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INVESTITURE OF JUDGE MARISA DEMEO

By Morgan Block, Executive Office Intern

Friday July 23, 2010. Even as D.C.'s oppressive summer heat wave continued outside the doors of Moultrie Courthouse, friends, family, judges and D.C. community members gathered in the atrium of the courthouse to share in the warmth of Judge Marisa Demeo's investiture. Judge Demeo is no stranger to D.C. Superior Court, where she served as a Magistrate Judge from August 2007 until her appointment as an associate judge. She presided over cases involving criminal, traffic and misdemeanor charges.

Throughout her career, Judge Demeo has displayed a commitment to the law and a dedication to public service that led to her nomination by President Barack Obama. Chief Judge Lee Satterfield provided the audience with a thorough description of Judge Demeo's work experience and many accomplishments.

A Princeton University graduate, Judge Demeo devoted her career to working on civil and ethnic minority rights. After graduating from New York University

School of Law, Judge Demeo traveled the country prosecuting public employers for pattern or practice employment discrimination as an Honors Program trial attorney in the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division.

Other notable career accomplishments include her time as President of the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) and as a prosecutor in the United States Attorney's Office for D.C.

Throughout her career as a public servant, Judge Demeo has received numerous awards, including recognition from the Hispanic Bar Association of

D.C., the Congressional Black Caucus, NYU School of Law, the National Puerto Rican Coalition, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Census Bureau and two additional awards for her work at the U.S. Attorney's Office here in D.C.

The guest speaker for the investiture was close friend and former colleague of Judge Demeo's, Maria Blanco of the Chief

Justice Earl Warren Institute on Race, Ethnicity and Diversity at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. Ms. Blanco spoke not as an orator, but as a friend, touched and grateful for the impact Judge Demeo has had on the lives of so many. "I'm really up here to give voice to what her family and friends are feeling today," she began, "[I] have come to believe that these ceremonies are an opportunity to say in public what we wouldn't be able to say in private." Ms. Blanco acknowledged the crowd but it was clear that her words were derived from a bond she had developed with Judge Demeo over the years. The judge seemed truly moved by her friend's words, barely blinking as she bounced her young son Santiago on her lap. Ms. Blanco recalled the connection the two had formed as colleagues at MALDEF and the resiliency of the friendship despite living on opposite coasts.

Ms. Blanco described Judge Demeo as "deliberate and thoughtful" as a professional and "warm and

Demeo, continued on Page 4.



Judge Demeo's brother assists her in donning her associate judge's robe.

Photo by Morgan Block

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NEW EMPLOYEES

By Morgan Block, Executive Office Intern

Jeremy Nolan

Jeremy Nolan is a new Courtroom Clerk for the Paternity and Support branch of the Family Court. Growing up in Sturgis, Michigan, Jeremy made a name for himself early in life as a stand-out tennis player. After earning four varsity letters in tennis during his time at Sturgis High School, Jeremy went to the University of Michigan to pursue a degree in anthropology. In 2009 Jeremy graduated from Michigan and jumped right into the workforce joining the Bivouac Ann Arbor web staff, a retail website that specializes in outdoor clothing and gear. Seeking new challenges and opportunities, Jeremy looked to the D.C. Courts where he has quickly adapted and excelled. Besides working hard at the Moultrie Courthouse, Jeremy is an avid outdoor enthusiast.



Tylishia Rich

Meet Tylishia Rich, new Deputy Clerk I in the Family Court's Marriage Bureau. Born in Temple Hills, MD, Tylishia went to Crossland High School before attending nearby Hampton University in Virginia. A business administration major, Tylishia has always enjoyed helping others. Tylishia returned to the D.C. area and joined the Marriage Bureau to follow her interests and to be close to her family. Since starting work here, she has obtained valuable experience while pursuing her interests in helping people. Tylishia is now studying for her Business Administration degree at Northern Virginia Community College. She plans on staying at Superior Court and continuing to do what she loves: making others happy.



Mark Stevens

Mark Stevens has recently joined the D.C. Courts as a Deputy Clerk I in Family Court. Born and raised in Shaker Heights, Ohio, Mark played football as a youth, contributing at running back on his high school team. After graduating high school, Mark went to Kent State University where he studied finance. After getting his finance degree from Kent, Mark went to Atlanta where he had a brief stint as an employee for E-trade. Mark soon realized that his true aspirations lay in government and he made the appropriate decision to move to D.C.



Susan Bartlett

Susan Bartlett is the new Staff Family Mediator for the D.C. Superior Court's Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division. A Maryland native, Susan grew up in Harford County where she attended North Harford High School. She was extremely active in high school, participating in both track and gymnastics. Susan attended Towson State as a Cultural Anthropology major. After college, Susan volunteered for a pilot program at the 31st Judicial District Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court in Virginia where she first discovered her interest in mediation. Soon thereafter she received her certification in Family and General Mediation. Since then, Susan has mediated family, civil, community and criminal cases. Immediately before joining Multi-Door, she was the Juvenile Intake Officer for the Virginia Department of Justice in Manassas. The Staff Family Mediator position appealed to Susan for two reasons. First, she saw "lots of opportunity" and she said it was the "first job [she's] ever seen where the title was 'mediator.'" In her spare time, Susan enjoys running; this past October she successfully completed her first marathon in Arlington, VA! Congratulations Susan and welcome to our team!



