

Judicial Branch News



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Cover Photo - Dan Rodgers, Senior Instructor, MCAPD Education Program, and Adult Probation Chief Barbara Broderick accept the American Probation and Parole Association's President Award at the APPA's 38th Annual Training Institute in Baltimore, MD.

Judicial Branch News

The Judicial Branch News is an online newsletter published by the Media Relations Department.

If you wish to contribute to this newsletter, please send articles, news items, photos or other correspondence to: karra@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov.

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Adoption Day Seeking Volunteers

Volunteers are needed for the 2013 National Adoption Day event.

The event will be held on Saturday, November 23rd at Durango Court in Phoenix.

Full-day and half-day volunteers are needed.

Please respond to nadvolunteer@gmail.com no later than October 26th if you are interested in volunteering.

Adult Education Program Receives National Honor

Adult Probation's Adult Education Program received the American Probation and Parole Association's (APPA) President's Award 2013. This award, presented at APPA's 38th Annual Training Institute in Baltimore, MD, recognizes an exemplary community corrections program that serves to advance the knowledge, effectiveness and the integrity of the criminal justice system. Organizations that receive this award exemplify the management and innovations necessary to lead community corrections into the next decade.

The Adult Education Program operates out of three adult education centers that are co-located in regional probation offices. Each center has a computer lab and classroom space, is staffed with state-certified adult education instructors, and provides educational services that are responsive to the needs of adult learners. The program serves approximately 2,000 students annually, which include probationers as well as other adults from the community. The adult education instructors are trained in evidence-based correctional practices and are committed to working in concert with other probation staff to accomplish positive probationer outcomes and reduced recidivism. The Adult Education Program has surpassed state performance targets on all of the State and Federal Department of Education Core Goals for the last 10 years. In FY 2012, the Arizona Department of Education ranked the program as the #1 adult education program in the state.

Submitted by Kellen Stadler

Criminal Court: Did you Know?

Interesting facts and figures from the Criminal Department

1. Less than two percent of criminal cases go to trial.
2. Each year, approximately 65,000 defendants are processed through Initial Appearance Court.
3. More than 1,000 search warrant affidavits and more than 600 search warrant returns are filed monthly.
4. There are more than 20 defendants appearing in IA Court every three hours.
5. Approximately 90 percent of criminal cases are resolved within one year.
6. Roughly 49 percent of all cases are resolved within 90 days.



Employee Anniversaries

5 Years

Gail Ferguson, Court Reporter
 Susan Boyer, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Marshall Walters, Counselor
 Benjamin Norris, Superior Court Judge
 Christina Sanchez, Judicial Assistant - Classified
 Kimberly Amos, Conference Officer
 Kenneth Hansen, Security Officer II
 Victoria Lazo, Security Officer II
 Jesus Verdugo Alapisco, Security Officer II
 Sinan Fazlovic, Adult Probation Officer

10 Years

Nancy Fitch, Judicial Clerk Associate
 Erma Hernandez, Judicial Clerk Senior
 Joyce Rehnert, Judicial Clerk
 Sandra Sanchez, Adult Probation Officer
 Sofia Gonzalez, Judicial Assistant
 Jason Wittman, Juvenile Detention Officer

15 Years

Mary Perales, Judicial Clerk Supervisor
 Michael Dada, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Clarissa Harris, Juvenile Probation Officer

20 Years

John Cleland, Surveillance Officer
 Scharlene DeHorney, Juvenile Prob Division Manager

25 Years

Leslie Ebratt, Adult Probation Officer Supervisor
 Beverly Geske, Adult Probation Officer
 David Servilican, Adult Probation Officer Supervisor

31 Years

Lydia Estrada-Gray, Court Reporter

34 Years

Scott Loos, Court Interpreter Supervisor

Payroll Week

Did you know that September 2-6, 2013 is National Payroll Week? The Human Resource office would like to recognize the payroll staff and timekeepers throughout the Judicial Branch for their hard work and dedication. Processing payroll takes great attention to detail and patience. During National Payroll Week, please take a moment to give them an extra special thank you for all they do to ensure you are paid correctly every pay period. Thank you to the following Payroll Staff and Timekeepers:

Donna Arwine, Liz Campos, Orlanda Carr, Angie Chavez Jimmi Larkins Robertson, Connie Scott, Sandy Mason, Christina Barbarisi, Janice Holland, Samuel Pena, Jaime Sandoval, Chad Williams and Kim Daniels.

