

Full Court Press

Newsletter of the District of Columbia Courts

Open To All, Trusted By All, Justice For All

August/ September 2008

Volume XXIV Number 4

JUDGE LEE F. SATTERFIELD BECOMES THE SIXTH CHIEF JUDGE OF SUPERIOR COURT

By Marie Robertson, Senior Court Manager, Executive Office



Chief Judge Rufus King administers the oath of office to Judge Lee Satterfield, as his wife Pamela holds the Bible.

Photo by Dennis Shipley

Judge Lee F. Satterfield became the sixth Chief Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in an investiture ceremony on September 24, 2008. Chief Judge Satterfield took the oath of office before a standing-room-only crowd of family members, friends, fellow judges, distinguished guests, court staff, and the public.

Outgoing Chief Judge Rufus G. King, III presided over the ceremony, welcoming Lorena Satterfield (mother of the new chief judge), Pamela Satterfield (his wife), as well as numerous other relatives, D.C. Court of Appeals and Federal judges, Mayor Adrian Fenty, D.C. City Council Chairman Vincent Gray, and Councilmember Tommy Wells. Chief Judge King said that his predecessor, the late H. Carl Moultrie, I, would have been pleased and proud of this day.

Mayor Fenty made brief remarks, thanking Chief Judge King for his service to the residents of the District of Columbia and commending Chief Judge Satterfield's record of achievement and his commitment to

Chief Judge - Continued on page 7

ANNUAL EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AND AWARDS CEREMONY

By Marie Robertson, Senior Court Manager, Executive Office

The D.C. Courts honored employees at the 27th Annual Employee Recognition and Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, September 16, 2008. To



The office Public Service Award went to the Family Court Self-Help Center, one of the smallest offices in the Superior Court with some of the biggest results

Photo by Lou Shack

begin the ceremony, as the Anacostia High School Color Guard presented the Colors, Ms. Deborah Swington Stokes, of the Executive Office, sang the National Anthem. Executive Officer Anne B. Wicks welcomed everyone to the ceremony, noting the exciting time of change at the D.C. Courts, with new leadership coming to the Superior Court and physical and operational changes throughout the organization. Court of Appeals Chief Judge Eric T. Washington, on behalf of the citizens of the District, thanked all employees for their hard work in serving the public. He led the crowd in congratulating Chief Judge Rufus G. King, III on his career and retirement. Chief Judge King, in turn, thanked court employees for making his job easy and for challenging him to keep up.

David Bell and Lisa VanDeVeer, of the "small but powerful" Office of Strategic Management, won the Enterprise Service Award for their numerous accomplishments in 2007, including finalizing the Courts' second 5-year strategic plan, creating a

Annual Awards - Continued on page 2.

Included in this issue:

- 3 New Employees
- 4 Back 2 School Bash
- 5 Community Courts
- 6 Pictures
- 8 Trans-In-Formation
- 8 National High School Computer Competition
- 9 Chief Judge Washington Addresses CCE
- 12 Rave Reviews

course to teach new employees about the plan, and presenting at national professional conferences.

Zola Saunders, of the Family Treatment Court (FTC), won the individual Public Service Award for her professional demeanor, enthusiasm, and dedication to the FTC clients, making herself available to them after hours, hosting tea parties for them, and attending important events in their lives.

The office Public Service Award went to Vera Stanley, Karen Ollivierre, Anna Roque, Corey Thompson, and Avi Sickel of the Family Court Self-Help Center, one of the smallest offices in the Superior Court with some of the biggest results. The Self-Help Center served over 4,000 litigants between August 2007 and June 2008, helping *pro se* litigants navigate the Family Court with extraordinary customer satisfaction results.

Russell Richardson, of the Civil Division Landlord and Tenant Branch, won the Unsung Hero Award for his work as an interview and judgment officer, single-handedly approving nearly 3,200 agreements last year, identifying issues that require the judge's attention, and ensuring efficient operations.

Zabrina Dempson, Civil Division Small Claims Branch Chief, won the Management Achievement Award for managing the Small Claims Paperless Filing Project, including the highly effective quality assurance process she implemented, as well as her innovative and forward-looking leadership of the Branch.

Ms. Wicks introduced and congratulated the second graduating class of the Management Training Program. The "Best Team Project" award went to David Bell, Janice Butts, Thomasine Dixon-Marshall,



Lisa VanDeVeer and David Bell, of the Office of Strategic Management, won the Enterprise Service Award.

Photo by Lou Shack

and Jorge Salazar for their project, "Stay on the Right Side of the Law," designed to educate the District's third grade students about their local court system. Clerk of the Court of Appeals Garland Pinkston quoted Martin Luther King about longevity having its place, and said, "Today, that is the place of honor." He said that longevity reflects an organization where people want to stay and people whom the organization wants to keep. Pete Drewery achieved 40 years of service in 2007. Chief Judge King, who said they started together at the Superior Court 40 years ago, called Mr. Drewery "unfailingly professional." He added that as his courtroom clerk for the past eight years, Mr. Drewery "knows exactly what I need, often

before I know it." Employees who reached 10, 20, and 30 years of service in 2007 were recognized. Then, as an added award, there was a drawing in each category for days of administrative leave!