Matthew Centeio-Bargasse

Matthew Centeio-Bargasse joins the D.C. Courts as the new Family Program Officer for the Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division. Matthew grew up in New Bedford, Massachusetts where he attended the local New Bedford High School, one of the largest public schools in the state. Matthew distinguished himself from his 4,100 peers through athletics where he was named captain of the track team. Matthew went to college at Morgan State in Baltimore, Maryland where he studied political science. Before coming to the D.C. Courts, Matthew worked as a corporate account manager at Verizon Wireless. Matthew left Verizon Wireless to further, "build upon [his] alternative dispute resolution experience." Matthew became a case manager in the Enforcement Division of the Baltimore City Office of Child Support and he also mediated with the Maryland Commission on Human Relations and the Community Mediation Program in Baltimore City. Matthew is currently pursuing his masters degree in Negotiations and Conflict Management at University of Baltimore. Matthew enjoys working at Multi Door, traveling and spending time with his three children.



CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION PROGRAM SUCCESSES

By Morgan Block, Executive Office Intern

One of the many proud programs here at D.C. Superior Court is the Crime Victim's Compensation Program (CVCP), which provides financial support to victims struggling to recover from violent crime. Since the D.C. Superior Court was first given responsibility for the fund in 1996, the program has grown both in size and reputation into one of the premier financial assistance programs in the District. Providing compensation for such expenses as funeral services, medical care, and temporary shelter, the CVCP has made significant improvements both in money awarded and claims filed in the last five years. Since 2005, the number of claims handled by CVCP has increased 25% and the amount awarded to victims has increased by 18%. Since 1996, the program has increased the number of claims filed by nearly 1000%! On average, \$3,400 dollars is awarded per claim, with a maximum amount of \$25,000 in the most serious of circumstances.

The rapid growth of the CVCP may appear shocking statistically, but that progress was predicted once the Court took control of the program. At the end of every fiscal year, the CVCP donates half of its unobligated funds to the Mayor's Office of Victim Services for its Crime Victims Assistance Fund. Due to the initial relative obscurity of the program, the CVCP contributed almost \$10 million to the city's Office of Victim Services in fiscal year 2000 (and a total of \$37 million since then), but as the program and its reputation has expanded, more money goes directly to compensating victims, the real success of the program.

In fiscal year 2009, the CVCP operated with a budget of nearly \$11 million dollars, nearly 20% more than what was available in 2000 and larger than any in the program's history. CVCP's funding comes from two sources: payments made to the D.C. Courts and federal grants. All monies paid to the D.C. Courts – filing fees, bar admission fees, fines and specific assessments against criminal defendants – are deposited into the Crime Victims Fund. Not all jurisdictions operate this way, but the D.C. Courts commit all revenue to the CVCP. The second source of funding, a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, reimburses the program 60% of all monies paid to victims two years prior. Thus for each \$1 paid out in 2008, the fund received 60



The Crime Victim's Compensation Program staff. Front row - Laverne Washington, Ayesha Upshur, Ronisha Mozie (intern), and Jillian Schultz (intern). Back row - Donald Younger, Desiree Luckey (intern), Rita Blandino-Cherry, Rosemary Burgess, Monica Slade, Director Laura Banks Reed, and Giao Vu.

cents in 2010. The CVCP's outreach efforts have been increasingly successful. Last year, 3,768 victims and their families were served, undoubtedly impressive considering that only 300 claims were filed annually before the Court took over the program.

One of the biggest challenges for the Court in taking control of the CVCP, had been managing the funds contributed to the program as part of the

D.C. Revitalization Act of 1998. The Court had a tall order of expectations from the government, which wanted the CVCP to reach a larger number of victims, provide better services for them, and to increase the speed and efficiency of claim processing. Director Laura Reed says that these goals have been reached. The data appear to agree with her, boasting tremendous gains in the four main categories of "claims filed," "number of payments for services," "amount awarded to victims" and "average amount awarded per claim."

The money awarded is used to compensate violent crime victims for a wide array of services reimbursable by the CVCP. These services include wage compensation for loss of job, funeral expenses, medical costs, mental health counseling, transportation, crime scene clean-up assistance, replacement of clothing kept as evidence, temporary housing, and home security. One of the most valuable services offered by the CVCP is access to emergency housing for eligible applicants. The CVCP finances 30 days of temporary emergency housing in either a shelter or a local hotel. This emergency shelter space is an aspect of CVCP that Director Laura Banks Reed is extremely proud of: "Thankfully, by providing this service and giving crime victims, usually domestic violence survivors, an alternative to returning to the home where the crime occurred, people are in less danger...we are providing the service and keeping people safe." Ideally, all domestic violence victims who are approved for emergency shelter housing will be housed at an area domestic violence shelter, however there are a very limited number of spaces available through the city and its non-profit partners. When shelter space is unavailable, or the crime was not one of domestic violence, the victim is reimbursed for a 30-day stay at a local

CVCP, continued on Page 7.

