



Circuit Courier

October-December 2010

Vol. 2010-4

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

Retirement of Judge Paul Moyle

Retirement of Judge Kenneth Stern

Lisa S. Small Elected To Circuit Court

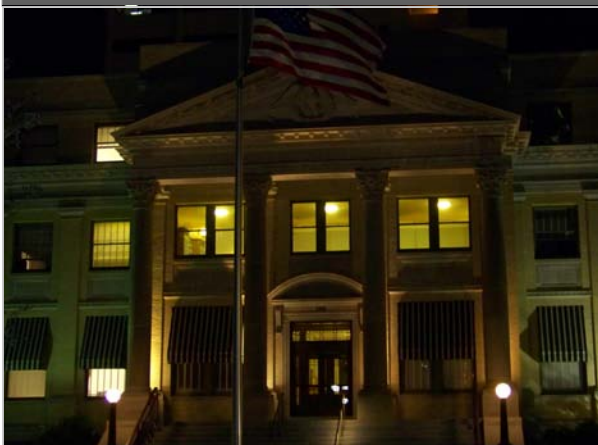
Marni A. Bryson Elected To County Court

Gregory M. Keyser Appointed to County Court

Columbus Day Training

National Adoption Day

And more...



On the Cover: Historical Courthouse, WPB

Photo by Linda Sims

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THREE NEW JUDGES TO JOIN FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN JANUARY, 2011

In the August 24, 2010 Primary elections in Palm Beach County, **Lisa S. Small** was chosen to fill the Circuit Court vacancy created by the retirement of **Judge Kenneth Stern**. Judge Small has been assigned to Family Division FD, effective January 4, 2011. Joining Judge Small in the Circuit is her Judicial Assistant, Brenda Gleason.

Voters in the November 2, 2010 mid-term elections chose **Marni A. Bryson** as County Court Judge. Judge Bryson's seat was created by the retirement of County Court **Judge Paul Moyle**. Beginning on Jan. 4, 2011, Judge Bryson is assigned to County Criminal Division E. Working with Judge Bryson as Judicial Assistant is Luciana Vieira.

On December 23, 2010, Governor Charlie Crist announced the appointment of **Gregory M. Keyser** to the Palm Beach County Court. "Greg's extensive legal knowledge and patient demeanor have served him well throughout his 30-year career," said Governor Crist. "I am confident he will bring those attributes to the bench, where he will serve the people of Palm Beach County with fairness, impartiality and integrity."

Keyser will fill the vacancy created by the appointment of **Judge James Martz II** to the Fifteenth Circuit Court. Judge Keyser's commission will become effective January 31, 2011. Divisional assignment has not been confirmed.

Investiture ceremonies will be held in the first quarter of 2011.

RETIREMENT OF JUDGE PAUL O. MOYLE

On December 31, 2010, **Judge Paul Moyle** retired after 16 years as a County Court Judge.

Judge Moyle was appointed to the County Court by Governor Lawton Chiles on June 3, 1994. He took the vacancy previously occupied by Kathleen Kroll.

Prior to his judicial appointment, Judge Moyle was a prosecutor with the Palm Beach County State Attorneys Office.

Judge Moyle received his bachelor degree from Hamline University in 1972 and directly after graduating worked as a road patrol officer in Wrightsville, North Carolina. Then, after working for a land development company in Miami, he attended law school at Cumberland University. It was from there that he was hired as an Assistant State Attorney by David Bludworth.

Diana Grant has served as Judge Moyle's judicial assistant since 1999. Diana will move to Division RE, as Judicial Assistant to Judge Nancy Perez.



Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc presents retiring Judge Paul Moyle with a bowl engraved with the names of all sitting judges.

*In 1994, Judge Moyle
was asked
what his final goal
in law was.*

*He replied,
“to retire as a
County Court Judge.”*

*Judge Paul Moyle
epitomizes the qualities
that make a great judge:
diligence, professionalism,
and empathy.*

~Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc

RETIREMENT OF JUDGE KENNETH J. STERN

Judge Kenneth Stern retired on December 31, 2010, after serving nine years as a Circuit Court Judge in the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit.

