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November 2017
Fall Issue

A black and white photograph of a person's hands holding a framed certificate or diploma. The certificate has a seal on it. The background is a blurred indoor setting.

ARKANSAS COURT NEWS

2017 CMP GRADUATES

Congratulations are in order for twenty-eight new graduates of the 2017 Court Management Program (“CMP”). CMP is an intensive, multi-year program that offers certification as a Certified Court Manager or Certified Court Executive. Read about this program, the graduates, and how to participate on page 13.

AOC WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR

Marty Sullivan has been named the new permanent Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts. Marty has served the Arkansas judiciary and the people of Arkansas for most of his career. Find out more about him and his plans for the future of the Arkansas court system on page 1.

**Plus Appeals on Wheels, Changes to Legal Division,
Cybersecurity Issues, and more**

WELCOME TO THE NEW DIRECTOR OF THE AOC

Marty Sullivan has worked for the Administrative Office of the Courts since 2003 and was named permanent Director of the agency to replace retiring James D. Gingerich on October 9, 2017.



Photo Credit: Ashley Henderson



I am honored and humbled by the trust placed in me by the Arkansas Supreme Court and excited about the future of courts in our state.

Marty Sullivan, a native of Little Rock, has had a big year. In January, Marty and his wife Kelly, were thrilled to introduce their first child, a little girl named Lucy Katherine to the world. This summer he also reached another milestone in life, turning 40.

In 2003, as the AOC's Judicial Education Specialist, Marty helped organize continuing education for all the state's judges and judicial staff and organized innumerable conferences and events for the Arkansas judiciary. He would quickly rise to the position of Judicial Branch Education Director, where he won the 2012 American Bar Association Judicial Division's Judicial Education Award for his outstanding efforts in providing education and training to judges across Ar-

kansas. Marty also represented the state of Arkansas in the 2016 Council of State Governments' Henry Toll Fellowship Program. He has also served as president of the National Association of State Judicial Educators and as president of the Arkansas Association of Court Management.

As Director, Marty hopes to redouble the Arkansas judiciary's efforts to modernize Arkansas courts and improve the state's abilities to better serve the public. In the recently released 2016 Annual Report of the Arkansas Judiciary, Marty wrote that "[t]he Administrative Office of the Courts has long had the motto, 'Supporting Courts, Ensuring Justice.' It is my goal to refocus on and stress the importance of our mission." To do so, the AOC and Arkansas judiciary as a whole are aggressively pursuing advances in technological solutions to court services and backlogs as well as funding for worthy causes such as improved court security across the state.

In his free time, Marty enjoys listening to vinyl records with Lucy, and collecting vintage pre-1950's autographed baseball cards. The highlight of his collection is his 1933 Goudey baseball card set.



The NACM Board chose Little Rock to host the Midyear Conference for a variety of reasons, including the local and regional courts' commitment to national educational programming, accommodations and meeting facility (including statehouse convention center), the state's scenic beauty, walkable downtown, diverse community, entertainment and cultural offerings, and, of course, because "life is better with a Southern accent."

- Paul DeLosh, NACM President-Elect



National Association for Court Management to Host Conference in Little Rock

Director Sullivan is excited to announce that NACM, the National Association for Court Management will host their Mid-Year Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas from February 10-12, 2019 at the Little Rock Marriott. NACM is a national organization of state and federal court administrators formed in 1985. NACM boasts members from every state in the nation and holds two large conferences annually, including their Mid-Year Conference, which has been hosted in cities such as Portland, Los Angeles, and Baltimore in years past. Examples of past conference itineraries can be found on NACM's website at https://nacmnet.org/conferences/immediate_past-conferences.html.

"I've wanted NACM to host their conference in Arkansas for years," said Director Sullivan, also noting that Arkansas beat out bids from Nashville and other large cities. "In general, it's very difficult and expensive for district court clerks and others who would benefit from the NACM conferences to travel outside the state. NACM has the best programs for court staff in the entire country. They and their presenters are real, national experts on these subject matters."

Readers should be aware that NACM's website has a wealth of interesting and useful content for courts and court staff at www.nacmnet.org.



FHS APPEALS ON WHEELS REACHES HUNDREDS OF NORTHWEST STUDENTS

Each year, the Supreme Court of Arkansas packs its bags and holds oral arguments in one or two cases in a local Arkansas community. Appeals on Wheels is a rare educational opportunity for most regions of the state, and the Court takes pains to select a different community each event to ensure that students across the state are able to participate. Appeals on Wheels has been held in Fayetteville twice before: the first ever Appeals on Wheels in 2002 and later in 2011. Oftentimes, any individual student will only get one opportunity during his or her high school life to attend an Appeals on Wheels program.

Several hundred students from across Northwest Arkansas attended this fall's Appeals on Wheels hosted at Fayetteville High School's Performing Arts Center. The students observed oral arguments in *Laron Edward Williams v. State of Arkansas*, CR-16-1135, a criminal appeal out of Clark County Circuit Court. Arguing for the Appellant was Terrence Cain, Professor of Law at Bowen School of Law, and arguing for the state was the Solicitor General, Lee Rudofsky. This fall's Appeals on Wheels included students from Fayetteville High School, Rog-



ers High School, Har-Ber High School, Elkins High School, West Fork High School, Farmington High School, Greenland High School, and Ramay Junior High School.

Some of the most valuable activities -- and most looked forward to on the part of the justices -- during every Appeals on Wheels program are the breakout sessions. Following oral arguments, each justice takes a smaller group of students and answers their questions. Sometimes questions are prepared ahead of time, with the help of a class's teachers, but often the questions are unfiltered and give students a rare opportunity to candidly interact with a judge. Justices received many thoughtful questions this fall, including questions like:

- What is the difference between direct and circumstantial evidence?
- Do you ever rule in a way that conflicts with your moral compass?
- Do you still believe in the jury system?
- What is accomplice liability?
- What does it mean to be a public servant?