Clerk of the Superior Court Duane Delaney recognized high performers, asking employees with a performance rating of "exceeds expectations" or "outstanding" to stand. He also



Duane Delaney, assisted by Anne Wicks, makes a presentation to Chief Judge King.

Photo by Lou Shack

acknowledged employees who retired in 2007.

Chief Judge King received a special recognition. Mr. Delaney said that the court has flourished under Chief Judge King's leadership, highlighting the Family Court Act, the Integrated Justice Information System, the strategic plans and performance measures, and the creation of a collaborative judicial-management relationship. He presented Chief Judge King with a token of appreciation: a caricature featuring himself with his dog on a run, wearing a characteristic big smile and bow tie.

The ceremony was enlivened by two other talented singers from the court family. Ms. Cirra Goode, daughter of Budget and Finance's Judy Bouknight, beautifully sang "Hero." Ms. Vicky Jeter, of Budget and Finance, sang "I Believe I Can Fly."

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Ms. Wicks thanked the many employees who worked to produce the ceremony.

The Full Court Press is published by the District of Columbia Courts to provide information about the D.C. Courts. Inquiries should be submitted to Room 1500.

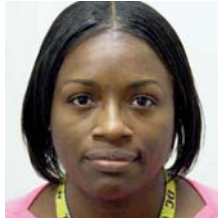
Leah Gurowitz, Editor
Dennis Shipley, Creative Director

NEW EMPLOYEES

By Katherine Hockey, Executive Office Intern
Photos by Dennis Shipley

Trina Labbe-Tisdale – Criminal Division – Courtroom Clerk

Trina Labbe-Tisdale recently joined the Criminal Division as a courtroom clerk. A native Washingtonian, she graduated from Prince George's Community College this past May. While in school, Trina worked for two years as a legal assistant at a real estate title company. This work experience sparked an interest in legal issues and the law, which ultimately led her to apply for a job at the D.C. Courts. Trina speaks warmly of the friendly environment she has encountered thus far, adding that she also enjoys the opportunity to learn a new thing every day. When not working, she loves cooking and curling up with a good book, as well as spending time with her four children and her husband.



“settle and further [her] career while also being challenged.” She speaks highly of her new colleagues and the warm surroundings. Lisa’s hobbies run the gamut – she enjoys everything from shopping and movies to food and travel.

Chanel Paige – Family Court – Bilingual Deputy Clerk

Hailing from Queens, New York, bilingual deputy clerk Chanel Paige is one of the newest additions to the Family Court staff. Following her graduation from Towson University, Chanel taught Spanish as a second language at two private schools in Maryland, where she instructed students ranging in age from kindergarten to eighth grade. She made the transition to the Superior Court because she was interested in a government job in which she could utilize her bilingual skills. There are many things she likes about her new job, from the welcoming staff to the positive atmosphere, but mostly she loves the opportunity to help people. In addition to styling hair professionally in her off hours, Chanel enjoys singing and writing music.



Tamera Mottley – Court Reporting and Recording Division – Transcript Records Clerk

New employee Tamera Mottley was born and raised in the Washington, D.C. area, where she attended Montgomery Blair Senior High School. It was her work in the United States Chamber of Commerce’s International Division that led her to want a career in customer service. She loves dealing with the public and lauds her experience at the D.C. Courts thus far. “My coworkers are great,” she effuses. “It’s an entirely new experience, [and] I have so much more to learn...” Outside of work, she is enamored of movies, shopping, and bowling.



Lisa Thompson – Accounting Officer – Budget and Finance Division

Lisa Thompson is the new accounting officer for the Budget and Finance Division. After receiving her degree at Morgan State University, she spent eight years with the D.C. government, seven of them working for the Office of the Attorney General’s Child Support Division. When she came to the Courts, Lisa was seeking a place where she could



John Sheriff - Information Technology Division - Customer Service Manager

John Sheriff grew up in Western New York, just north of Buffalo. Later, he relocated to Delaware, where he worked for the DuPont Corporation, and then moved to Maryland five years ago. John earned his B.S. and M.S. from the University of Maryland. He has held a variety of I.T. technical and managerial positions with the Computer Sciences Corporation and with the DuPont Corporation. He comments that his position as the Courts’ I.T. customer service manager “offers an exciting opportunity to be part of the growth and development of the I.T. Division’s new Support Center.” The Court’s infrastructure, he goes on to say, is large enough to utilize a broad range of information technology methods but the I.T. Division is “small enough to have a community feeling.” He likes the chance his new job provides to interact with many people, including the other members of the I.T. staff and the rest of the Court community. He is married with four children, with whom he enjoys activities such as hiking and photography. In addition, he SCUBA dives with his daughter, who is a dive master, and possesses an open water certification himself.



New Employees - Continued on page 10.