Judge Stern was initially appointed to the County Court effective May 3, 1999, by Governor Chiles. His tenure on the Circuit Bench began on January 2, 2002 in the criminal division.

Prior to his appointment Judge Stern was in private practice doing civil and criminal litigation.

Judge Stern attended Ohio University where he majored in Government and received his JD from Cleveland State University. During undergraduate studies, Judge Stern was a Legal Aide in the Ohio Attorney General's office in Cleveland, Ohio.

Right out of law school, Judge Stern was a law clerk to the Honorable Judge Joseph Silbert for the Court of Appeals of Ohio, Eighth Appellate District. Following his two-year clerkship, Judge Stern worked for the United States Department of Justice in the Antitrust Division.



Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc presents retiring Judge Kenneth Stern with a bowl engraved with the names of all sitting judges.

When asked why he wanted to attend law school, Ken Stern smiled and stated, "It was important to fight for people's rights."

"Judge Ken Stern is so well liked and well respected because those who appear before him always know clearly that he is passionate about doing the right thing."

~Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc

JUDICIAL REASSIGNMENTS

The following assignments will become effective January 18, 2011 (unless otherwise noted in parentheses):

DIVISION	2010 ASSIGNMENT	2011 ASSIGNMENT	CHAMBERS/COURTROOM
CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION			
AF	J. Marx	E. Maass	10.1208/10B
AH	E. Fine	L. Chernow Brown	11.1216/11C
AI	E. Garrison	M. Sasser	9.1216/9D
FORECLOSURE			
AW(11/01/10)	M. Sasser	J. Hoy	4.2609/4A
FAMILY DIVISION			
FD	E. Maass	L. Small	6.1207/6C
FH (12/20/10)	R. Oftedal	J. Phillips	NC/ 2
FJ (12/20/10)	J. Phillips	A. Smith	NC/ 4
FZ (12/31/10)	K. Stern	J. Martz	SC/ 3
PROBATE & GUARDIANSHIP DIVISION			
IH	R. Oftedal	J. Phillips	NC/2
CIRCUIT CRIMINAL DIVISION			
R (12/06/10)	J. Hoy	J. Marx	10.2214/10E
S	A. Smith	R. Oftedal	11.2214/11E
TD	L. Chernow Brown	E. Fine	11.204/11H
COUNTY CRIMINAL DIVISION			
E	P. Moyle	M. Bryson	9.2208/9G
L	L. Hanser	TBD	9.2204/9E
D	J. Martz	L. Hanser	SC/ 1
MAGISTRATES			
DOR	L. Weaver	L. Goodwin	6.1110/6G
Family	L. Goodwin	L. Weaver	6.2109/6E

LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION VISIT

The Circuit's annual Legislative Delegation visit took place December 14, 2010. **Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc**, together with 4th District Court Of Appeal (DCA) **Chief Judge Robert Gross** and **Judge Dorian Damoorgian**; **Chief Judge Victor Tobin** of the 17th Circuit; and **Chief Judge Steven Levin** of the 19th Circuit hosted the Legislative Delegation at the 4th District Court of Appeal. Approximately twenty one Legislative members and their staff participated, including **Senator Chris Smith**, Delegation Chair and **Representative Joseph Abruzzo**, **Representative Pat Rooney**, **Representative Mark Pafford**, and **Representative Irv Slosberg**. Also in attendance were the **Judges of the 4th DCA**, **Barbara Dawicke**, **Debra Oats**, **Tom Genung**, Trial Court Administrator of the 19th Circuit, **Todd Bonlarron**, Palm Beach County (PBC) Legislative Affairs Director, and **Rachael Ondrus**, Executive Director, PBC Legislative Delegation Office. The Judges and the Delegation discussed issues that affect the Courts, including the State budget deficit, the State Court budget, staffing, caseloads, and specialty courts. Following a tour of the 4th DCA facility, the Delegation's visit concluded with a presentation by **Judge Krista Marx**, addressing the Fifteenth Circuit's Drug Court, the Mental Health specialty division, and the Veterans' docket.