THE CODE AND THE ROBE REQUIRE MORE

Membership to the Bench carries special power and equally unique responsibilities that reach beyond the confines of the courtroom. The official comments to Rule 3.1 of the Arkansas Judicial Code of Conduct strongly encourage judges to participate in appropriate extra-judicial activities that could help the public better understand and trust the justice system.

As one justice pointed out regarding this fall's Appeals on Wheels, the value of the Q&A sessions with students for the

judiciary is that it is an opportunity to see that the justices are humans just like them. Judges laugh, are caught by surprise, and have stories of growing up in these same communities. It is harder to unfairly question a judge's integrity when you know he or she is honest in their personal life.

PHOTO GALLERY APPEALS ON WHEELS

1



2



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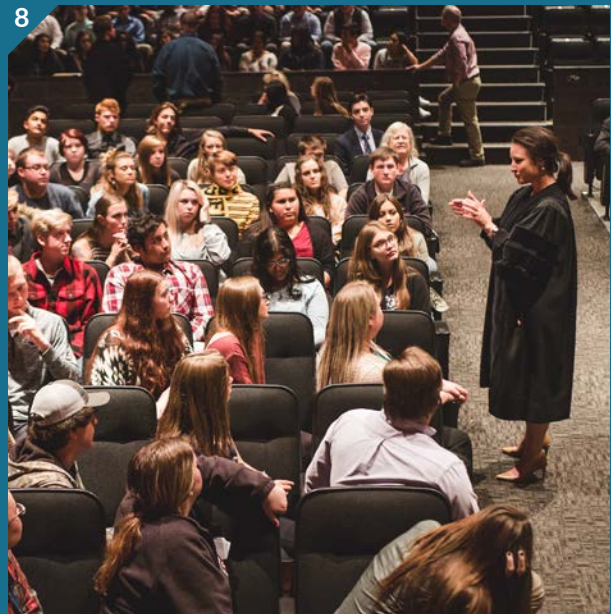


4



- 1 The students of Fayetteville High School's Film & TV class record the proceedings.
- 2 Chief Justice Kemp addresses students during Q&A sessions.
- 3 Associate Justice Hart addresses students during Q&A sessions.
- 4 Associate Justice Womack addresses students during Q&A sessions.

The oral arguments heard during Appeals on Wheels are genuine proceedings. Accordingly, the normal rules of the courtroom apply to the entire auditorium while the Court is in session. Only approved filming and photography are allowed.



- 5 Associate Justices Goodson and Wynne address students during Q&A sessions.
- 6 Steve Clark, President of the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce, reads the Statement of the Case.
- 7 Associate Justice Baker addresses students during Q&A sessions.
- 8 Associate Justice Wood addresses students during Q&A sessions.

DONNA GAY

a career

OF SERVICE



Interview by Krystal Mann

I first started working with Donna in 2007. In that time she has been a valued colleague, a mentor, and a friend. It was with great pleasure that I took on the task of interviewing Donna one afternoon in the Supreme Court Library about her career, her life, and her retirement. With a background as rich as hers, this was no small challenge, so I hope this interview will be a window into the incredible career of service that Donna Gay provided to the state of Arkansas.

MANN: Okay, Donna. Tell me about your background before you came to the AOC.

GAY: Well, before my hiring at the AOC, I started as a law clerk for Judge Tom Glaze on the Arkansas Court of Appeals. Following that, I was a law clerk for federal magistrate Judge Henry Jones, Jr.

MANN: And how long did you work for Judge Jones?

GAY: About three years. What happened then -- I wasn't looking to leave -- but a friend called and said, "I know of a job that sounds right up your alley." And I said, "But I'm not looking for a job!" However, this

A Brief History of the Arkansas Juvenile Justice System

Until 1905, there was no separate standard for trying, sentencing, or punishing minors, and children were placed in state jails and prisons with adult criminals. An act in 1907 gave county judges (who are not required to have any legal training) the authority to place juveniles (whether simply neglected or convicted of a crime) to reform schools instead of prison. By 1911, the first real attempt at formalizing procedures for a juvenile justice system was created with the Juvenile Court Act, which introduced basic notice, hearing, and counsel elements to the system, but still relegated authority to county judges.

As the U.S. Supreme Court began ruling that delinquency cases demanded many of the same due process requirements as adult proceedings in the 1960s and 70s, many states, including Arkansas, began revising their juvenile systems. In 1975, the legislature passed a new Juvenile Code adopting many more protections and requiring that “referees” appointed by county judges to oversee juvenile proceedings must be law-licensed. But it was not until the landmark decision in [Walker v. Arkansas Department of Human Services, 291 Ark. 43 \(1986\)](#), that this system was struck down as violating the Arkansas Constitution.

In *Walker*, the Court found that the legislature’s delegation of these powers over juveniles was counter to the state constitution’s exclusive vestment of judicial powers to the Arkansas judicial branch. The constitution, the majority reasoned, does not allow the legislature to establish courts by its plain language.

This ruling caused upheaval in the old, loosely organized juvenile system. A commission was formed by Governor Clinton to revise the Juvenile Code, and the modern juvenile court system overseen by members of the Bench was developed.

was when the Arkansas juvenile court system had just been declared unconstitutional.

MANN: The structure, right?

GAY: Yes, the juvenile “system” at the time was housed in county courts and county judges were either the judges for juvenile court or hired people who may or may not have been lawyers as referees for these cases. At that time, a lot were lawyers, but some still were not. And some of the county judges were still hearing juvenile court themselves.

MANN: And was that every kind of juvenile case or just paternity actions?

GAY: It was *the* juvenile system at the time, so it heard every kind of case. Delinquency, FINS, dependency neglect...

MANN: Did they keep a record of that?

[continued next page...]



Donna’s Retirement Party

After over twenty years of service with the Administrative Office of the Courts, Donna Gay, staff attorney for the Circuit Court Domestic Relations and Probate Division, officially retired this summer. AOC staff threw Donna a much-deserved retirement party on June 30th complete with cake, beverages, and moving speeches about Donna’s amazing work and delightful personality. The AOC thanks Donna for her service and wishes her the best in her retirement.

