

Full Court Press

Newsletter of the District of Columbia Courts

November 2009

Open To All, Trusted By All, Justice For All

Volume XXV Number 5

THIRD MANAGEMENT TRAINING PROGRAM CLASS GRADUATES

By Dr. Keith E. Robinson, Senior Education Specialist, Center for Education and Training



The Management Training Program class of 2009 with their advisors Wanda Johnson Starke, Keith Robinson and instructor Dan Straub.
Photos by Eddie Holiday

On September 25, 2009, twenty employees representing various divisions in the D.C. Courts graduated as the third class of the Management Training Program, sponsored by the Center for Education and Training and the Management Training Committee. The Class of 2009 graduation ceremony was held in the D.C. Court of Appeals ceremonial courtroom before an audience of nearly 100 family members, friends, supervisors, co-workers, and judicial officers. The graduates received their certificates of completion from D.C. Superior Court Chief Judge Lee F. Satterfield. Court of Appeals Chief Judge Eric T. Washington, who could not participate in the graduation ceremony, conveyed his appreciation. Graduates were also congratulated by several members of the executive leadership team, including Executive Officer Anne Wicks, Court of Appeals Clerk of Court Garland Pinkston, Superior Court Clerk of Court Duane Delaney, and Chair of the Management Training Committee and Director of the Crime Victims Compensation Program, Laura Banks Reed.

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Various members of the Management Training Committee also shared their praise. This year-long program was designed to help educate, train and empower employees to

become more aware of their innate leadership abilities and to equip them with the knowledge and skills needed to handle greater management responsibilities.

The D.C. Courts' management training program is a series of monthly classes, co-taught by senior court leadership and nationally recognized experts. The classes focus on topics such as team building, court administration, leadership and personal effectiveness, human resources, and budgeting and finance skills. During the course of the program, participants are divided into five teams. The teams are charged with completing a group project to further the mission of the D.C. Courts. This year's team project winners were Carla Andrews, Mary Corbin, Claudette Taylor, and Makisha Wiley. Their



The Go-Green team with their mentor, Criminal Division Director Dan Cipullo.

project is the "Go Green Initiative (GGI)," which focuses on the adoption of various programs in support of promoting employee morale, improving health, and preserving the environment. According to the group members, the initiative has five key components: "Go Green Day;" e-travel program; commuter options program; telework program; and a recycling program. The team noted that "many of these programs will support the Courts' Continuity of Operations Program (COOP) by providing virtual and remote access to several work functions." The team mentor was Dan Cipullo, Criminal Division Director.

The Management Training Committee, faculty members, team mentors and co-facilitators did an outstanding job of leading and coaching the participants from start to finish. The Class of 2009 demon-

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WILLIE AGOSTO – A FAMILIAR FACE WITH A NEW TITLE

By Leah Gurowitz, Executive Office

William Agosto's journey to D.C. Superior Court was a bit different than most, with several stops along the way, across an ocean and hop-scotching across the eastern part of the country. Willie, as he is known to so many of us, was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico and raised in Humacao (*oo-ma-COW*), Puerto Rico (about 45 minutes outside of San Juan). He was raised by two working parents who sacrificed a lot for him and his younger sister. His father was a manager for Union Carbide and his mother, who had a bachelor's degree in English, was an area administrator for the Puerto Rican Department of Labor. Both were from a small town near Humacao and met during their high school years.

Willie began learning English in kindergarten and had classes in both English and Spanish from 5th grade through high school graduation. Like a lot of his classmates, Willie decided to go to college 'on the mainland' rather than in Puerto Rico. He initially enrolled in Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland (where the weather was a far cry from back home!) and after one year transferred to the University of Houston. Initially Willie was 'pre-med,' intending to become a doctor. But all those science classes were theoretical and lacked any contact with people, which is what had initially drawn him to the field of medicine. Ultimately he switched his major to Spanish Literature and Linguistics, with a minor in psychology.

