



The Docket Call

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Spent 'An Afternoon at the Courthouse'

The Seventh Judicial Circuit, in conjunction with the Volusia County Bar Association, will be presenting an overview of the courts system April 28 at the Justice Center in Daytona Beach and May 5 at the Volusia County Courthouse in DeLand. This community education event is from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. To RSVP, call (386) 253-9471.

Flagler County breaks ground for new courthouse in Bunnell

Flagler County officials have broken ground for a \$32.7 million courthouse to be named after Circuit Judge Kim C. Hammond.

The facility, which is scheduled to be complete in summer/fall 2007, will house offices for circuit and county judges, Court Administration, Clerk of Court, State Attorney and Public Defender. The plan calls for a 136,426 square-foot, four-story building that sits on East Moody Boulevard, about a half-mile east of the existing courthouse. The facility will have seven judges' offices, six courtrooms and four hearing rooms.

"The new courthouse will certainly improve the administration of justice in Flagler County," Judge Hammond said. "Flagler County has changed quite a bit since I moved here in 1979. I'm proud to be a part of this community and am truly honored by the board of county commissioners' decision to name the new courthouse after me."



Courthouse rendering provided by Flagler County

Judge Hammond, an advocate for the new facility, has been a circuit judge in Flagler County since 1979. Before becoming a judge, he was a professional football player and was in private practice in Daytona Beach. He earned his undergraduate and law degrees from Florida State University.

During his time on the bench, he's heard criminal, juvenile delinquency, probate, civil and family cases and served as Chief Judge. The administrative judge for Flagler County, Judge Hammond currently hears criminal, juvenile delinquency and probate cases.



Circuit Judge Kim C. Hammond shares his vision for the new courthouse with attendees at the Feb. 20 groundbreaking ceremony.



Judge Hammond breaks ground with his granddaughter Eva Wolpert.

Congratulations

Circuit Judge Edwin P.B. Sanders retired March 31.

Margaret W. Hudson was appointed by Gov. Jeb Bush to fill the circuit judge vacancy created by Judge Sanders' retirement. Judge Hudson will take office May 15.

Circuit Judge S. James Foxman was appointed by Chief Judge Parsons to serve as Administrative Family Division Judge of the Seventh Judicial Circuit.

Circuit Judge Robert K. Rouse Jr. was appointed by Chief Judge Parsons to serve as Administrative Civil Division Judge of the Seventh Judicial Circuit.

Mark Weinberg, Court Administrator, was selected by Chief Justice Pariente to participate in a reassessment of the Florida judicial branch's long-range strategic plan.

Julio Semino, Court Interpreter, passed the State's Spanish/English Interpreter Qualification exam.

Frank Flud (Pretrial Services—20 years), Mary Ann White (Pretrial Services—20 years), John Boyd (Pretrial Services—10 years), Gene Neal (Pretrial Services—10 years) and Joe Sterthaus (Pretrial Services—10 years) were recognized at the annual Volusia County Employee Recognition luncheon for their years of service.

Items of Interest

Volusia County Judge Peter A.D. McGlashan's investiture ceremony took place Feb. 10, at the Museum of Arts & Sciences in Daytona Beach.

Circuit Judge Randell H. Rowe's investiture ceremony took place Feb. 24, in Stetson University's Elizabeth Hall Chapel in DeLand.

The Seventh Judicial Circuit Court, Volusia County, was selected to participate in the National Center for State Courts' *Civil Justice Survey of State Courts (2005)*. Volusia County is one of 156 counties nationwide selected to participate in the survey.

Judicial Correction Services (J.C.S.) was awarded the contract to become the misdemeanor probation agency in Volusia County, effective March 1.

Mike Jewell, Drug Court Manager, attended a Hurricane Preparedness and Response course hosted by the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD.

Staff from the Fourth Judicial Circuit visited Daytona Beach to meet with our Digital Court Reporters and Chief Judge Parsons in preparation of installing similar equipment in the Jacksonville area.



Circuit welcomes two new judges to the bench

Citizens in the Seventh Judicial Circuit have two new judges serving them, thanks to the Florida Legislature approving two new judgeships during the 2005 session. Gov. Jeb Bush appointed Volusia County Court Judge Peter A.D. McGlashan and Circuit Judge Randell H. Rowe III late last year.



