



# Circuit Courier

April-June 2011

Vol. 2011-2

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

**Judge Jack Cook Retires**

**Judge Elizabeth Maass Retires**

**Judge Janis Keyser Appointed to Circuit Bench**

**Families and Children in the Courts**

**Summer Interns**

**Volunteer Appreciation**

***And more...***



Cover: Main Judicial Center hallway  
Photo by: Linda Sims

### *In this issue...*

Davis Productivity Award	2
Judge Cook retires	3
Judge Maass retires	4
Judge Janis Keyser Appointed to Circuit Court	4
Circuit Hosts FCC Meeting	5
Around The Circuit: Judges Cook, Colin, Brown and Martin honored	6
In The Community: Judges Booras, Rosenberg	7
In The Community cont: Judicial Lunch Series	8
Law Day Luncheon	9
Drug Court	9
Foreclosure Program Ends	10
Summer Judicial Interns	11
Meet The Departments: Technology	12
Meet The Departments: Mediation	13
Meet The Departments: Magistrates Assistants	14
Judges/Lawyers Softball Game	15
Volunteer Appreciation: Main	16
Volunteer Appreciation: South	17
Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Day	18
HR Huddle	19
AO's/Upcoming Events/Court Holidays	19

## PRESENTATION OF DAVIS PRODUCTIVITY AWARD

Representatives from the Fifteenth Circuit were among the 80 teams and individuals awarded a 2011 Davis Productivity Award. A ceremony on June 23, recognized the winners for innovation and efficiency in the public sector.

The Court Technology team created a first-in-the nation system that electronically identifies inactive cases, automatically generates court orders to be signed by the judge, and electronically processes documents for mailing. This process creates a 93% reduction in the labor required to process the disposition of thousands of cases.

The hours saved by this process enabled a position to be freed up and assigned to the Criminal case management department. This provides additional resources to focus on managing Supreme Court time standards, and equitably allocating capital cases among members of the judiciary.

When a case is identified as having no activity for a considerable period of time, notices are generated to the parties. If nothing has been filed within 60 days to resume activity on the case, the court issues an order to dismiss the case for lack of prosecution.

This process may be adapted to any court division or in other Circuits.



(l-r) FL State Representative Joseph Abruzzo, Shilpa Vuppalanchi, Court Technology Officer Noel Chessman, Judge Peter Evans, and Jakobie Alexander.



# CIRCUIT JUDGE JACK H. COOK RETIRES

The Circuit's judges bade farewell to one of their colleagues on April 30, 2011, with the retirement of **Judge Jack H. Cook**.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, Judge Cook pursued undergraduate studies at Hope College in Holland, MI. In 1965, he began his law studies at Ohio State University.

Following law school and a tour of duty in Vietnam, Judge Cook returned to Ohio in 1971 to a position with the Attorney General's office.

In 1975, he relocated to Florida, and joined a civil law practice. He was appointed to the Circuit Court in 1981. He has served in every division of the court including civil, criminal, juvenile, family, and, most recently, probate, where he was Administrative Judge. His tenure included being elected to the role of Chief Judge from 1993 to 1995, during the time when construction on the Main Judicial Center in West Palm Beach was being completed.

Judge Cook was very generous with his time, particularly in guiding newer members of both the Bar and the Judiciary. Numerous honors received in the months leading up to his retirement illustrate the high esteem in which Judge Cook was held by the legal community. Throughout his 30-years on the bench, he emphasized professionalism in service to the community.

His Judicial Assistant, **Kristin Colbath**, now assists Judge Gregory Keyser.

## Judge Cook Honored by the Inn of Court

**Judge Jack Cook** (center) was honored with the presentation of a plaque, by **Judge John Phillips**, (right) and **Judge Leonard Hanser**, President of the Palm Beach County Inn of Court, at the monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 26, 2011.



l-r: Judges Leonard Hanser, Jack Cook, and John Phillips

Judge Cook is the first recipient of this now-annual award. He was recognized for his many years of dedicated service to the citizens and legal community of Palm Beach County, exemplifying the highest standards of the judiciary.

