

News Bulletin of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit

CIRCUIT COURIER

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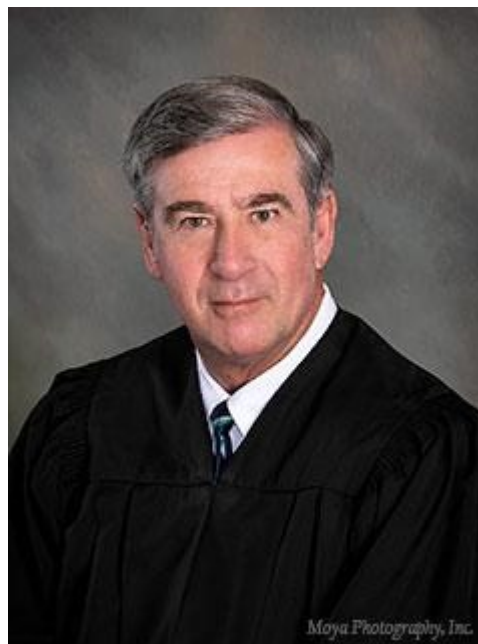
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Hon. Glenn Kelley Begins Term as Chief Judge

On July 1, 2021 the Honorable Glenn Kelley began his term as Chief Judge of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit. He was elected to the position by the judiciary at a Full Court meeting in February 2021. The Chief Judge's term runs from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023.

Chief Judge Kelley previously served as the Administrative Judge of both Circuit Civil and Circuit Criminal. In addition to his service as Chief Judge, Judge Kelley is the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit's representative on the Trial Court Budget Commission.



Glenn Kelley,
Chief Judge

Judge Kelley was appointed to the Circuit bench in 2006 by then-Governor Jeb Bush for a term beginning in January 2007. Prior to taking the bench, he practiced civil law in the private sector with Gunster, Yoakley, Criser, and Stewart, P.A.; Broome, Kelley, Aldrich, and Warren; and immediately before taking the bench with the firm of Kelley and Warren, P.A. He obtained his bachelor's degree and Juris Doctorate from the University of Florida.

Judge Kelley is assisted by Judicial Assistant Kimberly Wolf.





Hon. Walter N. Colbath, Jr.

Remembering Judge Walter N. Colbath, Jr. 1934 - 2021

On July 19, 2021 a resolution was passed by the Florida Conference of Circuit Judges in memory of the Honorable Walter N. Colbath, Jr. (1934-2021). Judge Colbath was a Circuit Judge in the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit beginning in 1984 when he was appointed to the Circuit bench by then Governor

Bob Graham. He served as Chief Judge of the Circuit from 1997 until his retirement in 2001. Judge Colbath exemplified the ideal judicial character traits of wisdom, patience, fairness, honesty, integrity, courtesy, compassion, and humility. He honorably served the citizens of Palm Beach County and the State of Florida.

Judge Colbath received his undergraduate degree in 1956 from Indiana University. He served his country in both the Army and the Marine Corps, retiring as a Major. Judge Colbath earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Miami School of Law in 1965 and began his legal career as Public Defender of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, serving from 1966 until 1972. Later, he successfully served as Councilman and then Mayor of the Village of North Palm Beach.

The Hon. Walter N. Colbath, Jr. is survived by his son, the former Chief Judge Jeffrey Colbath and his daughter, Stephanie Colbath. Walter N. Colbath, III, his oldest son and a former Circuit mediator in the Fifteenth Circuit, predeceased him.

Judge Bosso-Pardo Retires

After 16 years of serving on the County bench, Judge Sandra Bosso-Pardo celebrated her retirement with friends, family, and judges on September 30, 2021.

Judge Basso-Pardo graduated from Stetson University College of Law in 1978 and entered private practice. She was appointed to the County bench by former Governor Jeb Bush and served from January 31, 2005 until September 30, 2021.



