall educational conference in San Francisco, chances are you heard about it from someone who did. What you may not have heard were the names of the winners of two \$100 cash prizes awarded for membership activities. Janet Hansen, the Second Circuit Representative, won the Fall conference membership renewal prize (seventy-one renewals at the conference, thank you renewing members) and Yvette Garcia's name, Association Secretary, was drawn from a field of four entries for recruiting a new member.

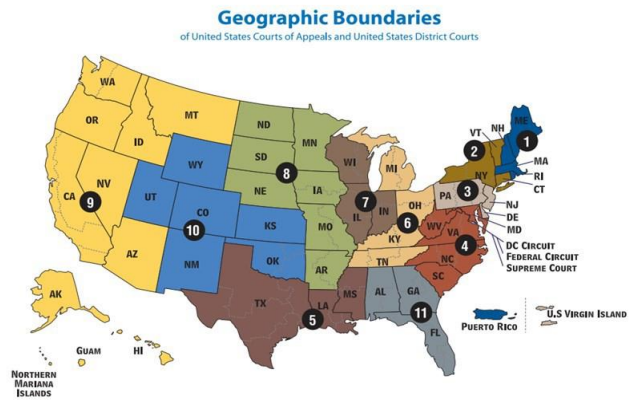


The FJAA sponsors **three cash drawings** each year: **1)** the Early Bird Membership Drawing – renew or join between January 1 and March 31 for chance to win **\$100**; **2)** Recruit a new member between January 1 and August 31 for a chance to win **\$100**; and **3)** Renew your membership at the Fall conference for a chance to win **\$100**. Winning one drawing does not disqualify you from the other drawings. Strive to have your name included in each. Your membership makes our Association stronger. The 2018 membership application is now available.



Submitted by Suzanne Gammon, Vice President and Membership Chair

CIRCUIT NEWS



SWEARING-IN

2017-2018 OFFICERS

FJAA 2017 CONFERENCE

SAN FRANCISCO

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBER FROM THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

Melissa Seay is our newest Sixth Circuit FJAA member, having joined at the end of September. She is a Judicial Assistant to Chief Judge Waverly Crenshaw in the Middle District of Tennessee.

Melissa is a native of Clarksville, Tennessee where she graduated high school and attended Austin Peay State University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Education. She taught elementary school for 3 years before deciding it was not the career choice for her. She joined Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis in 1996 and worked there for 19 ½ years supporting Waverly D. Crenshaw, Jr. She came to the United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee when Judge Crenshaw was confirmed in April 2016. Her favorite activities are, in no particular order: lounging on the couch channeling surfing; spending time with her nieces and nephews; enjoying a monthly spa day with women of her family, and; reading fiction, but particularly romance stories.

Welcome Melissa!!!! We know you will enjoy being a FJAA member!!!

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER!!!

Congratulations to LaShonda M. Bradley as the recipient of the First 2017 Bi-Annual FJAA Scholarship Award. LaShonda received \$750.00 to use for her personal development. LaShonda is a Judicial Assistant to Chief Judge Raner Collins in the AZ USDC in Tucson, AZ.



LaShonda M. Bradley

I want to begin with a humble thank you. I want to thank everyone involved in the process of picking me as the recipient of the 2017 FJAA Scholarship. I will utilize the money from this scholarship to fund a course that will prepare me for the LSAT, the law school entrance exam. This course will be approximately 6 weeks long and will cover the four basic subjects on the LSAT; Strategic Reading, Logic Reasoning, Analytical Reasoning, and Writing. Each class session is about four to five hours long and will be extremely condensed. However, I am excited about this journey as it has been long overdue.

Prior to becoming a FJAA scholarship recipient my law school journey was driven by fear. The fear derived from accomplishing higher forms of education, however graduating with an overwhelming amount of debt. I made a choice to postpone my ultimate education goal in hopes of avoiding a “debt sentence.” Receiving this scholarship made me realize that there will be encouragement along the way in this journey we call life. I will not let fear be a factor any longer. I will continue to take the first step because just as there are obstacles to make the journey harder; there are also innovative people such as members of the FJAA, that will construct pathways to overcome some of those obstacles. This makes me proud to be a part of the wonderful FJAA family.



MOMENTS AT THE 2017 FJAA CONFERENCE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA



JOB
WELL
DONE
THANKS
FOR HOSTING
A
WONDERFUL
CONFERENCE



Honorable Charles R. Breyer
Senior US District Judge, Northern District of CA



Raffle Drawing Team

THAN
K YOU
TO ALL
OF
THE GUEST
SPEAKERS AND
EVERYON
E
INVOLVED
IN
THE PLANNING



**FJAA
2017
SAN
FRANCISCO**



MORE PHOTOS ON FJAA.NET



SAVE THE DATE – 2018 FJAA CONFERENCE

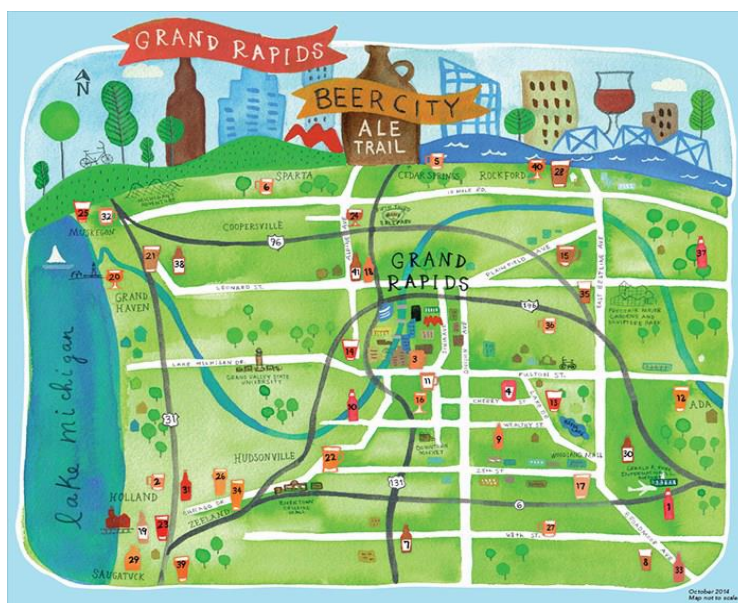
The 2018 FJAA Educational Conference will be held August 23-25 in

Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Once known as the furniture capital of the world, located on the Grand River, just a handful of miles from Lake Michigan, Grand Rapids (a/k/a Beer City, USA) is a city that will surprise and delight you with authentic and unforgettable world-class experiences.

Grand Rapids has a huge variety of things to see and do: Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum, Grand Rapids Public Museum, John Ball Zoological Garden, and Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, 158-acres featuring Michigan's largest tropical conservatory, five indoor theme gardens, Japanese garden (Kapoor and Holzer), nature trails and boardwalk, and sculpture galleries
(featuring works from Rodin, Degas and Miro).

You can visit the 138,000-square-foot food hall, Grand Rapids Downtown Market, built using repurposed materials from the dilapidated buildings it replaced, hop on the city's ale trail where over 40 craft breweries line the city, and walk the Riverwalk Promenade! Grand Rapids also crafts some amazing coffees, ciders, spirits and wines. Grand Rapids is home to wonderful restaurants, retail boutiques, and only 15 minutes from the Tanger Outlet Mall..



Bring your family and come early or stay late! Family fun includes a relaxing trip to the shoreline of Lake Michigan, a trip to Traverse City, the Mighty Mackinac Bridge, or you can take in a ballgame with the West Michigan Whitecaps, the class A minor league team affiliated with the Detroit Tigers. Van Andel Arena and 20 Monroe Live are music venues where shows and attractions are held throughout the year.



k3932574 fotosearch.com ©

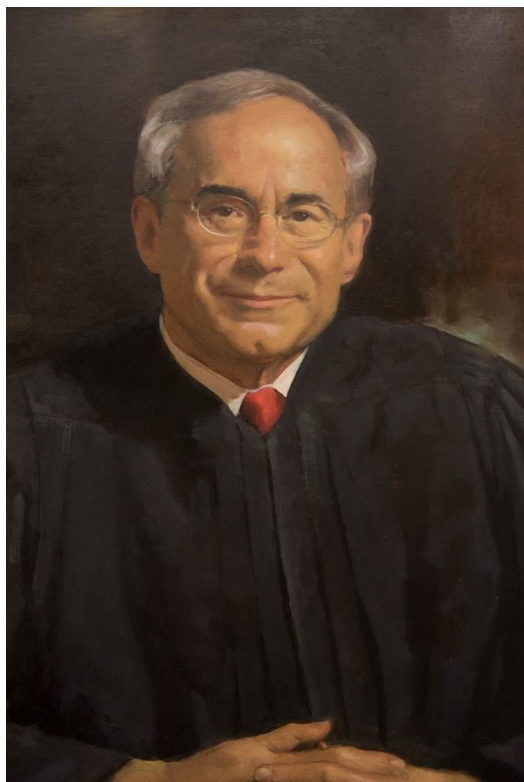
NOW THAT YOU KNOW, HOLD YOUR LEFT HAND UP AND POINT TO WHERE YOUR PINKY KNUCKLE IS.....