***“It is impossible to measure the loss to the 15<sup>th</sup> circuit due to the retirement of Judge Cook.***

***He has been an excellent trial judge in all divisions in which he has served.***

***For me personally, he still serves as a sounding board because I know that, no matter the issue,***

***I can count on dispassionate and well-reasoned advice.***

***His judicial skills coupled with his humility make him the perfect mentor and role model for those new to the bench.***

***He will be missed by all of us.”***

***Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc***

## CIRCUIT JUDGE ELIZABETH T. MAASS RETIRES

After more than 20 years on the bench, **Judge Elizabeth Maass** stepped down effective May 31, 2011.

Judge Maass graduated, with honors, from Princeton University and received her law degree, with honors, from Columbia University. Immediately following law school Judge Maass went into private practice with the law firm of Alley, Maass, Rogers and Lindsey until her appointment to the county court bench in January 1990.

Judge Maass was elevated to the Circuit bench in 2001 and most recently served in the Circuit Civil Division.

Her Judicial Assistant, **Nancy Brody**, has transferred to the North County Courthouse to assist Judge Sandra McSorley.

*“Judge Maass was an excellent judge,  
well respected by her colleagues  
and by all who appeared in her courtroom  
over her many years of service.  
Her retirement is a significant loss  
to the Bench and Bar.”*

*Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc*

## GOVERNOR SCOTT APPOINTS JUDGE JANIS KEYSER TO FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

May 26, 2011

Tallahassee, Fla.

Governor Rick Scott today announced the appointment of Judge Janis Brustares Keyser of Boca Raton to the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Court.

“Janis’ diverse professional experience has provided her with a unique understanding of the judicial process and the resolution of disputes in a fair and impartial manner,” Governor Scott said. “I believe that her firm commitment to the law and to ensuring equal justice for all will be a great asset to this Court.”

Judge Keyser, 53, has served on the Palm Beach County Court since 2006. She was in private practice from 1986 to 2006. Judge Keyser served as a law clerk to Judge James Downey of the Fourth District Court of Appeal from 1985 to 1986. She was also a law clerk to Judge Jose Gonzalez Jr. of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida from 1982 to 1984. She earned her bachelor’s degree from Florida State University and her law degree from the University of Florida College of Law.

Judge Keyser will fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Jack H. Cook.

# CIRCUIT HOSTS REGIONAL MEETING ON FAMILIES AND CHILDREN IN THE COURT (FCC)

The Steering Committee on FCC held their first Regional Collaborative Meeting on June 13, 2011, in the Fifteenth Circuit's Main Courthouse.

The Meeting, led by **Justice Pariente, Judge Robert Morris, 2nd DCA, and Judge Kroll,**

the Juvenile and Family Judges, Magistrates, court staff, and stakeholders of the 15th and 17th Circuits to discuss and share family court best practices and the advancement of the Unified Family Court (UFC) principles.

Over 60 people attended the event and provided their insights and critique of UFC as well as the UFC highlights and best practices of each circuit.

In addition to Judge Kroll's input, information on the Fifteenth Circuit UFC was shared with the group by **Judges Alvarez, Baker, Brunson, Cunningham, Phillips, Small, and Magistrates Fanelli and Kirigin.**



Judge Catherine Brunson addresses attendees at the FCC, before panel members FL Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente, Judge Kathleen Kroll, 15th Circuit, and Judge Robert Morris, 2nd District Court of Appeal.



Judge Moses Baker addresses the stakeholders.





## OUTSTANDING JURISTS 2011

### North County

**Judge Jack H. Cook** was this year's recipient of the Jurist of the Year Award, presented by the North County Section of the Palm Beach County Bar Association. The honor was bestowed on Judge Cook on May 19, 2011.



### South County

On May 14, 2011, **Judge Martin Colin** was presented with the 2011 Distinguished Jurist Award by Jay A. Schwartz, at the 50th Installation Gala of the South Palm Beach County Bar Association (SPBCBA), held at the Polo Club in Boca Raton.



Photo:  
Jeffrey Tholl

### Judge Brown receives Justice Award

**Judge Lucy Chernow Brown**, was recently presented with the Justice Barbara Pariente Award by the Palm Beach County Florida Association for Women Lawyers.

