

Circuit Courier

April-June 2018

Vol. 2018-2





Cover Photo:
Deputy La
Flamme

Side Photo
by: Deputy
LaFlamme

In this issue...

Hon. Cymonie Bell Awarded 2018 Florida Judge Of the Year Award	2
Investiture of Hon. James Nutt	3
Magistrate Swearing-In Ceremony	4
Court Reporting Services Coordinator	
Susan Permuy, Retires	5
Law Week	6-7
Court Administration Staff Training	7
Drug Court Graduations	8
Lunch-n-Learn: FRS Retirement Review Seminar	9
Lunch-n-Learn: Email Communication & Public Records	9
Lunch-n-Learn: Inclusion in the Workplace	10
Court Leaders Presentation	10
Video Remote Interpreting Solutions Workshop	11
Mediation Training	12
Ice Cream Social	12
Employee Awards Ceremony	13
AOs and New Employees	14

**HON. CYMONIE ROWE IS
RECOGNIZED AS THE 2018
FLORIDA BAR JUDGE OF THE YEAR**

On Judge 14, 2018, Hon. Cymonie Rowe was recognized with the “2018 Florida Judge of the Year” award at the 2018 Florida Bar Annual Convention held in Orlando, FL.

The award was presented to Judge Rowe during the Florida Bar Judicial Luncheon by Michael Higer, Florida Bar President.

Judge Rowe has made substantial contributions to educating the public on the judicial branch. She has worked with students from Carver Middle School in Delray Beach, FL and adult students during Law Week and Constitution Day at Florida Atlantic University and Palm Beach State College. She was also recognized for her work on the Informed Voters, Fair Judges project. The project was created to educate voters on the judicial system and to ensure they have the necessary tools to appoint and elect ethical judges.



L to r: Florida Bar President Michael Higer and Hon. Cymonie Rowe.

INVESTITURE OF HONORABLE JAMES NUTT

Hon. James Nutt was appointed to the Circuit Court by Governor Rick Scott on December 11, 2017, filling a vacancy created by the retirement of Hon. Richard L. Oftedal.

Prior to his judicial appointment, Hon. James Nutt worked for the Office of the General Counsel at the South Florida Water Management District, as part of the litigation practice group.

He received his Bachelor's Degree from Oglethorpe University and his Master's and law degree from Nova Southeastern University.

Hon. James Nutt's first assignment is in Circuit Civil Division "AO" at the Main Judicial Complex. His Judicial Assistant is Meliette Noonan. The office can be reached at 561-355-2956.

Family, colleagues, and friends gathered in ceremonial courtroom 11H of the Palm Beach County Main Judicial Center on April 27, 2018, for the investiture of Hon. James Nutt as a Circuit Judge for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit.

Following the invocation from Elizabeth Ross, Esq., Rowyn Ratkai, grand niece of Hon. James Nutt, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chief Judge Krista Marx welcomed the group and acknowledged the Judicial Nominating Committee.

Hon. Luis Delgado, Jr. presented a desk plate on behalf of the Florida Conference of Circuit Judges. A Bible was presented by Ronald Ponzoli, Esq., representing the Florida Board of Governors. Judge Marx administered the Oath of Office. The honor of enrobing Hon. James Nutt went to Trudi Stevens.



Hon. James Nutt

Several traditional and ceremonial gifts were presented to Judge Nutt: the gavel was presented by Gregory P. Huber, Esq., President Elect of the Palm Beach County Bar Association. Immediately following were other gifts presented by Andrew M. Dector, Esq., President Elect of the South Palm Beach County Bar Association, John McGovern, Esq., Past President of the Palm Beach County Justice Association, and Hubert S. McGinley, Esq., President of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

After the presentation of gifts, a farewell presentation was given by Judge Nutt's former colleagues from the South Florida Water Management District, including General Counsel Brian Accardo, Past General Counsel Sheryl Wood, and Deputy General Counsel Carolyn Kowalsky.