MAGISTRATE JUDGE KIMBERLEY KNOWLES

By Morgan Block, Executive Office Intern

Meet recently selected Magistrate Judge Kimberley Knowles. Judge Knowles grew up in the Bronx, the daughter of immigrants from British West Indies. The Judge's fascination with the law began early in life. Going into her 8th grade year, Judge Knowles received a summer reading assignment, "To Inherit the Wind," by Jerome Lawrence and Robert Edwin Lee, which fictionalizes the 1925 Scopes trial. The play was so impactful she says that, "After reading the book [I knew] that I wanted to be a trial lawyer."

Even though Judge Knowles knew she was going to pursue a career in law, she first wanted to broaden her horizons by majoring in Africana Studies at Cor-

nell University. After graduating from Cornell, Judge Knowles moved to Washington D.C. to study law at Howard Law School. "When I went to law school, I was afraid I was not going to like it," Judge Knowles admitted. However after graduating Howard her passion for law was finally realized, "Thankfully, I loved it."

After receiving her J.D., Judge Knowles immersed herself in an array of court experiences. First she clerked for then-Superior Court Associate Judge Eric T.



Photo by Henry Greene

Washington, who is now Chief Judge of the D.C. Court of Appeals. Judge Knowles then joined the U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO) in Washington, D.C. as an Assistant United States Attorney. In 2004, Judge Knowles was promoted to Deputy Chief of the USAO's Sex Offense and Domestic Violence section, which is responsible for the prosecution of all misdemeanor and felony cases involving domestic violence, sexual abuse and child physical abuse.

Judge Knowles is also a loving foster parent, an avid football fan, and a great addition to the Superior Court family.

Demeo, continued from Page 1.

compassionate" as a friend. Ms. Blanco created a portrait of the judge as a person with a moral compass that was unyielding, a "caring, compassionate and generous" person who applies the same set of ethics in her private life to her career. Ms. Blanco recalled her one experience observing Judge Demeo in court at the Moultrie Courthouse. She described what she presumed to be a "routine case" and how Judge Demeo handled it with dignity and attention to detail throughout. A young man had been charged in a DUI case and Ms. Blanco commented that Judge Demeo treated it with the same care she would have given to a major class action lawsuit. The accused was using an interpreter and the judge would not let the proceedings go forward until she was convinced that the defendant fully understood the circumstances and his rights. Ms. Blanco described the judge as "patient during times of confusion" and "kind during the eventual guilty plea."

Ms. Blanco concluded by saying that she knows that Marisa Demeo is "deliberate, thoughtful, always prepared" and "absolutely perfect for this position." She finished her speech with a Spanish maxim, "Que viva la vida!" or "Live your life." D.C. residents should have a sense of calm with the knowl-

edge that the law will be justly served in Judge Demeo's courtroom.

After Terri Odom, Director of the Family Court Social Services Division (and Acting Clerk of Court at the time) read the commission, District Court Judge Ricardo M. Urbina administered the oath of office, and Judge Demeo's brother assisted her in donning her associate judge's robe. Judge Urbina began saying that he had not planned on speaking, but felt compelled to further acknowledge the character of Judge Marissa Demeo. "I knew her long before she knew me," Judge Urbina began with a bit of a chuckle. He discussed how he had always kept an eye on Judge Demeo's progress professionally, having been impressed by her wealth of talent. He further noted that she has many supporters and yet has never failed to exceed their very high expectations. "The District of Columbia should be proud that it has the support of someone of such great knowledge and integrity."

Chief Judge Satterfield returned to the podium with some closing remarks on the newest judge, "she stays the course with a very positive attitude." After hearing such tremendous accolades from a distinguished trio of speakers, no one in the atrium could disagree.

Magistrate Judge Lloyd Nolan

By Morgan Block, Executive Office Intern

The Full Court Press is pleased to announce the recent appointment of new Magistrate Judge, Lloyd Nolan. In August 2010, Judge Nolan became the newest Magistrate Judge here at the D.C. Superior Court. Hailing from



Photo by Henry Greene

Berkshire County, Massachusetts, Judge Nolan brings a diverse background of experience and a unique familiarity with him to the Court.

In his youth, Judge Nolan attended St. Joseph's High School in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. A talented athlete, he played four years of varsity basketball and

soccer, drawing the attention of college scouts. Judge Nolan eventually agreed to a recruiting offer to play basketball for nearby American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts. He excelled at collegiate athletics and was recognized for his ability and leadership by many, including his teammates who named him captain.

After graduating college, Judge Nolan found employment with a couple of America's food giants, Nabisco and Kraft General Foods. He left the food industry behind and went to law school at George Washington University, where D.C. Superior Court Chief Judge Satterfield – a George Washington University Law School alumnus -- became his mentor. After graduating law school, Judge Nolan clerked for Superior Court Judge Russell Canan. Since 1999, Judge Nolan has worked at the D.C. Public Defender Service, where he specialized in felony one cases.

