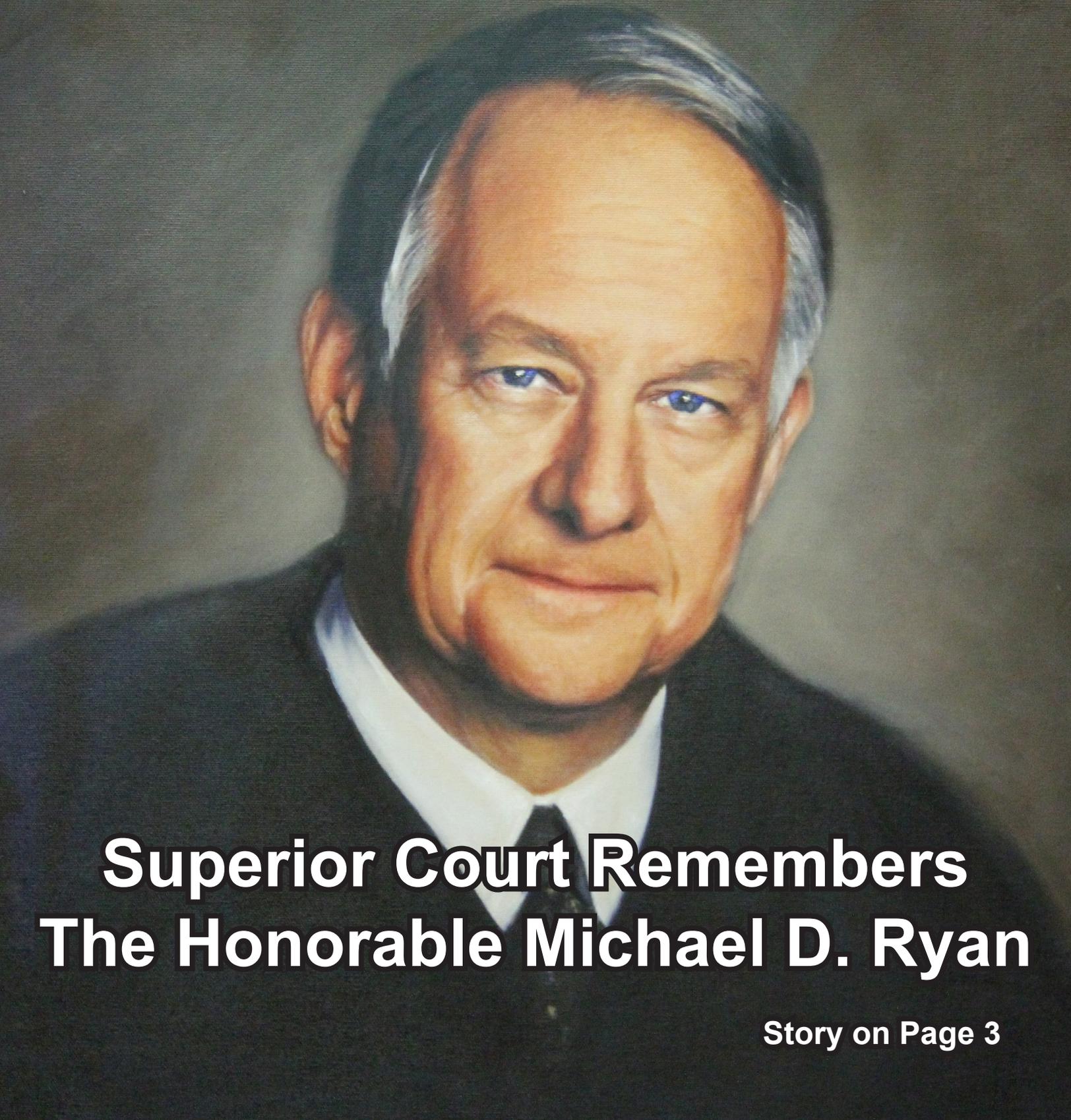


Equal Justice Under Law

May 2014

Judicial Branch News



Superior Court Remembers The Honorable Michael D. Ryan

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Cover - Oil painting of Judge Michael D. Ryan unveiled at his portrait dedication ceremony in the Old Courthouse in Phoenix.