Local legislators continue to demonstrate their support of the court's work through this annual event, and generously give their time to learn the current status of court operations in advance of the legislative session.

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HIGHLIGHTS OF 2010

- January 29—*Diversity Training*
- February 19—*2010 Bench Bar Conference*
- February 23—*Legislative Delegation Visits Circuit*
- March 5—*Diversity Training*
- April 19 —*Magistrate Sara Alijewicz sworn in*
- April 20-22—*Law Week*
- April 23—*Investiture of Judge Leonard Hanser*
- May 4—*Drug Court Month Proclaimed*
- May 13—*Judge Edward Fine named North County Jurist of the Year*
- May 14—*Main Courthouse Volunteer Appreciation Event*
- May 15— *Judge James Martz named South County Jurist of the Year*
- June 10—*South Courthouse Volunteer Appreciation Event*
- June 23—*Magistrate Diane Kirigin chosen to lead FL Bar Family Law Section*
- June 30—*Judge Edward Garrison retirement*
- July 1—*Foreclosure Initiative (Economic Recovery Plan) begins*
- July 15— *FL Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente visits Fifteenth Circuit*
- July 25—*Circuit Judges' Conference*
- August 24— *Lisa Small elected to Circuit Court*
- August 24—*Dependency Summit*
- September 14—*Judge James Martz elevated to Circuit Court*
- October 1—*Domestic Violence Awareness event*
- October 8—*Annual F.L.A.G. meeting*
- October 11—*Columbus Day Training*
- November 4—*Marni Bryson elected to County Court*
- November 18—*First Veterans' Court docket held*
- November 19—*National Adoption Day*
- December 3—*Senator Maria Sachs meets with Circuit's Judicial Assistants*
- December 3—*Judge Peter Evans swears in Judicial Assistant Board members*
- December 14— *Legislative Delegation Visits 4th DCA*
- December 14-15—*Process Server Training*
- December 23—*Judge Gregory Keyser appointed to County Court*
- December 31—*Judge Paul Moyle retirement*
- December 31—*Judge Kenneth Stern retirement*

JUDICIAL LUNCHEON SERIES

On October 14, 2010, sponsored by the Judicial Relations Committee, the Palm Beach County Bar Association presented, "Opening Statements in Jury Trials." The seminar was held in the Main Judicial Center at noon.

The judicial panel consisted of **Judge Jeffrey Colbath**, **Judge Donald Hafele** and Fourth District Court of Appeals **Judge Jonathan Gerber**.

On November 9, 2010, the Judicial Relations Committee, the Palm Beach County Bar Association presented, "Avoiding Juror Misconduct in the Social Networking Age." The seminar was held in the Main Judicial Center at noon. The judicial panel consisted of United States District Court **Judge Kenneth Marra**, Fourth District Court of Appeals **Judge Dorian Damoorgian** and Fifteenth Circuit **Judge Robin Rosenberg**. The moderator was Yelizaveta (Liz) Herman.



l-r: Moderator Yelizaveta Herman, Judge Robin Rosenberg, Judge Dorian Damoorgian and Judge Kenneth Marra.

JUDICIAL ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION

On December 3, 2010, the Judicial Assistants' Association of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit conducted a meeting with a very distinguished guest in attendance, **Senator Maria Sachs**. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the many difficult items on the horizon for the next legislative session, and the budget for the upcoming year.

Senator Sachs explained that next year the state budget will be more difficult than ever, as funding will be decreased and that it will be a tough legislative session. She listened to, and understood the concerns of the judicial assistants and also stated that she understands their role is vital to the Court system, and without them the Courts would not be able to function.

