

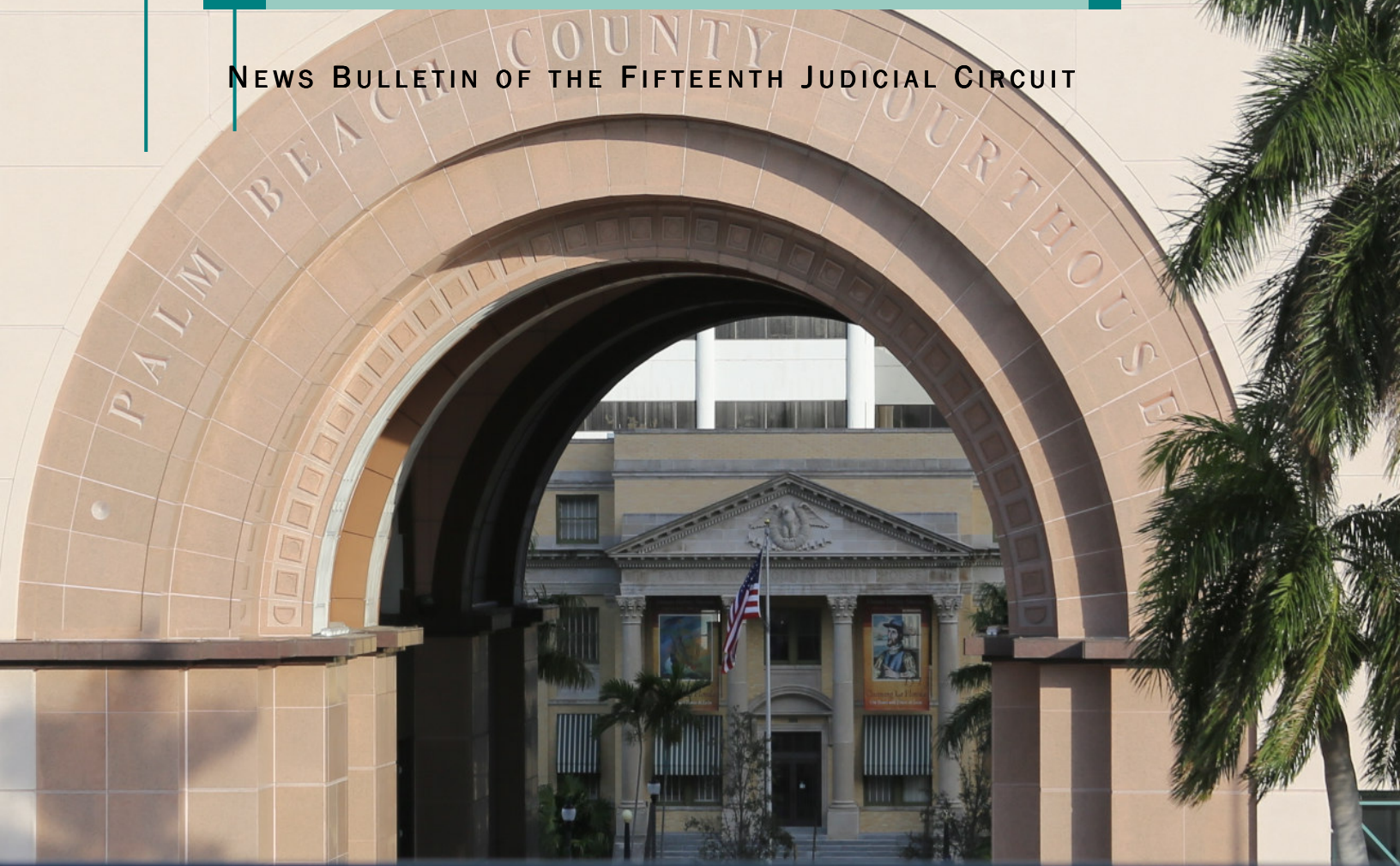


Circuit Courier

January-March 2013

Vol. 2013-1

NEWS BULLETIN OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



Chief Judge-Elect Jeffrey Colbath

Investiture of Circuit Judge Jeffrey Gillen

2013 Bench/Bar Conference

New Magistrate Joyce Cohen

And more...



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Main
Judicial
Center, WPB
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LaFlamme*

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Judge Jeffrey Colbath has been unanimously elected as the next Chief Judge of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2013.