GAY: These were not required to be on the record. But in some parts of the state, records were made. In Pulaski County courts, for example, they had lawyers as referees for many, many years, with their own court building out on Roosevelt. They had a real system. At the time I started working on this, Judith Rogers was one of two juvenile court referees in Pulaski County.

MANN: So what happened after it was found unconstitutional?

GAY: Governor Clinton appointed a 21-member commission called the Governor's Commission on Juvenile Justice, which was to look into the court system and come up with a constitutional system and to revamp the Arkansas Juvenile Code. I was hired by the Commission to be their staff person.

MANN: Wow, you were their only staff person?

GAY: (laughs) Yes. The chair of the Commission was a man that -- he passed away not too long ago -- but a man I adore to this day: Wayne Dowd, a state senator from Texarkana. Senator Dowd was wonderful. He was a mentor, so smart, so downhome, and one of the brightest men I've ever encountered.

MANN: Your friend said this was right up your alley. What previous experience did you have that made your friend say that?

GAY: I had an interest stemming from my work with Judge Glaze in kids' things. I had been a school teacher before going to law school. While working for Judge Glaze, I became involved in Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families (AACF) as a volunteer.

MANN: Didn't you work as an ALJ or magistrate on some juvenile issues?

GAY: That was later.

MANN: So how long did you work on the Commission?

GAY: We worked for about two years, and when that job was wrapping up, I was looking for another posi-



tion. JD Gingerich was the director of the AOC at that point, and I'd gotten to know him through the legislative session. It was intensive work for a year and a half to two years.

MANN: Did you have to scrap the whole previous version and start over?

GAY: Not the Juvenile Code. A lot of it was retained, but a lot of it was changed. Senator Dowd was teaching me to deal with the legislature, saying things like: "Don't ever tell legislators a lie." Or "Don't ever mislead them, because that will come back to bite you." And "When they ask you something, be candid." And I like to think I would have been anyway, but he was telling me that's the important way you have to operate with the legislature. It was a vastly different legislature than it is now. Many members were lawyer-legislators, and they were deeply committed.

MANN: And how many new judgeships came out of that?

GAY: Twenty-one in total. But a few other things happened along the way before those were created. JD created a new job at the AOC for the "Coordinator of Juvenile Courts" that I began in July of 1989. After the Supreme Court case, some courts tried still using "Masters." Instead of referees, they called them Masters. As a result, the Supreme Court said in another case that you can't do that either. The lawsuit filers behind both cases was Legal Services. Grif Stockley, primarily, was the lead attorney on these cases.

MANN: That group of judges -- I think a lot of them

are retired or getting ready to retire -- but they formed a pretty big bond during all of that, right?

GAY: They had a tremendously tight bond. Yes, most of them are gone now. Judge Arnold is remaining, and Judge Warren and Judge Wilson. That might be all. Judge Vann Smith was one in Pulaski County, but he only did the juvenile judgeship for a year or two before running for a permanent position as chancellor.

MANN: So was that just a contract or a full position?

GAY: That was a position. I also left the AOC after getting an offer I couldn't refuse in '93 or '94. I went to the Division of Youth Services, where I was the Deputy Director. The reason I did it was I thought I could do more good for our judges there than here. That's what I told myself. I did deal with judges in that position. One of the things the Commission kept talking about was that they didn't know initially what kind of court system they wanted, but they knew they wanted "real courts" and "real judges." They said that once we have elected judges in these courts, that's when changes will occur. **Judges can make change.** They can be responsible for change. So, while I was at DYS, judges made their voices heard. Sometimes they called...

MANN: To talk about placements or policy changes?

GAY: Sometimes about placements, but often about systemic issues. I stayed there for three years, then left there and came back to AOC on a contract to work on the dependency neglect program (Court Improvement Project). The Supreme Court named a big ad hoc committee to work on improvements for juvenile courts, and they came up with a lot of changes for the system. These were efforts to get Arkansas in compliance with federal law. For example, having an attorney ad litem for each child in a dependency neglect case.

MANN: So did we have ad litem before then?

[continued on next page...]



Photo by Lacey Duncan

AOC Welcomes Brooke Steen to Legal Division

Brooke Steen joined the AOC on July 6th as the staff attorney for Domestic-Relations and Probate. It goes without saying that she has big shoes to fill in succeeding Donna Gay upon her retirement. Fortunately, Brooke was able to work with Donna in learning the ropes. Brooke has hit the ground running in her staff attorney roles and the other duties that go with the position, including, administering the domestic relations ad litem program, staffing the Child Support Committee, and assisting Chief Justice Kemp in assigning special judges.

She was born and raised in Conway and graduated from Conway High School in 1999. At that time, she moved to Fayetteville to attend the University of Arkansas, where she received a bachelor's degree in 2003. She then decided to follow in her sister's footsteps and attend the UALR Bowen School of Law. Brooke graduated from Bowen and was licensed in 2006.

Brooke accepted a position with a small law firm in Little Rock, where she had clerked as a student and remained there until joining the AOC. Her practice was primarily in domestic and probate law, and she was a qualified attorney ad litem for domestic and probate cases. She was well-prepared for her duties with the AOC.

Brooke and her husband, Jeb, live in Little Rock and have two sons- Porter (age 4) and Harrison (age 1). While away from the office, she enjoys spending time with her family and watching the Razorbacks!

In reflecting on her tenure at the AOC, "I have really enjoyed talking with the sitting and retired judges -- they all have interesting stories and words of wisdom to share. As a practicing attorney, you do not get the opportunity to know the judges on this level."

GAY: Not a formal program in juvenile courts. Some counties used appointed ad litem in domestic relations cases and the county or the court -- or no one -- paid them. I worked with the Committee and sat in on all its hearings and helped the Committee to write their final report.

MANN: And from there is where the state took over the ad litem programs?

GAY: The ad litem programs were created within all of these changes that the Supreme Court Committee was recommending.

MANN: That's wonderful.