Judicial Branch News

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

If you wish to contribute to this newsletter, please send articles, news items, photos or other correspondence to: karra@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov.

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Superior Court Remembers Honorable Michael D. Ryan

On April 25, Superior Court celebrated the distinguished career of the Honorable Michael D. Ryan with a portrait dedication ceremony.

Justices, judges, former judges, court staff, friends and family attended the ceremony at the Old Courthouse in Phoenix to pay their respect to a brilliant legal mind who dedicated 24 years to working in the Judiciary. Justice Ryan served as a Superior Court Judge, a Court of Appeals Judge and Arizona Supreme Court Justice.

During the ceremony, Justice Ryan's wife, Karen, and son, Kevin, unveiled the portrait. Presiding Judge Norman Davis, Commissioner R. Jeffrey Woodburn and retired Judge Ron Reinstein spoke on behalf of their friend and former colleague.

Justice Ryan was known as a fair and thoughtful jurist who managed his courtroom in a firm, respectful manner. He was respected by all who appeared before him as well as those who served beside him.

As a Superior Court Judge, he presided over high profile cases such as AzScam, the Phoenix Suns drug case and the criminal trial of Governor Evan Mecham. Prior to joining the Bench, he served as a Maricopa County prosecutor.

Justice Ryan received his Juris Doctorate from Arizona State University. He also was the recipient of two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star for his service as a United States Marine Corps platoon commander in the Vietnam War.



JCorps Partners with Local Communities



Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Eric Meaux helps JCORPS on a clean-up project in Mesa.

The Juvenile Community Offender Restitution and Public Service Program partnered with local communities over the past few months for charitable causes and community clean-up projects. Since January, JCORPS worked with the City of Phoenix on several graffiti clean-up projects as well as the Lindo Park and the Garcia Neighborhoods on spring clean-up and beautification projects. JCORPS youth have been in Tempe helping W. Steve Martin and his charities with the relocation of their warehouses. Mesa Councilmember Christopher Glover recently reached out to JCORPS for assistance with cleaning up streets and alleyways near Holmes Elementary in Mesa, which was experiencing excessive illegal dumping. More than 28 JCORPS youth turned out to help clean-up the streets around Holmes Elementary. Communities or agencies interested in partnering with JCORPS may contact JCORPS Supervisor Lara Meier at 602-372-4349 or JCORPS Program Coordinator Alexander Stojic at 602-506-5607.

By Lara Meier, JCORPS Supervisor

Employee Anniversaries

5 Years

Sally Hawley, Judicial Assistant
 James Beene, Superior Court Judge
 Susan White, Court Commissioner
 Monica Garfinkel, Court Commissioner

10 Years

Stacy Kirshner, Adult Probation Officer
 Richard Facio, Surveillance Officer
 Terrence Moore, Security Officer II
 Silvia Puentes, Security Officer II
 Alexis Leask, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Sikiru Adeniran, Juvenile Detention Officer
 John Finn, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Phillip Hanley, Admin Services Director
 Scott Kindle, Court Reporter
 Cheryl Smith, Judicial Clerk Associate
 Tiffany Durham, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Fabian Flores, Surveillance Officer
 Stanley Robinson II, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Todd Weiss, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Sarah Hertel, Judicial Assistant

15 Years

Rocio Palomino, Adult Probation Officer
 Holly Slater, Adult Probation Officer
 Kenneth Smith, Adult Probation Officer
 Thomas Weiss, Adult Probation Officer Supervisor
 Teresa Toth, Conference Officer
 Mary Stepanian, Registered Nurse
 Fernando Garcia, Surveillance Officer
 Jaime Lopez, Surveillance Officer
 Teresa Sanders, Superior Court Judge
 Barbara Vega, Judicial Clerk Senior

20 Years

Eugene Lehman, Surveillance Officer

25 Years

Chauncey Crenshaw, Adult Probation Officer Supervisor
 Hugh Gallagher, Deputy Court Administrator
 Kelly Ortiz, Judicial Clerk Lead
 Robert Batchelor, Adult Probation Officer
 Diane Katz, Adult Probation Officer
 Jamille Barbosa-Hendershot, Juvenile Probation Officer
 Paul Hamstra, Juvenile Probation Officer
 Cynthia Huth, Judicial Clerk Associate
 Karen Egan, Judicial Clerk Supervisor

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

County Honors Employees with 30 Years of Service



Adult Probation Officer Beverly Geske



Court Reporter Kim Hannan

Grayce Says Goodbye



The Judicial Education and Training Department celebrates Grayce Mayhew's departure. Grayce is leaving Superior Court after eight years of service to embark on a new adventure in her career. Back Row - (left to right) - Dan Sitzler, Kelly Lusk, Cindy Reid and Eva Fatigoni. Front Row - Grayce Mayhew.