THE TENTH ANNUAL BACK 2 SCHOOL BASH

By Katherine Hockey, Executive Office Intern

On Friday, August 15, 2008, the normal tidy rows of chairs in the jurors' lounge were banished, replaced by round tables draped in white, and the starkness of the neutral colors brightened by the cheery balloons that adorned the room. It was time for the Tenth Annual Back 2 School Bash, sponsored by the Friends of the Superior Court along with the Counsel for Child Abuse and Neglect (CCAN) Office and hosted by the Courts' Childcare Center.



Children dance at the Back 2 School bash.

As the children and parents arrived, the children were given nametags and tickets for a chance to win one of five door prizes. Meanwhile, each of the parents – mostly mothers, but there were several fathers – received a packet of information on bonding with children and the value of quality time.

The attendees were then treated to a bounty of child-friendly food: pizza with various toppings, an abundance of juice and soda, and a large sheet cake with vanilla icing.

Entertainment was provided by Entertainment Enhancement Society, a four-person cover band made up of lead singer Marquita Cheron, keyboardist Paul Cleveland, and back up singers Monique Morris and Jennifer Adams. Many of the children (and some of the parents) got up to dance and sing along to vari-



Children and parents enjoy the festive atmosphere.

ous songs by Alicia Keys, Destiny's Child, and a particularly lovely rendition of Whitney Houston's "I Believe the Children are the Future." Between songs, Ms. Cheron emphasized the importance of education but also offered more personal advice such as, "The greatest love of all starts within yourself."

Tickets were drawn and door prizes awarded to the lucky children whose numbers were called. Then finally, the crowning event was at hand: the distribution of more than 20 backpacks filled with everything the children would need to start school.

While the members of the Friends of the Superior Court looked on with smiles both proud and pleased, more than 20 children queued up to receive a backpack stuffed with school supplies – filler paper, rulers, pencils, crayons, etc, — which they eagerly showed to their parents and one another.



Well-stocked backpacks and smiles!

At the conclusion of the event, the children filed out of the room, backpacks shouldered. A few

clung to their parent's hands, others tagged after, and some ran ahead, but they all shared a defining characteristic: they were ready for school.

COMMUNITY COURTS EXPANDING SERVICES AVAILABLE TO D.C. RESIDENTS AT THE COURTHOUSE

By Katherine Hockey, Executive Office Intern

The Community Court program in the D.C. Superior Court's Criminal Division has established several partnerships with D.C. government agencies and non-profit entities to bolster the work being done in the East of the River Community Court and the D.C. Misdemeanor and Traffic Community Court courtrooms. These new initiatives will enhance the range of services available to those appearing before the Community Courts, and to others at the courthouse as well.

"The services we offer, the way we handle cases, the partnerships that have been developed between the Community Court, the Pretrial Services Agency, the D.C. Departments of Employment Services and Mental Health, the D.C. Addiction Prevention and Recovery Administration, and Unity Health Care, and the shared sense of mission with the prosecutors and defense bar, all this has created a courtroom where real change can begin," said Magistrate Judge Michael McCarthy. "In all my years at Superior Court, as an attorney and more recently as a Magistrate Judge, I have never found anything as rewarding and promising as what occurs on a daily basis in Courtroom 115. When individuals leave D.C. Misdemeanor and Traffic Community Court, they understand the community court concept and further understand that we are not a traditional court and that our goal is to assist all those appearing in the courtroom with the problems which were factors in their behavior."

The Court Urgent Care Clinic is a pilot program established by the Superior Court and the D.C. Department of Mental Health (DMH) to provide direct mental health services to defendants in need of such services and to help the court resolve the cases of those defendants. The Clinic was opened in June of this year with the aim of assisting defendants who face mental health challenges and providing an opportunity for diversion of criminal cases out of the criminal calendar into treatment services. The data and experience drawn from this clinic over the next year will be used to further refine the program so that its approach best meets the needs of the D.C. community and of the Court, in addressing cases involving these defendants.

DMH staffs the clinic with a psychiatrist and other licensed mental health professionals from the Psychiatric Institute of Washington. The staff evaluates defendants and provides on-site support for clients and clinical and case management services, including immediate access to medication, prescriptions, therapy, assertive case management. The clinic staff also reports on the defendants' compliance to judges. The clinic serves persons who have been diagnosed as severely and persistently mentally ill, are concurrently

diagnosed with a mental illness and a substance abuse problem and/or a mental illness and developmental disability, or who present symptoms of severe and persistent mental illness. The doors of the clinic are also open to trauma survivors, individuals with serious physical health issues, senior citizens, veterans, and homeless defendants who may also qualify for services based on an assessment of their mental health.