The award was presented to Judge Brown by **Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente** at a special ceremony attended by a large segment of the county's legal community. The award recognizes an individual or organization who has demonstrated a commitment to advancing women in the legal profession, through their innovation and leadership.

Judge Brown has mentored many young lawyers as well as students by serving as Judge and mentor in the Youth Court Program, and participating in the Justice Teaching Program in schools. This year she plans to participate in a Women's Learning Journey to South Africa to explore women's role in transforming community.



### Judge Martin receives ATSA Award

On Saturday, May 14, 2011, The Inlet Grove High School Education Foundation presented the Alternative to Suspension Award (ATSA) to the Honorable **Judge Karen L. Martin**.

The Alternative to Suspension Program was implemented by **Judge Moses Baker** in 2002. The purpose was to substitute the suspension of students with a program that allowed them the alternative of going to court with a parent and completing an assignment that included writing, math, reading and critical thinking skills. The ATSA was created for Judge Moses Baker, because of his years of distinguished service to the youth of Palm Beach County and Inlet Grove Community High School. This award is intended to recognize a judge who employs positive consequences to motivate students to stay in school, turn their lives around, stay out of trouble and continue their education to become self-sufficient and help others in a positive way.



## IN THE COMMUNITY

### JUDGE BOORAS ASSISTS VETERANS

On Saturday, June 5, 2011, Stand Down House hosted an outreach event in Riviera Beach for veterans. This event provided veterans with numerous services such as clothing, haircuts, showers and access to VA benefits.

Present at the outreach event was veterans' court **Judge Ted Booras**, along with Tivi Parks from the Clerk's Office, who set up a makeshift court to assist veterans with pending criminal or traffic cases. The Clerk's Office was able to remotely access court and driving records. Judge Booras was able to recall warrants and assign new court dates in the veterans' division, and resolve numerous misdemeanor and infraction cases.



US Naval Sea Cadets stand with Judge Booras (center left) and Tivi Parks (r)

### JUDGE ROSENBERG PRESIDES OVER MOCK TRIAL

As part of Law Week, **Judge Robin Rosenberg** presided over a mock trial, on May 6, 2011, with students from Palm Beach Day School. In this mock trial, the third-graders created their own environmental law challenge. The case pitted the Mayor of Youville against a developer, Mon E. Bag\$.

This trial was the culmination of a class project that looked at environmental issues and the frequent tension between community development and preservation. Four students portrayed attorneys representing the Plaintiff and the Defendant, while others served as lay witnesses, an expert witness, and jurors.

The judge was impressed by the insight demonstrated by the students, including their realization of the critical role of the jury and the need to clearly communicate the message.





### Lunch With The Judges

As a part of the continuing program hosted by the Young Lawyers Section of the Palm Beach County Bar, several judges each presented their own tips with reference to courtroom protocol to the young lawyers, on April 19, 2011, and on May 12, 2011.



l-r: Judge Robin Rosenberg, Judge Meenu Sasser, and Judge Elizabeth Maass.

l-r: Judge Glenn Kelley, Judge Elizabeth Maass, Judge Thomas Barkdull, and moderator Dean T. Xenick, Esq.



April 9, 2011 marked the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Seven Mile Bridge Run in Marathon Key, Florida. It also marked the fourteenth year that **Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc** has completed the run. **Judge Robin Rosenberg** has finished the run five times.

This was the second time that Court Administrator **Barbara Dawicke** has run the course and she placed third in her age group and eleventh overall out of 747 women.



l-r: Barbara Dawicke, Chief Judge Peter Blanc, and Judge Robin Rosenberg,



# LAW DAY LUNCHEON

On May 6, 2011, the Palm Beach County Bar Association held its annual 'Law Day Luncheon,' attended by many Fifteenth Circuit judges, including: **Chief Judge Peter Blanc, Judges August Bonavita, Lucy Chernow Brown, Catherine Brunson, David French, Donald Hafele, Gregory Keyser, Janis Keyser, Nancy Perez and Lisa Small.** Also in attendance were **Magistrates Sara Alijewicz and Joy Shearer.** Magistrate Alijewicz is currently the Chair of the Bar's Law Week Committee.

