

SUPREME COURT

DAVID J. REMONDINI
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OF INDIANA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 7, 2008

Contact: David J. Remondini
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NEWS ADVISORY

CHIEF JUSTICE TO DELIVER STATE OF THE JUDICIARY ADDRESS

Indiana Chief Justice [Randall T. Shepard](#) will deliver his twenty-first State of the Judiciary address to a joint session of the Indiana General Assembly on Wednesday, January 16, 2008 at 1:30 p.m.

The annual address in the chambers of the Indiana House of Representatives is required by [Article 7](#), Section 3 of the Indiana Constitution and will last about an hour. The Chief Justice will discuss the Court's on-going projects, accomplishments and future plans.

Advance copies of the speech will be delivered to the State House media just prior to the speech. Media organizations may receive a copy via email by contacting David J. Remondini at dremondi@courts.state.in.us.

Internet users will be able to watch a live webcast of the speech by going to <http://www.in.gov/judiciary>. A video of the speech will be available on the Internet after the address. To view it after the speech or to read the full text, go to: www.IN.gov/judiciary/supreme/state_jud.html.



Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 9, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
(317) 234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN BROWNSBURG Case Originates in Marion County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Prime Mortgage USA, Inc. and David Law v. Delie T. Nichols* on Thursday, January 10th at 12:10 p.m. at the Boulder Creek Dining Company in Brownsburg. A panel of Judge James S. Kirsch, Judge Margret G. Robb, and Judge Paul D. Mathias will hear the case on appeal from Marion Superior Court's Civil Division.

The Court is asked to decide whether a lawsuit for damages stemming from an allegedly forged document is barred by the statute of limitations, and if not barred, whether the defendants are entitled to have a jury determine the amount of damages. Arguing for the appellants, Prime Mortgage USA and Mr. Law, will be Anthony Mommer of Krieg DeVault LLP of Indianapolis and Ronald Sentman of Katz & Korin, also of Indianapolis. Linda Pence of Sommer Barnard, Indianapolis, will argue for Ms. Nichols.

The Brownsburg Rotary Club is sponsoring this visit by the Court of Appeals to Brownsburg. The case will be the Court's 201st oral argument heard "on the road" since early 2000, just prior to its centennial. The Court travels to hear cases to better enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch; the audience may question the judges about the judicial process following the argument. Sites for "traveling oral arguments" typically include law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 10, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
(317) 234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT AT NORTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL Case Originates in Lake County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *John B. Lind v. Menard Inc. and Scotch Corporation* on Tuesday, January 15th at 9:30 a.m. at North Central High School in Indianapolis. A panel of Judge Carr L. Darden, Judge Margret G. Robb, and Judge Cale J. Bradford will hear the case on appeal from Lake Superior Court.

The case stems from injuries Mr. Lind suffered to his eyes, face and chest after he used a drain cleaner manufactured by the Scotch Corporation. The Court is asked to decide whether the trial court erred in concluding there was no genuine issue of material fact regarding the adequacy of, and Mr. Lind's disregard for, Scotch's warnings and directions. Arguing for the appellant, Mr. Lind, will be Robert M. Schwerd of Hilbrich Cunningham Schwerd Dobosz & Vinovich, LLP in Highland. Charles C. Hoppe, Jr. of Knight Hoppe Kurnik & Knight, LTD in Schererville will argue for the Scotch Corporation.

This case is the Court of Appeals' first visit to North Central High School, and the 202nd oral argument heard "on the road" since the Court began regularly hearing oral arguments at venues across the state at its centennial in 2001. The Court travels to hear cases to better enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch; students may question the judges about the judicial process following the argument. Sites for "traveling oral arguments" typically include law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses.

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SUPREME COURT

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OF INDIANA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 28, 2008

Contact: David J. Remondini
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SUPREME COURT STAFFER WINS COURT'S "PRIDE OF THE MIAMI" AWARD

Mooresville native Jennifer Bauer, a staff attorney for the Indiana Supreme Court's Judicial Center, was given the Court's "Pride of the Miami" for her selfless help with her mother's organ transplant, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

Ms. Bauer received the award during the court's annual Employee Recognition Ceremony from Miami nation Vice-Chief John Dunnagan, after she was introduced by Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard.

Ms. Bauer played a critical role when her mother, Karen Bauer of Mooresville, needed an organ transplant due to a kidney disease. Mrs. Bauer is married to Travis Bauer.

"Ms. Bauer's action displayed courage and a deep generous spirit. We are proud of her actions and very pleased she is part of the Supreme Court family," said Chief Justice Shepard.

"The transplant returned Mrs. Bauer's vitality and health; she is now doing better than expected, and her doctors are pleased with her progress. Just as Mrs. Bauer gave Jenny life, Jenny returned the gift," the Chief Justice added.



Left to Right: Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, Jenny Bauer, Vice Chief John Dunnagan of the Miami Nation, Jenny's mother Karen Bauer, Jenny's sister Mary Sizemore holding her daughter Claire, and Jenny's father Travis Bauer.

Ms. Bauer received her undergraduate degree from DePauw University and her law degree from Indiana University-Bloomington. She has worked for the Judicial Center for nine years.

The "Pride of the Miami" award was created by court staff to recognize outstanding service by a member of the Supreme Court's staff. The staff decided to name it in honor of the Miami Nation, whose mission is to "befriend and care for the children, young people, adults, and elders, assisting them in whatever way we are able."

It has only been presented once before. Commission on Legal Education staffer Lana James received the award in 2007. Court staffers consulted with the Miami Nation and received the nation's consent before proceeding with the award.



Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications

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Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3568
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 31, 2008

Contact: Meg Babcock
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NEW CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT UNDER REVIEW

The Indiana Supreme Court will amend the Indiana Code of Judicial Conduct after judges, lawyers, and the public review a draft of the Rule. In late 2007, a committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana studied the 2007 American Bar Association Model Code of Judicial Conduct and drafted a similar Indiana Code. The Committee's draft is posted on the Supreme Court's website, and the Court will consider all comments before it issues the 2009 Code of Judicial Conduct later this year.

The new Code emphasizes the "three i's" of judicial conduct - independence, integrity, and impartiality - and continues to hold judges to strict standards of conduct in all their activities. The Rule not only sets out clear rules of judicial conduct, which, if violated, subject judges to discipline by the Supreme Court, it also includes aspirational ethical principles intended as guidance for Indiana's judges and judicial candidates.

Specifically, the new Code encourages judges to reach out to the public to promote understanding of the judicial system, specifies that a judge may take measures to ensure that unrepresented litigants have fair hearings, and assures judges that they properly may confer with unbiased colleagues about cases and issues. Additionally, the new Rule imposes clear parameters for reimbursement of expenses to judges who attend private legal seminars, recognizes domestic partners as family members in its conflicts of interests rules, and requires judges to remove themselves from cases if they made campaign statements committing themselves to particular outcomes. The Ethics Committee's proposed Indiana Rule incorporates these and many other aspects of the new Model; its most substantial changes to the Model Rules are about restrictions on judges' business interests and the limits on judges' political activities.

The Ethics Committee draft is at <http://courts.in.gov/code> along with various other documents relating to this project, including the current Indiana Code, the 2007 ABA Model, and a roster of Ethics Committee members. The legal profession and the general public all are encouraged to submit their comments for consideration by the Supreme Court when it updates and revises Indiana's Code of Judicial Conduct.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 21, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
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COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT AT WABASH COLLEGE

Case Originates in Monroe County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *H.D., et al. v. BHC Meadows Hospital, Inc., et al.* on Tuesday, February 26th at 3:00 p.m. at Wabash College. A panel of Judge Patricia A. Riley, Judge James S. Kirsch and Judge Melissa S. May will hear the case on appeal from Monroe Circuit Court.

The Court is asked to decide whether an Indiana law requires that the appellants, H.D., a juvenile, and her parents, bring their claim, arising from a breach of patient confidentiality, to a medical review panel prior to a state court. Arguing for the appellant, H.D., will be Betsy Greene of Greene & Schultz Law Firm in Bloomington. Lucy Dollens of Locke Reynolds in Indianapolis will argue for BHC Meadows Hospital, Inc.

This case is the Court of Appeals' eighth visit to Wabash College in as many years. The Court has heard more than 200 oral arguments "on the road," since it began regularly traveling the state to hear oral arguments at its centennial in 2001. The Court travels to better enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch; students may question the judges about the judicial process following the argument. Sites for "traveling oral arguments" typically include law schools, colleges, high schools, and county courthouses.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 26, 2008

Contact: Dr. Elizabeth Osborn
317-232-2550

BENJAMIN HARRISON DAY TO BE CELEBRATED IN STATE HOUSE

Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announces today that President Benjamin Harrison Day will be celebrated Tuesday, March 4, 2008 in the Indiana State House. The program will feature a re-enactment of a famous Indiana Civil War trial that remains relevant today.

The event is the sixth annual State House celebration in honor of the 119th anniversary of President Harrison's inauguration. Harrison is the only Hoosier to serve as U.S. President. He also served as the Reporter of the Indiana Supreme Court and led troops for the Indiana 70th Volunteer Regiment in the Civil War.

Tuesday's events are sponsored by the Indiana Supreme Court's "Courts in the Classroom" program, the President Benjamin Harrison Home, the State House Tour Office, and the Indiana University School of Law—Indianapolis Alumni Association.