Judge Colbath, who is currently the Administrative Judge of the Felony Division, will succeed **Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc**. Judge Blanc has served the Circuit as Chief Judge with distinction for the past four years. He chose not to seek an additional term.



Judge Colbath was elected to the County bench in September 1992 for a term beginning in January 1993. However, in October 1992, Governor Lawton Chiles appointed him to a term commencing immediately. In 2002 he was elevated to the Circuit bench by then Governor Jeb Bush.

Prior to his judicial appointment, Judge Colbath was a partner at Davis, Carroll, Colbath, and Isaacs. Before that he worked for two law firms doing defense work after spending two years, right out of law school, with the Palm Beach County State Attorney's Office.

Judge Colbath graduated from the University of South Florida in 1979 and obtained his Juris Doctor from Nova Southeastern University. Immediately after law school he worked as an Assistant State Attorney with the Palm Beach County State Attorney's Office, followed by two years of defense work and immediately prior to his appointment he was a partner with Davis, Carroll, Colbath, and Isaacs.

A feature article on Chief Judge-elect Jeffrey Colbath will be in the July issue of the Circuit Courier.

INVESTITURE OF JUDGE JEFFREY GILLEN

Judge Jeffrey Gillen was appointed to the Circuit Court by Governor Rick Scott effective December 19, 2012.

Prior to his judicial appointment, Judge Gillen was the Statewide Appeals Director for Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) from 2008-2012 where he has worked since 1997.

Before working for DCF, Judge Gillen was in-house counsel for General Foods Corporation and a partner with Harder, Silber, and Gillen.

Judge Gillen received a bachelor's degree from Denison University and a law degree from Syracuse University.

Judge Gillen's first assignment is in Civil Division "AB" on the eleventh floor of the Main Judicial Center.

His judicial assistant is Mary Ellis. The office can be reached at 561-355-7875.

Family, colleagues, and friends gathered in ceremonial courtroom 11A of the Palm Beach County Main Judicial Center on March 22, 2013, for the investiture of **Judge Jeffrey D. Gillen** as a Circuit Judge for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit.

Following the invocation from Reverend James Cook, Beckett Metzger and Jessie Gillen Metzger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc then welcomed the group and acknowledged the Judicial Nominating Committee. The Judicial Commission, signed by Governor Rick Scott, was presented by Karen Heidtman on behalf of Sharon R. Bock, Clerk and Comptroller of Palm Beach County.

Judge Glenn D. Kelley presented a desk plate on behalf of the Florida Conference of Circuit Judges. A Bible was presented by Gary S. Lesser, Esq., representing the Florida Bar Board of Governors.

Chief Judge Peter D. Blanc administered the Oath of Office assisted by **Judge Peter M. Evans** and Michael Gillen. The honor of enrobing Judge Gillen went to his wife Nancy Gillen, and children Jessie Gillen Metzger and Michael Gillen.

Several traditional and ceremonial gifts were presented to Judge Gillen:

The gavel was presented by Jill G. Weiss, Esq., President-elect of the Palm Beach County Bar Association; followed by other gifts presented by Larry Corman, Esq. President of the South Palm Beach County Bar Association; Scott Smith, Esq., President of Palm Beach County Justice Association, and John J. Wilke, Esq., President of the American Board of Trial Advocates.



Judge Peter Evans administers the Oath of Office to Judge Gillen.

Following remarks by Mary Cagel, Esq., Statewide Director, Children's Legal Services and Dick Frederick, Founder, Eastern New York Angels, Judge Gillen thanked his family and members of the Judiciary who were present.

The ceremony concluded with the benediction from Reverend James Cook.

