

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

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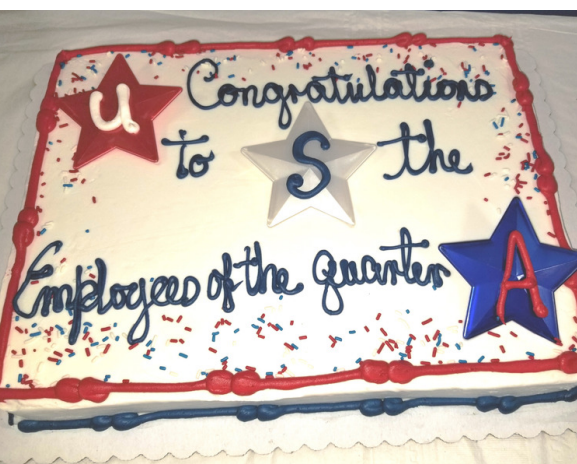
Sabrina Valdez, Judicial Assistant, (far left) and Lorainne Pratts, Judicial Assistant, (right photo, on left) are individually presented with awards by Chief Judge Krista Marx.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to all who were nominated for the 2nd Quarter Employee Recognition Awards including Judicial Assistants: Saiidia Johnson, Lorainne Laguer Pratts, and Sabrina Valdez and Court Administration Staff: Ken Blanck, Hutch Floyd, Stuart Hartstone, Joi Lasnick, and Brandon Richardson.

The ceremony was held on July 17th, 2018 and the award winners for the Judicial Assistant category were **Lorainne Pratts and Sabrina Valdez**. In the Court Administration Staff category, **Joi Lasnick** was the award recipient.

All award winners receive the Circuit's Perpetual Trophy, a plaque, an official 15th Judicial Circuit tumbler, one paid administrative leave day, and four weeks of parking in the Judicial parking garage.



Joi Lasnick, HR Coordinator, (top left) receives her award from Chief Judge Krista Marx.



TEDDY BEAR DONATION

On Wednesday, August 15th, the Palm Beach County Juvenile Courts were gifted with a generous donation of brand new teddy bears, courtesy of Michele Gillen and the Adopt-A-Bear program. Judge Martz, Judge Bell, Magistrate Printz, and Cristy Altaro were presented with several boxes of teddy bears to be given out to the children who appear before the Juvenile Judges and Juvenile Magistrate. These bears are a great way to help comfort the children at Court.

The Adopt-A-Bear campaign provides judges, firefighters and first responders with teddy bears for abused, neglected and traumatized children. It is a non-profit project based in Miami, founded by journalist Michele Gillen. A very special thanks to Michel Gillen, Branden Cruz, Nancy Hogan, and Debbie Preston.



THE ADOPT-A-BEAR CAMPAIGN PROVIDES JUDGES, FIREFIGHTERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS WITH TEDDY BEARS FOR ABUSED, NEGLECTED AND TRAUMATIZED CHILDREN.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW LAW CLERKS

Christopher Parmele is a double Gator earning dual degrees in Business Administration (Finance) and History. In law school, Chris was a Research Editor and Board Member of the *Florida Law Review*, helped to spearhead the UF Law Alternative Spring Break Service Projects, and was both a research assistant (antitrust and e-discovery) and a teaching assistant (legal writing and appellate advocacy). Chris interned for Judge Thomas Jaworski at the 8th Judicial Circuit and for Judge Gary Jones at the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida.

Karyan San Martano received her Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and History from the University of Florida and her JD from the George Washington University Law School. She was the Executive Articles Editor for *The George Washington International Law Review*, a research assistant, and a student attorney for the International Human Rights Clinic. During law school, Karyan interned at the Environmental Defense Fund, the Environmental Action Center and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Inspector General. Karyan has authored the Note, *Toward a Better Union: Addressing Child Marriage through Individual and NGO Petitions in the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights*, 50 Geo. Wash. Int'l L. Rev.

Zohar Peleg received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with minors in Business Law and Religious Studies from the University of Miami. She received her JD from American University Washington College of Law where she was a research assistant, a student attorney in the criminal justice clinic and a dean's fellow. During law school, Zohar interned in the appellate section of the US Department of Justice, Office of Immigration Litigation; for the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office; for the US Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia; and for Judge Beth Bloom (S.D. Fla) and Judge Lynn Leibovitz (Superior Court D.C.).

Rebecca Frieden (not pictured) received her Bachelor of Science in Exercise and Sport Sciences from the University of Florida. She received her Juris Doctor, *Magna Cum Laude*, from Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center where she was a senior staff member on the *Law Review* and a CLI with the Children and Families Clinic. While in law school Rebecca interned with Judge Susan Aramony of the 17th Judicial Circuit. Rebecca practiced family law with a local West Palm Beach law firm for 5 years before leaving the practice to raise a family. Rebecca returned to the circuit in a part-time capacity.



