

# Judicial Branch News



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**Cover** - After a hearing at Arizona StandDown, Judge Bruce Cohen thanks a veteran for his service.

## 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](mailto:karra@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov).

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# Arizona StandDown Helps Homeless Veterans

On Saturday, February 15, a team of Superior Court employees and 15 judicial officers volunteered their services to help homeless and at-risk veterans resolve their court issues during Arizona StandDown.

In courtrooms constructed inside the Phoenix Memorial Coliseum at the Arizona State Fairgrounds, Superior Court, Maricopa County Justice Courts and city municipal courts heard matters to help veterans resolve any pending legal and financial issues.

“We are allowing these veterans a chance to clear their record. Many of them have accumulated substance abuse felony and misdemeanor convictions as well as fines and fees,” Criminal Presiding Judge Joseph Welty said. “For many, these outstanding issues are keeping them from getting drivers licenses and jobs. If they are unable to pay their fines, we may be able to eliminate or convert them into community service hours. To get these folks back and productive is really the goal.”



*Judge David Gass hears a case at Arizona StandDown.*

One veteran, who suffers from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, is grateful for the services provided to him.

“As a result of my PTSD, I was self-medicating. This ultimately led to a felony conviction. I was sentenced to prison and ordered to pay fines that I was unable to pay. Now, through StandDown, my fines were converted to community service hours, and I can move on with my life.”

Arizona StandDown, an annual event since 2001, connects Arizona’s military veterans with services such as: healthcare, mental health services, clothing, meals, emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing, ID/ drivers’ licenses, court services and legal aid, showers and haircuts. This was the fourth year Superior Court participated in the event.

“I want to thank everyone who was involved. Fifteen judicial officers was just the tip of the iceberg. Many thanks to all the judges from other courts, bailiffs, clerks, court reporters, criminal administration leadership and staff, employees from the Adult Probation Office, attorneys, staff from Regional Homeless Court and those who provided technical computer services,” Judge Welty said. “There was an enormous amount of manpower involved. But to the extent that this is an outreach, one weekend a year, it should tell us that we need to be doing more to assist the homeless community.”

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## New Commissioner Appointment



Commissioner Richard J. Hinz

Presiding Judge Norman Davis appointed Richard James Hinz as Superior Court's newest Commissioner. He fills the vacancy created by Commissioner Jaime Holguin's retirement, and is assigned to the Family Court Department at the Southeast Regional Court Center.

Commissioner Hinz has practiced law for the last 16 years with the Arizona Attorney General's Office. Previously, he was a Deputy County Attorney with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office where he handled criminal trial and civil asset forfeiture cases.

He earned his Juris Doctorate from University of Notre Dame Law School, a Master's of Fine Arts from Goucher College and a Bachelor's Degree from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN.

"With his exceptional legal qualifications and community service commitments, Commissioner Hinz will be an excellent addition to our bench," Presiding Judge Norman Davis said.

## 2014 Judge Rotations

Judge Rotating	Assuming Calendar Assigned to Judge	Dept	Rotating To Region
Anderson, Aimee	Mead, Kathleen	FC	DT
Bailey, Cynthia	Viola, Danielle	FC	NE
Bergin, Dawn	Verdin, M.	CV	DT
Blomo, James	Herrod, Michael	CV	DT
Brotherton, Bill	Myers, Sam	FC	DT
Chavez, Harriett	Whitten, Chris	FC	DT
Crawford, Janice	Anderson, Aimee	JV	SE
Fenzel, Alfred	Bergin, Dawn	CR	DT
Fink, Dean	Chavez, Harriett	CR	DT
Garcia, Jeanne	Padilla, Jose	FC	NW
Hannah, John	Fenzel, Alfred	CV	NE
Herrod, Michael	Blomo, James	FC	DT
Kemp, Michael	Garcia, Jeanne	CR	DT
McCoy, Scott	McCoy, Scott	CR	DT
Mead, Kathleen	Kemp, Michael	FC	NW
Myers, Sam	O'Connor, Karen	CR	DT
O'Connor, Karen	Thompson, Peter	JV	SE
Padilla, Jose	Brotherton, Bill	CR	DT
Thompson, Peter	Hannah, John	FC	SE
Verdin, Maria	Crawford, Janice	FC	DT
Viola, Danielle	Bailey, Cynthia	CR	DT
Whitten, Chris	Fink, Dean	TX	DT
Flores, Lisa	Grant, Larry (New Judge)	JV	DUR
New Judge (Grant, Larry)	Flores, Lisa	CV	DT
Warner, Randy	Rayes, Doug (New Judge)	CV-X	DT
New Judge (Rayes, Doug)	Warner, Randy	CV	DT

## 2014 Commissioner Rotations

Comm Rotating	Assuming Calendar Assigned to Comm	Dept	Rotating To Region
Albrecht, Richard	Newell, Julie	FC	NE
Bernstein, Jerry	Mulleneaux, Christine	CR/MCC	DT
Davis, Jay L.	Ireland, Jacki	FC/CV/PB	NW
Donofrio, Charles	Miller, Phemonia	CR/DUI	DT
Doody, John	Otis, Erin	FC	DT
Hartsell, Roger	Washington, Eartha	FC	DT
Ireland, Jacki	Davis, Jay L.	CR/RCC	DT
Kaiser, Brian	Bernstein, Jerry	CR/DUI	DT
Miller, Phemonia	VandenBerg, Lisa	CR/MCC	DT
Mulleneaux, Christine	Hartsell, Roger	JV	DUR
Newell, Julie	Albrecht, Richard	CR/RCC	DT
Otis, Erin	Kaiser, Brian	CR/MCC	DT
Rees, Brian	Doody, Jack	CV	NE
Roberts, Lisa	Roberts, Lisa	CR/IA	DT
VandenBerg, Lisa	Rees, Brian	PB	DT
Washington, Eartha	Donofrio, Charles	CR/IA	DT

