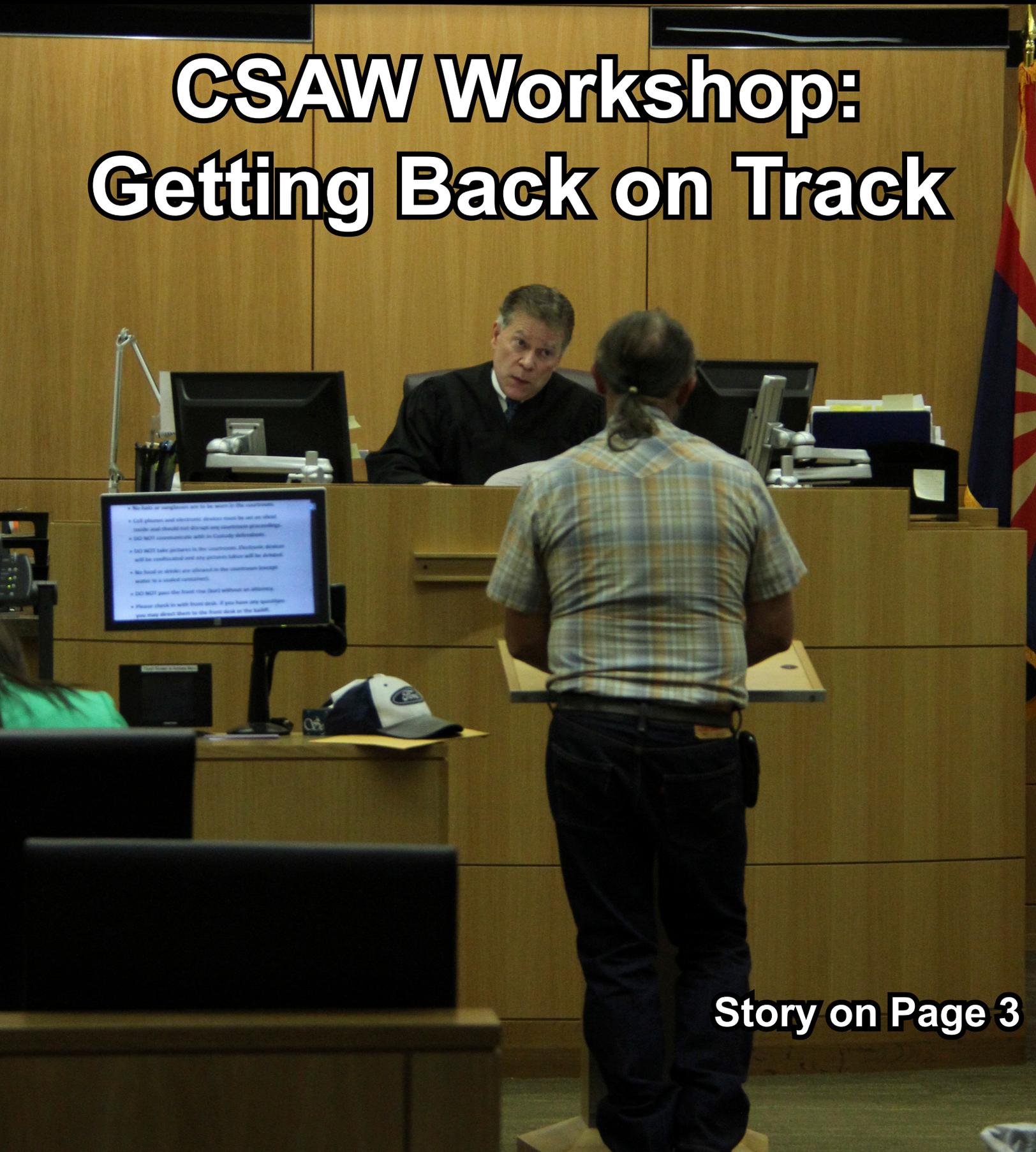


Judicial Branch News

CSAW Workshop: Getting Back on Track



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- Cover** - Presiding Family Court Judge Paul McMurdie on the bench during a child support hearing.

