



## Message from the Presiding

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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.

***“Equal Justice Under Law”***



The Maricopa County Superior Court issues nearly 19,000 arrest warrants each year. These warrants are primarily issued when a criminal defendant fails to appear for a hearing or trial, but also includes arrest warrants following a grand jury proceeding, child support arrest warrants (CSAWs) from the Family Court, probation violation warrants from the Probation Department and fiduciary arrest warrants from the Probate Court. The efficacy of these warrants depends on the correct and timely entry of warrant information into the Arizona Crime Information Center (ACIC) computer where it can be accessed by law enforcement in the normal course of their duties.

In Maricopa County, the Court, the Clerk of Court, the Sheriff’s Office (MCSO), the County Attorney (MCAO), the Integrated Criminal Justice Information System (ICJIS), the Attorney General (AG), and the Arizona Department of Public Safety all play a role in processing and ensuring the accuracy of arrest warrant information.

Last year, as part of the Superior Court’s project to upgrade its case management computer system (ICISng), the ICISng design team identified a significant number of warrants entered in either the ICIS system or the ACIC system that did not match exactly.

To address this problem, I created our Criminal Department Warrants Unit to work with Court Technology Services (CTS), the Court’s Research and Planning Department, the Clerk of Court, the Sheriff’s Office, and other agencies (MCAO, AG, ICJIS) to find solutions and remedy this problem as soon as possible.

This effort identified the need to revise data entry and file-naming protocols to allow direct comparison of data. Given the peculiar features of computer information systems maintained by each organization and the complexity of individual identification in any criminal justice system, it is not unusual for errors to occur.

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For example, some of the scenarios that were addressed include:

- A warrant for a deceased criminal defendant could still be active when the court has not been notified of the death;
- A hyphenated or transposed name may not exactly match the name entered in another system because of varying naming protocols by different agencies;
- A person with multiple warrants may have multiple entries or a singular entry in different system that prevents all issued warrants from matching in all systems;
- Cases transferred to Superior Court when the Regional Court Center (RCC) was created were still listed with justice court case numbers;
- Inconsistent business processes for listing case numbers (abbreviations; truncated entries; numeric entries that duplicated each other when the alpha identifier was omitted);
- No routine matching protocol existed with any agency to ensure continuing accuracy.

During the last year, these entities have collaborated and synchronized more than 20,000 warrants issued over the last 40 years. This project is now nearing completion with a goal to ensure every warrant issued, modified, or quashed by the Court is mirrored in the ACIC system within 24 hours of the activity.

Significantly, this collaborative project has identified needed improvements in our warrants system countywide that are actively being pursued in various sectors. For example, the Clerk has streamlined the entry of warrants issued from a grand jury proceeding. CTS has created an additional case type in ICIS to accommodate Fugitive of Justice (FOJ) warrants issued in cases originating in other jurisdictions. The Sheriff's Office has accelerated the review and processing of unmatched warrants to increase accuracy.

The Court's Warrants Unit, Research and Planning Department, and CTS are jointly working with other Court departments and key stakeholders to eliminate paper warrants and complete an all-electronic warrants system to transmit all warrants seamlessly to ACIC without the need for multiple re-entry and potential for error.

They are also developing a diagnostic computer dashboard that will continually monitor and alert court management if even one warrant fails to match in both the ICISng and ACIC systems, allowing for immediate remediation.

Another significant upgrade to the Court's ICISng system will enable all departments to enter and track warrant information without reliance on the Criminal Department. The development of a new warrants screen will be available to all authorized court personnel to track warrants issued by any department (Family Court, Criminal, Civil, Tax, Juvenile, and Probate).

***My personal thanks to our court team and other justice system stakeholders for their work on this collaborative project, and for their dedication to the remaining work that needs to be done.***

### By the Numbers

The oldest warrant addressed was issued almost 40 years ago in Arizona.

A bench warrant that was quashed as a result of this project was issued more than 36 years ago by then Superior Court Judge, and later United States Supreme Court Justice, Sandra Day O'Connor.

About a quarter of the unreconciled warrants resulted from the 2001/2002 Regional Court Center conversion.

## News and Notes

### Court Administrator Celebrates 20 years



Left to right: Former Presiding Judge Barbara Rodriguez Mundell, Court Administrator Marcus Reinkensmeyer and Presiding Judge Norman Davis.

On November 28, Superior Court celebrated Court Administrator Marcus Reinkensmeyer's 20th anniversary with Superior Court by hosting a surprise party in the Old Courthouse.