## Employee Anniversaries

### 5 Years

Derek Cuglietta, Help Desk Coordinator  
 James Rummage, Court Commissioner  
 Maida Torres, Security Officer II  
 Erin McNutt, Judicial Clerk Senior  
 David Gass, Superior Court Judge  
 Brenda Raygoza, Judicial Clerk Lead  
 Leon Webster, Detention Officer Supervisor - Probation

### 10 Years

Margaret Miller, Registered Nurse  
 Steven Lynch, Court Commissioner  
 Julie Newell, Court Commissioner  
 Anthony Stropoli, Judicial Clerk  
 Ganell Suminimo, Judicial Assistant - Classified  
 Barbara Chavez, Judicial Specialist  
 Bette McGuire, Judicial Clerk Associate  
 Sharesa Brown, Juvenile Probation Officer  
 Veronica Craig, Surveillance Officer  
 Kathleen Turek, Juvenile Detention Officer  
 Daniel Wagner, Juvenile Detention Officer  
 Jacqueline Traher, Justice System Manager  
 Charles Barrett, Programmer/Analyst - Sr/Ld

### 15 Years

Michael Cimino, Deputy Chief Adult Probation Officer  
 Margaret Johnston, Case Administrator  
 David Kozak, Adult Probation Officer  
 Jennifer Townsend, Adult Probation Officer  
 Jarek Wrobel, Adult Probation Officer  
 Lynda Zawatsky, Adult Probation Officer  
 Jeffrey Richards, Juvenile Probation Officer  
 Carl Taylor, Surveillance Officer  
 Ramona Robinson, Juvenile Detention Officer

### 20 Years

Jerry Pieczynski, Adult Probation Officer

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

## APPA Honors Adult Probation Officer



Maricopa County Adult Probation Chief Barbara Broderick (left) with Adult Probation Officer Kirsten Lewis.

The American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) selected Maricopa County Adult Probation Officer Kirsten R. Lewis to receive the distinguished 2014 APPA Sam Houston State University Award.

The award honors a practitioner who has published an article in a national or regional journal concerning probation, parole or community corrections that provides new information and insight into the operation, effectiveness or future of the community corrections profession.

Lewis wrote two professional articles, published in national journals in 2013, on the topic of traumatic stress and the personal impact of the job on probation officers.

Cathy Wyse  
 Adult Probation

## Judge Rodrick Coffey's Investiture Ceremony



Arizona Supreme Court Vice Chief Justice Scott Bales (right) delivers the oath of office to Judge Rodrick Coffey (left).

## Town Halls Conclude



In one of the last remaining Town Halls conducted in the in the East Court Building, Judicial Branch Administrator Ray Billotte discusses the results of the Employee Satisfaction Survey and Employee Engagement Sessions.



## Court Appoints Elaina Cano as Probate Administrator

Elaina Cano has been appointed as the new Probate and Mental Health Court Administrator. She has been serving as interim Administrator since October 2013. During her tenure with the Court, she served as Probate and Mental Health Deputy Court Administrator, Self Service Center Supervisor and Court Interpreter Services Coordinator.

## Criminal Court: ESS Follow-Up Session

Criminal Court Administration meets to discuss feedback and develop action items after its Employee Satisfaction Survey follow up session with staff.

Left to right: Paula Collins, Christopher Bleuenstein, Sandra Mena and Bob James.



## Training Hires New Coordinator



Eva Fatigoni

The Education and Training Department hired Eva Fatigoni as its new training coordinator.

Prior to joining the Judicial Branch, Ms. Fatigoni worked for the Maricopa County Education Service Agency (MCESA) where she was a Data Systems Specialist. Her responsibilities included overseeing and managing the data management system and providing technical support to MCESA staff, 20 partner school districts and project staff for the Arizona Department of Education.

She also worked as a Senior Program Coordinator at Arizona State University. While at ASU, she won awards for excellence for ensuring and supporting diverse learning environments. She was honored by the Faculty Women’s Association, the ASU Chicano and Latino Faculty & Staff Association and the Office of the Provost’s Intergroup Relations Center.

Ms. Fatigoni received a teaching certificate in Adult Basic Education; earned her Bachelor of Science degree, with honors, in Women Studies and obtained a Master of Education degree in Higher Education from Arizona State University.

*Cindy Reid  
Education and Training Director*



*Contract workers clean the windows of the Central Court Building in Phoenix.*

## Employee Improves Access to Files



Faith Sawyer

Faith Sawyer has helped Superior Court’s Civil Department go paperless.

Recently, Faith converted the Change of Judge Report and the Civil Trials and Outcome Report from hard copies to electronic files. Rather than taking up space in file cabinets in the basement of the Old Courthouse, the files are now highly organized on the internal shared drive.

As a result, the electronic documents are more accessible to judges and court staff, which improves efficiency and streamlines Civil Court operations.

“The entire Civil Department is appreciative of Faith’s hard work and her innovative ideas,” said Civil Court Administrator Peter Kiefer.