After receiving his bachelor's degree, Willie enrolled in a masters program in Spanish Literature at Rice University. Throughout his time in school in Texas, Willie had part time jobs: in retail, teaching English as a Second Language, as an instructor in Spanish for college students, and then as a commercial claims adjuster for Aetna ("I spent my time counting shingles after tornadoes," he says). While at Aetna, Willie enrolled in night law school at his alma mater, University of Houston. Over the course of his four years of law school, he worked as a paralegal for two different civil law firms.

One week after he received his JD degree, Willie and his U-Haul left for Washington. Willie took the D.C. Bar exam and was thrilled when he received his "Dear William, Congratulations..." letter. He initially

practiced immigration law and later worked for the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau, both of which gave him



Willie Agosto

Photo by Dennis Shipley

the opportunity to work directly with clients, which he greatly enjoyed. In May 1999, Willie heard of an opening in the relatively-new D.C. Superior Court Domestic Violence Unit as an attorney negotiator. He was offered the job and served in that role for ten years.

Willie explains the attorney-negotiator's job as follows: "You talk to each party individually – first the petitioner, then the respondent – and identify what each party wants from the other. You go back and forth between the two until – hopefully – you can reach an agreement and have the judge sign a Consent Civil Protection Order if he or she approves of the terms. If despite the attorney-negotiator's help the two parties cannot reach an agreement, the matter goes to trial before a judge in the Domestic Violence Unit." Willie found the work tremendously rewarding: "It was an opportunity to work with people, to have a lot of contact with the public, and it was very gratifying to help people resolve their problems. It was very palpable that you had made a difference in their lives." Willie also mentioned that some of the parties he worked with over the years would come back to thank him for his help and say that he had truly helped them; he found the work very fulfilling.

Willie spent ten years working for the first Director of the DV Unit, Paul Roddy. Asked what he learned from Paul, Willie said: "Paul was a very hard worker, very hands-on. I learned that nothing is beneath the Director because the Director is responsible for making sure the Unit gets its job done. As a Director you need to pitch in wherever you're needed. Paul demonstrated an admirable work ethic and level of dedication and I will benefit greatly from his example."

Asked what he enjoys about D.C. Courts, Willie immediately pointed to the comraderie and the judge/employee relationship. Unlike other jurisdictions he had worked in, Willie said, D.C.'s unified court system makes you feel that "you're part of an institution that is very responsive to the public." He said that he enjoyed working with colleagues in other divisions, which DV Unit employees are often called on to do because their work involves civil, criminal and family law "so we have relationships with lots of parts of the Superior Court." He thinks the integrated response that the DV Unit, and especially the DV Intake Center, provide is convenient for the public and while he wasn't sure that was replicable in all jurisdictions, "it definitely works in DC." Willie also emphasized that here in

Willie Agosto, Continued on Page 4.

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

*Leah Gurowitz, Editor
Dennis Shipley, Creative Director*

NEW COURT EMPLOYEES

By: Eddie Holiday, Executive Office Intern

Rosalyn Johnson

Welcome to Rosalyn Johnson, the new Adoption Legal Assistant in the Family Court. Rosalyn was born in Delaware, but grew up in Pikesville, Maryland. She earned her B.A. in Public Communication from American University. Rosalyn always planned to work in D.C. "I fell in love with D.C. while attending American, and knew that I wanted to stay here," she said. However, after she graduated from American she decided to leave D.C. to pursue her law degree at the University of Iowa College of Law. In 2001, she earned her J.D. and returned to the east coast. Before working in the D.C. Courts, Rosalyn was the Domestic Case Coordinator for the Baltimore County Circuit Court in Towson, Maryland. When asked what brought her to work in the Baltimore Court's Domestic Relations Branch (DRB) she explained, "I was always interested in issues involving women and children and the betterment of their lives. I attended law school with the primary focus of working in public interest." She continued, "Working in the DRB brought together my interest in families and public service. Adoption is by far one of the more positive aspects of domestic relations."