Submitted by Tracy Randall

Administrators Shift Duties

Superior Court Administration has revised duties and responsibilities of several of its court managers.

Effective September 1, the Administrative Services Department (ASD) will be divided into two separate sections, Human Resources and Financial Affairs. Phil Hanley will continue to oversee financial operations and Danna Quinn will assume leadership of human resources.

As a result, the following management assignments will be affected:

Karen Westover will assume leadership over the regional court operations, liaison to Limited Jurisdiction Courts, Homeless Court, Veteran's Court and Special Projects.

Phil Knox will assume leadership over the Court Interpreters and Criminal Law Clerks in addition to his responsibilities to the Criminal and Civil/Tax Departments, Court Reporters and Jury Service units.

Richard Woods will assume leadership of the Law Library, Self-Service Center and Protective Order Center in addition to his responsibilities to the Family, Juvenile and Probate/Mental Health Departments, Judge Pro Tem and ADR units.

Court Hires New Chief to Run CTS



*Kris Jamsa
Chief Information Officer*

Dr. Kris Jamsa was recently appointed as Chief Information Officer.

As the new CIO, Dr. Jamsa will head Court Technology Services.

“Kris comes to the Judicial Branch with an impressive background in technology operations,” Judicial Branch Administrator Raymond Billotte said. “He is looking forward to joining the Court’s team and working with everyone to improve our business processes through the most efficient use of modern technology.”

Most recently, Dr. Jamsa served as Chief Technology Officer for an educational company delivering online learning content to children. Previously, he served as Chief Information Officer and Chief Learning Officer for a publicly traded healthcare company and has also enjoyed success as owner of several successful business enterprises.

Dr. Jamsa has an extensive educational background in computer science and has combined that with a strong interest in teaching, instructional design and curriculum development. He attended the United States Air Force Academy earning a B.S. in Computer Science and a Masters degree and Ph.D. in both computer science and education. Also, he earned a MBA from San Diego State University and has authored more than 100 publications in the field of computer science and online learning.

iCISng in IA Court: A Year Later

IA Court has been using iCISng for more than a year now and the change in Initial Appearance Court has been dramatic. Going paperless seemed like such a daunting task when we started working with CTS analysts and programmers. The mapping of our business process was a little scary but the actual transition went smoother and easier than expected. Over Mother’s Day weekend of May, 2012, IA Court switched from classic iCIS to iCISng, and the results have been amazing.

The biggest change was the automation of dockets. Previously, staff manually inputted defendant’s information such as court dates, assigning legal representation and more. As a result, processing defendant’s information became more efficient and accurate.

The most palpable change has been the decrease in paper and mailings. Before iCISng, we used seven to twelve boxes of paper a week and the needed ink cartridges to print hundreds of forms everyday. Every weekday, we would send envelopes full of packets to all the Justice Courts and many of the Municipal Courts, and in addition, hand deliver twice as many packets to the various divisions of Superior Court. Now, iCISng electronically transmits information to the courts and, as a result, we only mail one or two small envelopes a week to the few courts in smaller counties in Arizona who don’t use email.

There were plenty of bugs to work out in the beginning, and a few still arise from time to time, but everyone in IA Court agrees that iCISng’s IA application has been well worth the effort we put into it. There are many more benefits than the ones listed, and the staff in IA Court continues to work with CTS to improve iCISng. Its’ value goes well beyond the staff, Maricopa County, the Judicial Officers and defendants have also reaped the benefits.

By Todd Herrera-Ridenhour