Volusia County Court Judge Peter A.D. McGlashan is sworn in by Circuit Judge Hubert L. Grimes during his investiture Feb. 10 at the Museum of Arts & Sciences in Daytona Beach. *(Photo courtesy of The Daytona Beach News-Journal)*



Circuit Judge Kim C. Hammond administers the oath to Circuit Judge Randell H. Rowe III Feb. 24 at Stetson University in DeLand. Judge Rowe is joined on stage by his parents, Randell H. and Carolyn Rowe.

Facilities improvements continue circuitwide

Facilities staffs throughout the circuit have remained busy this quarter.

The St. Johns County Courthouse re-roofing project in St. Augustine continues.

A 12 to 14-month project to replace the fire sprinkler system in the Volusia County Courthouse in De-

Land is underway.

New public address speakers were installed in all courtrooms at the Volusia County Justice Center and in Courtrooms 1, 2 and 10 at the Courthouse Annex—City Island in Daytona Beach.

New carpet was installed in Courtrooms 2 and 5 at

the Volusia County Justice Center, and renovations were completed in Room 110 at the Courthouse Annex—City Island in Daytona Beach.

Thanks to county Facilities Services staffs for assisting with these improvements.

Around the Courthouse: Law Clerks

Part of the "Around the Courthouse" series of departmental profiles from around the Circuit.

Nearly 20 years ago, Randell H. Rowe III was hired as the circuit's first law clerk. He worked closely with Circuit Judge Kim C. Hammond in Bunnell and helped the judge with research and writing on his first job out of law school. Now Rowe is a circuit judge and says law clerk experience is excellent for anyone starting out their legal career.

"It provided me with the opportunity to learn how the judicial system operates, how trials are to be conducted, and how to properly conduct legal research and draft judicial orders and opinions," he said.

The Seventh Judicial Circuit currently has nine law clerks in Volusia, Flagler, Putnam and St. Johns counties. Law clerks, formerly known as staff attorneys, are attorneys who assist the Court by conducting research, drafting orders and memoranda of law and attending hearings.

Because of the nature of the work, law clerks need to be computer literate, have strong writing skills, possess the ability to reason logically and analytically and ability to grasp, comprehend and analyze complex legal issues and complicated facts.

"I enjoy learning the trial court process and having a first-hand account of how challenging the judges' jobs can be," said Bernie Tebo, a law clerk in Putnam County.

Law clerks handle a variety of issues. Some of the most common criminal matters law clerks research involve post-conviction relief. Law clerks are also helpful to judges in civil divisions.

"I rarely used the law clerks during my four years in the family division, but in civil I rely heavily on them," said Circuit Judge Richard S. Graham. "I simply do not

have the time to do all of the required legal research and handle the high volume docket."

Circuit Judge Robert K. Rouse Jr. said law clerks help civil judges review cases with multiple parties and many pleadings to help ensure that the judge has an accurate understanding of the case's progress.

"Staff attorneys have an important role in our effort to properly handle our large dockets and avoid errors in our adjudications," he said.

Judges like Circuit Judge J. David Walsh discuss legal issues with law clerks before making complex rulings. "It really helps the judge get a better grasp of the matter and make the right call," he said.

Judges aren't the only ones who benefit from their relationships with law clerks.

"This experience has been invaluable to my legal career and has made me a better lawyer in so many areas," said Law Clerk Mary H. Khan. "My research and writing skills have developed, and the ability to work closely with experienced judges is a wonderful advantage."



Law clerks (from left) Beth King and Mary Khan research legal issues in their office at the Volusia County Justice Center.



Judge Sanders retires after 23 years on the bench

Circuit Judge Edwin P.B. Sanders ended his 23-year judicial career March 31.

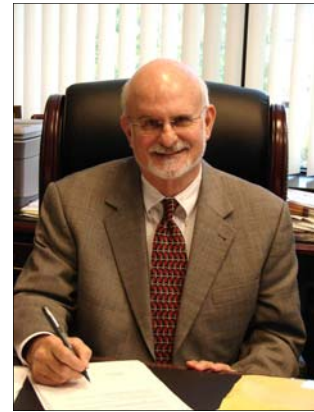
Sanders earned both his undergraduate and juris doctor degrees from Stetson University. Before becoming a judge, he was a civil attorney for 15 years with Landis, Graham, French, Husfeld, Sherman & Ford P.A.