Judge Nolan is excited to be pursuing a different kind of public service here at D.C. Superior Court. He has long been "looking for a new challenge," and with the tremendous amount of experience and ability that he brings, Judge Nolan will surely excel as the Superior Court's newest Magistrate Judge.

Judge Nolan is married to Dr. Pamela Carter-Nolan, PhD, Associate Dean of Medical Education at the Howard University Medical School and has two sons Avery age 11 and Jerrod age 9.

Magistrate Judge Errol Arthur

By Morgan Block, Executive Office Intern

The D.C. Superior Court welcomes new Magistrate Judge Errol Arthur. A native Washingtonian, Judge Arthur has spent most of his life, and all of his professional career, serving the District. The Judge has displayed a commitment to the residents of Washington D.C. that is reflected in every job he has held. Errol Arthur sees serving as a Magistrate Judge with the D.C. Courts as a unique opportunity to give back to the community.

Errol Arthur attended Saint John's High School in Washington D.C., where he represented the school proudly as an athlete, JROTC 2nd Lieutenant, and as a member of the National Honor Society. After graduating high school, Judge Arthur made the decision to study locally at the University of Maryland as an English major. Judge Arthur took a year off after receiving his bachelor's degree before enrolling at the Howard University School of Law in 1995.

It was at Howard Law that Judge Arthur developed a relationship with current Public Defender Service Deputy Director Peter Krauthamer, for whom he worked as a Research Assistant. Mr. Krauthamer, then the Director of Howard's Criminal Justice Clinic, encouraged Judge Arthur to participate in Howard Law's Criminal Justice Clinic. The program provided him with valuable courtroom exposure here at the D.C. Superior Court.

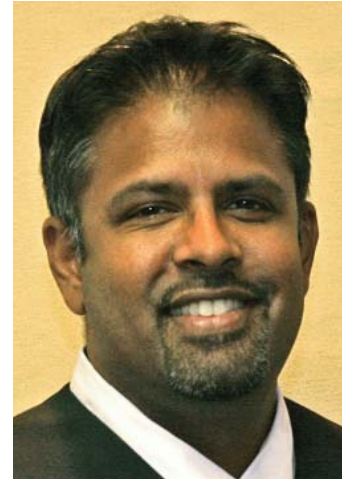


Photo by Henry Greene

After graduating from Howard Law in 1998, Judge Arthur clerked for the Honorable Mary A. Gooden Terrell, who at the time presided over a criminal and child abuse and neglect calendars. Judge Arthur believes that the guidance and mentorship of Judge Terrell have provided him with a solid foundation upon which he has built his career.

After completing his clerkship with Judge Terrell in 1999, Judge Arthur joined the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia (PDS) as a staff attorney. While at PDS, he represented indigent clients in criminal, delinquency, and parole matters before the D.C. Superior Court, United States Parole Commission, and the D.C. Department Youth Rehabilitation Services.

In 2002, Judge Arthur started his own law practice. Mr. Arthur represented clients in the District of Columbia and in Maryland in criminal, delinquency, child abuse and neglect, and civil matters. Judge Arthur maintained his law practice until his appointment as a Magistrate Judge.

In 2008, Mayor Adrian Fenty appointed Judge Arthur as the Chairman of the Board of Elections and Ethics for the District of Columbia where he provided oversight for the District's Board of Elections as well as the District's Office of Campaign Finance.

Judge Arthur has always been involved in the public sector, but joining the D.C. Superior Court will allow him to give back in a different way. "Being a magistrate judge will allow me to better serve my community," he explains. As an arbiter of justice here at D.C. Superior Court, Judge Arthur can see and to serve the community in a way that he has never been able to before.

DRUG CZAR RULES THE DAY IN SUPERIOR COURT – IMPRESSED WITH ARRAY OF INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS COURT OFFERS

By Morgan Block, Executive Office Intern

On Monday, June 21, 2010, the D.C. Superior Court had the honor of hosting the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), Gil Kerlikowske, on his tour of some of D.C.'s most innovative drug treatment programs. The purpose of the tour was for the "Drug Czar," as the ONDCP Director is known, to observe and personally acknowledge programs that embody various elements of the National Drug Control Strategy.

The first stop for the Drug Czar was the Urgent Care Clinic (UCC) on the first floor of the Moultrie Courthouse. This mental health clinic, which opened its doors on June 23, 2008 is a collaborative effort between D.C. Superior Court, the D.C. Department of Mental Health and the Psychiatric Institute of Washington (PIW) which staffs the clinic. The Drug Czar's blog *Of Substance* recognizes the clinic as being "progressive in offering an integrated service model." The National Drug Control Policy advocates programs which combine "assessment, judicial interaction, monitoring and supervision, graduated sanctions and rewards and treatment and recovery support services" in "addressing the co-occurring disorders of addiction and mental illness in the context of a community health setting." (page 49 of the 2010 National Drug Control Strategy, see <http://www.whitehouse-drugpolicy.gov/publications/policy/ndcs10/chapter4.pdf>). The clinic has focused on handling co-occurring disorders and works primarily in conjunction with the D.C. Misdemeanor and Traffic Community Court, but accepts referrals from all Criminal Division judges, including the Mental Health Diversion Court. The clinic is thus a significant resource for the community. It is located in room 1230 of the Moultrie Courthouse, between courtrooms 114 and 115.