GAY: Initially, it was just the juvenile court ad litem, but there were a lot of people on the Committee who were practitioners and they said, "We need a program also for the domestic relations and probate/guardianship cases." They didn't think there would be any money for it, and, of course, there wasn't much, but the AOC did get a little.

MANN: Do you remember how much money?

GAY: I do remember for domestic relations, but the other was federal money. For the first half-year, it was \$50,000. And, here's the other thing, many judges said, "The one thing I don't need in court in a domestic relations case is another lawyer. I've got two lawyers and that's enough!" So, initially, we didn't have trained ad litem yet, because training was set up in Administrative Order 15. We didn't have many judges who either knew or supported having ad litem. And we had \$50,000. I believe in that first half-year we spent only \$17,000. So after that we re-

ally preached for the appointment of ad litem.

MANN: So, skipping forward, when you retired what was the budgeted amount for the program in 2017?

GAY: It's \$375,000, I think. And *every penny* is used every year. In fact, after that first \$50,000 was not used, with each year after that we spent the whole amount.

MANN: Was it a change in the mentality of the judges?

GAY: I think it was that and getting the ad litem trained. The mindset changed... Well, if you talk to judges now, they will say they want ad litem on their cases now because it is amazing how often they settle a case. And they avoid the heartbreak that can result from having full-blown hearings.

MANN: What other programs have you seen change over the years?

GAY: You know, the juvenile courts have probably seen the most changes based upon the efficiency of the system and the attempts to get it into compliance with federal law.

MANN: What about some of the court technology that has progressed?

GAY: It's *incredible*. When I came to the AOC, the technology division was tiny. It was under John Stewart. They had a handful of people, women and Ben, who went around and physically audited every court at least once a year. They pulled files and *wrote* down things out of the files and checked them for what had been done. Now we call the auditors functional specialists. Back then, they would go around the state and spend a week in a courthouse doing all that counting and recording.

MANN: You went into private practice for a few years, right?

GAY: For three years. It seems like I did everything in three-year blocks. (laughs)

MANN: And then you came back... What brought

you back that next time?

GAY: The opportunity to return to the AOC to replace one of my former co-workers who was moving out of state was compelling. My heart was in the AOC.



MANN: What's your favorite thing you did at the AOC?

GAY: They've all been favorites, because they've all been something new for me. In the beginning, I didn't have an office yet. Every clerk and every person in Arkansas who dealt with juvenile courts was calling the AOC about the changes in the system. I'd just have to borrow someone's phone. A call would come in and I would run to a phone and answer questions. That was exciting. Working on the contract was exciting because that was new, too. And it was trying to do something so good for our state.

MANN: From my perspective, it's pretty amazing that you've been involved in programs that have changed so many lives. From the Commission on forward, not many jobs in the state government do you get a chance to change lives like that.

GAY: It's been amazing. I have been fortunate.

MANN: What do you miss most about being at the AOC?

GAY: I miss the people. All the people. The ones at the AOC, the clerks, the judges. I miss our staff, our little office, our little cluster.

MANN: What's on the horizon now? Would you ever think about being an ad litem?

GAY: Right now I don't want to practice law. That thought occurred to me, but not for now.

MANN: So we can make this a little more human interest, what'd you do yesterday?

GAY: Yesterday, my husband and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary with a renewal of vows at the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. Then all of our guests came to our house for lunch.

MANN: Sounds like a pretty fabulous day.

GAY: I'm pretty tired (laughter). But this time with you has been wonderful, too, and very energizing.

MANN: I'm glad. I hope you know how much we will miss having you here every day. Thank you, again, for taking the time to talk with us, Donna.





LEADING OUR COURTS

How to get involved

CMP consists of six courses spread across three years. Each year, participants will spend two-and-a-half days taking two of these courses, which include topics such as understanding caseflow management, managing court technology projects, human and financial resources, and others. Upon completion of all six courses, graduates become Certified Court Managers -- a nationally recognized distinction.

The Arkansas CMP offers these courses at a hugely discounted rate. Each course is \$150 (compared to standard the \$600 to \$750 price per course), and classes are hosted in Little Rock. Find out more at:

<https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/education/court-management-program>

The Arkansas Certified Court Management Program has twenty-eight new graduates from courts around the state for 2017. Arkansas is one of a handful of states licensed to administer CMP courses and certification locally at reduced rates.



The 2017 Class for the Arkansas Court Management Program ("CMP") consisted of:

- 11 Trial Court Administrators
- 3 Circuit Clerks
- 12 District Court Clerks
- 4 Court Reporters
- 1 AOC Staff Person

Graduation from CMP is no small task. Participants are required to complete three years of coursework as part of the program, and -- by program's end -- all have demonstrated a true commitment to the betterment of their courts. Justices Rhonda K. Wood and Robin F. Wynne presented this year's certifications to graduates of the program. This year's graduates were:

- Sandra Arwood
- Mike Ashcraft
- Vickie Asher
- Laura Bryant
- Beverly Burks
- Patrice Carey
- Carl Cartwright
- Erika Chamberlain
- Terri Cook
- Ailien Draheim
- Nancy Eastham
- Cathy Ellis
- Sharon Fields
- Leslie Hornaday
- Carrie Kilgore
- Amber Lee
- Donna Kay Looney
- Jennifer Manis
- Amy K. May
- Debra Peters

- Lisa Sampley
- Ashley Traylor
- Carmen Watkins
- Brenda Joyce Welch
- Martine Wig
- Jennifer Williams
- Gloria Thompson
- Lisa Wadley

Graduates who are now designated as Certified Court Managers ("CCM") are eligible to progress to the Certified Court Executive program ("CCE"). Those certified as both a CCM and CCE are trained in all of the National Association for Court Management's core competencies in court administration.

While the AOC does not offer reimbursement for CMP's tuition, fees, or travel, you are encouraged to see if your local court budget may have educational or training funds that could be used toward certification.

Congratulations and thank you to our 2017 Class!



