

SUPREME COURT

Kathryn Dolan

30 SOUTH MERIDIAN STREET, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
(317) 234-4722 TELEPHONE (317)-233-6586 FACSIMILE



OF INDIANA

<http://courts.IN.gov>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 3, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

SEARCH BEGINS FOR INDIANA BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Indiana Supreme Court is accepting applications for the State Board of Law Examiners Executive Director position. An applicant must be an attorney in good standing with several years experience. Demonstrated management experience and competency in spreadsheet, database and office software is important. Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to manage multiple projects are required. The Executive Director oversees an \$800,000 annual budget and provides leadership to four full-time and 60 part-time employees during the bar exam and swearing-in ceremonies. The compensation will be \$70,000 or appropriate to experience. Applications will be accepted until January 21, 2011. A resume and cover letter should be sent electronically to Brenda Rodeheffer, Director of Office & Employment Law, Division of State Court Administration. Only applications submitted to the following email address will be considered: brodehef@courts.state.in.us

According to Admission and Discipline Rule 9, the Supreme Court appoints the Board of Law Examiners Executive Director. The Director works with a ten-member Board of Law Examiners. The Board is responsible for ensuring that individuals admitted to practice law have met the requirements specified in the Admission and Discipline Rules of the Indiana Supreme Court.

The Executive Director assists Board members with the responsibility of conducting an extensive investigation into each applicant and for making the recommendation to the Indiana Supreme Court whether a person meets the criteria to be admitted to the bar. All applicants must prove to the Board that they have good moral character. Personal interviews are conducted by the Committee on Character and Fitness. An applicant may be required to appear before the full Board of Law Examiners. Professional fitness is also determined by the ability to pass a written examination.

The Board has the duty of writing and grading the essay portion of the examination given to applicants seeking admission to the Indiana Bar. Each year there are approximately 800-900 applicants to the Indiana Bar who take the written exam, which is given twice a year. Two bar induction ceremonies are held each year, with approximately 600 applicants joining the bar each year. Indiana has approximately 18,000 attorneys.

The Board of Law Examiners also oversees the certification of legal interns, the formation and renewal of professional corporations, limited liability companies and limited liability partnerships for the legal profession and Admission on Motion for out of state Attorneys (Foreign License and Business Counsel.) The Board's funding comes from both the Supreme Court and application fees. For more information on the Board of Law Examiners or the Indiana Supreme Court visit courts.in.gov/ble.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 7, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

MEDIA ADVISORY: STATE OF THE JUDICIARY TO FOCUS ON HOW THE COURTS DIAGNOSE PROBLEMS AND FIND SOLUTIONS DESPITE CHALLENGES

Chief Justice of Indiana, Randall T. Shepard, will address a joint session of the Indiana General Assembly for the annual State of the Judiciary. The formal update on the accomplishments and challenges facing the judicial branch will be held January 12, 2011.

STATE OF THE JUDICIARY
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2011
INDIANA HOUSE CHAMBERS
2:30 P.M. EST

"Burdened but Unbowed," will focus on how the judicial branch has proven itself capable of diagnosing problems and assembling talented people to find solutions to those problems. Chief Justice Shepard will highlight the work done to handle the foreclosure crisis, improvements to trial court technology and remark on criminal sentencing issues contained in the Council of State Governments Justice Reinvestment Report.

The Chief Justice is required to provide Indiana lawmakers with an update on the "condition of the courts" according to Article 7, Section 3 of the Indiana Constitution. The 2011 address will be Chief Justice Shepard's twenty-fourth State of the Judiciary. Trial and appellate court judges from across the state dress in traditional black robes for the event. Prior to the start of the speech the judges will form a processional line in the historic Supreme Court Courtroom. They will walk across the third floor atrium to the Indiana House of Representatives. Escorts from the House and Senate will seat the Supreme Court Justices and the Court of Appeals Judges when Speaker Brian Bosma introduces them to the General Assembly.

Indiana Public Broadcasting Stations (IPBS) will air the address on radio and television. Media organizations interested in attending should contact Kathryn Dolan, Supreme Court Public Information Officer, at (317) 234-4722 or kdolan@courts.state.in.us. Advance copies of Chief Justice Shepard's speech will be delivered to press in the south balcony of the House just prior to the address. The text and webcast of the address can be found online at courts.in.gov on January 12th.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 12, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

2011 STATE OF THE JUDICIARY CAN BE VIEWED ONLINE, ON TELEVISION AND HEARD ON THE RADIO

The Chief Justice of Indiana, Randall T. Shepard will deliver the 2011 State of the Judiciary to a joint session of the Indiana General Assembly Wednesday, January 12th at 2:30 p.m. EST. "[Burdened but Unbowed](#)," will be webcast live at courts.in.gov. 6 News 24/7, the digital news channel from WRTV (6.2 on most local cable systems) will also broadcast the address live. Indiana Public Broadcasting Stations (radio and television) will have a half-hour special devoted to the State of the Judiciary airing January 14th-20th (see schedule below).



The address will focus on how the courts diagnose problems and identify opportunities to tackle challenging issues that affect the judicial branch. Chief Justice Shepard will concentrate on four issues—the mortgage foreclosure crisis, criminal sentencing, improved technology, and plain English civil jury instructions.



[Watch the State of the Judiciary](#)

(Windows Media)

[Read the full text of the address](#)

The address is required by the Indiana Constitution. Indiana lawmakers must receive an update on the "condition of the courts" according to Article 7, Section 3. The 2011 address will be Chief Justice Shepard's twenty-fourth State of the Judiciary. To watch the speech or read the text, visit courts.in.gov. Indiana Public Broadcasting Stations will air the State of the Judiciary at the following times:

Wednesday, January 12th at 6:00 p.m.

WLPR-FM Merrillville (radio) (CST)

Friday, January 14th at 10:00 p.m.

WNIN Evansville (CST)

Saturday, January 15th at 5:00 p.m.

WNIN Evansville (CST)

WVUT Vincennes

WVUB-FM HD2 Vincennes (radio)

WTIU Bloomington

WYIN Merrillville (CST)

Sunday, January 16th at 2:00 a.m.

WNIN Evansville (CST)

Sunday, January 16th at 5:00 a.m.

WNIN Evansville (CST)

Sunday, January 16th at 8:00 a.m.

WNIN Evansville (CST)

Sunday, January 16th at 11:00 a.m.

WNIN Evansville (CST)

Sunday, January 16th at 2:00 p.m.

WNIN Evansville (CST)

Sunday, January 16th at 11:00 p.m.

WNIN Evansville (CST)

Monday, January 17th at 7 p.m.

WFYI-FM Indianapolis (radio)

Tuesday, January 18th at 5:00 p.m.

WNIN Evansville (CST)

WVUT Vincennes

WVUB-FM HD2 Vincennes (radio)

WTIU Bloomington

WFYI Indianapolis

WIPB Muncie

WFWA Fort Wayne

WNIT South Bend

WYIN Merrillville (CST)

Thursday, January 20th at 6:00 p.m.

WNIN Evansville (CST)

WVUT Vincennes

WVUB-FM HD2 Vincennes (radio)

WTIU Bloomington

WFYI Indianapolis

WIPB Muncie

WFWA Fort Wayne

WNIT South Bend

WYIN Merrillville (CST)

Thursday, January 20th at 8:00 p.m.

WFYI Indianapolis

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 18, 2011

Contact: Karyn Graves
317.232.4695

WENTWORTH TAKES OFFICE

Ms. Martha Blood Wentworth will take her seat as judge of the Indiana Tax Court on January 17, 2011. Ms. Wentworth was appointed to the position by Governor Mitch Daniels on December 22, 2010. She was one of the three candidates presented to Governor Daniels by Indiana's seven-member Judicial Nominating Commission. She succeeds Judge Thomas G. Fisher who retires this month.

Ms. Wentworth's formal robing ceremony will take place in the Supreme Court Courtroom, State House 3rd Floor at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 8, 2011. The media guidelines governing oral arguments will be in place for her ceremony and seating will be limited; therefore, media interested in attending must contact Supreme Court Public Information Officer, Kathryn Dolan at kdolan@courts.state.in.us so appropriate set-up can be arranged. Additional details regarding Ms. Wentworth's public robing ceremony are forthcoming.



Upon appointment, Ms. Wentworth said, "I am humbled to have been chosen by the Governor to try to fill the shoes of my mentor and friend, Judge Thomas Fisher. My goal is to maintain the tax court as a forum where devotion to the rule of law, fairness to all litigants, and professional civility are the benchmarks."

Ms. Wentworth, who was born in Detroit, Michigan, moved to Indiana with her family during high school. She earned undergraduate degrees from both the former Bennett College of Millbrook, New York and Indiana University in Bloomington.

Upon her earning her law degree from Indiana University's Maurer School of Law, Ms. Wentworth clerked for Judge Fisher at the Tax Court for two years. Then, from 1992 to 1998, Ms. Wentworth practiced tax law with the Indianapolis law firm of Hall Render Killian Heath & Lyman. Since 1998, Ms. Wentworth has been with Deloitte Tax LLP, serving for nearly ten years as tax director, leading the Indiana multistate tax group. In addition, Ms. Wentworth teaches graduate level classes in state and local taxation as an adjunct professor at the Indiana University Kelley School of Business in Bloomington.

Indiana's General Assembly established the Indiana Tax Court on July 1, 1986. The Tax Court has exclusive jurisdiction over any case that arises under the Indiana tax laws and is an initial appeal of a final determination made by the Indiana Board of Tax Review or the Indiana Department of State Revenue. In addition, the Tax Court has jurisdiction over certain appeals from the Department of Local Government Finance.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 21, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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JASPER COUNTY IS ONLINE WITH INDIANA SUPREME COURT ODYSSEY CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Jasper County Courts and Clerk are successfully operating a new 21st-century computer system called "Odyssey," the Indiana Supreme Court announced Friday. Odyssey connects the counties to a continually growing network of courts, clerks, law enforcement and other state agencies. There are currently 81 courts in 26 counties in the state using Odyssey.

The upgrade to Odyssey in Jasper County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a 21st-century case management system. Odyssey connects courts with each other, law enforcement, state agencies and makes court information available over the Internet at no charge. With Odyssey, an estimated 7,700 new cases filed in Jasper County each year will be managed by a state-of-the-art computer system.

Jasper Superior Court Judge James Ahler called Odyssey a valuable public service tool. "Odyssey is a significant technological advancement from our older, obsolete case management system. It will greatly enhance public access to appropriate court information, as well as make our work more transparent. It will increase public safety because it enables the courts to share timely, accurate and comprehensive information with law enforcement. We will also save Jasper County money because the state pays for the software, training, licensing and installation—all of which our county incurred as a cost under our prior case management system." Jasper Circuit Court Judge John Potter also highlighted the fiscal advantages of Odyssey. "This benefits all citizens of Jasper County, not just those who use the court system, because by developing the program at the state level as the Supreme Court has done, it spreads the costs over the whole state. To purchase a comparable program for Jasper County would cost tens of thousands of dollars for service and licensing. Odyssey did not cost Jasper County taxpayers any county funds."

Jasper County Clerk Vickie Bozell said she is fortunate to work with the system. "The State has done a wonderful job helping us go live with Odyssey. Their training and support staff are great. Odyssey has helped the Clerk's office become more streamlined and efficient to serve the people of Jasper County." Former Clerk Kara Fishburn is equally pleased and explained, "Our old legacy system was not as user friendly as Odyssey. We were in dire need of technological improvements. Odyssey provides so much more than our legacy system did and we're saving taxpayer money."

Odyssey was first installed in ten Indiana courts on a pilot basis in December 2007 under the direction of the Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration's Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC). Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., who chairs JTAC, congratulated the Jasper County Court and Clerk staff. "This is a major accomplishment and the people of Jasper County should be proud of the hard work done by their Clerk and Judges and their staffs to make it happen. Having this advanced technology will mean better service for the county's citizens, will increase public safety because of its connections to law-enforcement, and because JTAC pays for the computer software, using Odyssey will save money for the county's taxpayers as well."

Courts pay no installation costs, training costs, license fees, or annual maintenance costs for Odyssey. Those costs are paid by JTAC from the proceeds of a court filing fee dedicated to the project by the General Assembly. Odyssey is designed to be implemented statewide and is being installed without disrupting everyday court business or closing Indiana courts. Currently, there are 21 different and unrelated court record management systems statewide and these systems do not communicate with each other.

- Approximately 30% of all the new cases filed in Indiana are in Odyssey.
- The busiest court in the state, Marion County "traffic court," uses Odyssey.

- More than 600,600 traffic cases have been sent electronically to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles through Odyssey.
- 5 counties used typewriters and/or scroll books to manage court records before Odyssey.
- Indiana invested \$7.7 million in the statewide licensing for Odyssey.
- Court information is available through Odyssey free over the Internet at courts.in.gov.

Odyssey is just one of the Indiana Supreme Court's technology improvement initiatives. JTAC is providing Indiana courts and clerks statewide with additional computer resources to assist them in their work to better serve the public.

- JTAC installed computer software that sends notification of the resolution of traffic cases to the BMV electronically in every Indiana court with traffic infraction jurisdiction.
- 205 law enforcement agencies in Indiana use scanners to issue electronic traffic citations and warnings using computer software written by JTAC.
- All 92 Indiana counties have access to a statewide master jury list created by JTAC.
- When judges in Indiana's 92 counties issue domestic violence protection orders, software written by JTAC is used to notify local law enforcement, Indiana State Police and the FBI.
- 68 Indiana counties and the Department of Health use JTAC technology to eliminate the manual entry of marriage licenses.
- 47 Indiana counties and the Department of Revenue use JTAC technology to eliminate the manual entry of tax warrants.
- To implement property tax reforms, juvenile probation officers and the Department of Child Services use JTAC technology to eliminate handwritten applications being sent to DCS and the agency having to manually enter the data on children for whom DCS will be financing services.
- JTAC developed technology for trial courts to notify federal authorities electronically about individuals who should not possess a firearm because of mental health problems.

The Indiana Supreme Court has received prestigious national technology and safety awards for many projects including the Best Practices Award by the Association of Transportation Safety Information Professionals, the Governors Highway Safety Association Peter K. O'Rourke Special Achievement Award, a National Center for State Courts G. Thomas Munsterman Award for Jury Innovations, a 2010 Innovations Award from The Council of State Governments and a Bright Ideas Award from the Ash Center at Harvard. The Court has received these awards in large part because of its close working relationship on technology projects with agencies in the Daniels Administration, including, the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, the Indiana Office of Technology, the Department of Homeland Security, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, the Indiana Department of Revenue, and the Indiana State Police.

For more information on the Indiana Supreme Court's technology projects visit courts.in.gov/jtac.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 28, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR STUDENT PROGRAM DESIGNED TO HELP DIVERSIFY LEGAL FIELD

Applications for the Indiana Conference for Legal Education Opportunity (ICLEO) are being accepted until March 1, 2011. ICLEO is a program designed to help minority, low-income or disadvantaged students pursue a legal career. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard explained, "Ensuring the legal profession is diverse means giving students who traditionally would not attend law school support and encouragement. This program helps promising students succeed, not just in law school but in life."

Each year, Indiana CLEO selects up to thirty college graduates who have applied to any of the state's four law schools for the program. The students participate in a six-week summer institute to prepare for law school. Successful completion of the summer institute and certification by the institute faculty qualifies students for an annual stipend to assist them with completing their legal education.

In 2011, the summer institute will be hosted at Notre Dame Law School from June 13 through July 22.

The application deadline for participation is March 1, 2011. The application can be found at courts.in.gov/cleo/apply.html. For more information, please contact Camille T. Wiggins, Interim ICLEO Program Manager, at cwiggins@courts.state.in.us or 317-232-2542.

ICLEO began in the spring of 1997. At the urging of Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, the State of Indiana launched an ambitious effort to increase the number of minority, low-income or educationally disadvantaged students in Indiana's law schools. As a result of the efforts of the Chief Justice, with unanimous support of the Indiana Legislature, the Indiana Conference for Legal Education Opportunity (ICLEO) was established "to assist Indiana minority, low-income or educationally disadvantaged college graduates in pursuing a law degree and a career in the Indiana legal and professional community." (Indiana Code 33-24-13-2) The program is now in its 14th year. To see past participant's biographies or a five-minute documentary about the class of 2009 and their experiences at the summer institute visit courts.in.gov/cleo.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 31, 2011Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

CORRECTION: WEATHER-RELATED CANCELLATION, NEW DATE NOT SET - INDIANA STUDENTS RE-ENACT 1820 SLAVERY CASE THAT SET KNOX COUNTY WOMAN FREE

The Indiana Supreme Court is celebrating Black History Month by hosting the interactive drama *Bound for Freedom: the Case of Polly Strong*.

Thursday, February 3, 2011
Indiana Supreme Court Courtroom
Indiana State House, 3rd Floor
9:00 a.m. EST, 10:30 a.m. EST and 12:00 p.m. EST

Bound for Freedom: the Case of Polly Strong is based on an 1820 Knox County case, *State v. Lasselle*. The case was brought on behalf of a young black woman, Polly Strong, who was being held as a slave by Vincennes businessman Hyacinthe Lasselle. The Knox Circuit Court ruled in favor of Lasselle, giving him custody of Polly. Polly's lawyers appealed to the Indiana Supreme Court. The Supreme Court ruled in Polly's favor, determining that Indiana had banned slavery in 1816, and held that Lasselle's claim to Polly violated that prohibition.



Actress Veronique Briscoe-Beuoy re-enacts the Polly Strong case in the Supreme Court's historic courtroom

Students from six schools will participate as Hyacinthe Lasselle, the three judges of the 1820 Indiana Supreme Court, members of Polly's family, and a variety of other supporting roles. Participating schools include Burriss Lab School, Coleman Alternative Education Center, Indian Creek Middle and High School, Martinsville East Middle School, Southwest Elementary School, and Stony Creek Elementary School.

The script for *Bound for Freedom: the Case of Polly Strong* was developed by "Courts in the Classroom" (CITC) and the Leora Brown School in Corydon, with funding from the Indiana Bar Foundation. Lesson plans, the script, teacher background materials, video from previous programs and extensive court documents about *Lasselle v. State* are available from [CITC](http://courts.in.gov/citc).

CITC develops educational programming on behalf of the Indiana Supreme Court. Its primary objective is to help educators, students, historians, and interested citizens learn the history and operation of Indiana's judicial branch. For more information about this or any other program, please contact Dr. Elizabeth R. Osborn at eosborn@courts.state.in.us or 317-232-2550 or visit courts.in.gov/citc.

The one-hour performances are free and open to the public, but seating is limited. Media interested in attending should contact Indiana Supreme Court Public Information Officer, Kathryn Dolan at kdolan@courts.state.in.us or 317-234-4722. The performances will also be webcast live and later archived. To watch the webcast visit courts.in.gov.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 1, 2011**Contact: Kathryn Dolan**
317.234.4722**CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH AND THE
ROLE OF COURTS IN OUR DEMOCRACY**

An afternoon program devoted to black history and the role of courts in our democracy will allow participants to learn, reflect and discuss important judicial branch topics. The program is a partnership between the Indiana Supreme Court's Legal History Lecture Series, Martin University and the American Bar Association. The two-part event includes a panel discussion and a free continuing legal education seminar.

Tuesday, February 15th
1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. EST
Martin University
2171 Avondale Place (Parking at Sherman and 22nd Street)

“The Least Understood Branch” is an American Bar Association Judicial Division project. It includes a panel discussion, with audience participation, which will center on the topic of judicial independence. The program will continue with a Supreme Court continuing legal education seminar with remarks from Supreme Court Justice Robert Rucker and Bingham McHale partner Roderick Morgan. Martin University is hosting a reception at the close of the program. The agenda is below:

1:30 p.m. EST – Welcome by American Bar Association Judicial Division Chair, Mike Witte and Martin University Acting President, Dr. Charlotte Westerhaus-Renfrow.

1:45 – 2:45 p.m. EST – Panel discussion moderated by Marion Superior Court Judge David Dreyer on judicial independence – is it “we the people or we the courts”? Panelists will be Judge Sarah Evans Barker, US District Court, Southern District of Indiana and Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis Professor John Hill.

2:45 – 3:00 p.m. EST – Break.

3:00 – 3:30 p.m. EST – Indiana Supreme Court Justice Robert Rucker with remarks on judicial selection and Supreme Court operations.

3:30 – 4:00 p.m. EST- Attorney Roderick Morgan will focus on John Morton Finney, an Indianapolis African American lawyer admitted to the bar in 1935. Mr. Finney practiced law until age 105!

4:00 – 4:30 p.m. EST- Question and answer session.

4:30 p.m. EST – Reception hosted by Martin University.

All aspects of the program are open to attorneys, students, public and press. Registration is not required to attend the 1:30-2:45 p.m. EST panel discussion. An online discussion on the topic of judicial independence is already taking place on Facebook. To submit a question for the panel to consider on February 15th or to offer an opinion on the role of courts in a democracy visit: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Indianas-Least-Understood-Branch/181048511917643>

Attorneys who want CLE credit for the 3:00-4:30 p.m. EST program must reserve a seat by contacting Sarah Kidwell at skidwell@courts.state.in.us. She will provide a confirmation email. Registration with attorney number will be at the door. CLE credit is not available for the 1:30-2:45 p.m. portion of the program.

Media interested in more information can contact Indiana Supreme Court Public Information Officer Kathryn Dolan at kdolan@courts.state.in.us or 317-234-4722 or Martin University Chief of Staff James Bellamy at jbellamy@martin.edu or 317-917-3628.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 7, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

INDIANA SUPREME COURT TO HEAR ORAL ARGUMENT AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW-INDIANAPOLIS

The Indiana Supreme Court will hear oral arguments at the Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis on Tuesday, February 8th at 1 p.m. EST in Inlow Hall at 530 West New York Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46202. The argument, which will be held in the Wynne Courtroom, is open to the press and public, though seating is limited.

It is an opportunity for law students to see first-hand how the Supreme Court operates, according to Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard who announced the Court was traveling to the university. "It is a good exercise for the students to consider a real case and the members of the Court thoroughly enjoy meeting with the students after the argument." Over the years the Court has traveled to all Indiana law schools.

The Supreme Court's five justices will hear arguments in *Putnam County Sheriff v. Pamela Price*. Price, an injured motorist, sued the sheriff for negligently failing to warn motorists of a known hazard on a county highway. When the sheriff argued that he had no such duty and moved to dismiss, the trial court denied the motion. In this interlocutory appeal, the Court of Appeals affirmed. *Putnam County Sheriff v. Price*, 930 N.E.2d 669 (Ind. 2010), vacated. The Supreme Court has granted a petition to transfer the case and has assumed jurisdiction over the appeal.

Tuesday's argument will last approximately 40 minutes, with each side having about 20 minutes to argue. The Court will take the matter under advisement and hand down a decision after considering the case.

Media Policy For Indiana Supreme Court Oral Arguments

Media interested in covering the oral argument must contact the Supreme Court Public Information Officer to reserve a seat and must follow the Supreme Court guidelines to covering oral arguments.

Oral arguments are open to the public, radio, tv, and newspaper media. Photographing and recording the arguments is permitted under certain conditions and with prior approval. To make arrangements for media coverage, contact Public Information Officer, Kathryn Dolan at 317-234-4722 or kdolan@courts.state.in.us.

The Supreme Court will allow still and video news photographers inside the courtroom, but news organizations must agree to a "pool" arrangement for those news organizations that are present at the site but not allowed to bring their photographic equipment inside the courtroom.

Still and Broadcast Photography Rules

- Still and video photographers must use a tripod or monopod
- Photographers must remain in place for the entire argument
- No flash photography is allowed
- No lighting kits may be set-up inside the courtroom

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 8, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

PUBLIC COMMENT ON POSSIBLE CHANGES TO COURT RULES WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL MARCH 25TH

The Indiana Supreme Court is interested in obtaining comments from judges, attorneys and the public as it considers changes to the following Rules of Court:

- Administrative Rules 9 and 14
- Rules of Trial Procedure 3.1, 53.1, and 59
- Post-conviction Relief Rules PC1 and PC2
- Appellate Rules 2, 9, 10, 11, 14, 14.1, 15, 16, 23, 24, 30, 46, 62, 63 and Forms 9-1, 9-2, 14.1, 15-1, 16-1 and 16-2
- Rules of Evidence 501, 502, and 803
- Rules for Family Proceedings

Details about the specific proposed rule changes, pursuant to Trial Rule 80, can be found at www.in.gov/judiciary/rules/proposed. In general, the proposed changes include the following:

Changes being suggested to Administrative Rule 14 set out requirements for conducting hearings by telephone and audiovisual telecommunications. A portion of these proposed amendments is directed at ensuring the confidentiality of attorney-client conversations. The changes being suggested to the Administrative Rule 9 seek to conform the rule to proposed Appellate amendments.

Rules of Trial Procedure deal with procedures for withdrawal of representation and temporary or limited representation by attorneys. The suggested changes to Trial Rule 53.1 concern the procedures for removing a case from a judge who has not acted or ruled in a timely manner as provided in the rule, and in particular remove the local court clerk from the process.

Modifications to the post-conviction rules seek to clarify the proper venue for filing petitions and to conform the rules to the changes being proposed to the Appellate Rules.

The offered changes to the Appellate Rules abolish the Appellant's Case Summary and change the filing of the Notice of Appeal from the trial court clerk to the Clerk of the Indiana Supreme Court, Court of Appeals and Tax Court. The specific contents of the Notice of Appeal are spelled out in the amendments. The rules further seek to clarify the service of documents and running of time limits in appeals.

Amendments proposed for the Rules of Evidence include new language covering situations involving the inadvertent disclosure of privileged information and clarification of the hearsay exception related to statements made by individuals seeking medical diagnosis or treatment.

Finally, in an attempt to bring the rules governing the Supreme Court's Family Court Project to the rest of the state, Rules for Family Proceedings are being proposed. These rules would permit courts to exercise jurisdiction over multiple cases involving the same family or household members.

The possible rule changes are being reviewed by the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Committee was created by the Court to conduct a continuous study of the Indiana Rules of Procedure and other rules as directed by the Court. The Committee is charged with reporting to the Court recommendations and proposed amendments to promote simplicity in procedure, just determination of litigation, and elimination of unjustified expense and delay.

The nine-member Committee is collecting public comments about the possible rule changes until March 25, 2011. The comments can be sent via email or in writing to the following addresses:

- localrulescomments@courts.state.in.us
- Lilia G. Judson
Executive Director
Indiana Supreme Court
Division of State Court Administration
30 South Meridian Street, Suite 500
Indianapolis, IN 46204

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SUPREME COURT

Kathryn Dolan

30 SOUTH MERIDIAN STREET, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
(317) 234-4722 TELEPHONE (317)-233-6586 FACSIMILE



OF INDIANA

<http://courts.IN.gov>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 14, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

COMMISSION FOR CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION ANNOUNCES NEW MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

The Indiana Supreme Court recently appointed three new members for five-year terms to the Commission for Continuing Legal Education (CLE). The Commission also elected four officers to serve for the 2011 calendar year. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced the appointments and thanked outgoing Commission members for their service.