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN



FIRST CIRCUIT NEWS
~Christie Clifford~

Family and friends of Senior Judge George Z. Singal unveiled his portrait on July 14, 2017 at the Margaret Chase Smith Federal Building and Courthouse in Bangor, Maine. Judge Singal took senior status in July of 2013 but has continued working full time at his chambers in Portland. Judge Singal and the artist, Kyle R. Keith, of Jacksonville, Florida are seen here in this photograph with the portrait.



First Circuit News Continued

FJAA Newsletter Submission – Maine October 2017

In early September, three JA’s from Maine—Deann Harvie, Marsha Heath and Christie Clifford—attended the FJAA Judicial Conference in San Francisco, joined by Mari Rosa Jorge (JA from Puerto Rico, now retired). We were fortunate to spend a couple of days before the conference on a California Central Coast Roadtrip. Highlights: checking out the Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca (internationally known for auto and motorcycle racing & celebrating its 50th birthday); visiting the world famous Monterey Aquarium; enjoying beautiful vistas along “17-Mile Drive” that winds through Pebble Beach and Pacific Grove on the Monterey Peninsula; cruising the Pacific Coast Highway to Big Sur for a hike to view the Redwoods; San Francisco’s “Hop On/Hop Off” bus tour that took us all around the city and across the Golden Gate Bridge.

Thanks to the ND-CA JAs for
and hotel arrangements were first-

hosting this Conference. The program
rate.



SECOND CIRCUIT—Janet Hansen

Volume 15, Issue 4



News from Around the Second Circuit:

FJAA Conference:

As you know, the FJAA Conference was held in San Francisco, CA on Sept. 7–9 2017. A few of us from the Second Circuit were fortunate to attend: Katia Tompkins and Sarah Gonzales from the Court of International Trade, Bernadette DeRubeis from the District of Connecticut, and Mary Wieczorek (newly retired), Jeanette Santos and me from the Court of Appeals. It was a wonderful conference; we learned a lot from various, interesting speakers and we made new friends. San Francisco is a beautiful city. We took a cable car ride, a trolley/street car ride, and a Bart (subway) ride and found it rather easy to get around. I was amazed at how incredibly steep the streets are and prayed that the cable car we were on had good brakes (the driver assured me it did!). I also had a chance to go to the San Francisco Zoo with Jeanette, her husband Joey, and their young boys: Joel and

Christopher. The boys had a blast! The best part was we were there “off season” so we felt like we had the entire zoo to ourselves! Mary and I visited the famous Pier 39 on the waterfront, complete with seals playing and grazing on the docks, and saw Alcatraz and the Golden Gate Bridge in the distance. Our hotel was on the edge of Chinatown, so we visited that area as well. It was a great conference, a fun city and a good time was had by all! As I have attended quite a few of these conferences, it is always nice to see the friends you’ve made at previous conferences once again. I hope to see more of our Second Circuit members at our next conference in 2018 in Grand Rapids, Michigan!

SECOND CIRCUIT NEWS CONTINUED

District of Connecticut:

On September 15, 2017, a “**Presentation of a Portrait of the Honorable Robert N. Chatigny, U.S. District Judge**” was held at the U.S. District Court in Hartford, CT. Judge Chatigny was nominated by President Bill Clinton and was appointed a U.S. District Judge for the District of CT on September 29, 1994. He served as Chief Judge of that Court from 2003-2009. Judge Chatigny served as a law clerk to Judge Samuel Conti (Northern District of California) in 1979-80; to Judge José A. Cabranes (District of Connecticut) in 1980 and to Judge Jon O. Newman (Second Circuit) 1980-1981. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Chatigny was in private practice.

Chief Judge Janet C. Hall presided over the ceremony. Speakers included Ross Garber, Esq. (one of Judge Chatigny’s first law clerks), Judge Jon O. Newman (Second Circuit Court of Appeals), Judge José A. Cabranes (Second Circuit Court of Appeals), Judge Richard N. Palmer (Connecticut Supreme Court), the Honorable Christopher J. Dodd (U.S. Senate), Jon Orleans, Esq. and Shelley Sadin, Esq. Family, friends, and former and current colleagues joined in the festivities. A reception was held at the Courthouse immediately following the ceremony.

The portrait was commissioned by Judge Chatigny’s former clerks as well as the Connecticut Bar Association. Mr. Daniel Mark Duffy was the artist commissioned for the portrait. Mr. Duffy has been commissioned to do the portraits of many distinguished citizens throughout the country and his works have been included in exhibitions in New York, Washington, DC, Miami, Berlin, Florence, Dublin, Cork, Belfast and Dublin, to name a few.

The portrait will be permanently displayed in the North Courtroom (Judge Chatigny’s Courtroom) at the U.S. Courthouse, 450 Main Street, Hartford, CT. Congratulations to Judge Chatigny on this milestone in his illustrious career!

Magistrate Judge Joan G. Margolis announced her retirement, effective April 30, 2018, after 33 years of service in the District of Connecticut. Judge Margolis was appointed on February 4, 1985 and was the first woman appointed a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the District of Connecticut. Judge Margolis sits in New Haven, CT, and she is also a native of New Haven. She graduated from the Richard C. Lee High, New Haven, CT, in 1971;

Brandeis University in 1975; and the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1978. Prior to her appointment as a Magistrate, Judge Margolis was an associate at Wiggin & Dana in New Haven, and also served as one of the first law clerks for Judge Ellen Bree Burns, who was the first female U.S. District Judge for the District of CT. We thank Magistrate Margolis for her service to our Courts and wish her all the best in her retirement.

The District of CT hosted the National High School Mock Trial Championship Competition in Hartford, CT, on May 12 and 13, 2017. This competition brings together the best mock trial teams from high schools around the country, as well as from Guam, South Korea and the Northern Mariana Islands. The purpose of the competition is to promote understanding and appreciation of the American judicial system. This year over 600 students, comprising 46 teams, traveled to CT for the competition. Civics First, a private, non-profit organization dedicated to advancing democracy and law education in CT schools through hands-on learning experiences for students, teacher training and curriculum development, also hosted the event. District Court judges, law clerks, and Clerk’s Office staff volunteered to judge the mock trials, provided feedback to the students, and helped administer the competition rounds held in the Federal Courthouse.



Second Circuit News... Court of Appeals:

On September 27, 2017, the final event to conclude the Court's year-long celebration of its 125th Anniversary occurred. A Special Session of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals was held at the Thurgood Marshall U.S. Courthouse, 40 Foley Square, New York, NY. Official photographs were taken to commemorate the event of all Circuit Judges, as well as with U.S. Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan—the Court's honored guests. The Court of Appeals judges on the bench were then joined by Justices Ginsburg, Sotomayor and Kagan.

After welcoming remarks from Chief Judge Robert A. Katzmann, Justice Ginsburg spoke to the crowd about the Second Circuit Court of Appeals and its many changes over the course of her career. Judge Richard C. Wesley, the Chair of the Anniversary Committee, then spoke about the various events held throughout the past year and thanked the Committee members, colleagues, and Court staff for all of their contributions with these events in making them the successes they were.

Judge Wesley encouraged everyone to view the many posters and postings in the lobby depicting the first 125 years of the Court. The Hands Lecture was then presented by Professor Thomas Merrill of Columbia Law School. The lecture was entitled "Learned

Hand on Statutory Interpretation: Theory and Practice." A lovely reception was held immediately following the Hands Lecture in the Main Lobby of the Courthouse.

That's about all the news we have for now..... Wishing everyone a safe and wonderful Fall season!

*Janet F. Hansen
Judicial Assistant to Judge Jose A.
Cabranes*



San Fran !



THIRD CIRCUIT—Iris Liriano

In the last few years, Newark, New Jersey, known as Brick City, has been rebuilding the heart of the city thereby giving employees and residents new eateries and stores to shop. Sitting in the downtown area of the city is Military Park. The park has been restored with beautiful gardens, a carousel, bistro tables and chairs, a new restaurant named Burg, and charging stations to power up your electronics. Military Park hosts events every day of the week in the summer months. On Tuesdays, during my lunch break, I would take a walk to the park to enjoy the farmer's market. As you approach the park, you can hear the live music playing, while the vendors are selling everything from clothing, jewelry, hot foods and New Jersey produce. It's a great atmosphere to see everyone enjoying the outdoors listening to music while eating their lunch before heading back to work.

Across the street from Military Park, sits the Prudential Financial Center which opened up its new building in 2015. Prudential, Newark's oldest and largest corporation, is a 20-story, 313 foot tower which employs over 4,000 employees in their Newark Branch and its architecture is stunning. Next to the Prudential building is a Whole Foods supermarket. Whole Foods has occupied Hanes and Company, a historical building from the 1900s. It was a department store vacant for almost three decades. With a new facelift and magnificent lofts in the upper levels of the building, Whole Foods supermarket settled on the ground level. This supermarket gives us a place to shop for groceries or grab a bite to eat for lunch. Other stores such as Nike, Wok to Walk, Dunkin' Donuts, Blaze Pizza and Starbucks have opened up nearby Military Park giving us a glimmer of hope that Newark will someday become the beautiful city it used to be.