Photos by Eddie Holiday

After working in Baltimore County for several years, she came to Washington, D.C. and joined the Family Court this past spring. When asked about her favorite aspects of the D.C. Courts, she responded, "The environment is fast-paced and never boring. My day just flies by. I also appreciate my supervisors and co-workers. I work in an environment where you're nurtured without being coddled and guided without being micro-managed... that's a welcome change." When Rosalyn isn't working at the Courts she likes gardening, organic cooking, practicing yoga, interval training and overall mind/body wellness. She is also the proud owner of two great dogs: Kacee (a German Short Haired Pointer) and Kirby (a Weimaraner). One thing you wouldn't know about Rosalyn by looking at her is that she used to compete in the dog show circuit with her prize-winning (now retired) Weimaraner, Kirby. Everyone from the Courts welcomes the new addition to our family.

Rasheeda Wright

One of the newest deputy clerks for the Marriage Bureau, Rasheeda Wright, joined the D.C. Courts in mid-Summer. Rasheeda was born and raised in Michigan City,



Indiana and is currently pursuing her Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration at Strayer University. Before working at the Courts, Rasheeda worked at AIG as a Claims Processor. She eventually decided to leave the insurance industry. "AIG was extremely stressful, especially given the bailout and the fact that the company was letting a lot of people off—I knew that I wanted to change my career path completely," she said. When asked what brought her to the D.C. Courts she said, "I was always interested in the legal field, and a courthouse is one of the best places to learn about the law and how those laws affect the community." To compare AIG to the Courts, I asked her if her work in the Marriage Bureau was stressful and she emphatically replied, "No! The Marriage Bureau is the happiest place in the Courts—everyone's coming here to get married—I love that!" Rasheeda lives by the acronym: T.E.A.M which stands for: Together Everyone Achieves More. In her free time, she enjoys shopping and reading. One thing you would definitely be unable to tell by looking at her is that she has a 15-year-old daughter named Shakyria. We know her new colleagues will appreciate Rasheeda's team spirit and that together they will help the Courts achieve more!

2010 OPEN SEASON NOVEMBER 9 – DECEMBER 14, 2009

What is open season?

Open Season is the time of year when employees have the opportunity to change their benefits under the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program, the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP), the Federal Flexible Spending Account Program (FSAFEDS) and the District of Columbia Courts' Ameritas Dental and Vision programs.

What if I like all my benefits?

If you take no action, your current enrollment in FEHB, FEDVIP and the D.C. Courts' Ameritas plan will continue automatically for 2010. You will be subject to any changes in premiums, benefits, and service areas. If you would like to continue to participate in FSAFEDS (Health Care FSA and/or Dependant Care FSA) you **must reenroll**.

How can I find out more information about my benefit options?

There will be an Open Season Health Fair on Friday, November 20, 2009. Employees will be able to meet with vendors to learn about benefit options and ask questions. To start researching the Federal benefit programs (e.g. FEHB, FEDVIP, etc) employees can check out www.opm.gov/insure/openseason. And to learn more about the D.C. Courts' benefits programs employees can find information online at <http://dccweb.dcsc.gov/opencms/export/courtsystem/hr/benefits.html>. Be sure to visit the Courts' intranet page for the most up-to-date information about open season.

What if I want to change my contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)?

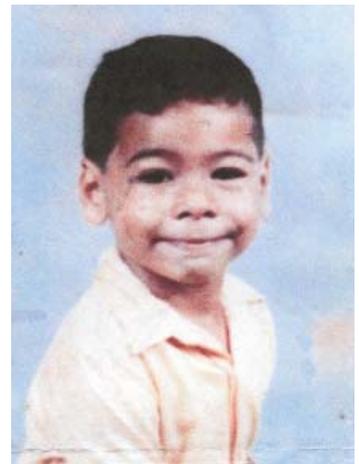
There is no longer an open season for TSP. Eligible employees can enroll or change their TSP allotments at anytime throughout the year by completing a TSP-1 form. This form can be found in the Benefits section of the Courts' intranet page at <http://dccweb.dcsc.gov/opencms/export/courtsystem/hr/benefits.html>. For more information about the Thrift Savings Plan contact a benefits specialist at extension 2-0496 or by e-mail at benefits@dcsc.gov.