Keynote speakers were Ronald Cotton and Jennifer Thompson, who forged an unlikely friendship after Thompson accused Cotton of a crime he did not commit. Mr. Cotton spent many years in prison, before DNA evidence proved his innocence. Ms. Thompson was so distraught to learn that her eye-witness testimony had resulted in his incarceration that she asked Mr. Cotton for his forgiveness. He said he had already forgiven her.

They now tour the country together to relate their story of false eye-witness testimony, forgiveness and redemption. The full account can be found in their book, "Picking Cotton."



l-r: Circuit Judges Lucy Chernow Brown, Lisa Small, Catherine Brunson, and Magistrate Joy Shearer.



l-r: Michelle Suskauer, Immediate past-president, PBC Bar; County Court Judges Nancy Perez, and August Bonavita.

## DRUG COURT

At the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners meeting on May 4, 2011, **Commissioner Jess Santamaria** presented a proclamation declaring May 2011 as “**Drug Court Month**” in Palm Beach County. The award was accepted by **Chief Judge Peter Blanc** on behalf of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit.

Also in attendance were **Judge Ronald Alvarez**, along with Adult Drug Court and Delinquency Drug Court Team members. Team members were honored by the acknowledgement of 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 eleven years.

In June, 2011, **Dorrie Tyng**, Drug Court Manager, was named as the newest board member of the Florida Association of Drug Court Professionals. Dorrie brings to the board twenty-five years of experience in the criminal justice system. She has served as Palm Beach County’s Drug Court Manager since its inception in 2000.



l-r: Drug Court Manager Dorrie Tyng, Circuit Judge Ronald Alvarez, Chief Judge Peter Blanc, and Palm Beach County Commissioner Jess Santamaria.

### Statewide Drug Court Graduation

To celebrate twenty-one years of Drug Courts in Florida, the **12th Annual Statewide Drug Court Graduation** was hosted by the Sixteenth Circuit on May 20, 2011.

Three former Drug Court graduates passionately described their year in Drug Court as a turning point in their lives. The program gave them the opportunity along with the support to change the direction of their lives.

## FORECLOSURE PROGRAM CONCLUDES

State lawmakers did not renew \$6 million in funding to support foreclosure courts that were set up to push through a backlog of foreclosure cases in Florida.

"We will be losing four case managers, four assistants and two senior judges who were dedicated full time to foreclosures," said **Chief Judge Peter Blanc**; "however, when we were given the resources to hire the economic recovery team to assist with foreclosures, we knew going in

that the funding was only approved for the year." "It's too early to tell what the loss of resources will do to the courthouse's ability to keep up with foreclosure cases. We will regroup and do our best to meet the needs of the court users with existing resources," Blanc said.

Over the past year, the team has alleviated docket congestion by closing approximately 23,000 foreclosure cases in Palm Beach County.



# TRIAL COURT LAW CLERKS



Back , l-r : Luisa Berti, Julie Morgan, Angelique Thomas, Rachel Belcher, Nicole Kuncel, Dolores Francis, Sonya Pica, Ari Bargil, Jennifer Printz, Jeremy Dicker, Andrew Feigenbaum, Anthony Raucci, Jordan Englehart, Patricia Fernandez, Kyle Lambrecht , Benjamin Eisenberg, Mary Essue. Front, l-r : Amy Borman, Lauren Wajzman, Danielle Grundt, Amanda Siefman, Barbara Pariente, Matthew Ocksrider.