Hon. Sandra Bosso-Pardo

At her farewell luncheon, Chief Judge Glenn Kelley, Judge Janis Keyser, Judge Frank Castor, Judge Barry Cohen, and Magistrate Diane Kirigin paid tribute to her and gave heartfelt thanks to her for her service, her kindness, and her witty humor.

"It has been the highlight of my legal career to serve the people of Palm Beach County as a judge, and a great privilege to work with the dedicated judges and court staff of our circuit," Judge Bosso-Pardo said on the occasion of her retirement.



Pictured Left to Right: Torina Jenkins-Edwards, Hon. Sandra Bosso-Pardo, and Deputy Salley

Governor DeSantis' Recent Judicial Appointments



Hon. April Bristow,
County Court Judge

On September 16, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis announced the appointment of 20 judgeships, statewide. April Bristow, former General Counsel, was appointed to one of the County seats. Judge Bristow fills the judicial vacancy arising from the retirement of Palm Beach County Judge, Sandra Bosso-Pardo.

While still General Counsel, among her numerous projects, Ms. Bristow worked with Judge Bosso-Pardo on an eviction program aimed at helping to mitigate any backlog of eviction cases. Judge Bristow describes her predecessor as a hardworking judge who showed care and compassion while on the bench. These are characteristics that she, too, hopes to bring to the bench. Judge Bristow is assisted by Judicial Assistant Kristina Rosado.

The Hon. Bradley Harper, who has served on the Palm Beach County Court since 2017, was appointed to the Circuit bench, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of the Hon. Krista Marx. Judge Harper is now assigned to Circuit Civil Division AE. He is assisted by Judicial Assistant Kelly Hughee.



Hon. Bradley Harper,
Circuit Court Judge

Read the full announcement in the *Daily Business Review*, <https://www.law.com/dailybusinessreview/2021/09/17/desantis-appoints-seven-judges-to-circuit-courts-13-to-county-courts/>



Pictured Left to Right: Hon. Cymonie Rowe, Hon. Maxine Cheesman, Magistrate Maxine Williams, and Hon. Renatha Francis. Not shown, the Hon. Bradley Harper

Caribbean Bar Association Honors Judges and Magistrates

The Caribbean Bar Association recently honored the Judges and Magistrates of Caribbean descent who are on the bench in Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach County. In this Circuit, the Hon. Cymonie Rowe (Jamaica), the Hon. Maxine Cheesman (Jamaica), the Hon. Renatha Francis (Jamaica), the Hon. Bradley Harper (Bahamas), and Magistrate Maxine Williams (Jamaica) were recognized at the ceremony. The event took place on June 25 at the Miramar Cultural Center in Broward County.

Palm Beach County Bar Association Inspires Local Students

By Lynne Poirier

The Palm Beach County Bar Association's Judicial Relations Committee, together with the Association's Lawyers for Literacy and Law Related Education Committees, brought the "Reading & Robes" program to students at Starlight Cove Elementary School, Lantana. The program is part of a community outreach initiative led by the National Judicial College.

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Pictured Left to Right: Hon. Bradley Harper, Hon. Paige Gillman, Hon. Samantha Feuer, and attorneys Kate Harris and Andrew Kwan



Students participating in the Reading & Robes event

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Judges and attorneys read Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor's autobiographical book, *Turning Pages: My Life Story* to the students. The group discussed the book as well as answered questions the students had about law, jury trials, the legal justice system, and careers in the law.

"By reading to the students in our robes, the students are able to connect with judges from diverse backgrounds on a personal level and have the opportunity to learn about the justice system, the jury trial system, and the importance of jury service," said Judge Samantha Feuer. "Our first event at Starlight Cove Elementary was a great success. Due to COVID-19, we appeared virtually. Each student received an autographed copy of Justice Sotomayor's book to encourage the students to build their own libraries at home," said Kate Woods Harris, Esq.

"When I heard about this event I immediately asked to participate. And why? Because I know as judges we can serve as role models for our children by showing not only what judges do but also our humanity. And of course, the book by Justice Sonia Sotomayor, which detailed her early struggles that she had to overcome, is an inspiration for all of us - and in particular those students who can relate to role models such as Justice Sotomayor," said (retired) Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente.

Purchase of the autographed books were made possible by donations from members of the Palm Beach County Bar Association.

Court Technology Staff Present to International Audience

At the invitation of the National Judicial College, Fifteenth Circuit Chief Information Officer, Noel Chessman, and two panelists presented a 2-hour Zoom webinar on the subject of cybersecurity to the judicial branch of Ukraine on July 22, 2021. Mr. Gavin Green, Office of State Courts Administrator's (OSCA) Chief Information Security Officer, and Mr. Rich Haney of the Fifteenth Circuit served as panelists. Mr. Haney currently serves on the Florida Court Technology Commission's Cybersecurity Subcommittee.



Noel Chessman,
Chief Information Officer

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CYBERSECURITY 2021:
PROTECTING YOUR HOME, YOUR COURT, AND YOUR FUTURE /
КІБЕРБЕЗПЕКА 2021:
ЗАХИСТ ВАШОГО ДОМУ, ВАШОГО СУДУ І ВАШОГО МАЙБУТНЬОГО
ОГЛЯД КІБЕРЗАГРОЗ ДЛЯ ВІДДАЛЕНОЇ РОБОТИ, СУДОВОЇ ПРАКТИКИ ТА ВПЛИВ НА СУДОВІ ІННОВАЦІЇ В ПОСТКОВІДНУ ЕПОХУ



Rich Haney,
Systems Architecture Analyst

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The panelists divided the presentation into four subtopics:

1. “Ripped from the headlines,” a review of recent cybersecurity crimes against government entities (presented by Mr. Chessman)
2. “Protecting Your Home,” an analysis of challenges and best practices for the remote worker (presented by Mr. Haney)
3. “Protecting Your Court,” an assessment of standards and practices for a court’s decision makers (presented by Mr. Green)
4. “Protecting Your Future,” a look forward at building cybersecurity into future court applications in a paperless environment (presented by Mr. Chessman)

The course was one in a virtual learning series on judicial education. Notable presenters in this series included United States Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch.

Judges and justices from all Ukrainian jurisdictions attended the course. Additionally, Ukrainian court personnel, local officials, and National Judicial College staff attended. The presentation was translated on the screen into Ukrainian. A Ukrainian interpreter translated questions and answers for the audience.

The Ukrainian judges thanked the panelists for their thorough research of the Ukrainian judiciary and its efforts to become a digital court.

CIO Presents at “Tech Tips Coast to Coast”

On June 17, 2021, the Fifteenth Circuit’s Noel Chessman was one of nine Chief Information Officers (CIOs) nationwide who presented “Tech Tips Coast to Coast” to the Arkansas State Judicial Council. The Council is comprised of the Arkansas Supreme Court Justices, as well as all appellate and trial court judges, and the state Office of the Courts. Pictured below is a slide from the presentation depicting the CIOs and the jurisdictions they represent. In addition to the Fifteenth Circuit, two other Florida circuits were represented, the Eighteenth Circuit by Mr. Josh Lazar and the Eleventh Circuit by Mr. Roberto Adelardi.

A copy of the presentation can be viewed at https://15thcircuit.com/sites/default/files/court-admin/court-tech/2021_60_Tech_Tips_Arkansas_Judicial_Council_June.pdf



Image credit: Kathy Evans

Vaccination Van at the Courthouse

The Palm Beach County Department of Health Vaccination Van was stationed at the Main Courthouse for a week in August and again in September. Anyone who wished to obtain a vaccine (or booster, if eligible) was able to stop by and receive one at no cost and without the need for an appointment. Chief Judge Kelley, who was instrumental in obtaining the services of the Vaccination Van, encouraged court staff to take advantage of the convenient placement of the Vaccination Van.



Photo credit: Elizabeth Fairall

The Palm Beach County Department of Health Vaccination Van will be stationed outside the Belle Glade Courthouse October 19 to October 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Any person interested in a vaccine or eligible for a booster may obtain a dose at no cost.

“It is my fervent hope that those reading this, and your eligible friends and family members who remain unvaccinated, will strongly consider vaccination. The Delta variant is deadly and every reputable doctor and scientist, as well as the Centers for Disease Control, has called the current disease the ‘disease of the unvaccinated,’” Judge Donald Hafele said.

New Employees

Welcome to our new employees who began their duties in July - September 2021:

- **Daniel Fontilien**, Certified Creole Court Interpreter, July 6
- **Christina Chappa**, Student Technologist, July 8
- **Daniela Vega**, Trial Court Staff Attorney, August 9
- **Ashlyn Darden**, Trial Court Staff Attorney, August 9
- **Reid Kay**, OPS Court Program Specialist II, Civil, August 10
- **Nicolas Salvador**, Digital Court Reporter, August 10
- **Jennifer Klee**, Magistrate, Family, August 16
- **Elizabeth Fairall**, Law Library Manager, August 18
- **Nadya Aleman**, Administrative Assistant II OPS, Mediation, August 27
- **Daniela Montalvan**, Court Civil CM, September 20
- **Brittany McCarthy**, Family Court CM, September 27
- **Katherine Mullinax**, Trial Court Staff Attorney, September 27

Also, congratulations to the court employees who were hired into a new position in the Circuit:

- **Charles Schlumberger**, Supervising Trial Court Staff Attorney, July 14
- **Robin Shevock**, Program Coordinator, Civil, July 12
- **Bell Cirius**, Program Coordinator, Early Childhood Court, July 21
- **Debbian Livingstone**, Juvenile Court Coordinator, August 30
- **Felicia Nedd**, Court Program Specialist II, Drug Court, September 13



Administrative Orders

The following AOs were updated or created July - September, 2021:

- 11.102 - 7/1 - Assignment of Administrative Judges and Executive Committee
- 4.906 - 7/19 - Mental Health Specialty Division "T"
- 12.515 - 7/30 - COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols and Operational Measures
- 11.101 - 8/10 - Assignment of Judges
- 11.104 - 8/10 - Seniority Listing of Judges
- 2.606 - 8/11 - Appointment of Chief Judge Designee to Hear Requests by General Registry Attorneys for Additional Compensation
- 4.302 - 8/11 - Paperwork for Negotiated Pleas
- 2.503 - 8/31 - Court Reporting Services
- 11.203 - 9/1 - Appointment of Magistrates
- 11.110 - 9/1 - Appointment of Circuit Judges as Acting County Judges; Appointment of County Judges as Acting Circuit Judges
- 11.106 - 9/1 - Alternate Assignments
- 5.501 - 9/1 - Domestic, Repeat, Dating, and Sexual Violence Injunctions
- 5.104 - 9/1 - UFC Magistrates
- 12.504 - 9/9 - County Canvassing Board
- 2.313 - 9/10 - Assignment of Criminal and Civil Contempt Cases
- 12.515 - 9/10 - COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols and Operational Measures
- 11.701 - 9/15 - Civil Rights Complaint Procedure
- 11.108 - 9/20 - Duty Judge/Emergencies
- 11.101 - 9/29 - Assignment of Judges

For updates to the latest Administrative Orders (AOs) for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, please visit our website at: <https://www.15thcircuit.com/administrative-orders>

Fifteenth Judicial Circuit on LinkedIn



You can now connect with your Fifteenth Judicial Circuit co-workers on America's largest professional network. Your Human Resources department will post information about happenings in the Circuit, current job opportunities, and other information to keep you connected to Circuit related events. You can find us by name: 15th Judicial Circuit.

Also consider following the Circuit via Twitter: @15thCircuit. If you do not have a Twitter account, you can always view our latest Tweets by clicking on the Twitter icon at the bottom of the Circuit website.



Do you have news to include in the next issue of the *Circuit Courier*? Email Elizabeth Fairall at EFairall@pbcgov.org.



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