### Probation Receives Award



The Arizona Supreme court announced their 2011 Judicial Branch Achievement Awards. This year's winners included Adult Probation Chief Barbara Broderick. Chief Broderick won *For Justice 2020 Goal: Protecting Children, Families, and Communities*.

### Court Tower Design Team Visits Los Angeles



Court Administrator Marcus Reinkensmeyer and the criminal tower design team, making a presentation on the tower project, "New Model for Safety and Efficiency in Urban Courthouse Design," at the 2011 Academy of Architecture for Justice National Conference in Los Angeles, CA. *From left to right: Marcus Reinkensmeyer, Todd McMillan, Tom Perica, Steve Jordan and David Evans.*

### Gale Barclay Celebrates her 38th Year with Superior Court



Gale Barclay celebrates her 38th year with Superior Court. She is Superior Court's longest serving employee. (Above) Gale Barclay poses with her supervisor and some of her former supervisors. *Left to right: Carolyn Gonda, Karen Westover, Gale Barclay, Jennifer Murray, Elaina Cano, Paula Collins and Bob James.*

## News and Notes

### APD Employee Recognized



*Deborah Chapman of the Southminister Church MentorKids program with APD's Bob Kaliszczjk.*

Recently, Bob Kaliszczjk, Adult Probation Department's Housing Rehabilitation Program Coordinator, was recognized with an award from the Southminister Church MentorKids Program for his community betterment work.

Kaliszczjk teamed up with Southminister Church's MentorKids Program and the MentorKids USA project, located in the South Mountain Village area, to remodel an after school program for kids, a Sunday school for the church and a parent resource center for the community.

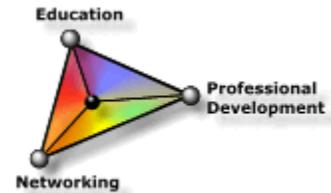
The building, which was once in very poor shape, now has new drywall and paint, electrical and plumbing, a new bathroom, new flooring and a new office. Kaliszczjk's crew also built a baseball field, repaired playground equipment, landscaped the property and helped out in their community garden.

**Submitted by Janet Kasha  
Adult Probation**

### COJET Ends on 12/15

*To check your transcript or register for any classes, please visit the online learning center:*

<http://pathlore.maricopa.gov/stc/courts>.



### 2011 Maricopa County Bar Hall of Fame Inductees

Two retired judges were inducted into the Maricopa County Hall of Fame. The ten inductees were honored on Oct. 27, 2011 at the MCBA's annual Hall of Fame/Annual Meeting Luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix.

The Hall of Fame was created in 2008 by the MCBA to recognize the outstanding lawyers who are or were true giants of the profession, primarily in Maricopa County.

Retired Superior Court Judges James McDougall and Robert Myers were both inducted into the Hall of Fame. McDougall, former juvenile presiding judge, worked for more than 25 years to protect the rights of children, families and the mentally ill. Robert Myers, former presiding judge, developed the framework for the Volunteer Lawyers Program. Under his leadership the Self Service Center was developed, criminal case flow was streamlined, and more judges were appointed. Additionally, the court began building its state-of-the-art electronic computer system to better manage cases.

Inductees were selected based on criteria which includes: Practiced at least for 10 years; played prominent and important roles that have had an impact on the history and development of our local bar and the legal profession; made significant or unique contributions to the law or the administration of justice; and/or demonstrated significant leadership, advocacy and accomplishments in service to the community or the profession.

For more information on the other inductees go to: <http://www.maricopabar.org/index.cfm>

# OCH Jail to be a Learning Center

The historic courthouse jail in Maricopa County will be renovated as part of Arizona's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. The courthouse jail has been designated as one of the Arizona Centennial Legacy projects by the state's Historical Advisory Commission. The project includes the creation of a Justice Learning Center and Museum created in and around a restored cellblock located on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of Maricopa County's historic old courthouse.

The Justice Learning Center and Museum will accurately portray a significant aspect of Arizona history through the restored cellblock, cellblock artwork, as well as displays and artifacts about famous cases.

For the Arizona Centennial, museum displays will include an interactive exhibit on trials, a special honoring of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Justice William Rehnquist, a prisoner experience walk through the jail, and Arizona civil rights trials. The Miranda and Gault decisions, are examples of people and places that have changed the law in Arizona and the United States.

The Museum will be accessible to large number of visitors/users through impromptu visits by the public, in addition to structured tours through the partnership with the Maricopa County Bar Association and schools. The "Courthouse Experience" program draws over 3,000 students per year.

This project is the result of the hard work of many judicial officers, attorneys, court administrators, and community partners. In 2010, Maricopa County Museum and Justice Learning Center Foundation was formed to oversee the construction and opening of the Museum. Through the efforts of the Foundation, more than \$100,000 has been raised to fund construction and renovation costs. More recently, American Express made a generous \$50,000 corporate donation to this historic preservation brick and mortar project.