Approximately 250 students from Harshman Middle School, Indian Creek Middle School, Indianapolis Metropolitan High School, Mooresville Christian Academy, Plainfield High School, St. Jude Catholic School, South Ripley High School, and numerous homeschools will be participating in a courtroom re-enactment of a famous U.S. Supreme Court case with Indiana roots, *Ex Parte Milligan*. Stephen Towne, IUPUI Special Collections and Archives, will moderate a brief discussion with the students on how *Ex Parte Milligan* is relevant in today's world.

Milligan, a resident of Huntington, Indiana, was sentenced to death by a military tribunal for his outspoken opposition to President Lincoln's Civil War draft and for his participation in anti-war activities. Several famous Hoosiers, including Benjamin Harrison, Oliver P. Morton, Alvin Hovey and Thomas Hendricks participated in Milligan's Indiana civil trial after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the findings of the military tribunal.

The winner of the state seal contest related to the life or ideals of Benjamin Harrison will also be recognized on Tuesday at a brief ceremony in the rotunda. Lauren Jones, a fourth grader from Mooresville Christian Academy (Mooresville, Indiana) is this year's winner. A display of materials from the Benjamin Harrison Home will also be on exhibit in the rotunda.

The Courtroom program is open to the public but seating will be extremely limited. It will be webcast live and also archived for later viewing. Information about the webcast, the *Ex Parte Milligan* script and other teacher background information is available from the Courts in the Classroom website. Visit <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/citc/lessons/harrison-day-2008/index.html>. For more information about Benjamin Harrison, visit www.presidentbenjaminharrison.org.

For more information about this or any other Courts in the Classroom program, please contact Dr. Elizabeth R. Osborn at eosborn@courts.state.in.us or 317.232.2550.

 Photo of Benjamin Harrison

SUPREME COURT

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OF INDIANA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 3, 2008

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INDIANA BAR EXAMINATION HAS NEW ADMINISTRATOR AT THE HELM

Indianapolis – For the first time since 1982, attorneys taking the Indiana Bar Examination saw a new face at the front of room.

Linda Loepker, who was appointed Executive Director of the Indiana Supreme Court's Board of Law Examiners on September 1, 2007, administered the most recent exam given on February 26-27.

Loepker took over the post at the Board of Law Examiners from longtime executive director Mary Place Godsey. When Godsey retired, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard estimated she had been part of the examination process for more than half the practicing attorneys in Indiana.

"Taking the Indiana Bar Examination is a major milestone for all attorneys, and being part of this process is a great responsibility as well as an honor. I look forward to ensuring the exam experience is a fair and challenging one for those who take it," said Loepker.

Before taking her post at the Board of Law Examiners, Loepker worked for the Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration. She served first as a staff attorney and then as Director of Office and Employment Law Services.

She focused on employment law and advised members of the Indiana Judiciary on all aspects of their administrative responsibilities in the employment law area. She conducted seminars on a variety of topics, including the Family and Medical Leave Act; the Americans With Disabilities Act; the Fair Labor Standards Act; the Age Discrimination Act; the Civil Rights Act; the Code of Federal Regulations for Labor; hiring, firing, disciplining of employees; defense of sexual harassment claims; and development of employment policies and procedures.

Ms. Loepker graduated with a B.A. from Valparaiso University and received her J.D. degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School. She is licensed to practice in Michigan and Indiana, as well as the federal courts in each of those states.



Linda Loepker, Executive Director
Indiana Board of Law Examiners



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 17, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce

(317) 234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT REGARDING SEX OFFENDER RESIDENCY LAW AT IU SCHOOL OF LAW, INDIANAPOLIS

Case Originates in Blackford County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *State of Indiana v. Anthony W. Pollard* on Monday, March 31st at 2:30 p.m. in the Wynne Courtroom in Inlow Hall at the IU School of Law, Indianapolis. A panel of Judge Ezra H. Friedlander, Judge Margret G. Robb, and Judge Paul D. Mathias will hear the case on appeal from Blackford Superior Court.

The Court is asked to decide whether the trial court erred in finding that a statute limiting convicted sex offenders from living within 1,000 feet of a school property, a youth program center, or a public park was an *ex post facto* law as it applied to Mr. Pollard's 20-year residency and was therefore unconstitutional in his case. Arguing for the appellant, the State of Indiana, will be Deputy Attorney General Cynthia Ploughe. Chris Teagle of the Teagle Law Firm in Muncie will argue for Mr. Pollard.

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. *State v. Pollard* will be the Court's eighth visit to Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis in the past eight years. The Court has heard more than 200 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

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STATE OF INDIANA

SUPREME COURT

RANDALL T. SHEPARD, CHIEF JUSTICE



INDIANAPOLIS 46204-2798

304 STATE HOUSE
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March 24, 2008Contact: Dr. Elizabeth Osborn
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SUPREME COURT TO HOST CLE EVENT HIGHLIGHTING INDIANA SUPREME COURT JUSTICES EXPERIENCES AT THE POST-WORLD WAR II NUREMBERG TRIALS

The Indiana Supreme Court Legal History Lecture Series will host a free CLE event highlighting the experiences of Curtis Shake and Frank Richman, both former justices of the Indiana Supreme Court, who served as civilian judges at the post-World War II Nuremberg trials.

The free CLE will be held on Wednesday, March 26, 2008 in the House Chambers and will focus on Indiana's connections to the Nuremberg trials.

Curtis Shake (Indiana Supreme Court, 1938-1945) was named the presiding judge over what's now known as the Farben case. Farben, one of the largest chemical companies in the world, was charged with allegations of slavery and mass murder arising from its production of synthetic rubber at a site adjacent to the German concentration camp in Auschwitz, Poland. Frank Richman (Indiana Supreme Court, 1941-1946) served on a Nuremberg tribunal that charged Friedrich Flick, one of the richest men in Germany, and five of his business associates with the use of slave labor and spoliation of evidence.

A rectangular box containing a small icon of a photograph and the text "Photograph of Second territorial capitol".

Civilian judges hear arguments at Nuremberg Trials.

Speakers will include Ms. Suzanne Bellamy, Esquire, and Professor Frances Quigley. Ms. Bellamy recently completed a large research project on Justices Shake and Richman to be showcased in two forthcoming articles in *Traces Magazine of Midwestern History*. Professor Quigley is an adjunct professor at the IU School of Law--Indianapolis in the International Law program, former executive director of the Indiana ACLU, and the current Operations Director for the IU-Kenya Partnership. Dr. Quigley will provide a brief overview of recent tribal unrest in Kenya.

The free CLE will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26, 2008 in the House Chambers. It will be webcast live* at <http://www.ihets.org/webmedia/asx/house/live.asx>. Archived viewing will be available after March 27 from the Court's webpage.

The event is free and open to the public. Reservations are still being accepted, but seating is limited. Please email shachey@courts.state.in.us to reserve a seat. Light refreshments will follow.

1.3 CLE credit hours have been approved for this program. The CLE number is 109089.

For more information, please contact Dr. Elizabeth R. Osborn, Assistant to the Chief Justice for Court History and Public Education at 317.232.2550 or her assistant at shachey@courts.state.in.us.

*Those viewing the event webcast will not receive CLE credit.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 27, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
(317) 234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT AT LAKE SUPERIOR COURT IN HAMMOND

Case Originates in Lake County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Gladys Tobias v. Margaret and Thomas Mannella* on Monday, April 7th at 10:00 a.m. CT in the courtroom of Lake Superior Court, Civil Division #1, 232 Russell Street in Hammond. A panel of Judge Patricia A. Riley, Judge James S. Kirsch and Judge Margret G. Robb will hear the case on appeal from Lake Superior Court.

The Court is asked to decide whether the trial court erred in finding that a tenant had no claim to a share in the profit received after the sale of the real estate on which the tenant lived. Arguing for the appellant, Gladys Tobias, will be W. Joseph O'Connor of the O'Connor Law Firm in Hammond. David Weigle of David W. Weigle & Associates in Hammond will argue for the Mannellas.

The Court hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. Members of the audience – including students participating in the “We The People” program at Munster High School and a group of students from Hanover Central High School in Cedar Lake – may ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana following the submission of the case. *Tobias v. Mannella* will be the Court’s second visit to the courtroom of Judge Diane Kavadias-Schneider, and its fifth to Hammond, in the past eight years. The Court has heard more than 200 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
March 31, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
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COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT AT IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN LAFAYETTE

Case Originates in Lake County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Victor Vega Torres v. State of Indiana* on Tuesday, April 8th at 10:00 a.m. at Ivy Tech Community College in Lafayette. A panel of Judge Ezra H. Friedlander, Judge Margret G. Robb and Judge Cale J. Bradford will hear the case on appeal from Lake Superior Court.

The Court is asked to decide whether Mr. Torres' maximum sentence of eight years following a guilty plea to child molesting is inappropriate in light of the nature of the offense and his character, including his history of mental illness. Arguing for the appellant, Mr. Torres, will be Thomas Vanes of the Lake County Public Defenders' Office. Deputy Attorney General Arturo Rodriguez will argue for the State.

The Court hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch, and members of the audience are invited to ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana following the submission of the case. *Torres v. State* will be the Court's seventh visit to Ivy Tech's Lafayette campus in as many years. The Court has heard more than 200 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 01, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
(317) 234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS FIRST ORAL ARGUMENT AT WAWASEE HIGH SCHOOL IN SYRACUSE, KOSCIUSKO COUNTY

Case Originates in Kosciusko County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Jerald J. Womack v. State of Indiana* on Thursday, April 24th at 9:30 a.m. at Wawasee High School in Syracuse. A panel of Chief Judge John G. Baker, Judge Terry A. Crone, and Judge Cale J. Bradford will hear the case on appeal from Kosciusko Circuit Court.