Following the meeting with Senator Sachs, the Executive Board was sworn in by **Judge Peter Evans**. The new board is: President **Sherry Riggio**; Vice President **Joli Katz**; Secretary **Rebecca Ricker**; Treasurer **Erin Brandt** (sworn in by proxy, Marilyn Cartwright pictured); Sunshine Girl **Amy Tracy**.



l-r: Julia Weston, Assistant to Senator Sachs; Senator Maria Sachs; Marilyn Cartwright and Sherry Riggio.



l-r: Judge Peter Evans, Sherry Riggio, Joli Katz, Rebecca Ricker, Marilyn Cartwright

CREATION OF VETERANS' TREATMENT DOCKET

PRESS RELEASE - November 10, 2010

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT CREATES VETERANS' TREATMENT DOCKET

WEST PALM BEACH, FL – Fifteenth Judicial Circuit **Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc** today signed Administrative Order 4.905, creating the first Veterans' Treatment Docket in the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice System. This initiative, spearheaded by Judge Blanc, involves myriad volunteer and agency participants. The signing of the Veterans' Docket Administrative Order coincides with the 235th anniversary of the founding of the Marine Corps. County Court **Judge Ted Booras**, a former Marine, has volunteered to dedicate time to preside over this docket in addition to his existing caseload. The first docket will take place on November 18th.

Modeled after successful drug courts across the Country, the Veterans' docket will provide much-needed assistance to qualified veterans at no additional cost to Palm Beach County or the State of Florida. It will also address root causes of veteran crimes; thereby, reducing recidivism. A Veteran Coordinator, funded by the Veterans' Association (VA), will identify veterans coming through the system and utilize individual evaluations and computer screening to define needs and match them with relevant VA resources. These activities will result in the establishment of customized plans for veterans to resolve existing problems and again become valued, law-abiding citizens.

Veterans are more receptive to the input and guidance of other veterans. In that context, a critical component of the Veterans' docket is the Volunteer Mentor Program made up entirely of veteran volunteers who strongly believe in the credo, "no one is left behind." The Vietnam Veterans of America and Stand Down House are providing training and coordination for this team of volunteers.



l-r: Maryann Duggan, Assistant State Attorney; Steve Bendict, Assistant Public Defender; Carla-Paula DaSilva, Veterans Coordinator; Rosalyn Baker, Circuit Administrator for Department of Corrections; Roy Foster, Stand Down House; Jerry Klein, Vietnam Veterans of America; Louis Tomeo, Clerk and Comptroller, Michelle Spangenberg, Criminal Court Operations Manager and Judge Ted Booras.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Domestic Violence Awareness

The Domestic Violence Awareness Month opening ceremony was held at the Main Judicial Center on Friday October 1, 2010.

The guest speaker was **Judge Sheree Cunningham** who moved the audience with her speech “Helping to Heal by Connecting the Head, the Heart and the Hands”. The remarks related to the need for all of us to be the best we can be because someone needs our best so they can be better.



Judge Sheree Cunningham



l-r: Judge Sheree Cunningham; Legal Aid Director Bob Bertisch, Clerk and Comptroller Sharon Bock, State Attorney Michael McAuliffe and Sheriff Ric Bradshaw.

Judicial Assistants Raise Money and Awareness

Each year the Judicial Assistants Association (JAA) selects a local charity as our annual Holiday Project.

The winner this year was Hanna's Home in Tequesta. Hanna's Home of South Florida provides a safe and loving environment for single pregnant young women, where they can develop life skills and continue their education in a Christian atmosphere.

Thanks to the generosity of many the association collected \$550.00 for Hanna's Home. A check was presented to the Founder of Hanna's Home, Ms. Carol Beresford, on December 16, 2010 by this year's JAA President Elect, Sherry Riggio.

For more information, contact hhsf@hannahshomesf.org.



l-r: Diana Grant, Judicial Assistant to Judge Moyle; Carol Beresford and Sherry Riggio, Judicial Assistant to Judge Evans.