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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CSAW Workshop: Getting Back on Track

On February 5th, Superior Court hosted its first ever Child Support Arrest Warrant (CSAW) Workshop to help people with child support warrants get back on track.

In exchange for paying one full month of child support and participating in future court hearings, Superior Court agreed to quash arrest warrants for obligors.

“We want obligors with unpaid child support to come to court on time and make their payments. The workshop is like a New Year’s Resolution Day,” Commissioner Wendy Morton said.

During the workshop, Presiding Family Court Judge Paul McMurdie and Commissioner Morton oversaw the child support proceedings while social service providers and court staff were on hand in the jury assembly room to provide employment and additional resources for those who needed help. Agencies such as the Department of Economic Security and Father Matters offered help with resumes, job and interview skills and transportation.

Ninety five participants attended the event; both those who should receive and those who should pay support. Of that number, 48 arrest warrants were quashed. Superior Court also collected \$16,691.75 in child support payments and parties who attended the event stipulated to waiving \$123,162.57 in arrears during the event.

Superior Court also examined cases with warrants before 2000, and for 2012, 2013 and 2014. For those cases where the obligor was making their payments on a consistent basis, and for the pre-2000 warrants where the child was emancipated, the Court quashed those warrants. In all, 340 warrants were quashed.

“The event was very successful. We are going to sit down with court and Attorney General staff to talk about what we learned and how we can prepare for the next one. We are also going to continue monitoring obligors who had their warrants quashed,” Judge McMurdie said.



Employee Anniversaries

5 Years

Anthony Previte, PC/LAN Technician
 Carson Heussner, Adult Probation Officer
 Samantha Ott, Case Administrator
 Megan Merker, Adult Probation Officer
 Guadalupe Gonzalez, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Danielle Radler, Juvenile Detention Officer Supervisor

10 Years

Perla Chavez, Adult Probation Officer
 Deborah Coleman, Adult Probation Officer
 Rodney Burton, Judicial Assistant
 Nicole Garcia, Justice System Manager
 Martha Hidalgo, Court Security Deputy Marshal
 Richard Varela, Office Assistant
 Jocelyn Myers, Adult Probation Officer
 Lisa Flores, Superior Court Judge
 Gregory Medeiros, Judicial Assistant - Classified
 Peter Marturana, Human Resources Analyst

15 Years

Brian Rees, Court Commissioner
 Roland Steinle, Superior Court Judge
 Luz Franco, Court Reporter
 Robert Asay, Adult Probation Officer
 Lynne Carpenter, Adult Probation Officer
 Michael Moreno, Adult Probation Officer
 Darrick Payne, Adult Probation Officer Supervisor
 Patrick Swafford, Adult Probation Officer
 Paul Christie, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Aimee Anderson, Superior Court Judge
 Maria Maurin, Court Security Deputy Marshal

20 Years

Shannon Hendrix, Juvenile Probation Officer
 Lara Meier, Juvenile Probation Officer Supervisor
 Julie Ramirez, Judicial Assistant
 Carlos Perez, Juvenile Probation Officer

25 Years

Tania Green, Judicial Clerk Supervisor
 James Kaminsky, Juvenile Probation Officer Supervisor
 William King, Juvenile Probation Officer Supervisor
 Jeanne Davis, Court Investigator
 Mark Moreno, Judicial Assistant

30 Years

Debra Adamson, Adult Probation Officer
 James Marshburn, Surveillance Officer
 Kit Russell, Adult Probation Officer
 Michele Bodenmiller, Presentence Screener
 Richard Breed, Adult Probation Officer Supervisor
 Robert Cherkos, Adult Probation Officer Supervisor

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

Comm. Lisa Vandenberg Shares Her Love For Cheeseburgers



Commissioner Lisa Vandenberg enjoys a cheeseburger at Tom's Tavern in Downtown Phoenix.

What is your fascination with cheeseburgers?