In the past year, 364 people were referred to the clinic, of whom 240 were given evaluations that included psychiatric assessment, medication services, case management, and therapy sessions. Director Kerlikowske was on an extremely tight schedule, so his visit was just a brief talk with clinical staff and Criminal Division Presiding Judge Russell Canan; Mental Health Rules Committee Chair Judge Ann O'Regan Keary; Steve Baron, Director of the D.C. Department of Mental Health; Ken Courage, Chief Executive Officer of PIW; and Carol Dejeunes, Chief Operating Officer of PIW. Despite the brevity of his visit, Director Kerlikowske was clearly impressed with the UCC facility and the innovative approach the community courts have taken to providing treatment as well as adjudication.

The next stop on the Drug Czar's Moultrie Courthouse visit was the Family Treatment Court (FTC). Waiting for him in courtroom JM-8, were Family Court Presiding



Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Gil Kerlikowske and Family Court graduate Karen Christian pose for a picture.

Judge William Jackson, Magistrate Judge Pamela Gray, her courtroom staff, and proud 2005 FTC graduate Karen Christian, along with her daughter. The FTC is a highly successful program that has been featured by many media outlets for its numerous accomplishments. It works to help alcohol- and/or drug-dependent mothers conquer their addiction and avoid losing their children to foster care and adoption. The program allows mothers who have been neglectful to live in a treatment facility with up to 3 of their children aged eleven or younger. In this way the children do not have to be in foster care and

the mothers can develop sound parenting skills while participating in substance abuse treatment and counseling. After meeting Judge Jackson and Magistrate Judge Gray and hearing about the FTC program, Director Kerlikowske was asked if he had any questions. "I would like to hear Karen's story," he replied, "I think it's always most informative to hear real people's stories, they are much more powerful than any statistics." Karen recounted in detail one of the darkest days of her life, and how her arrest and the potential loss of her daughter was actually not the negative it seemed at the time, but really the opportunity of a lifetime. It was the opportunity to conquer a 25-year addiction, discover her true self, and become the mother her daughter deserved. With the help and positive support of Judge Anita Josey-Herring and later Magistrate Judge Gray and the FTC staff, Karen not only successfully graduated from the program, but has become something of a spokesperson for it and how it can truly change lives. In conclusion, Karen emphasized the emotional bonds she has formed with the judges and FTC staff and the strength she draws from that. She spoke with pride of her daughter who is doing well in school. Karen demonstrated the strength of her commitment to her sobriety, saying how rich her life is now that she is clean, sober, employed and engaged as a mom. Before leaving the courtroom, Director Kerlikowske shared some private words of encouragement with Karen and wished her well. It was clear that his visit, the judges' presentation and Karen's truth demonstrated the power of a program that addresses the underlying problem of the vast majority of neglectful mothers – addiction – and in that way addresses the most fundamental need of every child: an attentive, engaged, involved parent. Before leaving the Moultrie Courthouse, Director Kerlikowske spoke about how impressed he was with the array of innovative services the Superior Court is offering. It's never a surprise but always appreciated when the Court is recognized for its role in assisting in the lives of D.C. residents.

TAJIKISTAN DELEGATES VISIT THE SUPERIOR COURT

By Morgan Block, Executive Office Intern

On Thursday August 5, 2010, a delegation of Tajikistan judges and prosecutors met with Judge Retchin, who hears Domestic Violence cases, and William Agosto, the Director of the Domestic Violence Unit. The Tajikistan delegates came to the Moultrie Courthouse to learn about the American judicial system and more specifically to discover the intricacies of the Superior Court's progressive Domestic Violence Unit.

More than 20 Tajikistan judges and prosecutors gathered in the Board of Judge's Conference Room to examine the U.S. model as a possible alternative to dealing with domestic violence. Communication was slightly hampered by the obvious language barrier, but thanks to the exceptional linguistic skills of a member of the Tajikistan delegation, nothing seemed to be lost in translation.

Judge Retchin spoke first, explaining the structure and makeup of the Superior Court's Domestic Violence Unit. DV cases are heard in five courtrooms. Three of the courtrooms deal solely with civil DV cases, and the remaining two deal with criminal proceedings related to domestic violence.

Judge Retchin emphasized the importance of making the court feel welcoming for those victimized by domestic violence. All DV judges undergo mandatory sensitivity training, to give them further insight and to better understand what DV victims are going through. The litigants are provided many services to ensure that they are heard, understood and treated fairly. "Fairness" was a word that Judge Retchin often highlighted in explaining the DV court to the Tajikistan delegates. "The court goes out of their way to make sure that the litigants are heard and understood... [We] want them to be treated fairly." The judge continued, "It is as much about the process of fairness as it is about the result."