Unity Health Care (UHC) joined the Court's Community Court family in 2006 when it began to register eligible D.C. residents who are without health care services or coverage on-site at the Courthouse. UHC also provides critically important educational information regarding health care and health care services. Unity was initially founded as the "Health Care for the Homeless Project" in 1985. Today, however, only 14% of the organization's 80,000 clients are homeless; the other 86% of the client population is made up of the working poor and uninsured. With over 11 community-based centers (as well as seven pharmacies, eight Women, Infants and Children (WIC) centers, and several medical sites in homeless shelters, among other services) in the District of Columbia, Unity Health Care offers a citywide network of quality health and human services to those in need, regardless of race, ethnic background or ability to pay.

In addition, the D.C. Department of Health's Addiction Prevention and Recovery Administration (APRA) has been on-site at the courthouse full-time since 2007, providing substance abuse assessment, referrals, and transportation to counseling and treatment for clients with drug and alcohol problems. The APRA representative can locate programs corresponding to the defendants' needs, and, if necessary, arrange for clients to enter a detoxification facility prior to beginning drug treatment.

Finally, the D.C. Department of Employment Services (DOES) has a professional staff member at the courthouse Monday through Thursday to help clients gain stability by assisting them in finding work. Community Court judges, attorneys, Pretrial Services Agency staff and the Community Court Case Manager may refer defendants to DOES, to assist them in gaining job skills and then gainful employment. After a DOES staff member conducts a comprehensive assessment to determine which workforce services and activities would be appropriate in the situation, DOES provides job development, job search assistance, and job placement services. DOES is also available to help create an Individual Employment Plan, and can refer clients to DOES workforce development programs or services that may include transitional employment, vocational training, basic education and apprenticeship.

27th Annual Employee Recognition and Awards Ceremony

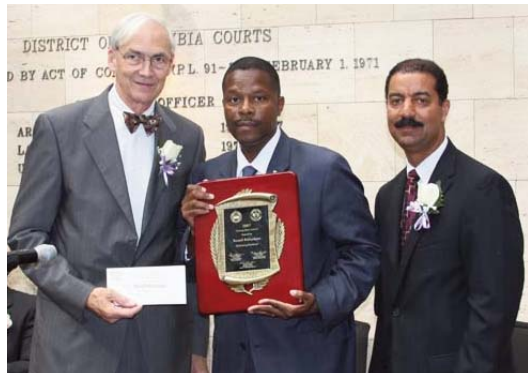
Photos by Lou Shack



The audience and the Length of Service awardees at the ceremony.



Pete Drewery celebrates 40 years of service.



The Courts' Unsung Hero, Russell Richardson, in the spotlight with Chief Judges King and Washington.



Duane Delaney congratulates Anna Roque and Vickey Jeter.



Management Achievement Award winner Zabrina Dempson with Chief Judges King and Washington.



Rhonda Horton and Princess Duffy enjoying the ceremony.



Zola Saunders, individual Public Service Award winner, recognized by Chief Judges King and Washington.



Michael Stanley enjoying some goood barbecue and fixins.



Management Training Program Best Team Project awardees Janice Butts, Thomasine Dixon-Marshall and David Bell with Chief Judges King and Washington.



Ceremony ushers Michele Garnett, Nichole Anderson, Tanesha Anderson, Denine Murray, Verna Smith, Mildred Smith, and Cynthia Davis-Logan enjoying the reception after the event.

the community. Chief Judge Satterfield, he said, represents the best of Washington. Chairman Gray also thanked Chief Judge King, announcing that the Council will honor him later this year. Pointing out that



Chief Judge Lee F. Satterfield addresses the audience after his swearing in. Photo by Dennis Shipley

native Washingtonians now occupy four of the top positions in the District Government (Chief Judge of the Superior Court, Delegate to Congress, Mayor, and Council Chairman), Chairman Gray said he looks forward to a partnership between the three branches of government to serve the community.

Chairman of the Judicial Nomination Commission, U.S. District Judge Emmet G. Sullivan, read a commission formalizing its designation of Chief Judge Satterfield for his new position. He said that the Commission was honored to have had the opportunity to consider two distinguished candidates for the chief judge position, adding that the Commission had received an unprecedented number of thoughtful and insightful comments.

Chief Judge Satterfield took the oath of office as Mrs. Satterfield held the bible. He recounted having been a young prosecutor at the first trial of a new judge, Rufus G. King, who turned out to be a trial machine. His first official act as chief judge was to thank Chief Judge King for his years of experience and his generosity of time and of guidance. He thanked the Mayor and Council Chairman for attending and showing the community that the three branches of government really do work together. Articulating his guiding principle, how can we better serve this community, Chief Judge Satterfield promised court employees to support them in pursuing this goal together. He read from a Langston Hughes poem, "Freedom's Plow" about working together and serving one another. In closing, he said he is grateful to have the opportunity and honor of serving as chief judge and grateful to the people without whom he would not have this opportunity: his mentor, Judge Paul Webber, III,

his mother, and his late father. "Thank you" he said, "for making my Dad happy by honoring his son."

Chief Judge Satterfield was born in the District of Columbia and graduated from St. John's College High School in 1976. He graduated from the University of Maryland in 1980 with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and received his Juris Doctor from the George Washington University National Law Center in 1983.