Mr. Womack appeals his convictions for Class D felony marijuana possession and for being a habitual controlled substance offender, as well as the nine-year sentence he received. The convictions are based on evidence that marijuana was found in a car in which Mr. Womack had been driving and that he had a certain number of prior controlled substance convictions. Among the issues Mr. Womack raises, he contends that the police search of the car violated his rights under the Indiana and federal constitutions and that the State failed to prove that he possessed the marijuana that was found. Arguing for the appellant, Mr. Womack, will be Michael W. Reed of Reed & Earhart Attorneys at Law in Warsaw. Deputy Attorney General Ian McLean 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. Although *Womack v. State* will be the Court's first visit to Wawasee High School, it has heard more than 200 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 01, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
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COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT AT HERITAGE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL IN INDIANAPOLIS

Case Originates in Grant County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Otis Freshwater v. State of Indiana* on Tuesday, April 15th at 1:30 p.m. at Heritage Christian School in Indianapolis. A panel of Judge Melissa S. May, Judge Michael P. Barnes, and Judge Cale J. Bradford will hear the case on appeal from Grant Superior Court.

Mr. Freshwater is appealing his conviction for armed robbery and residential entry. The Court is asked to decide two issues. The first is whether the trial court erred by admitting hearsay statements from a police officer over Mr. Freshwater's objection. The second stems from Mr. Freshwater's belief that the State failed to meet their burden of proof on the second count of residential entry. The Court is asked to decide whether this contention is true, and if so, whether the trial court erred by failing to rule in his favor on that count. Arguing for the appellant, Mr. Freshwater, will be Grant County Public Defender C. Robert Rittman. Deputy Attorney General Joseph R. Delameter 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. Though *Freshwater v. State* will be the Court's first visit to Heritage Christian School, the Court has heard more than 200 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 01, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
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COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTHEAST IN NEW ALBANY

Case Originates in Clark County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Charles Sweeney v. State of Indiana* on Wednesday, April 9th at 12:30 p.m. in Hoosier Room West of the University Center North Building at Indiana University Southeast, New Albany. A panel of Judge L. Mark Bailey, Judge Melissa S. May, and Judge Cale J. Bradford will hear the case on appeal from Clark Circuit Court.

After Mr. Sweeney's attorney erroneously advised him that he had an immunity agreement with a prosecutor, he led authorities to the body of a murder victim. The Court is asked to decide whether Mr. Sweeney deserves post-conviction relief due to ineffective counsel following his conviction in the murder and his sentence of 60 years. Arguing for the appellant, Mr. Sweeney, will be Susan Schultz of Corydon. Deputy Attorney General Zach Stock will argue for the State.

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. *Sweeney v. State* will be the Court's second visit to New Albany, and its 12th to the area, in the past eight years. The Court has heard more than 200 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 01, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
(317) 234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT AT SAINT-MARY-OF-THE-WOODS COLLEGE IN VIGO COUNTY

Case Originates in Sullivan County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Gary and Katherine Hoesman v. Daniel Sheffler, et al.* on Tuesday, April 15th at 10:30 a.m. in the Cecilian Auditorium of the Conservatory of Music Building at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in Vigo County. A panel of Judge Patricia A. Riley, Judge James S. Kirsch, and Judge Margret G. Robb will hear the case on appeal from Sullivan Circuit Court.

A trust's beneficiaries discovered that the trust administrator had converted trust funds for her personal use. The beneficiaries obtained removal of the administrator and a money judgment against her. The beneficiaries now seek to reach assets held by the administrator's husband and mother on theories of fraudulent transfer, prior lien, and constructive trust. The Court is asked to decide whether the trial court was correct in granting summary judgment for the mother and in denying the beneficiaries' motions for leave to amend their complaint and to consolidate this action with another. Arguing for the appellant, the trust, will be Arnold H. Brames of Brames & Oldham in Terre Haute. Appellee Daniel Sheffler will be represented by Jeffry A. Lind of Fleschner Stark Tanoos & Newlin; James McDonald of Everett Everett & McDonald will appear for Mr. Sheffler's mother-in-law, Constance Pleasant Johnson.

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 of Appeals has heard oral argument at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College since 1982; *Hoesman v. Sheffler* will be the Court's ninth visit to the College since it began regularly traveling statewide at its centennial in 2000-2001. The Court has heard more than 200 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools and county courthouses since that time.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 01, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
(317) 234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT AT VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Case Originates in Marion County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Tim Sinks v. Krista L. Caughey* on Monday, April 21st at 3:00 p.m. CT at Valparaiso University School of Law in Valparaiso. A panel of Judge John T. Sharpnack, Judge Nancy H. Vaidik, and Judge Michael P. Barnes will hear the case on appeal from Marion Superior Court.

The case stems from a 2002 automobile accident in which Ms. Caughey was rear-ended by a pickup truck. The same insurance company insured both vehicles, and Ms. Caughey relied on information provided by the insurance company for the identity of the other driver when she filed her initial complaint. She later learned the initial information provided was incorrect, and Mr. Sinks was actually driving. She then filed a motion to amend her complaint. Mr. Sinks objected and filed a motion to dismiss Ms. Caughey's complaint on the grounds that her amended complaint was filed after the statute of limitations had run out, and she was therefore time barred from adding him as a defendant. The trial court denied Mr. Sinks' motion to dismiss and allowed Ms. Caughey to amend her complaint. The Court of Appeals will determine whether the trial court erred in denying Mr. Sinks' motion to dismiss. Arguing for the appellant, Mr. Sinks, will be W. Brent Threlkeld or Breanne J. Strubinger of Threlkeld Reynolds LLP in Indianapolis. Kelli J. Young of Indianapolis will argue for Ms. Caughey.

The Court of Appeals is hearing this case at Valparaiso University School of Law, its sixth visit there in seven years, as part of its traveling oral arguments program enabling Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch. Law students and other 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 200 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools and county courthouses throughout Indiana since its centennial in 2000-2001. This case will also be the final oral argument for Judge John T. Sharpnack, who graduates to senior status on May 2nd after more than 17 years of service on the Court of Appeals.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 01, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
(317) 234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT BEFORE THE MINTON INN OF COURT IN JEFFERSONVILLE

Case Originates in Steuben County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Indiana Department of Natural Resources v. Lake George Cottagers Association* on Wednesday, April 9th at 5:30 p.m. at the banquet hall Kye's in Jeffersonville. A panel of Judge L. Mark Bailey, Judge Melissa S. May, and Judge Cale J. Bradford will hear the case on appeal from Steuben Circuit Court.

The case centers on who owns the land beneath a dam – the State or the Association – and who is therefore responsible for maintaining the dam. Arguing for the appellant, the State of Indiana, will be Deputy Attorney General Elizabeth Rogers. Karl Mulvaney of Bingham McHale in Indianapolis will argue for the Lake George Cottagers Association.

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. *DNR v. Lake George Cottagers Association* will be the Court's third visit to Jeffersonville, and its 13th to the area, in the past eight years. The Court has heard more than 200 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 01, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce

(317) 234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN DISPUTE OVER JUVENILE FUNDING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA, EVANSVILLE

Case Originates in Shelby County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Marion County and St. Joseph County, Indiana v. State of Indiana* on Thursday, April 17th at 2:00 p.m. CT in Carter Hall, 233 University Center, at the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville. A panel of Chief Judge John G. Baker, Judge Carr L. Darden, and Judge Melissa S. May will hear the case on appeal from Shelby Superior Court.

The case centers on who must pay to operate juvenile detention facilities – the State or individual counties. Marion and St. Joseph counties brought an action against the State after the State tried to recover from Indiana counties some \$75 million it spent to operate juvenile detention facilities. The Court will determine whether the trial court erred in entering a decision favoring the State on the grounds that the statute allowing the State to recover such expenses is constitutional, that that counties lacked standing to bring the action, and that the action was barred by the statute of limitations. Arguing for the appellants, Marion County and St. Joseph County, will be Geoffrey Slaughter of Sommer Barnard in Indianapolis. Deputy Attorney General David Steiner will argue for the State.

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. *Marion County and St. Joseph County v. State* will be the Court's seventh visit to the University of Southern Indiana and its eighth to Evansville in the past eight years. The Court has heard more than 200 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 01, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
(317) 234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS ORAL ARGUMENT IN PIZZA CASE AT IU SCHOOL OF LAW - INDIANAPOLIS

Case Originates in Hamilton County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *Thomas Williams and Sanford Kelsey v. Kelly E. Tharp and Papa John's USA, Inc.* on Tuesday, April 8th at 5:00 p.m. in the Wynne Courtroom in Inlow Hall at the IU School of Law, Indianapolis. A panel of Judge Patricia A. Riley, Judge James S. Kirsch, and Judge Melissa S. May will hear the case on appeal from Hamilton Circuit Court.