Judge Retchin admitted that she was reluctant to accept her duties as a DV judge when first assigned, but she quickly understood the importance of her work. The Judge found that, "domestic violence has a profound effect on

Tajikistan delegates, continued on Page 10.



Tajikistan visitors presenting a memento to Judge Retchin (sitting, center) and DV Director William Agosto (standing, center) during their visit.

CVCP, continued from Page 3.

hotel whose location is undisclosed for security reasons.

The hotel is run in conjunction with the non-profit "My Sister's Place," an agency that assists the CVCP by providing on-site group counseling and case management at the hotel. The hotel also caters to the public, offering the same high quality services to the customers as they do to the victims. Each room comes complete with cable television, fridge, microwave, phone, lamp and full access to bath and sink. Beds are fully made up with fresh sheets, pillow and duvet; white walls are decorated with framed artwork. A desk receptionist is on duty at the front 24/7, monitoring the door. CVCP representatives also visit the hotel quite often to further supervise the premises. Besides the temporary housing, victims are also given over \$100 in food stamps to buy groceries for the week as well as an unlimited weekly metro pass. The hotel provides safe, convenient housing and services that allow victims the opportunity to recover from trauma in a secure environment.

Much of CVCP's prolonged success is due to the relationships it has formed in the D.C. community. Not only is the program well-regarded in Superior Court

but it has forged strong partnerships with many non-profit groups throughout the District. Programs such as SAFE, My Sister's Place, Lighthouse Center for Healing, Rape Crisis Center and Dawn have become paramount in supporting the CVCP and at-risk victims. CVCP has also become a trusted ally with government agencies such as the D.C. U.S. Attorney's Office and the Metropolitan Police Department in establishing a functioning victim's services community in D.C. that had never before existed.

"We don't know how many lives we have saved, and that's probably a good thing," notes Director Reed. The CVCP helps fund essential services for thousands of victims a year who might otherwise be left without access to mental health services, without money to pay for a loved one's funeral, without means to pay tremendous medical bills or at worst: the choice of living in the streets or returning to an abuser. The CVCP name refers to "victims" of violent crimes, but they are more appropriately called "survivors." The Court's Crime Victims Compensation Program helps to make sure that these D.C. residents are able to not just survive, but thrive.

COURT OF APPEALS CLERKS

ENJOY ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR OF SPEAKERS SERIES

By Thomas Duncombe, Joseph Fiorill, Jennifer Gniady, Zeba Huq, Lisa Rothfarb, and Leslie Scott, Law Clerks to Senior Judges, D.C. Court of Appeals

Justice Sotomayor. Justice Scalia. Then-Solicitor General Kagan. These were some of the distinguished lawyers in the D.C. area who participated in the Court of Appeals Distinguished Speakers Series this year. The Speakers Series, organized by the Senior Judges' law clerks, provides an opportunity for all the clerks at the District's highest court to meet and learn from accomplished attorneys in an informal, roundtable setting. By all accounts, the events this year were a rousing success. Daniel Staroselsky, law clerk to Judge Oberly, said, "It was great to meet such an amazing, diverse collection of distinguished speakers in so intimate a setting."

The brown-bag-lunch format of the series is especially conducive to discussion. During the one-to-two hours of each luncheon, the speaker talks with the clerks openly about whatever topics the speaker chooses. The clerks also pose questions to the speakers about their careers, judicial philosophies, and whatever other topics come to mind. In addition to Supreme Court Justices, speakers included D.C. District Court Judge Paul Friedman, D.C. Solicitor General Todd Kim, and Court of Federal Claims Judge Francis Allegra.

Each speaker had his or her own unique and valuable insights and advice to impart. Justice Scalia, for example, warned against clerks' simply reading judicial opinions. "Read classic novels," the Justice advised. "Your writing will be better." The Justice also talked about a common mistake among law clerks to try to "prove something five ways." "Just prove it one



Justice Sotomayor (center) with Court of Appeals clerks after the brown-bag lunch.

way," the Justice advised. "...Maybe two," he added. Judge Friedman talked about the necessity of treating everyone in the courtroom with dignity. He said that when adjudicating a criminal case, he always makes sure to ask the defendant how he or she is doing before addressing other concerns.

The Speakers Series began at the Court of Appeals when Judge Terry (now a Senior Judge with the court) was an associate judge. His clerks took it upon themselves to organize the events, a task which now falls to the Senior Judges' law clerks. Kathy Konieczny, law clerk to Associate Judge Stephen Glickman, expressed her appreciation for the administration of the events, saying, "The Senior Judge Clerks surpassed all of our expectations this year by bringing in one luminary after another. Either they are way more connected than they are willing to admit, or their luck was staggeringly good this year."

It turns out, according to sources in the Senior Judges' chambers, it was a bit of both. While some clerks had personal ties to speakers they invited, many of the speakers -- including both Supreme Court Justices -- were invited the old fashioned way: with a mailed letter of invitation. Whatever the methods, the results were another successful Speakers Series program and another incoming class of clerks this fall who will face the daunting task of topping the group of speakers from the 2009-2010 year. With any luck, they will succeed.



Justice Scalia (center) poses with the clerks, his second appearance in the Speaker Series.