The Commission is made up of 11 members, including one non-attorney. All members of the Commission are appointed by the Indiana Supreme Court. The Commission meets six times a year, usually in Indianapolis. Julia Orzeske is the Commission's Executive Director.

John L. Krauss and Susan G. Odoyo concluded their terms as attorney members and are being replaced by Steven A. Spence of Indianapolis and Angela L. Freel of Evansville. Spence, an attorney mediator and arbitrator, is the founder of The Mediation Alternative. He has mediated more than 1600 civil and domestic disputes and has served in various professional associations such as the Indiana Association of Mediators. Freel is a partner in the litigation department at the Evansville firm Rudolph, Fine, Porter & Johnson, LLP. She is also the vice president of the Evansville Legal Aid Society.

Professor Barbara Bichelmeyer, Ph.D., will be replaced by Howard Mzumara, Ph.D. of Indianapolis as the non-attorney member of the Commission. Dr. Mzumara is a psychometrician, professor and director of the testing center at IUPUI. He has previously worked with the Commission by serving on the Attorney Specialization Advisory Panel.

The 2011 CLE officers are:

- Joseph H. Yeager, Jr., Chair
- Hon. Charles K. Todd, Jr., Vice Chair
- John D. Ulmer, Secretary
- Kellye M. Gordon, Treasurer

Other Commission members include Hon. Nancy Eshcoff Boyer of Fort Wayne, Michael E. Tolbert of Merrillville, Gerald M. Bishop of Merrillville and Hon. John T. Sharpnack of Columbus. The Judicial Conference of Indiana Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee Chairperson, Judge K. Mark Loyd of Johnson County Circuit Court, also serves as a liaison to the Commission.

The Commission for Continuing Legal Education enhances the quality of legal services and professionalism in Indiana by administering, developing and regulating continuing legal education requirements, continuing judicial education requirements, mediation training standards and attorney specialization programs. Last year the Commission reviewed about 8,925 CLE courses. For more information about the Commission for Continuing Legal Education visit www.courts.in.gov/cle.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 14, 2011Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

RESCHEDULED: INDIANA STUDENTS RE-ENACT 1820 SLAVERY CASE THAT SET KNOX COUNTY WOMAN FREE

The Indiana Supreme Court is celebrating Black History Month by hosting the interactive drama *Bound for Freedom: the Case of Polly Strong*.

Thursday, February 24, 2011
Indiana Supreme Court Courtroom
Indiana State House, 3rd Floor
9:00 a.m. EST and 10:30 a.m. EST

Bound for Freedom: the Case of Polly Strong is based on an 1820 Knox County case, *State v. Lasselle*. The case was brought on behalf of a young black woman, Polly Strong, who was being held as a slave by Vincennes businessman Hyacinthe Lasselle. The Knox Circuit Court ruled in favor of Lasselle, giving him custody of Polly. Polly's lawyers appealed to the Indiana Supreme Court. The Supreme Court ruled in Polly's favor, determining that Indiana had banned slavery in 1816, and held that Lasselle's claim to Polly violated that prohibition.



Actress Veronique Briscoe-Beuoy re-enacts the Polly Strong case in the Supreme Court's historic courtroom

Students from six schools will participate as Hyacinthe Lasselle, the three judges of the 1820 Indiana Supreme Court, members of Polly's family, and a variety of other supporting roles. Participating schools include Burriss Lab School, Coleman Alternative Education Center, Indian Creek Middle and High School, Martinsville East Middle School, Southwest Elementary School, and Stony Creek Elementary School.

The script for *Bound for Freedom: the Case of Polly Strong* was developed by "Courts in the Classroom" (CITC) and the Leora Brown School in Corydon, with funding from the Indiana Bar Foundation. Lesson plans, the script, teacher background materials, video from previous programs and extensive court documents about *Lasselle v. State* are available from [CITC](#).

CITC develops educational programming on behalf of the Indiana Supreme Court. Its primary objective is to help educators, students, historians, and interested citizens learn the history and operation of Indiana's judicial branch. For more information about this or any other program, please contact Dr. Elizabeth R. Osborn at eosborn@courts.state.in.us or 317-232-2550 or visit courts.in.gov/citc.

The one-hour performances are free and open to the public, but seating is limited. Media interested in attending should contact Indiana Supreme Court Public Information Officer, Kathryn Dolan at kdolan@courts.state.in.us or 317-234-4722. The performances will also be webcast live and later archived. To watch the webcast visit courts.in.gov.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 16, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

LONG-TIME PUBLIC DEFENDER OF INDIANA, SUSAN K. CARPENTER, RETIRES

After serving as the Public Defender of Indiana for nearly 30 years, Susan K. Carpenter, is retiring. The Indiana Supreme Court appointed Ms. Carpenter to the position in 1981. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard made the announcement of Ms. Carpenter's retirement today and said, "As chief advocate for the rights of indigent defendants, Susan Carpenter has made Indiana a place of greater justice. She has been both zealous and elegant in one of the toughest jobs in government, and she makes me proud to be a lawyer."

As Public Defender, Carpenter serves as counsel to indigent prison inmates in challenges to convictions and sentences. Calling it an "honor and privilege," to serve with a dedicated staff, Carpenter also explained the historical significance of the office. "Indiana established the right to counsel in cases where life and liberty are at stake in 1854, over a century before a U.S. Supreme Court decision recognized this as a constitutional right. Then in 1883, the Indiana Supreme Court became one of the first to establish post-conviction remedies and the Court has consistently demanded and supported passionate and professional representation of our clients."

Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis Clinical Professor of Law, Frances Lee Watson, pointed to Carpenter's dedication of the pursuit of fairness and due process. "Susan brought intellect, compassion, and dedication to the role of the Chief Public Defender. She earned the respect of the bar for her lifetime of distinguished service in pursuit of the civil rights and liberties at the core of our democracy. She will be missed, but the mission will continue, much strengthened by Susan Carpenter's leadership over many years."

Carpenter's important role in protecting the rights of the indigent in criminal cases is echoed by Terre Haute attorney, Jessie Cook. "Susan's departure is a tremendous loss for the defense bar and for our clients who have benefited immensely from the availability of the best post-conviction and capital defense lawyers in the State. Under her leadership the office tripled in size, and developed an accomplished and successful capital unit with a well deserved reputation for excellence."

Carpenter graduated magna cum laude from Smith College with an English Language and Literature degree. After graduation from Indiana University Maurer School of Law she was admitted to the Indiana Bar and the Federal District Court, Southern District of Indiana Bar. She worked as a Deputy State Public Defender and Wayne County Public Defender from 1976-1981. In October 1981 she was appointed by the Indiana Supreme Court as the Public Defender of Indiana.

Carpenter is the recipient of the Indiana State Bar Association 2000 Achievement Award, is a member of the Court's Commission on Race and Gender Fairness and the Indiana Public Defender Commission. She is also on the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute's Board of Trustees. She previously served on the Governor's Juvenile Code and Youth Gang Study Commission, National Center for State Courts Special Drug Court Advisory Board and Sentencing Policy Evaluation Committee.

The Public Defender of Indiana is a state-funded agency that provides representation to indigent incarcerated individuals in post-conviction relief cases to assure the fundamental fairness of the criminal justice system. It provides post-conviction counsel to indigent defendants in all capital cases and to eligible indigent defendants in non-capital cases. The Public Defender is appointed by the Indiana Supreme Court. Details on the process for selecting Carpenter's successor will be announced soon.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 18, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESS PUBLISHES NEW BOOK: *JUSTICES OF THE INDIANA SUPREME COURT*

Justices of the Indiana Supreme Court, a 467-page multi-author volume exploring the lives of the 106 Justices of the Court, is now available from the Indiana Historical Society Press. Edited by Linda C. Gugin and James E. St. Clair, it examines the lives of the 106 men and women who have sat on the state's highest court. The book includes an introduction by the Chief Justice of the United States, John G. Roberts Jr.

With 72 authors, the book captures details of the lives of the self-taught, circuit riding Justices from the early days of statehood through the 21st century Justices now serving on the Court. Photographs, including those from previously unpublished private family collections, complete the edition. The public can purchase the book at the Indiana Historical Society for \$37.95.

The Supreme Court's educational outreach program, "Courts in the Classroom" (CITC) collaborated with the Indiana Historical Society Press on *Justices of the Indiana Supreme Court*. The Indiana Bar Foundation made a grant in support of the project. CITC's primary objective is to help educators, students, historians, and interested citizens learn about the history and operation of Indiana's judicial branch. As part of its outreach, CITC provides free lesson plans to teachers, interactive programs in the state Supreme Courtroom and publications about Indiana's legal history. For more information please contact Dr. Elizabeth R. Osborn at eosborn@courts.state.in.us or visit courts.in.gov/citc. CITC will offer the book to schools and libraries across the state at no cost.

Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard sees the book as a valuable addition to civics education. "This book has remarkable historic value," explained Chief Justice Shepard. "We are thrilled that students, educators and the public will have this resource that showcases the rich history of the third branch of government."

The Indiana Supreme Court and CITC previously collaborated with the Indiana Historical Society Press on the publication of *Hoosier Justice at Nuremberg* (\$6.95). The Nuremberg book, by Suzanne S. Bellamy, examines the roles of two Indiana Supreme Court Justices in post-World War II Germany. In 1947, Justices Frank Richman of Columbus and Curtis Shake of Vincennes were called to serve as civilian judges in the Nuremberg tribunals.

These books and other Supreme Court publications (courts.in.gov/citc/bookstore.html) are available to libraries, teachers and all other educational institutions free of charge. Requests should be sent to Sarah Kidwell at skidwell@courts.state.in.us.

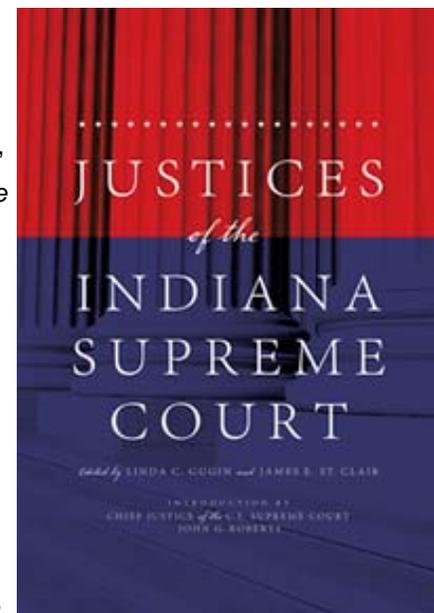
A Continuing Legal Education program will be offered on Thursday, March 3, 2011 at 3:00 pm in the Supreme Court Courtroom featuring authors from the book. Reservations are required. Contact Elizabeth Osborn at eosborn@courts.state.in.us.

**Watch the ARCHIVED
CLE Event Webcast**

Windows Media:



**This Event was webcast live at
3:00 pm on March 3, 2011**



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PRESS RELEASE

FROM: National Court Appointed Special Advocates Association
CONTACT: Jim Clune, Chief Communications Officer
(800) 628-3233, ext. 249
(206) 774-7249 (Direct)
Email: jclune@nationalcasa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHILD ADVOCATES OF INDIANAPOLIS RECEIVE NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR DEDICATION TO DIVERSITY

On March 20 2011, the National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association will honor the Child Advocates of Indianapolis with the National CASA Inclusion Award at their 30th Annual National CASA Conference in Chicago, IL.

The program's passionate dedication to increasing diversity among advocates was one of the significant reasons for Child Advocates of Indianapolis' selection for this the honor. The program is committed to identifying ways to better serve the diverse population of children in need in Indianapolis.



The Child Advocates of Indianapolis will receive the National CASA Inclusion Award in March.

“Child Advocates is addressing a relevant and widespread issue head on, and is seeing positive results,” says Leslie Dunn, Indiana State Director of CASA. “The program is being awarded for its dedication to bringing advocacy to every abused and neglected child.”

Indiana has a significantly high number of African American children in foster care, and as the largest child advocacy program in the state's urban center, Child Advocates brought the issue of racial disparity in child welfare to the forefront of their priorities, adopting a challenging Inclusiveness and Diversity plan. Child Advocates partnered with the Juvenile Court Judge and many others to amplify their efforts. The program has made the commitment to ongoing training and focus on racial disparity. Since the plan's implementation, Child Advocates has doubled the number of African American volunteers with their organization, added 16 African American staff members to full and part-time positions, and reduced the waiting list of children, many of whom are African American, by over 600.

“We are proud of the passion for child advocacy and equality from our local and state chapters across the country,” said Michael Piraino, CEO of the National CASA Association. “Child Advocates exemplifies what it means to be truly inclusive, and dedicated to the well-being of children of all backgrounds.”

About National CASA

In 1977, a Seattle judge conceived the idea of using trained community volunteers to speak for the best interests of these children in court, helping to ensure that they will live in a safe and loving environment. The Seattle program was so successful that judges across the country began utilizing citizen advocates, as well. Now, National CASA and its network of over 1,050 local community program offices work to recruit, train and facilitate volunteers in their work with abused children. National CASA, together with its state and local members, promote and support court-appointed volunteer advocacy for abused and neglected children so that they can thrive in safe, permanent homes.

For more information about Child Advocates of Indianapolis and the Inclusion Award, please contact Jim Clune at (800) 628-3233, Ext. 249; or e-mail Jim at jclune@nationalcasa.org For more information about the National CASA Association, please view our website at CASAforChildren.org.

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PRESS RELEASE

FROM: The National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association

CONTACT: Jim Clune
Chief Communications Officer
(800) 628-3233, ext. 249
(206) 774-7249 (Direct)
E-mail: jclune@nationalcasa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDIANA VOLUNTEER AWARDED ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR FOR COMMITMENT TO CHILDREN

On March 20, the National Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Association will honor Frank West, of CASA of Grant County, IN, with the G.F. Bettineski Child Advocate of the Year Award during its 30th annual National CASA conference in Chicago, IL. Each year, National CASA recognizes a volunteer who has made significant contributions to promoting the best interests of abused and neglected children.

West was selected because of his diligent and thorough work as a CASA volunteer and the significant positive impact he has made on children's lives. West not only advocates for their physical well-being, but also ensures that their educational needs are met.

"Frank is a leader in his community, in his CASA program, and in the lives of children," said Leslie Dunn, Indiana State Director, Guardian ad Litem/CASA. "You would have a hard time finding a person more passionate about children and being a CASA volunteer than Frank West."

An example of West's diligence comes from his work with "Kate" (name has been changed for confidentiality purposes). Kate was an older youth who had been shuffled through several foster homes. During these transitions, she often changed schools, and as a result, struggled to keep up with schoolwork. Kate told West she believed she had a mental disability, because she could not think of another reason why her grades were so bad. West petitioned the court to order educational and cognitive tests. The tests confirmed that Kate did not have a mental disability and that she was intelligent and creative. After completing the tests, Kate received assistance to fill in her educational gaps, and is set to graduate high school next spring.



Frank West of Marion will receive
CASA's Advocate of the Year award.

In addition to his work as an advocate, West is an active member of Grant County CASA fundraising committee and often speaks for CASA at community events. He is also a volunteer at the Indiana state Fostering Futures pilot program. To see a short video about Frank West, visit <http://www.childadvocatesnetwork.org/meet-frank-west/>.

“We are incredibly proud of and thankful to each one of our 70,000 CASA volunteers across the country,” said Michael Piraino, CEO of the National CASA Association. “But Frank West truly demonstrates the difference a volunteer can make in the life of a child. He is an inspiration and a superb role model for our national network.”

About National CASA and the G.F. Bettineski Child Advocate Award

In 1977, a Seattle judge conceived the idea of using trained community volunteers to speak for the best interests of these children in court, helping to ensure that they will live in a safe and loving environment. The Seattle program was so successful that judges across the country began utilizing citizen advocates, as well. Now, National CASA and its network of over 1,050 local community program offices work to recruit, train and facilitate volunteers in their work with abused children. National CASA, together with its state and local members, promote and support court-appointed volunteer advocacy for abused and neglected children so that they can thrive in safe, permanent homes.

For more information about Frank West and his award, please contact Jim Clune at (800) 628-3233, Ext. 249; or e-mail Jim at jclune@nationalcasa.org. For more information about the National CASA Association, please view our website at CASAforChildren.org.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 2, 2011

Contact: Karyn Graves
317.232.4695

ROBING CEREMONY SCHEDULED FOR TAX COURT JUDGE

Indiana Tax Court Judge Martha Blood Wentworth's formal robing ceremony will take place in the Supreme Court Courtroom, State House 3rd Floor at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 8, 2011. Judge Wentworth took her seat as judge of the Indiana Tax Court on January 17, 2011.

Judge Wentworth was appointed to the position by Governor Mitch Daniels on December 22, 2010. She was one of the three candidates presented to Governor Daniels by Indiana's seven-member Judicial Nominating Commission. She succeeds Judge Thomas G. Fisher who retired in January.

Judge Fisher will preside over the robing ceremony. Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard will have remarks and the oath will be administered by Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels. The media guidelines governing oral arguments will be in place for her ceremony and seating will be limited; therefore, media interested in attending must contact Supreme Court Public Information Officer Kathryn Dolan at kdolan@courts.state.in.us so appropriate set-up can be arranged.

Upon appointment, Judge Wentworth said, "I am humbled to have been chosen by the Governor to try to fill the shoes of my mentor and friend, Judge Thomas Fisher. My goal is to maintain the tax court as a forum where devotion to the rule of law, fairness to all litigants, and professional civility are the benchmarks."

Judge Wentworth, who was born in Detroit, Michigan, moved to Indiana with her family during high school. She earned undergraduate degrees from both the former Bennett College of Millbrook, New York and Indiana University in Bloomington.

Upon her earning her law degree from Indiana University's Maurer School of Law, Judge Wentworth clerked for Judge Fisher at the Tax Court for two years. Then, from 1992 to 1998, she practiced tax law with the Indianapolis law firm of Hall Render Killian Heath & Lyman. Since 1998, she had been with Deloitte Tax LLP, serving for nearly ten years as tax director, leading the Indiana multistate tax group. In addition, Judge Wentworth teaches graduate level classes in state and local taxation as an adjunct professor at the Indiana University Kelley School of Business in Bloomington.

Indiana's General Assembly established the Indiana Tax Court on July 1, 1986. The Tax Court has exclusive jurisdiction over any case that arises under the Indiana tax laws and is an initial appeal of a final determination made by the Indiana Board of Tax Review or the Indiana Department of State Revenue. In addition, the Tax Court has jurisdiction over certain appeals from the Department of Local Government Finance.



Indiana Tax Court Judge Martha Blood Wentworth

**Watch the ARCHIVED
 Ceremony Webcast**

Windows Media:



**This Event was webcast live at
 10:30 am on March 8, 2011**

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SUPREME COURT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 3, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

MEDIA ADVISORY: SUPREME COURT DELIVERS E-TICKET EQUIPMENT TO CARMEL POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Indiana Supreme Court is delivering e-ticket scanners and printers to the Carmel Police Department. The equipment will allow the department to expand the number of officers using the Court's electronic ticketing system. The Supreme Court will have a demonstration for the press and public when the equipment is delivered.

Carmel City Court
Friday, March 4th at 10:00 a.m. EST
One Civic Square
Carmel, Indiana 46032-1751

The electronic citation and warning system (e-CWS or e-ticket) was developed by the Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC). It allows trial courts across the state to manage traffic tickets electronically. Police use hand-held scanners to create a ticket and electronically send it to the court. Printers installed in police vehicles allow officers to print the ticket for drivers. The Carmel City Court requested the additional equipment for the city police. The Supreme Court applied for and received federal grants to pay for the equipment.

The delivery of the equipment is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with 21st-century technology to manage cases. E-ticket works in conjunction with Odyssey, the state case management system. Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr. and Justice Steven David will join Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard, Carmel Assistant Police Chief Jim Barlow and Carmel City Court Judge Brian Poindexter to answer questions about the system. Media interested in getting video of police using the scanners in addition to the delivery of the equipment can contact Carmel Police Lieutenant Jeff Horner at (317) 571-2729 or jhorner@carmel.in.gov.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 4, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
317.234.4859

eeuzen@courts.state.in.us

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *MARIO BROWN v. STATE OF INDIANA* AT JEFFERSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL -- JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA

Case Originates from Marion County Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Mario Brown v. State of Indiana* on Wednesday, March 9, 2011, at 11:00 a.m. at Jeffersonville High School. A panel of judges consisting of Judge Edward W. Najam, Jr., Judge Carr L. Darden, and Judge L. Mark Bailey will hear the case on appeal from the Marion Superior Court.

In this appeal, Mario Brown appeals the trial court's order denying his motion for additional credit time. He argues that Indiana Code Section 35-38-2.6-6, amended effective July 1, 2010 to permit good time credit for home detention, is remedial in nature and should be applied to him. He also contends that the denial of retroactive application of the amended statute violates his equal protection rights. Arguing for the Appellant, Mario Brown, will be Victoria Bailey, and arguing for the Appellee, State of Indiana, will be Karl Scharnberg.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 275 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

The Court of Appeals of Indiana is the state's second-highest court and reviews appeals from trial court decisions. A decision of the Court of Appeals of Indiana is final unless granted further review by the Indiana Supreme Court.

The 15 judges on the Court of Appeals issue more than 2,300 written opinions each year, sitting in three-judge panels. For more information about the Court of Appeals, visit www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals. For information about the Court's traveling oral arguments, as well as additional information on *Mario Brown v. State of Indiana*, visit www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/arguments.html.

For members of the public who would like to attend the oral argument, please call Jeffersonville High School at (812) 282-6601 to find out specific details about the school's visitor sign-in policy.

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SUPREME COURT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 4, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

SUPREME COURT SUPPLIES EQUIPMENT TO HELP CARMEL POLICE EXPAND USE OF “E-TICKETING”

Using the proceeds of a Federal grant, the Indiana Supreme Court has acquired and delivered 11 e-ticket scanners and 11 printers to the Carmel Police Department, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today. The scanners and printers will allow the department to expand the number of officers using the Court's e-ticket program.

Under the Court's electronic citation and warning system (“e-ticket”), police use hand-held scanners to create traffic citations and electronically send them to the court, rather than writing and delivering tickets by hand. Portable printers allow police to give drivers a paper copy of the citation. The Carmel Police Department and Carmel City Court have been using e-tickets since June 2010.

Carmel City Court Judge Brian Poindexter requested the Supreme Court's help in securing the additional equipment for the Carmel city police. “This is a win for Carmel's police, for Carmel's court, and for the safety of Carmel's people,” Judge Poindexter said. “For example, police officers spend less time on the side of the road exposed to danger and, because the tickets are filed electronically with the court, court employees save time by not having to enter data by hand,” he explained.

Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard expressed appreciation to the Supreme Court and Judge Poindexter. “Judge Poindexter has worked hard to bring this new technology to Carmel to improve our work processes and reduce spending. The reduction in court costs coupled with the fact that Judge Poindexter worked with the Supreme Court to secure equipment through grant funding saves Carmel taxpayers money.”

Assistant Carmel Police Chief Jim Barlow added that “this new equipment will help our officers work more efficiently and accurately, which translates into more time for patrolling, assisting the public and solving crimes. We also appreciate the fact that the Supreme Court was able to fund this equipment with a grant so that there was no cost to Carmel taxpayers for this improved service.”

Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., who chairs the Supreme Court's Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC) that developed e-ticket, congratulated the Carmel city administration and Judge Poindexter for “bringing 21st century technology to bear on behalf of the court, law enforcement, and the people of Carmel.” Sullivan also expressed his appreciation to the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, a state executive branch agency, for securing Federal funds in the amount of \$54,000 that were used to purchase this and equipment previously-supplied to Carmel.

E-ticket is part of the Supreme Court's multi-year project to equip all Indiana courts and clerks with a 21st century computer system called Odyssey to manage cases. Courts pay no license fees or annual maintenance costs for Odyssey; information on cases in Odyssey is available at no cost to the public on the web. The Hamilton County courts in Noblesville and the Carmel City Court are leaders in this project, having installed Odyssey in 2009.

Information on JTAC Projects

E-Ticket

- The Indiana State Police and 210 Indiana law-enforcement agencies use scanners to issue traffic citations

and warnings using computer software written by JTAC.

- JTAC has installed software that sends notification of the resolution of traffic cases to the BMV electronically in every Indiana court with traffic infraction jurisdiction.
- Since the 2008 inception of e-ticket, almost 3,000,000 electronic citations and warnings have been issued.

Odyssey

- Odyssey is operating in 83 Indiana courts in 27 counties as of March 1, 2011.
- Approximately 30% of all the new cases filed in Indiana are in Odyssey.
- The traffic courts in four of Indiana's five largest counties, including the busiest court in the state (Marion County Traffic Court), use Odyssey.
- Odyssey is a leading national case management system with special Indiana features for clerks' financial duties and probation officers' caseloads.
- A statewide license to install Odyssey in all Indiana courts and clerks' offices was acquired for \$7.7 million after a competitive procurement involving judges, clerks, and IT professionals from throughout the state.
- Currently, there are 21 different case management systems statewide and these systems do not communicate with each other. Five counties used typewriters and/or scroll books to manage court records before Odyssey.

Other JTAC Projects

- All 92 Indiana counties have access to a statewide master jury list created by JTAC.
- When judges in all 92 counties issue domestic violence protection orders, JTAC technology is used to notify local law enforcement, Indiana State Police, and the FBI.
- Juvenile and Adult probation officers, specialty courts, and department of correction officers in 92 counties are required to use Indiana's new risk assessment software developed by the Indiana Judicial Center and JTAC to determine the level of risk for offenders and identify what treatment plan is appropriate.
- Sixty-seven Indiana counties and the Department of Health use JTAC technology to eliminate the manual entry of marriage licenses.
- Forty-seven Indiana counties and the Department of Revenue use JTAC technology to eliminate the manual entry of tax warrants.
- Juvenile probation officers use JTAC technology to notify the Department of Child Services electronically of juveniles in delinquency cases who are eligible for DCS-financed services.
- Indiana trial courts use JTAC technology to notify the FBI electronically of all mental health adjudications required to be included in the FBI criminal background check system.

Awards

- Best Practices Award by the Association of Transportation Safety Information Professionals.
- The Governors Highway Safety Association Peter K. O'Rourke Special Achievement Award.
- A National Center for State Courts G. Thomas Munsterman Award for Jury Innovations.
- 2010 Innovations Award from The Council of State Governments.

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SUPREME COURT

Kathryn Dolan

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OF INDIANA

http://courts.IN.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 7, 2011Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

SUPREME COURT SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON RULES REGARDING TEMPORARY ADMISSION OF CERTAIN ATTORNEYS

The Indiana Supreme Court's Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure is interested in obtaining comments from judges, attorneys and the public as it reviews the process by which out-of-state attorneys may seek temporary admission to practice law in Indiana before administrative agencies. An Administrative agency is a quasi-judicial entity of the executive branch empowered with the authority to direct and supervise the implementation of particular legislative acts. Administrative agencies include the Worker's Compensation Board, Indiana Civil Rights Commission, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, or Review Board of the Department of Workforce Development.