Remarks were made by George Bush, Esq., Judge Edward L. Artau, and Peter Antonacci. Judge Nutt expressed his appreciation to his family, the community, and the Judiciary for all of the support that he has received. The ceremony concluded with the benediction by Howard Weiss, Esq.

MAGISTRATE SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

Family, colleagues, and friends gathered in courtroom 11A of the Palm Beach County Main Judicial Center on June 25, 2018, for the magistrate swearing-in ceremony for: Temi N. Zeitenberg, James B. Williams, Jr., and Jennifer F. Printz.

Magistrate Maxine Williams welcomed the group in attendance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Magistrates were introduced.

Chief Judge Krista Marx administered the Oath of Office. Each of the new Magistrates were presented with a gravel from Hon. Krista Marx and Magistrate Maxine Williams.

After the presentation of the gifts, remarks were made by Magistrate Temi N. Zeitenberg, James B. Williams, Jr., and Jennifer F. Printz.

Ms. Zeitenberg has been assigned to post-judgement Family cases. Mr. Williams, Jr., has been assigned to Department of Revenue cases. Ms. Printz has been assigned to Juvenile Judicial Review cases.



L to r: Hon. Krista Marx, Magistrate Temi N. Zeitenberg, and Magistrate Maxine Williams.



L to r: Hon. Krista Marx, Magistrate James B. Williams, Jr., and Magistrate Maxine Williams.



L to r: Hon. Krista Marx, Magistrate Jennifer F. Printz, and Magistrate Maxine Williams.

Court Reporting Services Coordinator Susan Permuy, Retires

On May 31, 2018, Susan Permuy retired after serving the citizens of Palm Beach County for fifteen years. Susan started working for the 15th Judicial Circuit as a contractual Digital Court Reporter. She became a full-time employee in 2008.

During her time with the Circuit, Susan took on many responsibilities. As Program Coordinator for Court Reporting, she recently helped turn around a voluminous backlog of appellate transcript pages. Additionally, she implemented procedures designed to create efficiencies and accountability measures for the Circuit's vendors.

Court Administration would like to thank Susan Permuy for her dedication, diligence, and loyalty to the Circuit.



Digital Services Reporting Coordinator Susan Permuy
and Senior Court Operations Manager Melissa Sotillo

LAW WEEK AT THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

In May 2018, the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit participated in the Palm Beach County Bar Association's Law Week. The theme was "Separation of Powers: Framework for Freedom." Ms. Tammy Anton, Chief of Personnel Services, assisted with the organization of the event. As part of the program, the Circuit hosted "Shadow a Judge." The program allows high school students to interact with the court system and individuals within the legal system. This year's participants were from IDEAL School of Leadership and Berean Christian School.

Chief Judge Krista Marx welcomed the student attendees and introduced them to the Florida Court System. Panel discussions were held with Judge August Bonavita, Judge Frank S. Castor, Judge Sherri Collins, Judge Jeffrey Colbath, and Judge Samantha Schosberg Feuer.

Each day concluded with a demonstration from the K-9 unit of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office.



L to r: Judge Frank Castor, Judge Jeffrey Colbath, and Judge Sherri Collins.



IDEAL School of Leadership students visit a classroom.



L to r: Judge August Bonavita, Judge Frank Castor, Judge Sherri Collins, and Judge Samantha Schosberg Feuer.



IDEAL School of Leadership students with Palm Beach Sheriff's Officer and Dutch.

LAW WEEK AT THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



Berean Christian School students with Palm Beach Sheriff's Officer and Dutch.

Court Administration Staff Training

The Fifteen Judicial Circuit is sponsoring a National Center for State Courts Institute for Court Management Program. The program consists of six courses related to court management. The next course is Workforce Management to be held on August 22nd.



Court Administration Staff participate in ICM Course: Case Flow Management.