THIRD CIRCUIT—Iris Liriano

On June 29, 2017, the first Passing of the Gavel ceremony hosted by the Historical Society was held at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Building & Courthouse. During the ceremony, Judge Jerome B. Simandle stepped down from serving as the Chief Judge and has passed this duty on to Judge Jose L. Linares. Judges, lawyers and court staff were in attendance for this special occasion. While there were a few speeches, none was as touching as the one given by Joe Linares, Judge Linares's son. He gave a wonderful introduction of his father and shared memories and stories of their relationship, as well as, Judge Linares's commitment to his family, the bench and the community. Judge Linares born in Havana Cuba migrated to the United States as a young boy along with his family. He attended Jersey City State College in 1975 where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree. Thereafter, he attended Temple University where he received his Juris Doctor in 1978. From 1978 until 1980, Judge Linares worked at the New York City Department of Investigation as a supervising attorney. In 1980 to 2000, he was in

private practice and subsequently was appointed a Judge on the Essex County Superior Court, Newark, New Jersey. President George W. Bush nominated Judge Linares to sit in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey in 2002. Judge Linares is the first Hispanic Chief Judge in the District of New Jersey. We wish Judge Linares all the best in his new position as Chief Judge.

Iris



Chief Judge Jose L. Linares



From left , Former Judges John W. Bissell, Judge Garrett E. Brown, Jr., Judge Jerome B. Simandle and Chief Judge Jose L. Linares

FOURTH CIRCUIT — Barbara

US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

Chief Judge Gregory Announces Appointment of Circuit Executive

September 20, 2017

Chief Judge Roger L. Gregory announced the appointment of James N. Ishida as the Circuit Executive for the Fourth Circuit.

Mr. Ishida is a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where he also received his law degree and served as Law Review Casenotes Editor. Throughout his career, Mr. Ishida has served in a variety of roles and leadership positions, and he has experience in both private and public sectors. He served as a law clerk and staff attorney for the Hawaii Supreme Court. He has served as a Deputy Public Defender, and he clerked for the Honorable Bert S. Tokairin, U.S. District Court, District of Hawaii. In the private sector, he served as an associate with Kiefer, Oshima, Chun & Webb.

From 2001 through 2013 he served as an attorney advisor with the Administrative Office for the U.S. Courts. It was during that time that he helped staff the U.S. Judicial Conference Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure and its five advisory rules committees. Since 2013, he has served as the Clerk of Court for the District of Columbia Office of Administrative Hearings; and most recently, he has been serving as the Appellate Court Administrator with the Utah Administrative Office of the Courts.

We welcome Mr. Ishida, who will begin work as Circuit Executive on October 2017.



On a Personal Note...

This will be my last article as the Fourth Circuit Representative. Best wishes to Johnna K, Oehlsen from the Northern District of West Virginia as she begins her term as our circuit rep! I have enjoyed working with you all and I thank you for the support I have received over the years.

Fourth Circuit news continued:

District of Maryland

Chief Magistrate William Connelly Retires

After serving the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland for 22 years, Magistrate Judge William Connelly retired on September 30, 2017. At a portrait ceremony on September 28, Judge Connelly was recognized for his unflagging dedication to the administration of justice. Judge Deborah K Chasanow, Judge Timothy J. Sullivan and Rod Rosenstein, U.S. Deputy Attorney General spoke at the ceremony presided over by Chief Judge Catherine C. Blake.

Judge Connelly received his B.A. from the University of Maryland in 1973. Thereafter, he pursued a J.D. degree from the University of Maryland Law School. After earning a J.D. in 1976, Judge Connelly continued his education at the Georgetown University Law School, obtaining his LL.M. in 1979.

Having been commissioned in the U. S. Air Force in 1973, Judge Connelly entered active duty in 1977 as a Captain in the Judge Advocate General's Department. He was released from active duty in 1981 and thereafter served in the U.S. Air Force Reserve until his retirement in 2005. As a reservist Judge Connelly served for 15 years as an Appellate Military Judge on the U.S. Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals.

Judge Connelly entered the private sector in 1981 as a partner in the law firm of Stern & Connelly in Camp Springs, Maryland, and remained there until 1995. On March 31, 1995, Judge Connelly was appointed a United States Magistrate Judge of the District Court for the District of Maryland.

FIFTH CIRCUIT—Penny Stautberg

FIFTH CIRCUIT NEWS



Hurricane Harvey came into Texas with a vengeance in late August. I have been through many hurricanes and tropical depressions, but have never seen such rain! Unlike most Hurricanes, Harvey didn't have the wind that usually accompany a huge hurricane but the rain just would not quit! The damage from Aransas Pass to Beaumont and Port Arthur was the worst our state has ever had. To my knowledge, most of the court family was spared major flooding. But the area around my home suffered greatly. The support and help that came into Texas surpassed anything I have seen before, and we are all thankful. It will be years before we are truly back to normal.

First of all, the FJAA conference in San Francisco was phenomenal! The Fifth Circuit was well represented as seen from the picture below.



More news from the Fifth Circuit...

Fun in San Fran ...

We started out on Friday, September 8, by going to the San Francisco Courthouse and hearing from the Chief Judge for the Northern District of California and a History of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California by Chief Judge Emerita, Hon. Marilyn Hall Patel who explained that it was the Court that Tamed the West.

We met Charlee, an explosive K-9 who can detect 19,000 explosives.

We had presentations by the AO, learned about travel regulations, and learned about wire taps and undercover agents. We learned how and when Sentencing Guidelines came about, cyber security, and civility in the work place.

Some ladies came in a day or so early to sightsee, and several took a night tour of Alcatraz (it was very cold on that water going out there).

Our Conference next year will be in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in late August.

Fifth Circuit Senior Status News

W. Eugene Davis with the Fifth Circuit took senior status and has moved his chambers to New Orleans. His JA of many years, Linda Henshaw, moved to New Orleans temporarily to get him moved and set up, and will retire the end of this year. His new assistant is Christine Abadie, who will enter into duty on Monday, October 2.

Judge E. Grady Jolly, Fifth Circuit Judge in Mississippi, will take senior status on October 3.

Judicial Assistant News

Karen Harpold with U.S. District Judge David Hittner resigned; Cassandra Sonnier from the Clerk's office is her replacement. Hopefully, she will join us.

Carla Gibson Baker, JA to Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge Karen Wells Roby, will retire in January of next year. Hopefully she will encourage her replacement to join our Association. Carla has been active for many years.

Nominations

We have had several nominations to various Fifth Circuit Courts, and will anxiously await their confirmations and look forward to meeting their new assistants.



On July 18, 2017, United States Magistrate Judge Karen Wells Roby was designated as the Chief United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana for a term of four (4) years. Chief United States Magistrate Judge Roby is directed to meet with her colleagues on a regular basis and to act as a liaison between the Magistrate Judges and the En Banc Court.

Judge Roby has served on the court for over eighteen (18) years where she handles criminal and civil matters and also serves as a mediator. She is the Co-Chair of the ABA Litigation Section, Diversity and Inclusion Committee and former Co-Chair of the Section's Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee.

Judge Roby is passionate about nutrition and recently became certified in Plant-Based Nutrition and is working on her Vegan Mastery Certification. She is also authoring a book entitled, "The Soul Health Connection".

Judge Roby is a frequent speaker on various legal topics and she has had over one hundred speaking engagements throughout the United States during her career. She is also published in the areas of social media and ethics, settlement and ethics, and attorney's fees. Judge Roby serves as an Adjunct Professor at Tulane University Law School where she teaches a course on E-Discovery and Digital Evidence.

Judge Roby inspires diverse groups to pursue legal careers. As a mentor to dozens of racially and ethnically diverse lawyers and law clerks, Judge Roby inspires young lawyers to advance their careers to partnership, the judiciary and the corporate sector.

Judge Roby is the coordinating judicial officer of the annual Suit Up For the Future Program, a three week immersion program for high school juniors and seniors. The Program is sponsored by the Louisiana State Bar Association, Louisiana Bar Foundation, and the Just the Beginning Foundation – A Pipeline Organization, she works annually to help high school students in the pipeline to the profession.

Judge Roby is passionate about nutrition and recently became certified in Plant-Based Nutrition and is working on her Vegan Mastery Certification. She is also authoring a book entitled, "The Soul Health Connection".

Submitted by:

Carla Gibson Baker,

Judicial Assistant, FJAA Member, and 2011-2013 FJAA Treasurer.