During his time as the county's administrative judge in the late '80s, Sanders implemented new procedures for case filing and assignments, expanded the county's pretrial release program and helped set up First Step, a non-profit corporation that assists probationers in the successful completion of their program.

He feels his most significant contribution to the county during his time on the bench was the founding of the Volusia County adult and juvenile drug court programs.

In addition to serving as a senior judge, Sanders plans to travel and spend time with his family in retirement.

Gov. Jeb Bush has appointed New Smyrna Beach attorney Margaret Hudson to fill the vacancy created by Sanders' retirement.



Circuit Judge Edwin P.B. Sanders



Colleagues and friends bid farewell to Judge Sanders at a retirement luncheon March 31. Judge Sanders catches up with retired deputy Bruce Scott.

Justice Quince visits Volusia, St. Johns

Florida Supreme Court Justice Peggy A. Quince visited with judges and court personnel in Daytona Beach and St. Augustine March 20. During her visit, Justice Quince sat in on family case management conferences and participated in a roundtable discussion about family case management and unified family court.



Circuit Judge Shawn L. Briese outlines his case management project with Justice Quince.



Circuit Judge Patrick G. Kennedy and Child Support Hearing Officer Annette Pitts discuss family court issues with Justice Quince.

Personnel Notes

New Hires

Kelli McGahey
Administrative Secretary
Family Court Services
Putnam County
1/4/06

Melissa Bacon
Office Assistant I
Pretrial Services
Volusia County
1/3/06

Julie Mozingo
Court Program Specialist I
Family Court Services
St. Johns County
1/16/06

Mitchell Prugh
Child Support Hearing Officer
Family Court Services
Putnam County
1/4/06

Judge Randell H. Rowe, III
Circuit Judge
Volusia County
1/6/06

Judge Peter A.D. McGlashan
County Court Judge
Volusia County
1/3/06

Martha Szabo
Judicial Assistant—Judge McGlashan
Volusia County
1/23/06

Alfreida Walker
Judicial Assistant—Judge Hamrick
Volusia County
2/1/06

Jamie Carter
Judicial Assistant—Judge Sanders
Volusia County
1/10/06

Robin West
Digital Court Reporter
Court Reporting
St. Johns County
2/13/06

Rhodora James
Digital Court Reporter
Court Reporting
St. Johns County
2/21/06

Paula Corbitt
Digital Court Reporter
Court Reporting
St. Johns County
2/21/06

Kimberly Turner
Judicial Assistant—Judge Graham
Volusia County
3/13/06

Transfers/Promotions

Diana Winfrey
Judicial Assistant—Judge Rowe
Volusia County
1/4/06

Linda Stewart
Judicial Assistant—Judge Schumann
Volusia County
2/1/06

Al Surukhkaka
Judicial Information System Coordinator
Court Technology
Volusia County



Separations/Retirements

Frank Flud
Court Services Manager
Pretrial Services
Volusia County
1/13/06

Maxine Loadholtz
Judicial Assistant—Judge Schumann
Volusia County
1/31/06

Judge Edwin P.B. Sanders
Circuit Judge
Volusia County
3/31/06

Calendar of Events

April 6 - Circuit Judges Meeting (Bunnell)

May 5 - 2006 Florida Legislature recesses

May 29 - Memorial Day Holiday

April 14 - Good Friday Holiday

May 5 - Volusia County Circuit Judges Meeting (Daytona Beach)

June 2 - Circuit Judges Meeting (DeLand)

April 21 - Volusia County Court Judges Meeting (Daytona Beach)

May 5 - *An Afternoon at the Courthouse* (Volusia County Courthouse, DeLand)

June 12-14 - Florida Circuit Judges Conference (Naples)

April 28 - *An Afternoon at the Courthouse* (Volusia County Justice Center, Daytona Beach)

May 19 - Volusia County Court Judges Meeting (Daytona Beach)

June 16 - Volusia County Court Judges Meeting (Daytona Beach)

May 1 - Law Day 2006
“Liberty Under Law: Separate Branches, Balanced Powers”

May 22-26 - Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies (Fort Myers)



The Docket Call is now available online. Visit www.circuit7.org. Click on Court Programs and Services/Community Information.