CMP COURSES

- Managing Human Resources
- Managing Technology Projects & Resources
- Managing Court Financial Resources
- Fundamental Issues of Caseflow Management
- Court Performance Standards: CourTools
- Purposes and Responsibilities of Courts

DO YOU KNOW CIS?

The Court Information Services (“CIS”) Division is a vital part of the Arkansas judiciary. This issue, we look at some of the lesser-known ways they are working to improve access, quality of life, and efficiency all across the state.

CIS provides technological support to the state’s courts, maintains accurate information on case loads, and manages the Arkansas Court Automation Programs (“ACAP”). ACAP is a statewide effort to automate the jury and case management systems in Arkansas courts.

CIS is divided into four groups. The Systems Group manages all the court’s networks and server hard-ware and provides desktop support to the appellate courts, AOC, and ancillary agencies. The Applications Group is responsible for database management, soft-ware and reports development, and the Arkansas Judiciary’s website. The Business Group maintains accurate circuit court case load information and implements and supports case and jury management software and electronic filing. The Project Management Office is responsible for managing and delivering the division’s technology projects. Tim Holthoff is the CIS Division Director and can be reached at tim.holthoff@arcourts.gov.



SAVE THE DATE *July 26 - 27, 2018*
2018 ACAP SYSTEMS CONFERENCE EMBASSY SUITES, LITTLE ROCK

2018 ACAP Systems Conference Announced

Join other users of ACAP to share insights with the AOC and colleagues and to learn more about ACAP programs. Attend sessions on Contexte, CourtConnect, eFlex, Juror, MyJuryInfo and more.

July 26-27, 2018 | Embassy Suites, Little Rock



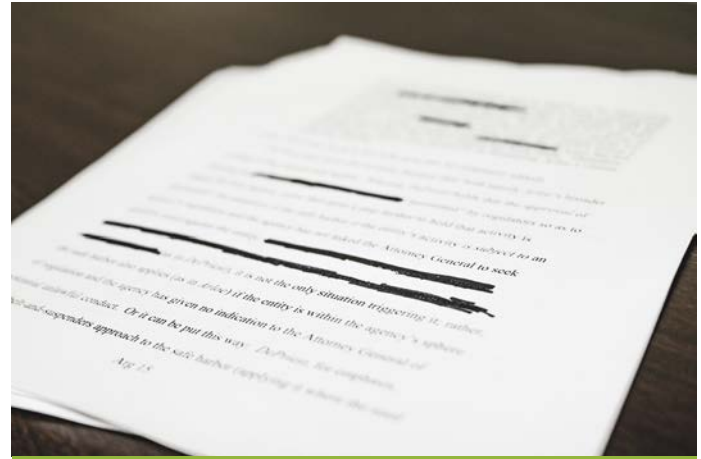
Oracle Database Upgrade

The AOC CIS Division must undergo necessary Oracle upgrades for Contexte to continue to operate optimally. The upgrades will require lots of internal testing and a downtime will occur over the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday beginning Friday, January 12, 2018, at 5:00 PM ending Monday, January 15, 2018, 11:59 PM.



Infrastructure Refresh

CIS has reached a necessary update point with the hardware and systems utilized to offer court programs such as Contexte and electronic filing. The Infrastructure Refresh Project addresses several upgrades to hardware and software providing a higher level of service to the Courts. CIS system users can expect to be notified of night and weekend downtime over the next six months. The next downtime is scheduled for Friday, November 17, 2017, from 6:00 PM to Saturday, November 18, 2017, 11:59 PM.



Day Forward Redaction

AOC contracted with Computing System Innovations (CSI) for the use of their Intellidact redaction software to integrate with Contexte imaging. Intellidact is a program that allows Courts manual or automatic redaction services with minimal interruption to current Contexte imaging processes. Courts may contact CSI directly to request a quote. [Click here for details.](#)