The case involves a series of events following a pizza order. The facts most favorable to Mr. Williams and Mr. Kelsey, as the parties defending against Papa John's summary judgment motion, are that an employee of Papa John's, Mr. Tharp, falsely told police that the appellants pulled a gun when they picked up a pizza from a Papa John's restaurant in Westfield. A number of police officers surrounded the men's vehicle when they returned home with their pizza. Police detained them, in handcuffs and on their knees, for an hour and a half while they investigated. Mr. Williams and Mr. Kelsey later sued Papa John's for defamation, false imprisonment, negligence, and intentional infliction of emotional distress. The Court will determine whether the trial court erred in finding that Mr. Tharp's statements were not defamatory and that he did not act intentionally or in an extreme or outrageous manner. Arguing for the appellants, Mr. Williams and Mr. Kelsey, will be Arend Abel of Cohen & Malad, Indianapolis. Mr. Tharp and Papa John's will be represented by Eric Johnson of Kightlinger & Gray's Indianapolis office.

The Court hears oral argument at venues across the state to enable Hoosiers to learn about the judicial branch, and members of the audience are invited to ask questions about the judicial process in Indiana following the submission of the case. *Williams v. Tharp* will be the Court's ninth visit to Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis in the past eight years. The Court has heard more than 200 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

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Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications

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Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3568
(317) 232-4706
FAX (317) 233-6586

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 10, 2008

Contact: Meg Babcock
317.233.5394

JUDICIAL COMMISSION CHARGES JUDGES WITH DELAY AND NEGLECT

The Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications filed judicial disciplinary charges Wednesday against the Honorable Grant W. Hawkins and Commissioner Nancy L. Broyles of the Marion Superior Court.

The charges stem from the court's mishandling of David Buntin's post-conviction case, in which the court found after a 2-year delay that DNA evidence gathered after Buntin's 1986 trial entitled him to have his rape and robbery convictions set aside. The charges recite several instances in which the judges not only delayed Buntin's case, but failed to provide timely and reliable information to the Commission about why the delay occurred.

The Commission's charges state that Judge Hawkins and Commissioner Broyles violated rules for judges which require them to preserve the integrity of the judiciary, to respect and comply with the law, and to act in a manner which promotes the public's confidence in the integrity of the judiciary, and that they committed conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice. The judges may respond to the Charges within 20 days, after which the Indiana Supreme Court will appoint, in each case, three Indiana judges, called Masters, to preside over the evidentiary hearings and file a report to the Court. The final decision whether the judges committed misconduct and, if so, what professional sanctions are appropriate, is made by the Supreme Court.

Judge Hawkins is represented by attorney Kevin P. McGoff at (317) 635-8900 and Commissioner Broyles is represented by attorneys James H. Voyles and Jennifer M. Lukemeyer at (317) 632-4463.

The Charges against Judge Hawkins can be found at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/jud-qual/docs/charges/hawkins-040908.pdf>. The Charges against Commissioner Broyles can be found at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/jud-qual/docs/charges/broyles-040908.pdf>.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 11, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
(317) 234-4859

COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS FIRST ORAL ARGUMENT AT SPRINGS VALLEY JR.-SR. HIGH SCHOOL IN FRENCH LICK

Case Originates in Elkhart County

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral argument in *James H. Helton v. State of Indiana* on Tuesday, April 22nd at 10:30 a.m. at Springs Valley Jr.-Sr. High School in French Lick. A panel of Chief Judge John G. Baker, Judge Edward W. Najam, Jr., and Judge Melissa S. May will hear the case on appeal from Elkhart Superior Court.

The Court is asked to determine whether an invalid search warrant was used to obtain evidence against Mr. Helton, and if so, whether Mr. Helton was denied the effective assistance of trial counsel when counsel did not move to suppress that evidence. Arguing for the appellant, Mr. Helton, will be Jonathan Chenowith of the Marion County Public Defender Agency. Deputy Attorney General Justin Roebel 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. Although *Helton v. State* will be the Court's first visit to Springs Valley Jr.-Sr. High School, it has heard more than 200 oral arguments "on the road" at law schools, colleges, high schools and county courthouses since its centennial in 2000-2001.

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STATE OF INDIANA

SUPREME COURT

RANDALL T. SHEPARD, CHIEF JUSTICE



INDIANAPOLIS 46204-2798

304 STATE HOUSE
(317) 232-2550**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
April 30, 2008**Contact: Dr. Elizabeth Osborn**
317-232-2550

SUPREME COURT TO HOST CLE EVENT ON ISSUES OF INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION OF WAR CRIMES, GENOCIDE, AND CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY

A CLE event focusing on international prosecution of war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity will be held in the Indiana Supreme Courtroom on May 7, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

The free CLE will be held on Wednesday, May 7, 2008, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. (EDT) in the Supreme Court Courtroom in the Indiana State House in downtown Indianapolis. It will also be webcast live.* To view the program, please go to <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/citc/cle/warcrimes/index.html>.

What are the differences between and among war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity? What bodies of international and domestic law apply during civil war, international armed conflict, and/or peacetime? What are the trial and appellate procedures in international criminal tribunals? Who chooses (and trains) those tribunals' prosecutors, defense counsel, and judges?

Our speakers have recent and direct experience with these topics. Judge Nancy Vaidik of the Indiana Court of Appeals has recently returned from teaching a 7-day seminar in Arusha, Tanzania to UN prosecutors who are prosecuting genocide and crimes against humanity in Congo, Sudan, Rwanda, and the former Yugoslavia. George Edwards, a professor of the IU School of Law—Indianapolis, has worked on a variety of international cases including for the defense on the cases against Slobodan Milosevic, the detainees at Guantanamo Bay, and Omar Khadr.

The sold-out event is free, but standby reservations are still being accepted. Please email shachey@courts.state.in.us to reserve a seat. Webcast viewing outside the courtroom will be available for those not able to reserve a seat. Light refreshments will follow.

1.5 CLE credit hours have been approved for this program. The CLE number is 0110761.

For more information, please contact Dr. Elizabeth R. Osborn, Assistant to the Chief Justice for Court History and Public Education at 317.232.2550 or her assistant at shachey@courts.state.in.us.

*Those viewing the event via webcast will not receive CLE credit.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 01, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
(317) 234-4859

JUDGE JOHN T. SHARPNAK RETIRES FROM THE COURT OF APPEALS

Judge John T. Sharpnack will retire from the Indiana Court of Appeals in a ceremony in the Supreme Court courtroom at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 2, 2008. Chief Judge John G. Baker will preside. Judge Sharpnack's family, colleagues, former law clerks, and special guests will attend the ceremony, followed by a reception. (Seating is by invitation, but the media is welcome to cover the event.)

Judge Sharpnack, appointed by Governor Evan Bayh in January 1991, served more than 17 years. He reaches the constitutionally-mandated retirement age of 75 on May 7th, and his last day on the court will be May 3, 2008. He will continue to serve the citizens of Indiana as a senior judge beginning May 5th.

Judge Sharpnack, who was retained on the Court of Appeals by election in 1994 and 2004, served as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals from September 9, 1992 to December 31, 2001. During his tenure as Chief Judge, the court created a motions panel to rule on motions made prior to a case being fully briefed; initiated a rotating panel system for deciding cases; and started a senior judge program for the Court of Appeals. Case closure rates markedly improved following these innovations.

Before joining the court, Judge Sharpnack maintained a private practice of law as a partner at Sharpnack, Bigley, David and Rumble, the Columbus (Indiana) firm founded by his grandfather. Earlier, following graduation from law school in 1960, Judge Sharpnack joined the Honor Graduate Program at the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, DC as an attorney, where he served until 1963.

A native of Columbus, Indiana, Judge Sharpnack grew up in West Virginia, Washington, DC, Pennsylvania and Cincinnati. He served for three years in the United States Army, from 1955 to 1957. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Cincinnati's College of Arts and Science and his law degree from UC's College of Law, where he was also Editor-in-Chief of the Law Review.

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Governor Mitch Daniels selected Judge Elaine B. Brown of the Dubois Superior Court to take Judge Sharpnack's seat on the court.



Judge John T. Sharpnack

Watch the Retirement Ceremony

Windows Media:





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 7, 2008

Contact: Maura Pierce
(317) 234-4859

JUDGE ELAINE BROWN FORMALLY JOINS THE COURT OF APPEALS

Judge Elaine Brown will formally join the Indiana Court of Appeals in a robing ceremony in the Supreme Court courtroom at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 16, 2008. Chief Judge John G. Baker will preside. Governor Mitch Daniels will join Judge Brown's family, colleagues, and special guests to administer the oath of office at the ceremony, which will be followed by a reception. Seating is by invitation, but the media is welcome to cover the event.

Judge Brown was named to the Court of Appeals by Governor Mitch Daniels. She joins Judge Nancy H. Vaidik and Judge Margret G. Robb to complete the Court's Fifth District, which draws a judge from each of the Court's first three geographical districts. Judge Brown is the Fifth District judge from southern Indiana and will stand for retention statewide.

Judge Brown was a trial court judge for 15 years, as well as an attorney in private practice. She served as judge of the Dubois Superior Court from 1987 to 1998 and again from 2005 to 2008. In the years between her service on the bench, she maintained a solo practice in Jasper and was a senior attorney with Fine & Hatfield in Evansville. Earlier in the 1980s, she practiced law with the firm of Thom & DeMotte in Jasper.

A native of Ferdinand, Judge Brown was salutatorian of the class of 1972 at Forest Park High School. She earned a bachelor's degree with distinction from Indiana University in 1976, and her J.D. from the IU School of Law in Bloomington in 1982. She was a teacher in the Greater Jasper Consolidated School Corporation for three years before she entered law school, teaching fine arts to students in grades K through 12.

