



Friends of the Court

Published by the Arkansas Administrative Office of the Courts

Volume 10, Number 2
September, 2002

ACAP TRAINING BEGINS

Representatives from district and circuit courts for the Arkansas Court Automation Project attended a four day session in Little Rock in September. The sessions were designed to provide an overview of the application functionality.

The Application and Court Workflow session encouraged participants to examine differences between the software



Representative from circuit court pilot sites listen to the ACS consultant.

and existing manual and automated court processes that were examined during a previous Court Process Review and provided a forum for discussion regarding potential solutions. The reports from the CPR and ACW sessions are available from ACAP, (501) 683-4030.

STATE CASA MEETS

Arkansas Supreme Court Chief Justice W.H. "Dub" Arnold presented awards at the fifth annual CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) conference to individuals in Arkansas who work with abused and neglected children in the court system. More than 300 CASA volunteers and staff, judges, attorney ad litem, and DCFS family service workers attended the "Family Ties" annual state conference on child abuse in North Little Rock, September 20th & 21st.

CASA is a program where trained court appointed volunteers



Circuit Judge Mark Hewett receives CASA Judge of the Year Award from Chief Justice Arnold.

represent the best interest of an abused or neglected child for whom a placement is being determined by the juvenile court.

Circuit Judge Mark Hewett, 12th Judicial District, was awarded the Juvenile Judge of the Year. Hewett was recognized for his support of CASA of Sebastian County.

"He was the originator of our current CASA program. He personally put together the steering committee," said

Deborah Avillion, Chair person for CASA of Sebastian County. "He holds everyone within his jurisdiction responsible for seeing to it that the families are either rehabilitated and reunited as

(CASA continued on next page.)



On behalf of the Arkansas Supreme Court, the Arkansas Supreme Court Historical Society the Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Damon J. Keith Law Collection of African-American Legal History at Wayne State University, you are cordially invited to attend the dedication of

***Marching Toward Justice:
The History of the 14th Amendment***

Friday, October 25, 2002

**Justice Building
625 Marshall Street
Little Rock, Arkansas**

Race, Justice
and the Law
Conference
9:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Dedication Ceremony
and Official
Exhibit Opening
1:00 p.m.

Arkansas Supreme Court
Historical Society
Reception
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact the Administrative Office of the Courts at (501) 682-9400. Marching Toward Justice will be on display through January 2, 2003, during the normal business hours of the Justice Building.

(CASA continued)

fast and safely as possible or he does everything necessary to clear the children for adoption,” said Avillion.

Sharron Glaze of the 16th Circuit was recognized as Attorney Ad Litem of the Year. Mason Pickens of Boone County was recognized as Family Service Worker of the Year, and Garland County CASA was selected as the Arkansas CASA program of the Year.



The judicial community regrets the recent losses of Judge Warren O. Kimbrough of Fort Smith and Judge David O. Partain of Van Buren.

Judge Kimbrough served as a chancellor from 1966 to 1996. Judge Partain was a circuit judge from 1971 to 1986.

Our condolences to the families and friends of these fine members of the judiciary.

Education Committees Meet to Plan for Upcoming Year

The Education Committees representing Judicial Council, District Judges, District/City Court Clerks, Case Coordinators, Court Reporters and District Court Probation Officers met in August. Rita Culbertson, a judicial branch education consultant from Florida, led the workshop.

It was the first time ever for all of the committees to meet together. After spending a day working on theory and practical applications of that theory, the 25 attendees broke into their constituent groups and planned their programs for the next 12 months.



Judicial Resources Assessment Committee Completes Time Study



The Judicial Resources Assessment Committee (JRAC) completed a weighted time study for the state's circuit courts in 2002. The purpose of the time study was to gauge the need for new judgeships throughout the state.



JRAC hears a presentation by King Benson from the 2nd Circuit.

Thirty-five (35) circuit judges participated in the time study and submitted one to two months of data during the time frame of January to June 2002. The demographics of the participating judges took into account various aspects such as the following:

* Region of the state (northeastern, northwestern, central, southeastern and southwestern)

* Urban, suburban and rural areas, and *Subject matter heard (criminal, civil, domestic relations, probate and juvenile) The time study showed a need for new

judgeships in the 1st, 2nd and 20th. JRAC met in August and the 2nd and 20th judicial circuits made presentations to the Committee asking for additional judges. The Committee will vote on the requests and then send the requests to the full Judicial Council at their meeting in October.

For further information concerning the weighted time study, contact Kellye Mashburn, Research Analyst/AOC, (501) 682-9400.



Former Chief Justice Jack Holt (left) listens to Justice Tom Glaze (third from left) as he explains the painting of the Supreme Court members to judges visiting from Russia. Arkansas Court of Appeals Chief Judge John Stroud (fifth from left with back to camera) assisted in escorting the Russian judges around the Justice Building in September.

2003 Judicial Branch Education

January

- 15-17 New Judges' Orientation
- 16-17 Case Coordinators' Orientation
- 17 Official Court Reporters' Orientation

February

- 21 District & City Court Clerks' Certification
- 27-28 District Court Officers' Conference

March

- 6-7 Case Coordinators' Conference

April

- April 30-May 2 Spring Judicial College/Judicial Council Meeting

May

- May 2-3 Official Court Reporters' Conference
- 15-17 District Judges' Spring College
- 15-17 District & City Court Clerks' Certification
- 28-30 Children and the Law Conference

August

- TBA Appellate Staff Orientation
- 15 District & City Court Clerks' Certification

September

- 4-6 Annual CASA Conference
- 25-27 District Judges' Fall College

October

- 15-18 Fall Judicial College/Judicial Council Meeting

November

- 21 District and City Court Clerks' Certification



New Faces in the Judiciary

Case Coordinators

22nd (Garrett) - **Sonya Buffington** replaces Deb Robinson.

16th (Rutledge) - **Karen Lynch** replaces Tabatha Evans.

19th W (Clinger) - **Donna Flear** replaces Jackie Walden.

District Judges

Fort Smith - **Daniel Stewart** replaces Les Evitts.

Yell County - **Jerry Don Ramey** replaces David McCormick.

Helena - **Chalk Mitchell** replaces Sam Whitefield.

City Court Clerks

Gould & Grady - **Tammie Cantrell** replaces Sandra Armstrong.

Cotter - **Kay Laughry** replaces Mary McLaughlin.

London - **Jeff Phillips** replaces David McCormick.



CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Fall Judicial College/Judicial..... **16-19**
Council Meeting (Eureka Springs-
Inn of the Ozarks)

NOVEMBER

Juvenile Judges' Conf. (Heber..... **13-15**
Springs - Red Apple Inn)

District & City Court Clerks' **15**
Certification (Hot Springs - Arlington)

JANUARY

New Judges' Orientation.....**15-17**

Case Coordinators' Orientation.....**16-17**

Official Court Reporters' Orientation....**17**

FEBRUARY

District & City Court Clerks'**21**
Certification

District Court Officers Conference.....**27-28**

MARCH

Case Coordinators Conference.....**6-7**



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Friends of the Court is a bi-monthly publication by the Arkansas Administrative Office of the Courts. Contributions, comments, and inquiries are welcome. Please submit to **Friends of the Court**, A.O.C., Justice Building, 625 Marshall, Little Rock, AR 72201. Tel. (501) 682-9400. Karolyn Bond, Editor.

**Address
Correction
Requested**