Willie Agosto, Continued from page 2.

D.C. "the judiciary and court staff aren't as stratified as elsewhere..." and that the community comes to the Moultrie Courthouse for a range of services in exactly the way that we idealize about a traditional small-town courthouse being a town center.

So, how does Willie compare his four different 'homes' in the US (Puerto Rico, Cleveland, Houston, and DC)? He says Puerto Rico had the best weather; Cleveland had good museums to make up for its cold/gray weather; Houston had good food and affordable housing and education; but D.C. is definitely now 'home.' He says he appreciates living in a city that is really at the center of so much and a magnet for talent in the country. He enjoys all that there is to do in DC, and that it is a walkable city with real neighborhoods. What does he miss about Puerto Rico? "...the beaches, the energy of its people, and my family!"

In speaking about the Courts, Willie expresses gratitude: "People here have been very good to me and I have learned so much from so many different people at the Courts. I have really appreciated how willing people have been to share their knowledge with me: judges, managers, court staff, marshals, court security officers, everyone." Willie concluded: "Working here has been a great educational experience...like a 'campus' in the truest sense." Willie summed it up as follows: "I enjoy my job and hope to be here for a long while."



Willie at age five.

JODI SIMPSON, UP AND COMING PHOTOSHOP PRO AND DESIGNER

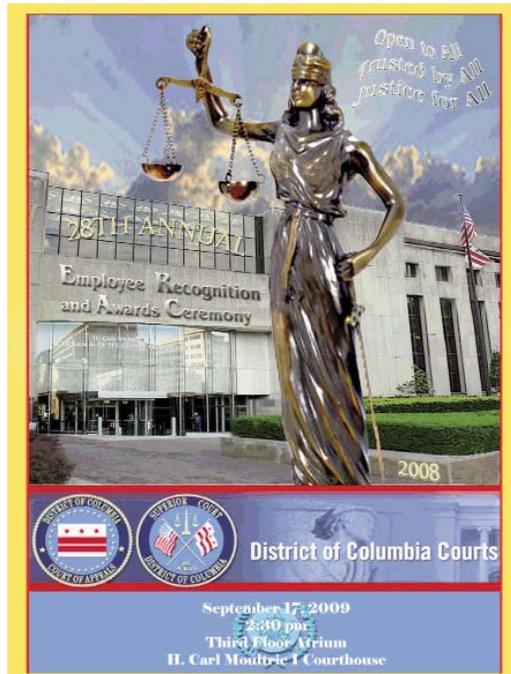
By: Eddie Holiday, Executive Office Intern

Everyone who attended the 28th Annual Employee Recognition and Awards Ceremony knows that this year's recognition ceremony was a huge success. The day of the awards, a small pamphlet, with a beautifully rendered modified version of the the Moultrie Courthouse as the cover page, was placed on all the seats. The artist who created this amazing artwork is the Criminal Division's very own Jodi Simpson. One might think that only an experienced Photoshop user could pull off this detailed representation of the Moultrie Courthouse, but that was not the case. Thanks to a Photoshop class offered by the Courts' Center for Education and Training (CET), Jodi received all the preparation she needed to make a stellar presentation.

Surprisingly enough, Jodi had absolutely no experience with Photoshop (a software that allows picture manipulation) before taking the course. When asked what made her decide to take the Photoshop class CET offered, she responded, "I've been to many of the classes the CET offers, and they all seemed to focus on enhancing office skills. I was curious how knowledge of Photoshop could enhance my office skills, so I decided to take advantage of the opportunity." After the one day of instruction by CET's Lou Shack, "Photoshop became a passion," Jodi said. A few days later, the Courts were offering a design contest for the cover page of the



Ms. Simpson poses next to a poster for the event which used her artwork.