2013 BENCH/BAR CONFERENCE

Judges in Attendance:

Circuit

Chief Judge Peter Blanc
Judge Ronald Alvarez
Ret. Judge Nelson Bailey
Judge Thomas Barkdull III
Judge Lucy Chernow
Brown

Judge Catherine Brunson
Judge Charles Burton
Judge Jeffrey Colbath
Judge Jack Cox

Judge David Crow
Judge Edward Fine
Judge David French
Judge Jeffrey Gillen
Judge Donald Hafele
Judge John Kastrenakes

Judge Glenn Kelley
Judge Gregory Keyser
Judge Janis Keyser
Judge Diana Lewis
Judge James Martz
Judge Joseph Marx
Judge Krista Marx

Judge Timothy McCarthy
Judge Karen Miller
Judge Richard Oftedal
Judge John Phillips
Judge Robin Rosenberg
Judge Rosemarie Scher
Judge Lisa Small

County

Judge August Bonavita
Theodore Booras
Judge Sandra Bosso-Pardo
Judge Frank Castor
Judge Barry Cohen
Judge Reginald Corlew
Judge Sheree Cunningham
Judge Mark Eissey
Judge Peter Evans
Judge Leonard Hanser
Judge Robert Panse
Judge Nancy Perez
Judge Caroline Shepherd
Judge Debra Moses
Stephens
Judge Daliah Weiss

On March 1, 2013, the Palm Beach County Bar Association once again hosted a very successful Bench/Bar conference at the Palm Beach County Convention Center. This annual event provides a valuable opportunity for the judiciary and legal community to interact and discuss topics related to their respective legal practice areas.

The first two hours of the morning portion of the conference focused on sessions between office legal staff and court staff. Judicial Assistants, case managers, staff attorneys, and other court administration staff met with legal assistants and paralegals to discuss pending issues and upcoming changes in the criminal, civil, probate, and family divisions. Most of the sessions were set in a "speed networking" format allowing the legal staff to have direct interaction with court staff. The last hour was opened up to both legal staff and attorneys for an "eEverything" session. Casey Jones, Esq., spoke about eService between attorneys; Amy Borman, General Counsel to the Circuit, spoke about eService between the court and the attorneys; and Sharon Bock, Clerk and Comptroller, discussed eFiling.

During the lunch break, attendees were welcomed by PBC Bar President Adam Rabin. Attorney John Mariani was awarded the Professionalism Award which was presented by Michael Mopsick and Amy Borman, chairs of the Palm Beach County Bar Association's Professionalism Committee. The Judge Edward Rodgers Diversity Award was presented to the law firm of Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley.



Left: Panelists
Laurie Adams,
Judge Gregory
Keyser, Judge
Jack Cox



Left:
Judges Sheree
Cunningham
and Catherine
Brunson



Left:
Judges August
Bonavita and
Nelson Bailey



Left:
Judges Daliah
Weiss and
Frank Castor



Left:
Judge Peter
Evans and
General
Counsel Amy
Borman

BENCH/BAR CONFERENCE: CONT.

Judicial Assistants:

Nicolette Anderson
Valencia Anderson
Mary Beardsley
Jennifer Bernier
Erin Brandt
Kristen Colbath
Mona Driscoll
Torina J. Edwards
Mary Ellis
Jeri Fickes
Carla Glover
Diana Grant
Donna Holden
Judith Lane
Gloria Lozano
Stefanie Lee
Audrie Leo
Kim Massengill
Marie McGeehan
Harriet Merlin
Manuela Morales
Carol Nettles
Sherrie Norton
Janny Phillips
Rebecca Ricker
Sherry Riggio
William Rivera
Debra Rosenblatt
Roberta Rubin
Michelle Smith
Carmen Sosa
Maria Vasil
Irene Venoff
Jessica Wolfkill
Maryann Yarosz
Celanee Ziegler

Law Clerks:

Luisa Berti
Jessica Bober-Rosenthal
Angela Claud
Monica Haddad
Michele Nihiser
Raul Novoa
Matt Ocksrider
Jennifer Printz
Deirdre Ziegenfuss

A special presentation was made to Judges Fred Hazouri, Marc Polen, and Nelson Bailey who have retired or will be retiring from the bench this year.

The guest speaker this year was Benton Becker, Special Counsel to President Gerald Ford, who spoke about his participation in the process that led to the pardon of President Nixon.

The afternoon sessions were intended for judges, magistrates, and attorneys, and consisted of small seminars in a variety of substantive legal areas. Several members of the Judiciary participated in a group discussion which included civil law, family law, juvenile law, personal injury and commercial litigation, criminal law, and appellate practice.