JUSTICE TEACHING

In October, as part of the Justice Teaching Initiative and in conjunction with the school's unit on government, General Counsel **Amy Borman** visited 8 third grade classes at Morikami Park Elementary in Delray Beach to teach the students about the judicial branch. The "in class" teaching was followed up with a tour of the South County Courthouse where the students watched traffic and misdemeanor court with **Judge James Martz** and **Judge Reginald Corlew**, observed juvenile court with **Judge Moses Baker**, and saw a K-9 explosive detection demonstration with Deputy Bobby Rogers (and his K-9 Yoda) and Deputy Steve Lobdell.



Samantha Rubin



Spencer Rubin

FLORIDA STATE COURT AND COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES

The 2010 annual conference for Florida State Court and County Law Libraries (FSCCLL) was held in Jacksonville on October 14-16, and hosted by **Kelly Devlin**, Law Librarian of the Eleventh Circuit Law Library.

The focus of the conference was, once again, providing services to self-represented litigants, which is a growing group of law library patrons and a constant challenge for staff.

The **Honorable Gary P. Flower**, Fourth Judicial Circuit presided over the installation of new officers, including Law Library Manager for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, **Linda Sims**, who was sworn in as President of FSCCLL.

COURT REPORTING PRESENTATION AT PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

On September 27, 2010, Court Reporting Manager **Susan Wiggins** was guest speaker at the Palm Beach County Criminal Practice Committee. In attendance were Palm Beach County Judges as well as members of the Bar, with representatives from the Public Defender's office and State Attorney's office of the Fifteenth Circuit. Susan spoke of the importance of capturing the record in the courtroom, whether it be by stenographer or digital court reporter. Both methods produce one ultimate final result; a transcript of the proceedings. Although central recording captures most of the spoken word, a stenographer is able to confirm the spoken word in the moment.

The stenographers of the Fifteenth Circuit also are moving in the direction of providing realtime in the courtrooms, which will enable counsel and the judge to have an instantaneous rough draft English translation of the proceedings. Some benefits of realtime include being able to make personal notations at certain points of testimony, highlighting testimony, and sometimes even walking out of the courtroom with a printed rough draft of the day's proceedings. Realtime benefits the stenographer also because it helps to eliminate the lunchtime research of testimony that may have been missed by counsel, or where a response to a critical question was not heard or is in dispute.

FAMILY LAW ADVISORY GROUP ANNUAL MEETING

The Family Law Advisory Group (F.L.A.G.) met in the Main Judicial Complex on October 8, 2010, to establish the annual goals for 2010-2011.

The purpose of this group is to improve the operation of the Unified Family Court through the creation of sub-committees which meet during the course of the year. These sub-committees will problem solve, brainstorm alternative approaches, create learning opportunities, work to settle interagency conflicts, and resolve questions regarding various Unified Family Court processes.

Keynote speakers were: **Chief Judge Peter Blanc**, **Judge Catherine Brunson**, Administrative Judge of the Family Division, **Magistrate Diane Kirigin** and **Debra Oats-Ducram**. There were approximately seventy people in attendance, including judges, magistrates, court staff, attorneys, social service providers, local community leaders, staff of Department of Children and Families, and other interested persons and organizations.

F.L.A.G. participants continue to assist the court by making recommendations to improve the operation of Unified Family Court by volunteering to serve on sub-committees that meet throughout the year to resolve various issues. Three sub-committees were created to address the issues regarding the Family Connections program.

Magistrate Diane Kirigin (pictured right) was elected Chair of the Family Law Section of the Florida Bar for 2010-11. While addressing section members in the fall of 2010, Magistrate Kirigin described the diverse spectrum of legal knowledge required of family law attorneys today, stating, *“The skilled family law practitioner is required to master multiple chapters of the Florida Statutes dealing with our practice areas, have at least a working knowledge of the Federal law that affects family law, as well as be knowledgeable about a myriad of substantive areas including but not limited to contract law, real property, probate, insurance, pensions and deferred compensation plans, taxation and bankruptcy.”*



Judge Catherine Brunson



Debra Oats -Ducram, Court Operations Consultant



Magistrate Diane Kirigin

NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

On November 19, 2010, twelve families opened their hearts to give the greatest gift - a forever home to children.

