

Circuit Courier

April-June 2010
Vol. 2010-2

NEWS BULLETIN OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

15th
Judicial
Circuit

Judge Hanser Investiture

Judge Garrison Retires

Magistrate Alijewicz Takes Oath

Law Week

Juror Appreciation

Drug Court Month

Volunteer Appreciation

And more...

**LAW
WEEK
2010**

Law in the 21st Century



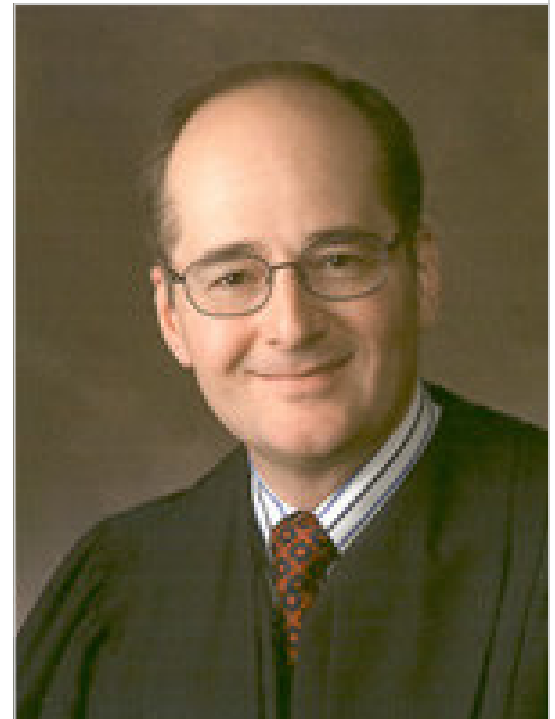
On the Cover: Law Week poster by Trevor Davis, Court Technology

In this issue...

Charles Canady Chief Justice-Elect	2
Judge Leonard Hanser Invested	3
Judge Garrison Retires	4
Magistrate Alijewicz takes Oath of Office	5
Judicial Review Training	5
Around The Circuit	6
Law Week	7
Law Week: cont.	8
Juror Appreciation Day	9
Juvenile Court	10
Drug Court Month	11
Trial Court Law Clerks	12
New Civil Court Operations Manager	13
Case Management Workshop	14
Judges/Lawyers Softball Game	14
Take Daughters and Sons to Work Day	15
Volunteers	16
Volunteer Appreciation	17
HR Huddle	18
AO's/Upcoming Events/Court Holidays	18
In Memoriam-Alan Kahn	18

CHARLES T. CANADY NAMED FLORIDA'S NEXT CHIEF JUSTICE

On March 10, 2010 **Charles T. Canady** was unanimously named Chief Justice-Elect of Florida by his six colleagues. Canady will become Florida's 54th Chief Justice since statehood, and his two-year term will begin July 1. Under the state Constitution, the Chief Justice serves as the chief administrative officer of the entire state courts system.



Charles T. Canady

"It is an honor and a privilege to serve the public," said Canady, 55, "and especially working with so many outstanding Florida public servants through the years, including my fellow Justices. I thank them for their trust in me and look forward to serving the people of Florida in this new capacity." He said he will continue the work of his predecessor, Justice Peggy A. Quince, in bringing the state courts system through the problems created by the ongoing recession.

Canady graduated from Haverford College in 1976 and then went on to Yale Law School, receiving his degree there in 1979. He was in private practice from 1979 through 1992. In November 1984, he was elected to the Florida House of Representatives, serving three terms through November 1990. He later served in the U.S. House of Representatives from January 1993 through January 2001, and his assignments included membership on the House Judiciary Committee and Chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution.

After leaving Congress, Canady became General Counsel to Gov. Jeb Bush, who later appointed him to Florida's Second District Court of Appeal in November 2002. On August 28, 2008, Gov. Charlie Crist appointed Canady to the Florida Supreme Court, where he took office on September 8, 2008.

INVESTITURE OF JUDGE LEONARD HANSER

The investiture of **Judge Leonard Hanser** was held April 23, 2010, in the ceremonial courtroom of the Palm Beach County Courthouse.

