

Judicial Branch News

Message From the Presiding Judge

By Presiding Judge Janet Barton

As I sit and type this article, I find it mind-boggling that it's mid-December; 2016 is days away; and I've been the Presiding Judge for nearly six months now. Where does the time go???

I'm also cognizant that a time honored tradition will be occurring in the not too distant future (and no I'm not talking about rotation announcements). Rather what I'm referring to is the adoption of our New Year's resolution(s). What will we commit to this year? Will it be one of the old standbys -- quit smoking; lose weight; start working out? For those of you who may be struggling about two weeks from now in coming up with a realistic and achievable New Year's Resolution, let me offer the following as possible suggestions:

**Mend a Quarrel.
Seek out a Forgotten Friend.
Write a Love Letter. Share some Treasure.
Give a Soft Answer. Encourage Youth.
Keep a Promise. Find the Time.
Apologize if you were Wrong.
Think First of Someone Else.
Be Kind and Gentle. Laugh a Little.
Laugh a Little More. Express Your Gratitude.
Gladden a Heart of a Child.
Take Pleasure in the Beauty & Wonder of the Earth.
Speak Your Love. Speak it Again.
Speak it Still Once Again.**

- Anonymous -

Happy Holidays everyone. I can't wait to see what the Judicial Branch accomplishes in 2016.



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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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New Judge Q-and-A: Alison Bachus



Hon. Alison Bachus

Q. What has surprised you the most about making the transition from General Counsel for the Federal Bureau of Prisons to a judge?

When I was first appointed, nearly everyone told me this job would be very isolating. However, I have not found that to be the case. Perhaps it is all relative; I worked in a federal prison immediately before coming here. However, I like to chalk it up to the wonderful judicial officers we have here at Superior Court. I often speak with fellow JOs about issues that arise, and everyone has been fantastic. I have been so impressed with the level of professionalism of court staff, and the collegiality and welcoming atmosphere fostered by my colleagues on the bench. I am proud to be a member of this team.

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

As a law student, I had the opportunity to do a summer externship with then-Chief Judge Stephen M. McNamee of the U.S. District Court here in Phoenix. I also clerked for Judge McNamee after graduating law school. We have remained in close contact ever since that time, and he has been a huge inspiration to me. He is thoughtful and fair to all parties, and he cares about each and every member of the court family.

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).

A line from a song by John Lennon has always struck me: "Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans." It has reminded me to live in the present and appreciate the little things. This has been particularly important to me as a mom.

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?

My grandmother, who passed away before I was born. By all accounts, she was very smart, funny, and a great cook. I make many of her recipes, so I feel connected to her in that way. She was also an avid baseball fan, who would drive several hours nearly every weekend to cheer on her beloved St. Louis Cardinals. I am a huge fan of baseball as well, and it would be wonderful to catch a game and share some laughs with Grandma Jane.

Q. What songs are currently in your playlist?

Anything by Jill Scott. I just recently saw her in concert; she was amazing and really belted it out!

FY2015 Annual Report is Now Online

To read the full report visit:
<http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/MediaRelationsDepartment/docs/annual-report-2015.pdf>

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Maricopa County Demographics

21 Land area ranking in US*

9,224 Maricopa County, Arizona square miles

3,817,117 Maricopa County's population*

4th largest trial court jurisdiction in the US

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60 Percent of Arizonans live in Maricopa County*

*Data from 2010 US Census Fact for Maricopa County

FY15 Facts and Figures

- Twelve judges retired in FY15
- One in four Commissioners on the bench attended ASU Law School
- Superior Court grew by three judges in FY15
- Drug paraphernalia and possession was the most charged offense
- At the end of FY15, sixty three capitol cases remained
- 48,256 Spanish language matters were interpreted
- 10,085 pages of trial related material were translated in FY15
- 48,435 forms were distributed at the Self Service Center
- The Jury Office paid \$876,084 in juror pay and \$2.3 million in juror mileage
- 472,769 jurors were summoned
- Adult Probation collected more than \$27 million from probationers

Employee Anniversaries

5 Years

Matthew Davis, Judicial Assistant
Ines Jankovic, Adult Probation Officer
Derrick Knott, Adult Probation Officer
Roger Moore, Adult Probation Officer
William Peckham, Adult Probation Officer
Cheryl White, Adult Probation Officer
Carolyn Edlund, Senior Law Researcher