Judicial Profile: Circuit Judge John M. Alexander

Part of a series of judicial profiles from around the Circuit.



Circuit Judge John M. Alexander

Q: How long have you been a judge?

A: I was elected in 1996. Prior to that I was in private practice for seven years and a prosecutor for five years before that. I went to law school at Ohio Northern University after working as a high school teacher and coach for five years. Being an attorney was something I always wanted to do.

Q: What kind of ties do you have to St. Johns County?

A: I was born and raised in St. Augustine and have lived here most of my life. I was an instructor for 13 years at St. Johns River Community College and am currently an adjunct professor at Florida Coastal School of Law. My grandfather also had a Greek restaurant in St. Augustine for more than 30 years.

Q: What is the best part of being a judge?

A: I'm able to preside in cases involving a lot of families who are struggling. As a judge, I can help them back on the road to recovery by getting them the services they need. Being a circuit judge in the family division allows you to be an

advocate for kids. It also allows you to be proactive and not reactive by addressing issues early on.

Q: Do you have a family?

A: Yes, I'm married and have two college-aged daughters. Kerrie is my youngest, and she's on a softball scholarship at St. Johns River Community College. My oldest, Kassie, just graduated from Florida State with an undergraduate degree in communications. She's now continuing her studies in communications in grad school at FSU.

Q: Do you have any outside interests?

A: During high school football season, I do the play-by-play announcing for Pedro Menendez High School in St. Augustine. Since 1999, I've also co-hosted a radio show on WAOB 1420 AM on Saturday mornings that recognizes outstanding student athletes and coaches. This show is a way we can honor the good kids in our community.

Q: Which judicial assignment have you enjoyed most while on the bench?

A: In January 2001, I

started a Unified Family Court in St. Johns County. This management system allows the Court to coordinate hearings, parties and orders in related cases where families are involved in dependency, domestic violence, paternity or divorce. This aggressive approach to case management helps eliminate conflicting orders and also pushes us to resolve cases in 180 days. Studies show that children are impacted when divorce proceedings last more than six months. Helping put families back together is rewarding in and of itself.

Q: What's the most interesting case you've heard as a judge?

A: In January, I heard a case where a mother was charged with killing her four-year-old twin sons. The jury found her guilty of first-degree murder, and she was sentenced to life in prison. I had a dependency case several years ago where DCF sought to remove children from a home with health and safety hazards—which included a possum living in the house. Obviously I ordered that the children be removed.

“Helping put families back together is rewarding in and of itself.”

— Circuit Judge John M. Alexander



Employee of the Quarter: Peter Cuccoro

Court Administration is pleased to name Peter Cuccoro as the Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2006. "He's gone above and beyond the scope of a Senior Court Officer by demonstrating true teamwork while working with Unisys and Creative Data Solutions to construct the new CJIS system," wrote Valerie Trunzo of Pretrial Services. "He built the template for the new Criminal History Report for all agencies to utilize, and he has put in countless hours of his own time on this project. His efforts are instrumental to streamlining the method of researching criminal histories, which will benefit many criminal justice employees in the future." In addition, he is working with OSCA to pilot the First Appearance application of the statewide Judicial Inquiry System (JIS).



Peter Cuccoro

Only nominations that describe how your nominee has demonstrated exceptional performance and/or how they have gone above and beyond the call of duty will be considered for this award.

Second quarter 2006 nominations must be received by June 12. Please send nominations to the attention of Anne Landolfa, Personnel, Courthouse Annex, 125 E. Orange Ave., Suite 300, Daytona Beach 32114. You may also E-mail your nominations to alandolfa@circuit7.org. Eligible employees include staff Court Reporters, Judicial Staff Attorneys and other Court Administration Staff. Judges, Judicial Assistants and Managers are not eligible.