SIXTH CIRCUIT— Debby Sawyer



SIXTH CIRCUIT NEWS

By Debby Sawyer, Sixth Circuit Representative

I attended my first FJAA Conference & Seminar in San Francisco last month. What a fantastic experience!!!! I finally got to put faces to names I have been communicating with these past 2 years and met so many great professionals!! The networking experience alone was so incredible. I met so many judicial assistants and courtroom deputies who serve our judiciary. As each chambers operates differently, it was very educational to learn about those differences and possibly incorporate some changes into my chambers. I feel like I've made friends for life, and some already feel like friends I've had for years. The visit to the federal courthouse was amazing. Also, having guest speakers of Chief Judge Phyllis Hamilton, Senior Judge Marilyn Hall Patel, and Clerk of Court Susan Soong was icing on the cake. Our seminar speakers shared valuable information with us. If you have not attended an FJAA Conference or haven't attended one in a very long time, I would like to encourage you to attend next year's conference in our own Sixth Circuit city of Grand Rapids, Michigan. I promise you will have an unbelievable experience!!!

Now on to Sixth Circuit News....



Sixth Circuit Group Photo FJAA Conference

JUDGE GAUGHAN
SWORN IN AS CHIEF JUDGE



U.S. District Judge Patricia A. Gaughan
Chief Judge
Northern District of Ohio

On June 1, 2017, U.S. District Judge Patricia A. Gaughan was sworn in as Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. Judge Gaughan is the first woman to be Chief Judge of this District. She will succeed Judge Solomon Oliver, Jr. Judge Gaughan was appointed to the federal bench in 1995 by President William Jefferson Clinton. The United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio has court locations in Cleveland, Akron, Toledo and Youngstown and serves 5.9 million citizens in 40 Ohio counties.

Prior to Judge Gaughan's appointment to the federal bench, she served as Judge with the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas from 1987-1995. Prior to her service on the bench, Judge Gaughan served as Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in the Major Trial Division of the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office, and as Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio. She was also in private civil practice in Cleveland, and was an Adjunct Professor of Law at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. She received her B.A. degree from St. Mary's College in 1975 and her J.D. from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 1978.

Judge Gaughan served on the Federal-State Jurisdiction Committee of the United States Judicial Conference, the policy-making body of the federal judiciary, which is chaired by the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. She currently is a member of the Board of Directors of the U.H. St. John Medical Center and the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking.

Judge named Outstanding ASU Alumna



HONORABLE BARBARA JENNIGES HOLMES

USDC - MDTN

After beginning her great story at Adams State, the Honorable Barbara Jenniges Holmes '82 inspired many to create their own great stories, including her daughter, Erica Holmes Trujillo '11, who nominated her for the Outstanding Alumna Award, saying, "It is her commitment to her community, which my mother learned at Adams State, that makes her the best candidate for this award." Holmes will accept the Adams State University 2017 Outstanding Alumna Award at the Alumni Banquet and Awards Ceremony during Homecoming on October 20. For reservations and tickets, call the Alumni Relations Office at 719-587-8110.

"I am so very humbled and honored to be invited to join the group of recognized distinguished Adams State alumni," Holmes said.

On August 1, 2015, Holmes was appointed a United States Magistrate Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee. "U.S. Magistrate Judges are appointed through a merit selection process for renewable eight-year terms. In this capacity, I have a wide range of judicial responsibilities in both civil and criminal cases."

Adams State helped launch her law career. She grew up in northern Colorado, part of a "really big family," and the affordability of Adams State attracted her. She was also familiar with the campus after attending a Top of the Nation Honor Band. "I liked the campus, the surrounding area, and knew the college had a really strong pre-law program." Inspired by professors, Holmes' professors left a lasting impression as she pursued a degree in history/government. "All of my professors at Adams State were very encouraging of my intention to become a lawyer, and that encouragement and support motivated me. All of these professors expected a lot, but they offered so much in return," she said.

The women, she said, "demonstrated success without sacrificing what makes you unique and creative." Those role models include Dr. Norma Peterson, emeritus professor of history; Dr. Shirley Fredericks; and Dr. Jodine Ryan, emeritus professor of English.

Holmes' male mentors impressed upon her the value of being prepared, of thoroughly learning the material. "These men had very different personalities, and I appreciated learning from them how to later navigate the world of earning the respect of male colleagues." Those professors include Dr. Dwight Crowder, former professor of history; Dr. John McDaniel, emeritus professor of history; and the Honorable Carlos Lucero '61, former adjunct professor of government, now a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. One of her fondest Adams State memories was of the time Judge Lucero, and his wife, Dorothy '61, took a class to their mountain cabin. "Letting us into their personal life provided the example of how to be a well-rounded person, by balancing work and family," Holmes said.

Throughout her life, Holmes had models that were active in their community, starting with her parents, Bud and Donna Jenniges. "Their volunteer work inspired me to pursue a career to help others. I also had two strong role models in law school, Professors Andy Shookhoff and Mary Walker, who are also great friends. I worked with both of them in the Vanderbilt legal clinic, representing indigent clients." Trujillo said her mother truly cares for others. "Over the last 30 years, she has made it her mission to change the lives of those around her. During her law practice, I cannot remember a time that my mother was not involved with a pro bono case, most of which were for single mothers and/or children involved in family court."

“I am moved by people who overcome adversity,” Holmes said. “Two young women who were clients of mine spent their lives in the foster care system, but refused to let that define them and instead were driven by that experience to help other people, to advocate for social justice. Their courage, grace and outlook on life inspire me every day.”

One of those fortunate clients was Jacinta (last name withheld for privacy), who had lived in 23 foster homes and two Tennessee group homes by the age of 18. Holmes represented her pro bono against the Department of Children Services. Her commitment continued outside the courtroom. “With the support of Mrs. Barbara, I was the first person in my biological family to make it past sophomore year and graduate from high school,” she said. Jacinta then received a scholarship to attend New York’s Wagner College, but had no means of getting there. “I just had a dream,” Jacinta said. “Mrs. Barbara believed in my dream. She helped me register for classes. She paid for and accompanied me to New York and stayed with me for five days.”

Holmes also appreciates the energy, enthusiasm and collective social consciousness of the younger generation. “I am also inspired by the new citizens I meet during naturalization ceremonies, by their determination, and especially by their appreciation for things that we too often take for granted, like the privileges of citizenship.”

Holmes’ friend since 1988, fellow attorney Tom Forrester said she is a person of undeniable integrity. “Barbara regularly lectures and teaches, making those in our profession better lawyers and citizens. Throughout her career in private practice, she was a tireless advocate for those whose voices have been silenced because of poverty, inadequate education, inadequate housing, inadequate healthcare or station in life. She shows leadership and drive in so many positive ways. She is a shining example of what is good and right and honorable about our profession.”

Although Holmes doesn’t remember an “ah-ha” moment of deciding to study and practice law, she believes that chapter began indirectly. While in middle school, she participated in a program for future law careers. The program took place in Greeley, a 20-minute drive from her hometown of Milliken.

“My mother drove me to every meeting, which was a big commitment on her part. I’m not sure I fully realized it at the time, but I think part of my inspiration was wanting to follow through and show her that meant something to me.”

Holmes encourages students and those entering their careers to be prepared; work hard, but take time to recharge; accept help when offered; give credit where credit is due; and “have at least one co-worker who genuinely makes you laugh.”

For the next five to ten years, Holmes will continue as a federal judge and begin thinking of retirement, when she hopes to spend more time with children and grandchildren. “There is nothing that inspires – and gives you a new perspective – like the laughter and amazement of children.”

SOME SAN FRANCISCO OBSERVATIONS . . .

This article was written by Emily Strope, a new FJAA member. She is a Judicial Assistant to U.S. District Judge Tom Anderson of the Western District of Tennessee in Jackson. She attended her first FJAA Conference in San Francisco. She is sharing some of her insights of her experiences at her first conference and her first visit to San Francisco.

I thoroughly enjoyed my first trip to the FJAA conference, and I thought I'd share some of the thoughts I had while in San Francisco.

- (1) San Franciscans must all have awfully strong legs. After spending days trudging uphill at a 45 ° angle on the various streets, I see now why virtually every eatery is filled with health food. I, on the other hand, sought out bad-for-me food at every turn. After discovering Madeleine's and the delicious triple chocolate mousse confection that lovely bakery serves, I promptly indulged in it as often as I could.
- (2) I received a bit of a shock upon visiting Alcatraz. Being there really brought home the fact that while open, it was (among other things), a federal prison. However, to see "United States Penitentiary" on the sign made me really realize how its history is linked with our court. I thought about how in modern times, prisoners have rights and are entitled to humane treatment, an indication of how the federal prison system has improved over the years.
- (3) It is indeed a small world. There's nothing more comforting to a Tennessee girl than encountering "The King" on the other side of the country. Finding Warhol's Elvis at SFMOMA made me feel right at home!
- (4) I was thrilled to be able to fulfill a dream: a photo of myself clutching a box of "Rice a Roni" while riding a trolley. Sadly, many of you are too young to appreciate the historical implications of my amazing trolley moment.
- (5) In seeing many people of very different cultures and ethnicities, I was reminded of the fact that this country is a wonderful hodge-podge of all different kinds of folks. It was great to meet such a diverse group of judicial assistants and to hear about different practices and procedures in the different districts. Simple things such as accents make us different, but ultimately our jobs and our dedication to them make us very much the same.
- (6) Seeing the homeless population made me very grateful for all the blessings in my life. One blessing for which I am very thankful is my career as a federal court employee. I've been with the Court for many years, and I continue to respect this vital and great part of our government. I have an ongoing realization of what an honor it is to be a part of the federal judiciary.

