

Judicial Branch News



The Judicial Branch's New Honor Guard

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Judicial Branch News

The Judicial Branch News is an online newsletter published by the Media Relations Department.

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Employee Anniversaries

5 Years

Dawn Hogue, Presentence Screener

Ana Boxrud, Educator Bachelors

Peter Perez, Educator Bachelors

Lawrence Slade, Court Security Deputy Marshal Captain

10 Years

Sheila Tickle, Justice System Administrator

Beatrice Sainz, Administrative Assistant

David Szeto, Adult Probation Officer

Sabrina Maestas-Munoz, Judicial Assistant - Classified

Lisa VandenBerg, Court Commissioner

Eartha Washington, Court Commissioner

Eisha Eisenberg, Presentence Screener

Traci Ball, Juvenile Detention Officer

Mary Smith, Judicial Assistant

15 Years

Jenny George, Judicial Assistant - Classified

Darla Vanatta, Judicial Clerk Senior

Angela Meyer, Judicial Clerk Lead

Christina Barbarisi, Judicial Clerk Supervisor

Cynthia Mancinelli, Juvenile Probation Officer

Michael Taylor, Adult Probation Officer

Donna Woods, Judicial Clerk

Daniel Rodgers, Adult Education Instructor

20 Years

Julie Lane, Judicial Assistant

Abdullah Mulazim, Juvenile Probation Officer

25 Years

Rudolph White, Physical Education Coordinator

Lena DuPuis, Judicial Assistant

** Information provided by Debbie Gilliland in the Human Resources Department.*

Library Director Named

Shawn Friend, an experienced attorney and librarian, has been named the new Law Library Resource Center Director.

Since 2010, Friend has served as the head of reference for the Florida Coastal School of Law. Her previous experience also includes: Assistant Chair and Associate Professor of Paralegal Studies at Daytona State College; Librarian at Volusia County Public Library; Deputy Legal Defender at the Maricopa County Office of Legal Defender; Adjunct Faculty at Scottsdale Community College; Assistant Attorney General at the Office of the AZ Attorney General; and attorney at two AZ law firms.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts from Indiana University, a MLIS degree from the University of Arizona and her Juris Doctorate from ASU College of Law.

Criminal Attorney Hired



Kathryn Andrews

The Judicial Branch of Arizona in Maricopa County hired Kathryn Andrews as its criminal law staff attorney.

Andrew comes to the court with a wealth of private and public legal experience. Since 2000, she served as a staff attorney at the Arizona Court of Appeals. Prior to her career in government, she worked as an associate for the law firms of Steptoe & Johnson, L.L.P, Lewis & Roca, L.L.P and Brown & Bain, P.A..

“I’ve always been interested in criminal law, and I’m excited to be working where the criminal trials are happening,” said Andrews.

Andrews is a former law clerk for the Honorable William C. Canby, Jr. of the United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit. She is also a graduate of the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, and she earned her Bachelor of Arts in history from Stanford University.

Judge Brian Ishikawa Retires

Judge Brian Ishikawa announced his retirement from the Superior Court bench in February.

During his exemplary 20-year career with the Maricopa County Superior Court, Judge Ishikawa has served in the Civil, Criminal, Family and Juvenile Departments of the Court. He also served as the Associate Presiding Criminal Judge and Associate Presiding Juvenile Judge.

“Judge Ishikawa has a stellar reputation as a knowledgeable and caring judge that brings dignity, patience, and impartiality to every proceeding he conducts,” Presiding Judge Norman Davis said. “Every contact and conversation I have had with him the last 20 years has been a positive and uplifting experience, and most of us have been improved by our association with him. We will miss his optimistic outlook on life, his caring personality and good humor on a daily basis, but wish him the very best in a happy and well-deserved retirement.”

Bailiff Restores Order

On January 23, Stephanie Dowd, bailiff to Judge Danielle Viola, acted quickly and decisively to help diffuse a potentially dangerous situation.

After a victim’s family member attempted to attack an in-custody defendant, Dowd helped restore peace in the courtroom by successfully escorting the remaining members of the victim’s family out of the courtroom.

By separating the victim and defendant’s family, Dowd prevented a second explosive situation from occurring in the courtroom.

A job well done by Stephanie Dowd!