Three possible options have been suggested. These options include allowing for temporary admission for out-of-state attorneys to practice before administrative agencies based upon approval by 1) the Administrative Agency, 2) the trial court where the agency is meeting, or 3) the Supreme Court. The options can be found at www.in.gov/judiciary/rules/proposed. In addition to comments on these options, the Court is also welcoming other possible ways of addressing how out-of-state attorneys can practice before administrative agencies.

The possible rule change is being reviewed by the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Committee was created by the Court to conduct a continuous study of the Indiana Rules of Procedure and other rules as directed by the Court. The Committee is charged with reporting to the Court recommendations and proposed amendments to promote simplicity in procedure, just determination of litigation and elimination of unjustified expense and delay.

The nine-member Committee is collecting public comments about the possible rule changes until May 1, 2011. The comments or additional options can be sent via email or in writing to the following addresses:

- localrulescomments@courts.state.in.us
- Lilia G. Judson
Executive Director
Indiana Supreme Court
Division of State Court Administration
30 South Meridian Street, Suite 500
Indianapolis, IN 46204

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 11, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
317.234.4859

eeuzen@courts.state.in.us

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *TERRANCE TINDALL v. STATE OF INDIANA* AT PIKE HIGH SCHOOL – INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Case Originates from Marion County Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Terrance Tindall v. State of Indiana* on Thursday, March 17, 2011, at 8:58 a.m. at Pike High School's Performance Arts Center. A panel of judges consisting of Judge Carr L. Darden, Judge Terry A. Crone, and Judge Cale J. Bradford will hear the case on appeal from the Marion Superior Court.

In this appeal, Terrance Tindall argues that certain evidence used to convict him of Class D felony Dealing in Marijuana was admitted into evidence in violation the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article 1, Section 11 of the Indiana Constitution. Arguing for the Appellant, Terrance Tindall, will be Todd Ess, and arguing for the Appellee, State of Indiana, will be Tamara Weaver.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 275 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

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For members of the public who would like to attend the oral argument, please call Pike High School at (317) 291-5250 to find out specific details about the school's visitor sign-in policy.

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SUPREME COURT

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OF INDIANA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 11, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

INDIANA SUPREME COURT ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER POSITION

The Indiana Supreme Court is accepting applications for the position of State Public Defender, which the Court appoints pursuant to Ind. Code ch. 33-40-1 for a term of four (4) years. An applicant must be an attorney in good standing who has practiced in Indiana for at least three (3) years. Demonstrated commitment to protecting the rights of indigent defendants; knowledge of criminal law; and familiarity with trial, appellate, post-conviction and federal habeas corpus procedure are critically important. Demonstrated management experience; competency in spreadsheet, database, and office software; excellent interpersonal skills; and the ability to manage multiple projects at once are also required. The compensation will be appropriate to experience; the incumbent's current annual salary is \$113,022. An application, consisting of a resume and cover letter, should be sent to Brenda Rodeheffer, Director of Office & Employment Law, Division of State Court Administration, via electronic mail at brodehef@courts.state.in.us. **Only applications submitted electronically to this e-mail address before midnight on Sunday, April 10, 2011, will be considered.**

The State Public Defender, individually and through deputy public defenders, represents indigent incarcerated inmates of the Department of Correction in challenges to convictions and sentences under Indiana Post-Conviction Rule 1, including all indigents sentenced to death; represents incarcerated indigent juveniles in Indiana Trial Rule 60(B) actions and parole revocation hearings; provides representation, when appropriate, in P-C.R.2 petitions seeking permission to file belated appeals in guilty plea cases and in successive petitions once approved by the appellate court; and locates counsel for trial and appeal upon request by any judge in the State at the county's expense.

The State Public Defender manages an annual budget of approximately \$6,665,000 and supervises forty-three (43) deputies and twenty-three (23) support staff. The State Public Defender also serves on various boards and commissions pursuant to statute, by appointment of the Court, or by other authority (Indiana Public Defender Commission). The State Public Defender also prepares and submits biennial budget requests to the Legislature and annual reports to the Court.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 17, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
317.234.4859

eeuzen@courts.state.in.us

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *RICHARD SIGO, JR. V. PRUDENTIAL PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY* AT LAPORTE HIGH SCHOOL – LAPORTE, INDIANA

Case Originates from Fulton County Circuit Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Richard Sigo, Jr. v. Prudential Property and Casualty Insurance Company* on Tuesday, March 22, 2011, at 12:30 p.m. (Central Time) at LaPorte High School. A panel of judges consisting of Chief Judge Margret G. Robb, Judge Melissa S. May, and Judge Cale J. Bradford will hear the case on appeal from the Fulton Circuit Court.

In this interlocutory appeal, Richard Sigo, Jr., who brought this lawsuit against his insurer, Prudential, to recover for the fire loss of his home, argues that the trial court erred when it granted Prudential's motion to exclude from the civil jury trial, which has yet to take place, any mention or evidence of Sigo's prior criminal trial in which a jury acquitted him of arson of his home. Arguing for the Appellant, Richard Sigo, Jr., will be Patrick McEuen, and arguing for the Appellee, Prudential, will be Jennifer Davis.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 275 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

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For members of the public who would like to attend the oral argument, please call LaPorte High School at (219) 362-3102 to find out specific details about the school's visitor sign-in policy.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 17, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
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COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *ROLAND BALL V. STATE OF INDIANA* AT INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY—TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Case Originates from Boone County Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Roland Ball v. State of Indiana* on Thursday, March 24, 2011, at 11:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) at Indiana State University's Hulman Memorial Student Union. A panel of judges consisting of Chief Judge Margret G. Robb, Judge Carr L. Darden, and Judge Melissa S. May will hear the case on appeal from the Boone Superior Court.

In this appeal, Roland Ball appeals from his conviction for Class D felony sexual battery and raises arguments regarding whether the trial court properly instructed the jury on the elements of the crime, whether there was sufficient evidence to support his conviction, and whether he received effective assistance of counsel at his jury trial. Arguing for the Appellant, Roland Ball, will be Heather Shumaker, and arguing for the Appellee, State of Indiana, will be Gary Rom.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 23, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
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eeuzen@courts.state.in.us

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *WALTER LIDDELL V. STATE OF INDIANA* AT VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW – VALPARAISO, INDIANA

Case Originates from Lake County Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Walter Liddell v. State of Indiana* on Monday, March 28, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. (Central Time) at Valparaiso University School of Law. A panel of judges consisting of Judge Nancy H. Vaidik, Judge Michael P. Barnes, and Judge Terry A. Crone will hear the case on appeal from the Lake Superior Court.

In this appeal, Walter Liddell appeals his convictions for rape, criminal confinement, and other related offenses. He claims that the trial court erred by denying his request to exclude a newly-discovered witness or continue the trial to provide an adequate opportunity for investigation and strategic response. Arguing for the Appellant, Walter Liddell, will be Thomas Vanes, and arguing for the Appellee, State of Indiana, will be Nichole Schuster.

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SUPREME COURT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 23, 2011**Contact: Kathryn Dolan**
317.234.4722**REGISTRATION OPENS FOR PROGRAM THAT BRINGS INDIANA EDUCATORS BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH**

“From the Inside Out: How Indiana’s Courts Work” is free ten-day program designed to familiarize Indiana teachers and school administrators with the daily operation of the state’s courts. Participants will visit trial and appellate courts, talk with judges and attorneys and conduct research in the Indiana Law Library.

The program begins Monday, June 13th and concludes Friday, June 24th with the teachers participating in a mock oral argument in the Supreme Court Courtroom.

There are approximately 40 Professional Growth Points available for participating teachers. There is no cost to participate in the program and the Court provides a \$50 stipend to the first 20 registrants. Some travel reimbursement is also available. Teachers are invited to sign up for the workshop by contacting Dr. Elizabeth R. Osborn at eosborn@courts.state.in.us or calling 317-233-8682.



2010 teacher participants join the five justices of the Supreme Court in the historic courtroom.

The workshop was developed by the Indiana Supreme Court in partnership with the [Indiana Bar Foundation](#). This is the fourth year for the program. To watch a 12-minute video on the program, visit www.in.gov/judiciary/video/city2009/index.html. Media interested in covering the program should contact Supreme Court Public Information Officer Kathryn Dolan at kdolan@courts.state.in.us to make arrangements.

Courts in the Classroom develops educational programming on behalf of the Indiana Supreme Court. Teachers interested in learning more about Courts in the Classroom will find information available online at courts.in.gov/citc. To learn more about future interactive learning events, including how to attend a program, please contact Dr. Osborn.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 24, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
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eeuzen@courts.state.in.us

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *RODNEY NICHOLSON V. STATE OF INDIANA* AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND – SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

Case Originates from Morgan County Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Rodney Nicholson v. State of Indiana* on Thursday, March 31, 2011, at 2:30 p.m. (Eastern Time) at Indiana University South Bend. The argument will be held in Northside Hall. A panel of judges consisting of Judge Michael P. Barnes, Judge Terry A. Crone, and Judge Cale J. Bradford will hear the case on appeal from the Morgan Superior Court.

In this appeal, Rodney Nicholson appeals his conviction for Class C felony stalking. He argues that the trial court improperly admitted evidence of his prior bad acts and challenges the sufficiency of the evidence to support his conviction. Arguing for the Appellant, Rodney Nicholson, will be Scott Knierim, and arguing for the Appellee, State of Indiana, will be Andrew Falk.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 25, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
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THE AMERICAN LAW INSTITUTE ELECTS CHIEF JUDGE MARGRET G. ROBB

The American Law Institute (ALI) announced today the names of 43 newly elected members, raising its total membership to 4,331, one of whom is Chief Judge Margret Robb of the Court of Appeals of Indiana.

"I am thrilled to welcome these highly regarded and accomplished new members to The American Law Institute," said ALI President Roberta Cooper Ramo. "The Institute has been dedicated to clarifying and improving the law for nearly 90 years. I am sure our newest members will find their involvement in our work to be both professionally and personally rewarding, and I look forward to the new enthusiasm and perspectives they will bring to our activities."

The American Law Institute is the leading independent organization in the United States producing scholarly work to clarify, modernize, and otherwise improve the law. The Institute (made up of approximately 4,300 lawyers, judges, and law professors of the highest qualifications) drafts, discusses, revises, and publishes Restatements of the Law, model statutes, and principles of law that are enormously influential in the courts and legislatures, as well as in legal scholarship and education. ALI has long been influential internationally and, in recent years, more of its work has become international in scope.

By participating in the Institute's work, its distinguished members have the opportunity to influence the development of the law in both existing and emerging areas, to work with other eminent lawyers, judges, and academics, to give back to a profession to which they are deeply dedicated, and to contribute to the public good.

Chief Judge Robb was nominated to the ALI by Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, who stated that "ALI is an assembly of the country's most thoughtful and energetic lawyers, and all of us benefit from the work they do. Chief Judge Robb has built a splendid record of achievement here in Indiana and in other national activities, and I think ALI's mission will be extremely well served by her membership in the Institute."

In January 2011, Chief Judge Robb began a three year term as Chief Judge; the first woman to hold that position in the Court's more than 100 year history. Chief Judge Robb has served as an officer in numerous legal associations and has been actively involved in projects to benefit the legal system on both a state and national level. Currently, she serves on the ABA Committee that accredits law schools. Some of her prior honors are the 2001 Maynard K. Hine distinguished alumni award given in recognition of support and service to IUPUI and Indiana University; the 2004 Bernadette Perham "Indiana Women of Achievement" Award, bestowed by Ball State University; the 2005 Indiana State Bar Association's Women in the Law Recognition Award; the 2006 Tippecanoe County YWCA Salute to Women "Women of Distinction" Award; and the 2010 Indiana University Alumni Association President's Award.

Chief Judge Robb is a frequent speaker on legal topics. She was appointed to the Appellate Court of Indiana in 1998. Her complete biography can be found at www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/bios/robb.html.

Indiana's connection to ALI has a long lineage. Justice Louis Ewbank of the Indiana Supreme Court was a founding member of ALI in 1923, and he participated in drafting some of its first Restatements.

 Chief Judge
Margret G. Robb

Court of Appeals
Chief Judge Margret G. Robb

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 29, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
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COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *EDWARD GODBY V. STATE OF INDIANA* AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA – EVANSVILLE, INDIANA

Case Originates from Ripley County Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Edward Godby v. State of Indiana* on Monday, April 4, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. (Central time) at University of Southern Indiana in Evansville. The argument will be held in University Center (Carter Hall D). A panel of judges consisting of Judge L. Mark Bailey, Judge Melissa S. May, and Judge Elaine B. Brown will hear the case on appeal from Ripley Superior Court.

In this appeal, Edward Godby, who was convicted of a number of methamphetamine-related offenses based in part on material found in a locked box in his garage, challenges whether his wife's consent to search the garage and locked box was valid and whether he was subjected to double jeopardy. Arguing for the Appellant, Edward Godby, will be Leanna Weissmann, and arguing for the Appellee, State of Indiana, will be Brian Reitz.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 275 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 8, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
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COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *HAROLD YORK V. STATE OF INDIANA* AT FRANKLIN COLLEGE – FRANKLIN, INDIANA

Case Originates from Grant County Circuit Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Harold York v. State of Indiana* on Friday, April 15, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at Franklin College. The argument will be held in Richardson Chapel. A panel of judges consisting of Judge John G. Baker, Judge Edward W. Najam, Jr., and Judge Terry A. Crone will hear the case on appeal from Grant Circuit Court.

In this interlocutory appeal, Harold York claims the trial court erred in denying his Motion to Dismiss the charge of Failure to Register as a Sex Offender. Arguing for the Appellant, Harold York, will be Jerry Drook, and arguing for the Appellee, State of Indiana, will be Joby Jerrells.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 275 oral arguments “on the road” at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

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SUPREME COURT

Kathryn Dolan

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 8, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

PUBLIC COMMENT ON POSSIBLE CHANGES TO COURT RULES WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL MAY 6TH

The Indiana Supreme Court is interested in obtaining comments from judges, attorneys and the public as it considers changes to the following Rules of Court:

- Administrative Rules 9 and 14
- Rules of Trial Procedure 3.1, 53.1, and 59
- Post-conviction Relief Rules PC1 and PC2
- Appellate Rules 2, 9, 10, 11, 14, 14.1, 15, 16, 23, 24, 30, 46, 62, 63 and Forms 9-1, 9-2, 14.1, 15-1, 16-1 and 16-2
- Rules of Evidence 501, 502, and 803
- Rules for Family Proceedings

Details about the specific proposed rule changes, pursuant to Trial Rule 80, can be found at www.in.gov/judiciary/rules/proposed. In general, the proposed changes include the following:

Changes being suggested to Administrative Rule 14 set out requirements for conducting hearings by telephone and audiovisual telecommunications. A portion of these proposed amendments is directed at ensuring the confidentiality of attorney-client conversations. The changes being suggested to the Administrative Rule 9 seek to conform the rule to proposed Appellate amendments.

Rules of Trial Procedure deal with procedures for withdrawal of representation and temporary or limited representation by attorneys. The suggested changes to Trial Rule 53.1 concern the procedures for removing a case from a judge who has not acted or ruled in a timely manner as provided in the rule, and in particular remove the local court clerk from the process.

Modifications to the post-conviction rules seek to clarify the proper venue for filing petitions and to conform the rules to the changes being proposed to the Appellate Rules.

The offered changes to the Appellate Rules abolish the Appellant's Case Summary and change the filing of the Notice of Appeal from the trial court clerk to the Clerk of the Indiana Supreme Court, Court of Appeals and Tax Court. The specific contents of the Notice of Appeal are spelled out in the amendments. The rules further seek to clarify the service of documents and running of time limits in appeals.

Amendments proposed for the Rules of Evidence include new language covering situations involving the inadvertent disclosure of privileged information and clarification of the hearsay exception related to statements made by individuals seeking medical diagnosis or treatment.

Finally, in an attempt to bring the rules governing the Supreme Court's Family Court Project to the rest of the state, Rules for Family Proceedings are being proposed. These rules would permit courts to exercise jurisdiction over multiple cases involving the same family or household members.

The possible rule changes are being reviewed by the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Committee was created by the Court to conduct a continuous study of the Indiana Rules of Procedure and other rules as directed by the Court. The Committee is charged with reporting to the Court recommendations and proposed amendments to promote simplicity in procedure, just determination of litigation, and elimination of unjustified expense and delay.

The nine-member Committee is collecting public comments about the possible rule changes until May 6, 2011. The comments can be sent via email or in writing to the following addresses:

- localrulescomments@courts.state.in.us
- Lilia G. Judson
Executive Director
Indiana Supreme Court
Division of State Court Administration
30 South Meridian Street, Suite 500
Indianapolis, IN 46204

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 8, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

SUPREME COURT EXTENDS PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON RULES REGARDING TEMPORARY ADMISSION OF CERTAIN ATTORNEYS

The Indiana Supreme Court's Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure is interested in obtaining comments from judges, attorneys and the public as it reviews the process by which out-of-state attorneys may seek temporary admission to practice law in Indiana before administrative agencies. An Administrative agency is a quasi-judicial entity of the executive branch empowered with the authority to direct and supervise the implementation of particular legislative acts. Administrative agencies include the Worker's Compensation Board, Indiana Civil Rights Commission, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, or Review Board of the Department of Workforce Development.

Three possible options have been suggested. These options include allowing for temporary admission for out-of-state attorneys to practice before administrative agencies based upon approval by 1) the Administrative Agency, 2) the trial court where the agency is meeting, or 3) the Supreme Court. The options can be found at www.in.gov/judiciary/rules/proposed. In addition to comments on these options, the Court is also welcoming other possible ways of addressing how out-of-state attorneys can practice before administrative agencies.

The possible rule change is being reviewed by the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Committee was created by the Court to conduct a continuous study of the Indiana Rules of Procedure and other rules as directed by the Court. The Committee is charged with reporting to the Court recommendations and proposed amendments to promote simplicity in procedure, just determination of litigation and elimination of unjustified expense and delay.

The nine-member Committee is collecting public comments about the possible rule changes until May 6, 2011. The comments or additional options can be sent via email or in writing to the following addresses:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 11, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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SECURE NETWORK SET-UP TO HELP HOUSING LENDERS AND BORROWERS EXCHANGE INFORMATION

A new program that allows housing lenders and borrowers to easily exchange information is aimed at helping both sides work out a settlement agreement in foreclosure cases. The program centers on the launch of a secure online network that enables parties to more efficiently exchange documents during mediation. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard explained the importance of the network. "The success of settlement conferences can depend on whether all the necessary paperwork is in place. We are giving both sides another tool to collect and review all the information needed to work out an agreement."

Indiana trial courts, housing counselors with the Indiana Foreclosure Prevention Network (IFPN) and lender attorneys will have access to the secure network. It is not a court e-filing system. Instead, it is a secure online portal that will allow both sides to exchange financial documents. Information traded on the network may include account numbers, bank statements and tax returns. These documents are not normally filed with the court, but are critical to work out a settlement agreement and the failure to have them on hand can delay a settlement. The system also automatically tracks the status of every file – from submission to resolution – so that a record of every foreclosure can be viewed by the stakeholders.

The portal will first be used on a pilot basis in St. Joseph and Marion Counties. The Indianapolis law firm Feiwell & Hannoy P.C. will also use the portal during the pilot phase. The goal is to eventually allow the network to be used by lenders, borrowers and law firms across the state. The lender pays a \$25 filing fee for use of the portal, which pays for the system. The portal was created by Default Mitigation Management, LLC (DMM).

In 2009, the state enacted a law giving borrowers the right to a settlement conference with their lenders. However, according to the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA), most of the 300 conferences that occurred between July and December 2009 were unsuccessful because the parties were unprepared. Homeowners sometimes failed to bring the necessary documents or lenders sent entry-level employees who did not have authority to agree to mortgage changes. A clear need existed for more organization with settlement conferences.

Chief Justice Shepard has long pledged court support to help solve the mortgage meltdown. The Indiana Supreme Court's State Court Administration (STAD) partnered with the IHCDA in early 2010 to create a system for coordinating settlement conferences. The system includes area project managers who oversee facilitators who coordinate with pro bono attorneys, homeowners, and lenders. There is a higher success rate with coordinated settlement conferences. More than 1300 conferences were requested in 13 pilot counties over the past 12 months. Of those 1300, more than 530 resulted in some sort of work out.

The aim of the new portal is to build on the success of the coordinated settlement conferences and facilitate the exchange of necessary documents. By providing a direct communication channel between all of the stakeholders, the hope is that mediation sessions will become more productive and lead to more resolutions in less time.

Mortgage Foreclosure Trial Court Assistance Project – Mediation Portal Project

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 12, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
317.234.4859

eeuzen@courts.state.in.us

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *JUSTIN CORWIN V. STATE OF INDIANA* AT TAYLOR UNIVERSITY – UPLAND, INDIANA

Case Originates from Tippecanoe County Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Justin Corwin v. State of Indiana* on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. at Taylor University. The argument will be held in the Ayres Alumni Memorial Building (Room 215). A panel of judges consisting of Judge Patricia A. Riley, Judge Melissa S. May, and Judge Paul D. Mathias will hear the case on appeal from Tippecanoe Superior Court.

In this interlocutory appeal, Justin Corwin appeals the trial court's denial of his motion to suppress evidence regarding a police officer's discovery, during a *Terry* Stop, of a bottle containing a prescription medication for which Corwin did not have a valid prescription. Arguing for the Appellant, Justin Corwin, will be Andrew Searle, and arguing for the Appellee, State of Indiana, will be Wade Hornbacher.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 300 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 12, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
317.234.4859

eeuzen@courts.state.in.us

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *MAURICE DAVIS V. STATE OF INDIANA* AT ROCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL – ROCHESTER, INDIANA

Case Originates from Marion County Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Maurice Davis v. State of Indiana* on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 10:05 a.m. at Rochester High School. A panel of judges consisting of Chief Judge Margret G. Robb, Judge Ezra H. Friedlander, and Judge James S. Kirsch will hear the case on appeal from Marion Superior Court.

In this appeal, Maurice Davis, who was convicted of Class A felony possession of cocaine with intent to deliver, appeals the post-conviction court's denial of his petition for post-conviction relief. Arguing for the Appellant, Maurice Davis, will be Linda Nicholson, and arguing for the Appellee, State of Indiana, will be Ian McLean.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 300 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

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For members of the public who would like to attend the oral argument, please call Rochester High School at (574) 223-2176 to find out specific details about the school's visitor sign-in policy.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 12, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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Media Alert: Assessing Indiana's Civic Engagement

Disturbing data on civic knowledge shows only 1 in 3 Americans can name the three branches of government and 21 states no longer require students to take a course in government. To focus attention on the importance of an informed and engaged citizenry in the Hoosier state, former Congressman Lee Hamilton and Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard are joining with the Indiana Bar Foundation and the National Conference on Citizenship to commission an analysis of civic engagement in Indiana. The announcement regarding the creation of the Indiana Civic Health Index and what it means for civic education will take place April 19th.

Assessing Indiana's Civic Health
Tuesday, April 19, 2011
1:30 p.m. EDT
Indiana Statehouse, 3rd floor
Indiana Supreme Court Courtroom

For more information contact Indiana Bar Foundation Director of Civic Education Andrew Homan at (317) 269-7863 or ahoman@inbf.org or Center on Congress at Indiana University Assistant Director Wayne Vance at (812) 856-5083 or wvance@indiana.edu, or Indiana Supreme Court Public Information Officer Kathryn Dolan at (317) 234-4722 or kdolan@courts.state.in.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 15, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
317.234.4859

eeuzen@courts.state.in.us

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *ESTATE OF BRADLEY KINSER v. INDIANA INSURANCE COMPANY* AT IVY TECH LAFAYETTE – LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

Case Originates from Hamilton County Circuit Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Estate of Bradley Kinser v. Indiana Insurance Company* on Thursday, April 21, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern time) at Ivy Tech Lafayette. The argument will be held in the Ivy Hall Auditorium (Room 1333). A panel of judges consisting of Chief Judge Margret G. Robb, Judge Patricia A. Riley, and Judge James S. Kirsch will hear the case on appeal from Hamilton Circuit Court.

In this appeal, the Estate of Bradley Kinser appeals the trial court's order granting summary judgment to Indiana Insurance Company in its action seeking declaratory judgment that the damages from Kinser's automobile accident were excluded from coverage by Kinser's insurance policy. Arguing for the Appellant, Estate of Bradley Kinser, will be Greg Bullman, and arguing for the Appellee, Indiana Insurance Company, will be Joseph Dietz and Andrew Sumerford.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 300 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 15, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
317.234.4859

eeuzen@courts.state.in.us

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *TRINDA BAROCAS v. STATE OF INDIANA* AT IVY TECH EVANSVILLE – EVANSVILLE, INDIANA

Case Originates from Marion County Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Trinda Barocas v. State of Indiana* on Thursday, April 21, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. (Central time) at Ivy Tech Evansville. The argument will be held in the Vectren Auditorium (Room 147). A panel of judges consisting of Judge L. Mark Bailey, Judge Melissa S. May, and Judge Elaine B. Brown will hear the case on appeal from Marion Superior Court.

In this appeal, Trinda Barocas, a special education teacher, appeals her conviction of battery and argues that, as a teacher, her action of flicking a student's tongue with her finger was legally justified as a reasonably necessary disciplinary action. Arguing for the Appellant, Trinda Barocas, will be Suzy St. John, and arguing for the Appellee, State of Indiana, will be Ann Goodwin.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 19, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

PROJECT UNDERWAY TO ASSESS INDIANA'S CIVIC HEALTH

Disturbing national data shows only 1 in 3 Americans can name all three branches of government. A project to assess Indiana's civic knowledge and engagement is underway with support from former U.S. Representative Lee Hamilton and the Indiana Supreme Court. The Indiana Civic Health Index focuses on the importance of an informed and engaged citizenry.

The Index will assess who participates in community activities such as voting and volunteerism, what resources promote civic engagement and what obstacles prevent citizens from getting involved in community activities and decision making.

Representative Hamilton made the announcement with Supreme Court Justice Robert Rucker standing in for Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, who unexpectedly could not attend. The Indiana Bar Foundation, the National Conference on Citizenship, Indiana University Northwest and the Hoosier State Press Association are also partners in the creation of the Indiana Civic Health Index.

"There is a lot that Americans don't understand about their government," said Rep. Hamilton, who is director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University. "The Indiana Civic Health Index will help us focus on what must be done to improve people's civic knowledge and skills. Our nation's success depends on citizens' ability and willingness to participate constructively in the dialogue of democracy."

"We want to identify the strengths and weaknesses in our civic culture and motivate all of us — business and community leaders, educators, philanthropists, the media and policymakers — to improve where we are falling short," said Chief Justice Shepard prior to the announcement. "The judiciary has an interest in building the highest possible civic knowledge in our state."