It was great to meet so many fellow judicial assistants, and I look forward to next year's conference in Grand Rapids . . . I'll be an old hand by then!



GONE TO THE DOGS....

6th Circuit...

Cathy Gray, FJAA President Elect loves her animals, so much that she was featured in a local Memphis magazine. See article below.

Memphis Magazine - The Best Times - The Monthly News Magazine for Active Mature Mid-Southerners

Among those who will celebrate the companionship of pets this month are Baby Boomers Danny and Cathy Gray, who are shown with their Boston Terriers – (from the left) Gabby, Harry and Jack -- at their Midtown home. Gabby and Harry were acquired from breeders. Jack is a rescue pet. Cathy is a Judicial Assistant to U.S. District Court Judge Sheryl Lipman, who allows her to bring the dogs to work, rotating one per day. The dogs usually stay in the judge's chambers, but have been allowed into the courtroom. "We've become a non-entity at the Federal Building unless we have a dog with us," said Danny who works in the same building. The Grays also are the parents of two grown children, Sara and Cameron.



RECIPE

This delicious recipe was submitted by Rose Plummer, Courtroom Deputy to Magistrate Judge Sharon L. Ovington, Ohio Southern District. This is one of Rose's favorite fall recipes from a local dinner theater, La Comedia. She loves to make sweet potato souffle, especially at Thanksgiving.

SWEET POTATO SOUFFLÉ RECIPE

4 cups mashed sweet potatoes (use fresh potatoes – not canned)
1 cup sugar
2 eggs
1/2 cup milk
1/2 tsp. salt
1/3 stick butter or margarine (melted)
1 tsp. vanilla
Mix well
Pour into buttered pan

Topping:

1 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup flour
1/3 cup butter or margarine (melted)
1 cup pecans
Crumble topping evenly over potato mixture.

Bake at 350° for 35-45 minutes uncovered.





News from the Western District of Wisconsin

(Generously submitted by Melissa Harden)

The news from Madison is that we have been playing musical chairs with law clerks: saying good-bye to two term clerks, moving a permanent clerk from Judge Crabb to Judge Peterson, and saying hello to one new term clerk for Judge Conley. After a run of six weeks of trials in June and July, we are about to start another run of several more trials over the next few weeks. With a small court like ours (2 district judges), it makes for a busy time when we have several weeks of trials in a row.

The courthouse book club is going strong, we discussed "The Alchemist" by Paulo Coelho at our September meeting and will discuss "Janesville: An American Story" at our next meeting in November.

Our court holds a picnic each August for the entire courthouse family and their families - chambers, court reporters, clerk of court's office, bankruptcy judges and clerk's office, probation and pretrial services, U.S. Attorney's Office, Federal Public Defenders, U.S. Marshal's and CSO's are all invited. This year our theme was Mexican Fiesta and featured a taco bar. We all played La Lotteria - a Mexican bingo game for exciting prizes like socks with tacos on them or a margarita glass. The picnic is held at local parks and draws around 75 people each year. The big hit is always the pinata for the kids; it's our traditional end to the festivities.

News from the Central District of Illinois (Submitted by Whitney Gingrich)

September 20, 2017 was a big day for the Peoria Division of the Central District of Illinois as people from 86 countries became new citizens in the largest Naturalization ceremony this area has ever seen. More than 2,000 people, including 400 eighth-graders from Peoria Public Schools, welcomed the 667 new citizens in a ceremony held in the fourth-floor ballroom at the Peoria Civic Center. The Court used the opportunity to invite the 8th graders as their outreach program to celebrate Citizenship and Constitution Week. The students wrote letters to the new citizens and made a video about the freedoms protected in the Bill of Rights. The entire program involved many employees of the federal court (including members Jill Adkins and Whitney Gingrich) and was organized by one of FJAA's own members, Cathy Geier, Judicial Assistant to Chief Judge James E. Shadid.

Naturalization Ceremony Shadid 09-20-2017.jpg





News from 7th Circuit in General

(Submitted by Whitney Gingrich)

Six members of the FJAA traveled to San Francisco from the Western District of Wisconsin, Northern District of Illinois and Central District of Illinois in early September to enjoy the city and participate in this year's annual conference. Highlights of the trip were riding the cable cars, visiting the cable car museum, visiting Alcatraz and views of the city and bay area. Much fun was had in Fisherman's Wharf as well as the Financial District. The sessions at the conference with Charlie the K-9 and the discussion of the Raymond "Shrimp Boy" Chow under cover investigation by an AUSA and FBI Special Agent were the most talked about afterwards. As always the conference was greatly appreciated for its networking and educational aspects. Hope to see more and more in attendance in August of 2018 in Grand Rapids, MI.



EIGHTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS NEWS:

U.S. District Court Judge Ralph Erickson--The Senate voted September 28, 95 to 1, to confirm the nomination of Judge Erickson to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Congratulations to Judge Erickson!

Lisa Burns joined our federal family as Judicial Assistant to Judge Michael Melloy in Cedar Rapids. Prior to joining the Eighth Circuit, she was a legal assistant at the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Iowa for six and half years, and previous to that was a Certified Shorthand Reporter for twenty-six years.



Lisa's family includes her husband, Jerry. She enjoys traveling, golf, long convertible rides on a nice day, and just being active. Her favorite time of the year is winter—she loves the snow.

DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA NEWS:

Richard Sletten, Clerk of the U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota, retires in December. He is a native of Argyle, Minnesota, received his Bachelor's degree at the University of Minnesota in 1979, and his Masters in Court Administration at the University of Southern California, in 1982. Rich began his career in the Courts in 1984, when he was appointed District Court Administrator for the East Central Judicial District headquartered in Fargo, North Dakota. In 1987, he was appointed the Circuit Court Administrator for the Ninth Judicial Circuit headquartered in Orlando, Florida. Rich served as the Circuit Administrator for the metropolitan trial court until he was appointed the Clerk of Court for the Middle District of Florida in 1995. At that time, the Middle District had eleven U.S. District Judges, four Senior U.S. District Judges, and twelve U.S. Magistrate Judges.

In 1999, Rich applied for the Chief Deputy position in the District Court of Minnesota in an effort to get back home to be closer to family. On July 1, 2001, Rich was appointed Clerk of Court for the District of Minnesota, filling the Clerk's position vacated by Francis E. Dosal, who retired June 30, 2001.



Eighth Circuit
Enjoying San Fran!!

Judge David S. Doty celebrated his 30th Anniversary on the Bench with his past and present law clerks and staff at the Minikahda Club and recently celebrated his 88th birthday.



He was appointed to the federal district court by President Reagan and formally took the oath of office on May 21, 1987. Judge Doty attended the University of Minnesota Law School, graduating in 1961 with honors, having been an editor of the Law Review. He then practiced law for 26 years at the firm of Popham, Haik, Schnobrich, Kaufman & Doty. Judge Doty had an active practice concentrating on trial and administrative law, representing many individuals and organizations. He was also a Special Assistant Attorney General and taught labor law at William Mitchell College of Law. Congratulations Judge Doty!

Retired Judge Donald D. Alsop celebrated his 90th birthday on August 29th at the St. Paul courthouse with cake and punch. Many of his past and present law clerks attended, as well as judges and court staff. Happy Birthday Judge Alsop!



Former Law Clerks and staff.

Wendi Tilden, Courtroom Deputy to Magistrate Judge Katherine Menendez, retired on August 24. Wendi started her civil service career as a docket clerk at the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta, Georgia, in August, 1988. She held several different positions within the Clerk's Office until early 2003. She then accepted a job as a legal assistant in the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia in Atlanta and remained there until September, 2008, when she and her husband relocated to the Twin Cities. She accepted a job as a legal assistant in the Office of the Federal Defender for the District of Minnesota in Minneapolis and remained there until an opportunity became available for her to work with Magistrate Judge Jeffrey J. Keyes in the St. Paul Federal Courthouse as his judicial assistant/courtroom deputy until his retirement in late April of 2014. After Judge Keyes' retirement, she was reunited with newly named Magistrate Judge Katherine M. Menendez, with whom she was a legal assistant for in the Federal Defender's Office in Minneapolis for six years. Wendi says must be living right, because working with Judge Menendez twice in her career has been such a privilege. She is looking forward to the freedom to live life the way retirement allows, especially traveling to San Francisco to see her precious grandson! Wendi was replaced by Kathy Thobe, Courtroom Deputy to Judge Richard H. Kyle.

A goodbye luncheon was held to celebrate the retirement of both Wendi and Debbie Lancette on August 22. We thank Debbie and Wendi for their dedication and service, and wish them all the best in retirement.