The celebration began in the cafeteria where volunteers provided food and entertainment for the children and families. Activities included a magician, clowns, and face painting. Opening ceremonies were hosted by **Linda Norris**, National Adoption Day Chair and Co-Chair **Stephen Bardy**, Executive Director of the Children's Home Society, followed by opening remarks from **Judge Moses Baker**. The keynote speaker was **Perry Borman**, the Southeast Regional Director of the Florida Department of Children and Families. **Ms. Barbara McAlister** was presented with the 'Jim Sackett Award' based on her numerous years of dedication to the safety and well-being of the children of Palm Beach County as a foster and adoptive mother. Mr. Sackett is a great supporter of forever families for children in foster care. Four dedicated juvenile judges, who have worked so hard throughout the years to help provide safety and stability to children in foster care, had the pleasure of finalizing the adoptions. The judges spent time with each family prior to and after the adoption. The families had the opportunity to take as many pictures as they wanted and the judges' courtrooms were filled with love and laughter.

The Fifteenth Circuit proudly extends its gratitude to the juvenile judges who assisted with all of the adoption finalizations: **Judge Moses Baker, Judge Ronald Alvarez, Judge Karen Martin and Judge Kathleen Kroll.**

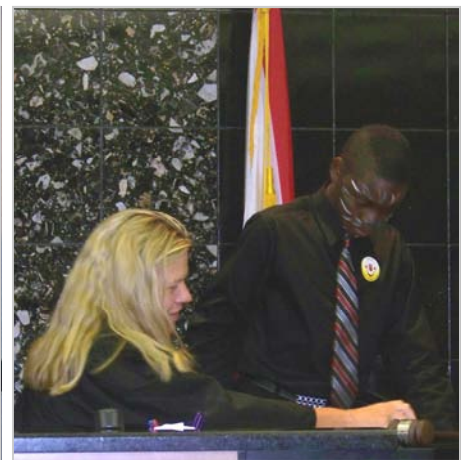
The event was coordinated by representatives of the following agencies: Children's Home Society, Children's Legal Service, Legal Aid, Guardian Ad Litem, and Court Administration.



l-r: Judge Kathleen Kroll, Judge Moses Baker, Judge Karen Martin and Judge Ronald Alvarez.



Judge Baker and Judge Alvarez



Judge Kroll assists adoptee with signing his papers.



Judge Martin congratulates a family on their adoption.

TRIAL COURT LAW CLERKS

ANGELIQUE THOMAS, Esq.

Angelique obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication from the University of Miami where she majored in Broadcast Journalism and International Studies and minored in Foreign Languages. While at the University of Miami, Angelique was an Alumni Scholarship Recipient and a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Recipient. In May of 2010, Angelique graduated from the University of Georgia School of Law where she was the Notes Editor for the *Journal of Intellectual Property Law*, a member of the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Team, an associate with the Council on Legal Education Opportunity, and a Law School Association Scholarship recipient.



Prior to joining the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Angelique was a Public Interest Fellow with the Legal Aid Service of Broward County. Her legal experience includes internships with both the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in Atlanta and the Atlanta Legal Aid Society, a summer clerkship with the Atlanta law firm of Thompson Hine, LLP, along with a summer judicial clerkship for the Honorable Gregory Adams of the DeKalb County Superior Court.

CERTIFIED PROCESS SERVER PROGRAM REDESIGNED

Each October, the Circuit accepts applications from individuals wishing to become certified process servers for Palm Beach County.

In 2010, the application process was revised to provide expanded training for new applicants and follow-up training for existing process servers renewing their certifications. Ninety first-time applicants were provided with a full day of training on December 14, 2010, conducted by Avalon Legal Information Services, Inc. Training was followed by an examination on which applicants must attain a grade of at least 75%.



Amy Borman, General Counsel addresses those completing training to become certified process servers for the Circuit. On the dais, (l-r) Crystal Dixon, Michelle Diaz, Santo DiGangi, Matthew Oksrider. Far right: George W. Kent of Avalon Legal Information Services, Inc.