Cover of the 28th Annual Employee Recognition and Awards Ceremony cover.

Employee Awards Ceremony program.

The competition was fierce, and the judging committee came to its decision after hours of close inspection of aesthetics and Photoshop finesse. In the end, Jodi's design came out on top. Jodi, always the humble type, explained, "I was just playing around with different designs. After a couple of weeks I created a picture that I really liked and I stuck with it." One aspect of the design that many people would not know is that the Courthouse photo that was used for the Photoshop alteration is actually a picture that Jodie took. "The day before my interview for my current position, I came to the Moultrie Courthouse and took a photo of the building—that's where it all began, I knew I wanted to work in this building."

Jodi truly believes that working for the D.C. Superior Court is her calling. "I moved away from my family and my job in the Michigan Court System (where she was employed for over 15 years)—nothing else would've taken me here—it must have been a calling." At the end of the day, Jodi thanks the Center for Education and Training for all their help. "I am so grateful for all the training opportunities I've had—especially my Photoshop training. That training enabled me to give back to the Courts for all they've given me." Jodi, the D.C. Courts are very appreciative of all the hard work you have put into the cover page, thank you!

Correction

In the last issue of the Full Court Press, an error was made. In the "Alvin Milton Award" article, it stated, "On May 15, 2009, the DC Bar presented Alvin Milton with the first 'Alvin M. Milton Outstanding Community Service Award.'" The award was actually presented by the DC Bar Litigation Section. We regret the mistake made and apologize to the DC Bar Litigation Section for the error.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH FESTIVITIES

By Nancy Matos, Bilingual Human Resources Specialist, Human Resources Division

The opening event of the D.C. Courts' 2009 celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month was held on October 2, 2009 in the Board of Judges Conference room. The event was entitled "El Salvador: A Nation and Its Culture." We were fortunate to have Ms. Wilma Herrera, Counsel for Community Affairs and Ms. Arena Ortega, Media Counsel, from the Embassy of El Salvador give us some entertaining and informative remarks about El Salvador.

For the past 13 years the D.C. Courts' Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration Committee presents the Community, Outreach, Recognition, and Opportunity (CORO) awards to recognize those individuals and organizations that have provided invaluable services to the Latino community in the District of Columbia. The second Hispanic Heritage Month event took place on Friday October 16, 2009, an event at which the CORO awards were presented to the recipients.

This year's winners were -

Community Agency Award – Whitman-Walker Clinic on Latino Services

Legal Community Award – Dean Katherine S. Broderick, UDC's David A. Clarke School of Law

Achievement Recognition Award – Ms. Yvonne Martinez-Vega, Deputy Director, Criminal Division

Community Outreach Award – Mr. Avrom Sickel, Branch Chief, Self Help Center, Family Court

Allan Kline Award – Ms. Mercedes Lemp, Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs



Chief Judge Satterfield with the October 2nd presenters.



Chief Judge Satterfield and Edith Roque of the Family Court Self Help Center (an El Salvador native who coordinated the event) with Ms. Herrera and Ms. Ortega of the Salvadoran Embassy.



Doris Chavez, William Sanchez, Dilma Fuentes, and Edith Roque (standing) enjoy refreshments at the event.



Judge Diaz presenting the Legal Community Award to UDC Law School Dean Shelly Broderick.



Judge Puig-Lugo presenting Criminal Division Deputy Director Yvonne Martinez-Vega with the Achievement Recognition Award.



Judge Ryan presenting the Community Outreach Award to Avi Sickel of the Family Court Self-Help Center.



Judge Lopez presenting Daniel Bruner and Todd Pilcher of Whitman-Walker Clinic with the Community Agency Award.



Executive Officer Anne Wicks presenting the Allan Kline Award to Mercedes Lemp of the Mayor's Office of Latino Affairs.

SOFTBALL WINNERS



The Courthouse Nationals brought home the 2nd place trophy for the D.C. Parks and Recreation 2009 Fall 7&3 Co-ed Slow Pitch League in its second season as a team and first season in the competitive Fall League.