Judge Douglas Rayes Retires



Douglas Rayes

Judge Douglas Rayes has retired from Superior Court to join the Federal District Court Bench.

Judge Rayes, who was most recently assigned to civil court, served 14 years as a Superior Court Judge. During his time on the Bench, he presided over calendars in criminal, civil and family court. He also served three years as the Criminal Presiding Judge.

“Doug has always sought to improve the quality and performance of our court and has been one of the key players in moving it forward,” Presiding Judge Norman Davis said. “I will always remember Doug’s humble and caring nature and his willingness to see the best in people. The United States District Court is getting a truly able and qualified judge and an even finer human being.”

Judge Rayes served three years as a Judge Advocate General in the United States Army and later spent 18 years working in private practice.

Judge Verdin Says Farewell



Judge Maria del Mar Verdin with members of her original judicial staff at her retirement party in the Old Courthouse. Left to right - Michelle Montijo, former bailiff, Judge Verdin and Melissa Gable, judicial assistant.

Judge Harriett Chavez Retires



Harriett Chavez

Judge Harriett Chavez, who served 25 years as judicial officer in the Arizona court system, announced her retirement effective June 30.

In her letter to the Governor, Judge Chavez stated, “I have had the honor and privilege of serving the citizens of Arizona as a Judge in the best Trial Court in the United States. I am grateful to have had this wonderful opportunity and will miss the excitement and challenge of working with such dedicated professionals.”

Judge Chavez served 23 years with Superior Court, the first 12 years as a Commissioner and the remaining 11 years as a Judge. While serving on the Superior Court Bench, she presided over juvenile, family, criminal, civil and probate calendars. She also worked two years as a Judge with Phoenix Municipal Court.

“I had the privilege of working with Harriett at the Northwest Regional Court after it was opened in 2002, and soon learned of her serious and impartial commitment to the rule of law, her desire to do the right thing in every case, and of her compassion for every litigant that enters her courtroom,” Presiding Judge Norman Davis said. “We will all miss our daily contact with Judge Chavez, her great attitude, her supportive disposition, and her willingness to help anyone in need of assistance.”

Prior to her judicial career, Judge Chavez served as an Assistant Arizona Attorney General; Deputy Maricopa County Attorney; Assistant Phoenix City Prosecutor and Assistant Mesa City Prosecutor.

She earned her Juris Doctorate and bachelor’s degree in education/history from the University of Arizona.

“Thank you for all you have done during your career to improve the Court and the community. We all wish you the very best in your well-deserved retirement,” Judge Davis said.

Brad Finch Retires



Superior Court's Brad Finch retires after 33 years of service. Brad worked in many areas of the County including: the County Hospital, Adult Probation and Human Resources with Superior Court.

JA Earns Degree

Criminal Court Administration announces the graduation of Chris Kraus.



Chris Kraus

Kraus graduated from Arizona State University (ASU) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice & Criminology on May 13th. He is working in Not Guilty Arraignment Court in the South Court Tower. In addition to working full-time for the court, he also has been going to school full-time at ASU's downtown campus.

When asked about his achievement, he stated: "I would like to use my degree to get into probation or parole."

Submitted by Christopher G. Bleuenstein

Court Reporter's Office: Providing Coverage



During a transition period in the Court Reporting Department, Pearl Duran (left) and Blanche Paulsen (right) accepted new duties and performed admirably. Also, thanks to the many court reporters who have volunteered their time with phone coverage, filing and calendar coverage.

Marshal's Office Graduates A New Class



On May 2, Superior Court welcomed a new class of Deputy Court Marshals. The graduation took place in the Old Courthouse in Phoenix.