ANOTHER WINNING TEAM!

By Morgan Block, Executive Office Intern

On July 31, 2010, D.C. Courts' Education Specialist Louis Shack and his team of five D.C.-area students placed 2nd at the National Computer Technology Competition in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Lou Shack volunteers as the team coordinator/trainer for the Washington, D.C. chapter of Black Data Processing Associates (BPDA), a non-profit established in 1975 to promote minority achievement in the data processing field. Lou has been a part of the all-volunteer run BPDA for five years, dedicating a great deal of time and energy into reaching out to children who are passionate about technology and computer programming. Thanks in part to Lou's tutelage, his team at this year's competition were runners up, earning each team member a \$2,500 scholarship that will go towards their college education in a



science/technology/ engineering/ math (STEM) related field of study.

The 2010 competition is now over, but Lou doesn't plan on taking any breaks from giving back to the community. Starting September 11th, on every other Saturday from 10AM-2PM, he will be giving free, fun, technology training at Gallery Place to a group of 8th, 9th and 10th graders interested in computer programming. For more information, or to enroll your child in Lou Shack's program, please contact him at (202) 879-0497 or by e-mail at Louis.Shack@dcsc.gov.

Congratulations to Lou Shack and his Washington BPDA chapter's winning team!!



Louis Shack (far right) and his team of five D.C.-area students with their award at the National Computer Technology Competition in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Save
the
date!!**

**The 29th Annual Employee
Recognition and
Awards Ceremony
will be held on
Thursday, September 16, 2010.**

Don't miss it!

children even when they don't witness it [DV] directly." The psychological damage that results from exposure to DV is profound, resulting in emotional instability and lower test scores. "[Children] don't feel safe in the home, so they don't feel safe in the real world." Combating the very real issue of domestic violence is impossible without the full commitment of local police departments, local legislature and the judiciary. The DV Unit at the Superior Court continues to function effectively due to the complete dedication of the judges and staff involved.

The Superior Court domestic violence model is often praised and sometimes replicated for its approach to handling such a difficult and complicated task. Most recently, *The Times* of India has reported that the Indian justice system plans to adopt the U.S. model after visiting with Superior Court Judge Heidi Pasichow, Domestic Violence Director William Agosto and Executive Director of D.C. Safe, Elizabeth Olds this past May. The Superior Court is very proud of its DV Unit, and there is no higher praise than the international emulation of such a worthy system.

Thanks again to the Tajikistan delegation for visiting the Superior Court.

Kabe Reviews

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Wed, Jul 28, 2010 | Updated 09.01pm IST

India to adopt US model in tackling domestic violence

TNN, Jun 17, 2010, 06.11am IST

NEW DELHI: India is hoping to take a cue from the United States in tackling domestic violence cases.

In an effort to minimize state intervention in implementation of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA), the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) has now mooted a proposal to encourage NGOs to provide assistance and shelter to victims.

As of now the Domestic Violence Act expects the state to appoint protection officers who coordinate between courts, police and support services for enabling women's access to justice.

Officials said the "Safe D.C. programme" being implemented in Washington D.C., in the United States, could be a good model to give implementation of the act a boost.

The model was discussed by the officials of the ministry with states at a two-day meeting that began on Wednesday.

The programme envisages a domestic violence intake centre established by an NGO which is housed within the court premises and works in collaboration with police, prosecutors, NGOs and the court. The victims can approach a domestic violence intake centre or a police station and the victim is assisted in getting an ex-parte temporary protection order within two hours which is valid for 14 days. During the period the victim is provided with shelter, transport, legal assistance, custody of children depending on her needs.

A senior ministry official said that efforts were being made to involve more NGOs. "It has been seen that NGOs are sensitive to the victims' needs and unlike state appointed protection officers are able to dedicate themselves completely to the implementation of the act," he said. The official added that the state and ministries would monitor the implementation.

Roy S. Wynn, Jr

Director, Special Operations Division

June 14, 2010

Mr. Wynn Jr:

I am writing this letter in regards to the Childcare services inside of the H. Carl Moultrie I Courthouse. I am a social services professional who works with parents who have open neglect/abuse charges. In my position, I am often in the court building to accompany my families to CPS hearings and other legal



Dorothy Coleman, Child Care Center Director.

proceedings. I discovered the childcare services within the last year and have had to utilize them approximately 3 times for my own young child since I needed to be in court so very early in the morning and his school is quite a distance from our residence as well as the courthouse. When taking my son there for the first time, I immediately took notice to the bright and welcoming space and the friendly, accommodating staff, giving step by step details of what is needed to utilize the services and a brief description of some of the activities that the children would be engaged in while there. There was plenty to do and enough staff to supervise and facilitate. **The Center's Manager is professional and courteous and her team is nurturing, easy-going, and seem to really enjoy working with the high-energy, fast paced young ones.** My son did not want to leave when I arrived to pick him up. He often asked me when he can go back to that place "with all the grand-moms." These were his words-not mine. He really enjoyed the center and its staff. I was not charged a fee for them to care for my little one but, if I were asked to pay, I would not hesitate on bringing him back when I needed the services. It is a truly wonderful place!