The Indiana Bar Foundation supports civics education through *We the People* and *Project Citizen*. The assessment will provide the Foundation with information to help in crafting programs to meet Indiana's needs. Executive Director Charles Dunlap said, "This index will give us a good indication of what is working in Indiana and what we need to improve on with respect to civic education."

The National Conference on Citizenship (NCoC) will perform the analysis which will be released this fall. NCoC, founded in 1946 and chartered by Congress in 1953, tracks and promotes civic and political participation, supports history and civics education, and encourages community and national service. Each year NCoC releases a national report, America's Civic Health Assessment, based on data from the Census Bureau that measures civic behaviors and attitudes, such as giving and volunteering, trusting other people, connecting to civic and religious groups, understanding government, and participating in politics.

For more information contact Indiana Bar Foundation Director of Civic Education Andrew Homan at (317) 269-7863 or mahoman@inbf.org or Center on Congress at Indiana University Assistant Director Wayne Vance at (812) 856-5083 or wvance@indiana.edu or Indiana Supreme Court Public Information Officer Kathryn Dolan at kdolan@courts.state.in.us.

**Watch the ARCHIVED Event
Webcast**

Windows Media:



**This Event was webcast live at
1:30 pm on April 19, 2011**

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 21, 2011

Contact: Eileen Euzen
317.234.4859

eeuzen@courts.state.in.us

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *JERRY FRENCH V. STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY COMPANY* AT THE HONEYWELL CENTER – WABASH, INDIANA

Case Originates from Delaware County Circuit Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Jerry French v. State Farm Fire & Casualty Company* on Friday, April 29, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the Honeywell Center in Wabash, Indiana. The argument will be held in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. A panel of judges consisting of Judge John G. Baker, Judge Terry A. Crone, and Judge Cale J. Bradford will hear the case on appeal from Delaware Circuit Court.

In this appeal, both parties appeal the trial court's denial of their respective motions for summary judgment. The parties dispute the amount of replacement costs State Farm was obligated to pay under Jerry French's insurance policy following a fire to French's home. Arguing for the Appellant, Jerry French, will be George Plews, and arguing for the Appellee, State Farm, will be Karl Mulvaney.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 300 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

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For members of the public who would like to attend the oral argument, please call the Honeywell Center at (260) 563-1102 to obtain directions and parking information.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 25, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Media Advisory: Greene County Goes Online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey Case Management System

The Greene County Courts and Clerk will demonstrate why their new case management system called "Odyssey" is a significant improvement for court and clerk staff, law enforcement and taxpayers. Odyssey connects the Greene County courts and clerk to a continually growing network of other county courts, clerks, law enforcement and state agencies. Odyssey also makes court information available to the public over the Internet at no charge. The press and public are invited to a demonstration of Odyssey on Friday, May 6th.

Greene County Courthouse
Friday, May 6th at 10:00 a.m. EDT
1 W. Main Street
Bloomfield, Indiana 47424

The upgrade to Odyssey in Greene County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a 21st-century case management system. Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr. will join the judges and clerk in Greene County to answer questions about the system and show the public how it works.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**
April 26, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722



PROPOSED PARENTING COORDINATION RULES AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Parenting Coordination Rules are available for public review. Parenting Coordinators are appointed by trial court judges to help resolve disputes between parents regarding their children. Comments from the public on the proposed new rules will be accepted until May 26, 2011.

Comments can be sent in writing to the following address:

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director Juvenile and Family Law
Indiana Judicial Center
c/o Domestic Relations and Alternative Dispute Resolution Committees
30 South Meridian Street, Suite 900
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3546

The specific proposed rules can be found at <http://courts.in.gov/rules/proposed/2011/april.html>. The website also includes a form for submitting comments electronically. Generally, the rules create regulations regarding parenting coordinators. The regulations include qualifications to serve as a coordinator, a description of the role and authority of the coordinator and guidelines for coordinator accountability.

Parenting coordinators are used to assist parents in resolving disputes associated with their children. A trial court judge can recommend a coordinator be used or the parents can voluntarily agree to use a coordinator to resolve their dispute. Typically, the coordinators work to resolve disputes concerning issues about parenting time, not disputes involving support.

The Domestic Relations Committee and the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana developed the proposed Parenting Coordination rules and commentary. Both Committees are made up of judicial officers from across the state. The Indiana Judicial Center serves as staff support for the Domestic Relations and Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee.

Once comments are submitted, the Committees will review the responses and prepare a revised draft for submission to the Supreme Court of Indiana. The Justices of the Supreme Court determine if the rules are approved.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 28, 2011

Contact: Steven F. Lancaster
317.232.6906

COURT OF APPEALS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR STAFF ATTORNEY - SENIOR JUDGE JUDICIAL LAW CLERK

The Court of Appeals of Indiana is accepting applications for a staff attorney position with primary responsibilities to serve as a Senior Judge Judicial Law Clerk. Senior Judge Judicial Law Clerks work under the supervision of the Senior Judges performing all legal tasks including researching, drafting, proofreading, cite checking, and all aspects of preparing draft memoranda for Senior Judge opinions. As staff attorneys for the Court of Appeals, Senior Judge Law Clerks also work under the direction of the administrator when it is determined by the Senior Judges and the administrator to be appropriate. The job requirements include working on tasks performed by staff attorneys and other Court projects.

To be considered for this position, the candidate must be a graduate of an accredited law school, have worked as an appellate law clerk for at least two years, be familiar with the Indiana Rules of Appellate Procedure, have superior writing skills, and have the ability to work for multiple supervisors and on multiple projects with short deadlines.

The starting salary is \$68,719. Interested attorneys should send a letter of introduction and a resume to:

Steven F. Lancaster, Administrator
Court of Appeals of Indiana
115 W. Washington Street, Suite 1270 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204
or to slancast@courts.state.in.us

For consideration, resumes must be postmarked no later than Monday, **May 9, 2011**. For more information about the Court of Appeals of Indiana, please visit: <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals>.

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SUPREME COURT

Kathryn Dolan

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OF INDIANA

<http://courts.IN.gov>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 2, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

INDIANA BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL BAR EXAM APPLICANTS

More than 180 applicants passed the February Indiana bar exam. Acting Director David J. Remondini announced the names of the applicants who passed the exam and said, "This is a very difficult process. I am sure the applicants who passed are feeling a sense of relief, but they should also be very proud of their accomplishment." Eligible applicants listed in the attachment will be invited to a May 2011 formal swearing-in ceremony.

The 10-member Board of Law Examiners is responsible for ensuring that individuals admitted to practice law have met the requirements specified in the Admission and Discipline Rules of the Indiana Supreme Court. The Board has the duty of writing and grading the essay portion of the exam. The Board also certifies the character and fitness of applicants.

The two-day written exam was given in February 2011. Of the 264 applicants who sat for the exam, 184 passed, which is a rate of 70%. The applicants who passed the written exam also have to undergo a character and fitness review before they can be admitted to the Indiana bar. Each bar applicant meets with a member of the Indiana Supreme Court Character and Fitness Committee for a personal interview. The interviews are conducted by attorneys from across the state. The next bar exam will be given in July.

February 2011 Bar Exam Results

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**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE
May 2, 2011**

**Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722**



PROBLEM SOLVING AND DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROGRAMS SEEK PUBLIC COMMENT

New rules governing Problem Solving Courts and amendments to Court-Administered Drug and Alcohol Programs are available for public review. The advisory committees for the programs will hold a public hearing on the proposed rules. Judges, attorneys and the public are invited to review the proposed rules and attend the May hearing.

**Friday, May 27, 2011
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. EDT
30 South Meridian Street, 8th Floor
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

The specific proposed rules can be found at www.in.gov/judiciary/rules/proposed/2011/may.html. Generally, they include certification standards and procedures, administrative and operational standards, participant eligibility and fees for problem solving courts. They also include changes to professional staff requirements, new language requiring the use of the Indiana Risk Assessment System and other administrative and operational amendments for drug and alcohol programs.

Those interested in speaking at the hearing should contact Diane Mains, Staff Attorney, Indiana Judicial Center, by calling 317-232-1313 or via email at dmains@courts.state.in.us no later than May 25, 2011. Speakers will be limited to no more than five minutes each. An organization should designate one person to speak on behalf of the organization.

Those interested in submitting written comments to the Committees may do so until May 25, 2011. The written comments will be incorporated into the hearing and can be mailed to the following address:

Indiana Judicial Center
Court Services Division
Attn: Diane Mains
30 South Meridian Street, Suite 900
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3564

The Indiana Judicial Center is the state's judicial research and continuing education agency. The Center is responsible for certification, training, and support for court alcohol and drug programs and problem-solving courts. The Center staffs the Judicial Conference of Indiana advisory committees for these court programs. These Committees are made up of judges and program directors from across the state. After receiving public comment, the Committees will submit the proposed rules to the Board of Directors of the Judicial Conference for adoption. For more information on the Judicial Center visit courts.in.gov/center.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 5, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

BEECH GROVE CITY COURT JUDGE ADMONISHED BY JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION

The Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications has issued a [Public Admonition](#) against Beech Grove (Marion County) City Court Judge Charles W. Hunter. The admonition is the result of injudicious conduct in connection with a case in Judge Hunter's court and the public statements he made when questioned about the case.

Judge Hunter admits to violating Rule 1.2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct. The violation stems from an October 2010 incident. A television reporter was investigating a citizen complaint. Charity Bryan, who is confined to a wheelchair, complained to a reporter about a ticket her husband received for parking in a handicapped spot without a placard. The ticket was filed in Beech Grove City Court. While investigating the ticket, the reporter found Judge Hunter waiting to get into a vehicle that was parked in a handicapped spot without a placard. Judge Hunter made inappropriate comments to the reporter when she questioned him about the situation.

The reporter asked Judge Hunter, "Are you aware that you don't have a disabled placard and you're parked in a handicapped space?" Judge Hunter chuckled and answered, "Yes." The reporter continued to press Judge Hunter about the situation. During the exchange, Judge Hunter's son retrieved the handicapped placard from the visor and placed it on the rearview mirror. When the reporter suggested that the Bryans had been faced with a similar situation, Judge Hunter stated, "I didn't get a ticket, did I?" The reporter then asked, "So, it's just their bad luck for having gotten a ticket?" Judge Hunter responded, "I guess so, yeah."

Judge Hunter acknowledges his comment violated Rule 1.2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct. Rule 1.2 requires judges to act in a manner that promotes the public's confidence in the judiciary and to avoid the appearance of impropriety.

A Public Admonition is a resolution of a disciplinary investigation in which a judicial officer admits specific actions constitute ethical misconduct and accepts an official censure from the Commission. Supreme Court rules give the Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications the discretion to issue an Admonition instead of filing formal charges. The Commission can issue an Admonition when it determines that a Public Admonition sufficiently addresses the misconduct and the judge consents to that resolution.

Public Admonitions are kept on file with the Commission and can be read by the public on the Commission's website, courts.in.gov/jud-qual. Instead of filing formal charges against Judge Hunter, the Commission is issuing the attached Public Admonition against him. Judge Hunter fully cooperated with the Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications' investigation and admits his behavior is a violation of the Judicial Code of Conduct.

The Commission on Judicial Qualifications is the 7-member group that investigates alleged ethical misconduct by judges. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard chairs the Commission. The Indiana Supreme Court has final authority over judicial discipline. The Public Admonition against Judge Hunter concludes the Commission's investigation into his conduct.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 6, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

GREENE COUNTY GOES ONLINE WITH INDIANA SUPREME COURT ODYSSEY CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Greene County Courts and Clerk are successfully operating a new 21st-century computer system called "Odyssey," the Indiana Supreme Court announced Friday. Odyssey connects the counties to a continually growing network of courts, clerks, law enforcement and other state agencies. There are currently 89 courts in 30 counties in the state using Odyssey.

The upgrade to Odyssey in Greene County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a 21st-century case management system. Odyssey connects courts with each other, law enforcement, state agencies and makes court information available over the Internet at no charge. With Odyssey, an estimated 7,600 new cases filed in Greene County each year will be managed by a state-of-the-art computer system.

Circuit Court Judge Erik "Chip" Allen said, "The opportunities provided with the Odyssey Case Management System are very exciting. By implementing Odyssey we have updated and improved our technology. Odyssey will enable more efficient use of information among the Courts, Clerk, Probation and other county and state agencies." Superior Court Judge Dena Benham Martin pointed to the value of Odyssey, "Considering these rough economic times, we are excited to utilize this advanced technology to better serve the citizens of Greene County, at no cost to the county taxpayers."

Greene County Clerk Susan Fowler is also pleased Odyssey is a user-friendly system. She said, "Before, we used a book-based system and had to look through the paper index for court records. With Odyssey, the record keeping and financial system is simplified and efficient. Our customers also appreciate the 24-hour access to Odyssey, which means they don't always need to come to the courthouse."

Odyssey was first installed in ten Indiana courts on a pilot basis in December 2007 under the direction of the Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration's Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC). Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., who chairs JTAC, congratulated those involved in bringing Odyssey to Greene County. "This is a major accomplishment and the people of Greene County should be proud of the hard work done by Clerk Susan Fowler, Circuit Court Judge Erik Allen and Superior Court Judge Dena Benham Martin. Their staffs are to be congratulated as well. Having this advanced technology will mean better service for the county's citizens, will increase public safety because of its connections to law-enforcement, and because JTAC pays for the computer software, using Odyssey will save money for the county's taxpayers as well."

Courts pay no installation costs, training costs, license fees or annual maintenance costs for Odyssey. Those costs are paid by JTAC from the proceeds of a court filing fee dedicated to the project by the General Assembly. Odyssey is designed to be implemented statewide and is being installed without disrupting everyday court business or closing Indiana courts. Currently, there are 22 different and unrelated court record management systems statewide and these systems do not communicate with each other.

For more information on the Indiana Supreme Court's technology projects visit courts.in.gov/jtac.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 10, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER USES VIDEOCONFERENCING TO REDUCE COSTS AND IMPROVE SERVICES

The State Public Defender is implementing a videoconferencing system to reduce costs and improve services. The system will allow attorneys to electronically meet with incarcerated clients. Indiana Public Defender Susan Carpenter announced the use of the technology and explained, "This will help us keep communication and travel costs down while still allowing our attorneys to meet with their clients."

The videoconferencing equipment was installed at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility in Carlisle in partnership with the Indiana Department of Correction and the Indiana Office of Technology. The equipment resembles a pay phone and is designed specifically for correctional use. It features a video screen and camera (similar to a web cam) that transmits audio and video in real time. All the controls are maintained at the server in Indianapolis, so an offender is connected automatically with the attorney by simply lifting the handset. The equipment was purchased by the State Public Defender for \$4630.



Deputy Public Defender Maria Mesoloras, in Indianapolis, videoconferences with her client who is at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility in Carlisle.

Before the videoconferencing system was implemented, attorneys communicated with their clients via mail or in-person meetings. Attorneys would drive from Indianapolis to the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility about 10 times per month, and each trip averaged about \$250. Chief Deputy of the State Public Defender, Bill Polansky, coordinated the project and explained, "Substituting videoconferencing for some of the in-person visits will reduce travel time and expense. Videoconferencing will also improve our service to clients by increasing the amount of time we can spend talking with them."

The Indiana Office of Technology worked to implement the system. Senior Network Engineer Carl Abel said, "This solution allowed us to utilize the state network infrastructure that is already in place. The convergence of voice, video and data lets us provide additional services without having to commit additional resources. We plan to install units in similar facilities across the state."

The Department of Correction worked to ensure the installation at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility would be successful. IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon, who served as Superintendent at Wabash Valley when the pilot project was approved said, "The real beneficiaries are the taxpayers of the state who, because of the more efficient use of time by the State Public Defenders office and the cooperation of the Department of Correction, are getting more from their tax dollars. Due to this project, the State Public Defender's attorneys are able to use their time assisting clients rather than driving to and from the facility."

The Public Defender of Indiana is a state-funded agency that provides representation to indigent prison inmates in challenges to convictions and sentences. The Public Defender is appointed by the Indiana Supreme Court. The office works to assure the fundamental fairness of the criminal justice system. For more information about the State Public Defender's Office, visit <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/defender/>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 11, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

EVANSVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION DEDICATES COURTROOM IN HONOR OF CHIEF JUSTICE RANDALL T. SHEPARD

The Evansville Bar Association dedicated the "Randall T. Shepard Courtroom" in honor of Chief Justice Shepard. The newly restored courtroom is located in the Old Vanderburgh County Courthouse. The dedication took place during the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Evansville Bar Association on April 29.

Chief Justice Shepard, who is from Evansville, could not attend the dedication. Indiana Court of Appeals Judge Melissa S. May spoke on his behalf. Through the statement, Chief Justice Shepard said, "I am proud to be an Evansville lawyer. I take great cheer in this 100th anniversary of our Association's founding and in the projects chosen to commemorate it. I am deeply beholden to you for the thoughtfulness of designating the gloriously restored courtroom in my name."

The Evansville Bar Association's press release and Chief Justice Shepard's remarks can be found at <http://www.evbar.org/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsId=57>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 13, 2011Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Judicial Qualifications Commission Files Misconduct Charges Against Hamilton Superior Court Judge

The Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications has filed disciplinary charges against Hamilton Superior Court Judge William J. Hughes. The Commission has filed one count of misconduct against Hughes related to his October 2010 misdemeanor arrest in North Carolina for Driving While Impaired.

In the "[Notice of the Institution of Formal Proceedings and Statement of Charges](#)," the Commission asserts Judge Hughes consented to take a breathalyzer test after having been pulled over by a Currituck County, North Carolina Sheriff's deputy for an alleged traffic violation. The breath test "indicated that Respondent had an alcohol concentration equivalent of 0.13 gram of alcohol per 210 liters of breath." Judge Hughes was arrested and charged under North Carolina case 10-CR-51305. He self-reported the arrest to the Judicial Qualifications Commission.

In April 2011, a North Carolina prosecutor dismissed the Driving While Impaired Charge and filed a Class 2 misdemeanor charge of Reckless Driving. Judge Hughes pled guilty in Currituck County District Court to Reckless Driving and was sentenced to thirty days in jail (suspended) and placed on unsupervised probation for twelve months. Judge Hughes must enroll in and complete an alcohol and drug assessment program within 180 days or attend at least ten hours of substance abuse counseling, and he must not operate a vehicle within eight hours of consuming any alcohol. A North Carolina judge also imposed a \$300 fine plus \$143 in court costs against Judge Hughes.

The specific count against Judge Hughes alleging misconduct is provided in the "Notice of the Institution of Formal Proceedings and Statement of Charges." Generally it includes the following:

1. **Count I** centers on Judge Hughes' arrest. The Commission alleges Judge Hughes violated Rule 1.1 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, which required judges to respect and comply with the law and Rule 1.2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, which requires judges to uphold the integrity of the judiciary and to maintain high standards of conduct.

Judge Hughes has the opportunity to file an Answer to the charges with the Supreme Court within twenty days of receiving the charges. After the Answer is filed or twenty days has passed, the Indiana Supreme Court will appoint three Masters (Judges) to conduct a public hearing on the charge that Judge Hughes committed judicial misconduct. Supreme Court Rules also allow for the Commission and the judge to submit a settlement agreement to the Supreme Court. Any settlement agreement or any decision reached by the Masters must be approved by the Indiana Supreme Court.

The Commission on Judicial Qualifications is the 7-member group that investigates alleged ethical misconduct by judges. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard chairs the Commission. The Indiana Supreme Court has final authority over judicial discipline. The Court can dismiss the charges against Judge Hughes, accept or reject a conditional agreement, impose a fine, impose sanctions ranging from a reprimand to a suspension to a permanent ban on holding judicial office in Indiana.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 17, 2011

Contact: Steven F. Lancaster
317.232.6906

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN AN-HUNG YAO V. STATE OF INDIANA & YU-TING LIN V. STATE OF INDIANA AT MERRILLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA

Case Originates from Huntington County Circuit Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *An-Hung Yao v. State of Indiana & Yu-Ting Lin v. State of Indiana* on Wednesday, May 25, 2011 at 12:30 p.m. (Central time) at Merrillville High School. The oral argument will be held in the high school's Freshman Center Lecture Hall. A panel of judges consisting of Chief Judge Margret G. Robb, Judge Michael P. Barnes, and Judge Terry A. Crone will hear the case on appeal from Huntington Circuit Court.

In this consolidated interlocutory appeal, An-Hung Yao and Yu-Ting Lin appeal the trial court's denial of their individual motions to dismiss three counts of theft of a trademark and one count of corrupt business influence, arguing that a trademark cannot be the subject of a theft and that they cannot be prosecuted in Indiana because no conduct that is an element of the offenses occurred in Indiana. The State cross-appeals the trial court's grant of Yao's and Lin's motions to dismiss three counts of counterfeiting a trademark. Arguing for Appellant An-Hung Yao will be Tyler Helmond, arguing for Appellant Yu-Ting Lin will be Jeremy Gayed, and arguing for Appellee State of Indiana will be Andrew Kobe.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 300 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

The Court of Appeals of Indiana is the state's second-highest court and reviews appeals from trial court decisions. A decision of the Court of Appeals of Indiana is final unless granted further review by the Indiana Supreme Court.

The 15 judges on the Court of Appeals issue more than 2,300 written opinions each year, sitting in three-judge panels. For more information about the Court of Appeals, visit www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals. For information about the Court's traveling oral arguments, as well as additional information on *An-Hung Yao v. State of Indiana & Yu-Ting Lin v. State of Indiana*, visit <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/arguments.html>.

For members of the public who would like to attend the oral argument, please call Merrillville High School at (219) 650-5307 to find out specific details about the school's visitor sign-in policy.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 6, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Family Court Grant Applications Available

Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today that applications are available for Family Court Project grants. The one-year grant offers up to \$40,000 for trial courts. The application deadline is July 1, 2011.

The Family Court Project was established in 1999 primarily to develop models to coordinate the court process for families who have multiple cases pending in the courts. There are currently 23 Indiana counties with Family Court Projects.

Since the initiative began, participating courts have identified needs beyond case coordination and information sharing. As a result, the 2012 grants will focus on creating innovative programs that improve the court process for families. Chief Justice Shepard explained, "We're expanding our vision of how to help courts and families manage the unique stresses and safety issues involved in family law cases. Our goal is to improve the outcomes for families."

Priority will be given to applications for Family Court Project grants that show innovative programming in three main areas:

- **Access to Justice** - improving access to the courts for families without attorneys by providing legal information about the court process, referrals for legal or social services, or legal clinics to assist parties with completing court forms.
- **Alternative Dispute Resolution/Early Case Management** - promoting timely resolution of cases by identifying critical issues and appropriate services early in the court process and encouraging parties to consider settlement possibilities before they become entrenched in conflict.
- **Court-Related Services** - implementing other programs that support families throughout the court process, such as training attorneys to provide *pro bono* guardian ad litem (GAL) services for high conflict custody cases, referring families for brief focused assessments, providing a safe location for supervised visitation and mediation and legal services, addressing truancy issues through attendance review panels or truancy diversion programs and/or an attendance court.

The grant application is available at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/family-court/>. Questions about the process should be directed to Family Court Manager Loretta Oleksy at (317) 233-0784 or loleksy@courts.state.in.us.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 13, 2011

Contact: Maura Pierce
317.234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *JAMES BELLAMY V. STATE* AT HOOSIER BOYS STATE, TRINE UNIVERSITY - ANGOLA

Case Originates from Marion County Superior Court

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *James Bellamy v. State of Indiana* on Wednesday, June 15th at 2:00 p.m. in the Fabiani Theater of Trine University's University Center in Angola. A panel of Judge John G. Baker, Judge Melissa S. May, and Judge Cale J. Bradford will hear the case on appeal from Marion Superior Court before a group of teenagers participating in Hoosier Boys State.

Mr. Bellamy appeals the trial court's determination that he acted in direct contempt of court by arriving nearly an hour late for his bench trial. Arguing for the appellant, Mr. Bellamy, will be Indiana University School of Law professor Joel Schumm in his role as Appellate Public Defender. Deputy Attorney General George P. Sherman will argue for the State of Indiana.

The Court hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. Members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana following the submission of the case. *Bellamy v. State* will be the Court's second oral argument heard during the annual Boys State program, and it has heard more than 300 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

The Indiana Court of Appeals is the state's second-highest court. It reviews appeals from trial court decisions; a decision of the Indiana Court of Appeals is final unless granted further review by the Indiana Supreme Court. The majority of appeals filed in Indiana are decided by the Court of Appeals.

The 15 judges on the Court of Appeals issue more than 2,800 written opinions each year, sitting in three-judge panels. For more information about the Court of Appeals, visit www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals. For the Court's "Appeals on Wheels" initiative, as well as additional information on *Bellamy v. State*, visit <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/arguments.html>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 16, 2011**Contact: Kathryn Dolan**
317.234.4722**Experienced Attorneys to Lead Board of Law Examiners and State Public Defender's Office**

The Indiana Supreme Court named two accomplished attorneys as agency directors. Bradley W. Skolnik will serve as the State Board of Law Examiners Executive Director and Stephen T. Owens will become the State Public Defender. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard made the announcement today describing both attorneys "as committed and capable public servants."

Board of Law Examiners Executive Director

"It is a coup for us to bring Brad Skolnik back to state government," explained Chief Justice Shepard. "Having his management and investigatory skills at work in the judicial branch will allow us to continue ensuring the legal profession embraces the highest standards." Mr. Skolnik is a partner with the Indianapolis law firm of Stewart & Irwin, P.C. where he practices in the areas of securities regulation, financial services and general corporate litigation.

Prior to entering private practice, Mr. Skolnik worked as the Indiana Securities Commissioner in the Indiana Secretary of State's office. He served as President of the North American Securities Administration Association and in that capacity testified before the U.S. House and Senate. He is a graduate of Michigan State University and the Indiana University Maurer School of Law. Mr. Skolnik said, "Serving as the Executive Director will afford me a unique opportunity to use the skills I developed as a regulator and private practitioner in an area that deeply interests me. I passionately support the Board's role in maintaining the integrity and high standards of the legal profession."

**Bradley W. Skolnik**
High Quality**State Public Defender**

"Stephen Owens' two decade career in the State Public Defender's Office says it all," explained Chief Justice Shepard. "His promotion comes after years of advocating for clients without means and helping run an office tasked with a huge responsibility—ensuring basic fairness." Mr. Owens has been a Deputy State Public Defender since 1986.

As the Assistant Chief Deputy of Personnel in the office, Mr. Owens was the training coordinator for new attorneys. He also worked on preparation of the annual report and assisted with budget matters. He is a graduate of Illinois College and the University of Dayton. Mr. Owens said, "I have represented the rights of indigent defendants for over twenty-four years. I will maintain the passion, dedication and leadership that Ms. Carpenter has provided in her 30 years as the State Public Defender."

**Stephen T. Owens**
High Quality**Background**

In January 2011, the Indiana Supreme Court began accepting applications for the State Board of Law Examiners Executive Director position. The previous Director, Linda Loepker, resigned in December 2010. Division of State Court Administration Chief Deputy Executive Director, David J. Remondini, was named Acting BLE Director.