The ceremony opened with remarks by **Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc** followed by the invocation by **Scott G. Hawkins, Esq.** **Daniel Hanser**, Judge Hanser's son, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The presentation of the Judicial Commission was made by **Sharon R. Bock**, Clerk and Comptroller of Palm Beach County. **Judge Peter Evans** presented a desk plate and the Tanakh was presented by **Michelle Suskauer, Esq.**, Florida Bar Board of Governors representative.

Chief Judge Peter Blanc administered the Oath of Office. **Jessica Hanser**, Judge Hanser's daughter was given the honor of the enrobing.

The gavel was presented by **Michael Napoleone, Esq.**, President of the Palm Beach County Bar Association, and gifts were given by **Seth Marmor, Esq.**, Director of the South Palm Beach County Bar Association and by **Jonathan Levy, Esq.**, President of the Palm Beach County Justice Association.

Remarks on behalf of Judge Hanser were made by **Judges Kenneth Stern and Peter Evans.** **Howard Weiss, Esq.** gave the Benediction.



Judge Leonard Hanser, with his wife Lisa, is sworn in by Chief Judge Peter Blanc.



l-r: Magistrates Joy Shearer, Linda Goodwin, Thomas Baker, Peter Bassaline, Judge Leonard Hanser, Sara Alijewicz, Maxine Williams and Larry Weaver.

Judge Leonard Hanser's commission as County Court Judge became effective on December 7, 2009, and his first assignment is to the Criminal division.

Judge Hanser served as a general magistrate for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit from 1993 until his appointment to the bench. Before then, he was a sole practitioner, after being in private practice with Mitchell, Hanser & Schwartz; Mitchell, Hanser, Schwartz & Winkler; and Mitchell, Hanser & Winkler, respectively, from 1982 to 1989. He began his law career as an associate attorney with Levy, Pilsco, Perry, Shapiro, Keen & Kingcade from 1977 to 1978.

Judge Hanser earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Florida and his law degree from the University of Virginia. He will fill the vacancy created by the elevation of Judge Joseph Marx to the Fifteenth Circuit.

CIRCUIT JUDGE EDWARD A. GARRISON RETIRES

Following a career that spanned almost thirty years on the bench, **Judge Edward A. Garrison** retired on June 30, 2010.

Judge Garrison was first elected in 1980 to the County Court, where he began his first term on January 6, 1981. At that time, he was the youngest elected Judge in the County. He served as a county judge for two terms (eight years), and was administrative judge for two years. He was also elected President of the County Judges Conference in 1987.

In 1988, he successfully ran for Circuit Court, where he has served continuously since January 3, 1989. Judge Garrison was initially assigned to the Civil Division but over his career has served in every division and at every location in the circuit.

A graduate of the University of South Florida, Judge Garrison attended law school at Florida State University where he earned the nickname “Fast Eddie” as he was usually the first law student to finish the freshman law school final examinations.

As Judge Garrison sums up his judicial career he says, “It’s amazing how quickly thirty years goes by. I’m certain that it is due to all of the great judges and staff over the years that made it so easy.”

Judge Garrison also said that he prefers to call this a transition, rather than a retirement. He plans to be active as a Senior Judge as well as pursuing mediation and arbitration opportunities.



Judge Garrison was honored by his fellow judges at a Full Court Meeting in the Judicial Conference Room of the Main Courthouse on June 17, 2010. At that meeting, Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc presented the traditional bowl, engraved with the names of all the judges, to Judge Garrison.

“Judge Garrison has been a statewide leader in case management, a team player here in the 15th Circuit and an outstanding judge in every division in which he has served. Fortunately, the loss to the 15th Circuit due to his retirement is tempered by the fact that he is staying on to serve as a senior judge.”

Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc

MAGISTRATE SARA ALIJEWICZ TAKES OATH OF OFFICE

Sara Alijewicz was sworn in as magistrate of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit on April 19, 2010, by Chief Judge Peter Blanc.

Speakers at the ceremony included: **Robert Bertisch**, Director of the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County and County **Judge James Martz**, who attended law school with Sara.

Magistrate Diane Kirigin presented the gavel on behalf of the magistrates of the Fifteenth Circuit.