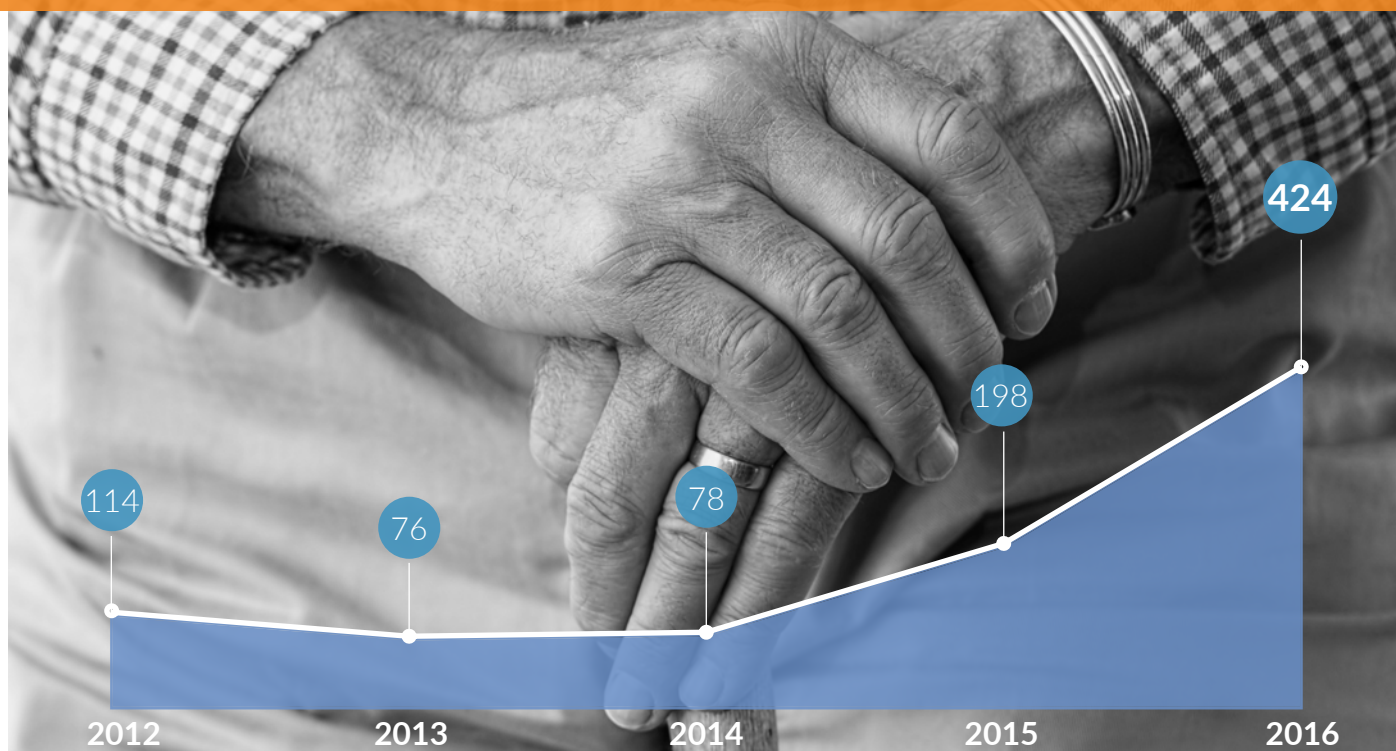
Contexte/eOMIS Data Sharing Project

The AOC and the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC) and the Arkansas Department of Community Correction (ACC) have begun programming an electronic exchange of information on criminal defendants who have been convicted and sentenced to ADC/ACC. The agencies agree that an automated exchange between Contexte and the Electronic Offender Management Information System (eOMIS) will improve the timeliness, accuracy, and completeness of data moving between the courts and the corrections agencies. Court users should expect to see new forms in Contexte displaying additional offender information in 2018.

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES UPDATE

Diane Robinson
Director of the Office of Research and Justice Statistics

The number of Adult Protective Services cases has increased dramatically in the last five years, from 114 filed in 2012 to 424 filed in 2016. While these cases can be found in Court Connect, under A.C.A. § 9-20-121 all documents and reports filed in these cases must be confidential. As a result, they are not viewable in public court connect. Attorneys and judges assigned to these cases can request security access to be able to view the documents by emailing acap.help@arcourts.gov.