Way to Go C-Nats!



SOUND ADVICE FROM THE EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Presented by - the Federal Occupational Health Office of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Steps for Getting Your Affairs in Order

- Gather everything you can about your income, property, investments, insurance, and savings.
- Put your important papers and copies of legal documents in one place. You could set up a file, put everything in a desk or dresser drawer, or just list the information and location of papers in a notebook. If your papers are in a bank safe deposit box, keep copies in a file at home. Check each year to see if there's anything new to add.
- Tell a trusted family member or friend where you put all your important papers. You don't need to tell this friend or family member your personal business, but someone should know where you keep your papers in case of emergency. If you don't have a relative or friend you trust, ask a lawyer to help.
- Give consent in advance for your doctor or lawyer to talk with your caregiver as needed. There may be questions about your care, a bill, or a health insurance claim. Without your consent, your caregiver may not be able to get needed information. You can give permission in advance to Medicare, a credit card company, your bank, or your doctor. Sometimes you can give your OK over the telephone. Other times you may need to sign and return a form.

Legal Documents

There are many different types of legal documents that can help you plan how your affairs will be handled in the future. Many of these documents have names that sound alike so make sure you are getting the documents you want. Also, state laws vary so check with a lawyer or a financial planner about the rules and requirements in your state.

- Wills and trusts describe how you want to give away your money and property after you die.
- A living will (also called an advance directive or medical directive) gives you a say in your health care if you are too sick to make your wishes known. It describes your decisions for medical care at the end of life. Having a living will may make it easier for family members to make tough health care decisions on your behalf. For example, your aunt may say she doesn't want to have her life extended by being placed on a breathing machine (ventilator), or your brother may say he'd like to be an organ donor.

It's a good idea to give someone you trust the power to act in your place. There are three types of power of attorney that may be helpful:

1. A durable power of attorney for health care lets you name another person to make medical decisions for you if you are unable to make them yourself.
2. A durable power of attorney allows you to name someone to act on your behalf for any legal task. It stays in place even if you become unable to make your own decisions.
3. A general power of attorney also lets you give someone else the authority to act on your behalf, but this power will end if you are unable to make your own decisions.

What Exactly is an Important Paper?

The answer to this question may be different for every family. The following lists can help you decide what is important for you. Remember, these are starting points. You may have other information to add. For example, if you have a pet, be sure to include the name and address of your vet.

Personal Records

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| • Full legal name | • Social Security number | • Legal residence |
| • Date and place of birth | • Names and addresses of spouse and children | • Location of living will |
| • Location of birth and death certificates and certificates of marriage, divorce, citizenship, and adoption | • Employers and dates of employment | • Medications taken regularly |
| • Education and military records | • Names and phone numbers of religious contacts | • Memberships in groups and awards received |
| • Names and phone numbers of close friends, relatives, and lawyer or financial advisor | • Names and phone numbers of doctors | |

Steps, Continued on Page 9.

Financial Records

- Sources of income and assets (pension funds, IRAs, 401(k)s, interest, etc.)
- Insurance information (life, health, long-term care, home, car) with policy numbers and agents' names and phone numbers
- Investment income (stocks, bonds, property) and stock brokers' names and phone numbers
- Liabilities, including property tax -- what is owed, to whom, when payments are due
- Social Security and Medicare information
- Location of safe deposit box and key
- Names of your banks and account numbers (checking, savings, credit union)
- Location of original deed of trust for home and car title and registration
- Location of most up-to-date will with original signature
- Copy of most recent income tax return
- Mortgages and debts -- how and when paid
- Credit and debit card names and number

Resources

You may want to talk with a lawyer about setting up a general power of attorney, durable power of attorney, joint account, trust, or advance directive. Be sure to ask about the fees before you make an appointment. You should be able to find a directory of local lawyers at your library or you can contact your local bar association for lawyers in your area. An informed family member may be able to help you manage some of these issues.