Christopher Parmele



Karyan San Martano



Zohar Peleg

SUMMER INTERNS

Paula Martinez and **David Walsh** (pictured below) joined the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit as the 2018 Summer Judicial Interns. Paula attends the University of Kentucky College of Law having obtained her BA in Political Science and Criminology & Law at the University of Florida. David attends the University of Florida Levin College of Law having obtained his BS in Psychology and BA in Business Administration at the University of Florida.

To complement the various legal assignments, the interns and staff attorneys had a busy summer attending first appearances, uniform motion calendar, criminal and civil trials, juvenile court, and drug court. They also toured the jails at the Main Detention Center and Belle Glade, observed an autopsy at the coroner's office, learned about PBSO's crime lab, and attended a Naturalization Ceremony at the federal courthouse. As part of giving back to the community, the interns and staff attorneys prepared dinner for the families at Quantum House after a facilitating a Harry Potter based mock trial. Applications for the Summer 2019 internship will be available on the Circuit's website in late December.



David Walsh and Paula Martinez



From left to right: Samia Azad, David Walsh, Joleen East, Stuart Hartstone, Brooke Kargman, Amy Borman, Kathryn Freiburger, Nadine Singh, Paula Martinez, Joe Meyer, Rashaad Perry-Patterson, and Erin Kenny

DIVISION JS SUMMER PROGRAM

Judge Luis Delgado and Juvenile Court personnel facilitated the second annual Division JS 2018 Summer program. The goal was to provide a structured, educational experience to hold youth accountable and provide them with the opportunity to earn community service, complete court-ordered sanctions including paying court fees and fines, develop skills, and be linked with community resources and providers. The ten-week program was held on Fridays, from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, at the South County Courthouse in Delray Beach. In partnership with the South Palm Beach County Florida Association of Women Lawyers and the South Palm Beach County Bar Association, a full-day curriculum was designed to offer community service opportunities, assistance with court/Probation sanctions, and community partnerships and speaker sessions. Breakfast and lunch were provided weekly, birthdays were celebrated and the youth engaged in a number of team-building activities.

Ten youth completed the program, four of whom were successfully terminated from Probation. Entities that partnered with the program included: law enforcement, FAU, Department of Juvenile Justice, FAWL, PBC Fire Rescue, PBC Department of Victim Services, CareerSource, PBC Library, Delray Beach Parks and Recreation, X102.3, PBC School District, South Palm Beach County Bar Association and Sal's Ristorante. Each week, the group earned community service through the creation of greetings cards for veterans; nearly 700 cards service were completed and delivered to the VA Hospital in West Palm Beach. The programming concluded with a Back to School Bash where youth were provided with a brand-new backpack with school supplies.



Right: West Palm Beach Police Department and participants

Left: Tammy Saltzman, Esq. and participants (all participants received backpacks full of supplies)



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts - Florida Chapter Conference



Left to Right: Hon. Judge Kathleen Kroll, Justice Barbara Pariente, Hon. Judge Jessica Ticktin, Deputy Court Administrator Mary Quinlan, and Unified Family Court Manager Tara Kranz. (Also in attendance were ADR Director Danni Hoefling and Child Support Hearing Officer Judette Fanelli, not pictured here)

On September 26, 2018 to September 28, 2018, the 14th Annual Conference for the Florida Chapter of Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (FLAFCC) and Florida Unified Family Courts Workshop took place in Orlando, FL.

Florida Supreme Court Justice, Barbara Pariente, addressed the conference attendees, stressing the importance of the “One Family One Judge” concept in Florida courts and recognizing trauma and its impact on families and children. Judges, mediators, attorneys, and other professionals from throughout the state were in attendance.



Attendees of the National Center for State Courts Institute of Court Management course: Workforce Management, are pictured here. This photo is from the last day of the Institute, which ended on August 24, 2018. Lynn Wagner was the lead presenter.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

HR Florida State Council Conference



Tammy Anton, Chief of Personnel (right), & William Hutchings, HR Ct Operations Manager (left) attended the Human Resources Florida State Council Conference in Orlando August 27th to 29th.

Human Trafficking Workshop



On Friday, September 28th, the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit hosted a free half-day Human Trafficking Workshop as part of the Court Interpreter Certification and Regulation Program's biennial requirement of 16-hours of Continuing Educations Credits.

Presenters included Detectives William Vaughn and Juliana Martinez of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Unit. The workshop, which was organized by staff, was well received by the 36 participants.