After law school, Chief Judge Satterfield worked as a judicial law clerk to Judge Paul R. Webber, III, of the Superior Court and then joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia. He practiced at a private law firm for three years, and then returned to the government, working in the U.S. Department of Justice prosecuting organized crime. In November 1992, President George Bush appointed Chief Judge Satterfield to serve as an Associate Judge in Superior Court. In the following 16 years, he served in the Criminal, Civil and Family Divisions, and the Domestic Violence Unit. In 1994, while serving in the Criminal Division, Chief Judge Satterfield was one of



The District Government was represented by Mayor Adrian Fenty, Council Chairman Vincent Gray, and Chief Judge Eric Washington of the Court of Appeals. Photo by Dennis Shipley

the Superior Court's first Drug Court judges.

In 1998 and 1999, Chief Judge Satterfield served as Presiding Judge of the Domestic Violence Unit. Then in October 2001, he was designated Presiding Judge of the Court's Family Division. After the enactment of the District of Columbia Family Court Act in January 2002, he became the first Presiding Judge of the Family Court, working with Deputy Presiding Judge Anita Josey-Herring to implement the Act, with its many new procedural and reporting requirements. Chief Judge Satterfield has served on the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration since March 2004.

THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE COMMUNITY COURTS' PROGRAM: TRANS-IN-FORMATION

By Katherine Hockey, Executive Office Intern

Former British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli once wrote that desperation is a powerful inspirer. Indeed, it has the power to drive, to motivate, to force one beyond the realms of one's comfort – and, quite often, not for the better.

Desperation is a common characteristic in the lives of those who deal in the sex trade. It is a quality that is evident in every client who passes through the doors of Helping Individual Prostitutes Survive (HIPS), an organization formed in 1993 by community and police representatives to help female, male, and transgender individuals engaging in prostitution in D.C. to lead a healthy life. Today, HIPS reaches more than 100 sex workers every night through its outreach workers and makes more than 8,000 contacts each year.

A number of those persons HIPS works with are male-to-female trans-identified individuals (transgender women) who often have little to no knowledge of their legal rights, of common health issues for transgender women, or of options for employment, housing, and shelter.

This is where the new Trans-in-Formation program — recently launched by the U.S. Attorney's Office, D.C. Superior Court, and the Pretrial Services Agency — comes in.

Trans-in-Formation allows transgender defendants charged with prostitution the opportunity to enter into an agreement with the prosecutor (the U.S. Attorney's Office) to have their cases dismissed in exchange for the successful completion of an eight-session course offered by HIPS. During this course, the defendants explore options, identity, and personal power in order to lead a healthier, safer life, and to avoid slipping into previous criminal behavior. A drug test is a prerequisite for the course; if drug treatment is recommended, the defendant must also complete drug treatment while the case is pending.

Boasting a supportive, non-judgmental peer-based environment, Trans-in-Formation consists of

both individual and group meetings. In group sessions, transgender women have the opportunity to talk about and assess issues in their personal lives that may have contributed to their involvement in the court system. They can learn to identify their core beliefs and values, as well as to set and reach goals to lead "healthy, safe, self-determined" lives. Three sessions are one-on-one with a HIPS Client Advocate or a peer counselor, and the remaining five are held either with a group or separately, depending upon the number of participants and the individual needs of the client.

The sessions cover a range of topics, all designed to help the clients better their lives without relapsing into their previous behavior. The transgender women in the program have the opportunity to learn about the consequences and dangers inherent in street-based sex work, address ways to avoid and to treat sexually transmitted diseases, and come to confront what led them to prostitution. For those who successfully complete the HIPS diversion program, their cases are dismissed by the U.S. Attorney's Office. For those who fail to attend the required sessions, HIPS sends a non-compliance notice to the Court.

The clients also learn various techniques to prevent victimization, harassment, and discrimination. There are sessions exploring how to set personal goals and overcome obstacles, and, perhaps most importantly, the rights of transgender women in D.C. and the truths behind common misconceptions that surround employment, housing, and legal rights.

"With the development of the Trans-in-Formation Diversion program, we now have services tailored more specifically to the needs of transgender defendants. This should result in a reduction in the rate of re-arrests, helping the defendants make positive changes in their lives and reducing crime in our city," said Judge Ann O'Regan Keary, Presiding Judge of the Criminal Division of D.C. Superior Court.

COURTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Lou Shack, who serves as Manager of Technology Learning in the Courts' Center for Education and Training, doesn't stop teaching when he leaves his court office. He also serves as a coordinator and trainer for the Washington, D.C. High School Computer Competition team. The National High School Computer Competition took place in Atlanta the first week of August this year, and the D.C. team, coached by Lou, won the silver medal (and \$15,000 in scholarship funds)! This is the second year in a row that the D.C. team placed in the top five nationally. Congratulations to Lou and to his team members!

