



Two Judges Appointed to the Superior Court Bench

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The *Judicial Branch News* is an online newsletter published by the Media Relations and Community Outreach 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”



Governor Jan Brewer recently appointed Douglas Gerlach and Peter Thompson to the Maricopa County Superior Court.

Judge Gerlach will begin a Family Court assignment on September 29. Judge Thompson is assigned to Juvenile Court.

Judge Gerlach graduated from Arizona State University in 1981 with a joint master’s degree in business administration and law. He practiced law with the firm Brown & Bain (now Perkins Coie) from 1981 to 2000, and took leave to serve as a Maricopa County Public Defender from 1993 to 1995.

Since 2000, Judge Gerlach has been a partner with the law firm of Jennings, Strouss & Salmon. He spent most of his career handling business-related litigation.

“Doug is well-known and respected by his peers for his wisdom, insight and temperament,” stated Governor Brewer. “Doug’s experience and legal expertise will make him an outstanding trial judge.”

This appointment was made to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of the Honorable Barbara Mundell.

Judge Thompson graduated from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University in 1985, and received his undergraduate degree from BYU in 1982. He has worked as a Maricopa County Superior Court Commissioner since 2007. Prior to that he worked in private practice from 1986 to 2000, and served as a staff attorney for the City of Mesa Police Department from 2000 to 2006. He replaces Judge James Keppel.



Peter Thompson



Doug Gerlach

New Judges - Continued on page 4

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NACo Award Recipients Honored

On August 26th, the Maricopa County Manager's Office hosted the 2010 NACo Achievement award ceremony in the County Administration Building in Phoenix. The program highlighted the accomplishments and innovations of Maricopa County employees. The Judicial Branch received 10 NACo awards this year.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is the only national organization that represents county governments before the Administration and Congress. NACo provides essential services to the nation's 3,068 counties.

The NACo Achievement Award Program, which began in 1970, is a non-competitive awards program that recognizes effective and innovative programs which contribute to and enhance county government in the United States.



Children's Coalition of Maricopa County

Left to Right: Chairman Donald Stapley, Sheila Tickle, Karin Phillips, County Manager David Smith and Supervisor Max Wilson.



Commissioner Judicial Performance Review

Left to Right: Chairman Donald Stapley, Phil Knox, Diana Hegyi, Andy Cicchillo, County Manager David Smith and Supervisor Max Wilson.



Distance Learning/Live Streaming Education

Left to Right: Chairman Donald Stapley, Andy Cicchillo, Matt Fertig, Craig Gildersleeve, County Manager David Smith and Supervisor Max Wilson.



Court Security Redesign and Enhancement

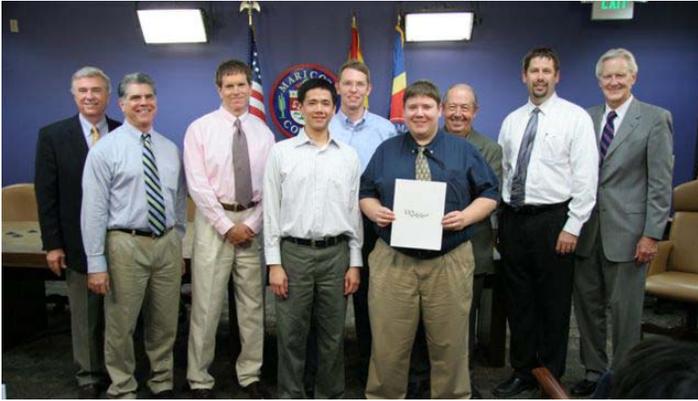
Left to Right: Chairman Donald Stapley, Karen Westover, County Manager David Smith and Supervisor Max Wilson.



The Evidence Based Practices (EBP) Quality Assurance Project

Left to Right: Chairman Donald Stapley, Zachary Dal Pra, Tricia O'Connor, County Manager David Smith, Mary Ann Boyden, Julie George-Klein, Supervisor Max Wilson and Supervisor Fulton Brock.

NACo Award Recipients Honored



Protective Orders Application

Left to Right: Chairman Donald Stapley, Andy Cicchillo, Supervisor Fulton Brock, Jerry Gunawan, Chris Holly, Darrel Troxel, Supervisor Max Wilson, David Stevens and County Manager David Smith.



Master Calendaring of Felony Cases

Left to Right: David Stevens, Chariman Donald Stapley, Bob James, Carlos Rivera, Tamara Ogden, Nita Billingsley, Judge Anna Baca (ret.), Chris Bleuenstein, Supervisor Fulton Brock, Supervisor Max Wilson and County Manager David Smith.