According to Admission and Discipline Rule 9, the Supreme Court appoints the Board of Law Examiners Executive Director. The Director works with a ten-member Board of Law Examiners. The Board is responsible for ensuring that individuals admitted to practice law have met the requirements specified in the Admission and Discipline Rules. The Board played a key role in selecting Mr. Skolnik. The Board researched applicants, conducted interviews and made recommendations to the Supreme Court. The five justices of the Court made the final decision.

In March 2011, the Indiana Supreme Court began accepting applications for the position of State Public Defender. The previous Public Defender, Susan Carpenter, announced she would retire in May 2011 after a three decade career.

According to Indiana statute, the Supreme Court appoints the State Public Defender to a four-year term. The State Public Defender's office represents indigent prison inmates in challenges to convictions and sentences—including death sentences. The Court appointed a committee to play a key role in selecting Mr. Owens. The committee included a judge, law professor, prosecutor and defense attorney to review applications, conduct interviews and make recommendations to the Court. The five justices of the Court made the final decision.

Mr. Skolnik begins his career as BLE Executive Director on July 5, 2011 and Mr. Owens position as State Public Defender is effective immediately. For more information about the Supreme Court and related agencies visit courts.in.gov.

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Kathryn Dolan

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OF INDIANA

<http://courts.IN.gov>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 17, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Register Now for 2011 Law School for Journalists

The Indiana Supreme Court is hosting a Law School for Journalists on July 20th in Indianapolis, Indiana. The sessions are designed to serve as tutorials on problem-solving courts, court structure and funding, juvenile court, sentencing, least understood areas of the law and tips on how to get court information. Former Los Angeles Superior Court Media Liaison and the author of *Anatomy of a Trial: Public Loss, Lessons Learned from The People vs. O.J. Simpson*, Jerrienne Hayslett, will serve as the luncheon keynote speaker.

Wednesday, July 20th
8:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. EDT
Indiana University School of Law- Indianapolis
530 West New York Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

Online registration is available at courts.in.gov/media. Registration will close on July 11th. Registrants will receive a confirmation email.

Attending the Law School is free and lunch is sponsored by the Indiana Judges Association and the Hoosier State Press Association Foundation. Complimentary parking will be available in surface lot 85 on campus. A block of rooms is reserved at the University Place Conference Center and Hotel at IUPUI for a discount rate of \$99 (single) and \$119 (double). For reservations call 317-231-5160 or 800-627-2700 and ask for the "Law School for Journalists" rate. Hotel and mileage expenses will not be reimbursed.

Both new and experienced journalists and editors in television, print, radio and Internet are welcome to attend. The program will include the following sessions:

- **Problem-Solving Courts**- Trial court judges will discuss the concepts behind problem-solving courts, the common elements of the courts and the benefits for offenders and communities.
- **Court Structure & Funding**- Trial court judges will discuss trial court jurisdiction, the stages of civil/criminal proceedings, tips for interacting with court staff and how courts are funded.
- **Juvenile Matters**- This session will examine Indiana's juvenile justice system, how children are treated within the system and what it means for a child to be alleged a delinquent child or a child in need of services (CHINS).
- **Sentencing & Least Understood Areas of the Law**- Learn about the factors considered when sentencing criminal defendants. A panel of experts will also demystify death penalty cases, grand jury proceedings and appellate courts.
- **Getting Court Information**- Find new resources for successfully gathering court information.

For more information about the Indiana Judicial Branch visit courts.in.gov.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 20, 2011

Contact: Maura Pierce
317.234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN *CYNTHIA WELCH v. SHAWN YOUNG, ET AL* AT INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, TERRE HAUTE

Case Originates in Tippecanoe County Circuit Court

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Cynthia Welch v. Shawn Young et al* on Thursday, June 23rd at 2:30 p.m. in the Tilson Auditorium of Indiana State University's Tiley Hall in Terre Haute. A panel of Judge John G. Baker, Judge Edward W. Najam, Jr., and Judge Melissa S. May will hear the case on appeal from Tippecanoe Circuit Court before a group of teenagers participating in Hoosier Girls State. *Welch v. Young et al* will be the Court's first oral argument heard during the annual Girls State program.

Ms. Welch appeals the trial court's determination that a Little League coach and a township summer recreation program were not liable for injuries a woman sustained when a baseball player taking warmup swings before a game hit her with his bat. Arguing for the appellant, Ms. Welch, will be Rick Hovde of Hovde Dassow and Deets Law Firm of Indianapolis. John Roy of Travelers Insurance Company will argue for Shawn Young et al.

The Court hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. Members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana following the submission of the case. The Court has heard more than 300 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

The Indiana Court of Appeals is the state's second-highest court. It reviews appeals from trial court decisions; a decision of the Indiana Court of Appeals is final unless granted further review by the Indiana Supreme Court. The majority of appeals filed in Indiana are decided by the Court of Appeals.

The 15 judges on the Court of Appeals issue more than 2,800 written opinions each year, sitting in three-judge panels. For more information about the Court of Appeals, visit www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals. For the Court's "Appeals on Wheels" initiative, as well as additional information on *Welch v. Young*, visit <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/arguments.html>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 23, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

EXCELLENCE AWARD NOMINATION FORMS AVAILABLE

The Indiana Judges Association is accepting nominations for the 2011 Commendation for Excellence in Public Information and Education. Each year the Association honors a judge and a journalist who have helped inform the public about the work of the Indiana courts. The deadline for applications is Friday, July 29, 2011.

The application forms are available online at courts.in.gov/media. There are two award categories, one for journalists and one for judges. The Community Relations Committee of the Indiana Judicial Conference selects the award recipients. Incoming Indiana Judges Association President, Marion County Judge Robyn Moberly, explained, "Courts deal with complex issues that are not always easy to explain. The Association is pleased to honor a journalist and a judge for their work helping convey what is happening in courts across our state."

Nominees are judged on breadth and depth of the effort, quality, ingenuity and public response. The committee is looking for television, newspaper, radio and Internet journalists or news organizations that have exhibited responsible reporting of Indiana courts. The committee is also looking for judges who have conducted programs, projects or sustained efforts to educate the public about the courts.

The Indiana Judges Association has given the awards since 1988. The 2010 recipients were Judge Allen Wheat of Steuben Circuit Court for his educational video titled "Think Before You Drive," which showed a mock drunk driving trial from arrest to conviction; and Marianne Holland of Indiana Public Broadcasting for her reporting on the Indiana Supreme Court and the retirement of Justice Theodore Boehm.

The Indiana Judges Association was established in 1934. Its purpose is to cultivate the acquaintance of Indiana judges; to assist each other in mutual problems; to work with representatives of the state agencies for the improvement of Indiana government; to provide a source of judicial membership for committees outside the Association and to exert a coordinated effort toward better and simpler administration of justice and clearer, more uniform procedures in all courts. The IJA is funded by dues from members.

Nominate a judge.

Nominate a journalist.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 30, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Judicial Qualifications Commission Files Misconduct Charges Against Hammond City Court Judge

The Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications has filed disciplinary charges against Hammond City Court Judge Jeffrey A. Harkin. The "[Notice of the Institution of Formal Proceedings and Statement of Charges](#)," was filed with the Clerk of the Appellate Courts in Indianapolis. Two of the three counts of misconduct include allegations Judge Harkin participated in an unlawful fee distribution plan which cut the State of Indiana and Lake County out of their rightful shares of court costs on traffic infractions. The remaining count of misconduct includes an allegation Judge Harkin made inappropriate remarks to a traffic defendant who wanted to contest an infraction ticket.

August 2010 Case

An August 2010 seatbelt case launched the Commission's investigation. The Commission alleges Judge Harkin behaved in an inappropriate manner during an August 18, 2010 traffic case. He is accused of exhibiting impatience and making sarcastic remarks. He is also accused of suggesting the defendant should not exercise his right to trial. The defendant stated he admitted the infraction because he did not feel that the judge would listen to his position anyway.

Count One of the disciplinary charges details why the Commission believes the conduct violated the Code of Judicial Conduct. It includes allegations Judge Harkin violated ethics rules which require judges to uphold the integrity of the judiciary, to perform all duties fairly and impartially, to not act in a manner that coerces any party into settlement, to be patient, dignified, and courteous to litigants.

Authority To Establish Traffic School Deferral Program

Indiana statutes give authority to the prosecutor to establish deferral programs and agree to the terms of deferral. Trial court judges are not authorized to establish a traffic court deferral program or to conditionally dismiss traffic infractions. Dismissal requests, including those through deferral programs, must be made by the prosecutor. The Commission alleges Judge Harkin acted without appropriate legal authority when sending litigants to traffic school and later dismissing cases.

Count Two of the misconduct charges centers on the allegation Judge Harkin routinely acted without appropriate legal authority. It asserts Judge Harkin violated ethics rules which require judges to comply with the law, to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the judiciary, to uphold and apply the law, and to perform judicial duties competently. The Commission also alleges Judge Harkin committed conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice.

Collection of Court Costs

Indiana statutes require the assessment and collection of court costs against defendants who admit liability for traffic infractions, even if prosecution is deferred. The collected money is required to be distributed as follows: 55% to the state general fund, 20% to the county and 25% to the city or town. The Commission alleges Judge Harkin did not assess the required fees but instead allowed an unlawful distribution of revenue collected from defendants who attended the traffic school. Fees that should have been distributed to the State of Indiana and Lake County were instead diverted to the Northwest Indiana Traffic School and the City of Hammond.

The Commission asserts Judge Harkin was notified by the State Board of Accounts that the collection and

distribution of fees related to the traffic school was not in compliance with state statutes. According to the Commission, Judge Harkin continued to operate the traffic school deferral program and continued to allow 40% of the collected revenue to go to the traffic school and 60% to the City of Hammond. The Commission estimates that from January 2010 - March 2011 about \$180,000 in court costs should have been distributed to the state and county.

Count Three centers on allegations that Judge Harkin did not assess required court costs despite repeated notifications he was legally required to impose the costs. The Commission alleges Judge Harkin violated conduct rules which require judges to comply with the law, to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the judiciary, to uphold and apply the law and to perform judicial duties competently. The Commission also alleges Judge Harkin committed conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice.

Procedure of Judicial Qualifications Commission

The Commission on Judicial Qualifications is the 7-member group that investigates alleged ethical misconduct by judges. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard chairs the Commission. The Commission approved the filing of charges against Judge Harkin. Judge Harkin has the opportunity to file an Answer to the charges within twenty days of receiving them. After an Answer is filed or twenty days has passed, the Indiana Supreme Court will appoint three Masters (Judges) to conduct a public hearing on the charge that Judge Harkin committed judicial misconduct.

Supreme Court Rules also allow for the Commission and Judge Harkin to submit a settlement agreement to the Supreme Court. Any settlement agreement or any decision reached by the Masters must be approved by the Indiana Supreme Court. The Indiana Supreme Court has final authority over judicial discipline. The Court can dismiss the charges against Judge Harkin, accept or reject a conditional agreement, impose a fine and/or impose sanctions ranging from a reprimand to a suspension to removal.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 30, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

UP TO \$350,000 AVAILABLE IN GRANT FUNDS FROM COURT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT TO AID INDIANA CHILDREN

The Indiana Court Improvement Project (CIP) is now accepting applications for projects designed to improve the experience of children and families who are in the child welfare system. Up to \$350,000 in grant funds will be given out overall, with the maximum grant award per applicant ranging from \$25,000 to \$35,000. The applications are due Friday, July 22, 2011.

The purpose of the grants is to help those involved in Children in Need of Services (CHINS) and Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) proceedings. Some of the projects that may be approved include:

- CHINS and TPR Mediation and Facilitation programs
- CHINS Drug Court programs
- CHINS and TPR training programs
- CHINS and TPR related educational brochures, guides, pamphlets
- Implementing court performance measures for CHINS and TPR cases
- Other projects that further the goals of the Court Improvement Program

A grant review team will review applications and make a recommendation to the CIP Executive Committee, which makes the final decision. Grants will be given out based on qualities such as demonstration of need, the quality of the application, the probability of the project to meet its goals and objectives and performance on other grants received from the Indiana Supreme Court.

Applications can be found online at courts.in.gov/cip. They must be submitted electronically and by mail. Applications submitted electronically must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. EST on July 22, 2011 and should be emailed to arbrown@courts.state.in.us in Microsoft Word format. Original signed applications must be mailed to the Indiana Judicial Center, Attention Angela Reid-Brown, 30 South Meridian Street, Suite 900, Indianapolis, IN 46204-3564. Award notifications will be issued on or after August 15, 2011.

If you have questions about the Court Improvement Program or would like assistance completing the application, please contact Angela Reid-Brown at 317-232-1313 or arbrown@courts.state.in.us.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 7, 2011

Contact: Maura Pierce
317.234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN ALLEN COUNTY BEFORE MEMBERS OF THE ALLEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Case Originates in Allen County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Carrie Chapman v. Howard L. Chapman and Elizabeth W. Chapman, Trustees of The Stephen L. Chapman Irrevocable Trust Agreement* on Tuesday, July 12th at 10:30 a.m. in the Allen County Courthouse in Fort Wayne. A panel of Judge Edward W. Najam, Jr., Judge James S. Kirsch, and Judge Paul D. Mathias will hear the case on appeal from Allen Superior Court.

Ms. Chapman challenges the trial court's jurisdiction in a matter involving the distribution of funds from a trust, and she appeals the trial court's decision to change the date of distribution of funds from the same trust. Arguing for the appellant, Ms. Chapman, will be James Koday of Bewley & Koday LLP, Fort Wayne. Cathleen Shrader, a partner at the Fort Wayne firm of Barrett & McNagny, will argue for Trustees Howard and Elizabeth Chapman.

The Court hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. Members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana following the submission of the case. The Court has heard more than 300 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

The Indiana Court of Appeals is the state's second-highest court. It reviews appeals from trial court decisions; a decision of the Indiana Court of Appeals is final unless granted further review by the Indiana Supreme Court. The majority of appeals filed in Indiana are decided by the Court of Appeals.

The 15 judges on the Court of Appeals issue more than 2,800 written opinions each year, sitting in three-judge panels. For more information about the Court of Appeals, visit www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals. For the Court's "Appeals on Wheels" initiative, as well as additional information on *In re Chapman Irrevocable Trust*, visit <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/arguments.html>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 11, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Indiana Teachers Attend Two Week Court Workshop

Seven Indiana teachers had the opportunity to explore the daily operations of Indiana's court system at this year's "From the Inside Out: How Indiana's Courts Work," a free ten-day program developed by the Indiana Supreme Court.

The program is designed to familiarize Indiana teachers and school administrators with the state's court systems. Participants had the opportunity to visit trial and appellate courts, talk with judges and attorneys, meet the five Supreme Court justices and conduct research in the Indiana Supreme Court Law Library. The program included the teachers' participation in a mock oral argument in the Supreme Court Courtroom.



The 2011 teacher participants with the five Supreme Court justices and other workshop contributors.

The teachers that participated in the 2011 program were:

Clete Ladd, Plainfield — Indianapolis Metropolitan High School
 Junette Goodrich, South Bend — John Adams High School
 Debra Reed, Noblesville — Anderson High School, Anderson
 Alene Smith, Fishers — Shortridge Magnet High School for Law and Public Policy
 JoLynne Brown, Mishawaka — Penn High School
 Catherine Sellers, Greenfield — Arlington Community School
 Jen Stroh, Indianapolis — Carmel Middle School

The workshop was developed by the Indiana Supreme Court in partnership with the [Indiana Bar Foundation](http://www.in.gov/judiciary/video/city2009/index.html). This is the fourth year for the program. To watch a 12-minute video on the program, visit www.in.gov/judiciary/video/city2009/index.html.

Courts in the Classroom develops educational programming on behalf of the Indiana Supreme Court. Teachers interested in learning more about Courts in the Classroom will find information available online at courts.in.gov/citc. To learn more about future interactive learning events, including how to register for a program, contact Dr. Elizabeth R. Osborn at eosborn@courts.state.in.us or by phone at 317-233-8682.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 12, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Students Attend Prestigious Indiana Supreme Court Program to Prepare for Law School

Students who traditionally would not attend law school but show great promise to become successful attorneys are participating in the Indiana Conference for Legal Education Opportunity (ICLEO) Summer Institute. ICLEO is designed to assist Indiana minority, low income or educationally disadvantaged college graduates in pursuing a law degree. Biographical information on each of the following 2011 ICLEO Fellows can be found at courts.in.gov/cleo.



[High Quality](#)

[Adeyemi Adenrele](#), Indianapolis

[Margo Ahn](#), Seattle, WA

[Zahra Ayoubi](#), Afghanistan

[Crystal Carreon](#), Portland, OR

[Bradley Carter](#), East Chicago

[Brigitte Collier](#), Lexington, KY

[Lindsey Corbitt](#), Kokomo

[Reginald Cuyler, Jr.](#), Orlando, FL

[Danielle DeWinter](#), Highland

[Olusola Egunyomi](#), Lagos, Nigeria

[Adriana Figueroa](#), Indianapolis

[Robbie Flippin](#), Indianapolis

[Kimberly Gajewski](#), Dyer

[Yamir Gonzalez-Velez](#), Caguas, Puerto Rico

[Jessica Hawkins](#), Fishers

[Valerie Johnson](#), Indianapolis

[Kiely King](#), Holland, MI

[Stephen Kitts](#), Galveston

[Jia Li](#), Shenzhen, China

[Cecilia Lopez](#), Los Angeles, CA

[Mary Merchant](#), Matteson, IL

[Montserrat Miramontes](#), Mishawaka

[Roya Porter](#), Indianapolis

[Andrew Ramirez](#), Highland

[Doneisha Sanders](#), Indianapolis

[Radhika Sarkar](#), India

[Ravay Smith](#), South Bend

[Spencer Tanner](#), Evansville

[Linda Thomas](#), Indianapolis

[Andia Walker](#), Fort Wayne

[Aaron Williamson](#), Fort Wayne

Indiana CLEO was established in 1997 by the Indiana General Assembly and Governor Frank O'Bannon at the urging of Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard. Chief Justice Shepard explained, "Indiana CLEO encourages young adults with promise to enter the legal field. The program provides training and mentoring to help the students

succeed. The end result is an Indiana legal community enriched with the talents and enthusiasm of these young people.”

Each year, approximately 30 college graduates attend a six-week Summer Institute at one of Indiana’s law schools. This year, the program is at University of Notre Dame Law School. The Summer Institute prepares the students for the rigors of law school with a challenging curriculum and tips for professional development.

After successful completion of the Summer Institute, the students are eligible for an annual stipend ranging from \$6,500 - \$9,000 for each year of law school. After graduation, ICLEO Fellows have a supportive network of legal mentors. The Indiana Supreme Court’s Division of State Court Administration provides staff support and financial management of the program.

Media interested in speaking to an ICLEO Fellow should contact Indiana Supreme Court Public Information Officer, Kathryn Dolan at kdolan@courts.state.in.us. For information about the application process, contact the Indiana CLEO office at (317) 232-2542. More information is also available at courts.in.gov/cleo.

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July 21, 2011**Contact: Kathryn Dolan**
317.234.4722**Campaign on “Jury Service: It’s Your Duty” Shows Importance of Going to Court When Called**

Indiana judges and public television stations have come together to remind Hoosiers about the importance of serving on a jury. The partnership between the Indiana Supreme Court and Indiana Public Broadcasting Stations (IPBS) resulted in a series of Public Service Announcements (PSA's) on jury service. The

campaign “Jury Service: It’s Your Duty” includes eight PSA's that will be launched daily on the Supreme Court’s website and Twitter page weekdays from July 21 through August 1.

The series of PSA's offers commentary from local judges and legal experts about why jury service is a core element of the democratic process. The one-minute messages encourage the public to actively engage in “government by the people” by answering the call to serve as a juror.

Judges and legal experts appearing in the PSA's include Supreme Court Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, Judge David Dreyer of Marion Superior Court, Judge Stanley A. Levine of Allen Superior Court, Judge Linda Ralu Wolf of Delaware Circuit Court, Judge Francis Hill of Monroe Circuit Court, Judge Mary Margaret Lloyd of Vanderburgh Superior Court, Judge Sherry Gregg Gilmore of Knox Circuit Court, Judge Salvador Vasquez of Lake Superior Court, Judge Diane Boswell of Lake Superior Court, attorney Betsy Greene of Bloomington and Indiana University Maurer School of Law Professor Joseph L. Hoffman.

The PSAs have been broadcast more than 450 times on a market-by-market basis on IPBS’s eight PBS member stations across the state, including:

WTIU-TV—Bloomington
WNIN-TV—Evansville
WFWA-TV—Fort Wayne

WFYI-TV—Indianapolis
WYIN-TV—Merrillville
WIPB-TV—Muncie
WNIT-TV—South Bend/Elkhart
WVUT-TV—Vincennes

For more information about the Indiana Judicial Branch, visit courts.in.gov. For more information about Indiana Public Broadcasting, visit www.ipbs.org.

Sponsors for the programming include the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Indiana Trial Lawyers Association, the Indiana Bar Association, the Indiana Paralegal Association, Indiana Public Broadcasting Stations and the Indiana Supreme Court.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 4, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Attorney Registration Via Paper Discontinued as Clerk's Office Moves to Online System

The Indiana Supreme Court is unveiling a Clerk of Courts Portal that allows attorneys to register and pay annual fees online. In previous years the Clerk mailed a registration statement to every attorney. That statement had to be filled-out and mailed back to the Clerk with the annual fee payment enclosed. The process will now occur online through the new Clerk of Courts Portal at courts.in.gov/cofc/license.

Indiana Admission and Discipline Rules require attorneys to pay the annual registration fee before October 1, 2011. Attorneys will need to register online with the Clerk of Courts Portal. The online system will allow each attorney to create an account and select a user name and password. Once registered, attorneys will be able to use the Clerk of Courts Portal to complete a number of other tasks.

The required annual registration fee payment can be handled online by e-check or credit card (credit card payments include a convenience fee). Cash and paper check payments will no longer be accepted. The annual registration fee for an active attorney in good standing is \$145 (payment after October 1, 2011 includes significant late fees).

The Clerk of Courts Portal will also allow attorneys to manage IOLTA certifications, request changes to attorney status (active/inactive/retired), update contact information for registration purposes, update Roll of Attorneys information, designate or change an attorney surrogate.

In September, attorneys will be able to delegate the ability to make payments and change information on the Roll of Attorneys. For example, an attorney can have an administrative assistant, paralegal, or bookkeeper complete the tasks.

There are approximately 20,000 registered attorneys in the state. Fees collected support the Disciplinary Commission, Continuing Legal Education (CLE) and Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program. The portal was paid for through the Supreme Court annual budget.

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SUPREME COURT

Kathryn Dolan

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 5, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Media Advisory: Scott County to go online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey case management system

The Scott County Court and Clerk's office are demonstrating why their new case management system called "Odyssey" is a significant improvement for court and clerk staff, law enforcement and taxpayers. Odyssey connects Scott County to a continually growing network of other courts, clerks, law enforcement and state agencies. Odyssey also makes court information available to the public over the Internet at no charge. The press and public are invited to a demonstration of Odyssey on Friday, August 12, 2011.

Scott County Courthouse
Circuit Court
August 12th at 3:00 p.m. EDT
One E. McClain Ave
Scottsburg, Indiana 47170

The upgrade to Odyssey in Scott County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a 21st-century case management system. Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr. will join the judges and clerk in Scott County to answer questions about the system and show the public how it works. Deployment of Odyssey in Scott County means that five contiguous counties (Clark, Floyd, Harrison, Scott and Washington) are now using the same case management system, sharing information in ways that increase court productivity and enhance public safety.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 8, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Registration Open for Inaugural Court Employee Online Training Program

For the first time, an online training program will be available to trial court employees. The first Internet class will start August 18th. Registration is now open for judges and supervisors to enroll staff members in the training. To register, contact Judge Barbara Arnold Harcourt at the Indiana Judicial Center at bharcour@courts.state.in.us. The course is designed to give a general introduction of the judicial system to thousands of trial court employees.

Each employee will have six weeks to complete the program. Participants can access the material at any time over the Internet. The course will accommodate approximately 200 participants at one time. The program is currently open to newly hired court employees including, judges' staff, bailiffs and court reporters. Registration closes August 12th, or whenever the first 200 spots are filled.

The topics covered in the training include ethical issues, the importance of staying neutral, good customer service and details on court processes including criminal and appellate. Each lesson contains a PowerPoint, short video, additional resource materials and quizzes. At the end of the program, each employee should have a grasp of how courts work, know their specific role within the judicial branch and understand the importance of quality customer service.

The Online Orientation Tool complements the Indiana judicial branch strategic plan, *A New Way Forward*. The long-term plan is to enhance education requirements for court staff. Currently, there are no uniform qualifications, standards or any type of performance evaluation for court staff. This online training program is a step towards increasing educational opportunities for staff. Recently, the judicial branch also offered a statewide conference in Indianapolis where 381 trial court employees learned about jury administration and court reporting.

The online training program is the result of input from members of the judicial branch statewide. It was paid for through Indiana Judicial Center's budget for trial court employee education. The National Center for State Courts is hosting the online session and providing technical support for the participants.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 9, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Public Defender Commission 2010-2011 Annual Report Available Online

The Indiana Public Defender Commission's annual report for 2010-2011 is now available online. The report includes details on defense services provided at government expense. For example, the Public Defense Fund returned more than \$16 million to Indiana counties during the fiscal year helping to slightly ease the local tax burden.

Reimbursement from the Public Defense Fund is the only state assistance given to counties for indigent defense expenses. Defendants have a constitutional right to counsel. Of Indiana's 92 counties, 52 of the participating counties have received 40% reimbursement of their non-capital public defense expenses. Those 52 counties represent over 67% of Indiana's population.

The Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration provides staff support to the Public Defender Commission. Read the full Public Defender Commission annual report at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/pdc/docs/annual-report/10-11.pdf>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 12, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Scott County Goes Online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey Case Management System

The Scott County Courts and Clerk are successfully operating a new 21st-century computer system called "Odyssey." Odyssey connects the county to a continually growing network of courts, clerks, law enforcement and other state agencies. There are 97 courts in 34 counties in the state using Odyssey.

The upgrade to Odyssey in Scott County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a 21st-century case management system. Odyssey connects courts with each other, law enforcement, state agencies and makes court information available over the Internet at no charge. With Odyssey, an estimated 6,100 new cases filed in Scott County each year will be managed by a state-of-the-art computer system.

Circuit Court Judge Roger L. Duvall said, "The use of Odyssey will allow us to replace an antiquated 20 year old system at little cost to the county. I am also very pleased with the broader access Odyssey will allow to court records to the bar and the public." Superior Court Judge Marsha Owens Howser also pointed to the value of Odyssey, "I am so excited about acquiring the Odyssey program for our courts and community to use. I am hopeful that it will enable us to better serve the public by enabling individuals to access more information online and by speeding up many of our court functions."