Magistrate Alijewicz, a graduate of Nova Southeastern Law School, was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1995. She spent the majority of her career with the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, where she most recently held the position of Supervising Attorney.

Magistrate Alijewicz brings to the Magistrate's role extensive experience in family, juvenile and probate/guardianship law.

She began her duties as a Family Magistrate in the North County Courthouse on March 22, 2010. Her assistant, Miguel Baque, can be reached at (561) 624-6668.

*As part of the magistrate reassignment, Magistrate **Judette Fanelli** has moved to the Main Courthouse, where she conducts judicial review hearings, the role previously held by Leonard Hanser.*



Chief Judge Peter Blanc administers the oath of office to Sara Alijewicz.



l-r: Jennifer Folsom, Michael Alijewicz, Kelly Folsom, Magistrate Sara Alijewicz, Brendan Folsom, Alex Alijewicz, Katie Alijewicz

Judicial Review Training

Judges, magistrates, and staff attended JR training on June 3, 2010.



Magistrates and staff participate in a mock judicial review hearing.

***Congratulations,
Magistrate Kirigin!***

***On June 23, 2010
Magistrate Diane Kirigin
was sworn in as
Chair for 2010-2011
of the Family Law Section
of the
Florida Bar.***

AROUND THE CIRCUIT:

OUTSTANDING JURISTS 2010

NORTH COUNTY

On May 13, 2010, **Judge Edward Fine** was presented with the Jurist of the Year Award by the North County Section of the Palm Beach County Bar Association.



SOUTH COUNTY

On May 15, 2010, **Judge James Martz** was presented with the Distinguished Jurist Award by the South Palm Beach County Bar Association.



JUDGE ROBIN ROSENBERG IN THE COMMUNITY

Judge Robin Rosenberg, her daughter **Madison**, and son **Adin** volunteered their time to read at the Head Start Program of the YWCA, as part of the Lawyers for Literacy program.

Judge Rosenberg's daughter, **Sydney**, who reads regularly at the YWCA, was unable to attend.



Judge Robin Rosenberg, Madison and Adin with the children from the YWCA.

On April 29, 2010, **Judge Robin Rosenberg** presided over a mock trial, with students from Timberlake Elementary taking on the roles of attorney, juror, court deputy, and defendant.

State Attorney **Michael McAuliffe**, who was invited as a guest to explain the roles of the prosecution and the defense attorneys, swore the "attorneys" in before the trial began.



State Attorney Michael McAuliffe explains the role of the prosecutor and the defense attorney, as Judge Robin Rosenberg presides.



Chief Judge Peter Blanc welcomes the students of Suncoast School.



Judge Jeffrey Colbath addresses the students on issues in criminal court.



Judge Peter Evans explains how law is changing in response to new technology.

“Law in the 21st Century: Enduring Traditions, Emerging Challenges” was chosen as the national theme for Law Week 2010.

To mark the event, the Fifteenth Circuit hosted events on April 20-22, 2010. Over 120 students, most from Suncoast High, West Boca High, Berean Christian, and Forest Hill High schools, spent a day at the Main Courthouse to learn firsthand about the role and procedures of the third branch of government.

Each morning, a different representative of the Palm Beach County Bar thanked the students for their participation and outlined the Bar’s activities to mark Law Week. Chief Deputy Court Administrator **Krista Garber** introduced **Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc**, who welcomed the students and explained the role of the judiciary. Some role play exercises illustrated just how difficult the judge’s task can be.

The morning program included a tour of the Clerk & Comptroller’s office evidence room, a demonstration by the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office court containment team, an address by **Judge Jeffrey Colbath** on criminal courts and by **Judge Donald Hafele** on civil courts, a tour of the Courthouse and observation of court proceedings. Over lunch, various members of the local legal community spoke to the students about their respective careers and their roles in the legal system.



Judge August Bonavita talks to the students about the county courts.



Judge Donald Hafele talks to the students about the civil courts.



PBSO Sgt. Schwab introduces the members of the court containment team that provides security in the courtroom.

LAW WEEK: CONT.



Rebecca Storrow presents, "Alternative Dispute Resolution and Globalization".



Court Interpreter Celia Munoz conducting an exercise with Suncoast student Olivia Ricketts.