The Trial Court Law Clerks welcomed the 2011 Summer Judicial Interns on May 18. The summer interns have committed to a 10 week intensive educational/work program that ends in August. As part of the summer program, the interns have been reviewing post-conviction files, preparing bench memoranda for the circuit criminal and civil appellate panels, and reviewing caseloads and preparing lack of prosecution notices in some circuit civil divisions. Since starting in May, the interns and law clerks have toured the Palm Beach County Jail, the Juvenile Assessment Center, and the Juvenile Detention Facility. They have attended first appearance court with **Judge Krista Marx**, Family and Circuit Civil Uniform Motion Calendar, juvenile court with **Judge Ronald Alvarez**, and a variety of hearings and trials. The interns visited with **Judge Nelson Bailey** at the Courthouse in Belle Glade as well as Judges **James Martz**, **Moses Baker** and **Charles Burton** in the South County Courthouse. Scheduled lunch and learns included career opportunities with the State Attorney/Public Defender/Attorney General's Offices, resume and cover letter writing with General Counsel **Amy Borman**, the practice of criminal and juvenile law with **Judges Karen Miller, Ronald Alvarez, August Bonavita, Karen Martin, Diana Lewis and Richard Oftedal** as well as discussions about professionalism and young lawyers with Judges **Don Hafele, Jack Cox, Lucy Brown, Lisa Small, David Crow, Tim McCarthy, David French and Ed Fine**. The Trial Court Law Clerks and interns also met with **Justice Barbara Pariente** where they were able to learn more about the Florida Supreme Court and the practice of law in Palm Beach County. Applications for the Summer 2012 program will be available in January 2012.



l to r: **Kyle Lambrecht**, University of Connecticut, **Jordan Englehart**, Boston College, **Nicole Kuncel**, University of Florida, **Patricia Fernandez** University of North Carolina, **Ben Eisenberg**, Florida State University, **Andrew Feigenbaum**, Nova Southeastern University, **Danielle Grundt**, University of Florida, **Amanda Siefman**, Emory University, **Lauren Wajzman**, University of Florida, **Rachel Belcher**, Emory University, **Anthony Raucci**, Washington & Lee University, and **Julie Morgan** University of Miami.

# MEET THE DEPARTMENTS

## COURT TECHNOLOGY



**Noel Chessman:** Court Technology Officer (CTO) -September 29, 2001

Strategic planning; service development and implementation for the Circuit. Noel oversees all technology utilized in courtrooms and by all Court staff. He fulfilled 3 other roles in the department in prior to becoming CTO on July 20, 2009.



**Jakobie Alexander:** Web Design Coordinator - January 30, 2006

Develops web solutions including the Circuit's website, portal development and web-based applications.



**Lynn Anzalone:** Computer Specialist II - February 14, 2011

Desktop and courtroom specialist. Specializes in employee training and on-boarding.



**Matt Dreiss:** Computer Specialist II - March 20, 2006

Senior desktop and staff support specialist.



**Luis Guzman:** System Administrator I - February 7, 2011

Server installation and support; critical technical services uptime.



**Monika Nanda-Arora:** Programmer - February 7, 2011

Application design and development, specializing in scheduling software.



**Lynda Salvetti:** Senior Programmer - July 20, 2009

Lead programmer; project lead on development of the Integrated Case Management System.



**Sarwar Siddiqui:** Systems Administrator II - September 28, 2010

Project management and implementation; critical services uptime team.



**Shilpa Vuppalanchi:** CJIS Project Coordinator - December 22, 2009

Creates custom statistical, financial and case management reports; technical trainer for in-house applications.



# MEET THE DEPARTMENTS

## MEDIATION



**Bill Moreno:** Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Director

Bill was appointed as Director in 2010, after serving a total of 24 years as a mediator in the State Courts System. He is a member of the Supreme Court Mediator Qualifications Board, is a federally certified Spanish interpreter and a graduate of Princeton University.

The ADR Office of the Fifteenth Circuit mediates cases in Family, Juvenile Dependency, and County Court as referred by the Court. In family, the program mediators handle dissolution of marriage, paternity, child support, parenting issues, as well as post dissolution of marriage matters. The program mediators also mediate all dependency matters, including reunification, permanent guardianship, termination of parental rights, working with stakeholders to facilitate an agreement acceptable to all. In county court, small claims cases are handled by volunteer mediators who mediate the cases for the court at the time of the pretrial.