Commissioner Helps Students

When she is not presiding over her Lower Court of Appeals calendar, Commissioner Myra Harris is using her creativity to help an East Valley high school.

Recently, Commissioner Harris accompanied Basha High School students to the Arizona State Thespian Festival where she served as a costume design judge. She is also working on costume designs for the upcoming main stage production of *Beauty and the Beast*. Basha High School will present the show on April 9–11.

To the theater students at Basha High School, Commissioner Harris is known simply as “Grandma Schwartz,” a talented costume design artist who loves giving back to the community and helping students reach their potential.

Her contributions are so highly regarded that Basha High School has named an award in her honor. For the third straight year, the school will be presenting the “Grandma Schwartz Award” to the thespian who best personifies the aspirations of the Basha High School Theatre Department. The award is an original custom-made and designed teddy bear by Commissioner Harris.

Judge Gottsfield Says Farewell

Judge Robert Gottsfield will be leaving full-time work with the court on March 6.

Judge Gottsfield was appointed as a judge on February 1, 1980 when the Court had only 40 divisions. Since then, he has served continuously as a judicial officer the last 35 years.

“During that time no one in our court’s history has worked harder or longer hours to serve the court and provide legal access to litigants. Stories of Bob’s work ethic, willingness to do any assignment, and professionalism are legendary,” Presiding Judge Norman Davis said. “He regularly started a second jury trial while the jury in the last one was still deliberating. We owe Judge Gottsfield our profound thanks and recognition for his valuable and dedicated service. An institution is leaving the Court, and I know you all join me in applauding Judge Gottsfield’s service and example to each of us.”

New Judge Q-and-A: Judge Lori Horn Bustamante



Lori Horn Bustamante

Q. What has surprised you the most about making the transition from commissioner to judge? Please explain.

My transition has been very smooth and I have not had many surprises. I have an incredible Judicial Assistant, Julicua Singleton, who was a tremendous help with the transition.

Q. Who has been the biggest inspiration in your legal career?

I have had many people who have mentored and inspired me throughout my career but my parents have been my biggest inspiration. They have encouraged me every step of the way and instilled in me the values of integrity, work ethic and having a positive attitude.

Q. What's your favorite quote? (This can be something one of your children said to you, what you said to them, a line from poetry or something you wish you hadn't said).

If you can dream it, you can do it - Walt Disney

Q. If you had a day to spend with anyone (living or dead, real or fictional), who would it be and what would you do?

I would want to spend the day with my grandmother who passed away several years ago. I would want to use our time together interacting with my children who never had the opportunity to meet her so that they can receive the love, encouragement and great advice I received from her.

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

I have an iPhone but I don't have a playlist because I haven't taken the time to do it! If I did, my songs would include the following:

- "I Gotta Feeling Tonight's Going to be a Good Night" by the Black Eyed Peas because it's a good dancing song.
- "This Moment" by Shania Twain because it reminds me of my awesome husband.
- "Celebrate Good Times" by Cool and the Gang because it reminds me to celebrate the good things in life with my family, friends, and great kids!

Maricopa County Service Award Recognition Event

On February 11, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors and County Manager hosted a Service Award Recognition Event to celebrate the loyalty, commitment and individual contributions of employees with 30, 35 and 40 years of service.



Lilia Linn, 30 Years



Scott Loos, 35 Years



Debra Wall, 30 Years



Sheila Copalman, 30 Years



Geraldine Okun, 30 Years



Olivia Ramirez, 30 Years



Jose Arenas, 30 Years



Derrick Knott, 30 Years



Herb Quezada, 35 Years



Ginger Hopper, 30 Years

OCH Named National Landmark



Judicial Branch Honor Guard



The Arizona State Parks, State Historic Preservation Office announced that Maricopa County Superior Court's Old Courthouse has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building was placed on the National Register for its architecture and for its significant role in the government and politics of Arizona and the United States.

Superior Court Marshal's Office established an Honor Guard to represent the Court at various Maricopa County functions such as: funerals (In Memoriam), judicial meetings, investitures, swearing in ceremonies and any other activities. The Marshals who were selected to serve on Honor Guard are: Earle Lloyd, Conrad Chavez, Benton Morris, Milton Summers, Carlos Vasquez and Dennis Williams.

Photo Day Highlights 2015



Judges



Commissioners



Executive Team



Dept. Presiding Judges