Krista Garber speaks on the emergence of Facebook in legal issues.



l-r: June Garson, Gordon Cohen, Mary Ellen Feinberg and Krista Garber observe court with the visiting students.

The afternoon sessions featured **Judge Peter Evans**, who met with a different group of students each day to discuss the impact of emerging technology on the courts.

The afternoon agenda continued with presentations by Court Administration staff. Chief Deputy Court Administrator Krista Garber made a presentation on the emergence of Facebook posts in various legal settings. **Rebecca Storrow**, Mediation Director, described methods of conflict resolution used in other cultures. The day concluded with Court Interpreter **Celia Munoz**, who entertained the group while illustrating the challenges of interpreting in court.

Special thanks to all those whose contribution made this such a memorable event: **Chief Judge Peter Blanc; Judges August Bonavita, Jeffrey Colbath, Peter Evans, and Donald Hafele;** Court Administration staff **Mary Ellen Feinberg and Donald Drodgy; Patricia Brown, Colleen Faba and Louis Tomeo** from the Clerk and Comptroller's office; PBSO **Sgt. Schwab, Sgt. Laufer, Lt. Voiret** and the court containment team deputies; court volunteers **Gordon Cohen and June Garson.**



Tanique Lee, Palm Beach County Bar Association Law Week co-chair, Greg Shiller, Assistant State Attorney (ASA) and Al Johnson, Assistant State Attorney.



Lisa Laramond, Guardian ad Litem attorney, addresses the students during the lunch break.



Michael Kugler, ASA, and Katherine Lewis, ASA, discuss their work with the State.

JUROR APPRECIATION MAY 2010

In recognition of the contributions and importance of all jurors, the Clerk & Comptroller **Sharon Bock** and Chief Judge **Peter D. Blanc** hosted a recognition ceremony on May 17, 2010, in the Jury Room of the Central Courthouse in West Palm Beach.

On behalf of the Chief Judge, **Judge August Bonavita** and on behalf of the Clerk & Comptroller, **Un Cha Kim** opened the ceremony, which occurs each May to mark the beginning of Juror Appreciation Month. Palm Beach County Commissioner **Steven Abrams**, State Attorney **Michael McAuliffe**, Assistant Public Defender Barbara White, West Palm Beach Mayor **Lois Frankel** and Palm Beach County Bar Association President-elect Designate **John Howe**, were among the guest speakers for the ceremony.

Judge Bonavita alleviated prospective jurors' apprehension by quoting from positive juror surveys he had received in his courtroom.

As part of Juror Appreciation Month, the Palm Beach County Bar Association provided complimentary coffee to the jurors each morning on May 17-21.

"I consider trial by jury as the only anchor ever yet imagined by man, by which a government can be held to the principles of its constitution."

Thomas Jefferson



l-r: John Howe, Michael McAuliffe, Judge August Bonavita, Steven Abrams, Un Cha Kim, Barbara White and Lois Frankel.

Delinquency Drug Court Graduation

Delinquency Drug Court was established in May of 2008, presided over by **Judge Ronald Alvarez**. The program consists of three phases and lasts a minimum of eight months, targeting youth with a history of substance abuse. Participants work with treatment providers to develop treatment plans, receive individual, group and family counseling as well as other program components, regular court appearances, frequent and random urinalysis, written assignments, and school monitoring. Progress in the program is reviewed regularly by the Drug Court Team members: Drug Court Judge, Drug Court Coordinator, State Attorney, Public Defender, Department of Juvenile Justice, Juvenile Probation Officer, Juvenile Case Manager, treatment providers, Clerk, Court Education Liaison, and Youth Court.

On April 21, Delinquency Drug Court held its second graduation. Participants, family members, advocates, Drug Court Team members, and community members were present to celebrate a monumental moment in these young peoples' lives. Judge Alvarez spoke to each youth, reminding them of how far they had come. Both graduates were presented with a certificate of completion and invited to the Bench to reflect on their experience. Team members were able to express their pride in the graduates, who had come so far and worked hard to become drug-free.

Attendees had the pleasure of hearing from the guest speaker, Mr. Wispers, who demonstrated insight into what these youth have experienced and relayed a message of hope and faith not only to the youth, but to everyone.