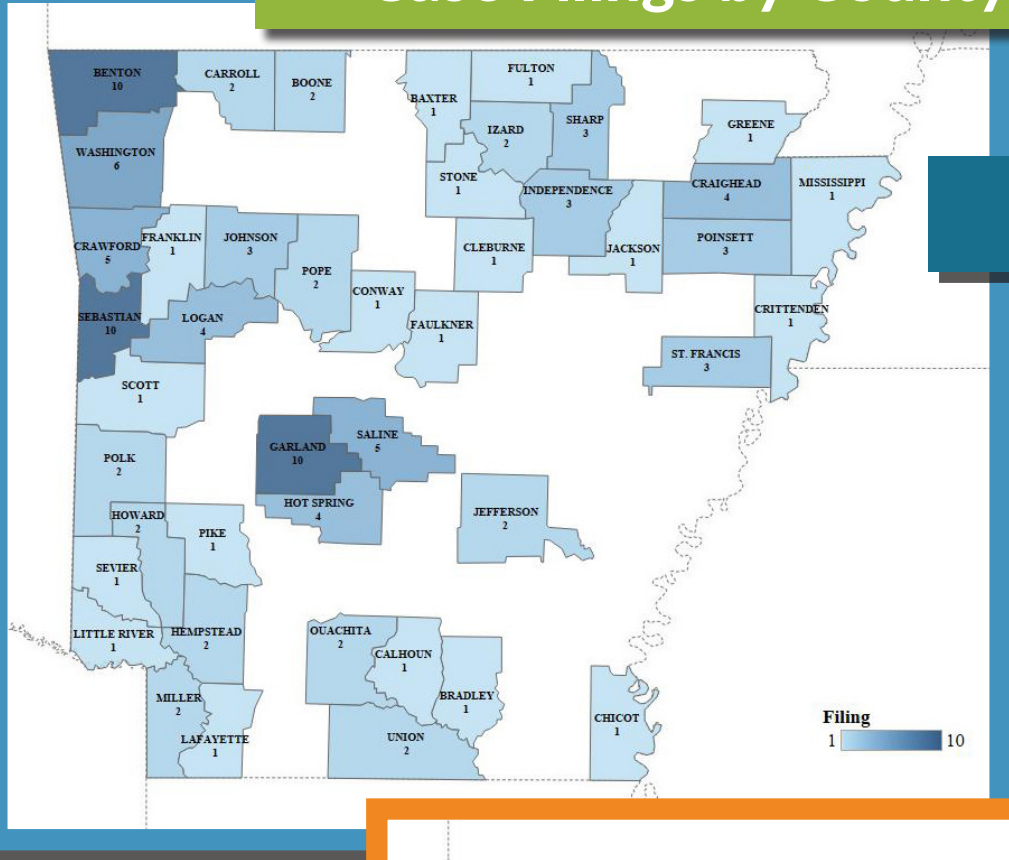


Adult Protective Services Case Filings

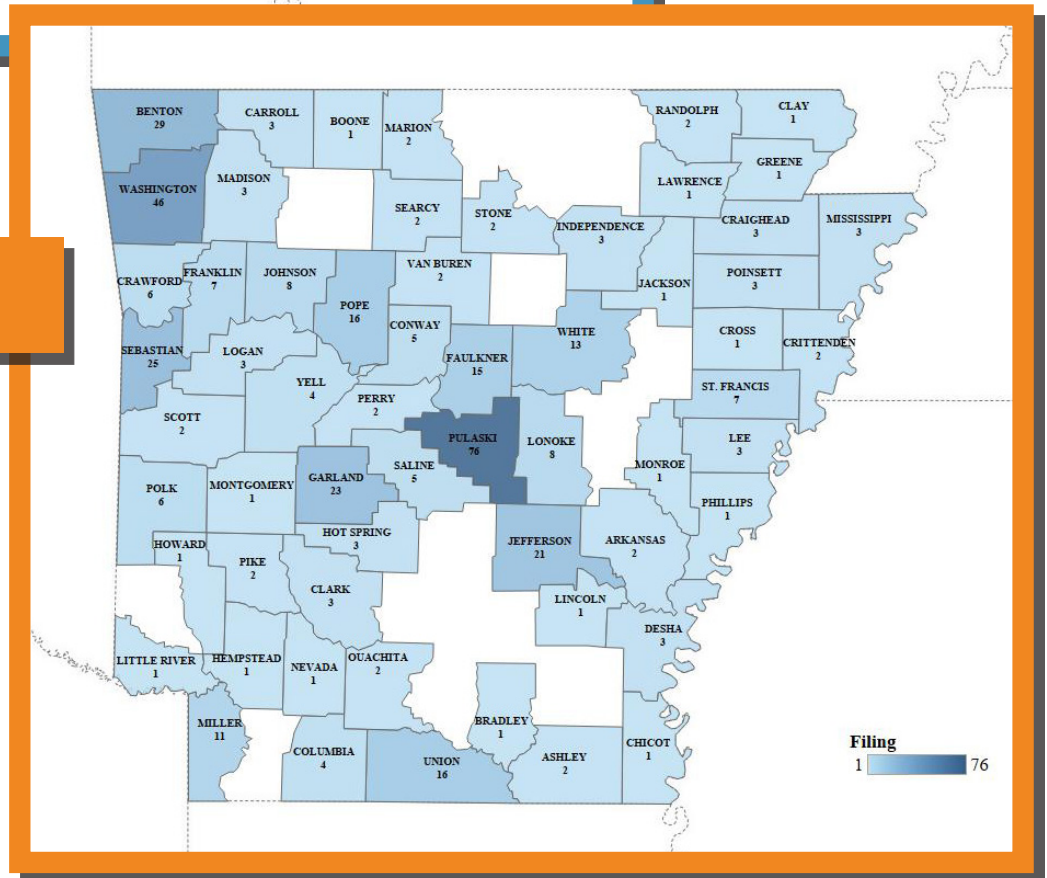
This increase has occurred statewide, as shown in the maps below indicating the number of filings in each county. Some courts may be seeing these cases for the first time or may be seeing them more frequently. Adult protective services cases can be complicated and time-consuming. Issues brought before courts in these cases may include deprivation of liberty for the individual, protecting the financial assets of the individual, and questions of medical care, including the possibility of Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders.

Case Filings by County

2012



2016



Suspect a problem? Adult Protective Services of Arkansas can be contacted at 1-800-482-8049. Or find out more about the Division of Aging and Adult Services' programs at https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/daas/Pages/daas_services.aspx.

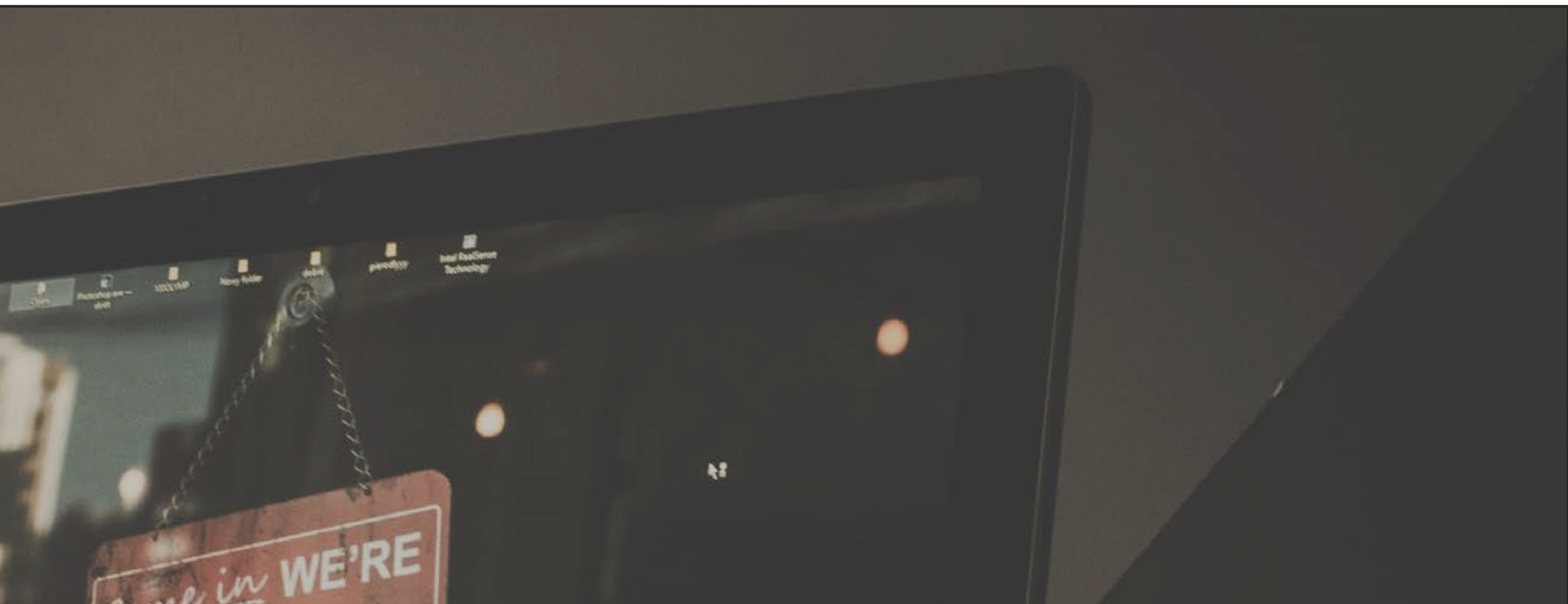
CYBERSECURITY: UP YOUR GAME

By Dain R. Couch

Just two months ago Equifax announced a horrendous cybersecurity breach impacting 145.5 million Americans – nearly half the population. The cause of the breach was a single software security update that was not installed on one machine. And the Equifax breach is just one of several large security incidents this year involving software that was not updated - each case highlighting the critical nature of keeping software current. As we seek to improve and expand automated services within the courts, it

is essential to keep your computer software current in order to protect court data and operations. To keep your software current, you must ensure you are only using supported software and installing software security updates.