Best regards,
Ky'Neike King

Kate Reviews *continued*

From: Grand Juror
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2010
To: Bailey-Jones, Suzanne M.

Dear Ms. **Bailey-Jones**,

If the rest of the government was as proactive and efficient as your office, I think we'd see some real improvements! Thank you so much for forwarding these documents [in advance, to assist the writer, who is visually-impaired]. I am prepared to do whatever needs to be done to make this a smooth experience for you. For example, I can use a memory stick to make sure all data stays in your office for secure storage. I can bring my old laptop which you can then keep locked up after hours if there are any issues of security. I realize we do not live in a perfect world, and I look forward to making friends among my jury peers to ask for help reading material or describing charts and photos if necessary. After all, we're all evaluating the same evidence and ought to be working together to make decisions anyway. Just let me know how I can make this work for everyone. This will be my first time serving, and I am very excited for the opportunity!



To: Ms. Laura B. Reed,

June 28, 2010

My family and I wish to thank the **Crime Victims' Compensation Program** for the assistance given after the death of my brother, on January 10, 2010. I am simply overwhelmed by the resources available and the assistance given by the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department, the Family Liaison Specialists, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and your department. The process of assisting families is excellent. Thank you for making this time a little less stressful. *Thank you!*

Dear **Louis Kelly**:
July 20, 2010

The jury is in (the jury of Polish LL.M. students, that is) and they have voted Superior Court to be the best court visit and you the best "interpreter" of the U.S. judicial system. They loved seeing the variety of cases and judges. They also appreciated the time you spent with them talking about the administration of justice. You made a tremendous impression on them, especially with your comments about respecting the parties who come before the court and recognizing the difficulties they face.

Two things about Polish law that may be of interest to you: They have court reporters as we do here, but the judge tells them what to transcribe. In effect, the judge acts as a kind of translator of the proceedings. They felt our system is fairer and more efficient. Second, in Poland prostitution is not a crime, nor is it a regulated activity (no taxes). So, when individuals are charged with tax evasion in Poland, they often plead as a defense that they were engaged in prostitution! **I appreciate how generous you were with your time. Thank you for making this a wonderful experience for the students.**

Warm regards, Faith Mullen
Assistant Clinical Professor, The Catholic University Of America, Columbus School of Law

June 17, 2010

Ms. Anne B. Wicks
Executive Officer

Dear Ms. Wicks:

We wanted to inform you of the excellent service we have been receiving from Ms. **Lori Edley** in the tape section of the court reporting division at Superior Court. Ms. Edley answers the phone professionally and is always willing to assist us with any questions or requests that we might have. Often at PDS our requests to Ms. Edley are complicated, requiring her to research missing portions of transcripts and provide us with a time estimate for expedited delivery. Ms. Edley has been exceedingly patient with our requests and has always put forth her best efforts to accommodate them. She is accurate in estimating production time and punctual in meeting deadlines. We wanted you to know that the Public Defender Service views Ms. Edley as an extraordinary asset to the court reporting division.

Sincerely,

Jaclyn Frankfurt
Deputy Chief, Appellate Division
D.C. Public Defender Service



Sent to Mayor's ofc via dc.gov 6/28/10

Message

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Want to pass on my praise for an employee in the D.C. jurors office, Miss **[Tina] Sandvik**, Assistant Juror Officer. She was so helpful today resolving a deferral. It's nice to call the city government and get someone who is polite and helpful. Please pass on my thanks and appreciation.



Faith Mullen
Assistant Clinical Professor
The Catholic University Of America
Ms. Anne B. Wicks
Executive Officer

June 17, 2010

Dear Ms. Wicks:

This note is to express our appreciation for the exceptional efforts put forth by each of the **court reporters** in accomplishing the expeditious transcription of *United States v. Harris*, 2007-CF1-22962, a lengthy trial that resulted in a 21,000-page transcript. This trial before Judge Henry Greene began on October 30, 2008 and ended on May 20, 2009. As of this date, it appears that all the relevant transcripts of the proceedings are complete. We at PDS appreciate the effort and achievement of the many court reporters who participated in this task.

Sincerely,
Jaclyn Frankfurt

Anne B. Wicks
Executive Officer

June 28, 2010

Dear Ms. Wicks.

It is with great pleasure, although well overdue, that I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Ms. **Angela Warrick** for the exceptional manner in which she performs her duties. I can't think of one time in which I have ordered supplies and received a call from her indicating that my order was ready within a few hours of faxing over the requisition. (At the end of last year, I had pretty much recovered from a broken leg. However, during those times when I sometimes experienced a painful limp, Ms. Warrick would solicit assistance from others, in order for me to receive my supplies.) Since Ms. Warrick's arrival, I've noticed more organization and efficacy in how the supply room is managed.

It's always a pleasure picking up my supplies because I know Ms. Warrick will be there with a "happy-to-see" you smile on her face and always something nice to say.

I feel many employees do not receive the acknowledgement that they deserve and just wanted to convey my sentiments.

Sincerely,
Karla T. Miller