## MAIN



**Laverne Mosley:** Family Mediator, August 21, 1989



**Cynthia Myers-Rubin:** Family Mediator, November 9, 2009



**Linda Fraser:** Family Mediator January 13, 2011



**Sylvia Wilson:** Secretary June 17, 2002

## NORTH COUNTY



**Danni Hoefling:** Family Mediator September 3, 1996

## SOUTH COUNTY



**George Polacek:** Family Mediator September 30, 2004

# MEET THE DEPARTMENTS

## MAGISTRATES' ASSISTANTS

Assistants to the Magistrates are responsible for setting hearings, typing proposed orders and correspondence, and addressing inquiries from unrepresented litigants. Magistrates are quasi-judicial officers that conduct evidentiary hearings on family matters, and preside over cases involving the assignment, modification or challenge to child support provisions. Marchman and Baker Act hearings, which petition for involuntary commitment to treatment facilities are also handled by Magistrates and their staff.

### MAIN



**Rosalie Cruz:** (Magistrates Diane Kirigin and Peter Bassaline) - Department of Revenue Cases  
May 3, 2006



**Torina Jenkins-Edwards:**  
(Magistrate Joy Shearer)  
August 16, 2010



**Andrew Ramdeholl:**  
(Magistrate Judette Fanelli)  
March 17, 2010



**Valencia Spells Anderson:**  
(Magistrate Larry Weaver)  
December 7, 2009

### NORTH COUNTY



**Miguel Baque:** (Magistrate Thomas Baker and Magistrate Linda Goodwin)  
March 8, 2006

### SOUTH COUNTY



**Rita Sinofsky:** (Magistrate Sara Alijewicz)  
August 4, 2003



# ANNUAL JUDGES/LAWYERS SOFTBALL GAME DEDICATED TO DENNIS P. KOEHLER

On Saturday, April 30, 2011, the 16th Annual Judges/Lawyers softball competition was held at John Prince Park. This year's event was dedicated to **Dennis P. Koehler, Esq.** who passed recently after a valiant fight against melanoma. It will now be known as the 'Koehler Classic.'



(l-r) Leon St. John, Josh Koehler, Judge James Martz

Participating in this event were: Fifteenth Circuit Judges **Frank Castor, Mark Eissey, David French, Donald Hafele, Jim Martz, Richard Oftedal and Magistrate Sara Alijewicz .**

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.**



Judge Frank Castor



Judge Richard Oftedal



Back: (l-r) Judge Mark Eissey, Judge Frank Castor, Judge Donald Hafele, Judge David French, Judge Richard Oftedal, Joe Walsh, Judge James Martz, David Prather, Kirk Volker, Bill Pruitt.

Front : (l-r) Josh Koehler, Leon St. John, Scott Wortman, Luis Delgado, Matt Eissey, Richard Wennet, Magistrate Sara Alijewicz, Phil Mugavero.



Judge Donald Hafele

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MAIN COURTHOUSE

The Chief Judge and Court Administration staff honored volunteers at the Main Judicial Center on April 12, 2011 with a coffee reception and morning workshop. Guest speaker, **Scott Fronrath**, member of the Jupiter Police Department and adjunct professor at Keiser University, gave a presentation on “Identity Theft.”

Highlighting how new technology is changing the uses, and potential misuses, of credit cards and automated teller machines, Mr. Fronrath educated the attendees on precautions they can take to avoid becoming a target of this growing threat.



l-r: John Cohen, John Sochacki, Paul Kashden, Stan Furer, Judith Thomas, Chief Judge Peter Blanc, Bob Follick, Bob Sauerberg, and Elliott Rosenberg.



Scott Fronrath updates the volunteers on current identity theft methods and banking scams.

Following the presentation, the volunteers were presented with certificates of appreciation from **Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc** and Trial Court Administrator **Barbara Dawicke**, to express the Circuit’s gratitude for their assistance.



# VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SOUTH COURTHOUSE

On the morning of April 14, 2011, volunteers at the South County Courthouse were honored by the judges and Court Administration. Sara Blumberg, Administrative Traffic Hearing Officer, delivered an address on traffic law updates, and corrected many misconceptions regarding traffic regulations.



Barbara Dawicke (at podium) welcomes attendees to the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Workshop in the South County Courthouse.



Judge Janis Keyser (l) thanked the group for their time and contribution, prior to the keynote address by Sara Blumberg (r).



Magistrate Maxine Williams (l) and Volunteer Guardian Advocate Barbara Bregoli.

South County volunteers Pearl Klein (l) and Rose Levine.