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Judge Elaine Brown

Watch the 5/16/08 Robing Ceremony

Windows Media:



SUPREME COURT

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OF INDIANA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 8, 2008

Contact: David J. Remondini
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ONLINE PARENTING TIME AND CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES MORE USER-FRIENDLY

Indianapolis – Newly formatted versions of parenting time and child support guidelines have made the Supreme Court's most popular online rules more user-friendly.

Child support and parenting time guidelines are commonly the most-viewed rules on the Indiana Supreme Court's website, <http://courts.IN.gov>.

The parenting time guidelines provide valuable information on how both custodial and non-custodial parents can successfully provide their children with the support they need.

While the information provided in the online version of the guidelines is important, many users had found it unwieldy to print out for regular reference.

"We received feedback from the public, court and clerks' offices that the parenting time guidelines were difficult to make copies of because they were so long. We want this information to be as easily accessible as possible so we reformatted the file to make it easier to print," said Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard.

No information was removed from the documents, but the number of pages was reduced from 27 to 15 for the parenting time guidelines and from 37 to 25 pages for the child support guidelines.

The Division of State Court Administration will also be providing hard copies of the parenting time guidelines to local courts and clerks that request them. They will be available later this summer.

View the guidelines online at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/rules/parenting/parenting.pdf> and http://www.in.gov/judiciary/rules/child_support/child_support.pdf.

SUPREME COURT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 8, 2008

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PORTIONS OF INDIANA CODE NOW AVAILABLE *EN ESPAÑOL*

The Indiana Supreme Court has taken another step to make Indiana court more accessible by translating portions of the Indiana Code into Spanish, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

“Having this material available in Spanish was a natural next step in our efforts to make Indiana courts accessible to all. Victims of crimes, defendants, and their counsel will now have access to basic code sections in Spanish. The court already has an interpreter certification program and we partner with Ivy Tech campuses across Indiana to offer classes in Workplace Spanish for the Indiana Judicial System,” said Chief Justice Shepard.

A key goal of the project is to better serve Spanish speaking people and the people who represent them. Making some Indiana Code sections, as well as a glossary of terms, available in Spanish was also supported by the Supreme Court’s Commission on Race and Gender Fairness, which is staffed by the Court’s Division of State Court Administration.

“Interpreters said it would be helpful to have a standard document on legal terminology so all interpreters use the same terms for charges, such as disorderly conduct or criminal recklessness,” said Chief Justice Shepard. “The Commission, and members of the Language Committee, decided to translate sections of the criminal code that come up most frequently for non-English-speaking victims and defendants as a way to further enhance our efforts to promote equal access to justice,” he added.

The translated sections will be updated annually, and other sections of the Code may be translated in the future. The translations were done by four certified interpreters/translators. All have college degrees, and several have advanced degrees and each regularly works in the courts interpreting and translating documents, and has conducted interpreter trainings.

The materials available include selected sections of the 2006 and 2007 Indiana Code, an alphabetical index of terms and a glossary outlining topic areas.

The translations are available online at <http://courts.IN.gov/library/code>. For further information regarding court interpreter services, visit: <http://courts.IN.gov/interpreter/>



**Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission
Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 27, 2008**

**Contact: Meg Babcock
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JUDICIAL COMMISSION ADMONISHES CARROLL CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

The Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications issued today a Public Admonition of Judge Donald Currie, Carroll Circuit Court. The Commission is a seven-member body comprised of the Chief Justice of Indiana, three lawyers elected by lawyers throughout the State, and three non-lawyers appointed by the Governor. Supreme Court rules give the Commission the discretion to issue a Commission Admonition instead of proceeding to formal charges when the judge consents to that resolution and when the Commission determines that a Public Admonition sufficiently addresses the misconduct alleged.

The Commission's Admonition can be found at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/jud-qual/admonitions.html>.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 28, 2007

Contact: Cindy Collier
317.694.1112

MEDIA ADVISORY

YOUR COVERAGE INVITED

- Who:** Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard
Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan Jr.
Scott Newman, Public Safety Director, City of Indianapolis
Law Enforcement Officers piloting new hand-held electronic citation system
- What:** Demonstration of new hand-held electronic citation system to be used by motorcycle and traffic enforcement officers. The PDA-size unit will produce tickets electronically at the time of the traffic stop.
- Where:** North West District/Traffic Branch Office, 3821 Industrial Blvd., Indianapolis
- When:** 2 p.m., Friday, May 30, 2008
- Background:** Indiana's Judicial and Executive branches received state and federal grants to launch a statewide electronic ticket system called eCWS (electronic Citation and Warning System). The new mobile system allows officers to create tickets electronically and send them to a central repository for law enforcement, prosecutors and courts without additional data entry or the need to decipher handwriting. The information can then be assigned a case number and tracked by Odyssey, the Indiana Supreme Court's case management system, providing an end-to-end system where data is inputted once and shared with appropriate users.
- The eCWS MOBILE program is funded in part through an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance and administered by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. JAG funding allows states and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own local needs and conditions. Grant funding was also provided by the Indiana Department of Homeland Security.*

STATE OF INDIANA

SUPREME COURT

RANDALL T. SHEPARD, CHIEF JUSTICE



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May 30, 2007Contact: Cindy Collier
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INDIANA LAUNCHES MOBILE e-TICKET SYSTEM Provides end-to-end solution with Odyssey Case Management System

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Supreme Court's [Judicial Technology and Automation Committee](#) (JTAC), Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (CJI) and law enforcement officials have collaborated to produce a hand-held e-ticket system for motorcycle and traffic enforcement officers.

The system, called eCWS ([electronic Citation and Warning System](#)) is being piloted by law enforcement officers from the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department, Indiana State Police, Boone County Sheriff's Department and Fishers Police Department.

"Having accurate records produced in the field that can be transferred seamlessly to the courts will reduce unneeded double data entry. From the creation of a ticket during traffic stop to assigning a case number in local courts information will be entered just once, and be available much more quickly," said Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard.

To date, more than 325,000 electronic tickets have been processed through the eCWS laptop system used in patrol cars by more than 1,600 officers. The mobile unit is being piloted by:

Senior Trooper Gary Thalls – Indiana State Police
Sergeant Steve Pickett – Fishers Police Department
Deputy Sheriff Sean Kutz – Boone County Sheriff's Department
IMPD Officer James Goddard
IMPD Officer John Haggard

A demonstration of the eCWS desktop application can be viewed online at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/jtac/programs/ecws.html>

The eCWS MOBILE program is funded in part through an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance and administered by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. JAG funding allows states and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own local needs and conditions. Grant funding was also provided by the Indiana Department of Homeland Security.



Pictured at right: (Top) The new mobile version of the eCWS system works on handheld devices, giving officers a more portable option for issuing e-tickets and is especially useful for

motorcycle units;

(Middle) Gary Thalls (left), Indiana State Police Senior Trooper, demonstrates the mobile application to Wayne County Sheriff Matt Strittmatter, president of the Indiana Sheriffs' Association;

(Bottom) Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., initiates the press conference announcing the new software; also pictured are his fellow presenters: (left to right) Mark Renner, Marion County Deputy Director of Public Safety; Lt. Col. Phil Parker, Indiana State Police; Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard; and John von Arx, Indiana Policy Director for Public Safety.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 10, 2007

Contact: John Huang
317.232.2548

NOMINATING COMMISSION TO CONSIDER ST. JOSEPH JUDICIAL VACANCY

Indiana Supreme Court Justice [Frank Sullivan, Jr.](#), who chairs the St. Joseph Superior Court Judicial Nominating Commission, announced today that the Commission will meet to begin the process of selecting a new superior court judge. Judge William T. Means has announced that he will retire on September 30, 2008, leaving a vacancy on the St. Joseph Superior Court.

“State law requires that the Judicial Nominating Commission nominate five candidates for appointment to the St. Joseph Superior Court when a vacancy arises,” Justice Sullivan said. “The final appointment is made by the Governor. Under the statute, only attorneys who live in St. Joseph County are eligible to be considered by the Commission for nomination.”

Justice Sullivan said that the Nominating Commission will meet on Wednesday, **June 11, at 9:30 a.m.** in the St. Joseph County Courthouse, to establish a schedule and procedure for taking applications from attorneys interested in being considered for nomination. No further information on application deadlines or procedures will be available until that time.

The Indiana General Assembly established the seven-member Nominating Commission in 1973. Three of the members must be lawyers elected by St. Joseph County lawyers. Three must be non-lawyers appointed by a committee that includes the St. Joseph Circuit Judge, the mayors of South Bend and Mishawaka, and the president of the board of the St. Joseph County commissioners. The seventh member, who serves as the chair, must be a justice of the Indiana Supreme Court or a Court of Appeals judge appointed by the Chief Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court.

SUPREME COURT

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OF INDIANA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 12, 2008

Contact: David J. Remondini
317.233.8684

SUPREME COURT TO HOLD ORAL ARGUMENT ON POLITICAL CONTENT "ROBOCALLS" AT BOYS STATE IN TERRE HAUTE

The Indiana Supreme Court will hold an oral argument in the Tilson Auditorium in the Hulman Center at Indiana State University in Terre Haute at 1 p.m. on Monday, June 16, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

The appeal being heard is [*State of Indiana v. American Family Voices, Inc., Jim Gonzalez, and John Does 2-10.*](#)

At issue is whether "robocalls" with political content can be limited under the state's Autodialer Law. The Indiana Attorney General sued American Family Voices Inc. in Harrison Circuit Court in 2006, following complaints about the group's calls. In February 2008, the circuit court dismissed the state's complaint and the state appealed, seeking immediate transfer to the Supreme Court. The central committees of the Indiana Democratic and Republican parties have both filed briefs arguing that political robocalls are legal.

Attorneys Thomas M. Fisher and Heather Hagan will represent the State of Indiana, and Tony Overholt and Edward O. Delaney will represent the Appellees.

The oral argument should last about forty minutes, with each side having twenty minutes to argue its side of the case. The public and news media are invited to attend.

NEWS MEDIA COVERAGE INFORMATION

The Indiana Supreme Court allows photography and recording of its arguments under certain conditions. The Supreme Court will allow two still news photographers and one video news photographer. No flash photography is allowed and photographers must use a tripod or monopod and remain in place for the entire argument. Radio reporters are also welcome. To make arrangements for media coverage, contact David Remondini, 317.233.8684 or at dremondi@courts.state.in.us.

If more than two still photographers and one video news photographer are present, the 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. Making the pool arrangements is the responsibility of the news media and the Supreme Court will not become involved other than to exclude all cameras in the event there is a dispute.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 13, 2008

Contact: John Huang
317.232.2548

NOMINATING COMMISSION TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR ST. JOSEPH JUDICIAL VACANCY

Any St. Joseph County lawyer who wishes to be considered by the Governor as a candidate for an upcoming judicial vacancy on the St. Joseph Superior Court must act promptly to apply and provide background information to the St. Joseph Superior Court Nominating Commission.

That vacancy will be created when the Honorable William T. Means retires on September 30, 2008.

The Indiana Code provides that the vacancy must be filled by appointment by the Governor of one of up to five nominees submitted by the St. Joseph Superior Court Nominating Commission, which is chaired by Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr.

Factors that the Commission must consider are set forth in [Indiana Code § 33-33-71-37](#) and include applicants' law school record, scholarly work, public service work in civic affairs and the administration of justice, legal experience, probable judicial temperament, physical condition, personality traits, and potential conflicts of interest.

Application forms have been prepared and are now available from Rita Glenn, Clerk of the St. Joseph Circuit and Superior Courts, who can be reached at (574) 235-9772, and online at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/stjoseph/judicial-application.pdf>.

Prospective applicants should consult the Nominating Commission statute, particularly Indiana Code § 33-33-71-37, for eligibility information. Generally, in order to be eligible for nomination, a person must (1) live in St. Joseph County, Indiana; (2) be a citizen of the United States; and (3) be admitted to the practice of law in the courts of Indiana.

An original application form and eight copies must be completed and returned to the office of the Clerk on or before Friday, August 29, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. Applicants who submitted an application for another court vacancy in the past must submit a new application along with the requisite number of copies.

Applicants must be available for personal interviews with the Nominating Commission on Friday, September 12, 2008 in South Bend.

Special Notice Concerning Confidentiality: In 1999, the Indiana General Assembly amended the St. Joseph County Judicial Nominating Commission statute by adding a provision that appears to prohibit the public disclosure of the names of applicants (except those five who are nominated for appointment). See [Ind. Code § 33-33-71-38](#). In order to comply with this provision, the Commission will not disclose the names of applicants. However, the Commission is unable to assure applicants that their names will remain confidential. The Commission has certain statutory and inherent obligations that may result in the names of applicants becoming known, even if no affirmative public disclosure is made. For example, the applications appear to be public records under [Ind. Code §§ 5-14-3-1, et seq.](#) and are so subject to public inspection upon proper request.

STATE OF INDIANA

SUPREME COURT

RANDALL T. SHEPARD, CHIEF JUSTICE



INDIANAPOLIS 46204-2798

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 20, 2007

Contact: Jennifer Bauer
317.232.1313

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR INDIANA JUDGES ASSOCIATION COMMENDATIONS FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

The Indiana Judges Association is accepting nominations for its annual awards for "Excellence in Public Information and Education," Marion Superior Court Judge Robert Altice announced today.

Judge Altice, who chairs the Community Relations Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana, said the Committee selects the recipients on behalf of the Indiana Judges Association.

The IJA gives two "Excellence in Public Information and Education" awards each year. One award is presented to a member of the Indiana judiciary for special efforts in community relations. In addition, an award is presented to a member of the news media for efforts in responsible reporting on the Indiana judiciary.

Nominations for either award should include a letter outlining the reasons for making the nomination and any supporting information that will assist the committee in its decision-making. The selection will be based on the breadth and depth of the effort, quality of the effort, ingenuity and public response

Nominations must be received at the Indiana Judicial Center by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, August 8, 2008. The awards will be presented at the Indiana Judges Association luncheon on September 10, 2008 in Indianapolis.

For further information or a copy of the nomination forms, please contact Jennifer Bauer at 317-232-1313. Nomination forms are also available online at www.in.gov/judiciary/center.

SUPREME COURT

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OF INDIANA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 8, 2008

Contact: David J. Remondini
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INDIANA SUPREME COURT NAMES PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

The Indiana Supreme Court has named a former television journalist to serve as its Public Information Officer, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today. Kathryn Dolan, former WLFI morning news anchor, started in the position June 30th.

The Chief Justice approved Dolan's hiring in an effort to continue promoting public awareness about the Supreme Court. Chief Justice Shepard said, "It is tremendously important the court communicates what it is doing for the citizens of Indiana. Kathryn will help the court successfully educate citizens about the role of the court and the importance of its decisions and its programs."

Dolan looks forward to encouraging media coverage of the Indiana Supreme Court. She said, "I will diligently work to help citizens better understand how the court works and the impact of its decisions. I look forward to working with all the Justices, their staff, and the news media."

Previously, Dolan worked as a morning anchor for WLFI, News Channel 18, a CBS affiliate in Lafayette, Indiana. As a reporter, she covered numerous trials and crime stories. Significant cases include the execution of Timothy McVeigh and the *John Doe v. City of Lafayette* case in the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals. Dolan also served as an emcee for the Muscular Dystrophy Association Jerry Lewis Telethon helping to raise \$1.3 million for the association.

Originally from New Mexico, Dolan is a graduate of Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



NEWS MEDIA COVERAGE INFORMATION

The Indiana Supreme Court allows print, television, and radio journalists to cover Supreme Court oral arguments. Photography and recording of its arguments are also permitted under certain conditions. The Supreme Court will allow two still news photographers and two video news photographer. No flash photography is allowed. Photographers must use a tripod or monopod and remain in place for the entire argument. To make arrangements for media coverage, contact Kathryn Dolan, 317.234.4722 or at kdolan@courts.state.in.us.

If more than two still photographers and one video news photographer are present, the 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. Making the pool arrangements is the responsibility of the news media and the Supreme Court will not become involved other than to exclude all cameras in the event there is a dispute.

STATE OF INDIANA

SUPREME COURT

RANDALL T. SHEPARD, CHIEF JUSTICE



INDIANAPOLIS 46204-2798

304 STATE HOUSE
13171 232-2550FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 10, 2008Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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CELEBRATING THE 221ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTHWEST ORDINANCE.

THE INDIANA SUPREME COURT MARKS THE OCCASION WITH A FREE LECTURE FOCUSING ON THE HISTORIC DOCUMENT.

The Indiana Supreme Court is proud to sponsor the lecture, "221 Years of Unsettled Borders: Indiana and the Northwest Ordinance." Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard invites the public to learn about an exciting time in United States history through the live webcast of the lecture. It will take place Monday, July 14th at 3 p.m.

To watch the live webcast go to <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/citc/cle/nwordinanceday/index.html>.

This offering of the Indiana Supreme Court's Legal History Lecture Series focuses on legal issues related to Indiana's borders as established by the Northwest Ordinance of 1787. This year's program concentrates on Indiana's southern border—the Ohio River. The program will begin with a brief discussion about the difficulty of documenting the border, and then focus on a recent case that questioned the location of the boundary.

The primary speaker, Donald Bogard, was one of the lead lawyers in a 1978 case that went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. The case involved a boundary dispute between Kentucky and Indiana relating to discharges from the Marble Hill Nuclear Power Plant in Madison, Indiana. At the time, Bogard served as Chief Counsel for Indiana Attorney General Ted Sendak.

The Supreme Court, with support from the Commission for Continuing Legal Education, is partnering with the Indiana Historical Bureau in the development and presentation of this program. The lecture fulfills a continuing education requirement for registered attorneys. Seating is no longer available in the courtroom, but a monitor and overflow seating will be available in the atrium area in addition to the webcast.

The next lecture in the Series is scheduled for Friday October 3, 2008 and will feature Professor Brian Dirck, author of *Lincoln the Lawyer*. Reservations for this upcoming free CLE event can be made by emailing shachey@courts.state.in.us or calling 317.232.2550. Previous Legal History Lectures can be viewed from the Court's archives at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/citc/cle/index.html>.



Watch the ARCHIVED July 14, 2008 3:00 pm event

Windows Media:



221 Years of Unsettled Borders: Indiana and the Northwest Ordinance

SUPREME COURT

Kathryn Dolan

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July 15, 2008**Contact: Kathryn Dolan**
317.234.4722**Release Contact: Meg Babcock**
Commission Attorney
317.233.5394

JUDICIAL COMMISSION FILES CHARGES AGAINST ALLEN SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

The Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications filed formal charges of judicial misconduct against the Honorable Kenneth R. Scheibenberger, the Commission announced today.

The Commission filed a "Notice of the Institution of Formal Proceedings and Statement of Charges" with the Clerk of the Indiana Supreme Court accusing Judge Scheibenberger of violating ethical rules for judges. The charges stem from a November 2007 incident in another judge's courtroom when Judge Scheibenberger allegedly verbally berated family members of a defendant in court for a sentencing hearing. The statement of charges includes four counts which can be read in their entirety at <http://courts.IN.gov/jud-qual/docs/charges/scheibenberger-071508.pdf>.

The Clerk's Online Appellate Docket, <http://courts.IN.gov/cofc/docket.html> lists the matter as public record under cause number 02S00-0807-JD-396. The filing includes a background detailing events in November 2007 which led to the charges.

Judge Scheibenberger may file an answer to the charges within 20 days, after which the Supreme Court will appoint a panel of three judges to preside over an evidentiary hearing and report its findings to the Indiana Supreme Court. If the Court finds the Commission proved its charges, it will determine the appropriate sanction. Judicial sanctions may include reprimands, suspensions, or removal from office.

The Commission on Judicial Qualifications is a seven member board that screens and investigates allegations of judicial misconduct. According to Commission attorney, Meg Babcock, "The Commission receives 300 to 400 complaints each year. Many are dismissed because they do not raise issues of ethical misconduct. However, when the Commission believes a judge has violated the Code of Judicial Conduct, it either cautions the judge or, as in this case, files public charges of misconduct."

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 18, 2008

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UNION COUNTY GETS \$7,000 FROM INDIANA PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION. 40 PERCENT OF COUNTY'S FIRST QUARTER COSTS COVERED.

Union County taxpayers will be pleased to learn reimbursement money from the Public Defender Commission is going to Union County for the first time since 2002. The commission is reimbursing \$7,000 to the county for public defender costs, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

In April 2008, Deborah Neal, a Public Defender Commission attorney, met with Union Circuit Court Judge Matthew Cox and told Judge Cox the county was eligible for reimbursement funds from the Public Defense Fund. Neal explained, "The money is dedicated to helping counties pay for indigent defense services. Not all counties apply for the money."

Judge Cox immediately prepared a request for reimbursement and submitted it by the May deadline. Judge Cox explained, "It's vital to this county because we don't have a lot of money, like a lot of counties, any reimbursement we get helps us tremendously."

The Public Defender Commission recently held its quarterly meeting and approved Union County's Request for Reimbursement. The \$7,021.51 reimbursement from the Public Defender Commission is 40% of the county's first quarter costs for public defense.

Union County has been eligible to receive reimbursement money from the Public Defense Fund every year since 1999. However, requests for reimbursements were only submitted from 1999-2002. During that time, Union County received nearly \$13,000.

The Public Defender Commission was created by the legislature in 1989. The commission distributes to qualifying counties 50% of the public defense costs in capital cases. Qualifying counties may receive up to 40% in felony and juvenile cases. It has delivered \$62.1 million to Indiana counties for the costs of indigent criminal defense. The PDC has funding to approve \$14 million in reimbursement costs for fiscal year 2007-2008. It has \$15 million for 2008-2009.

SUPREME COURT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 22, 2008**Contact: Kathryn Dolan**
317.234.4722**COURT RECORD MANAGER RETIRES. INDIANA SUPREME COURT HOSTS RECEPTION FOR JOHN NEWMAN. PUBLIC ACCESS WAS NEWMAN'S PRIORITY.**

The Indiana Supreme Court is saying good-bye to the longtime Director of Information Management. John Newman is retiring July 25th, after 22 years with the Indiana Supreme Court, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

Newman began his career in state government in 1970, taking oral history interviews for the Indiana State Library. Within months, he was named Indiana State Archivist. He remained in that position until 1986. During his years as State Archivist, Newman dedicated his time to making state records easily accessible. Guided by the fundamental belief that citizens have the right to know and inspect what government is doing, he served as a watchdog for the public. Newman explained, "It is the duty of the government to keep good records. Information needs to be maintained in order to provide accountability on how taxpayer's money is being spent."

In 1986, Newman was named the Indiana Supreme Court's Director of Information Management. Visiting all 92 counties many times, Newman began helping trial courts maintain records. He made recommendations to county courts on efficiency and storage. He was instrumental in helping courts dispose of tons of unneeded records. During Chief Justice Shepard's 1997 State of the Judiciary, he and longtime associate Thomas Jones received a standing ovation. Justice Shepard highlighted their work and the "5400 file cabinets" standing empty thanks to their efforts.

While Newman focused on consolidating records—he also paid careful attention to documents of historic significance. Records that shed light on the beginning of Indiana history may have been lost if not for his dedication. [A Federal Census from 1810](#) was discovered and preserved under his leadership. [Documents from 1813-1816](#) detailing what newspapers prominent Indiana political leaders subscribed to were also salvaged. They are now housed at the Indiana State Archives.

As technology advanced, Newman utilized it to preserve and store records. Chief Justice Shepard said, "He has been a resource for clerks and trial court judges across the state. Records once kept on paper in only one county are now accessible to millions of people via the Internet thanks to John's dedication."

In good health, Newman leaves state government to pursue his passion for writing. He plans to hike and visit National Parks with his newfound free time.

Justice Brent Dickson invites colleagues and friends to a reception in Newman's honor. It is Thursday, July 24th from 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the State House. It will be held on the third floor, in the Supreme Court courtroom and atrium. It will also be webcast live.



John Newman,
Director of Information Management

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 31, 2008

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INDIANA JUVENILE COURT TO BE FEATURED IN NATIONALLY BROADCAST DOCUMENTARY BY AWARD WINING JOURNALIST

The Indiana Supreme Court will again allow documentary filmmaker Karen Grau, of Calamari Productions, access to the Lake County juvenile court, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today. Filming will begin soon in the Hon. Mary Beth Bonaventura's courtroom. The documentary is expected to air on MSNBC in 2009.

Grau plans to produce six, one-hour documentary programs. She said the goal of the series is to shed light on the issues facing the courts and the children served by the court. With that understanding, the Supreme Court agreed to allow cameras in the courtroom. Chief Justice Shepard said, "The court is always evaluating how it can more effectively help children and families in trouble. With that in mind, it is important to keep citizens informed about the issues facing the juvenile justice system. A national broadcast produced by a respected journalist is one avenue to promote that understanding."

Having worked with Grau in the past, Judge Bonaventura believes the series will educate parents and teens. Bonaventura explained, "There was an overwhelmingly positive response to the previous MTV series. Viewers commented on the value of seeing consequences for teens involved in trouble." Judge Bonaventura expects Grau's new project to have similar value while highlighting more serious offenses.

Grau wants to focus on tougher crimes, to explore how those children are handled. Grau said, "The goal of the programming is be a wake-up call for kids, parents, and the community. This is happening." She believes focusing on these cases will illuminate why so many teens re-offend.

There are specific safeguards in place to protect the children and families who may be filmed. Participants must give Grau prior written consent. Court Appointed Special Advocates will be able to voice concerns about the effect of a child's participation.

In February 2000, Grau produced the documentary "In the Child's Best Interest." It aired on WTHR, the Indianapolis NBC affiliate. In April 2002, she produced a separate documentary for NBC Dateline/MSNBC also called "In the Child's Best Interest." In February 2007, "Juvies", an 8-part documentary series that featured Judge Bonaventura's courtroom aired on MTV. Grau is the recipient of the Edward R. Murrow Award, along with multiple awards for programming on children and the courts.

SUPREME COURT

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OF INDIANA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 8, 2008

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NEW \$40,000 FAMILY COURT GRANT AVAILABLE THROUGH THE INDIANA SUPREME COURT. IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT.

Counties are encouraged to submit an application for a Family Court Project grant, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today. The one year grant, up to \$40,000, is a chance for county governments to secure much needed funding for a project that provides judicial coordination of multiple cases involving the same family.

The Family Court Project was established in 1999 to develop a common sense model to better serve children and families. Currently there are 23 Indiana counties with Family Court Projects ranging from Alternative Dispute Resolution to Assistance for Families Without Attorneys.

Established programs can be used as a model for new grant proposals. The Supreme Court will also accept proposals that focus on special need areas-- such as truancy or drug programming. The key factor is that the program must screen for and provide some type of coordination and/or information sharing for multiple case families. Family Court Manager, Loretta Oleksy, will assist counties with the application process and work with applicant counties in person.

For more information on The Family Court Project and the newly offered grant visit <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/family-court/>.

For questions about the process or help developing a grant proposal contact Family Court Manager, Loretta Oleksy at (317) 233-0784 or loleksy@courts.state.in.us. The grant application deadline is September 1, 2008.

SUPREME COURT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 8, 2008

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VOLUNTEER ADVOCATES CAN PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR CHILDREN

The Guardian Ad Litem/Court Appointed Special Advocate (GAL/CASA) programs across the state are accepting volunteers who will be trained to make a difference in a child's life. The program is currently helping more than 16-thousand children who are involved in abuse or neglect cases. Still, more than 3-thousand children are on a waiting list to be appointed an advocate.

Statewide, more than 2-thousand GAL/CASA volunteers are making a commitment to serve the children of their community. State Director, Leslie Dunn urges more people to consider serving as a volunteer. Dunn explained, "The volunteers who find a special place in their heart for children in need are rewarded tenfold by knowing they are making a positive impact in their community."

The Indiana program was established in 1989 by the General Assembly. Indiana law requires the appointment of either a guardian ad litem or a trained GAL/CASA in abuse and neglect cases. The program is administered by the Indiana Supreme Court through the Division of State Court Administration. There are local programs in 67 of Indiana's 92 counties.

State Court Administration Executive Director, Lilia Judson, and CASA Director, Leslie Dunn continue to encourage support for the program and recently talked about it with the Indianapolis Star. [The article appeared in the newspaper August 8th](#) .

The volunteers who provide service to Indiana children and the trial courts are invaluable. Dunn explained, "The best way to serve children and families is to have a strong partnership between the Department of Child Services (DCS), which serves the family, and the GAL/CASA, who is an independent voice for the child." To find out details about becoming a GAL/CASA volunteer call (800) 542-0813 or [visit the CASA website](#).

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 18, 2008

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FEDERAL GRANT BRINGS ONE MILLION DOLLARS TO SUPREME COURT FOR E-TICKET PROGRAM

The Indiana Supreme Court has been awarded a grant from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. The \$1.27 million goes to the Supreme Court and the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced plans for the Supreme Court money today.

The e-ticket system will be expanded with the Commercial Driver License Program Improvement grant. The federal grant will help pay for more law enforcement agencies to have the system. The electronic Citation and Warning System (eCWS) was developed in 2007 by the Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration Judicial Technology and Automation Committee section in partnership with the Indiana State Police, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute and law enforcement officials including the Indiana Association of Chiefs of Police, the Indiana Sheriffs' Association, and local departments across the state.

The e-ticket system allows law enforcement officers to use a hand held device to scan a bar code on a driver's license and registration. It gives officers access to accurate records in the field and allows them to produce an electronic ticket immediately.

eCWS tickets produced roadside can then be transmitted to a central repository, courts, and the BMV. Chief Justice Shepard explained, "From the creation of a ticket during a traffic stop to assigning a case number in local courts, information will be entered only one time. That is a tremendous increase in efficiency for the courts and safety for law enforcement officers." eCWS is used by the Indiana State Police and 16 other law enforcement agencies.

The federal money will also pay for a Commercial Driver License record enhancement program at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The Supreme Court is proud to play a role in keeping all driver information, including commercial driver records, up to date and accessible through the e-ticket system. Chief Justice Shepard said it will play an important role in making Indiana roads safer.

SUPREME COURT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 20, 2008

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SUPREME COURT E-TICKET PROGRAM WINS NATIONAL HONOR

The Indiana Supreme Court's electronic Citation and Warning System (eCWS) has received an honorable mention in the prestigious 2008 Best of the Web and Digital Government Achievement Awards given by the Center for Digital Government. The eCWS system was honored in the Government-to-Government category.

The e-ticket system allows law enforcement officers to use a hand held device to scan a bar code on a driver license and registration. It gives officers access to accurate records in the field and allows them to produce an electronic ticket immediately.

"We are grateful to receive this recognition for a project that is serving Indiana law enforcement and reducing the paperwork burden for local courts and clerks. This project was a true team effort and would not have been possible without our partnership with the Indiana State Police, Criminal Justice Institute, the Indiana Sheriffs' Association, Association of Chiefs of Police, the Prosecuting Attorney's Council and local law enforcement partners," said Chief Justice Randall Shepard.

The Indiana State Police and 16 other law enforcement agencies are using eCWS and the Supreme Court recently won a \$1 million federal grant to help pay for equipment for additional agencies to use the system. Law enforcement agencies receive the eCWS software application free of charge, but need to purchase computers, scanners and printers.

According to the Center for Digital Government, the Digital Government Achievement Awards recognize outstanding agency and department Web sites and applications. Judges from all over the nation determined the winners.

Cathilea Robinett, executive vice president of the Center for Digital Government said, "Each year, state and local governments continue to make strides toward implementing better access and more efficient Web-delivery of public services. This year's winners represent the very best in each category. The Center applauds all the honorees for their diligence and hard work."

More information on the eCWS program and a demonstration are online at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/jtac/programs/ecws.html>.

STATE OF INDIANA

SUPREME COURT

RANDALL T. SHEPARD, CHIEF JUSTICE



INDIANAPOLIS 46204-2798

304 STATE HOUSE
13171 232-2550**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
September 5, 2008**Contact: John Huang**
317.233.8690

PUBLIC INTERVIEWS TO BE HELD FOR ST. JOSEPH SUPERIOR COURT VACANCY

The St. Joseph Superior Court Judicial Nominating Commission will interview candidates for the upcoming vacancy on the St. Joseph Superior Court on Friday, September 12, 2008. The interviews will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the St. Joseph County Commissioners Conference Room, Seventh Floor, County-City Building, 227 Jefferson Blvd., South Bend, Indiana, 46601.

An interview schedule will be posted on the door of the Commissioners Conference Room on the day of the interviews. At the conclusion of the interviews, the Commission will deliberate in executive session.

Following the executive session, the Commission will reconvene at the Commissioners Conference Room for a public vote on the nominees whose names will be submitted to the Governor for his consideration and appointment.

Rules of News Coverage for Judicial Nominating Commission Interviews

Please respect the interview process and help us remove distractions for the candidates. We request that the news media and public follow the guidelines below.

1. Enter and exit the room only between interviews.
2. Set-up tripod or other equipment for video or still camera between interviews.
3. Refrain from moving about the room during interviews.
4. Only ambient lighting will be permitted. Artificial lighting such as flashbulbs or frezzi lights shall not be used.
5. No mult box/audio equipment will be provided. No microphone set up will be guaranteed.
6. Questioning of the applicant during the interviews is reserved for the Judicial Nominating Commission.
7. At the applicant's discretion, members of the public or the media may interview him or her before or after the Commission interview.
8. Members of the audience are requested to refrain from all other activities that might distract from the interview process.

SUPREME COURT

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OF INDIANA

<http://courts.IN.gov>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 8, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

INDIANA SUPREME COURT ADOPTS 2009 JUDICIAL CODE OF CONDUCT. AN EXPECTATION FOR JUDGES TO SERVE AS FAIR AND IMPARTIAL OFFICERS REMAINS THE STANDARD.

The Indiana Supreme Court is adopting a new Code of Judicial Conduct. Indiana is the second state to adopt new judicial ethics rules based on the new national model of the American Bar Association.

The 2009 Code emphasizes the “three i’s” of judicial conduct - independence, integrity, and impartiality. It continues to hold judges to strict standards of conduct in all activities. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, Professor Charles G. Geyh of Indiana University School of Law, and Judge Marianne Vorhees of Muncie will review the Code with judges across the state.

- The new Code specifies that judges may take measures to assist unrepresented litigants in gaining a fair hearing (Canon 2.2) and encourages judges to promote pro bono work by lawyers (Canon 3.7).
- The Code highlights the role of judges in promoting ethics and professionalism among lawyers and other judges (Canon 1.2).
- The Code provides more concrete guidance for avoiding “the appearance of impropriety,” a rule long criticized for its vagueness (Canon 1).
- The Code imposes clear requirements for public disclosure of income, reimbursements, and gifts (Canon 3).
- The Code includes ethical principles intended as guidance for judicial candidates (Canon 4).
- The Code encourages judges to reach out to the public to promote understanding of the judicial system (Canon 2.8).

These rules and many others serve as the behavior requirement for the men and women interpreting and applying the law that governs our society. The Code sets out clear expectations for judicial conduct. If the rules are violated, a judge is subject to discipline by the Indiana Supreme Court.

The 2009 Judicial Code of Conduct was submitted to the Supreme Court by a committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana chaired by Judge Vorhees. The draft was reviewed by judges, lawyers, and the public. The committee’s work is based on the 2007 American Bar Association Model Code of Judicial Conduct. Professor Geyh and Professor Emeritus W. William Hodes, I.U. School of Law - Indianapolis., were the official Reporters of the ABA’s commission, in whose work Chief Justice Shepard participated. The new Code can be found at courts.IN.gov/rules/jud_conduct/jud_conduct09.pdf. It is effective January 1, 2009.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 15, 2008

Contact: John Huang
317.232.2548

ST. JOSEPH JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION SUBMITS FIVE NOMINEES TO GOVERNOR

INDIANAPOLIS -- The St. Joseph Superior Court Judicial Nominating Commission today submitted to Governor Mitch Daniels its list of five candidates to fill a vacancy on the St. Joseph Superior Court. The vacancy will occur on September 30, 2008, when the Honorable William T. Means retires. From the list, Governor Daniels will appoint Judge Means's successor.

Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., the chair of the Commission, said that the selections were made by the Commission following interviews with fifteen applicants in South Bend last week. "All of the members of the Commission were impressed by the quality of the lawyers applying for the position," Sullivan said. "The individuals submitted to the Governor represent the best of a very impressive pool of talent."

The nominees are:

- Elizabeth C. Hurley, 37, lead deputy prosecuting attorney in the family violence special victims unit of the St. Joseph County Prosecutor's office.
- Lee Korzan, 49, a civil litigation attorney and sole practitioner in South Bend.
- Margot Fisher Reagan, 53, a civil litigation attorney in the law firm of Tuesley Hall Konopa, LLP, in South Bend.
- Jeffrey Lane Sanford, 49, a sole practitioner and deputy public defender in St. Joseph County.
- Joseph C. Zakas, 57, Granger, State Senator and attorney in the law firm of Thorne, Grodnik LLP.

Under state law, the Commission must submit to the governor a list of five candidates with written evaluations of the qualifications of each candidate. Following his receipt today of the list of nominees, Governor Daniels has 60 days in which to make his appointment to the St. Joseph Superior Court. In the event he does not do so, the Chief Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court shall make the appointment from the list of nominees.

The Indiana General Assembly established the Nominating Commission in 1973. It consists of seven members. