

Judicial Branch News

Five Interpreters Sworn-In



New Judge Q-and-A: Joan Sinclair

Governor Appoints Former Commissioner

The Governor appointed former Commissioner Joan Sinclair to the Maricopa County Superior Court.

“With more than two decades of courtroom experience in Arizona, Joan is well-rounded and well-suited for this important judicial role,” said Governor Jan Brewer.

Judge Sinclair was a Maricopa County Superior Court Commissioner since 2006. She originally presided over initial appearances in criminal matters and has been assigned to juvenile court since 2007.

Judge Sinclair has been licensed to practice law in Arizona since 1995. She also is a member of the New York and Georgia state bars. Prior to serving as a Court Commissioner for Maricopa County, she worked for several years in Atlanta, Ga., where her roles included: Social Security Disability Litigation Unit; Federal Highway Administration; and Dekalb County Juvenile Court Solicitor’s Office.

Since earning her license to practice in Arizona, Judge Sinclair served as a Maricopa County Attorney and worked for the Arizona Death Penalty Judicial Assistance Program. She also clerked for Chief Justice Bud Jones in the Arizona Supreme Court and practiced at firms Meagher & Geer and Dodge Anderson.

The Governor’s appointment of Judge Sinclair fills the opening created by the recent appointment of Judge Samuel Thumma to the Arizona Court of Appeals.

Q. What has surprised you the most about making the transition from commissioner to judge? Please explain.

I have not had any real surprises on the transition from commissioner to judge. It still sounds a little odd when people refer to me as judge.

Q. Who has been the biggest inspiration in your legal career?

My biggest inspiration in my legal career was former Arizona Chief Justice Charles Jones. I clerked for him from August 2001 to August 2002. It was a wonderful experience seeing firsthand how he approached issues at the appellate level. I learned a lot that year both from the work and from him. I have also been inspired by former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor and former Arizona Chief Justice Ruth McGregor. These ladies have been role models for me.

Q. What’s your favorite quote? (This can be something one of your children said to you, what you said to them, a line from poetry or something you wish you hadn’t said).

My parents were happily married almost 41 years before my mother passed away. She used to say in jest when talking about her relationship with my father that “what’s mine is mine and what’s his is mine.” Thinking about that always makes me laugh.

Q. If you had a day to spend with anyone (living or dead, real or fictional), who would it be and what would you do?

If I had a day to spend with anyone, living or dead, I would spend the day with my mother and my daughters, just getting caught up on what’s been going on since she passed.

Q. Do you own an IPOD? If so, what songs are currently in your playlist?

I don’t own an IPOD-my children do, but I don’t.



Joan Sinclair



Volunteers Needed For Adoption Day

Superior Court is seeking volunteers for National Adoption Day, Saturday, November 17, 2012. For the last four years, Maricopa County has led the nation in the number of adoptions.

To volunteer, please send an email expressing your interest to nadvolunteer@gmail.com *no later than October 26th*.

APD Collaborates With Buckeye Police Department



The Adult Probation Department presented plaques and certificates of appreciation to the City of Buckeye Town Hall and the Buckeye Police Department.

From Left: Adult Probation Chief Barbara Broderick, Buckeye Police Chief Mark Mann, and Adult Probation Supervisor Anna King.

For the past two years, the Maricopa County Adult Probation (MCAPD) Officers and Supervisor Anna King, assigned to the City of Buckeye, have been working with Buckeye Police Department to keep the community safe.

With the help of Buckeye Police Chief Mark Mann, APD officers are working in remodeled spaces at the Buckeye Police Department and City of Buckeye Town Hall. The venture has been beneficial for APD and Buckeye Police. As a result, APD officers are able to conduct business in new office spaces in Buckeye; while, Buckeye Police are able to learn valuable information from APD about probationers living in their community.

By Adult Probation Supervisor, Anna King

New Court Commissioner

Superior Court announced the appointment of William Wingard as its newest Commissioner.

"Bill has been a private practitioner for many years, specializing in family law matters and has served for the last six years as a judge pro temp in the family and juvenile departments," Presiding Judge Norman Davis said. "He comes highly recommended by our Commissioner Selection Committee as well as numerous people in the legal community who are familiar with his work."

Commissioner Wingard will start on September 24 in Juvenile Court.

Family Engagement Summit



The Juvenile Court outreach team had a resource table "Connecting Community & the Court" at the Family Engagement Summit at Greenfield Middle School in Phoenix.

Superior Court Marshal's Office Graduation Ceremony



Presiding Judge Norman Davis delivers the oath of office to the graduating class of Marshals.



Presiding Judge Norman Davis welcomes Superior Court's latest graduating class of Marshals.



The graduating class of Superior Court Marshals show their appreciation for Major Jessie Summers (left) and Chief Marshal Edward DeCoste (right) by presenting them a plaque.

Photo Highlights



Judge John Buttrick says farewell at his retirement party. He served on the Superior Court Bench since 2001.



A new ADP Time Clock in the Downtown Justice Center. The clock tracks employees' hours.



Color Guard Volunteers Wanted

The Maricopa County Color Guard is a group comprised of Maricopa County and Superior Court employees, who are either current or former military service members, that volunteer to post and retire the colors at county-sponsored events and functions. Besides the requirement of current or former military, the other requirements are that you possess a service dress uniform from your branch of service that is in good repair that fits you well, and you must be willing to maintain grooming standards that are in keeping with your branch of service requirements for wear of the uniform. Finally, you must be able to execute basic military marching commands.

The Maricopa County Color Guard receives requests throughout the year from the Board of Supervisors and the County Manager's Office to post and retire the colors at county-sponsored functions such as dedication ceremonies, diversity celebrations, and Memorial Day and Veterans Day events. As a volunteer, you should be willing to devote at least one hour of your time to the events you agree to attend.

To volunteer or for more information about the Maricopa County Color Guard, please contact Gary Bridget at (602) 506-8568 or gbridget@courthr.maricopa.gov.

By Gary Bridget
Human Resources

Employee Anniversaries

5 Years

Rachel Chavez, Presentence Screener
Steven Horton, Adult Probation Officer
Tameka Loyd, Adult Probation Officer
Amy Melgaard, Lead Comm Systems Operator
Jane Parker, Adult Probation Officer Supv
Neil Smith, Adult Probation Officer
Monica L Robles, Judicial Clerk Senior
Chukwuemeka Onyeforo, Juvenile Detention Officer
Dawn M Bergin, Superior Court Judge
Craig Brooks, IT Services Supv
Christina M Chatman, Security Officer II
Daniel G Martin, Superior Court Judge
Eugene R Monson, Security Officer II
Samuel J Myers, Superior Court Judge
Debra L Rubin, Judicial Staff Trainer/Coord
Roger E Brodman, Superior Court Judge
Susanna C Pineda-Rodriguez, Superior Court Judge
Jenna M Fitzgerald, Adult Probation Officer
Paul A Monroe, Presentence Screener
Veronica M Morales, Judicial Clerk Senior
Richard F Albrecht, Court Commissioner
Samuel Lucena, Security Officer II
Carrie D Newman, Court Reporter
Joseph C Kreamer, Superior Court Judge

10 Years

Melinda S Armijo, Judicial Clerk
Manuel Peraza, Adult Probation Officer
Christopher J Black, Adult Probation Officer
Teri L Dane Acevedo, Adult Probation Officer
Kim M Grosskopf, Adult Probation Officer
Joi C Guillory-Alicea, Adult Probation Officer
Daphne M Haslerig, Adult Probation Officer
Michelle L Medina, Judicial Clerk Associate
Maria L Kotowski, Judicial Clerk Associate
Kimberlee J Hudson, Judicial Assistant
Tamara R Ogden, Judicial Clerk Lead
Gladys Villegas, Conference Officer
James E Mitchell, Juvenile Detention Officer
Julie T Quiroz, Surveillance Officer
Garry B Wilmore, Case Mgmt Administrator
Cuong V Nhan, Adult Probation Officer

15 Years

Abril Martinez, Case Administrator
Stacey L Bowden, Surveillance Officer
Armandina Cavazos, Human Resources Specialist
Colleen A McNally, Superior Court Judge
Julie G Cuen, Administrative Assistant
Anna L Huberman, Court Interpreter
Stephanie M Valenzuela, Business/Systems Anlyst

20 Years

Jay L Davis, Court Commissioner

25 Years

Lois A Fregoso, Judicial Clerk Supervisor

32 Years

Jennifer J Stadler, Bailiff

33 Years

Herbert Quezada, Juvenile Probation Officer