Scott County Clerk Fran Satterwhite is also pleased Odyssey is a user-friendly system. She said, "While it is taking some time for my deputies to become familiar with the different functions, the system is very easy to use. My deputies love the way Odyssey interacts with the BMV and the protection order registry. Odyssey is like going from a diet of soup beans to prime rib."

Odyssey was first installed in ten Indiana courts on a pilot basis in December 2007 under the direction of the Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration's Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC). Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., who chairs JTAC, congratulated those involved in bringing Odyssey to Scott County. "This is a major accomplishment and the people of Scott County should be proud of the hard work done by Clerk Satterwhite and Judges Duvall and Howser. Their staffs are to be congratulated as well. Having this advanced technology will mean better service for the county's citizens, will increase public safety because of its connections to law-enforcement, and because JTAC pays for the computer software, using Odyssey will save money for the county's taxpayers as well."

Courts pay no installation costs, training costs, license fees or annual maintenance costs for Odyssey. Those costs are paid by JTAC from the proceeds of a court filing fee dedicated to the project by the General Assembly. Odyssey is designed to be implemented statewide and is being installed without disrupting everyday court business or closing Indiana courts. Currently, there are 22 different and unrelated court record management systems statewide and these systems do not communicate with each other. Deployment of Odyssey in Scott County means that five contiguous counties (Clark, Floyd, Harrison, Scott, and Washington) are now using the same case management system, sharing information in ways that increase court productivity and enhance public safety. For more information on the Indiana Supreme Court's technology projects visit courts.in.gov/jtac.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 15, 2011Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Court Appoints Merrillville, Indianapolis and Carmel Lawyers to Disciplinary Commission

The Indiana Supreme Court has appointed three new members to the Disciplinary Commission. Trent A. McCain of Merrillville, Andi M. Metzel of Indianapolis and Nancy Cross of Carmel will each serve a five-year term. They replace Tony Zappia of South Bend, J. Mark Robinson of New

Trent A. McCain ([hi-res](#))Andi M. Metzel ([hi-res](#))Nancy Cross ([hi-res](#))

Albany and Sally Zweig of Indianapolis. The Commission also elected the following new officers: R. Tony Prather of Indianapolis as chairperson, Maureen Grinsfelder of Fort Wayne as vice-chairperson, Catherine Nestruck of Evansville as secretary and Andi M. Metzel as treasurer.

Trent A. McCain practices law in Northwest Indiana and Chicago and is the principal of McCain Law Offices. His firm concentrates its practice on permanent and catastrophic personal injury, medical negligence, and civil rights cases. He previously worked for the late Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr. in Chicago. McCain is a past President (2009-10) of the James C. Kimbrough Bar Association, and a current member of the Indiana State, Illinois State and Chicago Bar Associations; the Illinois and Indiana Trial Lawyers Associations; and the Chicago Inn of Court.

Andi M. Metzel is a partner with Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP in Indianapolis. She negotiates resolutions in complex business, personal and transactional disputes and is actively involved in land use, development and strategic consulting for businesses seeking to invest and grow in Indiana. She was appointed by Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels to serve on the Indiana State Employees' Appeals Commission (SEAC). In 2010 she was elected to serve as a member of the American Bar Association House of Delegates. Metzel has served on the Legal Ethics Committee for the Indiana State Bar Association, the Indiana State Bar Association Board of Governors and the Board of Directors for the Indianapolis Bar Association.

Nancy Cross is a senior partner at Cross, Woolsey and Glazier, P.C. Cross concentrates her practice to family law, including domestic litigation, mediation and appellate work. She is a Certified Family Law Specialist, a Certified Mediator and has been a fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers since 1993. She has served as the chairperson of the Family Law Section of the Indianapolis Bar Association, is a fellow of the Indianapolis Bar Association and has served as a member of the Indianapolis Bar Association Board of Managers.

The Indiana Supreme Court's Disciplinary Commission investigates and prosecutes charges of attorney misconduct. The Disciplinary Commission members are appointed by the Court and include seven lawyers and two non-lawyers. It employs staff to investigate and prosecute cases. The Indiana Supreme Court has exclusive power to take action

against a lawyer's license to practice law. For more information on the Commission visit courts.in.gov/discipline.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 18, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Media Advisory: Steuben County to go online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey case management system

The Steuben County Courts and Clerk are demonstrating why their new case management system called "Odyssey" is a significant improvement for court and clerk staff, law enforcement and taxpayers. Odyssey connects Steuben County to a continually growing network of courts, clerks, law enforcement and state agencies. Odyssey also makes court information available to the public over the Internet at no charge. The press and public are invited to a demonstration of Odyssey on August 22, 2011.

Steuben County Courthouse
Circuit Court
Monday, August 22nd at 11:30 a.m. EDT
55 South Public Square
Angola, Indiana 46703

The upgrade to Odyssey in Steuben County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a 21st-century case management system. Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr. will join the judges and clerk in Steuben County to answer questions about the system and show the public how it works.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 22, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Steuben County goes online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey case management system

The Steuben County Courts and Clerk are successfully operating a new 21st-century computer system called "Odyssey." Odyssey connects the county to a continually growing network of courts, clerks, law enforcement and other state agencies. There are currently 97 courts in 34 counties in the state using Odyssey.

The upgrade to Odyssey in Steuben County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a 21st-century case management system. Odyssey connects courts with each other, law enforcement, state agencies and makes court information available over the Internet at no charge. With Odyssey, an estimated 5,300 new cases filed in Steuben County each year will be managed by a state-of-the-art computer system.

Circuit Court Judge Allen N. Wheat said, "My staff and I feel very fortunate to have this new case management system at our disposal. Attorneys and the public have expressed their appreciation for being able to track the progress of cases from their offices or homes, rather than having to make a special trip to the courthouse. This will revolutionize how the judicial branch does business."

Superior Court Judge William C. Fee pointed to the value of Odyssey, "We are a better, faster and far more accessible court system because of Odyssey. The positive impact is apparent in all aspects of court operations and benefits the legal community as well as those who have business with the courts."

Steuben County Clerk Shelly Herbert is pleased with the transition to Odyssey. "The transition from our legacy system to Odyssey went extremely smooth. There are so many wonderful aspects of Odyssey that our legacy system did not provide. This is a major upgrade for the Steuben County courts and clerk and making this change benefits the community of Steuben County."

Odyssey was first installed in ten Indiana courts on a pilot basis in December 2007 under the direction of the Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration's Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC). Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., who chairs JTAC, congratulated those involved in bringing Odyssey to Steuben County. "This is a major accomplishment and the people of Steuben County should be proud of the hard work done by Clerk Herbert and Judges Wheat and Fee. Their staffs are to be congratulated as well. Having this advanced technology will mean better service for the county's citizens, will increase public safety because of its connections to law-enforcement, and because JTAC pays for the computer software, using Odyssey will save money for the county's taxpayers as well."

Courts pay no installation costs, training costs, license fees or annual maintenance costs for Odyssey. Those costs are paid by JTAC from the proceeds of a court filing fee dedicated to the project by the General Assembly. Odyssey is designed to be implemented statewide and is being installed without disrupting everyday court business or closing Indiana courts. Currently, there are 22 different and unrelated court record management systems statewide and these systems do not communicate with each other.

For more information on the Indiana Supreme Court's technology projects visit courts.in.gov/jtac.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 24, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Media Advisory: Cass County to go online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey case management system

The Cass County Court and Clerk are demonstrating why their new case management system called "Odyssey" is a significant improvement for court and clerk staff, law enforcement and taxpayers. Odyssey connects Cass County to a continually growing network of county courts, clerks, law enforcement and state agencies. Odyssey also makes court information available to the public over the Internet at no charge. The press and public are invited to a demonstration of Odyssey on August 29, 2011.

Cass County Courthouse
Circuit Court
Monday, August 29th at 3 p.m. EDT
200 Court Park
Logansport, IN 46947

The upgrade to Odyssey in Cass County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a 21st-century case management system. Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr. will join the judges and clerk in Cass County to answer questions about the system and show the public how it works.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 26, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Media Advisory: Shelby County to go online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey case management system

The Shelby County Court and Clerk are demonstrating why their new case management system called "Odyssey" is a significant improvement for court and clerk staff, law enforcement and taxpayers. Odyssey connects Shelby County to a continually growing network of county courts, clerks, law enforcement and state agencies. Odyssey also makes court information available to the public over the Internet at no charge. The press and public are invited to a demonstration of Odyssey on August 31, 2011.

Shelby County Courthouse
Circuit Court
Wednesday, August 31st at 3 p.m. EDT
407 South Harrison Street
Shelbyville, IN 46176

The upgrade to Odyssey in Shelby County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a 21st-century case management system. Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr. will join the judges and clerk in Shelby County to answer questions about the system and show the public how it works.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 26, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Media Advisory: Union County to go online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey case management system

The Union County Court and Clerk are demonstrating why their new case management system called "Odyssey" is a significant improvement for court and clerk staff, law enforcement and taxpayers. Odyssey connects Union County to a continually growing network of county courts, clerks, law enforcement and state agencies. Odyssey also makes court information available to the public over the Internet at no charge. The press and public are invited to a demonstration of Odyssey on August 31, 2011.

Union County Courthouse
Wednesday, August 31st at 11 a.m. EDT
26 West Union Street
Liberty, IN 47353

The upgrade to Odyssey in Union County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a 21st-century case management system. Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr. will join the judges and clerk in Union County to answer questions about the system and show the public how it works.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 29, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Cass County Goes Online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey Case Management System

The Cass County Courts and Clerk are successfully operating a new 21st-century computer system called "Odyssey." Odyssey connects the county to a continually growing network of courts, clerks, law enforcement and other state agencies. There are currently 97 courts in 34 counties in the state using Odyssey.

The upgrade to Odyssey in Cass County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a uniform 21st-century case management system. Odyssey connects courts with each other, law enforcement, state agencies and makes court information available over the Internet at no charge. With Odyssey, an estimated 6,800 new cases filed in Cass County each year will be managed by a state-of-the-art computer system.

Circuit Court Judge Leo T. Burns said, "This new case management system truly brings courts into the technological age. Law firms and the general public are able to access case information quickly and efficiently. The system is user-friendly and there is no cost to access the information." Superior Court Judge Rick Maughmer agreed, "This new capability for access to court records regardless of the time of day or day of the week is phenomenal. Anyone with an Internet connection can browse our court's business making it a truly open forum."

Superior Court Judge Thomas C. Perrone and Clerk Beth Liming both pointed to Odyssey as an improvement over the previous system. Judge Perrone said, "Our system was at the end of its useful life. We had a failing system and now we have a state-of-the-art system that gives the public access to court information on a real time basis." Clerk Liming echoed those remarks and said, "Cass County was in great need of improvement to our case management system. As clerk, I want to thank my staff members who should be congratulated on their hard work and dedication to making this process happen."

Odyssey was first installed in ten Indiana courts on a pilot basis in December 2007 under the direction of the Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration's Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC). Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., who chairs JTAC, congratulated those involved in bringing Odyssey to Cass County. "This is a major accomplishment and the people of Cass County should be proud of the work done by Clerk Liming and Judges Burns, Perrone and Maughmer and each of their staffs. Having this advanced technology will mean better service for the citizens and will increase public safety because of its connections to law-enforcement. JTAC pays for the computer software, so using Odyssey will save money for Cass County taxpayers as well."

Courts pay no installation costs, training costs, license fees or annual maintenance costs for Odyssey. Those costs are paid by JTAC from the proceeds of a court filing fee dedicated to the project by the General Assembly. Odyssey is designed to be implemented statewide and is being installed without disrupting everyday court business or closing Indiana courts. Currently, there are 22 different and unrelated court record management systems statewide and these systems do not communicate with each other. For more information on the Indiana Supreme Court's technology projects visit courts.in.gov/jtac.

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Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Shelby County Goes Online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey Case Management System

The Shelby County Courts and Clerk are successfully operating a new 21st-century computer system called "Odyssey." Odyssey connects the county to a continually growing network of courts, clerks, law enforcement and other state agencies. There are currently 97 courts in 34 counties in the state using Odyssey.

The upgrade to Odyssey in Shelby County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a uniform 21st-century case management system. Odyssey connects courts with each other, law enforcement, state agencies and makes court information available over the Internet at no charge. With Odyssey, an estimated 11,600 new cases filed in Shelby County each year will be managed by a state-of-the-art computer system.

Circuit Court Judge Charles D. O'Connor Jr. said, "A uniform state wide case management system will ultimately allow courts to access information in a much more timely manner. Improved public access may reduce calls to local courts concerning information that is readily available online." Superior Court Judge David N. Riggins also pointed to the value of Odyssey's public access. "We spend hundreds of employee hours each year doing nothing but answering the question, 'When is my court date?' Now we can direct people to the web to the information and stay updated on their case." Superior Court Judge Jack A. Tandy echoed those sentiments, "Having one case management system in the state will improve access to information for citizens as well as those that work in the courts every day."

Shelby County Clerk Vicki Franklin explained, "The public's access to information not only saves staff hours, but also helps make people accountable for their own information. As more counties join the system the better we can all communicate about repeat offenders. Having a system that is consistent from county to county also makes us more unified, which will produce better service to the public."

Odyssey was first installed in ten Indiana courts on a pilot basis in December 2007 under the direction of the Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration's Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC). Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., who chairs JTAC, congratulated those involved in bringing Odyssey to Shelby County. "This is a major accomplishment and the people of Shelby County should be proud of Clerk Franklin and Judges O'Connor, Riggins and Tandy and all their staff. Having this advanced technology means better service for the county's citizens, increases public safety because of the connections to law-enforcement and because JTAC pays for the computer software, using Odyssey saves money for the county's taxpayers as well."

Courts pay no installation costs, training costs, license fees or annual maintenance costs for Odyssey. Those costs are paid by JTAC from the proceeds of a court filing fee dedicated to the project by the General Assembly. Odyssey is designed to be implemented statewide and is being installed without disrupting everyday court business or closing Indiana courts. Currently, there are 22 different and unrelated court record management systems statewide and these systems do not communicate with each other. For more information on the Indiana Supreme Court's technology projects visit courts.in.gov/jtac.

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SUPREME COURT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 31, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Union County Goes Online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey Case Management System

The Union County Courts and Clerk are successfully operating a new 21st-century computer system called "Odyssey." Odyssey connects the county to a continually growing network of courts, clerks, law enforcement and other state agencies. There are currently 97 courts in 34 counties in the state using Odyssey.

The upgrade to Odyssey in Union County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a uniform 21st-century case management system. Odyssey connects courts with each other, law enforcement, state agencies and makes court information available over the Internet at no charge. With Odyssey, an estimated 2,400 new cases filed in Union County each year will be managed by a state-of-the-art computer system.

Circuit Court Judge Matthew Cox said, "The opportunities provided with the Odyssey Case Management System are very exciting. By implementing Odyssey we have updated and improved our technology. Odyssey will enable more efficient use of information among the Courts, Clerk, Probation and other county and state agencies."

Union County Clerk Susan Ray is also pleased Odyssey is a user-friendly system. She said, "The transition to Odyssey was smooth for my office. The updated equipment and program makes for a more efficient use of time. Researchers are now able to look online for court information along with the tax information that was already available to them. Several of the attorneys have already commented that they can look up the Chronological Case Summary (CCS) on Odyssey before they call to ask additional questions."

Odyssey was first installed in ten Indiana courts on a pilot basis in December 2007 under the direction of the Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration's Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC). Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., who chairs JTAC, congratulated those involved in bringing Odyssey to Union County. "This is a major accomplishment and the people of Union County should be proud of the hard work done by Clerk Susan Ray and Circuit Court Judge Matthew Cox. Their staffs are to be congratulated as well. Having this advanced technology will mean better service for Union County's citizens, will increase public safety because of its connections to law-enforcement, and because JTAC pays for the computer software, using Odyssey will save money for the county's taxpayers as well."

Courts pay no installation costs, training costs, license fees or annual maintenance costs for Odyssey. Those costs are paid by JTAC from the proceeds of a court filing fee dedicated to the project by the General Assembly. Odyssey is designed to be implemented statewide and is being installed without disrupting everyday court business or closing Indiana courts. Currently, there are 22 different and unrelated court record management systems statewide and these systems do not communicate with each other.

For more information on the Indiana Supreme Court's technology projects visit courts.in.gov/jtac.

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SUPREME COURT

Kathryn Dolan

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 8, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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Media Advisory: Results of Civic Health Study Released In Concert With *We The People* Film

The results of the first-ever Indiana Civic Health Index will be available September 14th in conjunction with an advance screening of the film *We The People*. The Index measures civic engagement such as voting and volunteerism. The report will be published online at www.inbf.org at 9:00 a.m. EDT on September 14th.

The report includes details on civic health such as community involvement, volunteerism, voter registration and turnout, the role of the press and the role of education in civic awareness. The report will also detail how Indiana compares to the rest of the nation.

Former U.S. Representative Lee Hamilton, who is the Director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University, and Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard serve as chairpersons of the assessment. The Indiana Bar Foundation, the National Conference on Citizenship, Indiana University Northwest and the Hoosier State Press Association are project sponsors.

To call attention to the release of the report, Inland Sea Productions is presenting an unfinished digital rough cut version of the film *We The People* for project sponsors. The film chronicles America's history and its founding documents and will be completed in the full screen IMAX version in 2012. Press video and still photography will be limited to the first 5 minutes of the film at the advance screening.

Report Release & Film Wednesday, September 14th

Indiana State Museum
650 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

4 p.m. Media availability with former U.S. Representative Hamilton & Chief Justice Shepard
4:30 p.m. Reception
5:15 p.m. Remarks
5:30 p.m. Advance Screening of *We The People*

Scheduled interviews with former U.S. Representative Hamilton and Chief Justice Shepard are available upon request. For more information contact the Indiana Bar Foundation Director of Civic Education Andrew Homan at (317) 269-7863 or ahoman@inbf.org; Center on Congress at Indiana University Outreach Specialist Phil Duncan at (703) 209-2005 or phduncan@indiana.edu; Indiana Supreme Court Public Information Officer Kathryn Dolan at kdolan@courts.state.in.us; Inland Sea Productions Director of Film Marketing Dave Brown at (734) 740-2492 or dbrown@midstateshistory.org.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 13, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

100 Courts Now Using Case Management System Supplied by Supreme Court; Many Other Time And Money-Saving Computer Tools Being Used Statewide

More than 100 trial courts in 35 counties comprising more than 34% of the state's caseload have now successfully installed and are successfully operating in their judges' and clerks' offices a new 21st-century computer system called Odyssey, Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today. Odyssey, which is being deployed under the oversight of the Supreme Court's Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC), is the most ambitious of the Court's many projects to improve trial court technology, Chief Justice Shepard added.

"Deploying Odyssey in more than 100 courts comprising more than 34% of the state's caseload is a significant milestone toward our goal of installing a uniform statewide case management system in all Indiana courts and electronically connecting those courts with each other, law enforcement, state agencies, and others who need and use court information," Chief Justice Shepard said.

The recent deployment of Odyssey in the Circuit and five Superior Courts in Hendricks County brings to 104 the number of courts that use Odyssey to manage their caseloads, Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., said. ([See attached list.](#)) Sullivan, who chairs JTAC, cited four major benefits for courts and clerks that have installed Odyssey:

- Odyssey provides courts with the latest technology for managing its caseload.
- Odyssey provides the clerks of these courts with sophisticated financial management tools to meet the many financial responsibilities imposed on their offices by law.
- Odyssey provides information on these courts' cases – over the Internet and at no cost – to lawyers, the press, and the general public. (There are approximately 7,000,000 cases available for searching in Odyssey.)
- Because Odyssey is installed and maintained at JTAC's expense, it saves money for local taxpayers.

Mary DePrez, the Court's Director and Counsel for Trial Court Technology, said that in addition to deploying Odyssey, the Supreme Court has installed in all Indiana counties other computer applications that connect courts with law enforcement and state agencies. For example, JTAC has installed computer software in 270 courts that notifies the BMV electronically whenever a court completes a traffic case – *some 13,800 per week*. Using computer software written by JTAC, state troopers, sheriff's' deputies, and police officers in 240 Indiana law-enforcement agencies are using small hand-held scanners to issue traffic citations and warnings. Because this is so much faster than writing tickets by hand, officer and motorists exposure to traffic hazards is lessened. And because an electronic citation is created, the data does not have to be reentered by hand when the ticket is filed with the prosecutor and court.

DePrez also pointed out that judges in every county in Indiana are also using computer software provided by JTAC to notify local police, State Police, and the FBI when domestic violence protection orders are issued. Other such computer applications enable juvenile probation officers to transmit electronically juvenile delinquency case data to the Department of Child Services; court, probation, community corrections, and DOC personnel to share electronically risk assessments of adult and juvenile offenders; courts to transmit electronically mental health adjudication data to the FBI for background checks; the Indiana Department of Revenue to transmit electronically tax warrant data to clerks; clerks to transmit electronically marriage license data to Indiana Department of Health from clerks; and courts to transmit electronically court statistical data to the Division of State Court Administration.

"Having this advanced technology means better service for the citizens of our state who need to access their clerk's

office and the courts," Chief Justice Shepard concluded. "This technology also increases public safety because of its connections to law-enforcement and the BMV. And because each of these applications dramatically the reduces the amount of manual data entry and because all of these applications are paid for by the Supreme Court, including ongoing maintenance, support, and upgrade, these court technology initiatives result in major savings for state and local Hoosier taxpayers as well."

Odyssey Deployment

		Go-Live	Courts	Users	Cases Filed in 2009	Pct. Of State Total
Allen	New Haven City Court	6/15/2009	1	9	11,280	0.58%
Allen	Circuit & Superior (4,5 & 6)	9/7/2010	4	338	32,275	1.65%
Allen	Superior (1,2,3,9) (estates,guardianship, mental health, trust)	1/18/2011	4		1,765	0.09%
Benton	Circuit	3/1/2010	1	14	2,071	0.11%
Blackford	Circuit & Superior	1/4/2010	2	15	2,514	0.13%
Carroll	Circuit & Superior	4/5/2010	2	19	3,380	0.17%
Cass	Circuit & Superior (2)	6/20/2011	3	39	7,795	0.40%
Clark	Circuit & Superior (3)	6/21/2010	4	86	40,921	2.09%
DeKalb	Circuit & Superior (2)	12/8/2008	3	43	6,002	0.31%
Floyd	Circuit & Superior (3)	2/1/2009	4	66	23,215	1.19%
Grant	Gas City Court	12/13/2010	1	6	11,296	0.58%
Greene	Circuit & Superior	3/9/2011	2	28	7,639	0.39%
Hamilton	Circuit & Superior (6)	9/21/2009	7	235	39,605	2.02%
Hamilton	Carmel City	11/23/2009	1	8	10,698	0.55%
Harrison	Circuit & Superior	12/14/2009	2	35	6,994	0.36%
Hendricks	Plainfield Town Court	3/1/2011	1	4	6,356	0.32%
Hendricks	Circuit & Superior (5)	9/6/2011	6	71	14,243	0.73%
Huntington	Circuit & Superior	1/4/2010	2	36	6,743	0.34%
Huntington	Roanoke Town Court	5/24/2010	1	3	3,484	0.18%
Jasper	Circuit & Superior	11/15/2010	2	45	7,739	0.40%
Johnson	Greenwood City Court	4/10/2009	1	13	9,432	0.48%
Knox	Bicknell City	4/18/2011	1	2	64	0.00%
Madison	Alexandria City Court	1/19/2010	1	4	1,211	0.06%
Madison	Circuit & Superior (5)	10/11/2010	6	129	17,410	0.89%
Marion	Perry Township	1/31/2011	1	4	4,829	0.25%
Marion	Washington Twp Sm Cl	12/14/2007	1	6	5,887	0.30%
Marion	Center Twp Small Cl	9/29/2008	1	11	13,637	0.70%
Marion	Franklin Twp Sm Cl	12/1/2008	1	6	5,231	0.27%

Marion	Superior (IF & CM)	2/1/2009	1	53	207,779	10.62%
Marion	Wayne Twp Sm Cl	10/13/2009	1	7	7,018	0.36%
Marion	Warren Twp Small Cl	4/13/2010	1	12	7,002	0.36%
Marion	Lawrence Twp Sm Cl	8/24/2010	1	8	7,145	0.37%
Miami	Bunker Hill Town	12/13/2010	1	2	4,243	0.22%
Monroe	Circuit (9)	12/17/2007	9	196	37,109	1.90%
Owen	Circuit	8/3/2009	1	26	4,888	0.25%
Parke	Circuit	6/1/2009	1	16	3,804	0.19%
Posey	Circuit & Superior	8/16/2010	2	25	4,042	0.21%
Rush	Circuit & Superior	12/1/2009	2	20	5,779	0.30%
Scott	Circuit & Superior	7/11/2011	2	28	6,167	0.32%
Shelby	Circuit & Superior (2)	4/25/2011	3	21	11,681	0.60%
St. Joseph	Superior (4) (Traffic & Infrac)*	8/3/2009	4	39	17,981	0.92%
Starke	Knox City Court	11/15/2010	1	5	4,357	0.22%
Steuben	Circuit & Superior	8/1/2011	2	28	5,331	0.27%
Tipton	Circuit	9/22/2008	1	14	2,164	0.11%
Union	Circuit	5/23/2011	1	10	2,496	0.13%
Vigo	Terre Haute City Court	8/29/2011	1	11	18,352	0.94%
Warren	Circuit	8/26/2008	1	11	1,861	0.10%
Washington	Circuit & Superior	7/6/2009	2	27	4,811	0.25%
<i>Odyssey Courts as of September 6, 2011</i>			104	1,834	667,726	34.12%

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September 14, 2011**Contact: Kathryn Dolan**
317.234.4722

Indiana Civic Health Index Assesses Voting and Volunteerism

The 2011 Indiana Civic Health Index is available for review. [The full report can be found here.](#) The report includes details on civic health such as community involvement, volunteerism, voter registration and turnout, the role of the press and the role of education in civic awareness. The report also details how Indiana compares to the rest of the nation.

The report forward, by Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard and Former U.S. Representative Lee Hamilton, includes the following remarks.

Few can doubt that at this moment of great stress, America's future prospects rest specially on the ability of her people to make common cause in rebuilding the nation. The country's citizens, its families, and its institutions both public and private face challenges and choices rarely before experienced in our history.

When grave threats have presented themselves in generations gone by, the American response has been bolstered by a deep belief that our future together will be brighter if the many elements of our diverse society manage to unite for the good of the whole. We have believed so strongly in the power of this idea that we have even put it on our coins—"E Pluribus Unum"—out of many, one. Benjamin Franklin had a simpler way of putting it: "We must all hang together, or assuredly we will all hang separately."

This approach to the American experiment in democracy has succeeded only because so many people over so many generations have decided to become engaged on matters of common interest. Not content to be spectators, Americans have joined with their neighbors in voluntary associations, religious assemblies, political parties, and a host of other joint efforts. They have studied current events and participated in debate on matters great and small from the town hall to the national capital.