South County Information Desk Volunteers Sherman Shachter (l) and Morry Rolider.



## GUARDIANSHIP VISITOR PROGRAM

For many years, the dedicated staff of the South County Guardianship Visitor Program has provided a valuable service by assigning a volunteer to make personal visits to ensure the welfare of adults under a guardianship order.

Office staff review and prepare files, then a volunteer visitor picks up the file, visits the individual and prepares a report on basic findings. Together, they ensure that the objectives of the court order are being realized.



Office Staff for the Guardianship Visitor Program include (l-r): Judith Klamkin; Joyce Danielson, Adele Nosowitz and Blanche Weiss.



# TAKE OUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS TO WORK DAY

On April 28, 2011, Court Administration and the Public Defender's Office collaborated to jointly host the annual "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work" Day. A total of 22 Children, between the ages of 8 and 13, registered for the day's activities, which began with a welcome address by Public Defender Carey Haughwout.

The morning's theme was based on the "journey" that a case, handled by the Public Defender's office, would take through the Courts. Each child was issued a passport containing descriptions of the various offices that would be involved in processing the case, and the tour began; first, through juvenile warrants, then the law library, clerk's office, evidence room, courtroom, central recording and court reporting. Representatives from each office greeted the children and stamped their passports.

In the afternoon, a "Guess my Job" game brought eager questioning as the children tried to identify several careers available in the Circuit. The day concluded with a demonstration of the explosive detection capability of the PBSO K-9 unit.

The event is held on the last Thursday of each April to showcase career possibilities to school-age children.



Chief Deputy Court Administrator Krista Garber introduces participants in the "Guess My Job" game, a new activity for 2011, presented by staff of Court Administration and the Public Defender's Office.



Catherine Dore (left), Court Reporter, and Angela Afanador (right), Court Interpreter give hints to reveal their occupations.



Judge Jack Cox stamps the "passport" of Dylan Ducram (foreground), during the Courtroom visit.



Will Hutchings, Juvenile Court Case Manager, applauds one of the winners of the "Guess my Job" game.



## HR HUDDLE

Welcome:

**Tracy Tessaro:** Scopist, Court Reporting (May 2)

**Yvonne Williams:** Electronic Transcriber (June 17)

Congratulations to:

**Judy Fischer Persson,** on her promotion to Scopist (May 2)

### Farewell:

**Stella Beltran,** Court Reporter, will be sadly missed by her co-workers in the Circuit, following her retirement effective May 31, 2011.



Stella had been with the Circuit since December, 1991. Dedicated and positive, Stella was the most senior of the five staff court reporters, who record the proceedings of all death penalty and first-degree murder cases.

Court Administration wishes Stella all the best for her retirement.

### Magistrate Reassignments:

Effective June 8, 2011, three magistrates assigned to hear family issues and Department of Revenue (DOR) child support cases will be reassigned until further notice.

Magistrate Diane Kirigin, currently assigned to family in South County will rotate into the DOR assignment in the Main Courthouse, replacing Magistrate Linda Goodwin. Ms. Goodwin will leave DOR to hear cases on the family docket in North County.

Magistrate Sara Alijewicz will leave her current North County Family assignment and assume Magistrate Kirigin's former Family division in South County.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### July

**4-7** Conference of County Court Judges

### August

**14-17** FL Conference of Circuit Judges

**25-27** Annual Dispute Resolution Conference

## COURT HOLIDAYS

### JULY-SEPTEMBER

### July

**4** Independence Day

### September

**5** Labor Day

**29** Rosh Hashanah

## ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS

Administrative Orders amended April 1-June 30, 2011 are:

10.404-4/11, Pretrial Conferences in Civil Traffic Infraction Cases Heard by Civil Traffic Infraction Hearing Officers

4.902-4/11, Vehicle Immobilization

3.302-5/11, Foreclosure Division "AW" / "AV"

2.601-6/11, Selection and Payment of Court Appointed Experts

4.307-6/11, Rescission of No Contact Orders

5.106-6/11, Notice of Related Cases Form in Unified Family Court Cases

11.601-6/11, (vacated) Judicial Assistants' Entry Rate of Compensation

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>.