Minnesota Lawyers presented the Minnesota Diversity and Inclusion Awards. Both Rebecca Baertsch, Judicial Assistant to Judge Donovan W. Frank and Theresa Anderson, Judicial Assistant/Courtroom Deputy to Magistrate Judge Franklin Noel, were named Unsung Heroes because of their tireless work with the Minnesota Open Doors to Federal Courts program. Becky organized and ran the program for the first 14 years. She staged mock trials, job fairs and recruited volunteers from many agencies to share their experiences with hundreds of Twin Cities' high school students. Theresa began coordinating the program in 2014, when it moved from the U.S. Courthouse in St. Paul to individual schools. She takes the outreach efforts very seriously. Congratulations to both Becky and Theresa!



EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI NEWS:

Judge Carol E. Jackson, United States District Judge, Eastern District of Missouri retired on August 31, 2017, after 31 years on the federal bench. She was the first African American woman to serve as a Magistrate Judge in the Eastern District of Missouri on January 2, 1986. In 1992, she was the first African American woman to serve as a District Judge in the Eastern District, and, in 2002 became the first African American Chief Judge for the District, serving in that capacity until 2009. She helped found the Eastern District of Missouri's drug court program for offenders in 2008, and presided over that program until 2014.



Sally Keasler, Judicial Assistant to Magistrate Judge Shirley A. Padmore Mensah, retired at the end of September after 25 years. She said, "What a wonderful career I've had as Secretary first and now Judicial Assistant!! If my memory serves me well, I was the very first Secretary for FMJSA Federal Magistrate Judges Secretaries Association (now FJAA) way back at the beginning of it when I was in Tyler in 1995. I was also Eighth Circuit Rep at one time too. Met so many nice people through our organization! I will miss my Judge, Shirley Mensah, our law clerk, Jessica Golby, and our Clerk's Office team so much and all of my wonderful friends here at the TFE Courthouse and in the Eighth Circuit. I finally made it to San Francisco last September - what a wonderful, incredible city - and what a spot for a conference - have a great time!!" Sally was replaced by a part time paralegal/JA and a law clerk. She will be 73 in September—Happy Birthday! We wish you all the very best in your retirement!

WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI NEWS:

Judge Arthur B. Federman, United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Missouri, retired on August 30, 2017, after 28 years with the Court. He was appointed as United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Missouri in December 1989, and served as Chief Bankruptcy Judge from 2000 to 2004.



NINTH CIRCUIT—Julie Lemm

John "Jack" Peterson 1933 - 2017

Butte — John L "Jack" Peterson passed away Sunday, September 10, 2017 surrounded by his wife and children, with a view from his room of the Federal Courthouse and Butte's famous mining head frames. Jack was a Butte guy. He was born on September 11, 1933 to Roy and Lena Peterson in Butte at St. James Hospital, the same place he expired one day prior to his 84th birthday. Jack went to Monroe Grade School and Butte High School, class of 1951. He attended the Montana School of Mines and played basketball for one year. He then attended the University of Montana from 1952 to 1957, where he was a member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity, graduating with a BA in Business and a Law degree. He would say "any could get in, but few could finish". Of his graduating class of about 30, over half became federal judges. Somehow he maintained a relationship with the love of his life through all that adversity. He married Jean Hollingsworth June 10, 1957, the same day he graduated from law school.



Following graduation, Jack joined his golfing mentor, Joe McCaffery, in his Butte Law practice in 1957. He joined the firm of McCaffery, Rowe, Kiley and Joyce, becoming a partner from 1963 to 1985. While in practice, Jack was asked to take on "a little project" for the Montana Power Company called Colstrip 3 and 4 in the 1970's. This took up a good part of his law practice for over 7 years, with Jack arguing cases all the way to the US Supreme Court. He was extremely proud of the jobs this helped

create for Montana and the west, and especially for Butte. He served as a part-time Montana bankruptcy referee



starting in 1963. After the Bankruptcy Code was enacted in 1984, Jack made the difficult decision to sell his law practice and become a full time Federal Bankruptcy Judge in 1985. He was loyal to Butte and worked tirelessly to move the Bankruptcy Court from Great Falls to Butte. Jack retired as Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Montana in November of 1999, but he continued to serve as a judge and did not fully retire until 2013 at the age of 80. At the time of his retirement, Jack was the longest serving Bankruptcy Judge in the United States. Jack's published legal decisions fill 18 volumes and provide a comprehensive body of bankruptcy and commercial law to which lawyers still refer to today.

Jack was dedicated to community service in Butte. He served on the Butte School Board from 1971 to 1977. He was appointed to the Board of Regents in 1976 and served until 1982. He was instrumental in developing Montana Tech into a four year institution and the preservation of Western Montana College in Dillon. He worked hard to make college education affordable in Montana. This led to the higher education fund supported by the coal severance tax that provided an affordable college education for many Montana students.

He was also an old school Butte Democrat. He worked hard for the common man

NINTH CIRCUIT—Julie Lemm continued...

and felt everyone deserved "a shot" and a "fair shake." He represented Montana at the Democratic National Convention in 1968 in Chicago working for life-long friend Hubert Humphrey. Whether he was on the phone with Mansfield, Metcalf, Baucus, Tip O'Neill or a myriad of Montana's governors, you could bet he was on the lookout for Butte. He made a difference.

Jack received many life achievement awards including the prestigious William Jameson Award, The Distinguished University of Montana Alumni Award, The Montana Trial Lawyer Award, the distinguished Ninth Circuit Award, and Montana State Bar Highest Honors. But the most meaningful

Roger Strand 1934 - 2017

Senior United States District Judge, Roger Gordon Strand passed away on September 7, 2017 in Phoenix, Arizona at the age of 83. He is survived by his loving wife, Joan Williams Strand who was in attendance at the time he passed away. Judge Strand is also survived by his sister Priscilla Berry of Oxford, Ohio; his wife's sister and her husband Betty and Martin Bender of Naperville, Illinois; and by numerous nieces and nephews. Roger was born in Peekskill, New York to Ernest Gordon Strand and Lisabeth (nee. Phin) Strand. He attended preparatory school at St. Andrew's College in Aurora, Ontario, Canada. A member of the cricket club and the cadet corps, where he wore the Gordon kilt and marched to the pipes. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hamilton College in Clinton, New York in 1955. Following that Roger then attended Officer Candidates School in Newport, Rhode Island, where he received a commission as an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserves. He was honorably discharged in 1962 with the rank of Lieutenant. Roger entered Law School at Cornell University in 1958 and graduated and graduated with a Bachelor of Law degree in 1961. During Law School, Roger met his wife Joan, which led to their marriage and their move to Arizona in November of 1961. Judge Strand began his legal career as an Associate in the law firm of Fennemore, Craig, Allen and McClennen in 1961. Just over six years later Governor Jack Williams (AZ) appointed Roger as Judge of the Arizona Superior court where he served for seventeen and a half years. During 1968, he became a graduate of the National College of State Trial Judges and thereafter served on a faculty of the college for over six years. Judge Strand was active in the affairs of the Arizona Judges Association, serving as the body's President in 1985. Roger was also an active member of the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Arizona, and the Maricopa County Bar Association. In July of 1985, then President Ronald Regan appointed Judge Strand as a district judge for the District of Arizona. Taking his oath of office on August 20, 1985, he served as a judge for the district until the day of his passing. During his long and decorated career Judge Strand also served as the Chair of the Committee on District Judge Education for the Federal Judicial Center; the Judicial Council's Committee on Education as well as the Committee Information Technology; and finally as a member of the Ninth Circuit's Judicial Council. In 2010 Roger's biography appeared in twenty-seventh edition of Who's Who in the World.

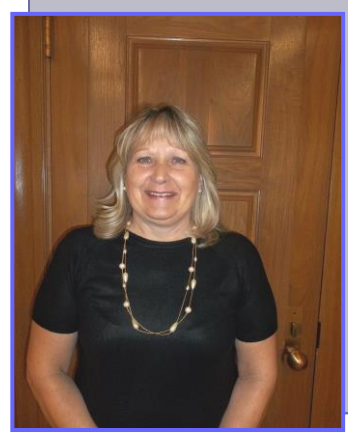
Tenth Circuit—Lynda Brown

GREETINGS FROM THE TENTH CIRCUIT!

From Lynda Brown

This will be my last newsletter. I've truly enjoyed being the representative for the last six years. The best part has been getting to know all of you. Thank you for your help submitting articles and pictures. Susan Goodwin will be taking over as the Tenth Circuit Representative and will do a fantastic job. Susan is the Judicial Assistant to the Honorable Nancy L. Moritz from Topeka, Kansas.

The FJAA Conference in San Francisco was a huge success. The speakers were excellent. It was fun to get together with all the JAs and reminisce and to meet new JAs. Attached is a picture of some of the JAs at dinner on Thursday evening.



Standing left to right - Deanne Bader and Valeri Barnes; sitting left to right - Kathleen Finney and Lynda Brown

Below is a picture of the six Judicial Assistants from the Tenth Circuit who attended the conference.



Tenth Circuit—Lynda Brown continued...

KANSAS NEWS—News from Topeka **DONATING LEAVE TIME**

I thought it might be a good time to remind everyone of the importance of donating some of their leave time to those in the various circuits who either individually or perhaps have a family member with health or medical issues. You can donate at any time – some people donate their extra leave time at the end of the year. The HR Department can help you find names of people in need of donated hours. The forms to fill out are located on JNET under “forms” and you can donate within agency (Form OPM-0630A) or outside agency (Form OPM-0630B).