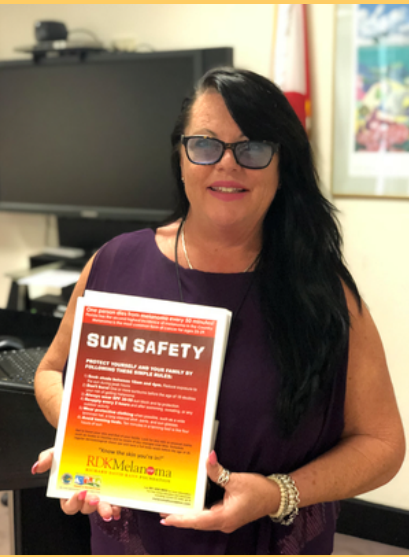
National Association for Court Management Conference



Employees of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit attended the National Association for Court Management Conference from July 22nd to 26th in Atlanta, GA. Present in the photo from left to right: Stewart Saalfeld, Nick Fricke, Tara Kranz, Tehera Smith, Devon Mugridge, and Phil Curtis.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Sun Safety



Rita Fox

On July 17, 2018, Rita Fox from the Richard David Kahn Melanoma Foundation presented a Lunch & Learn to Circuit employees titled, "Sun Safety." During her presentation, Ms. Fox explained the importance of early detection of skin cancer, of which there are three types: basal, squamous, and melanoma. Melanoma is the least common form of skin cancer, but most deadliest. It is curable if caught early, but statistics show that one person dies of melanoma every hour. Ms. Fox discussed different types of sunscreens, SPF numbers, and continues to spread the word about skin cancer education and routine checkups.

Suicide Prevention: Talk Saves Lives



Tara Sullivan

On July 31, 2018, Tara Sullivan Larsen from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention presented a very important and informative Lunch & Learn to Circuit employees, titled, "Suicide Prevention: Talk Saves Lives." During her presentation, Ms. Larsen discussed that in 2015, suicide was the 10th leading cause of death. For every suicide, there are 25 attempts, and that more often than not, there is usually more than one factor involved (health, environmental, and historical). Ms. Larsen reviewed suicide statistics, research and prevention, and explained what we can do to help someone who is suicidal. If you or someone you know is in crisis and needs immediate help, please call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255), or dial 2-1-1.

American Sign Language



**Brenda Holland (left) and
Deborah Gibson**

On September 11, 2018, Brenda Holland, joined by Deborah Gibson, owner of Signs of Excellence, presented a Lunch & Learn to Circuit employees, titled, "American Sign Language." Some of the topics that were discussed were: deaf culture; philosophical models; the role of the professional interpreter in the court system; what constitutes best practice in accommodation; what is going on in your courtroom and why; and practicing cultural humility. Employees also learned a few simple signs and have a better understanding of the how sign language interpreters work with the court system.

Some important resources from the presentation on "Identity Theft" included:

1. Free annual credit report, from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
<https://www.annualcreditreport.com> or 877-322-8228
2. FTC Complain Assistant, from the Federal Trade Commission
<https://ftccomplaintassistant.gov>
3. IdentityTheft.gov, from the Federal Trade Commission <https://identitytheft.gov>
4. Florida Office of the Attorney General
<http://myfloridalegal.com>
5. Palm Beach County Public Safety Department, Division of Consumer Affairs
<http://discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/consumeraffairs>
6. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC): 877-382-4357 or 202-326-2222
7. The Social Security Administration (SSA): 800-772-1213
8. Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE): 850-410-7645
9. Florida Attorney General (FL-OAG): 850-414-3990 or 866-966-7226
10. PBC Division of Consumer Affairs (DCA): 561-712-6600

IDENTITY THEFT

On August 14, 2018, Investigators Claudette Rifenberg and Terry Newton from the Palm Beach County Public Safety Department, Division of Consumer Affairs, presented a very important and informative Lunch & Learn to Circuit employees, titled, "Identity Theft." During their presentation, Mr. Newton and Ms. Rifenberg discussed the different ways thieves can steal your identity, how to safeguard your personal information, and what to do if your identity has been stolen. They provided many resources for recovering and clearing your name (see list of resources on left).



Above: Investigator Claudette Rifenberg (left) and Investigator Terry Newton (right)



THE NEXT FRONTIER: FLORIDA'S E-COURTS

General Counsel Amy Borman co-presented a 3-hour CLE entitled The Next Frontier: Florida's e-courts at The Florida Bar's Annual Meeting in June 2018. Circuit Judge Cymonie Rowe served as a panelist. The free CLE (3 technology credits) can be found on The Florida Bar's Legal Fuel webpage at <https://www.legalfuel.com/the-next-frontier/>.