One-on-One with Peter Cuccoro

Title: Senior Court Services Officer

Location: Volusia County Branch Jail

Years with Court Administration: 10

Duties: Oversee Pretrial Assessment operations, act as FDLE terminal agency coordinator and instructor and serve as CJIS development representative

Best part of job: Working with a great staff

Prior work experience: Security officer at Spruce Creek Fly-In for 4 years. Began interning with Pretrial Assessment in January 1995 and became a Court Services Officer I in February 1996. Worked as a Drug Court Officer from May 2000 to July 2001 and became a Senior Court Services Officer in July 2002.

Personal: Enjoy spending time with my wife and family, listening to music and traveling.

Criminal court services manager attends conference

Shirley Olson, Criminal Court Services Manager for the Seventh Judicial Circuit, attended the Managing Human Resources course conducted by the Institute of Court Management March 13 to 15 in Denver.

The course examined human resource legal issues; taught techniques for recruitment, selection and hiring of em-

ployees; and discussed the application of basic principles of employee motivation and performance.

Olson's attendance was supported by a scholarship awarded by the State Justice Institute (SJI), a non-profit organization established by federal law to award grants to improve the quality of justice in state courts nationwide,

facilitate better coordination between state and federal courts and foster innovative, efficient solutions to common problems faced by all courts.

More information about the Institute is available on the SJI Web site www.statejustice.org.

Speaking Engagements of the Seventh Judicial Circuit Racial and Ethnic Fairness Workgroup Community Outreach Subcommittee

As part of the Seventh Judicial Circuit's diversity efforts, the Community Outreach Subcommittee keeps track of the speaking engagements by judicial and Court Administration personnel. The listings below are an example of how judges and employees work in the community to create a heightened awareness of the court system through informative talks and tours.

If you are interested in volunteering for the Community Outreach Speakers' Bureau, have information regarding a past speaking engagement, or know of a community group that would be interested in hearing about the Court, please contact Molly Justice at (386) 239-7837 or mjustice@circuit7.org.

Youth and Schools

1/6/06 – Court Administration hosted a group from Interlachen High School that visited the St. Johns County Courthouse to observe a jury trial.

1/2/306 – Court Administration hosted Cub Scout from Pack 312, Wolf Den 7 from Deltona at the Volusia County Courthouse. Teen Court Coordinator Shirley Santillana and Teen Court volunteer attorney Michael Tuma spoke to the group before observing court.

1/25/06 – Volusia County Court Judge Shirley A. Green participated in Bethune-Cookman College's annual Civic Engagement and Social Responsibility Legacy Forum.

1/26/06 – Circuit Judge Joseph G. Will hosted high school juniors in the Tomorrow's Leaders program at the Volusia County Justice Center. Students observed a jury trial before going to the Volusia County Branch Jail for a tour.

2/2/06 – Circuit Judge Hubert L. Grimes spoke at the BETA Club induction at DeLand High School.

2/9/06 – Circuit Judge Joseph G. Will moderated a mock trial with girls from the PACE Center for Girls and spoke to them about the courts system.

2/10/06 – St. Johns County Court Judge Charles J. Tinlin spoke to students at the Deaf and Blind School and St. Augustine Technical Center.

2/13/06 – Flagler County Court Judge Sharon Atack hosted freshman and sophomores from Matanzas High School in her courtroom.

2/14/06 – Circuit Judge Hubert L. Grimes and Assistant State Attorney Josh Zelman were job shadowed by two teens from the Spring Hill Boys & Girls Club.

2/23/06—Circuit Judge Ed Hedstrom spoke to three classes at Interlachen High School about the criminal justice system.

2/24/06 – Circuit Judge Hubert L. Grimes spoke to a group at Daytona Beach Community College and students at Chisholm Elementary School in New Smyrna Beach about Black History Month.

3/3/06 - Volusia County Court Judge Peter A.D. McGlashan spoke to students in the Law and Government Academy at Atlantic High School as part of Black History Month.

3/8/06—Court Administration hosted a class of corrections officers from Daytona Beach Community College that observed sentencings at the Justice Center in Daytona Beach and met with Circuit Judge Joseph G. Will.

3/28/06 – Court Administrator Mark Weinberg spoke to a law studies class at DeLand High School about the state courts system.

3/29/06 – St. Johns County Court Judge Patti Christensen spoke to sophomores at Pedro Menendez High School in St. Augustine about being a judge and attorney. Human Resources Manager Anne Landolfa and Court Communications Officer Molly Justice also spoke to students about careers in the courts system.