Judge Ronald Alvarez congratulates a drug court graduate.



The courtroom is full as Judge Ronald Alvarez (not pictured) congratulates a drug court graduate.

Following the Drug Court hearings, refreshments were served. Congratulations are extended to Judge Alvarez and the Drug Court Team for their effort and dedication in making this program a success!

William (Will) H. Hutchings has joined Court Administration in a new grant-funded position, Juvenile Court Case Manager. He is a graduate of Bethune-Cookman University and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Public Administration at Nova Southeastern University.

Will was previously employed with the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, as both a Detention Officer and Juvenile Probation Officer, where he developed programs to educate and empower youth. He also serves as Assistant Director for a male mentor program that provides guidance to males involved with the criminal justice system. Will Hutchings can be reached at 355-6856, on the third floor of the main juvenile wing.

For additional information, please contact Cristy Altaro at (561) 355-6586.



DRUG COURT MONTH MAY 2010

At the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners meeting on May 4, 2010, **Commissioner Burt Aaronson** presented a proclamation declaring May 2010 as **"Drug Court Month"** in Palm Beach County and it was accepted by **Chief Judge Peter Blanc**.

Also in attendance were **Judge Ronald Alvarez** and Adult Drug Court and Delinquency Drug Court Team members. Team members were honored to be acknowledged for their work in restoring lives, reuniting families, and making the community safer.

The Palm Beach County Adult Drug Court program has been providing an irreplaceable service to our county for 10 years. With 1,010 graduates to date, this program has not only saved the county tens of thousands of dollars on incarceration costs but has also given graduates the tools to become productive members of society. With a recidivism rate of 11%, the Drug Court Program has proven to be a success. To celebrate twenty-one years of Drug Courts, Thursday, May 20, 2010 was selected for the **11th Annual Statewide Drug Court Graduation**, hosted by the 7th Circuit.

The keynote speaker was **Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice Peggy A. Quince**, who addressed in person and on video about 300 graduates in drug court programs across the state. "All of you have something to celebrate," Quince said, commending the graduates for their "courage, perseverance, and discipline."

There are now over 2,400 Drug Courts throughout the nation, as well as over 1,100 Problem Solving Courts, and another two dozen drug courts around the world. Research continues to validate that Drug Courts outperform every other justice intervention for drug addicted offenders. As Drug Courts enter their third decade, our attention must turn to the individuals who appear before the courts each year with serious substance abuse issues and no hope of landing in Drug Court. It is with these people in mind that the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) and Drug Courts throughout the nation are celebrating National Drug Court Month with the theme: **"All Rise: Putting a Drug Court within Reach of Every Person in Need."**



l-r: William Hutchings, Jacquie Marshburn, Cristy Altaro, Chief Judge Peter Blanc, Palm Beach County Commissioner Burt Aaronson, Judge Ronald Alvarez, Dorrie Tyng, Sheree Peterson, Maria Stevens.

TRIAL COURT LAW CLERKS

Dolores Francis is the newest addition to the trial court law clerks/staff attorneys. She graduated *magna cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa with a BA in English from Florida International University and went on to attend Harvard Law School where she was on the Article Submissions Committee for the Black Letter Law Journal, a Member of the Harvard Journal on Legislation, and was the Placement Committee Co-Chair for the Harvard Black Law Student's Association.



After graduating from law school, Dolores moved to Miami where she worked for the law firm of Sterns, Weaver, Miller, Weissler, Alhadeff & Sitterson, PA and later for Littler Mendelson, practicing employment law. Dolores recently returned to Florida after having lived in Atlanta where she volunteered with the Early College Awareness Committee planning college awareness seminars for low-income middle school students. Dolores is a member of the Florida Bar, United States District Courts for the Southern, Middle, and Northern District of Florida and the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

SUMMER JUDICIAL INTERNS

On May 18, 2010, the Trial Court Law Clerks welcomed the summer 2010 judicial interns. During the first six weeks of the program, the interns toured the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Eagle Academy and Main Detention Center, watched court in Belle Glade with **Judge Nelson Bailey**, observed first appearances with **Judge Krista Marx**, attended shelter and delinquency hearings with **Judge Ronald Alvarez**, and visited the North and South County Courthouses.