DELINQUENCY DRUG COURT GRADUATIONS

At graduation ceremonies held on April 11, May 9, and June 6, 2018, Hon. James Martz honored graduates who successfully completed the requirements of the Delinquency Drug Court Program.

Participants, family members, advocates, Drug Court Team members, stakeholders, and community members were present to recognize the participants' accomplishments. Hon. Martz provided the Court attendees with an overview of each graduate's life and presented the graduate with a certificate of completion.



Program Graduate and Juvenile Court Case Manager Brandon Richardson.



Program Graduate and Hon. James Martz.



L to r: Palm Beach County Commissioner Mary Lou Berger, Program Graduate, and Palm Beach County Mayor Melissa McKinlay.

Keep up with the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit's latest news.
Follow us on Twitter: @15thCircuit

If you do not have an account, you can always view our latest Tweets by clicking on the Twitter icon on the lower right side of the Circuit webpage.



Lunch-n-Learn: FRS Retirement Review Seminar

On April 10, 2018, Harry Apoian, Brian Holden, and Miriam Spaulding from Capital Insurance Agency conducted a presentation to court staff on FRS retirement.

They provided information on requirements for retirement, vesting rules, retiree's rights and benefits under the FRS, and survivor benefits.



L to r: Brian Holden, Harry Apoian, and Miriam Spaulding.

Lunch-n-Learn: Email Communication and Public Records

On May 8, 2018, General Counsel Amy Borman presented a Lunch-n-Learn on “Email Communication and Public Records” for court staff.

General Counsel Amy Borman discussed the “Do’s and Do Not’s” of emailing, understanding e-etiquette, and the importance of representing the Circuit in a professional manner through electronic communications. She reminded the attendees that work emails are public record.



General Counsel Amy Borman.

Lunch-n-Learn: Inclusion in the Workplace: LGBTQ Considerations

On June 12, 2018, Hutchinson Floyd presented “Inclusion in the Workplace: LGBTQ Considerations.”

Palm Beach County has been a national leader in supporting LGBTQ rights and passing related anti-discrimination policies. Court staff learned about who LGBTQ identified people are, how as court leaders we can have inclusive interactions with the LGBTQ population, and why it is important to be inclusive.



Hutchinson Floyd.

Court Leaders as Internal Consultants

Tammy Anton and Melissa Sotillo presented “Court Leaders as Internal Consultants” to the Court Technology team.

The presentation focused on how court staff can, through their attitudes and actions, serve as internal consultants to foster innovation and cultivate a climate of progressive change.

Ms. Anton and Ms. Sotillo were part of a Fifteenth Judicial Circuit delegation that attended the Court Leaders as Internal Consultants course, presented by Janet G. Cornell, at the Eighteenth Circuit. The course focused on court leadership and tools to promote court innovations.



Tammy Anton and Melissa Sotillo present to the Court Technology team.

Video Remote Interpreting Solutions Workshop

Members of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit attended a Video Remote Interpreting Solutions workshop at the Orange County Courthouse. The workshop brought together vendors, interpreters, technology, and administrative staff from ten circuits to share solutions and ask technical questions about video remote interpreting deployment.

The Shared Remote Interpreting Governance Committee also attended the workshop to discuss a project to fully implement a statewide call center for interpreters. The program has the potential to significantly reduce the cost of paying contractual interpreters statewide and assist those circuits without staff interpreters.

The Fifteen Judicial Circuit has installed fourteen courtroom/ hearing rooms with remote interpreting functionality. This makes the Circuit the second largest user of the technology in Florida. Court Interpreter Astrid Serruto, Systems Administrator II Sarwar Siddiqui, and Computer Specialist II Rafal Krzemien gave valuable operational insight on the project and discussed cost saving installation procedures to the attendees of the workshop.



L to r: Court Interpreter Astrid Serruto, Systems Administrator II Sarwar Siddiqui, Computer Specialist II Rafal Krzemien, and Chief Technology Officer Noel Chessman.