Source: National Institute on Aging, 2007. This publication is for general informational purposes only and it is not intended to provide any reader with specific authority, advice or recommendations. Where you deem necessary, we suggest that you seek advice regarding your particular situation from the appropriate professional. Copyright© 2006, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

For more articles like this, one check out the Adult Care & Aging section of www.worklife4you.com. Sign in with the Screen Name: dccourts and Password: dccourts (the system is case sensitive so be sure to use lower case).

FOH is a service unit within the Department of Health and Human Services' Program Support Center. FOH is a component of the United States Public Health Service, which was created by Congress in 1798. FOH provides the Employee Assistance Program at the D.C. Courts.

MTP, Continued from page 1.

outstanding job of leading and coaching the participants from start to finish. The Class of 2009 demonstrated a real appreciation for the learning opportunity they were given, and they willingly encouraged other employees' participation.

When some of the participants were asked about their experiences and what they would say to the Class of 2010, they said: "Each of you has an exciting journey ahead, learning valuable information and tools to help you to become effective leaders. Respect each other and stay focused and have fun." Another graduate said, "Ask yourselves this question: What do I expect to get out of this training?! Answer: What I [you] put into it!" A third graduate said, "Good leaders are not afraid to let others shine, but are confident in themselves to allow others to grow." "The Management Training Program is so much more than just a learning experience. It is a journey towards your professional development. You may often times feel uncomfortable being drawn out of your comfort zone, but be assured it is at these moments you are growing the most." "Be prepared to meet great people from all divisions, meet court leaders, learn about the court processes, more about yourself and how you fit in the equation. I hope you leave with the same greater sense of belonging to the Court community that I now have."

The class spokesperson, Dorothy Coleman, Director of the Child Care Center, Special Operations Division, demonstrated her presentation skills in the captivating speech she delivered during the graduation ceremony. Entitled "Leadership Tools: Faith, Hope and Charity," Coleman stated,

"A little more than a year ago, 23 of us were selected to take this journey. We set our goals, reached for the stars and built tall towers to initiate ourselves into the challenge of teamwork. We were led through a series of classes equipping us with tools to fill our toolboxes. We had some warm-fuzzy moments and some not so warm-fuzzy...[b]ut, through it all, we learned what it takes to be a good manager I agree that 'the better managers are those who have a solid grasp of who they are and what their limitations are.'... According to

SOLAR ENERGY

By Magistrate Judge Frederick Sullivan

My wife and I recently renovated our 19th century Washington, DC home. Committed to reducing our carbon footprint and to participating in the fight to mitigate global climate change, we decided to explore the feasibility of powering the house using solar energy. We prepped the house during renovations for the system, i.e. conduit was run through the walls from the basement to the roof for wiring, a high level of insulation was installed, as well as high efficiency electric appliances, and three zones of electric heating and cooling. I have to admit I didn't know much about the process, but I could see that our home was positioned to capture solar energy. An energy professional evaluated the roof and determined it was ideal for placement of solar photovoltaic panels. I submitted design



Photos courtesy of Magistrate Judge Sullivan

and system specifications to the city and received a grant to partially fund the installation. Eighteen solar panels were installed, which are expected to produce at least 5,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) of alternating current each year. The now fully-functioning solar energy system will last 30 years and produce close to 100 percent of our annual household energy usage. Any unused electricity generated by the system is sold back to PEPCO. We expect to reduce our family's carbon dioxide emissions by about 8,000 pounds annually. This is equivalent to planting two or three acres of trees! My family is thrilled to be taking part in the greening of America. I want to invite anyone from the court family who may be interested in this type of project to contact me for any assistance or information needed to get started.

MTP, Continued from page 9.

Dr. Peter F. Drucker, the father of modern-day management theory, 'the task is to lead people, and the goal is to make productive the specific strengths and knowledge of each individual.' Hard work and commitment notwithstanding, leadership takes faith, hope, and charity.