Photo by Lou Shack



CHIEF JUDGE WASHINGTON SPEAKS TO CCE ABOUT D.C. COURTS' STRATEGIC PLAN

By Lisa VanDeVeer, Director, Office of Strategic Management

Chief Judge Eric T. Washington gave the keynote address at the June Board Meeting of the Council for Court Excellence, a local non-profit organization that works to enhance the administration of justice in the District of Columbia. Speaking before an audience of approximately 100 distinguished community and business leaders, Chief Judge Washington discussed challenges facing the D.C. Courts and how the Courts will address them.

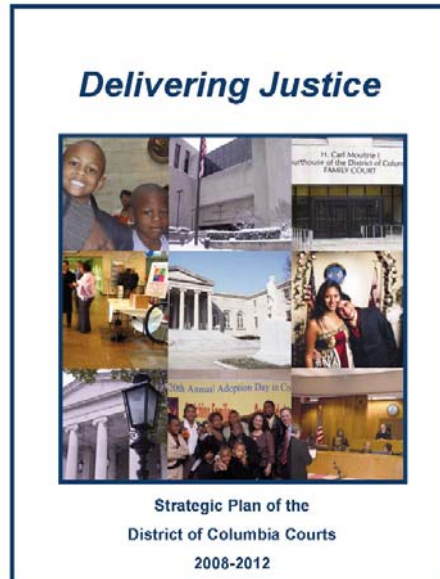
As highlighted in the 2008 – 2012 Strategic Plan, the Courts will continue to focus on our core mission, to provide fair and timely case resolution. The recent adoption of time standards in both Superior Court and the Court of Appeals is intended to speed up the processing of cases, while ensuring that every case receives due process and individual attention. Chief Judge Washington noted the tremendous progress achieved during 2007 in the appellate court, where 75% of decisions were issued within 90 days of the date the case was calendared for argument or submission.

Another challenge facing the Courts is promoting

public trust in the judicial branch of government. Chief Judge Washington commented that citizens must have confidence that the Courts resolve cases fairly and impartially. To promote such confidence, he said, the Courts "must be accessible and accountable." The new Strategic Plan requires all divisions to develop informational materials that explain court processes in language that is easy to understand and to make the information readily available to the public. Also, Chief Judge Washington announced that next spring, on Law Day 2009 (May 1st), the Courts will hold an Open House for the community. This event will include an opportunity for community members to have a dialogue with judges and court administrators and to obtain information about the Courts.

Chief Judge Washington concluded his remarks to the Council for Court

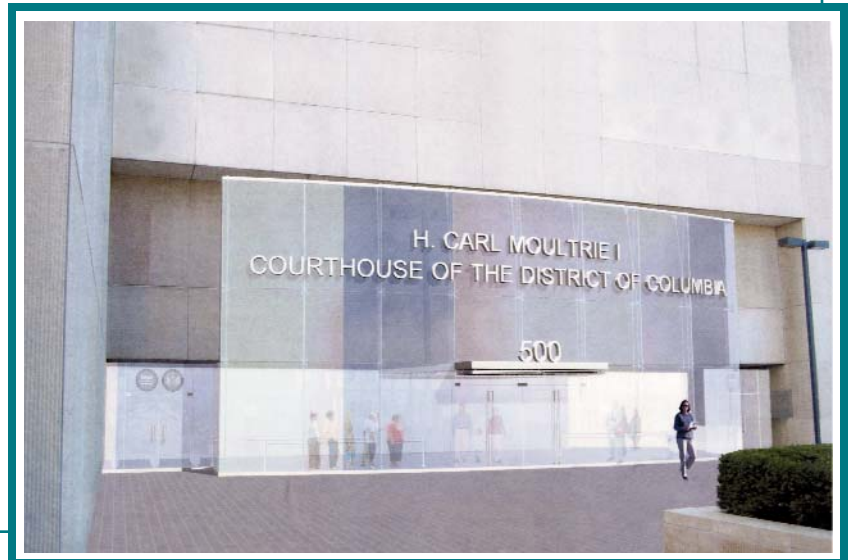
Excellence by noting that the Courts "have had many successes... and will continue on our journey to achieve our vision of being a court system that is 'Open to All, Trusted by All, providing Justice for All.'"



Moultrie Courthouse Entrance Reconfiguration Underway

You may have noticed construction fencing that has taken over several parking spaces in front of the Moultrie Courthouse. This is the beginning of a seven-month construction project that will reconfigure the entrance to the building, adding more space for security screening and providing shelter for people waiting to enter. The project will also add employee-only entrances so staff can get into the Courthouse more quickly.

Parts of the Indiana Avenue entrance will remain open during the project, but the entrance will be completely closed from November 19 to December 22, 2008. The Courts have already reconfigured the C Street entrance so it can accommodate more people. The project is scheduled to be complete in April 2009.