The interns also met with various judges to discuss professionalism, practicing in Palm Beach County, and other issues that affect new attorneys. Lunch was held with the Family, Juvenile, and Probate **Judges Jack Cook, Ronald Alvarez, Diana Lewis, Elizabeth Maass, Karen Martin, and Jeffrey Colbath**. A second lunch was held with Circuit Civil **Judges David Crow, Donald Hafele, Ed Garrison, Joe Marx, David French, Timothy McCarthy, Jack Cox, and Glenn Kelley**. The interns have also observed various criminal, family and civil trials as well as observing 8:45 Motion Calendar hearings. The summer interns also prepared and presented appellate bench memoranda, researched issues, and assisted with circuit civil case management. The internship program runs through the beginning of August.



I to r: **Gabe Blumberg**, Duke University, **Lisa Prychodko**, University of Miami, **Sabsina Karimi**, Stetson University, **Amanda Hill**, Nova Southeastern University, **Ariette Abdallah**, Nova Southeastern University, **Scott Perry**, University of Miami, **Joy Lee**, Washington and Lee University, **Nick Sabella**, Tulane University, **Staci Burton**, Nova Southeastern University, **Leslie Arsenault**, University of Florida, and **Eric Hayden**, University of Miami.

NEW CIVIL COURT OPERATIONS MANAGER

Michelle J. Leyva was selected to fill the newly-created position of Civil Courts Operations Manager. Initially, Michelle will supervise the one-year “economic recovery effort” funded by the Legislature from the State Courts Trust Fund monies, and aim at resolving foreclosure cases. Contractual (OPS) case managers and administrative assistants will report to her as part of this project.

She holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Florida, a Masters of Education degree from Harvard University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of California, Berkeley.

Michelle Leyva can be reached at (561) 355-6619.



CASE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Court Technology joined with Criminal Court Operations Manager **Michelle Spangenberg** to host the first of several lunch and learn training sessions entitled “Case Management Tools” on Wednesday, May 26, 2010.

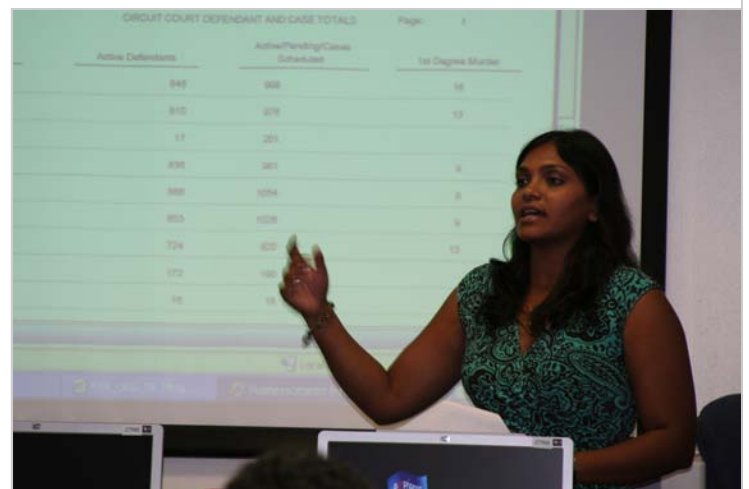
The purpose of the luncheon was to update judicial assistants (JAs) on recent and future changes to electronic case management resources on an internal, Circuit and State level. Topics covered included the State’s e-filing initiative, Palm Beach County Clerk & Comptroller’s new Showcase database, Court Administration’s Integrated Case Management System (ICMS), and specialized functions of the Banner system.

Overviews of each system, as well as demonstrations of On Demand Printing and Crystal Report Creation, were included in the presentation. JAs were asked to document the reports and forms currently in use in their divisions to ensure they will also be available this fall, when Showcase replaces the Criminal and Traffic components of the Banner system.

Shilpa Vuppalanchi and **Paula Carvajal** facilitated the demonstration and led discussion of the agenda topics. The focus of the lunch and learn series was to communicate changes to and enhancements in the technology case management resources available to the JAs.

