



Friends OF THE COURT

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Court Management Training Begins

This June, the Administrative Office of the Courts, in partnership with the National Center for State Courts, launched a three-year education program on court management. This new Arkansas certification program utilizes a curriculum designed for the Court Management Program (CMP) run by the National Center for State Courts' Institute for Court Management (ICM). The CMP curriculum addresses the specific training needs of court managers and the challenges they face in the performance of their duties. Participants who successfully complete the Arkansas program receive a diploma and are nationally recognized as Certified Court Managers, just as they would be had they attended ICM.

Arkansas is one of seven states that has agreed to assist in updating the curriculum by holding the trainings regionally. The Administrative Office of the Courts has recognized the need for education and professional development in the area of court management; however, the resources have been unavailable to create the type of intensive program necessary to accomplish such a goal. This opportunity allows Arkansas to receive top level training from nationally recognized court leaders while requiring only minimal time,

travel, and monetary commitment from participants. It also means that the members of the Arkansas CMP Class of 2011 will have the most updated court management tools and skill sets available in the United States.

In April, notification went out to all the Trial Court Assistants in Arkansas that the Administrative Office of the Courts was accepting applications for the first Arkansas CMP Class. This first class was limited to current Trial Court Assistants and every attempt was made to produce a geographically diverse group. They began their training in June with "CourTools", a court evaluation course that measures such areas as docket clearance rates, age of pending case loads, time to disposition, cost per case, and the court's accessibility in terms of fairness, equality, and respect. In August, the class will continue with the course

"Fundamental Issues of Caseflow Management". In the next two years, courses such as "Managing Court Financial Resources" and "Managing Human Resources" will be offered. The CMP culminates in a two and half day seminar in which participants explore the role and purpose of the courts, deal with the concepts of judicial branch independence and interdependence, and review various leadership and management theories as they apply to courts. A formal graduation program awarding of CMP diplomas will take place in 2011.

The Administrative Office of the Courts is committed to professional development and believes that the CMP will become the corner stone of judicial branch education in Arkansas, providing court staff with vital tools to better serve the public.



Trial Court Assistants introduced themselves at the beginning of the training.

Forty-Two Counties Receive Grant Funds for Court Security and Emergency Preparedness

Forty-two counties in Arkansas have completed a Continuity of Operations Plan for Court Security and Emergency Preparedness and have each qualified to receive a grant of \$2,380.95 for use towards improvements in court security and emergency preparedness in local court facilities. The Continuity of Operations Plan is the fourth component required by the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Court Security and Emergency Preparedness. In order to qualify for funding in previous cycles, counties were required to complete a security assessment of every building in the county where court proceedings are held and develop a written court security and emergency response plan for each facility.

In 2007, the Arkansas General Assembly allocated \$500,000 to the Administrative Office of the Courts for the purpose of assisting the district and circuit courts in improving security and related

issues. In January, 2008, \$250,000 was evenly distributed to all 75 counties to assist them in forming court security committees and completing the security assessments. In July, 2008, counties that submitted a security and emergency response plan received an additional share of \$150,000. The remaining \$100,000 is now being provided to those counties that have successfully completed the last requirement.

The forty-two counties receiving the grant funds are:

Arkansas, Ashley, Benton, Calhoun, Chicot, Clark, Cleveland, Columbia, Conway, Crawford, Cross, Dallas, Desha, Garland, Grant, Hot Spring, Howard, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Lafayette, Lawrence, Lee, Little River, Logan, Nevada, Newton, Perry, Pike, Poinsett, Pulaski, Randolph, Saline, Scott, Sebastian, Sevier, Sharp, St. Francis, Stone, White, Woodruff and Yell.

Court Security Officers Training

Act 576 of 2007 defines a “court security officer” as an individual who is assigned the duty of providing security or security-related services at the request of an appellate court, circuit court, or district court. The Act requires that a CSO “.....be certified as a law enforcement officer by the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training...” and complete an additional training program for court security

officers....” That additional training program is the Arkansas Court Security Officer Training Course. It was developed by the Administrative Office of the Courts in partnership with the National Center for State Courts and funded by a grant received from the State Justice Institute. The topics for the training modules were chosen by the Supreme Court Committee on Security and Emergency Preparedness. The

Invitation

*Dinner to Honor
Former Arkansas Supreme
Court Justices
Sponsored by the
Arkansas Supreme Court
Historical Society, Inc.
7:00 p.m.,
Thursday, September 24, 2009
(Reception at 6:00 p.m.)
Governor's Mansion
Featured Speaker:
Senator Dale Bumpers*

Hon. Dale Bumpers will be the featured speaker at a banquet honoring eighteen retired and former Arkansas Supreme Court Justices. The dinner honoring the former Supreme Court Justices is timed to coincide with the opening of the term of court in September.

The following retired and former Justices are to be honored: Richard Adkisson, Chief Justice Retired, Little Rock, W.H. “Dub” Arnold, Chief Justice Retired, Arkadelphia, Conley Byrd, Associate Justice Retired, Redfield, Betty Dickey, former Chief Justice, Heber Springs, Robert Dudley, Associate Justice Retired, Little Rock, Tom Glaze, Associate Justice Retired, North Little Rock, Steele Hays, Associate Justice Retired, Conway, Darrell Hickman, Associate Justice Retired, Pangburn, Webster Hubbell, former Chief Justice, Washington, DC, Brad Jesson, former Chief Justice, Fort Smith, Jack Holt, Jr., Chief Justice Retired, Little Rock, James Johnson, former Associate Justice, Little Rock, Richard L. Mays, former Associate Justice, Little Rock, David Newbern, Associate Justice Retired, Little



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Invitation

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Rock, John Purtle, Associate Justice Retired, Conway, Lavenski Smith, former Associate Justice, Little Rock, John Stroud, former Associate Justice, Court of Appeals Judge Retired, Texarkana, and Ray Thornton, Associate Justice Retired, Little Rock.