Maricopa County Photo Enforcement Program

Left to Right: Chairman Donald Stapley, David Stevens, Steve Gonzales, Steve Scales, Maria Santiago, Supervisor Max Wilson, Mark Liem, Supervisor Fulton Brock and County Manager David Smith.



Juvenile Court Statistical Reports: Improving Operation and Management

Left to Right: Chairman Donald Stapley, Diana Hegyi, Jackie Traher, Chris Ruffo, Sheila Tickle, County Manager David Smith, Johnny Tse, Presiding Judge Norman Davis, Mary Byrnes, Supervisor Max Wilson and Supervisor Fulton Brock.



JOII Road Show

Left to Right: Chairman Donald Stapley, Virginia Duran, Brenda Escudero, Jackie Traher, Yvette Martinez, Sheila Tickle, County Manager David Smith, Supervisor Max Wilson and Supervisor Fulton Brock.

News and Notes

New Judges Appointed

Continued from page one

Judge Thompson served as a U.S. Army Reservist and then a member of the Utah Army National Guard. He also served as the president of the East Valley Bar Association from 1989 to 1990.

“Peter has extensive expertise in both criminal and civil law and has proven himself to be an outstanding commissioner,” stated Governor Brewer. “His background, temperament and judicial experience will make him an outstanding addition to the Maricopa County Superior Court.”

CASA of Maricopa County Wins Prestigious E-Government Award

The Center for Digital Government, a national research and advisory institute on information technology policies and best practices in state and local government, has awarded the CASA of Maricopa County Volunteer-centric Website Design Collaborative a 2010 Digital Government Achievement Award in the Government-to-Government category.

The Digital Government Achievement Awards showcase progressive and innovative web sites and digital applications by government entities worldwide. The awards are judged by a panel of experts on a wide range of categories, including site accessibility, innovation, cost-savings, ease of use, and exceptional service to the public.

Cathilea Robinett, executive director of the Center for Digital Government, said: “The winners’ innovative use of the Internet to continue delivering citizen services despite tight fiscal constraints is inspiring. This skilled use of the Web embodies the spirit of the Best of the Web awards and provides examples to state and local government leaders around the country on how to bring quality services to their citizens while containing costs.”

In collaboration with Court Technology Services (CTS), CASA of Maricopa County developed a website through which volunteers and staff would be able to perform all their required duties. By utilizing an Internet-based application, the program has been able to assist volunteers in performing better advocacy for foster children in our court system. Congratulations to Andy Cicchillo, CTS, Applications Development Manager, CASA of Maricopa County Program Development Specialist Justine Grabowsky, and former CASA Director Robert Hahn for their innovations and outstanding implementation of this type of programming and technology. Special recognition also goes to David Stevens, Chris Holly, Ric Napoli, Darrel Troxel, Martin Dominguez and Jerry Gunawan with CTS.

**Submitted by Justine Grabowsky
CASA**

Judge Kiley Investiture



Arizona Supreme Court Justice Rebecca White Berch delivers the oath of office to Judge Daniel Kiley at his investiture ceremony in Phoenix.

Commissioner Appointed



Terri Clarke

Presiding Judge Norman Davis appointed Terri Clarke as Superior Court’s newest Commissioner, filling the vacancy created by Judge Peter Thompson. She will assume Judge Thompson’s juvenile calendar on October 4.

Commissioner Clarke worked 18 years for the Maricopa County Attorney’s Office, most recently in the Capital Litigation Appeals Bureau.

She earned her Juris Doctorate from Arizona State University College of Law and her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from ASU.

Status Offender Specialty Court

Juvenile Court Establishes Status Offender Specialty Court

Every year in Maricopa County, hundreds of youth are the subject of juvenile court “status offender” petitions. These youth have committed acts that are non criminal in nature. They are brought before the court because they may be habitual truants from school, runaways, curfew violators, possess or use alcohol and/or tobacco or are considered incorrigible or beyond the control of their parents. Status offense behaviors are typically the result of familial problems such as domestic violence or abuse, homelessness, school problems including academic failure and drug or alcohol use. Research shows that incarceration of status offenders is not an effective means of intervention and may in fact cause unintended harm to these low risk juveniles.

The United States Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has established the “Deinstitutionalization” of Status Offenders (DSO) mandate, section 223 (a)(12)(A), which provides, as a general rule, that no status offender may be held in secure detention or confinement. There is an exception to the general policy: a status offender may be confined in a secure juvenile facility if she or he has violated a Valid Court Order (VCO). If a status offender is accused of violating a VCO, he or she may be held in a juvenile detention facility if there is a reasonable cause hearing held within forty-eight (48) hours (excluding weekends and holidays). In order to implement this exception, the juvenile must have received all constitutional due process protections at the initial adjudication hearing and must be afforded a detention hearing within twenty-four hours.