“Lunch sessions are very hard to draw crowds to, due to everyone’s hectic schedules,” said Criminal Court Operations Manager Michelle Spangenberg. “All of the JAs spoke positively about the user friendly configuration of the ICMS.”

“Our goal was to communicate to the JAs all of the resources available to them through Court Technology, and help them maximize their efficiency,” said **Noel Chessman**, Court Technology Officer.



Shilpa Vuppalanchi, Court Technology Project Coordinator, demonstrates one of the case management components.

ANNUAL JUDGES/LAWYERS SOFTBALL GAME

On Saturday, April 24, 2010, the 15th annual Judges/Lawyers softball competition was held at John Prince Park. This was the third year that the two teams lined up as mixed judges and lawyers, as opposed to the traditional lawyers versus judges competitions of the past.

Participating in this event were: Fifteenth Circuit **Chief Judge Peter Blanc**, **Judges Mark Eissey, Jim Martz, Richard Oftedal**, Federal District **Judge Kenneth Marra**, and Fourth District **Judge Jonathan Gerber**.

The final score was 27-7 with the winning team dubbed “the Judges,” led by Judge Mark Eissey. This marked the first victory in the past six years over the “Lawyers” team, led by Phil Mugavero.

Immediately following the game, the judges and lawyers enjoyed a picnic lunch provided by the Palm Beach County Bar Association and coordinated by Executive Director **Patience Burns**.



Chief Judge Peter Blanc, catcher.
County attorney Phil Mugavero, batter.



l-r: Thom Baird, Judge Mark Eissey, Judge Richard Oftedal, Kirk Volker, David Prather, Jacob Noble and Carl Cascio.



l-r: Judge Jonathan Gerber, Phil Mugavero, Judge Kenneth Marra, Judge James Martz, Magistrate Sara Alijewicz, Leon St. John, Chief Judge Peter Blanc, Valentine Rodriguez and his son.

TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS TO WORK DAY

The Public Defender's Office and Court Administration collaborated to present an educational program for "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day" on April 22, 2010. In the morning, approximately 40 children of staff of the Fifteenth Circuit attended a demonstration of the Sheriff Office Program that trains service dogs for adoption by people with disabilities.

After the attendees rejoined their parents for lunch, the staff attorneys presided over mock oral arguments in courtroom 2D on the topic of whether schools should require students to wear school uniforms.



Amy Borman provides instruction on the format for the oral arguments on the issue of school uniforms.



l-r: Rachael Borman, Julia Bonavita, Autumn Ramsey, Madison Borman and Sophie Chessman enjoy the demonstration at the Public Defender's Office.



Service dogs in training demonstrate their skills for the visiting children.



Santo DiGangi helps participants prepare for the oral arguments.

This program evolved from **Take Our Daughters to Work Day**, originated by Gloria Steinem in 1993. The purpose at that time was to specifically address self-esteem issues unique to girls: to deepen the thinking of the girls with regard to their infinite roles in society, inspire and motivate them to reach their full potential and, through exposure to diverse careers and positive role models, assist them to prepare for the world of work.

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day occurs on the fourth Thursday of April. Chosen because it is a school day for most children in the US, it allowed children to take what they learned in the workplace and discuss it in school the next day.

VOLUNTEERS

Kevan Carbon

Kevan Carbon is a senior at Florida Atlantic University Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College.



His major is “Law and Society” and he minors in Spanish. We are lucky to have him volunteering for the summer in the foreclosure department where his help is greatly appreciated.

Volunteers perform valuable duties in many areas of Court Administration, including staffing reception desks, assisting in civil traffic court, maintaining data spreadsheets, swearing in witnesses, giving courthouse tours and many other administrative tasks.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer at the Courthouse location in West Palm Beach, Delray Beach or Palm Beach Gardens may obtain a volunteer application form by visiting www.15thcircuit.com and clicking on the “How do I Become a Volunteer?” link. Opportunities currently exist in Court Technology and at North County.

Raye Johnson

Raye Johnson is a life-long Floridian and a graduate of Florida Atlantic University with a Master’s degree in Business Education, Supervision.