Community Associations/Professional Engagements

1/6/06, 2/10/06 -- Claudia Villalba, supervising court interpreter, gave a presentation to the State Attorney's Office in Daytona Beach and DeLand about working with court interpreters and the role of the interpreter.

1/19/06 – Teen Court Coordinator Shirley Santillana spoke to the DeLand Rotary Club.

1/23/06 – Case Manager George Dounhoo met with volunteers training to be Guardians Ad Litem.

2/4/06 – Claudia Villalba, supervising court interpreter, spoke to A.M.A. (Alianza de Mujeres Activas), a migrant woman's organization in Seville, about the court interpreting profession.

2/9/06 – Chief Judge William A. Parsons met with the Volusia/Flagler Association of Women Lawyers.

2/10/06 – Volusia County Court Judge Shirley A. Green spoke at Reality House, a facility for residential substance abuse, as part of its Black History Month festivities.

2/17/06 – Circuit Judge Hubert L. Grimes was the guest speaker at Volusia County's annual cultural diversity luncheon.

3/2/06 – 4/6/06 – Claudia Villalba, supervising court interpreter, taught a six-week interpreting class sponsored by Volusia County Community Schools in DeLand.

3/9/06 – Volusia County Court Judge Shirley A. Green spoke to the Volusia/Flagler Association of Women Lawyers about her first year of being a judge.

3/15/06—Chief Judge William A. Parsons discussed the courts system with members of Leadership Daytona.

3/21/06 – Circuit Judge S. James Foxman, Circuit Judge Joseph G. Will, Chief Judge William A. Parsons and Court Administrator Mark Weinberg spoke to members in the Southeast Volusia Leadership class at the Volusia County Courthouse. State Attorney John Tanner and Public Defender Jim Purdy also met with the group.

3/24/06 – Circuit Judge Richard S. Graham was a presenter at a CLE seminar on evidentiary issues unique to family law.

3/28/06—Circuit Judge James R. Clayton and Court Administrator Mark Weinberg spoke to Leadership DeLand about the state courts system and criminal court.

3/29/06 — Chief Judge William A. Parsons spoke to the Seabreeze Kiwanis Club about issues facing the courts system.

In Memoriam: Honorable Thomas E. Bevis

Thomas E. Bevis, a Volusia County court judge from 1993 to 2005, passed away March 26 in DeLand. He was 63.

A prosecutor for nearly 10 years, Judge Bevis beat incumbent Judge Darrel Carnell in 1992. During his time on the bench, he presided over all county court divisions. He also helped establish the Volusia

County Domestic Violence Court and Civil Traffic Hearing Officer program. Judge Bevis retired in early 2005.

A graduate of DeLand High School, Judge Bevis earned both his undergraduate and juris doctor degrees from Florida State University. He worked for the State Attorney's Office

between 1972 and 1978 and 1989 to 1992, and was in private practice from 1978 to 1989.

Judge Bevis is survived by his wife, Marie; a son, Thomas "Tab"; two daughters, Karyn Bevis and Dina Bevis; two sisters, Marsha Grose and Gail Newman; and four grandchildren.



Security Notes

Security screening stations are located in the Flagler County Courthouse, Putnam County Courthouse, St. Johns County Judicial Center, Volusia County Courthouse, Volusia County Justice Center, Volusia County Courthouse Annex (City Island) and Volusia County Courthouse Annex (New Smyrna Beach). During the first quarter of 2006 (January-March), the following weapons were detected :

Location	Firearms	Knives	Scissors	Other	Total
Flagler County Courthouse	1	528	154	874	1,557
Putnam County Courthouse	0	386	43	125	554
St. Johns County Judicial Center	0	378	53	97	528
Volusia County Courthouse	0	698	148	321	1,167
Volusia County Justice Center	0	153	45	41	239
Volusia County Courthouse Annex (City Island)	1	568	87	235	891
Volusia County Courthouse Annex (New Smyrna Beach)	2	145	23	59	229
TOTALS	4	2,856	553	1,752	5,165



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COURT OF FLORIDA

Articles, comments or inquiries may be addressed to:

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