Court Employees Graduate in Washington DC



Johnny Tse (Third row, far left) and Nicole Garcia (second row, far right) earned certification as a Fellow of the Institute for Court Management (ICM). The graduation ceremony took place on May 9 at the United States Supreme Court in Washington, DC. The final step of the Fellows process includes a three-day master class held in Alexandria, VA. The Fellows program, dating back to 1970, is the highest certification in court management offered by the National Center or State Courts.

Juvenile Court Reaches Out to South Mountain



Katie McSpadden (second from the right) sits on a panel at South Mountain High School.

On April 10, Katie McSpadden, the Status Offense Specialty Court Coordinator, participated in a speaker panel at South Mountain High School. The panel, hosted by the South Mountain W.O.R.K.S. Coalition, was created in 2008 to address underage drinking in the 85040, 85041, and 85042 zip codes. The Coalition consists of a variety of representatives from youth, parents, and law enforcement, to schools and government agencies. The group engages in numerous activities, such as community education, peer leadership, public information and social media marketing, and community development.

Ms. McSpadden is currently delivering presentations to local schools to help youths make informed decisions in the community.

Submitted by Katie McSpadden

Employee Satisfaction Survey Committees

Committee meetings, made up of employees from every facet of the organization, are underway discussing ways to improve the workplace. The best ideas and solutions from the meetings will be presented to leadership for possible implementation.



Training

Front Row (left to right) - Holly Burdine, Harriet Galbreath, Gary Bridget, Eva Fatigoni, Araceli Ambert, Marie Long. **Back Row** - (left to right) - Diana Hegyi (Co-chair), Phil Hanley (Co-chair), Shawn Haught, Danielle Radler, Kristina Tuba, Randy Rosencrans and Kyle Miller. (Not pictured: Gloria Braskett, Elisa Young and Susan Bee.)



Flex Time

Front Row – (left to right) – Chuck Lopez, Chad Williams, Leslie Strombeck and Tracy Schatza. **Back Row** – (left to right) – Connie Scott, Danna Quinn (Co-chair), Robert Prieto, Kristen Hunt, Kim Kelly and Barbara Broderick (Co-chair.) (Not Pictured: Lori Ash, Shari Anderson-Head, Kyla Bracker, Nichole Flowers, Brenda Jones, Tiffany Keshishian and Linda Sandbloom.



Bi-Lingual Pay

Front Row - (left to right) - Claudia Facio-Barriga, Maria Maurin, Erma Hernandez, Sandra Nageotte and Pamela Leon. **Middle Row** - (left to right) - Manny Barron, Jasmine Herrera, Amy Azpeitia, Debra Rubenstein, Danna Quinn (Co-chair) and Karen Westover (Co-chair). **Back Row** - (left to right) - Jessica Alvares, Ramiro Suastegui, Daniel Rodgers, Jason Hathcock and Paula Collins. (Not Pictured - Gladys Villegas.)





Inter-Departmental

Front Row - (left to right) - Daniele Grasser, Kathleen Frazier, Karen Westover (Co-chair), Eric Meaux (Co-chair) and Kristi Ward.
Back Row - (left to right) - Dave Elston, Rona Easterday, Andrea Stiles, Karen Arra, Laurie Laughlin, Mike Czerniejewski, Patricia O'Connor, Penne Garrett and Charlotte Shrum. (Not pictured: Kafi Grossley, Kathleen Mullin, Kelly Lusk.)



Bench And Employee

Front Row - (left to right) - Sarah Murillo, John Slone, Joan Weyrauch, Cynthia Mancinelli and Jim Koeller.
Back Row - (left to right) - Kerry Vogel, Paula Coe, Daniel Fox, Charles Botz, Cynthia Stevens, Hugh Gallagher (Co-chair), Phil Knox (Co-chair), Vincent Funari, Kristi Dallman and Mike Babicky. (Not Pictured: Heidi Heniger, Robin Hoskins and Reggi Williams.)



Technology

Front Row - (left to right) - Kelly Vail, Richard Kokes, JoAnn Paulus, Darlene Jackson, Jeremy Mullen, Daniel Burgess, Sandra Feijoo. **Back Row** - (left to right) - Tom Mosely (Co-chair), Christian Popovici, Rodney Rego, Randy Tirado, Mark Hendershot, Kristina Rogers, Brian Bledsoe, Julian Garcia and Richard Woods (Co-chair). (Not Pictured: Ben Williams.)