These commitments and efforts help to ensure the museum to be an enduring project beyond the 2012 Arizona Centennial celebration.

*Submitted by Robin Hoskins*

## Arizona Family Support Council: Judicial Officer of the Year

The Arizona Family Support Council recently recognized Commissioner J. Justin McGuire as its 2011 Judicial Officer of the Year.

Supported by nominations from the Office of Arizona Attorney General and others in the community, Commissioner McGuire was presented with the award in recognition for his work on Maricopa County's Accountability Court and other child support related activities.

Previous recipients of this award are Judge Bruce Cohen and Commissioner Roger Hartsell.



***J. Justin McGuire***

# National Adoption Day Highlights

For the fourth straight year, Superior Court in Maricopa County had the largest National Adoption Day event in the United States.

On November 19th, 320 adoptions were finalized on NAD, breaking Maricopa County's own nation-wide record of 310 adoptions.

The 2011 event was heightened by the Phoenix Suns "Operation Orange" campaign; a visit from the Arizona Avengers and many family-friendly events and activities.

A record number of judicial officers, 60, volunteered their Saturday to preside over the hearings. Other volunteer groups included: court staff, Juvenile Court Administration, court security, CASA, foster and adoption agencies, State and County Agencies, private attorneys and the Clerk's Office.

Maricopa County's event is part of National Adoption Day, a nationwide effort to raise awareness that more than 120,000 children need permanent families.



# Employee Anniversaries

## 5 Years

**Oscar Curiel** Juvenile Detention Officer  
**Eugene Johnson** Security Officer II  
**Theresa Aparicio** Judicial Assistant  
**Rosa Vega** Juvenile Detention Officer  
**Beth Redding** Juvenile Probation Officer  
**Kevin Bishop** Adult Probation Officer  
**Alanna Rubin** Adult Probation Officer  
**Dalianna Hinojosa** Judicial Clerk Associate  
**Takia Little** Judicial Clerk Associate  
**Nicalus Haynes** Juvenile Detention Ofcr Supv  
**Tammy Browning** Juvenile Detention Officer  
**Carlos Colindres** Juvenile Detention Officer  
**Kristine Younger** Juvenile Probation Officer  
**Norma Ochoa** Office Assistant

## 15 Years

**Dennis Williams** Judicial Clerk  
**Tammy Aho** Adult Probation Officer  
**Carolyn Goldstein** Adult Probation Officer  
**Stephanie Prince** Adult Probation Officer  
**Kathleen Radl** Adult Probation Officer  
**Carmen Boyd** Judicial Clerk Senior  
**Holly Burke** Juvenile Probation Officer  
**April Johnson** Judicial Assistant  
**Molly Valdez** Judicial Clerk  
**Jan Reynolds** Judicial Clerk Supervisor  
**Dalia Ramos** Surveillance Officer

## 25 Years

**Janet Blake** Adult Probation Officer  
**Paula Martinez** Adult Probation Officer  
**Gary Egbert** Juvenile Probation Officer

## 10 Years

**Stephen Earl** Juvenile Probation Officer  
**Brandon Smith** Administrative Assistant  
**Charles Vinton** App Development Supv  
**Jill Siller** Judicial Clerk Supervisor  
**Philip Rubenstein** Probate Examiner  
**Deborah Lujan** Surveillance Officer

## 20 Years

**Karl Kasowski** Adult Probation Officer Supv  
**Tandy Manross** Juvenile Probation Officer  
**Darlene Carpenter** Surveillance Officer  
**Brenda Crawley** Administrative Assistant  
**Marcus Reinkensmeyer** Court Administrator

## 36 Years

**Mary Farmer** Judicial Assistant

# South Tower Veteran's Day Event

On Veterans Day, November 11, Maricopa County celebrated the completion of the 16-story South Tower with a dedication ceremony.

Many Maricopa County dignitaries were in attendance including Juvenile Presiding Judge Eddward Ballinger and Court Administrator Marcus Reinkensmeyer.

The grand opening of the tower, located near Second Avenue and Madison Street in Downtown Phoenix, will be on Arizona's Centennial Day (February 14).

When the tower opens, it will feature 22 new criminal courtrooms with the space to add 10 additional courtrooms if the need arises.

Construction began on the tower in late 2008.

The tower was constructed to keep up with Superior Court's rapidly growing number of felony cases.



# Courtside South Tower Photos



*The escalators connecting the Central Court Building to the South Tower were unveiled earlier this month.*