10 Years

Tiffany Butler, Judicial Clerk Supervisor
Judy Chacon, Case Administrator
Franchesca Gruber, Adult Probation Officer
Christine Medina, Communications System Operator
Marci Bogan, Judicial Clerk Supervisor
Jennifer Nikolaus, Judicial Clerk Senior
Andrea Cocking, Judicial Clerk Senior
Carla Loi, Adult Probation Officer
Cheryl Mitchell, Judicial Clerk
Corie Sleseman, Judicial Clerk Lead
Sarah VanGoethem, Judicial Clerk Supervisor
Sharon Proctor, Judicial Clerk Senior

15 Years

Clinton Hill, Surveillance Officer
Guat Loo-Bellofiore, Management Analyst
Cleo Quinn, Judicial Clerk Associate
Paul Starr, Surveillance Officer
Scott Kirby, Juvenile Detention Officer
Robindee Jensen, Judicial Clerk Senior

20 Years

Luzviminda Vacca, Case Administrator
Catharina Johnson, Safety Supervisor
Nancy Hamana, Juvenile Probation Officer
Nelda Hudson, Office Assistant Specialized
Steven Gonzales, Management Analyst
Debra Stalhut, Judicial Clerk Supervisor

25 Years

Geralyn Beltran, Surveillance Officer

31 Years

Olivia Ramirez, Judicial Clerk Supervisor

33 Years

Frank Groenewold, Juvenile Probation Deputy Chief

34 Years

Cindy Ingles, Judicial Assistant

Investiture Ceremony



Arizona Supreme Court Justice Robert Brutinel swears in Judge Ronee Korbin Steiner during her investiture ceremony on December 11 in downtown Phoenix.



* Information provided by Debbie Gilliland in the Human Resources Department.

2015 Garfield Turkey Feast



Adult Probation opened the Garfield Community Center to the neighborhood for a free turkey dinner with all the trimmings on November 19th. More than 500 guests attended the event, staffed by more than 75 volunteers. The Phoenix Fire Department dropped off St. Nick in a shiny red fire engine, which thrilled adults and children alike. The children were able to pick up free books, look over the fire engine, visit with Santa and get a toy. Guests visited with each other, a community police officer, and representatives from various organizations, and could even get a flu shot at the event.

By Probation Officer Supervisor Joe Pallo

Commissioner Swearing-in Ceremonies



Maricopa County Bar Association President T.J. Ryan presents Commissioner Laura Giaquinto with a ceremonial gavel during her swearing-in ceremony in the Board of Supervisors Auditorium.



Presiding Judge Janet Barton delivers the oath of office to Commissioner Julie LaFave during her swearing-in ceremony in the Board of Supervisors Auditorium.

JTOP Graduation Ceremony



On December 14, Judge Christopher Coury and Judge Sally Duncan presided over the graduation of 13 Juvenile Transfer Offender Program (JTOP) participants. The program provides youthful probationers supervision with a probation team that possesses expertise in managing juvenile offenders in the adult system.

Court Reporter Bake Off and Holiday Party



The Court Reporting Department had a bake off and invited Judge Sherry Stephens, Judge Alfred Fenzel and Phil Knox to judge the entries. Court Reporter Janell Rose did the decorations and planned the event.

Northeast Potluck



Scenes from the Northeast Regional Center Potluck.

Robin Hoskins Retires



Robin Hoskins (center) with her parents. (Maricopa County Treasurer Charles "Hos" Hoskins and her mother Pudge.)

Robin Hoskins retired after 30 years of government service. As a Judicial Branch employee for the last 25 years, she worked with Adult and Juvenile Probation and Court Administration.



Recruitment Judge Pro Tempore

The Judicial Branch of Arizona in Maricopa County is seeking qualified applicants for **Judges Pro Tempore in Superior Court**
For the appointment term
July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

Visit our website to apply on-line:
www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov

**Applications will be accepted from
January 4, 2016 to February 5, 2016**

For questions:
Patricia Schuler
(602) 372-2559

JPTprogram@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov

A Judge Pro Tempore serves on a volunteer, pro bono basis and must meet the following qualifications:

- Not less than 30 years of age
- Of good moral character
- Admitted to the practice of law in this state for not less than five years preceeding his or her appointment

Judge Pro Tempore candidates are appointed by the Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court subject to the approval of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors.

NOTE: If you are currently a Superior Court Judge Pro Tempore, YOU NEED TO REAPPLY

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