We stand on the shoulders of the trailblazers... the class of 2007, who were followed by the class of 2008 who found it to be better the second time around,' and now, for us, the class of 2009...do you know what they say?!... The third time's a charm! My fellow graduates, embrace the tools of: FAITH, HOPE, and CHARITY. FAITH—Find the Answer in the Heart; HOPE – Help Other People Excel, and CHARITY – Cherish Hope And Reason and Instinctively Trust Yourself to do the right thing! I look forward to our making great strides as leaders! 2009 was Our Year to Shine!"

The ceremony concluded with a charge to the Class of 2009: Remember, there is no finality to leading and learning, it goes on and on. Leadership and management are very different roles, requiring very different responsibilities, demanding very different expectations, and calling for very different abilities. Whatever you do, lead so that your actions inspire others to want more, dream more, learn more and become more, then you will be viewed as an effective leader! Congratulations and well done, Class of 2009!

Kabe Reviews

EXTRA! EXTRA!

D.C. COURTS' WEDDING ANNOUNCED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES

THE NEW YORK TIMES
WEDDINGS/CELEBRATIONS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

Jennifer Yang,
Ely Ratner

Jennifer Lu Yang and Ely Stefansky Ratner were married Friday at Superior Court of the District of Columbia in Washington. **Thomas E. Whittaker**, the section supervisor of the court's Marriage Bureau, officiated. On Sept. 19, Matthew Chagan, a friend of the couple, led them in a nondenominational ceremony at the Morris House Hotel in Philadelphia. ...



From: Juror
Sent: Friday, June 26, 2009 3:10 PM
To: Bailey-Jones, Suzanne M.
Subject: RE: Survey for Juror Services

Thank you for your response.

I've been chosen for a trial this time and I greatly enjoy my service each time. **The staff and system you employ for the juror pool** is top notch.

Have a good day,

To whom it may concern,
10/22/09

I'm writing this letter to express my deepest gratitude to Mr. Arthur Edwards for his active role in helping to resolve a few issues my family and I were having. He was very resourceful and because of this, I had a better turn around with my case. He was very patient and ensured me the best help available, and to him I say Thank You... I wish there were more people in the world like you!

From: Friendship Collegiate Charter School

Survey for Juror Services

I am a native Washingtonian and I have been called for **Jury Duty** many times in the past. I must say that the overall experience was the BEST that I have had. Having the **Court's Mission Statement and goals** also let me know that things had been changed. Thank you!



Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Dear Managers of the Small Claims Division
Your employee, Mr. Andre Jefferson is the perfect example of a customer service employee. He is a gentle person who always treat people with respect no matter how indignant I've witness many folks are very upset (including myself) at times, he's wonderful. Mr. Jefferson should be commended for his performance.



8-17-09
Dear Eric, [Chief Judge Washington]
Just a note and memento from the 2009 DBA-Lump Law Lamp to thank you for helping arrange the visit to the Superior Court. Mr. Louis Kelley was extremely gracious. His organized schedule made the visit educational & enjoyable.



...for being so thoughtful

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Dianne K. King, Esq.
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Erica Payne-Santiago

Dear Ms. King, September 1, 2009

I wanted to inform you of the professional, courteous and expeditious customer and public service provided by Ms. **Brenda Little**, Deputy Clerk, Ms. **Erica M. Payne-Santiago**, Branch Supervisor, and the two initial intake workers, whose names (apologetically) I do not recall, in assisting me with the processing of a Temporary Restraining Order on August 18, 2009. The issues were horrendous; a 14 year old psychotic without any family member to provide consent and it was only their prompt action that helped secure assistance Ms. Little and Ms. Payne-Santiago provided exemplifies them as someone who embraces their role as a public servant. This was apparent by their efficient navigation through 4 levels of management to resolve an oddity in the law that was preventing a 14 year old child undergoing a psychotic break from receiving, the medical treatment he desperately needed.

Often only negative experiences are chronicled, but I wanted to take the time to commend you and the other members of your team for putting the needs of the public first by assisting [them] and this counsel in matter of this significance.

Best Regards,
Kenneth H. Rosenau