I received an email from Sheryl Gilchrist, J.A. and Courtroom Deputy to the Honorable Gary Sebelius, a few months ago. Sheryl submitted a follow-up article about a young boy by the name of Teddy. In order to catch everyone up on Teddy’s story, below is the original email sent out on October 10, 2014 to several FJAA officers and members by Sheryl:

“As the end of the year approaches and you find yourself with extra annual leave hours, I would ask you to please consider donating to my former coworker, Ambriel Renn-Scanlan. Ambriel previously served as a law clerk in my judge's chambers, and she currently works at the Department of Labor in the Kansas City, Missouri, office.

In October of last year, Ambriel's then 2-year-old son, Teddy, was rushed to Children's Mercy Hospital after experiencing vomiting and dizziness. There, doctors discovered that Teddy has a rare, aggressive form of brain cancer. Earlier this week, Ambriel and her husband received devastating MRI results showing that a new tumor is growing in Teddy's brain. There are now no further treatment options that will cure Teddy. The family hopes Teddy will be accepted for some experimental treatment at St. Jude that will have the possibility of buying him more time before the tumor impairs his brain activity. Ambriel was slated to return to work this fall, but now her priority is to be with her son for whatever time he has left. I have attached the form if you are inclined to donate leave to Ambriel”

I’m happy to say several people donated their leave time. Now, almost three years later, Sheryl Gilchrist has sent in an update from Teddy’s mother Ambriel letting us know how Teddy is doing:

“Coming out on the other side...”

Journal entry by Ambriel Renn-Scanlan

Teddy will start Kindergarten at his local elementary school about a 8-minute walk from our house. We all believed it would be better for him “socially” and educationally to start with a new group of kids. This will, we hope, de-stigmatize some of his “otherness” if he’s just one of another new kindergartner. (Well, one with a walker, and AFO boots, and some hearing aids and a sly smile, of course:)).

While Teddy does well in some aspects of where he is supposed to be education-wise, he certainly has a lot of room to grow. He can write his name independently (if not entirely legibly) and does very well at typing words. He spelled "chikum nuggetz" on his own and managed the feat of being the second best speller in the house behind Doug. (Ben and I are working on our skills). But, as long-time followers of this

Tenth Circuit—Lynda Brown continued ...

CaringBridge also know, Teddy has problems storytelling, answering open-ended questions, etc. He might know a few sight words and his letters, but he can't really apply that in the "real world." He also doesn't really "play" actively with other kids. He's not potty trained. The list of "things to work on" is so very long, but also slowly but surely growing shorter and shorter all of the time.

Teddy will be one-one-one with an adult all day. He'll either be with a para or his special ed/resource room teacher. I'm been assured there will just be two or three people who work with him regularly, which is critical. As I explained in his IEP, Teddy is a subtle guy. He's not very emotive because of his posterior fossa syndrome. He has definite preferences, but he's not a "squeaky wheel", so often we as parents have to "squeak" for him. It's also hard for strangers to understand his speech. So, the more a person "speaks Teddy" by being able to read his cues and understand his speech, the better Teddy does. That means that consistency and routine and being around the same few great people will be critical for Teddy's early successes at public school.

Teddy will do all the things with his "typical" class that he can and will be pulled out to work on math and reading skills with his special ed teacher.

Teddy will use his walker pretty much exclusively at school, as he does now at CCVI. There are no... "other Teddys" at school. We (meaning Doug, Teddy, and I) took a tour of the new school a few weeks ago. One kiddo during class was all: "Why's that kid in a wheelchair/what's wrong with him", etc. And, we weren't offended (we've dealt with worse), but it did make me think: "Hm... this kid doesn't see other kids in wheelchairs/walkers very often." So, at the IEP meeting, I asked: "Are you all serving any other kids with similar physical needs as Teddy?" They aren't currently. But they have in the past. This feels...strange, after inhabiting the world of CCVI and the ain Rehab Institute. But, kids with high needs and physical disabilities are all around. And they need to learn about the "typical" world and the "typical world" needs to know about them.

Attitude. We've been very impressed by the can-do attitude of Teddy's new team. It will take a lot of time and effort on all sides to get into a workable routine for Teddy. We are aware that it will be a big transition from the comfort and stability of CCVI to the world of a regular public school (even a super nice one!). As we told the team, we have high expectations, but we also want to know when to get out of the way of the trained professionals who excel at helping kids.

Teddy will be at a combo of Rehab Institute (where he'll do another casting of his good arm to force him to use his weaker arm) and CCVI this summer and will start at the new school as a "Leawood Leopard" in mid-August.

We are cautiously optimistic about Teddy's transition. We are currently looking for someone to be a babysitter for him for 1.5 hours a day after school. That's our next big hurdle moving forward.

As a person, Teddy is doing so well. We watched the Lion King as a "movie" night the other day and it was so special to have Teddy be following along and commenting ("run simba!" "Go away, hyenas!").

Teddy 2014



Teddy 2017

Tenth Circuit—Lynda Brown continued...

BLAST FROM THE PAST

This article was submitted by Phyllis Walker,
a retired lifetime member of FJAA:

I haven't been to a conference in a long time, but I still like to read the newsletters. The last one I attended was in Seattle. Some of the girls there requested the words to the skit we did. I used to work for Judge Campbell. Lael Noble and I sponsored our conference in Salt Lake City right after the Olympics in 2002 I believe it was. Here is something some of the gals from my time have been asking for. I found the words to the skit we did. I believe Probation wrote it.

RAPPING SONG

WE BE SECRETARIES, FOR THE U.S. COURT,
DON'T GIVE US LIP, CAUSE WE ARE THE CRABBY SORT,
WE WORK HARD FOR THE JUDGE, THE ONE WHO WEARS THE
ROBE, WE BOSS AROUND THE LAW CLERKS,
"CAUSE THEY GOT NO FRONTAL LOBE.

HERE COME THE JUDGE, WE GOTTA BUSTA MOVE,
SOME SLICK-TONGUED ATTORNEY, ACTING LIKE HE'S SMOOTH,
WANTS A SPECIAL FAVOR, SMILING LIKE A CAT,
ALWAYS WANTING SUMPIN, WE TELL 'EM WHERE IT'S AT.

SOME GOON IN PROBATION, IN AN ANGRY MOOD,
SHOWS UP TO SEE THE JUDGE, TALKING KINDA RUDE,
SEEMS THAT HE WAS TOLD, THERE WAS A CHANGE OF PLEA,
BUT THE HEARING WAS POSTPONED, AND THE FOOL IS BLAMING ME.

THE PISTOL-PACKING MARSHALS, ACTING SO
ROUGH, DON'T BE DISSING US, CAUSE WE BE TWICE AS TOUGH,
BABYSITTING JURIES, IS REALLY SUCH A BORE, THEY'D RATHER
GET EXCITEMENT, KICKING IN A DOOR!

WE SEND STUFF TO THE CLERKS, WE DON'T KNOW WHERE IT GOES,
WE ASK THEM "WHERE'S THE FILE", IT SEEMS LIKE NO ONE KNOWS,
THEY REALLY TRY THEIR BEST, AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT THEY
SAY, THEY GOTTA UNDERSTAND, WE JUST CAN'T WAIT ALL DAY!

SO NOW WE GOTTA GO, THE WORK IS PILING HIGH,
THE TYPING'S STACKING UP, OUR FINGERS HAVE TO FLY,
GOTTA HELP THE JUDGE, JUST HATE TO CUT YOU SHORT,
WE BE SECRETARIES, OF THE U.S. COURT!

MY NAME IS CYNTHIA, I WORK FOR JUDGE ALBA, THAT'S SAM,
IT'S REALLY SUMPIN SPECIAL, WORKING FOR DA MAN,
HE IS A KIND SPIRIT, AND A VERY FUNNY GUY,
OOPS, I HEAR HIM CALLING, SORRY GOTTA FLY!

MY NAME IS MEAN NORRINE AND I'VE REALLY GOT IT MADE,
I WORK FOR DAVID WINDER, WHOSE CHARM WILL NEVER FADE,
HE COMES TO WORK REAL EARLY, HE'S UP BEFORE THE SUN,
OH MY, I HEAR HIM CALLING - SORRY, GOTTA RUN!

MY NAME IS LUCKY PHYLLIS, AND I WORK FOR TENA CAMPBELL,
SHE LET'S ME THINK I'M BOSS, BUT SHE REALLY HAS THE HANDLE,
SHE'S TOUGH ON THE DEFENDANTS, SHE'S TOUGH ON THE ATTORNEYS,
OH DEAR, I HEAR HER CALLING - SORRY, GOTTA HURRY.