On December 15, 2010, renewing process servers convened at the Palm Beach County Commission Chambers in the Government Center to attend one of two half-day training seminars. The Circuit expects to renew certifications for approximately 280 existing process servers. Speaking on behalf of the Circuit, General Counsel **Amy Borman** emphasized the need for professionalism and current expertise when representing the court.

The swearing-in ceremony for process servers will be held on January 20, 2011 at the Main Courthouse.

COLUMBUS DAY TRAINING

The second annual employee Columbus Day training was held on October 11, 2010, at the Main Judicial Center. Trial Court Administrator, **Barbara Dawicke**, assembled a range of training seminars designed to help staff improve their skills while enjoying a day together.

The plenary speaker, **Barry Banther**, provided the participants with a motivational presentation which addressed communication, cooperation, and teamwork, entitled, “How to attempt the impossible while waiting on the inevitable.” **Magistrate Diane Kirigin** followed the plenary with a presentation on the structure of the Florida court system. Other courses offered to the staff included stress relief, Tai Chi, yoga, the Myers-Briggs Indicator, Excel, Spanish for Court Staff, and Editing your Business Writing, to name a few.

The training day was funded in part by a grant from the Florida Supreme Court Florida Court Education Committee. The majority of the presenters, including the **Honorable Scott Brownell**, from the Twelfth Circuit, local Tai Chi instructor **Bruce LaCarrubba**, yoga instructor **Bharata, Mary McLean**, and court staff **Magistrate Kirigin, Krista Garber**, and **Shilpa Vuppalanchi**, volunteered their expertise.



Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc welcomed employees and thanked them for their continuous hard work. He also relayed comments of praise received from court visitors.

Trial Court Administrator **Barbara Dawicke** introduced plenary speaker Barry Banther.



Magistrate Diane Kirigin spoke on the topic of the structure of the FL court system.



MEET THE DEPARTMENTS

FINANCE



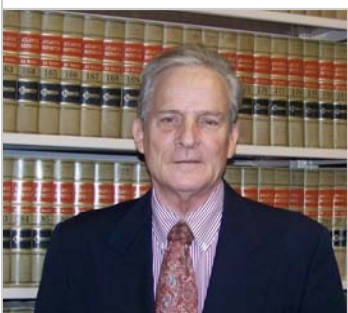
Janet Leach-Ruth, Administrative Services Manager (2007)

Manages the circuits' financial operations including revenue and budget forecasts, accounting and financial reporting, contract and inventory management, and mail services.



Rhoda Jones, Purchasing Manager (2007)

Manages the purchasing of equipment, furniture, furnishings, forms, leases, and supplies for the circuit from state funds and maintains related budget status.



Donald Droddy, Purchasing Manager (1993)

Manages the bid process for all circuit purchases, coordinates interior space planning, generates work orders for facility services and security access, and manages postage.



Rhonda Dardashti, Budget Specialist (2007)

Maintains the budget status for county funds and manages the purchasing of equipment, furniture, furnishings, forms, leases, and supplies for the circuit from these funds.



Adrione Gibbs, Court Program Specialist (2008)

Manages the circuits invoice processing for expert witness, court reporting, court interpreting, mediation, civil traffic, travel, and other contractual vendors.

MEET THE DEPARTMENTS: CONT.

CIVIL COURT



Michelle Leyva: Civil Court Operations Manager (2010)

In the newly-created civil court, Michelle oversees the contractual staff currently assigned to the foreclosure divisions.

LAW LIBRARY



Linda Sims: Law Library Manager (1985)

Manages public law libraries in the Main Judicial Center and the South County Courthouse and also the libraries of the judiciary of the Fifteenth Circuit.



Sara Jones: Budget Analyst. (1990)

Maintains the judicial libraries and the daily function of the information desk in the law libraries of the Main Judicial Center and the South County Courthouse.