We believe that America will be a stronger nation with a brighter future if the country's institutions and its practices encourage the robust civic involvement that has served us so well for so long. The Indiana Civic Health Index seeks to measure just how successfully we are doing on this score, with the hope that such an examination will prompt all of us to work harder at expanding public understanding and participation in the cause of active citizenship.

We hope that this report card will produce further debate and action on building civic engagement. With that said, to paraphrase the Declaration of Independence, we submit these facts for your candid consideration.

Former U.S. Representative Lee Hamilton, who is the Director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University, and Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard serve as chairpersons of the assessment. The Indiana Bar Foundation, the National Conference on Citizenship, Indiana University Northwest and the Hoosier State Press Association are project sponsors. The Indiana Civic Health Index is also published online at www.inbf.org.

To call attention to the release of the report, Inland Sea Productions is presenting an unfinished digital rough cut version of the film *We The People* for project sponsors. The film chronicles America's history and its founding documents and will be completed in the full screen IMAX version in 2012. Press video and still photography will be

limited to the first 5 minutes of the film at the advance screening.

**Report Release & Film
Wednesday, September 14th**

Indiana State Museum
650 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

4 p.m. Media availability with former U.S. Representative Hamilton & Chief Justice Shepard

4:30 p.m. Reception

5:15 p.m. Remarks

5:30 p.m. Advance Screening of *We The People*

Scheduled interviews with former U.S. Representative Hamilton and Chief Justice Shepard are available upon request. For more information contact the Indiana Bar Foundation Director of Civic Education Andrew Homan at (317) 269-7863 or ahoman@inbf.org; Center on Congress at Indiana University Outreach Specialist Phil Duncan at (703) 209-2005 or phduncan@indiana.edu; Indiana Supreme Court Public Information Officer Kathryn Dolan at kdolan@courts.state.in.us; Inland Sea Productions Director of Film Marketing Dave Brown at (734) 740-2492 or dbrown@midstateshistory.org.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 16, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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Public Comments Being Accepted as Court Considers Possible Changes to the Senior Judge Program

The Indiana Supreme Court is seeking comments from the public, bar and bench on possible changes to the senior judge program. Comments can be submitted by email or postal mail through December 1, 2011.

The senior judge program allows Indiana courts to use the services of former judges to supplement existing judicial resources. The courts use senior judges to replace an absent judge, as a complement to the regular judge or to oversee the processing of certain types of cases or court programs. The legislature authorized the creation of the program in 1989.

Currently, Indiana has approximately 92 former judges certified as senior judges. During 2010 (most recent data), senior judges served a total of 3,592 days. Under Indiana's weighted caseload analysis, this service is equivalent to that of 20 full time judges.

The Indiana Supreme Court is responsible for developing the rules relating to the certification and appointment process for senior judges ([Administrative Rule 5](#)). The Court is considering possible changes to the rule.

The possible changes were developed by a committee of judges, senior judges and staff of the Indiana Judicial Center and Division of State Court Administration at the request of the Indiana Judicial Conference Strategic Planning Committee and Senior Judge Committee.

The possible changes can be found online at courts.in.gov/sj-program.html. Generally, the proposals include the following:

1. Amend the current practice of the Supreme Court appointing senior judges to specific courts and replace with a process that would permit a certified senior judge to serve in any court.
2. Clarify the jurisdiction of senior judges.
3. Provide information to trial judges about senior judge expertise and preferences.
4. Develop a set of "best practices" for efficient and effective use of senior judges by courts.
5. Increase the number of automatic senior judge days for each court. Currently, every court is entitled to use ten senior judge days per year, but based on the Indiana Weighted Caseload Measures System, courts with busier dockets are allotted more senior judge days.

Comments on the proposed changes can be sent to:

RulesComments@courts.in.gov or

Tom Carusillo
Indiana Supreme Court
Division of State Court Administration
30 South Meridian Street, Suite 500
Indianapolis, IN. 46204

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 20, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Barnes Rehearing Granted. Court Says Reasonable Resistance Does Not Include Violence Against Officers.

The Indiana Supreme Court has granted rehearing in *Barnes v. State*. [The Court's five-page opinion can be read here.](#)

Media with questions can contact Supreme Court Public Information Officer, Kathryn Dolan at (317) 234-4722 or kdolan@courts.state.in.us.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 23, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Indiana Board of Law Examiners Announces Successful Bar Exam Applicants

More than 400 applicants passed the July 2011 Indiana bar exam. Executive Director Bradley Skolnik announced the names of the applicants who passed the exam and said, "Successful completion of the bar exam is the culmination of a great deal of hard work and preparation. The applicants who passed the exam should be proud of this important milestone in their professional career. We wish them the very best as they enter the legal profession."

Eligible applicants listed in the attachment will be invited to the October 2011 formal swearing-in ceremony.

The 10-member Board of Law Examiners is responsible for ensuring that individuals admitted to practice law have met the requirements specified in the Admission and Discipline Rules of the Indiana Supreme Court. The Board has the duty of writing and grading the essay portion of the exam. The Board also certifies the character and fitness of applicants.

The two-day written exam was given in July 2011. Of the 536 applicants who sat for the exam, 411 passed, which is a rate of 77 percent. The applicants who passed the written exam also have to undergo a character and fitness review before they can be admitted to the Indiana bar. Each bar applicant meets with a member of the Indiana Supreme Court Character and Fitness Committee for a personal interview. The interviews are conducted by attorneys from across the state. The next bar exam will be given in February 2012.



[July 2011 Bar Exam Results](#)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 30, 2011

Contact: Steven F. Lancaster
317.232.6906

Court of Appeals Holds Oral Argument in *Brett Head-Mattingly v. State of Indiana* at University of Evansville—Evansville, Indiana

Case Originates from the Vanderburgh Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Brett Head-Mattingly v. State of Indiana* on Tuesday, October 4, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. (Central time) at the University of Evansville. The oral argument will be held in the Schroeder Family School of Business Administration Building on campus. A panel of judges consisting of Judge Patricia A. Riley, Judge Melissa S. May, and Judge Elaine B. Brown will hear the case on appeal from Vanderburgh Superior Court.

In this case, Brett Head-Mattingly appeals his convictions of burglary and theft for acts committed at an Evansville home on September 24, 2010, and of attempted burglary for acts committed at a different Evansville home on September 25, 2010. Head-Mattingly argues that the trial court erred by denying his request for separate trials for the acts committed on separate days. He also claims that letters he sent from jail to his accomplice should not have been admitted into evidence because they included inadmissible character evidence and caused unfair prejudice. Arguing for the Appellant will be Jesse Poag, and arguing for the Appellee will be Brian Reitz.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 300 oral arguments “on the road” at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

The Court of Appeals of Indiana is the state’s second-highest court and reviews appeals from trial court decisions. A decision of the Court of Appeals of Indiana is final unless granted further review by the Indiana Supreme Court.

The 15 judges on the Court of Appeals issue more than 2,300 written opinions each year, sitting in three-judge panels. For more information about the Court of Appeals, please visit www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals. For information about the Court’s traveling oral arguments, as well as additional information on *Brett Head-Mattingly v. State of Indiana*, please visit <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/arguments.html>.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 30, 2011

Contact: Steven F. Lancaster
317.232.6906

Court of Appeals Holds Oral Argument in *David Camm v. State of Indiana* at Vincennes University—Vincennes, Indiana

Case Originates from the Warrick Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *David Camm v. State of Indiana* on Tuesday, October 4, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. at Vincennes University. The argument will be held in the Shircliff Auditorium on campus. A panel of judges consisting of Judge John G. Baker, Judge Edward W. Najam, Jr., and Judge L. Mark Bailey will hear the case on appeal from Warrick Superior Court.

In this interlocutory appeal, David Camm appeals the trial court's denial of his petition for a special prosecutor. Arguing for the Appellant will be Stacy Uliana, and arguing for the Appellee will be Joby Jerrells.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 300 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 4, 2011

Contact: Steven F. Lancaster
317.232.6906

Court of Appeals Holds Oral Argument in *Adron Herschel Tancil v. State of Indiana* at Lorenzo Arredondo Justice Center—East Chicago, Indiana

Case Originates from the Lake Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Adron Herschel Tancil v. State of Indiana* on Thursday, October 6, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. (Central time) at the Lorenzo Arredondo Justice Center. The oral argument will be held in the Superior Court #2. A panel of judges consisting of Judge Nancy H. Vaidik, Judge Michael P. Barnes, and Judge Terry A. Crone will hear the case on appeal from Lake Superior Court.

In this case, Adron Herschel Tancil appeals his conviction for attempted murder. Tancil claims that the trial court erred by denying his request for a new trial, contending that the attack was no more than a battery. Arguing for the Appellant will be Thomas Vanes, and arguing for the Appellee will be Katherine Cooper.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 300 oral arguments “on the road” at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

The Court of Appeals of Indiana is the state’s second-highest court and reviews appeals from trial court decisions. A decision of the Court of Appeals of Indiana is final unless granted further review by the Indiana Supreme Court.

The 15 judges on the Court of Appeals issue more than 2,300 written opinions each year, sitting in three-judge panels. For more information about the Court of Appeals, please visit www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals. For information about the Court’s traveling oral arguments, as well as additional information on *Adron Herschel Tancil v. State of Indiana*, please visit <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/arguments.html>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 12, 2011

Contact: Steven F. Lancaster
317.232.4197

Chief Judge Margret G. Robb Received the Antoinette Dakin Leach Award

October 5, 2011

In recognition of her professional and personal accomplishments, Chief Judge Margret G. Robb of the Court of Appeals of Indiana was awarded the 2011 Antoinette Dakin Leach Award by the Indianapolis Bar Association's Women and the Law Division on October 5, 2011 at its "Women, Law & Leadership Symposium." The award was established to honor outstanding women in the legal profession and is named for one of the first female lawyers in Indiana. The Antoinette Dakin Leach Award is presented only when the Division deems a worthy candidate exists.

Upon receipt of the award, Chief Judge Robb expressed her gratitude for being honored and stated: "We've gone from Antoinette Dakin Leach and Helen Gougar to this day. Who knows where the next 130 years will take us? – not only as a milestone that commemorates women's achievements, but the achievements of all who value excellence and fairness and the promise of the law to treat all people equally."

Chief Judge Robb was appointed to the Court in July 1998. She holds a B.S. and an M.S. in Business Economics from Purdue University, a Magna Cum Laude J.D. from Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis and is a graduate of the Graduate Program for Indiana Judges. In 2011 she was elected by her court colleagues as the first woman Chief Judge in the Court's 110 year history.

Prior to her appointment to the Court, Chief Judge Robb was engaged in the general practice of law in Lafayette, and served as a Bankruptcy trustee for the Northern District of Indiana. She was a registered family and civil mediator and served as a Tippecanoe County Deputy Public Defender.

She has held numerous positions in state and national bar and legal related organizations and is a frequent speaker on legal topics for attorneys, other judges, and professional, civic and community organizations. Chief Judge Robb has received numerous awards for her contributions to the judicial system.

Chief Judge Robb authored "Reflections of Baseball, Life and the Law" in the Indiana State Bar Association's journal, *Res Gestae* and "Running Bases, Winning Cases: Why the Grand Old Game of Baseball is like the legal profession," in the ABA's journal. She also authored a chapter on Supreme Court Justice Leonard Hackney in an upcoming book, *Indiana Supreme Court Justices*, and co-authored a chapter, From Juvenile to Family Courts, in *Essays on Indiana Legal History*.

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<http://courts.IN.gov>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 13, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Media Advisory: Hendricks County to demonstrate Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey case management system

The Hendricks County Courts and Clerk are demonstrating why their new case management system called "Odyssey" is a significant improvement for court and clerk staff, law enforcement and taxpayers.

Odyssey connects Hendricks County to a continually growing network of trial courts, clerks, law enforcement and state agencies. Odyssey also makes court information available to the public over the Internet at no charge. The press and public are invited to a demonstration of Odyssey on Friday, October 21, 2011.

Hendricks County Courthouse
Superior Court 1
October 21st at 1:00 p.m. EDT
One Courthouse Square
Danville, Indiana 46122

The upgrade to Odyssey in Hendricks County is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a 21st-century case management system. With Hendricks County using Odyssey, more than 100 Indiana trial courts are using the uniform system. Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr. will join the judges and clerk in Hendricks County to answer questions about the system and show the public how it works at Friday's demonstration.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 14, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

600 Volunteers Who Advocate for Children in State Care Gather for Training

The Indiana Supreme Court's State Office of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), an agency of the Division of State Court Administration, is hosting its 15th annual Indiana GAL/CASA conference. The conference is an opportunity for volunteers across the state to receive additional training on how to be better advocates for children in state care. The Supreme Court will also recognize volunteers for their service to the state.

The conference will be held Saturday, October 15th at the Marriott East Hotel at 7202 East 21st Street, Indianapolis from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. EDT. Supreme Court Justice Steven David will recognize the Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary for its support in raising approximately \$80,000 for the organization. The money will be used to increase public awareness about CASA and recruit more volunteers.

Justice David will also recognize Bill Stanczykiewicz of the Indiana Youth Institute (IYI) for IYI's partnership in raising awareness about the need for CASA volunteers. As a result of IYI's support, the Supreme Court has received a dramatic increase in the number of people interested in volunteering which has increased the number of children with advocates.

The State Office will also recognize the Volunteer of the Year, Ronda Moyers, from Howard County. Ms. Moyers was nominated by a child who she advocated for while he spent ten years in foster care. The child has now been adopted and pointed to Ms. Moyers' continual support, "I have known Ronda Moyers since I was 7 years old, and now I am 16. She has been there for me since day one. She is special to me because I can tell her anything and everything. She is the most understanding person I have ever known. She has shown up at all my events. She has never missed anything important to me."

Nearly 600 Indiana CASA volunteers and staff are registered for the conference. The keynote speaker, Naomi Haines Griffith, is a child welfare consultant. The conference will also include break-out sessions on working with older youth, cultural diversity, the effect of trauma on children, educational advocacy and early childhood mental health. Several sessions will feature former foster children who will share their unique perspectives on the child welfare system.

The Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration oversees the state GAL/CASA program. Seventy of Indiana's 92 counties have CASA programs. In 2010 more than 3,000 volunteers advocated for 18,000 abused and neglected children in state care. Still, more than 3,000 children need volunteer advocates. For more information about Indiana GAL/CASA visit www.CASA.IN.gov. Media interested in attending the conference must contact Supreme Court Public Information Officer, Kathryn Dolan at kdolan@courts.state.in.us or (317) 234-4722.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 17, 2011

Contact: Steven F. Lancaster
317.232.4197

Court of Appeals Holds Oral Argument in *Undray Wilson v. State of Indiana* at Oakland City University—Oakland City, Indiana

Case Originates from the Howard Superior Court

The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Undray Wilson v. State of Indiana* on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. (Central time) at Oakland City University. The oral argument will be held in the Cornwell-Reed/Barnard Hall on campus. A panel of judges consisting of Judge Melissa S. May, Judge Michael P. Barnes, and Judge Terry A. Crone will hear the case on appeal from Howard Superior Court.

In this case, Undray Wilson was convicted of murder, and the Indiana Supreme Court affirmed his conviction. Wilson sought post-conviction relief alleging ineffective assistance of trial and appellate counsel. Wilson now appeals the denial of post-conviction relief. Arguing for the Appellant will be Hilary Bowe Ricks, and arguing for the Appellee will be J.T. Whitehead.

The Court of Appeals hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. After the case has been argued, members of the audience may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana. The Court has heard more than 300 oral arguments “on the road” at law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

The Court of Appeals of Indiana is the state’s second-highest court and reviews appeals from trial court decisions. A decision of the Court of Appeals of Indiana is final unless granted further review by the Indiana Supreme Court.

The 15 judges on the Court of Appeals issue more than 2,300 written opinions each year, sitting in three-judge panels. For more information about the Court of Appeals, please visit www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals. For information about the Court’s traveling oral arguments, as well as additional information on *Undray Wilson v. State of Indiana*, please visit <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/arguments.html>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 20, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Indiana Supreme Court to Hold Two Oral Arguments in St. Joseph County

The Indiana Supreme Court will hear oral arguments at Indiana University South Bend and the University of Notre Dame Law School on Monday, November 14, 2011. The first case will be heard at Indiana University South Bend at 1:00 p.m. EST and the second case will be heard at 3:30 p.m. EST at the University of Notre Dame Law School.

It is an opportunity for students and other members of the public to see first-hand how the Supreme Court operates, according to Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, who announced the Court was traveling to the two schools. "This allows the students to consider a real case. The members of the Court also enjoy meeting with the students after the argument to hear about their classes and professional goals and answer their questions about the Court."

At Indiana University South Bend, the five justices will hear argument in the case of *Andrew Conley v. State of Indiana*. Conley was convicted in the Ohio County Circuit Court of murdering his younger brother. Conley, 17 years-old at the time of the crime, was sentenced to life in prison without parole. The arguments will be heard in Recital Hall located in Room 158 of Northside Hall, 1825 Northside Blvd., South Bend, IN 46615. Visitors may park in any open space, as campus police will not be issuing tickets.

Later in the day, the justices will travel to the University of Notre Dame Law School to hear argument in the case of *Jerrme Damar Cartwright v. State of Indiana*. Cartwright was convicted for attempted battery with a deadly weapon, attempted aggravated battery and possession of a handgun by a felon. The Court of Appeals reversed his conviction on grounds that the jury was selected unfairly. The argument will be heard in the Patrick F. McCartan Courtroom, located at 1170 Eck Hall of Law, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

Each case takes approximately 40 minutes, with each side having about 20 minutes to argue. The Court will take the matters under advisement and hand down decisions after considering the cases.

Media Policy For Indiana Supreme Court Oral Arguments

Media interested in covering the oral argument must contact the Supreme Court Public Information Officer to reserve a seat and must follow the Supreme Court guidelines to covering oral arguments.

Oral arguments are open to the public, radio, tv, and newspaper media. Photographing and recording the arguments is permitted under certain conditions and with prior approval. To make arrangements for media coverage, contact Public Information Officer, Kathryn Dolan at 317-234-4722 or kdolan@courts.state.in.us by November 4th. Rules for covering oral argument include the following:

- News organizations must agree to a "pool" arrangement
- Still and video photographers must use a tripod or monopod
- Photographers must remain in place for the entire argument
- No flash photography is allowed
- No lighting kits may be set-up inside the courtroom

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 21, 2011

Contact: Martin DeAgostino
martin.deagostino@courts.in.gov
317.232.4859

State Bar Association Honors Chief Judge Margret G. Robb with David Hamacher Public Service Award

INDIANAPOLIS – In recognition of her significant contributions to the appellate practice in Indiana, Chief Judge Margret G. Robb of the Court of Appeals of Indiana was awarded the Indiana State Bar Association's David Hamacher Public Service Award at the ISBA's annual meeting in French Lick on Thursday, Oct. 20.

The award, sponsored by the state bar's Appellate Practice Section, honors high moral character and ethical standards, service to the community and peacemaking qualities.

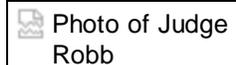
Specifically, the Appellate Practice Section cited Chief Judge Robb's dedication to the practice of law, her unparalleled commitment to and participation in Continuing Legal Education programs at the state and national level, and her many contributions to community service. The Section also cited Chief Judge Robb's recent receipt of the Antoinette Dakin Leach Award from the Indianapolis Bar Association's Women and the Law Division, which honors outstanding women in the legal profession.

Chief Judge Robb expressed her appreciation for the honor and her continued commitment to the high standards set by David Hamacher while he chaired the ISBA's Appellate Practice Section.

Chief Judge Robb was appointed to the Court in July 1998. She holds a B.S. and an M.S. in Business Economics from Purdue University, a Magna Cum Laude J.D. from Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis and is a graduate of the Graduate Program for Indiana Judges. In 2011 she was elected by her court colleagues as the first woman Chief Judge in the Court's 110 year history.

Prior to her appointment to the Court, Chief Judge Robb was engaged in the general practice of law in Lafayette, and served as a Bankruptcy trustee for the Northern District of Indiana. She was a registered family and civil mediator and served as a Tippecanoe County Deputy Public Defender.

She has held numerous positions in state and national bar and legal related organizations and is a frequent speaker on legal topics for attorneys, other judges, and professional, civic and community organizations. Chief Judge Robb has received numerous awards for her contributions to the judicial system.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 21, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Hendricks County Online with Court Record System that Allows Free Access To Public Information

The Hendricks County Courts and Clerk are now using the "Odyssey" case management system, making court information available online in 108 courts across Indiana. Hendricks County is now connected to a continually growing network of courts, clerks, law enforcement and other state agencies. An estimated 20,500 new cases filed in Hendricks County each year will be managed by the state-of-the-art computer system.

Judge Stephenie LeMay-Luken explained the advantages of the system on behalf of her colleagues on the bench in Hendricks County, "The cost of implementation to the Hendricks County taxpayers has been *zero*. We are also saving the expense of maintaining our antiquated previous case management system. The judges of Hendricks County are excited about this modern recordkeeping system."

Clerk Cindy Spence agreed and said, "Our previous system was pretty basic, Odyssey has more capabilities. For example, the document production feature is user-friendly, the list manager allows us to conduct many functions on multiple cases at one time and Odyssey is directly connected to the protective order registry which saves time for the clerk entering that type of case. It is a challenge to learn a new system, but I believe it will be worth the effort to improve the way we do business in Hendricks County."

There are approximately 7,000,000 cases from court records in 36 counties available for searching in Odyssey. Approximately 35% of the state's new caseload is on the system. The Indiana Supreme Court is working to equip every trial court with a uniform case management system. Currently, there are 22 different court case management systems statewide and the systems do not communicate with each other or state agencies. Odyssey connects courts with each other, law enforcement, state agencies and makes court information available to the public over the Internet at no charge.

Odyssey was first installed in ten Indiana courts on a pilot basis in December 2007 under the direction of the Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration's Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC). Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., who chairs JTAC, congratulated the hundreds of court and clerk staff members statewide who have brought Odyssey to their county. "Hendricks County Judges Jeffrey V. Boles, Robert W. Freese, David H. Coleman, Karen M. Love, Mark A. Smith and Stephenie LeMay-Luken, along with Clerk Cindy Spence and their staff have completed a major accomplishment. It takes courage and hard work to implement a new system without disrupting everyday court business."

Grants and a General Assembly approved filing fee on certain court cases pay for the software, licensing, installation, training and maintenance of Odyssey. To search Odyssey data visit mycase.in.gov. For more information on the Indiana Supreme Court's technology projects visit courts.in.gov/jtac.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 21, 2011

Contact: Martin DeAgostino
martin.deagostino@courts.in.gov
317.232.4859

Judge Melissa S. May Honored with “Women In The Law” Award from Indiana State Bar Association

INDIANAPOLIS – Judge Melissa S. May of the Court of Appeals of Indiana has received the Indiana State Bar Association’s Women in the Law Recognition Award for her dedication to helping women advance in the legal community.

Judge May received the award Oct. 20 at the ISBA’s annual meeting in French Lick.

Judge May is an Elkhart native who earned her JD from Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis in 1984. She practiced law in Evansville for 14 years before her appointment to the Court of Appeals in 1998. She is currently the Presiding Judge of the Fourth District.

In 2005, she was named to the Indiana Pro Bono Commission and in July 2008 she was named as Chair of that Commission. While chair, she worked with the 14 pro bono districts to train lawyers and mediators on how to assist homeowners who are facing foreclosure.

Judge May also serves on the Civil Instruction Committee, an Indiana Judicial Conference Committee that has been working to translate all of the civil jury instructions into “plain English.” She frequently speaks on legal topics to attorneys, other judges, schools, and other professional and community organizations.

Judge May expressed her appreciation to the ISBA for recognizing her contributions to women’s advancement in the law.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 27, 2011

Contact: David J. Remondini
317.233.8684

Indiana Court Staff Fill National Leadership Roles

Two Indiana Supreme Court staff members have been selected to serve on national boards. Judicial Qualifications Commission Attorney, Adrienne Meiring, will serve on the Board for the Association of Judicial Disciplinary Counsel (AJDC). Supreme Court Public Information Officer, Kathryn Dolan, will serve as Treasurer for the Conference of Court Public Information Officers (CCPIO).

Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard made the announcement and complimented both staff members. He said, "The Indiana court system is very proud that two of our most valuable staff members have been chosen by their own peers for positions of national leadership. Both Indiana and the nation benefit enormously from the service of Adrienne Meiring and Kathryn Dolan."

Ms. Meiring joined the Division of State Court Administration as a staff attorney in February 2005. She has served as Counsel for the Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission and the Indiana Judicial Qualifications Commission since 2009. She provides legal support for both Commissions and gives ethical advice to judges around the state. AJDC is made up of approximately 130 members across the country who are involved in the investigation and prosecution of judicial discipline. As a board member Ms. Meiring will play an active role in developing educational programs for attorneys across the country that investigate and prosecute judicial discipline cases. More information about AJDC can be found at <http://www.ajdconline.org>.

Ms. Dolan began working as the Indiana Supreme Court Public Information Officer (PIO) in June 2008. She serves as the liaison between the court and the press. In addition to writing press releases, she also conducts training for judges on how to work with the media and leads a Public Access Committee to assist the Court with improvements to the website. Prior to serving as the Supreme Court PIO, Ms. Dolan worked as a television news anchor. As CCPIO treasurer, she will oversee finances for the non-profit group dedicated to providing educational and networking opportunities for court public information officers. More information about CCPIO can be found at <http://www.ccpio.org>. More information about the Indiana Supreme Court can be found at courts.in.gov.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 17, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Media Advisory: Terre Haute City Court to go online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey case management system

The Terre Haute City Court and Clerk are demonstrating why their new case management system called "Odyssey" is a significant improvement for court and clerk staff, law enforcement and taxpayers. Odyssey connects Terre Haute City Court to a continually growing network of other courts, clerks, law enforcement and state agencies. Odyssey also makes court information available to the public over the Internet at no charge. The press and public are invited to a demonstration of Odyssey on Monday, November 21st.

Terre Haute City Court
City Hall
November 21st at 2:30 p.m. EST
17 Harding Avenue
Terre Haute, Indiana 47807

The upgrade to Odyssey in Terre Haute is part of the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to equip every trial court with a uniform 21st-century case management system. Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr. will join the judge and clerk in Terre Haute and will answer questions about the system and show the public how it works at Monday's demonstration.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 21, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Terre Haute City Court Goes Online with Indiana Supreme Court Odyssey Case Management System

The Terre Haute City Court and Clerk are successfully operating a new 21st-century computer system called "Odyssey," the Indiana Supreme Court announced Monday. Odyssey connects the county to a continually growing network of courts, clerks, law enforcement and other state agencies and makes court information available over the Internet at no charge.

Terre Haute City Court is one of 108 courts in 36 counties in the state using Odyssey. An estimated 18,300 new cases filed in Terre Haute City Court each year will be managed by the system. There are approximately 7,000,000 cases from across the state available for searching in Odyssey. Approximately 35% of the state's new caseload, including Terre Haute City Court cases, can be found in Odyssey.