Tickets for the banquet at the Governor's Mansion are \$125.00 (price includes reception before the dinner).

For further information, contact: Rod Miller, Secretary/Treasurer, Arkansas Supreme Court Historical Society, Inc. Justice Building, Suite 1500, 625 Marshall Street, Little Rock, AR 72201, Phone: 501-682-6879, Fax: 501-682-6877. Email: rod.miller@arkansas.gov

Judge Andree Layton Roaf

Judge Andree Layton Roaf, former Court of Appeals Judge and Supreme Court Justice, passed away unexpectedly in July. Judge Roaf was the first African American woman named to the Arkansas Supreme Court. She was appointed to serve on the Supreme Court by then Governor Jim Guy Tucker. She served in the position for a year and was then appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee to serve on the Arkansas Court of Appeals. Judge Roaf served in that appointed position for four years and following that was elected to a position on the Court of Appeals which she held until she retired in December of 2006. At the time of her death, she was serving as the Director of the Federal Office of Desegregation Monitoring.

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to the family of Judge Roaf.

Court Security Officers Training

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training is a twelve-hour course that covers the following topics: Arkansas Court System, Case Law, Best Practices, Assessment Exercises, Body Language as a Communication Tool, Juror Security, Security for In-Custody Defendants, Personal Safety and Security in the Courthouse, Responding to Dangers in the Courthouse, and Judicial Threat Management.

Three Court Security Officer trainings have been held across the state thus far. The White County Sheriff's Office sponsored the first

class in May and was attended by fifteen officers. The Miller County Circuit Court and Texarkana Police Department sponsored a class in June with sixteen officers attending. Also in June, the Jacksonville Police Department hosted a class and sixteen officers attended.

(For further information, contact: Pete Hollingsworth, Director of Court Security and Emergency Preparedness, Administrative Office of the Courts, Phone (501) 682-9400, pete.hollingsworth@arkansas.gov)

MEDIA DAY

A Media Day was sponsored in May by the Arkansas Supreme Court and the Administrative Office of the Courts. 24 representatives from state newspapers and television stations registered for the one-day seminar. Presentations were given by judges and others on the different types of courts in the State and related matters. Faculty included Administrative Office of the Courts Director, J.D. Gingerich, Sherwood District

Judge Milas "Butch" Hale, Circuit Judge Hamilton Singleton/13th, Circuit Judge Rhonda Wood/20th Cir., Circuit Judge Joyce Warren/6th Cir., Court of Appeals Chief Judge Larry Vaught, Chief Justice Jim Hannah and Justices Robert Brown and Annabelle Imber, Clerk of the Supreme Court, Leslie Steen, and Deputy Director of the Judicial Discipline and Disability Commission, David Sacher.



Judge Hamilton Singleton presented information on criminal division of circuit court to the media attendees.



District Judge Milas "Butch" Hale explained District Courts during Media Day.



New faces in the Judiciary

AOC

Bobbie Sue Krank — Regional Functional Specialist.

Rob Benton — AOC Programmer

District Judges

Madison — **Steve Routon** replaces Gary Austin.

District Court Clerks

Arkadelphia — **Staci Huber** replaces Elizabeth Garner.

Cherokee Village — **Steve Jarrell** replaces Ellen K. Repar.

Marianna — **Vicki Thompson** replaces Pat Carlow.

Melbourne — **Monty Gilbreath** replaces Jean Kimble.

Trial Court Assistants

19th W. (Clinger) — **Donna Fleeer** replaces Sherri Ragland.

8th South (Wyrick) — **Kathy Webb** replaces Myra Wylie.

City Court Clerks

Caddo Valley — **Staci Huber** replaces Elizabeth Garner.

Coal Hill — **Doris Davis** replaces Melissa Doss.

Donaldson — **Cheryl Whitley** replaces Katie Wilson.

Gurdon — **Staci Huber** replaces Elizabeth Garner.

Magazine — **Vickie Smith** replaces Marie Hill.

Palestine — **Christie Gustavus** replaces Darlene Walker.

Sparkman — **Rita Fite** replaces Barbara Launius.

Circuit Judges

8th S. — **Kevin Wyrick** replaces Jim Hudson.

Official Court Reporter

8th S. (Wyrick) — **Pat Works** replaces Frances Haynes.

CALENDAR

September

District Judges Fall College 24-26
(Eureka Springs)

October

Fall Judicial College/ 14-16
Judicial Council Mtg.
(Rogers)
Court Reporter's
Annual Conference 16-17
(Rogers)

November

District Court Clerks 20
Certification
1st and 3rd Districts (Springdale)

NOTICE: All Users Of Court Interpreter Scheduling Website!

The court interpreters now have a more concise, user-friendly website name. If you need access to the website for Interpreter Requests or to modify an existing request, etc., please visit www.AOCINTERPRETERS.com.



Fishing in Arkansas

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Contributions, comments, and inquiries
are welcome.

Please submit to
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Address Correction Requested