L-r: Gina Evangelista, Paula Carvajal, Melissa Sotillo



L-r: Bill Moreno, Melissa Sotillo, Diane Kirigin, Debra Oats



Michelle Spangenberg ,
Al Johnson



Devon Mugridge

Participants include:

Magistrates:

Sara Alijewicz
Thomas Baker
Peter Bassiline
Joyce Cohen
Judette Fanelli
Linda Goodwin
Diane Kirigin
Larry Weaver
Maxine Williams

Magistrates Assistants:

Miguel Baque
Sandra Becerra
Elaine Burdock
Crystal Dixon
Natashia Harris
Jomeykia McNeil
Breanne Perry
Rita Sinofsky

Staff:

Cristy Altaro
Miguel Baque
Amy Borman
Paula Carvajal
Angela Claud
Gina Evangelista
Tara Kranz
Ruth Ann Kravetz
Jill Mitchell
Bill Moreno
Devon Mugridge
Debra Oats
Linda Sims
Tehera Smith
Melissa Sotillo
Michelle Spangenberg
Connie Thomas



Harriet Merlin (in red) answers questions about court procedures.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

On February 12, 2013, the Judges of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida and the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit hosted the Southern District's annual Black History Month Celebration.

Chief Judge Peter Blanc introduced the panelists: **Judge Daniel T.K. Hurley**, United States District Court; **Judges Sheree Cunningham** and **Moses Baker, Jr.**, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Retired **Judge Edward Rogers**, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, and T.J. Cunningham, Esq. The moderator was John Howe, Esq.

2013 is a milestone as 150 years ago, in 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation set the United States on the path towards ending slavery. A century later, in 1963, hundreds of thousands of Americans marched to the memorial of Abraham Lincoln to pursue equality of citizenship and self-determination. On this occasion, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered the speech entitled, "I Have a Dream." Just as Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation pushed the United States towards ending slavery, the March on Washington for jobs and freedom is recognized as an important stepping stone in the United State's civil rights history.



Judge Sheree Cunningham and T.J. Cunningham, Esq.



Judge Daniel T.K. Hurley and Judge Moses Baker, Jr.



Panelists l-r: T.J. Cunningham, Esq., Judge Sheree Cunningham, Judge Edward Rodgers, Ret., Judge Moses Baker, Jr., Judge Daniel T.K. Hurley, at the podium is Chief Judge Peter Blanc

The following article from Judge Meenu Sasser was posted in the March edition of the Palm Beach County Bar Association Bulletin. Excerpts from the full article follow.

As judges, unfortunately we have a first-hand view of the decrease in civility among attorneys. Much too often, we see discovery abuses, filing of baseless objections to discovery requests with the knowledge of the lack of existence of responsive documents, meritless motions for sanctions filed to gain an edge, improper instructions not to answer during depositions, invalid objections to deposition questions to coach a witness on how to answer, and vitriolic chains of string emails between counsel.

Lawyers who engage in such tactics often find themselves and their clients harmed as their cases go off track, often ending up in a discovery morass, or with competing cross motions for sanctions that take up valuable court time, cost significant sums of money and do not serve their clients best interests of efficiently progressing their cases towards a trial on the merits. Lawyers who engage in incivility may also find that their actions destroy their reputation with opposing counsel and the bench. No one wants to refer cases to someone who is unprofessional and who wastes a client's time and money. The most reputable and respected lawyers are most in demand and get the most business. Such behavior makes life intolerable, often unnecessarily increasing the stress of practice and adversely affecting health and relationships. Finally, incivility results in a denigration of the court system and the image of lawyers among the public.

The decrease in civility calls for greater judicial leadership. In fact, numerous commentators have turned a critical eye towards the judiciary, urging judges to assume leadership and serve as the principal example of courtesy, restraint, tolerance. We as judges must play a critical role in fostering and promoting civility. The American Board of Trial Advocates has adopted principles which include conduct expected of judges. These principles provide as follows:

A lawyer is entitled to expect judges to observe the following Principles:

- Be courteous and respectful to lawyers, parties, witnesses, and court personnel.
- Control courtroom decorum and proceedings so as to ensure that all litigation is conducted in a civil and efficient manner.