Jae Chung – Criminal Division – Courtroom Clerk

Though he was born in Seoul, South Korea, Jae Chung has lived in the Washington D.C. area for most of his life. Jae attended Falls Church High School in Virginia, then went on to receive his B.A. from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. Prior to working at the D.C. Courts, he worked as a Legal Assistant for Hyman, Phelps & McNamara, a food and drug law firm in the District. He found, however, that the exciting prospect of working in what he deems a “challenging, intellectually-rewarding environment, where... significant life experiences and professional skills could be gained” as a Courtroom Clerk, was too good to pass up. Jae has always maintained an interest in the law, and he says that working in an area he is passionate about is a very rewarding experience. In his spare time, Jae enjoys playing chess and is always up for a game.



the legal system in practice, as well as utilizing his bilingual skills. Stephen is currently in the process of obtaining his private pilot’s license.

Fatema Dariani – Family Court – Attorney Advisor



Fatema Dariani received her undergraduate degree in Political Science and her Juris Doctor at American University. For the past seven years, she served as a Court

Appointed Special Education Advocate in her role as a CCAN attorney practicing in the Superior Court, working to ensure that children with emotional and learning disabilities had appropriate school placements and services. Fatema pursued the attorney advisor job at the Courts because she was already familiar with the court system, the staff, and the magistrate judges in the Family Court. After focusing on special education law for the past few years, she decided that she “wanted to focus on a different area of the law but still be within the realm of neglect and family law.”

Passionate about child advocacy, Fatema maintains that the best part of her job is the people she works with and being able to contribute as a member of the courthouse staff towards seeing that children in the neglect system find permanent, loving homes. Originally from Rockville, Maryland, she enjoys mentoring and tutoring children – in particular, those with emotional disabilities. Fatema also loves to spend time with family and friends, especially at the beach.

Kelly Douglas – Criminal Division – Courtroom Clerk

A native Washingtonian, Kelly Douglas graduated with her Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania this past May. During her final semester at Temple University, she had an internship with the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office. For three years prior, she was a Community Assistant at a student housing property at Temple. She explains that she was interested in a courtroom clerk position at D.C. Courts because “it would allow [her] to work with different people from various walks of life,” an experience she considers invaluable. She had been working as a Junior Deputy Clerk in the Special Proceedings branch of the Criminal Division since May before she became a Courtroom Clerk in late summer. Kelly loves to travel, to spend time with her family and friends, and sports — she is an ardent Redskins fan.



Chudney Smith – Civil Division – Deputy Clerk



Chudney Smith recently joined the Superior Court’s Civil Actions Branch as a deputy clerk, after holding clerical positions at various law firms in D.C. “The process of civil laws and

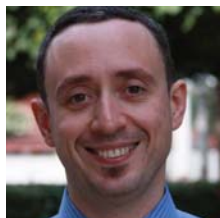
how they are used to help citizens personally interests me,” Chudney says. “Being an employee here gives me a deeper look into this process since I now have an insider’s view rather than being outside the process.” She also likes the fact that she has the chance to help the public utilize their rights. Chudney has taken courses at Hampton University and I.T.T. Technical Institute.

Stephen Flores – Criminal Division – Bilingual Deputy Clerk

Originally from Roanoke, Virginia, Stephen Flores recently moved to Arlington, Virginia to start a new phase in his life. A recent graduate of the University of Virginia, working as a bilingual deputy clerk is Stephen’s first full-time job. He was drawn to the Courts by the allure of the opportunity to interact with the public and learn about



Victor Voloshin – Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division - ADR Training Manager



Though he recently moved to the area from New York City, Victor

New Employees - Continued on page 11.

Voloshin was born and raised in Kiev, Ukraine when it was part of the U.S.S.R. Though he began his education in Moscow, Russia, Victor received his MBA and his law degree from the College of William and Mary following his immigration to the United States. Victor was the alternative dispute resolution director at the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board, which investigates police misconduct, and an adjunct professor and faculty advisor at New York University, teaching mediation techniques. In his few months working at the Courts so far, he has come to appreciate the fact that there are no boring days – he is constantly working with people and juggling projects. Victor is a member of the New York state bar, and speaks both Russian and Ukrainian in addition to English. In his spare time, he enjoys finding and sampling new restaurants.

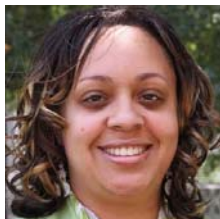
Julie Glur – Information Technology Division - Systems Administrator

Originally hailing from upstate New York, Julie has lived in Virginia for 11 years and considers herself a Virginia/D.C. native these days. She attended Cazenovia College in upstate New York and studied abroad at the American Intercontinental University in London, England. Since 1999, she has been contracting with various government agencies in the I.T. field. However, a combination of factors led Julie to seek a job with the Courts. “The work is very interesting and challenging, the people all seem very nice, it’s a permanent job, and being able commute by bicycle is great,” she enthuses. In her spare time, Julie keeps active with Krav Maga, a form of Israeli martial arts. She also enjoys her community garden (her co-workers are benefiting from her current surplus of tomatoes), as well as woodcarving.