From left to right Kathleen Steck, Norrine Gardiner, Lael Noble, Ralph Mecham (Director of Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts), Phyllis Walker, unknown, Kathleen Smith and Vicky Johnson



ELEVENTH CIRCUIT—Gail Shafer



GREETINGS FROM THE 11TH CIRCUIT

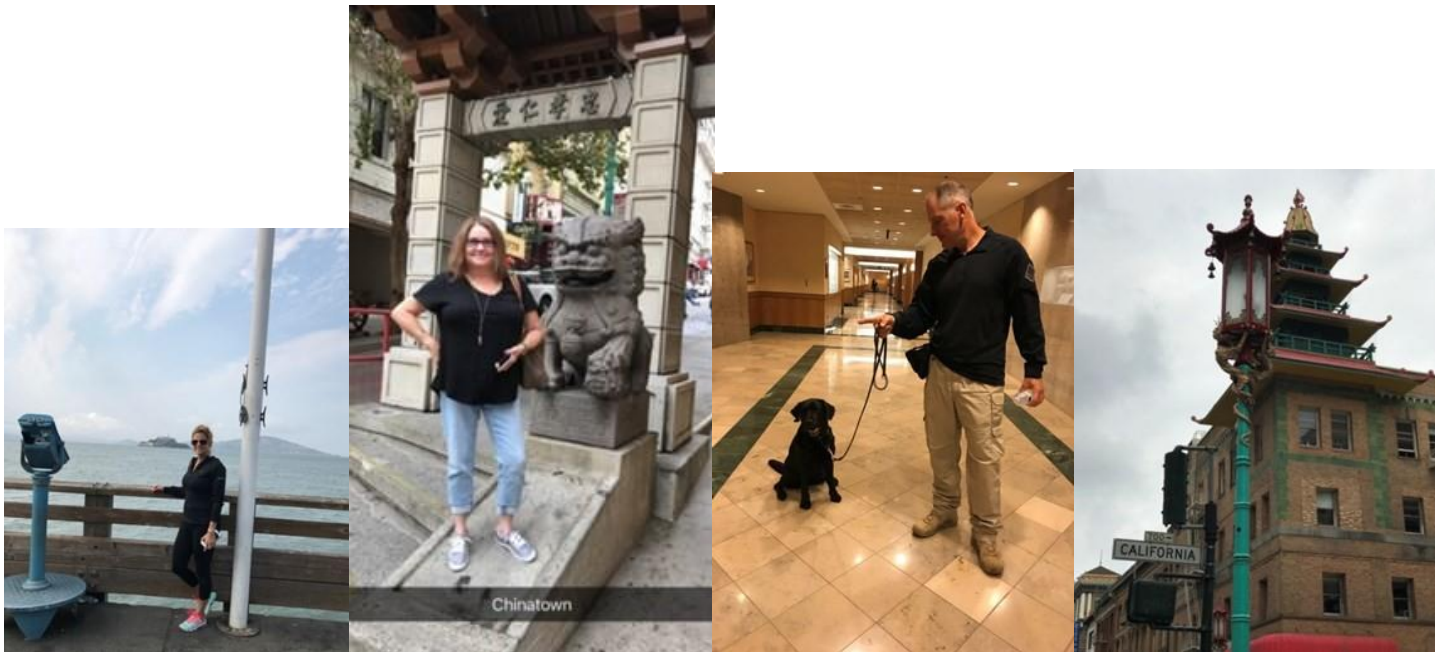
Hello everyone!

Fall is one of my favorite times of year! Really looking forward to cooler weather and the beauty of the trees. I hope you're all doing well and for those who didn't get to attend our conference in San Francisco – you really missed a great one. Congratulations to those who worked so hard to make it all come together. Representing the 11th Circuit at conference were Diane Quinn of Miami, Florida, Gail Shafer of Augusta, Georgia, & Becky Overstreet of Savannah, Georgia.



For those who didn't get to experience the Eclipse, here are a few pictures. What an amazing experience. Here in Augusta we had a 97% eclipse and when it started getting dark, the courthouse lights and streetlights came on. We all had our "Eclipse Glasses" and had fun passing them around. Of course, the darkness only lasted a few seconds. Here's a few pictures, including one of Judge Hall and his law clerks.





Here are a few pictures I'd like to share from the conference.

A Note from Becky Overstreet, Savannah, Georgia:

Hurricane Irma began Aug. 30th near the Cape Verde Islands. It's the ninth named storm and fourth hurricane of the 2017 storm season. Irma's intensity fluctuated in the days to follow and on Sept. 4th became a Category 4 hurricane. Hurricane Irma downgraded to a Category 4 Friday, Sept. 8th, maintaining sustained winds around 150 mph. The storm made landfall over mainland Florida early Sept. 10th. From there, Irma weakened significantly to a tropical storm on Sept. 11th, as it powered north toward Georgia and Alabama.

Although Savannah was spared the disastrous effects that were felt by many along Irma's path, substantial flooding and damages were reported. Many residents evacuated the city ahead of what was feared could be a tremendous hit to our coastal town. Lots of rain and gusting winds powered through the city. Thousands lost power for several days and a curfew was mandated for two days.

Tybee Island, the local beach area, was hit hard and is in the process of clean up and recovery. Many returned home to knee-high water in their homes caused by the storm and tide combination which created a 12.23-foot tidal surge.



River Street, Savannah, GA



A note from Diane Quinn, Miami, Florida:

Thank you for thinking about all of us in the Southern District of Florida after Hurricane Irma. My family and I were extremely fortunate that we did not sustain any real property damage unlike everyone who lives in the Florida Keys. We had just the usual trees down, which caused no electricity for a week and the unforgiving heat that seems to always come along after a hurricane that you learn to tolerate with no air conditioning. We were out of work all last week just returning on Monday, September 18, 2017 to semi-normal working conditions which also included very limited air conditioning and everyone in the FLSD needing an extension of time. I was a very fortunate Floridian because I was able to see the beautiful city of San Francisco and enjoy the fantastic FJAA Conference during the storm and then go visit my family in Phoenix while things returned to slightly-normal in Miami.

I wanted to share a photograph of Publix Super Market meat department shelves upon my return to Florida. As you can see, we had very limited choices of what to make for dinner that night! Everything is getting much better every day and I love living in sunny Florida.



That's all for now Hoping for good news around the circuit next time!
Early wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving!





JUDICIAL BRANCH CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Search for these and other job opportunities on the JNET or at
www.uscourts.gov

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Case Administration Supervisor—Greenbelt, MD (U.S. D.C.)
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Division Manager—Dallas, TX (U.S. D.C.)
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Term Law Clerk—San Antonio, TX (U.S. D.C.)

Sixth Circuit

Administrative Manager to Federal Judge— Lansing, MI (U.S. C.A. Sixth Circ.)

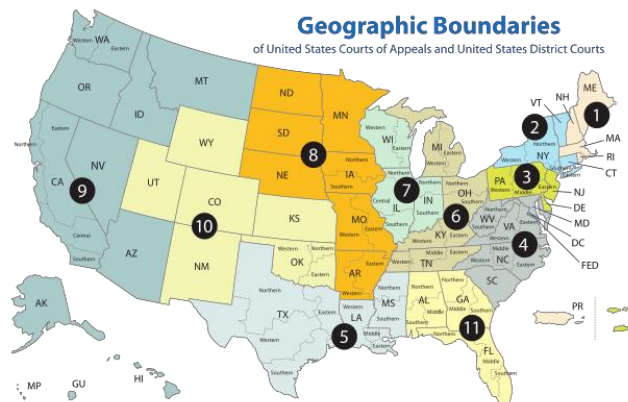
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Fourth Circuit

Judicial Assistant—Winston-Salem, NC (U.S.D.C.)

Send us open job opportunities in your circuit and we will share them with the other Judicial Assistants in our organization. Email job opportunities to:
Christina_cavazos@miwd.uscourts.gov





We are on the web!
<http://www.fjaa.net>



The Federal Judicial Assistants Association ("FJAA") was formed in 2002, as a result of a merger between the Federal Judges Secretaries Association (which was formed in 1972) and the Federal Magistrate Judges Secretaries Association (which was formed in 1995). In 2009, the Federal Judges Secretaries Association officially changed its name to the Federal Judicial Assistants Association.

The Federal Judicial Assistants Association has held annual conferences since 1973, in Washington, D.C., Denver, Las Vegas, Seattle, St. Louis, Memphis, and San Francisco, as well as many other wonderful locations. The Federal Magistrate Judges Secretaries Association ("FMJSA") held its first meeting in 1995 in San Francisco as a joint conference with The Federal Judges Secretaries Association. Subsequent joint meetings in Philadelphia (1998), Reno (1999) and Boston (2000) led to the formation of an Ad Hoc Merger Committee for the two organizations. In 2001 the new by-laws were written and the merger of both organizations was proposed to the membership and approved by formal vote. The two organizations became one effective October 12, 2002.

The goals of FJAA are:

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

Let your Circuit Representative know if you would like to share tips with you fellow FJAA members. We will be more than happy to include in the our next newsletter! Thank you all for your participation!



**JANUARY NEWSLETTER ENTRY DEADLINE:
DECEMBER 8, 2017
PLEASE SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO YOUR CIRCUIT
REPRESENTATIVE BY THIS DATE
THANK YOU!**



CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVES

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

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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.

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