Pictured (left to right): Co-presenters Amy Borman, Esq. and Murray Silverstein, Esq. and Panelists Lee County Judge Josephine Gagliardi, Judge Cymonie Rowe, Cindy Guerra, Palm Beach County Clerk & Comptroller's Office, and Carolyn Weber, e-Portal Program Manager.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Welcome to our new employees who started from July through September 2018 including:

- Edna Edmond, Judicial Assistant
- Jorge Aquino, Advocate Coordinator
- Cayleigh Lauver, Digital Court Reporter
- Juleen Jean-Charles, Digital Court Reporter
- Domenic Ruffa Jr., Digital Court Reporter
- Rebecca Frieden, Trial Court Law Clerk
- Christopher Parmele, Trial Court Law Clerk
- Zohar Peleg, Trial Court Law Clerk
- Karyan San Martano, Trial Court Law Clerk
- Susannah Clancy, Magistrate Assistant
- Carlo Del Castillo, Civil Case Manager
- Sandra Trias, Digital Court Reporter
- Rafal Krzemien, Systems Administrator I
- Angelica Cortez, Manager, Law Library
- Charles Bryant Jr., Computer Specialist II

JUDGE INVESTITURES

JUDGE CURLEY

Judge G. Joseph Curley's Investiture was held on July 27th in front of a large crowd of family members, friends, attorneys, Judges, & Court staff. Judge Curley expressed his deep appreciation for all of the support as he was welcomed to the bench by Chief Judge Marx.



Chief Judge Marx officially welcomed Judge Curley to the bench on July 27th, 2018.

AROUND THE COURTHOUSE

Visit from Coconut Creek Senior Center



On August 8, Judge Artau addressed attendees from the Coconut Creek Senior Center. He spoke about his career and the day-to-day activities of a Circuit Judge.

Judicial & Magistrate Assistant Appreciation Lunch



Chief Judge Marx held a Judicial Assistant & Magistrate Assistant appreciation lunch & training on August 21st. 50 of the 54 Judicial Assistants were in attendance including Judicial Assistants from the Satellite courthouses.

Meet and Greet with Justice Labarga



Pictured with Justice Labarga from Left to Right: Stuart Hartstone, Nadine Singh, Michele Miller, Kathryn Freiburger, Angela Claud, Christopher Parmele, Justice Jorge Labarga, Joseph Meyer, Brooke Kargman, Zade Shamsi-Basha, Amy Borman, Paige Bennett, Zohar Peleg, Karyan San Martano and Debbie Bradley.

CONSTITUTION WEEK



September 17-23 was Constitution week; a week set aside to commemorate the adoption of the US Constitution. Judge Rowe, Judge Luis Delgado and Justice Pariente were members of panels that discussed the meaning of the Constitution. Judge Rowe participated at Florida Atlantic University, Palm Beach County School District, & the University of Miami. Judge Feuer participated at Florida Atlantic University.

TEST YOUR CONSTITUTION KNOWLEDGE

Think you know about the U.S. Constitution? Answer the questions below and send to Angelica Cortez at acortez@pbcgov.org. Of correct entries submitted, one winner will be randomly selected to win a prize. Entries must be submitted by Friday, October 26th.

1. When was the Constitution signed?
2. Which two presidents signed the Constitution?
3. Where is the original Constitution located today?
4. What are the first three words written in the Constitution?
5. Six men signed both the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. Who are they?
6. Who was the oldest delegate at the Constitutional Convention?
7. How many amendments are in the Constitution?
8. How many states were represented by the signers of the Constitution?
9. Which two founding fathers did not sign the Constitution due to being overseas?
10. What is the Bill of Rights?

RETIREMENTS

Judge Peter Evans Retires



After nearly 30 years, Judge Evans retired from the 15th Judicial Circuit Court on August 17, 2018. Elected to the Palm Beach County Court in 1988, Judge Evans served at the Palm Beach Gardens, Delray Beach, and Belle Glade courthouses.

In addition to his years serving as a judge, he was also active in a variety of judicial education programs, training other judges throughout the country. Judge Evans served on the Faculty of the Florida Judicial College since 1994, and also on the Faculty Council of the National Judicial College since 2005.

Judge Evans is also the recipient of numerous awards including the Judicial Division Award from the American Bar Association in 2003, the Harvey Ford Memorial Award from the Florida Conference of County Court Judges in 2005, and also the Davis Productivity Award from Florida Tax Watch in 2011.

Hon. Peter Evans, County Court Judge

RETIREMENTS

Rita Sinofsky, Magistrate Assistant Retires



Rita Sinofsky (right) pictured with Magistrate Maxine Williams.

Rita Sinofsky retired on August 31, 2018, after 14 years at the Palm Beach County Courthouse. She worked as a Magistrate Assistant to Magistrate James Williams.

Celanne Ziegler, Judicial Assistant Retires



Celanne Ziegler (left), with Judge Karen Miller (right)

Celanne Ziegler, Judicial Assistant to Judge Karen Miller, retired after 15 years on October 1, 2018. Judge Miller sponsored a surprise farewell luncheon for Celanne on September 25th which was attended by numerous Judges, JAs, and court staff.