Although Raye retired in 2001 as the Business Dept. head of the South Technical Education Center in Boynton Beach, she still teaches at Palm Beach State College in the Lake Worth Computer Lab. Raye staffs the ADA line but her many skills have also led her to additional projects in Court Admin.

Janny Phillips

Our newest volunteer is currently completing a doctoral program, specializing in Curriculum, Instruction and Public Policy at FAU’s College of Education.



Janny is in Court Administration, developing a new, online employee orientation program that will allow users to learn about and access human resource information with greater ease.

In every community there is work to be done. ... In every heart, there is the power to do it.
Marianne Williamson

Sandra Whitehall

Sandra Whitehall is a graduate of Florida Atlantic University with a Bachelor of Arts degree.



She is gracious and soft spoken and oh so helpful! Dedicated to helping her community, Sandra divides her volunteer time between Court Administration and the old courthouse, now called “The Richard and Pat Johnson Palm Beach County History Museum.”

Ryan Winston

Ryan Winston was referred to us by Tiffany Taylor, Esq., his Business Law teacher, when we asked for a summer volunteer to work burning CDs in Witness Management.



Mature beyond his years, Ryan is a recent graduate of Royal Palm Beach High and will attend Palm Beach Atlantic University in the fall majoring in Business Management/Political Science.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

With the theme, “We Treasure Our Volunteers,” Court Administration staff honored volunteers at the Main Judicial Center on May 14, 2010 with a workshop and coffee reception. A similar afternoon gathering for the South County volunteers was held on June 10, 2010 in the atrium of the South County Courthouse.



Chief Judge Peter Blanc thanks the volunteers at the Main Judicial Center.



Keynote speaker Amy Borman addresses the group on the rules governing the Court's public records.



l-r: Court staff, Nathalie Gendron, Rebecca Storrow, Mary Ellen Feinberg and Krista Garber get into the spirit of the occasion.



l-r: Volunteers John Cohen, Gale English, Sanders Gropper, Larry Levey, Gordon Cohen, Robert Follick, Allan Weiner, Denise Nagle, R. Paul Kashden.



Judge Charles Burton thanks the volunteers at the South County Courthouse.



Magistrate Diane Kirigin (l) addresses the volunteers at the South County Courthouse as Mary Ellen Feinberg (r) looks on.

HR HUDDLE

Welcome to:

Michelle Leyva: Civil Court Operations Manager, June 1, 2010.

Dolores Francis: Trial Court Law Clerk, May 28, 2010.

Will Hutchings: Juvenile Court Case Manager, April 26, 2010.

Reassignment:

Jennifer Hennard has relocated from the Main Courthouse to South County to serve as Judicial Assistant to Judge Stern.

Eric Levande has also moved to South County as the case manager for Judge Burton's division FY.



School Tour: Palm Beach Lakes High School, Legal and Criminal Justice class. Instructor (kneeling) Mr. Luis Bonilla, Esquire.

Far left: Emanuel McMiller won the "2010 Best Attorney Award" during a mock trial. Gordon Cohen (second from right), volunteer for Court Administration, is the tour guide.

In Memoriam

The 15th Judicial Circuit is sad to report that **Alan Kahn, Esq.**, passed away on May 20, 2010. Alan was the first Director of the Alternative Dispute Resolution office, beginning in 1990.



He served as family mediator, along with an additional term as acting director, prior to his retirement in October, 2009. Alan was known for his professional skills as well as his charming personality and will be fondly remembered by all who had the pleasure of working with him.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July

1 Economic Recovery Foreclosure Plan begins

6-8 County Court Judges' Conference

25-28 Circuit Court Judges' Conference

August

10-14 Supreme Court Dependency Mediation Certification training

COURT HOLIDAYS JULY-SEPTEMBER

July

5 Independence Day observed

September

6 Labor Day

9 Rosh Hashanah

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS

For updates to the latest Administrative Orders (AOs) for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, please see our website at:

<http://15thcircuit.co.palm-beach.fl.us/web/guest/ao>.

The Circuit Courier
Published by the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit

Peter D. Blanc, Chief Judge
Barbara Dawicke, Trial Court Administrator

205 North Dixie Highway
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401
(561) 355-2431

Editor in Chief: Krista Garber
Editor/Producer/Designer: Linda Sims