Cheeseburgers transcend the basic need for food and lift the eater into a momentary nirvana-like state. You could tell me that that doesn't happen for you, but I wouldn't believe it.

Is it your goal to eat a cheeseburger in every state? If so, what states are remaining on your list?

Goal may be an overstatement, though I have eaten a cheeseburger in every North and Central American city I've been to—I'm saddened to say I did not eat a cheeseburger in Israel. You've given me something to consider though. I just have to eat cheeseburgers in Hawaii, Alaska, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, and South Dakota and I will have had one from every state. I guess I know what I will be doing for vacation this year.

What was your favorite cheeseburger? Why?

My Dad's. My father is a mid-west meat lover, and from his point of view I am practically a vegetarian. The cheeseburger is something I've always enjoyed that he enjoys making for me. Over the years, we have developed a special burger ritual that he does only for me. At least once a visit, my Dad will make me breakfast burgers and they are amazing! He takes dinner rolls, usually the Hawaiian King Rolls, and fries thin patties made to fit the bun perfectly. They are well salted before they hit the pan sizzling, and he tops it with a pat of butter. They come out a bit crispy with melted cheddar cheese soaking into them and dripping down the sides. He slices dill pickles to serve with them and we eat them with mustard and ketchup on the side.

I was just back home in Tennessee for Christmas. He waited until a day where it was just he and I at the house to make our burgers. We sat at the table just enjoying the fruits of his labor in silence together. It was the best Christmas present.

Where did you have your least favorite cheeseburger?

I would say the burger I hated the most has nostalgic value, so while it was not good, I remember it fondly. In college, our cafeteria was not known for its culinary gifts and so during the week they always had a "burger" offering supposedly from the grill that the student body dubbed "Grillias" pronounced with a southern accent to sound like gorillas, in part because the beef content was always in question. So I would regularly get it as the most edible entrée and then doctor it with sliced green olives, iceberg lettuce and ranch dressing. I'm a health nut, what can I say?

How do you order your cheeseburger (rare, medium or well and what toppings)?

Over the last almost 14 years of marriage, my husband has been able to educate me into ordering it medium. It is the best way to get the best flavor from the beef. As far as toppings go, if there is a house burger I will try it as offered. Otherwise, my go-to is mustard, ketchup, pickles.

Comm. Lisa Vandenberg Shares Her Love For Cheeseburgers - Continued

Describe what makes a great cheeseburger?

Quality ingredients and execution. Burgers can be grilled or fried, thin and crispy, or thick and juicy, and all are acceptable and can be quite tasty. A great cheeseburger is like a great bottle of wine, and pairs well with it!

In general, I eat a cheeseburger to take me to a happy place. I think it needs to have a bun that balances against the meat. You can have a lower meat quality in a thin patty, but then the bun needs to bring some flavor and texture in order to round out the sandwich. On the other hand, if you have grass fed, organic beef the bun should serve as little more than the vehicle for getting the patty into your smiling mouth. Cheese should function the same way as the bun, really, in that it can stand in the gap for what the meat is lacking or just as a little bit of texture to a great patty.

I admit it, I'm a food nerd.

Where did you have the most unique cheeseburger? What made it so different?

I had a really fun burger in Prescott this summer at the Barley Hound. They had a patty made of ground lamb and beef chuck with Mediterranean hot spices, a plum balsamic demi glaze and goat cheese on a bun that was closer to a pita.

After cheeseburgers my favorite food genre is Greek/Mediterranean, and this burger kind of married the two. The space was also unique, which always helps with the experience.

Who has the best cheeseburger in Arizona?

I have two nominations:

Ingo's Tasty Food in Arcadia for the best modern burger. Their beef is amazing – Strauss Free Raised Grass Fed. Their house cheeseburger and the Farmer's Daughter burger stand out.

Matt's Big Breakfast in Downtown for the best old-school diner burger. Their beef is also amazing – Niman Ranch. Their burger is a butter burger which originally they served with a small scoop of butter on top of the patty. I miss that pat of butter, but I suppose my heart is happier for its absence and the cheeseburger is still great!

Meet Deputy Marshall Ray Cabrera



Ray Cabrera

Ray Cabrera is always ready to help a colleague.

Whether its arriving early for a shift or staying late, Cabrera is a selfless worker who always puts the needs of his co-workers before his own.

In fact, Cabrera's work ethic and generosity extends beyond his job. Recently, Cabrera and another deputy marshal helped a co-worker with auto repairs. The two were able to save their colleague money by getting the vehicle towed, buying the needed parts and fixing the vehicle without taking it to an auto repair shop.

Cabrera, born and raised in Saipan, joined the Marshal's Office in July of 2014 shortly after moving to Arizona. Before joining the Court, he worked 10 years in Saipan for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U. S. Attorney General's Office investigating government corruption and white collar crimes.

Since he started working for the Judicial Branch, he has been assigned to the Central Court Building. His cheerfulness and positive influence on the morale of his counterparts makes him the very definition of a team player.

APD Healthcare Initiative Two Year Anniversary



Deputy Probation Officer Fred Wilhalme sits down with a probationer to discuss healthcare benefits.

Nearly 14,000 probationers with mental health and substance abuse issues are now more likely to get the help they need after the expansion of Medicaid in Arizona in 2013.

Two years after launching the Healthcare Enrollment Initiative, Maricopa County's Adult Probation Department is seeing a dramatic rise in the number of probationers receiving health benefits.

"If they are enrolled in healthcare and we can get them into treatment, we're going to decrease the likelihood of relapses and we'll keep people properly medicated and properly treated, so it's going to overall reduce recidivism," said Therese Wagner, Deputy Chief of Assessment and Development for Adult Probation.

In order to accomplish the goal of getting probationers access to needed treatment, Adult Probation actively sought out community partners to help get probationers enrolled in healthcare.

"Before we started this journey, only one in 10 reported that they had health insurance, and today, more than seven out of 10 are reporting that they have health insurance," said Wagner.

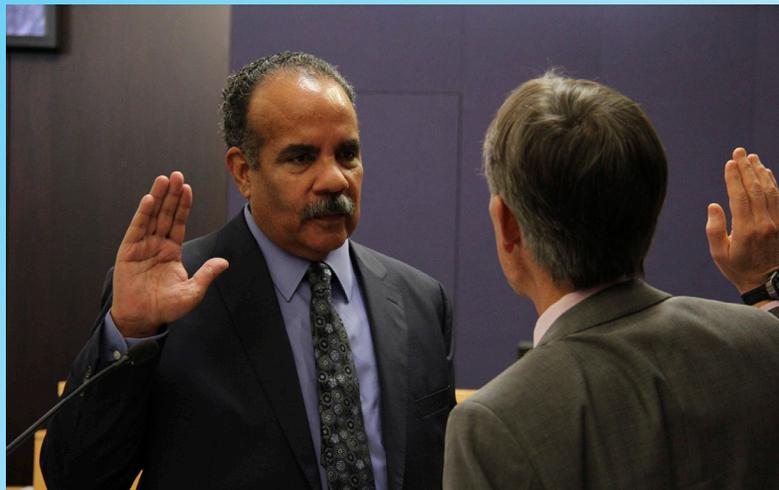
Probation Officers started handing out commit cards at probation offices throughout the Valley. Probationers fill out their information and someone from an outside agency follows-up to make sure they have enrolled. Adult Probation also worked with community partners to have an in-person enrollment assistor available at the Assessment Center five days a week and began offering health literacy classes to probationers.

"We see a great improvement there in the number of people we are reaching and the number of people who are now educated and understand that they need health insurance and where to go get it," said Jennifer Hawkins, Health Care Services Integration Administrator for Maricopa County.

Adult Probation will continue to work to enroll its nearly 28,000 probationers in healthcare as it has made an impact on their clients.

"It's actually changed some lives," said Wagner. "We had one individual that reported back to his probation officer, 'Thanks for making me enroll in healthcare. I went to the doctor was immediately put in heart surgery to have my heart repaired. I have you to thank for having my life today.'"

Investitures for Judges Kerstin LeMaire and Roy “Chuck” Whitehead



Arizona Court of Appeals Judge Lawrence Winthrop delivers the oath of office to Judge Kerstin LeMaire.

Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Scott Bales delivers the oath of the office to Roy “Chuck” Whitehead (left).

Court Hire Stats Manager



Michelle Dunivan

The Judicial Branch of Arizona in Maricopa County hired Michelle Dunivan to oversee Research and Planning.

Dunivan earned a doctorate degree from the University of Arizona, a Masters of Arts from the University of Texas at El Paso and a bachelor’s degree from New Mexico State University.

Previously, she worked as a Report Developer and Data Specialist at the Administrative Office of the Courts for the Arizona Supreme Court. She has

worked extensively on limited and general jurisdiction caseload management projects including the development of reports for AZ Case Processing Time Standards. She also has a wealth of experience teaching college courses and facilitating trainings on time standards.

Court Reporter Week



Brigid Donovan speaks to two Gateway Community College students.

February 14 - 20 was Court Reporter Appreciation Week. During the week, Superior Court provided breakfast and prize drawings for its court reporters. In addition, the Arizona Court Reporting Association hosted two social events, a student meet-and-greet and a happy hour, to educate and encourage court reporting students at Gateway Community College.

New Judge Q-and-A: Howard Sukenic



Hon. Howard Sukenic

Q. What has surprised you the most about making the transition from the U.S. Attorney's Office to a judge?

It was hard to imagine a job more fulfilling for me than that of a federal prosecutor. Having been a judge now for several months, I can honestly say that I work harder than I ever have but I love the job. I am grateful for the helpful advice that I receive every day from the other members of the bench.

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

There were several judges who took me under their wing when I was a young attorney starting out. They helped me become a capable professional and underscored my belief that preparation, professionalism and integrity were the touchstones of a successful and rewarding career. I will always be indebted to Ron Reinstein, Fred Martone, Frank Galati and Mike O'Melia.

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).

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

— *Theodore Roosevelt*

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?

Growing up, I spent a lot of my time with my grandparents on both sides. They were great influences on me and I cherish the memories and keepsakes that I have to remember them by. I would like them to meet my wife and children. I would like to ask them about how they perceive this world and what do they think of the life that I have lived so far.

Q. What songs are currently in your playlist?

Just about anything by Bruce Springsteen or Tom Petty.

Court Technology Services Assists Justice Courts

The Maricopa County Justice Courts Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) team, in collaboration with their resource partners at Court Technology Services (CTS), the Office of Enterprise Technology (OET), and Databank Inc. has successfully completed the migration of their OnBase data and images. The team was able to transfer the information from out-of-state servers, operated and maintained by a private company, to Maricopa County servers managed by OET.

This project, as included in the Justice Courts long term technology improvement strategy, focused on making it easier for court staff to serve court patrons. The project commenced in September 2015 and was completed without causing disruption to Court operations.

In addition to saving Maricopa County and the Justice Courts approximately \$2.5 million during a 10 year period, the server migration will allow the courts to have more control and increased flexibility in making enhancements to the system.



CTS - (Left to right) Robert Bridget-PC/LAN Technician, Joey P. Daigle-Systems Network Administrator and Julian Garcia-Help Desk Coordinator SR/LD



MCJC EDMS Team members - (Left to right) Lori Johnson-Business/Systems Analyst, Victoria Martin- Business/Systems Analyst, Brooke Araki- Business/Systems Analyst and Maria Santiago – Business/Systems Analyst, Project Lead



OET - (Left to right) Dan Glenn – Database Administrator, Ryan MacDonald - Enterprise Document Management Project Manager Sr. and David Anderson - Business Integration Specialist (Not pictured - Anthony Mada - Enterprise Document Management Project Manager)

*Submitted by Steve Ramsbacher
Maricopa County Justice Courts*