To ensure compliance with federal mandates, the Juvenile Court has established a Status Offender Specialty Court that will dispose of the cases involving juvenile status offenders who must appear on status offender violations. One Judicial Officer at each juvenile court location will be assigned to the Status Offender calendar.

In order to monitor and track the cases assigned to the specialty court, the Juvenile Court applied for and obtained a grant from the Governor’s Office of Children Youth and Families for a coordinator position. The coordinator will be responsible for monitoring the cases, coordinating with community resources and referrals, tracking data and reporting data. Through another grant from the Governor’s Office of Children Youth and Families, the Office of the Public Defender will offer legal representation for each youth by an attorney who will specialize in status offense matters.

As part of the specialty court, the Juvenile Court has partnered with the Diane Halle Center for Family Justice at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. An MSW student from the Halle Center will intern at the Juvenile Court to provide case assessment and management as well as assist with locating community-based resources and services for the juvenile and family. The intern will work closely with the Juvenile Probation Officers to address the root cause of the status offense behavior in an effort to decrease the likelihood of recidivism.

An Advisory Committee comprised of judges, court and juvenile probation staff, educators, and community representatives will work together to develop best practice strategies to meet the unique needs of youth who commit status offenses.

The program hopes to accomplish a number of goals. One goal is to reduce the number of status offenders who are detained as a result of non-compliance with Court-ordered services. Another goal is to identify status offenders early in order to assess underlying issues in order to assist youth and families to avoid further involvement with the juvenile justice system. The program begins in October.

**Submitted by Sheila Tickle
Juvenile Court Administrator**

New Judge Q-and-A: Peter Thompson



Peter Thompson

Q. You served as a court commissioner prior to your appointment. How do you feel your experience as a commissioner will help you make the transition?

Juvenile court is a great assignment for a commissioner. My calendar was not very different from a judge's assignment. Transfer hearings and JN matters now come with the new territory so, with a little help from friends on the bench, I hope to be able to complete that transition smoothly. I will definitely miss doing adoptions every other week as a commissioner.

Q. Many newly appointed judges joke that performing the job of a judge is easier than the application process. How do you describe the application process?

It's a humbling experience. Most people are uncomfortable asking friends to make calls, write letters or speak on their behalf. I was no exception. As I went through the process, I was amazed at the depth of friendship, dedication and kindness of those who sent e-mails or made calls on my behalf. It's no secret the merit selection process requires great dedication and commitment by all involved. I feel very fortunate to have been appointed to the bench in Maricopa County.

Q. What is the best job you ever had? Why?

Being a grandparent. It's the best job in the world. I have all the joy of playing with my grandchildren to my heart's content and then turning them over to their parents for pretty much everything else. Actually, as any grandparent knows, it's much more involved than that but I can't think of a better return on investment.

Q. What is your favorite quote?

"If it doesn't kill you, it will make you tough." — Attributed to several people, including both my father and father-in-law. (See response to question on appointment process above.)

Q. If you had a day to spend doing only what you want to do - how would you spend it?

I would probably spend the day at the beach with my family. Unfortunately, if the Genie granted the other two wishes to my family, I'd probably be left at the beach alone while my wife went shopping with her sisters and my kids went to Six Flags with their friends.

Q. Do you own an IPOD? If so, what songs are currently in your playlist?

I do have an IPOD. I enjoy all kinds of music. I have selections from Chopin, Mozart, classic guitar and Rock —CCR, Eric Clapton, the Rolling Stones, Bruce Springsteen and ZZ Top. My kids have even influenced me to develop a like for Country & Western.

September Employee Anniversaries

5 Years

Emmanuel Briseno, Surveillance Officer
Melissa Froderman, Adult Probation Officer
Shane Glynn, Adult Probation Officer
John Patterson, Surveillance Officer
Sarah Schabron, Case Administrator
Anjela Crudup, Juvenile Detention Officer
Larry Coursey, Security Officer II
Kelly Horning, Security Officer II
Geoff Hilberg, Juvenile Detention Ofcr Supv
Christy Carpenter, Help Desk Coordinator - Sr/Ld
Della Capece, Judicial Specialist
Minerva Guterrez, Judicial Clerk
Michele Phillips, Court Recording Monitor
Stephen Knox, Juvenile Detention Officer
Carol Fox, Judicial Clerk Lead
Susan Hanscome, Judicial Clerk Associate