Terre Haute City Court Judge Pro Tem and Judge-elect Sarah Mullican said, "Odyssey is a significant technological improvement from our previous case management system. It will greatly enhance public access to court information as well as make the work of the Terre Haute City Court more transparent."

The Indiana Supreme Court is working to equip every trial court with a uniform case management system. Currently, there are 22 different court case management systems statewide and the systems do not communicate with each other or state agencies. Odyssey is designed to be implemented statewide and is being installed without disrupting everyday court business or closing Indiana courts.

Odyssey was first installed in ten Indiana courts on a pilot basis in December 2007 under the direction of the Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration's Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC). Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., who chairs JTAC, congratulated those involved in bringing Odyssey to the Terre Haute City Court. "This is a major accomplishment and the people of Vigo County should be proud of the hard work done by Clerk Hanley, Judge Mullican and their staffs. Having this advanced technology means better service for the county's citizens, increases public safety because of its connections to law-enforcement, and because JTAC pays for the computer software, using Odyssey saves money for the county's taxpayers."

Grants and a General Assembly approved filing fee on certain court cases pay for the software, licensing, installation, training and maintenance of Odyssey. To search Odyssey data visit mycase.in.gov. For more information on the Indiana Supreme Court's technology projects visit courts.in.gov/jtac.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 23, 2011

Contact: Martin DeAgostino
martin.deagostino@courts.in.gov
317.232.4859

Lawrence North High School Students to observe Court of Appeals Oral Argument in *Bryant v. State*

Criminal case involves claims of ineffective counsel and trial court abuse of discretion

INDIANAPOLIS – The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Christopher Bryant v. State of Indiana* on Tuesday, Nov. 29 at 1:40 p.m. in the Little Theater at Lawrence North High School, 7802 Hague Road, Indianapolis, IN.

Students in the Government and Law and Advanced Placement Government classes will attend the Oral Argument and later join the judges for an informal Q/A session about Indiana's judicial branch of government. Teacher Kris McAloon will prepare students for the oral argument using a variety of materials, including the lawyers' briefs submitted to the Court of Appeals. The public and news media are also invited.

In this case from Lake County, Christopher Bryant was convicted of two Class A felony counts of dealing in a narcotic drug; Class A misdemeanor resisting law enforcement; and Class A misdemeanor marijuana possession. He also admitted to being a habitual substance offender and received an aggregate prison sentence of 45 years for the offenses.

On appeal, Bryant claims that he was denied effective assistance of trial counsel because his lawyer failed to file a motion to suppress evidence obtained through an allegedly illegal search and seizure. He also claims the trial court abused its discretion in denying his mistrial motion and that the court abused its discretion in sentencing him.

A three-judge panel of Judge Cale J. Bradford, Judge Patricia A. Riley, and Judge Carr L. Darden will hear the argument.

Reporters may ask the Court's permission to video or photograph the oral argument. If authorized, media representatives must comply with the requirements for videotaping or still photography as set forth in the Indiana Supreme Court's Order regarding Standards Governing Electronic Media and Still Photography of Oral Arguments Before The Indiana Court of Appeals. www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/docs/scorder-mediacoa-11231998.pdf

The Court of Appeals hears oral arguments across Indiana to enable Hoosiers to learn more about the judiciary's indispensable role in Indiana government. The court has held more than 300 "appeals on wheels" at law schools, colleges, high schools and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-01.

The Court of Appeals is Indiana's second highest court and reviews appeals from trial court decisions. A Court of Appeals decision is final unless the Indiana Supreme Court grants further review.

Sitting in three-judge panels, the 15 judges on the Court of Appeals issue about 2,300 opinions each year. For more information about the court, visit www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals. For more information about traveling oral arguments and *Bryant v. State*, please visit www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/arguments.html.

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SUPREME COURT

Kathryn Dolan

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OF INDIANA

<http://courts.IN.gov>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 28, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Indiana Supreme Court Awards Grants to 16 Counties Totaling \$160,000

Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced that the Indiana Supreme Court has awarded \$160,000 in grant money to 16 counties across the state through its Division of State Court Administration. The grants will support local family court projects.

The grants distributed for 2012 will focus on creating innovative programs that improve the court process for families. The following counties are receiving grants for 2012.

Elkhart	\$25,000	Judge David Bonfiglio
Bartholomew	\$20,000	Judge Kathleen Tighe Coriden
Steuben	\$20,000	Judge William Fee
Clark	\$15,000	Judge Vicki Carmichael
St. Joseph	\$15,000	Magistrate Larry Ambler
Allen	\$10,000	Judge Charles Pratt
Fulton	\$10,000	Judge A. Christopher Lee
Greene	\$10,000	Judge Dena Martin
Marion	\$10,000	Judge Robyn Moberly
Vanderburgh	\$10,000	Judge Mary Margaret Lloyd
Monroe	\$5,000	Judge Frances Hill
Parke	\$5,000	Judge Sam Swaim
Brown	\$3,800 (shared)	Judge Judith Stewart
Jackson	\$3,800 (shared)	Judge Bruce MacTavish
Lawrence	\$3,800 (shared)	Judge Andrea McCord
Hamilton	\$1,200	Judge Paul Felix

Priority was given to applications that emphasized three areas of programming:

- **Access to Justice** – improving access to the courts for families without attorneys. For example, Vanderburgh County will continue to operate its Family Law Clinic, which assists low- income people who are unable to obtain legal representation with selection and completion of Supreme Court approved forms, and also provides referrals for low/no cost mediation, counseling, and other services.
- **Alternative Dispute Resolution/Early Case Management** – promoting timely resolution of cases. Several counties, including Bartholomew, Elkhart, Fulton, Greene, and Steuben, will begin new programs to provide

low cost alternative dispute resolution for families who would otherwise be unable to afford mediation or other alternatives to litigation.

- **Court-Related Services** – implementing other programs that support families throughout the court process. With its 2012 grant, Hamilton County will train volunteer attorneys to serve as guardians ad litem (GAL) to represent the best interest of children in high conflict custody cases.

The Family Court Project began in 1999 with cooperation from the Indiana General Assembly. Since then, the Supreme Court has distributed more than 2.5 million dollars to support family court projects across the state. In 2010, more than 4,500 families were served by local family court projects.

The grants are considered “seed money” and pilot counties are expected to transition within a reasonable time from seed funding to local funding. “The Family Court Project is the perfect example of courts using creative approaches to address issues facing a family so their disputes can be resolved quickly, affordably and in a way that is less adversarial to preserve relationships,” said Chief Justice Shepard.

Family Court Steering Committee Members include the Honorable Margret Robb of the Court of Appeals of Indiana, Lilia Judson who serves as the Executive Director of the Division of State Court Administration, Dave Remondini who serves as the Chief Deputy Executive Director of the Division of State Court Administration, Leslie Rogers Dunn who is the State Director for Guardian Ad Litem/Court Appointed Special Advocates, and Loretta Oleksy who is the Family Court Project Manager.

More information on the Family Court Project is available at courts.in.gov/family-court.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 29, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Marion County Superior Court Judge Admonished by Judicial Qualifications Commission

The Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications has issued a Public Admonition to Marion Superior Court Judge Rebekah F. Pierson-Treacy. The [admonition](#) is the result of language in an August 2011 invitation to an election fundraiser that gave the appearance that monetary campaign contributions would result in favorable court rulings.

Judge Pierson-Treacy admits the invitation included inappropriate statements and accepts the Public Admonition. She admits to violating Rule 1.2 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, which requires judges to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the judiciary.

More than six-hundred invitations to a fundraiser for Judge Pierson-Treacy's re-election campaign were mailed to Indianapolis area residents. The invitations included "Suggested Contributions," with the following recommended monetary amounts and legal monikers:

\$150 "Sustained"
\$250 "Affirmed"
\$500 "So Ordered"
\$1000 "Favorable Ruling"

Recipients of the invitations were directed to make checks payable to the "Re-Elect Judge Becky Committee." Judge Pierson-Treacy stated the intention was to list the donation levels in an entertaining fashion.

Media reports related to the fundraiser suggested the invitation gave the appearance that "justice was for sale" in the judge's courtroom. While there is no evidence the judge intended to barter rulings for contributions, the invitation presented a negative view of the judiciary.

The Commission determined the invitation likely gave the impression to the public that the judge's rulings could be influenced by campaign contributions. As a result of the behavior, the Commission has issued a Public Admonition of Judge Pierson-Treacy and concluded its investigation into her conduct.

The 7-member Commission on Judicial Qualifications investigates alleged ethical misconduct by judges. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard chairs the Commission. The Indiana Supreme Court has final authority over judicial discipline. The Court gives the Commission discretion to issue a Public Admonition instead of filing formal charges against a judge when it determines a Public Admonition sufficiently addresses the misconduct and the judge consents to that resolution. The official censure from the Commission, the Public Admonition, is kept on file with the Commission and is posted online at courts.in.gov/jud-qual.

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 Court of Appeals press release letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 1, 2011

Contact: Martin DeAgostino
martin.deagostino@courts.in.gov
317.232.4859

Jasper County High School Students to observe Court of Appeals Oral Argument

Issues in civil case involve Indiana Whistleblower Law, due process and free speech protections

INDIANAPOLIS – The Court of Appeals of Indiana will hear oral argument in *Paul K. Ogden v. Robertson et al* on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 1 p.m. CST at Rensselaer Central High School, 1106 E. Grace St., Rensselaer.

Students from Rensselaer Central and Tri-County High Schools will attend the Oral Argument and will later join the judges for an informal Q/A session about Indiana's judicial branch of government. Seven teachers of seven different classes, including Honors Government and Honors World History, will prepare students for the oral argument using a variety of materials, including a case summary prepared by the Court of Appeals.

Jasper Superior Court Judge James R. Ahler will also assist the students' preparations.

The public and news media are invited.

In this case from Marion County, Appellant Paul K. Ogden appeals the trial court's grant of summary judgment in favor of Appellee, Stephen Robertson, et al., with respect to Ogden's claim of wrongful termination from a state agency. Ogden raises issues involving the Indiana Whistleblower Law, constitutionally protected speech, and due process.

A three-judge panel of Judge Patricia A. Riley, Judge Carr L. Darden and Judge Paul D. Mathias will hear the argument. Judge Riley is a Rensselaer native.

Reporters, including student journalists, may ask the Court's permission to video or photograph the oral argument. If authorized, media representatives must comply with the requirements for videotaping or still photography as set forth in the Indiana Supreme Court's Order regarding Standards Governing Electronic Media and Still Photography of Oral Arguments Before The Indiana Court of Appeals. www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/docs/scorder-mediacoa-11231998.pdf

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For more information about traveling oral arguments or *Bryant v. State*, please visit www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/arguments.html.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 7, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Chief Justice Shepard Will Retire from Supreme Court

Leaves legacy of reform, improved education & increased diversity in legal profession

Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard will leave after a quarter century career as the leader of Indiana's judiciary. Chief Justice Shepard is Indiana's 99th Supreme Court Justice and the longest serving state court chief justice in the nation. President of the National Center for State Courts, Mary McQueen said, "To say the justice system is stronger today because of Chief Justice Shepard's three decades of dedication would be an understatement. He defined 'justice' not only for the citizens of Indiana and the United States—Chief Justice Shepard defined 'justice' for our generation."

Justice Shepard was appointed to the Indiana Supreme Court by Governor Robert D. Orr in 1985 and selected as Chief Justice in 1987. During his career, he authored nearly 900 civil and criminal opinions and wrote 68 law review articles. His writings have been cited hundreds of times in law journals and textbooks and by other courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court. Beyond his writings, Shepard has devoted his career to developing practical solutions to improve the way courts do business. Indiana voters retained Chief Justice Shepard three times on statewide ballots. In 2008, he received the highest number of "yes" votes ever cast for a justice.

Early in his career, Shepard led a reform to give the Supreme Court discretion over which cases it hears. The result is a well-balanced court that hears both civil and criminal appeals and has adequate time for research and analysis. Under his leadership, the Supreme Court began webcasting all of its oral arguments. He encouraged development of plain English jury instructions to give jurors easy to understand information, not legalese. The online self-service legal center includes a video on representing yourself in court, thanks to Shepard's support of the project. When the Great Recession led to more than 40,000 foreclosures in a single year, Chief Justice Shepard pledged judicial branch support to work through the crisis. With support from all branches of government, the Mortgage Foreclosure Trial Court Assistance Program has saved many homeowners from eviction.

Shepard's commitment to education and equal opportunity led him to ask the legislature and Governor Frank O'Bannon to create the Indiana Conference for Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO), to ensure diversity in the legal profession by helping minority and educationally and economically disadvantaged students succeed in law school. Since CLEO began in 1997, the number of minority lawyers in Indiana has doubled. His love of history and education led him to create the Courts in the Classroom program in 2001. With free lesson plans and supporting materials, it allows school children an opportunity to learn about the work of the courts.

In 2007, Governor Mitch Daniels appointed Shepard to co-chair, with former Governor Joe Kernan, the Indiana Commission on Local Government Reform. The Commission outlined 27 specific ways to streamline government declaring, "We've got to stop governing like this." The report became known as the "Kernan-Shepard Report." A

 **Photo of Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard**

Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard
([hi-res photo](#))

number of the proposals have been implemented. Likewise, Shepard asked trial court judges to place the judicial branch under a microscope and assess the work of the courts. The Strategic Planning Committee continues to develop the judiciary's roadmap for the future.

Shepard has frequently been called upon to advocate, solve and teach outside Indiana. U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts, Jr. appointed Shepard to the U.S. Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Civil Rules. He is the Committee's only state court Justice. He has served as Adjunct Professor at Yale Law School, the Maurer School of Law in Bloomington and the Robert H. McKinney School of Law in Indianapolis.

He has held multiple positions of state and national leadership in organizations such as Indiana Landmarks and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Shepard served as Chair of the American Bar Association Appellate Judges Conference and the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. He was President of the Conference of Chief Justices and Chair of the National Center for State Courts. McQueen commended his leadership, "He led efforts to hold two national conferences on court security, he supported a national summit to improve the courts' handling of child protection cases, and following Hurricane Katrina he endorsed the creation of an online clearinghouse to help devastated courts in the Gulf States. These accomplishments were in addition to his ongoing efforts to fight for issues he was passionate about: protecting judicial independence, improving judicial selection, and revising the judicial model code."

Among other state and national awards, Shepard has received the Indiana Chamber of Commerce Government Leader of the Year, the American Judicature Society's Opperman Award and the Indiana Black Expo Lifetime Achievement Award. He has honorary degrees from the University of Southern Indiana, University of South Carolina, Notre Dame and the University of Evansville.

Justice Shepard is married to Amy W. MacDonell and they have one daughter, Mattie Shepard. He was born in Lafayette on December 24, 1946. A seventh-generation Hoosier, he grew up in Evansville. He graduated cum laude from Princeton in 1969 and received his law degree from Yale Law School in 1972. After serving briefly as Special Assistant to the Under Secretary at the U.S. Department of Transportation, he returned home. He served as the chief assistant to Evansville Mayor Russell G. Lloyd before becoming a trial court judge at age 33. He served on the Vanderburgh Superior Court until his appointment to the Supreme Court in 1985. In 1995, he received a Master of Laws from the University of Virginia School of Law.

His connection to his hometown of Evansville remained strong after he moved to Indianapolis. Chief Justice Shepard continued to be a daily reader of the *Evansville Courier and Press* and he stayed in touch with friends and community leaders. He is the inspiration for the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation's Randall T. Shepard Academy for Law and Social Justice, and the Evansville Bar recently restored and named the Randall T. Shepard Courtroom in the Old Vanderburgh Courthouse.

Chief Justice Shepard will step down from the bench in March 2012. The Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission will search for a successor to fill the vacancy. The Commission, which is chaired by Chief Justice Shepard, will interview candidates in February 2012 and send the names of three candidates to Governor Mitch Daniels. The Governor will select Indiana's next justice. The seven-member Commission will appoint a new Chief Justice.

Chief Justice Shepard will be available for media interviews Wednesday, December 7th at the State House. To accommodate all requests, reporters should schedule a time by contacting Supreme Court Public Information Officer Kathryn Dolan at 317-518-4115 or kdolan@courts.state.in.us.



[Randall T. Shepard Resume](#)



[Recent Milestones in the Indiana Judiciary](#)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 9, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

MEDIA ADVISORY: 2010 Caseload Statistics To Be Released

Case data and other detailed information about Indiana court operations will be released Tuesday, December 13th at 10:00 a.m. EST at courts.in.gov. The 2010 Indiana Judicial Service Report and Indiana Probation Report include everything from key information about the courts to interesting facts about judicial branch operations. The press and public are invited to an informal question and answer session with Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard and Division of State Court Administration Executive Director Lilia Judson to discuss the reports.

Supreme Court Law Library
Indiana State House, 3rd Floor
December 13th at 1:30 p.m. EST

The 1,782 page, multi-volume reports contain the following information on a court, county and statewide basis:

- Newly filed cases, by case type
- Cases decided by a jury
- The languages used by court interpreters
- How many people volunteered for CASA
- The number of mortgage foreclosure filings
- Operation costs
- The number of attorneys/judges disciplined by the Supreme Court
- The number of appellate court opinions handed down
- The location, month and number of oral arguments held

The Indiana Judicial Service Report and Indiana Probation Report are produced by the Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration. The reports are required by Indiana statute (IC 33-24-6-3) and Supreme Court administrative rules.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 13, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

1.8 Million New Cases Filed in Indiana Trial Courts in 2010

New filings in Indiana trial courts remain just below the two million mark. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced the statistic today with the release of the Indiana Judicial Service Report. He said, "The work of the courts cannot be summed up in numbers, but the 2010 statistics report does offer a snapshot of the volume, breadth, challenges and success stories in each of the courthouses in Indiana's 92 counties. Indiana judges and trial court staff did a remarkable job of handling the 1.8 million new cases with fairness and professionalism."

The number of newly filed cases is just one statistic available in the 1,782 page, multi-volume report, which includes everything from crucial information on court operations to interesting facts about the judicial branch. The report can be found online at <http://courts.IN.gov/admin>.

- 1,859,870 new cases were filed in Indiana courts in 2010
- 1,799,330 new cases were filed in Indiana courts in 2001
- Indiana courts have seen a 3% increase in the number of cases filed since 2001
- 205 murder cases were filed in trial courts in 2010
- 1,514 civil and criminal jury trials were held in 2010
- 361,969 cases included self-represented litigants
- There were 41,274 mortgage foreclosure filings in the state
- Mortgage foreclosure filings increased 39% from 2002 to 2010
- There has been a 27% decrease in murder filings from 2002 to 2010
- 12,160 Child In Need of Services, or CHINS cases, were filed in 2010
- 3,268 individuals served as CASA volunteers
- There has been a 126% increase in Termination of Parental Rights cases since 2001
- An interpreter was used in 14,978 trial court cases
- 147,589 adults and juveniles are being supervised by Indiana court probation departments
- Cities, towns, townships, counties and the state spent \$393,333,305 to operate the courts
- Filing fees, court costs, user fees and fines generated \$232,656,052 in revenue

(click to enlarge)

 **Cases Filed**

 **Case Filing: Courts of Record**

The Indiana Judicial Service Report and Indiana Probation Report are produced annually by the Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration. The reports are required by Indiana statute (IC 33-24-6-3) and Supreme Court administrative rules.

The Division published the first report with 1976 data as a photocopy of handwritten charts. Today, the information is gathered electronically and published online with a limited number of CD and hard copy versions printed. Division Executive Director,

Lilia Judson, said the data serves as a guide for policymakers. "The Division is proud to make this information available over the Internet for lawmakers and the public. The statistics are published by individual court and by county, with statewide comparative details included. This makes it easier to review the work of the courts and identify areas where the system can be improved."

For example, the weighted caseload measurement system is used to help decide how many judicial officers are needed to handle the cases that get filed every year. Volume 1 of the Judicial Service Report includes details on the measurement system. It is statistically developed to give relative weights to different types of cases. For example, a felony case takes more time to resolve than a traffic ticket. Using the weighted caseload measures, it is estimated Indiana needs 597 court-of-record judicial officers. The state only had 441 judicial officers. That means each judicial officer must work at 135% or handle the workload of 1.35 people, in order to adequately process all of the cases filed.

Information on the appellate courts is also available, including:

- The number of attorneys/judges disciplined by the Supreme Court
- The number of appellate court opinions handed down
- The location, month and number of oral arguments held

The Judicial Service Report is made up of Volume 1: Judicial Year in Review; Volume 2: Caseload Statistics; Volume 3: Financial Report. The Probation Report includes Volume 1: Statewide Summary and Volume 2: Individual Department and County Data. Indiana Courts In Brief, a 16-page brochure, is also available to provide an overview of all reports.



Case Filing: City, Town, Small Claims Courts

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**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE
December 15, 2010**

**Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722**



Indiana Supreme Court and Trial Court Judges Recognized Colleagues and Journalist

Dozens of judicial officers were recognized for their commitment to higher education and their long-time service to the judicial branch during 2011. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard said, "The judges honored this year for their public service and commitment to education are working every day to ensure that disputes are resolved fairly in our state. I commend their commitment to the people of Indiana."

Thirty-four judicial officers received an Indiana Judicial College certificate, one judge completed the Indiana Master's Certificate Program and two judges were honored for 24 years of service on the bench. One judge and one journalist were also honored for their commitment to public information and education. The honors were presented at a 2011 judicial conference.

Indiana Judicial College Certificate Graduates: A judicial officer must complete 120 hours of judicial education presented by the Indiana Judicial Center to receive this certificate. The programs offered are designed for judicial officers to enhance their legal knowledge and improve their personal and professional growth and development. This year's group of 34 graduates is the second largest class ever.

Thomas J. Alevizos, LaPorte County
Kathleen M. Belzeski, Lake County

Patrick B. Blankenship, Pulaski County
Sally A. Blankenship, Dearborn County
David C. Bonfiglio, Elkhart County

Stephen R. Bowers, Elkhart County
Thomas P. Boyer, Allen County
Larry E. Bradley, Marion County

Monte L. Brown, DeKalb County

Leo T. Burns, Cass County

Roland W. Chamblee Jr., St. Joseph County

Jennifer Lynn DeGroot, Allen County
Geoffrey Arlyss Gaither, Marion County

William P. Greenaway, Hamilton County

Kim Hall, Starke County
Michael D. Keele, Marion County

David O. Kelley, Warrick County

Stephenie D. LeMay-Luken, Hendricks County
Peggy Quint Lohorn, Montgomery County
Robert Ray McCallen, III, Wabash County
Ann Smith Mischler, Sullivan County
Christopher Allen Newton, Vigo County
Gregory A. Smith, Daviess County
Robert A. Spahr, Miami County
Mark E. Spitzer, Grant County
Karen A. Springer, Allen County
Thomas P. Stefaniak, Lake County
Jeffrey D. Todd, Grant County
Robert J. Tornatta, Vanderburgh County
Wayne S. Trockman, Vanderburgh County
Salvador Vasquez, Lake County
Jesse M. Villalpando, Lake County
Brian H. Williams, Morgan County
William E. Young, Marion County

To view and download photographs of the Judicial College Graduates please visit our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/incourts/sets/72157627764752180/>

Indiana Master's Certificate Program: To receive a Master's Certificate, a judicial officer must complete the Graduate Program. In addition, the judicial officer must also complete 120 hours of master's courses and submit an original writing piece or project. One judge completed this program in 2011.

Sherry B. Gregg Gilmore, Knox Circuit Court

To view and download pictures of Judge Gregg Gilmore please visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/incourts>

</sets/72157627764732882/>

24 Year Certificates: This award is presented to judges and magistrates with 24 years of service on the bench. Two judges were honored for their long-time service.

Cynthia S. Emkes, Johnson Superior Court
Robert W. Thacker, White Circuit Court

Community Relations Committee Awards: The Indiana Judges Association recognizes a judge and a journalist each year for their contribution to public information and education.

Allen Superior Court Judge Nancy E. Boyer was recognized for her work with the mortgage foreclosure program. Judge Boyer was the leader behind the Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program in Allen County, and within the first four months helped 18 homeowners avoid foreclosure, saving the county at least \$720,000.

The reporter recognized was Harold J. Adams of *The Courier-Journal* in Louisville. Adams' used the Indiana Judicial Service Report to review trial court statistics to write a story about the plea bargaining process.

To view and download the 24 Year Certificate and Community Relations Committee Awards photos visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/incourts/sets/72157627969460930/>

The Indiana Judicial Center serves as the state's judicial research and continuing judicial education agency. It develops and sponsors continuing education programming for judges, probation officers and other court personnel. The Center works to enhance the performance of the judicial system as a whole by continuously improving the professional competence of judicial officers. For more information on the Center visit courts.in.gov/center.

The purpose of the Indiana Judges Association is to cultivate the acquaintance of Indiana judges; to assist each other in mutual problems; to work with representatives of state agencies for the improvement of Indiana government; to provide a source of judicial membership for committees outside the Association and to exert a coordinated effort toward better and simpler administration of justice and clearer, more uniform procedure in all courts.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 19, 2011

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

Applications Available for Indiana Supreme Court

Applications for an upcoming vacancy on the state's highest court are due January 27, 2012. Today, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced details of the application process for the vacancy that will be available when he steps down from the bench.

On December 7th, Chief Justice Shepard announced he would retire from the Court in March 2012 after a quarter-century career. His retirement creates an opening on the five-member Court. Chief Justice Shepard explained, "Indiana lawyers and judges of all backgrounds, in all corners of our state should strongly consider this remarkable public service opportunity. The Commission needs our best and brightest to come forward and make their talents available for the judicial branch and the people of Indiana."

The seven-member Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission will search for Chief Justice Shepard's successor. The Commission includes three lawyers elected by their peers and three citizen-members appointed by the Governor. Chief Justice Shepard chairs the Commission. The Commission will conduct initial public interviews of qualified candidates in Indianapolis on February 8th – 10th, followed by second interviews on February 22nd-23rd. After the public interviews and Commission deliberations in an executive session, the Commission will publically vote to send the three most qualified names to Governor Mitch Daniels. The Governor will select Indiana's next justice. The Commission will select Indiana's next Chief Justice after March 4, 2012, but an exact timeline has not yet been determined.

Those interested in applying to be the state's 107th Supreme Court Justice may contact Counsel for the Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission, Adrienne Meiring, at 317-232-4706. A candidate must be an Indiana resident and must have been a member of the Indiana bar for ten years or an Indiana judge for five years. The annual salary and allowances for a Supreme Court Justice is \$156,295. The state's highest court operates year-round. It is asked to consider about 1,200 cases each year. The Court issues opinions in about 100 cases and holds nearly 70 oral arguments a year. The application is online at courts.in.gov/jud-qual.

For more information about the Indiana Supreme Court, visit courts.in.gov and for more information on the Judicial Nominating Commission visit courts.in.gov/jud-qual.