Mediation Training

Fifteen Judicial Circuit Mediator Jeffrey Kash, Mediation Services Coordinator Jancy Libowitz, and Mediator Amy Wagner completed their Dependency Mediation training. The six days of training was led by My Florida Mediator Gregory Firestone.



Mediators in Dependency Mediation Training.

Ice Cream Social

On May 23, 2018, Chief Judge Krista Marx and Court Administrator Barbara Dawicke hosted an ice cream social to thank Court Staff and Judicial Assistants for their dedication and hard work that they perform for the Judiciary and court users.



L to r: Debra Oats, Denise Van Vooren, and Michelle Voce.



Trial Court Administrator Barbara Dawicke and Chief Judge Krista Marx.



L to r: Stefanie Lee, Amy Tracy, and Chief Judge Krista Marx.

Excellence Awards

Congratulations to those persons nominated for the Judicial Assistant (JA) Recognition Award for the First Quarter of 2018:

- Sandra Becerra
- Saiidia Johnson
- Meliette Noonan
- Lorainne Laguer Pratts

Congratulations, also, to those persons nominated for the Court Administration employee of the First Quarter of 2018:

- Rosa Diaz
- Hutch Floyd
- Steven Toner

The presentation ceremony was held on April 25, 2018 where the winners for the First Quarter of 2018, as selected by the Committee, were announced.

In the Judicial Assistant category, the winner was **Sandra Becerra**, Judicial Assistant to Judge Sherri Collins. In the Court Administration employee category the winner was **Steven Toner**, Senior Secretary.

Each of the winners received a plaque, a paid Administrative leave day, a photo in this newsletter, and four weeks of parking in the Judicial Parking garage. Congratulations to our winners.



L to r: Judicial Assistant Sandra Becerra, Judge Sherri Collins, and Judge Frank S. Castor.



L-r: Senior Secretary Steven Toner and Judge Frank S. Castor.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS

Administrative Orders amended April 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018 are:

AO 4.201-4/18 - First Appearance Hearings

Amended AO 4.201-4/18 (April 4, 2018) - First Appearance Hearings

AO 11.203 -4/18 - Appointment of Magistrates

AO 11.110-4/18 - Appointment of Circuit Judges as Acting County Judges County Judges as Acting Circuit Judges

AO 11.101-5/18 – Assignment of Judges

AO 11.104-5/18 – Seniority Listing of Judges

AO 11.106-5/18 – Alternate Assignments

AO 11.109-5/18 – Duty Judge Roster

AO 11.203-5/18 – Appointment of Magistrates

AO 8.101-5/18 - Appeals From County Court and Local Administrative Agencies; Petitions for Extraordinary Writ

AO 6.312 -5/18 – Risk Protection Orders

AO 6.311 -5/18 – Baker Act Proceedings

AO 11.101 –6/18 - Assignment of Judges

AO 11.102 – 6/18 - Administrative Judges and Executive Committee

AO 11.106 - 6/18– Alternate Assignments

AO 2.503-6/18 – Court Reporting Services

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>.

WELCOME TO THE CIRCUIT

Hon. Carolyn Bell	Circuit Judge
Joy Ransom	Digital Court Reporter
Karen Keogh	Digital Court Reporter
Jennifer Printz	Magistrate
Carey Helmes	Judicial Assistant
Renee Ward	Family Court Case Manager
Jackson Mack	Criminal Case Manager
Diana Alvarado	Permanency Coordinator
Marlene Brankovic	Finance & Accounting Manager
James Williams, Jr.	Magistrate
Temi Zeitenberg	Magistrate
Shilah James	Judicial Assistant
Hannah Skotzke	Program Coordinator



L to r: Jackson Mack and Christopher Barnhill with presenter J.D. Gingerrich (center) at the National Center for State Courts Purposes and Responsibilities of the Courts course in Tallahassee.