Software security updates are commonly referred to as patches, and applying these security updates is called patching. Think of this like patching a hole in a tire or a pair of jeans, but in this case, you are patching holes in computer code that let hackers into your system to steal your data. Software companies often issue security patches on a regu-



lar schedule such as monthly (Microsoft) or quarterly (Oracle). However, some patches are issued as needed if a threat is publicly known and/or serious enough. These patches are free of charge, and the easiest way to keep your software patched is to set your programs to update automatically.

Software companies often have a set lifecycle for their products. At the end of the lifecycle the software becomes unsupported, and security patches are no longer issued. Any security hole found in unsup-

ported software will never be fixed, so it is essential to maintain a software version that is supported in order to protect your systems and court data. In “Practical Cybersecurity: How to Batten Down the Hatches” in the October 2017 issue of the ABA Journal, Sharon Nelson, John Simek, and Michael Maschke even declare, “Once software becomes unsupported, it is unethical to use it because it is no longer receiving security updates and is vulnerable to attacks.” (p. 30)

“...updates are essential to court computers...”

Whether the concern is ethics, reputation, data, money, or operations, computer software upgrades and security updates are essential to court computers. Software can be set to update automatically, but be aware of when software versions become unsupported. Upgrades may require planning

for both time and money. To help in this planning I have included end of support information for software used with Contexte. Please note that Windows XP, Windows Vista, any version of Internet Explorer other than IE11, Office 2007, and Adobe Acrobat XI/11 are all unsupported. If you are running any of this software, you should replace it as soon as possible.

Microsoft Windows Operating Systems

Supported Version:

- Windows 7 SP1
- Windows 8.1
- Windows 10, v. 1607
- Windows 10, v. 1703

Internet Explorer

Supported Version:

- Internet Explorer 11

Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, etc.)

Supported Version:

- Office 2010 SP2
- Office 2013 SP1
- Office 2016
- Office 365

Adobe Acrobat

Supported Version:

- Adobe Acrobat Reader DC
- Adobe Acrobat Standard DC
- Adobe Acrobat Pro DC
- Adobe Acrobat Reader 2017
- Adobe Acrobat Standard 2017
- Adobe Acrobat Pro 2017

End of Support Dates

End of Support:

- January 14, 2020
- January 10, 2023
- March 2018 (tentative)
- September 2018 (tentative)

End of Support:

At individual operating system end of support date

End of Support:

- October 13, 2020
- April 11, 2023
- October 14, 2025
- N/A

End of Support:

- April 7, 2020
- April 7, 2020
- April 7, 2020
- June 6, 2022
- June 6, 2022
- June 6, 2022



Exceptions

Java is an exception to these guidelines because updates can cause problems within Contexte. The AOC limits Java versioning through our installer, and with the Oracle Forms upgrade that was recently installed for Contexte, Java 8 update 131 will now function properly with Contexte. The AOC is currently developing an installer to upgrade users to this version of Java.

addresses
birth dates
Social Security numbers
145.5 million Americans
Equifax breach
names



No Excuses: Sensitive Data Must be Protected

“

But observers say the ongoing discoveries increasingly paint a picture of **negligence** — especially in Equifax’s failure to protect itself against a known flaw with a **ready fix**.

Equifax Officially Has No Excuse, Lily Hay Newman, Wired.com, September 14, 2017.

SPECIALTY COURT SPOTLIGHT



By the Hon. Sandy Huckabee

It is with great pleasure that I serve as the presiding judge of the Lonoke County Adult Drug Treatment Court and Veterans Treatment Court.

I am deeply grateful to my predecessor, the Honorable Phillip Whiteaker, who was the founding judge for the Lonoke County Drug Treatment Court prior to his election to the Arkansas Court of Appeals.

We have a tremendously exceptional group of dedicated persons in Lonoke County who serve on our Drug Treatment Court team: Earlene Wainwright (counselor); Rodney Ford (probation/



It is exciting and rewarding to see our Drug Court participants reach a level of sustained sobriety and productivity in their lives.



parole officer); Ben Hooper (deputy prosecutor); Larry Cook and Sara Talbert (public defender); and Toby Lambert and Sam High (Veterans Administration).

Our Drug Treatment Court convenes bi-monthly on Fridays. Our Drug Treatment Court team has our staffing prior to our participants reporting for the hearing.

At our staffing, we review the progress of our participants and make recommendations for promotions, sanctions, and/or treatment options. We also evaluate the prospects of incoming participants and have ongoing discussions and input on how our Drug Treatment Court can be better.

When our Drug Court participants enter our program, they are given a detailed handout which provides them with our Drug Court procedures and their responsibilities in Drug Court.

Our incoming Drug Court participants are given the ABC's of the Lonoke County Drug Treatment Court: A - Admit the Addiction; B - Believe in a Better Way; and C - Commit to the Cause.

The mission theme for our Lonoke County Drug Treatment Court and Veterans Treatment Court is "Living Fully is Living Soberly".

We provide incentives to our participants to encourage them throughout their time in our Drug Treatment Court: Promotion certificates, shirts, one year sobriety coins, graduation plaques, and an Annual Drug Court Graduation Banquet which a local church, Lonoke Baptist Church, sponsors for us.

It is exciting and rewarding to see our Drug Court participants reach a level of sustained sobriety and productivity in their lives.

We are given the privilege of being a part of this transformative process and how "Living Fully is Living Soberly."



The Lonoke County Adult Drug Treatment Court and Veterans Treatment Court convenes bi-monthly on Fridays for a participants' review session.



Did you know?

NPC Research released its Best Practices Assessment and Statewide Summary for Arkansas Specialty Courts in June 2016. Their report can be found at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/courts/circuit-courts/drug-court-programs>.

ARKANSAS COURT NEWS

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