- Abstain from hostile, demeaning, or humiliating language in written opinions or oral communications with lawyers, parties, or witnesses.
- Be punctual in convening all hearings and conferences, and, if unavoidably delayed, notify counsel, if possible.
- Be considerate of time schedules of lawyers, parties, and witnesses in setting dates for hearings, meetings, and conferences. When possible, avoid scheduling matters for a time that conflicts with counsel's required appearance before another judge.
- Make all reasonable efforts to promptly decide matters under submission.
- Give issues in controversy deliberate, impartial, and studied analysis before rendering a decision.
- Be considerate of the time constraints and pressures imposed on lawyers by the demands of litigation practice, while endeavoring to resolve disputes efficiently.
- Be mindful that a lawyer has a right and duty to present a case fully, make a complete record, and argue the facts and law vigorously.
- Never impugn the integrity or professionalism of a lawyer based solely on the clients or causes he represents.
- Require court personnel to be respectful and courteous toward lawyers, parties, and witnesses.
- Abstain from adopting procedures that needlessly increase litigation time and expense.
- Promptly bring to counsel's attention uncivil conduct on the part of clients, witnesses, or counsel.

Many in the organized bar are also taking a stand against lawyer incivility. In an effort to combat the decline in civility and promote a more uniform standard of professional courtesy across South Florida, 42 South Florida voluntary bar associations have adopted a joint resolution to promote the Florida Supreme Court's Amended Oath of Attorney Admission. As judges we can strongly support this effort, which was spearheaded by Adam Rabin as President of the Palm Beach County Bar Association.

Accordingly, in an effort to support the voluntary bar associations joint efforts to promote civility, upon the initial on-line scheduling of a special set hearing in any cases in Circuit Civil Division AI, the Court will serve a notice, via the Court's e-service system, of the Palm Beach County Bar Association Standards of Professional Courtesy as a gentle reminder to all counsel (whether they primarily practice in Palm Beach County, are admitted pro hac vice from out-of-state, or have their offices located elsewhere in Florida) of the expectations of professionalism and civility in the practice of law in Palm Beach County.

MAGISTRATE JOYCE COHEN

Joyce Cohen was selected as the new Magistrate for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Magistrate Joy Shearer. Magistrate Cohen began her duties on February 4, 2013. She is currently a Family Magistrate in South County and Sharon Royal is her assistant. She was officially sworn in as a Magistrate on March 11, 2013.

Magistrate Cohen obtained her undergraduate degree from Georgetown University, her Master of Arts from New York University, and her Juris Doctor from Albany Law School of Union University.

Magistrate Cohen brings to the position a very diverse employment history. For the past four and a half years she was employed as an Assistant Regional Counsel with the Office of Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel. Other legal work experience includes insurance defense litigation, an Assistant Public Defender with the Broward Public Defender's Office, an Assistant Attorney with the Colorado State Attorney General's Office, and an Attorney with the El Paso County Colorado District Attorney's Office.

Please join us in welcoming Magistrate Cohen.



Chief Judge Peter Blanc swears in Magistrate Cohen at a ceremony held on March 11, 2013.

Judicial Lunch Series

On January 23, 2013, the Judicial Relations Committee, the Palm Beach County Bar Association held its monthly judicial luncheon where the topics of civil motion practice and discovery violations were discussed.

The judicial panel consisted of **Judges David Crow, Janis Keyser and Meenu Sasser** with Grasford Smith, Esq., of Richman Greer as the moderator.

On March 20, 2013, "Good Courtroom Practice" was the topic. The panel consisted of **Judges Lucy Chernow Brown, Catherine Brunson, Jack Cox and Jeffrey Gillen** with Grasford Smith as the moderator. Additionally, Noel Chessman, Court Technology Officer, spoke about the use of technology in the courtroom.



L-r facing: Noel Chessman, Judge Jack Cox, Judge Catherine Brunson, Judge Lucy Chernow Brown, Judge Jeffrey Gillen, Grasford Smith, Esq.

School Justice Partnership

On January 28, 2013, the second meeting of the School Justice Partnership was hosted by the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit.

This collaboration, spearheaded by Supreme Court Justice **Barbara Pariente** and Administrative Juvenile Judge **Kathleen Kroll** focuses on enhancing the relationship between the Courts and the School as well as community partners to improve the lives of children.

Committees within the partnership have been meeting since the initial meeting in May, 2012, to work on various initiatives and issues; updates were provided at the meeting.

Florida Court Personnel (FCP) Institute

The Florida Court Personnel Institute, held this year on February 28 and March 1, 2013, in Orlando, offers education for court personnel through the Florida Court Education Trust Fund.