Lourdes Gerstenberger: Law Library Associate 1. (1999-2005) (2008).

Maintains the daily function of the information desk in the law libraries at the Main Judicial Center and the South County Law Library.



Natalie Fazio: Law Library Associate (temporary staff). (2009)

Assists with maintenance of the daily function of the information desk in the law libraries at the Main Judicial Center and the South County Law Library.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

CHERYL CASH

Cheryl Cash volunteered for a short period with Court Administration, but by devoting three days per week, her impact was immediate.



Assisting with the Family Connections program, she produced many reports and established spreadsheets to assist in tracking future supervised visitation activity. Cheryl previously attended Nova Southeastern University, majoring in Business Administration.

ZOË GENDRON

Spending a year in the US while on break from school in Switzerland, Zoë Gendron came to the Courthouse to explore different areas of law for future study and to enhance her English proficiency. Zoë works with the foreclosure division covering a range of administrative tasks that might arise. Zoë will spend the holidays in Europe, then return to Palm Beach County in mid-January, 2011.



KESSLER MAXIME, JR.

Kessler Maxime, Jr., was appointed to the Guardianship Court Visitor's program in August, 2010. A former New York resident, he attended Pasadena City College, where he studied telecommunications. Kessler specifically requested a position where he could help to enhance the lives of the disabled and mentally ill.



HENRY (HANK) SAMUELS

After retiring from owning his own business, Hank decided to remain as busy in retirement as he was previously. He assists many agencies and civic organizations in the area, and the Circuit is pleased to be among those benefiting from his talents. Hank will staff the Family Resource Center, expected to open in South County in early 2011, and also assist with tours of the Main Courthouse.



Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer.

~Author Unknown

PAUL SOLOMON

A retired attorney, Paul Solomon was a solo practitioner in Connecticut before retiring to Boynton Beach, FL.



His skills were quickly put to use in foreclosure hearings, where he assists the case manager each Thursday. In addition, he spends Mondays at the Information Desk of the South County Courthouse.

Volunteers are currently needed to assist with:

- *Processing mail*
- *Various short-term projects*
- *Scanning documents for electronic storage*
- *Community Events*

*If you can help, please e-mail
MFeinber@pbcgov.org for details.*

HR HUDDLE

WELCOME - The Circuit welcomes the following new staff members:

Paula Matamoros—Court Interpreter (Spanish);
November 8, 2010

Stephanie Goodman Morley—Electronic
Transcriber; November 8, 2010

Judy Fischer-Persson—Electronic Transcriber;
December 8, 2010

Angelique Thomas—Trial Court Law Clerk;
December 23, 2010

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Stewart Saalfeld, on his promotion from County Court Case Manager to Criminal Case Manager, effective December 6, 2010. Mr. Saalfeld reports to Michelle Spangenberg and has been with the Circuit since December, 2009.

Janny Phillips, on her promotion from temporary foreclosure assistant to Foreclosure Case Manager.

Georgeann Woelper and **Judy Fischer-Persson**, Electronic Transcribers, for recently being awarded the certifications CER (Certified Electronic Court Reporter) and CET (Certified Electronic Court Transcriber), respectively. Certification is granted by the American Association of Electronic Reporters and Transcribers, based on written and practical examinations that were held in West Palm Beach in October, 2010.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS

For updates to the latest Administrative Orders (AO's) for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, please see our website at:
<http://15thcircuit.co.palm-beach.fl.us/web/guest/ao>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January

- 3 New Judges' College
- 20 Process Server Swearing-in Ceremony
- 21 South County Family Resource Center opens

February

- 11 Investiture of County Court Judge
Marni A. Bryson
- 18 Investiture of Circuit Court Judge
Lisa S. Small

March

- 4 Annual Bench-Bar Conference

COURT HOLIDAYS JANUARY– APRIL 2011

January

- 1 (observed Dec. 31, 2010)
- 17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February

- 21 President's Day

April

- 22 Good Friday

The Circuit Courier

Published by the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit

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Barbara Dawicke, Trial Court Administrator

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