10 Years

Jennifer Origer-Spigel mire, Juv Probation Officer
Diane Kent, Judicial Clerk
Wilbur Brown, Juvenile Probation Officer
Mary Ruffing, Judicial Assistant
Karin Begay, Juvenile Detention Officer
Brett Kitani, IT Services Supv
Blanche Paulsen, Judicial Clerk Associate
Tomi Polvorosa, Bailiff
Sharlene Walker, Judicial Clerk

15 Years

Karen Rushing, Management Analyst
Trisha Cavallo, Judicial Assistant
Kevin Grant, Juvenile Probation Ofcr Supv
Stanley Carbett, Juvenile Probation Officer
Gregory Peniston, Juvenile Detention Officer

20 Years

Yolanda Gonzales, Judicial Clerk
Candelario Marquez, Surveillance Officer
Richard Bernal, Juvenile Probation Officer
Eileen Clevenger, Judicial Assistant
Barbara White, Juvenile Probation Officer
Jennifer Alafa, Adult Probation Officer
Sharlene Ellis, Adult Probation Officer
Carol Graham, Adult Probation Officer
Frank Futierrez, Juvenile Probation Officer
Jill Lopez, Juvenile Probation Officer
Sheri Love, Juvenile Probation Officer
Carol McBride, Juvenile Probation Officer

30+ Years

Jennifer Stadler, Bailiff
Herbert Quezada, Juvenile Probation Officer
Karen Ryan, Judicial Clerk Associate

Celebrating Success: The Mental Health Court Way



Commissioner Veronica Brame presents Robert Linton a NAMI shirt.

The National Alliance of the Mentally Ill (NAMI), a member of the Arizona Mental Health and Criminal Justice Coalition, donated hundreds of t-shirts from its yearly fundraising walk to the Maricopa County Adult Probation Department and Mental Health Court to be given as rewards to probationers who have shown compliance with probation conditions.

One success story is Robert Linton, a probationer supervised by Officer Amy Hood-Schwindt. Linton has remained sober and continues to follow the conditions of his probation and mental health requirements. At his last court hearing, he was given a round of applause and NAMI shirt for his compliance.

**Submitted by Rebekah Trexler
 Adult Probation**

Human Resources

Recruiting and Staffing Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I apply for any job listed?

A: Yes if the position is posted as open competitive. However, all positions are listed internally first. The County and the Judicial Branch (Adult Probation, Juvenile Probation, Trial Courts and Justice Courts) have different merit rules. When a position indicates “open only to employees of Maricopa County” Judicial Branch employees are not eligible to be considered for those recruitments. There will also be recruitments that open only to the Judicial Branch and then Maricopa County employees are not eligible for those positions.

Q: Do I have to complete the whole application if I include a resume?

A: Yes. Resumes are only supplemental and you must include your education and job employment history on the application to be considered for the position.

Q: In the employment history of the application it asks for the end date of my job but I still work here. What do I do?

A: Use the date you are completing the application. This way you will get full credit for your time working here. If you do not put an end date it can only be assumed that you worked here for one day and you might not meet the qualifications required for the position.

Q: I am applying for multiple jobs at the same time. The job I really want has a lengthy hiring process. Can I take another job in the meantime?

A: When you have applied to multiple positions and you accept one of the positions, that will remove you from consideration for the rest of the positions you have applied for.

Q: What is a “cert list”?

A: County HR reviews all applications for a position and determines who meets the minimum qualifications. The list of applicants who meet the qualifications are added to the “certification list.”

Q: The job I am applying for has a salary range listed. My current salary falls within the listed salary range. I can accept the position at my current rate of pay, correct?

A: Not always. If the position you are applying for is in the same classification then yes, you can transfer at your current rate of pay. If the position is a different classification, it will either be a promotion or demotion and may result in a change from your current rate of pay. If you are unsure if a position would be a transfer, promotion or demotion you can call Staffing & Recruiting at 602-372-9675.

Q: How do I know if I submitted my application correctly?

A: You can contact Staffing & Recruiting at 602-372-9675.

Q: How often is my application status updated in PeopleSoft?

A: Twice. Once the cert list is generated your status will be updated to show if you are on the list and your application has been sent to the hiring manger. Once the position is filled your application status will be updated again.



Volunteers Needed

for NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY on Saturday, November 20, 2010

Be a part of this nationwide event – the Maricopa County event has been the largest in the nation for the last two years. To volunteer, please send an email expressing your interest to traherj@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov no later than October 8th.