Court Administration employees participating were: Cristy Altaro, Sara Blumberg, Noel Chessman, Germaine English, William Hutchings, Rhoda Jones and Tara Kranz. Tracks included: Advanced Leadership, Introduction to Court Interpersonal Skills, Applied Ethics and Professional Conduct, and Faculty Training.

Judge Kathleen Kroll, the Chair of the Florida Court Personnel Committee (which offered the Institute), was present and attended the various sessions.

Dependency Court

On January 20, 2013, **Judge Sheree Cunningham** presented a collection of donated stuffed animals to the Juvenile Division. They will be given to young children to provide comfort and support for the abandoned, abused, and neglected children in Dependency Court. To celebrate the Judge's gift, children and the therapy dogs (another great source of comfort for the children) were invited.



I-r: Karen (Sunny), Pat (Trouble), Maureen (Karma), Pat (Charlee), Neil (Shillelagh), Lin (Mayday), Judge Sheree Cunningham, Corinne (Ty), Judge Ronald Alvarez, Magistrate Judette Fanelli.

Seated: Trouble, Karma, Sunny, Charlee (RIP), Shillelagh, Mayday, Ty

Family Law Advisory Group: F.L.A.G.

Stakeholders gathered for the Fifteenth Circuit's Unified Family Court annual Family Law Advisory Group meeting (F.L.A.G.) on February 5, 2013. The meeting, organized by Tara Kranz, Unified Family Court Manager, in collaboration with Abigail Beebe, the chair of the Family Law Practice.

Judge John Phillips, Circuit Family Judge, chaired the meeting which was attended by Family and Juvenile Judges, Magistrates, Mediators, Case Managers, court staff, attorneys, social service providers, Department of Children and Families, Guardian Ad Litem, and other interested parties.

Stakeholders enjoyed a presentations by local Family Law practitioner, Robin Scher, Esq., who provided an introduction to the new mandated Federal Income Withholding Order. Miami practicing attorney and Co-Chairperson of the Children's Issues Committee, Loreal Arscott, Esq., addressed child support issues in Dependency Court.



Judge John Phillips

The Family Law Advisory Group continues to provide an open forum for identifying issues in Unified Family Court policies in the Circuit. Some of the recommendations of the participants included the necessity of training and the creation of an Independent Living Fair for Youth in care of Department of Children and Families.

Child Support Training

On January 28, 2013, **Judge John Phillips** conducted a training for Case Managers on Divorce Power Analyzer (DPA), a Child Support Calculation software program. Judge Phillips and Danni Hoefling, Family Mediator, provided the staff with an introduction to the program for the newer Case Managers and a review of the new features of the program for those Case Managers who are familiar with the program. The participants found the training to be instructive and educational, while providing a more proficient way of working with Child Support Calculations.

Process Servers

Chief Judge Peter Blanc swore in 45 newly certified process servers on January 17, 2013. All 45 had completed the required training and successfully passed the process server examination.

The Certified Process Server program, under the management of Amy Borman, accepts applicants each October. Preparing the training and processing the paperwork is arduous. Ms. Borman was assisted with those tasks by Gina Evangelista and Maria Vasil.



Chief Judge Peter Blanc swears in 45 new certified process servers.

Family Case Management Training

On March 18, 2013, the Circuit's Family Case Managers attended "Nuts and Bolts of post judgment in Family Case Management" training, conducted by General Magistrate Diane Kirigin from South County and General Magistrate Thomas Baker from North County. This training session was planned by Unified Family Court to educate and update Family Case Managers for efficient processing of Post Judgment matters in Family Court.



L-r: Linda Peters, Tara Kranz, Debra Sconyers, Laura Lavoie, Magistrate Thomas Baker, Ruth Ann Kravetz, Lisset Pino, Hutch Floyd, Magistrate Diane Kirigin.

Included in the training was an introduction and instructions on using the Child Support Enforcement Ledger (CSE Program), by Linda Peters, Family Case Manager. Ms. Peters provided useful tips related to working with the CSE program.

Mediation Training

On February 15, 2013, the ADR Office of the 15th Circuit provided a training for the Court's volunteer County Court Mediators. **Judge Sandra Bosso-Pardo** presented on issues related to eviction cases. Retired Judge, Jack Cook, addressed ethics issues. In addition, U.S. Department of Labor representatives provided information on wage-dispute matters.