Erica Payne-Santiago - Family Court - Branch Supervisor, Central Intake Center

Ever since she was a teenager, Erica has felt that she was called to provide aid to those in need. Working for the Court system, she feels, will enable her to do just that. Erica began her employment with the Superior Court this summer as the Branch Supervisor for the Central Intake Center (CIC). She earned her B.S. in Social Work from Bowie State University, and has an impressive array of skills gained over the past ten years working in the non-profit sector addressing women’s equity, the needs and issues of abused and neglected children, and mental



health. Her goal, she explains, “is to strengthen the infrastructure within CIC, which will increase the efficiency of the services currently provided to individuals and their families.” She loves spending family time with her five-year-old, as well as roller skating and bowling.

Jonathan Hopkins - Family Court - Courtroom Clerk



Jonathan Hopkins has, in his own words, “a bit of a varied past.” He was born in Queens, New York, moved to Philadelphia when he was two, and moved to Maryland at the age of fifteen. He received his undergraduate degree in Counseling and Biblical Education from Washington Bible College and his Master’s degree in Organizational Communications from Bowie State University. He has held many jobs in the past, but his two most recent were as a finger-printer for the Archdiocese of Washington and as a customer consultant at Verizon. “I have always been interested in the law and have long wanted to work in a courtroom,” he explains. This attraction led him to become a certified paralegal and then to pursue his current job with the Court. “With my background and interests, a courtroom clerk was the perfect job.” He loves working within the legal system, getting to know his colleagues within the context of the job, and the fact that he never knows what each case will bring. Jonathan is the published author of *Golden Dreams on Copper Wings*, a non-fiction book that combines poetry and memoirs. A long-time musician, he has played guitar on several local and national CD projects, and he is the Sunday School Superintendent of his local church.



Rachel Martell – Family Court Social Services Division - Clinical Psychologist

Rachel Martell originally hails from Burlington, Vermont, where she attended Saint Michael’s College. At St. Michael’s, she earned her Bachelor of Arts and her Masters degrees, both in clinical psychology. She went on to receive her Masters in Science and Doctorate from Antioch New England Graduate School. She has held many positions in the past, from working as a school psychologist in Vermont to interning in the Child Guidance Clinic at the Superior Court. She loved working with the respondents and her fellow co-workers — so much so that she decided to seek a position with the Court. “I missed the position so much I checked the website frequently, waiting for a position to open up,” she recalls. “It’s exciting to be back.”

***** Kave Reviews *****

Photos by Dennis Shipley

August 18, 2008

Duane B. Delaney
Clerk
D.C. Superior Court
500 Indiana Ave., NW, Room 2b00
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Crystal Kelley

Dear Mr. Delaney:

I am writing to commend **Crystal Kelley** for her assistance during my recent filing of a complaint and motion for TRO and preliminary injunction. Although the papers were voluminous, she patiently walked me through the procedures and was exceptionally pleasant and courteous in doing so. One hears enough complaints about employees of the District of Columbia. I believe it is important to commend as well.

Please pass on my gratitude to Ms. Kelly for me.

Very truly yours,
Anton Hajjar
Anton Hajjar



Dana A. Friend
Chief Financial Officer
616 H St. NW
6th Floor, Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Sir,

I was referred to **Wallace Lewis** during a long process of trying to obtain payment for expert witness work done in a criminal case in Washington, D.C. without the assistance of Mr. Lewis I believe it never would have been resolved.

He was responsive to my many phone calls and returned calls when I left messages. He clearly understood the paperwork and forms that were needed and helped me navigate through them.

Mr. Lewis acted in a knowledgeable and very professional way. While I was often very frustrated, he remained calm, friendly and encouraging. He is a true asset to the Washington, D.C. courts.

I am grateful for his help.



Sincerely,

Barbara Siegel
Barbara Siegel
Forensic Science Associates

July 29, 2008

Superior Court
of the District of Columbia
Clerk's Office
500 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Room JM-170
Washington, D.C. 20001
Attn: Aletre Barnett, Supervisor

Re: Excellent Service

Dear Ms. Barnett:

Please allow this letter to serve as an acknowledgment of the excellent service provided by Ms. **Adrian[Adrienne]Marsh** on the above-written date. To say the least, Ms. Marsh was not only very personable, she was very willing to assist me, and did so in an excellent fashion. Due to her knowledge and excellent customer service skills, we were able to resolve my problem expeditiously. I look forward to working with Ms. Marsh again in the future.

I remain,

Very truly yours,

WEINSTOCK, FRIEDMAN
& FRIEDMAN, P.A.

Judith A. Montour
Judith A. Montour
Supervising Legal Secretary



From: Jenkins, Louis L.
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 5:21 PM
To: Friend, Dana A.
Cc: Walker, Maxine M.
Subject: Your Great Employee

Mr. Friend:

Congratulations for having such an effective and professional and friendly staff member such as **Maxine Walker**. She was extremely helpful in assisting me with a problem I had with a PR. She was super patient and very knowledgeable. She is a plus to the Courts. I look forward to working with her again.

Louis Jenkins