Judge Sandra Bosso-Pardo presents to the volunteer mediators.

Mediation Workshop

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Office ("ADR") offered a mediation workshop for new certified county civil mediators on March 22, 2013. Mediation Services Coordinator, **Walter Colbath, III**, presented information related to mediation documents, procedures, and policies to ensure the continuation of high quality mediation services in the Circuit.



Court Mediation Coordinator Walter Colbath, III, presents to new county civil mediators.

E Service Training

On October 1, 2012, pursuant to Administrative Order 3.210, all attorneys practicing in the Circuit are required to register their e-mail addresses with the Administrative Office of the Court at www.15thcircuit.com/online services

To explain the "e-process", on January 14, 2013, Noel Chessman, Court Technology Officer and Amy Borman, General Counsel, presented at an e-filing and e-service lunch for Circuit Civil Judicial Assistants, organized by the Court Administrator, Barbara Dawicke.



Left: Noel Chessman

Several tours were provided in February to retirees, students, and civic groups. Many thanks and appreciation to members of the judiciary, court staff, volunteers, and PBSO deputies who have helped facilitate the tour groups and contributed to activities.



Germaine English speaks to a tour group in the law library conference room at the Main Judicial Center.

Irene Venoff, Judicial Assistant retires

Irene Venoff, Judicial Assistant to retired Judge John Hoy, and most recently the Circuit's Floating JA, retired in February after 30 years with the Circuit. Her retirement gathering provided an opportunity for Judges, Judicial Assistants, and court staff to celebrate our time with her and wish her the best. Irene intends to spend lots of time



Above l-r: Judge Glenn Kelley, Judge Catherine Brunson, Judge Ronald Alvarez, Judge Lucy Brown, Senior Judge Roger Colton, Irene Venoff, Judge Barry Cohen, Judge Leonard Hanser, retired Judge John Hoy and Chief Judge Peter Blanc



Left: Judicial assistants and court staff

AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Excellence Awards

Congratulations to those persons nominated for the Judicial Assistant (JA) Recognition Award for the last quarter of 2012: Mary Beardsley, Marilyn Cartwright, Mary Ellis, Jan Leslie, Michelle Parish, William Rivera and Maryann Yarosz.

Congratulations, too, to those persons nominated for the Court Administration employee of the Quarter ending December 2012: Erika Ireland, Rhoda Jones, Felix "Omar" Rodriquez.

The Selection Committee had a difficult time choosing a final candidate, for each category, because of the quality of the candidates. On March 26, 2013, the results were announced at a noon ceremony and William Rivera was named the JA for the Quarter and Erika Ireland was named the Court Administration employee.



L-r: Chief Judge Peter Blanc, William Rivera, Judge Robin Rosenberg



L-r: Chief Judge Peter Blanc, Erika Ireland, Judge Robin Rosenberg, Judge Richard Oftedal

Law Library Services

Email Service/Fax Service

Copy Machines

CLE CD Rentals

Westlaw

Stamped Envelopes

Blank Orders

TV/DVD/Elmo rental

Military Employment Verification

Law Library Staff will do an online search and print a document to show if a person is currently on active duty.

\$5 service charge

Trial Law Clerks

Not only is becoming involved in the legal community an important part of the Trial Court Law Clerk program, but so is community involvement.

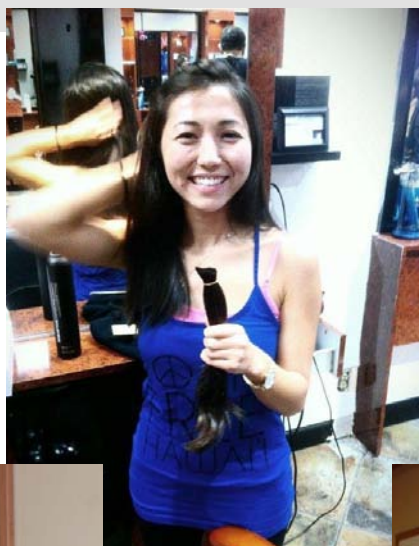
In January, law clerks Jennifer Printz, Matt Ocksrider, Jessica Bober Rosenthal, Leslie Arsenault, Luisa Berti, Monica Haddad, Dolores Francis, Raul Novoa, Deirdre Ziegenfuss, Michele Nihiser, Angela Claud, and General Counsel Amy Borman cooked for and ate dinner with the families staying at the Quantum House at St. Mary's Hospital.

Law clerks Michele Nihiser and Angela Claud also sported new hairstyles in an effort to support Locks of Love.

Lastly, in February, law clerks Leslie Arsenault, Raul Novoa, and Jessica Bober Rosenthal served lunch at Cafe Joshua with other members of the Palm Beach County Bar Association Young Lawyer's Division.



L-r: Jennifer Printz, Matt Ocksrider, Monica Haddad, Deirdre Ziegenfuss, Luisa Berti, Leslie Arsenault, Amy Borman, Jessica Bober Rosenthal, Angela Claud, Michelle Nihiser, Delores Francis, Raul Novoa



Left: Michelle Nihiser



Left:
Jessica Bober
Rosenthal

Right:
Raul Novoa



ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS

Administrative Orders amended January 1-March 31, 2013 are:

- 2.203-1/13, Court Emergency Management Group
- 2.506-1/13, Court Interpreter Policies
- 2.501-1/13, Witness Management Office
- 3.102-1/13, Case Distribution County Civil
- 3.103-1/13, County Civil Regions/Branch Courthouses
- 3.105-1/13, Establishment of South County County Civil Division "RS"
- 3.309-1/13, Foreclosure Division "AV"
- 3.310-1/13, Reassignment of Commercial Foreclosure Cases
- 3.903-1/13, Pilot Project: Divisions "AF" and "AJ" Use of E-mail and E-scheduling
- 4.903-1/13, Community Justice Service Centers
- 6.101-1/13, Probate and Guardianship Division Regions, Hearing Sites and Assignment Criteria
- 6.301-1/13, Probate & Guardianship Division Compensation for Attorneys, Examining Committee Members and Other Experts
- 10.407-1/13, Issuance and Removal of D-6 License Suspension and Setting of Court Hearing
- 11.301-1/13, Branch Courthouses
- 11.402-1/13, Judicial Research Materials and Libraries
- 11.602-1/13, Judicial Assistant Coverage
- 2.503-1/13, Court Reporting Services
- 5.107-1/13, Assignment of Newly Filed Cases in Unified Family Court South County Family Divisions "FX", "FY" & "FZ"
- 6.103-1/13, Assignment of Cases South County Probate/Guardianship Mental Health and Substance Abuse Divisions "IX", "IY" & "IZ"
- 11.101-1/13, Assignment of Judges
- 11.102-1/13, Administrative Judges and Executive Committee
- 11.106-1/13, Alternate Assignments
- 11.203-2/13, Appointment of Magistrates
- 5.506-2/13, Establishment of Belle Glade Domestic Violence Division "FW2"
- 3.312-2/13, Required Submission of Service Lists in Residential Foreclosure Cases and Procedures for Scheduling Trials
- 2.311-2/13, Notices of Change of Address, Substitution/ Withdrawal of Counsel, and Designation of Attorney of Record
- 4.201-3/13, First Appearance Hearings
- 3.312-3/13, Required Submission of Service Lists in Residential Foreclosure Cases and Procedures for Scheduling Trials

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>.

COURT HOLIDAYS

May

27 Memorial Day

WELCOME TO THE CIRCUIT

New Employees:

Kelly Gould: Juvenile Case Manager
Jennifer Bernier: Judicial Assistant-Circuit
Lakeisha Fields: Juvenile Case Manager
Nathaniel King: Foreclosure Case Manager
Joyce Cohen: Magistrate
Sylvia Ibrahim: Legal Intern
Ana Maldonado: Family Mediator
Sabrina Valdez: Judicial Assistant-County
Marlene Cousins: Legal Administrative Assistant
Beatriz Laster: Court Interpreter-Spanish

Howard "Buck" Haines retired on March 28, 2013, after 8 years with the circuit. He was previously a volunteer with traffic court but was most recently a smiling and helpful information desk assistant. Buck will be missed.



UPCOMING EVENTS

April

27 Judges/Attorneys Softball Game

April 29-May 3 Law Week

June

4 Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day

The Circuit Courier
Published by the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit

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Barbara Dawicke, Trial Court Administrator

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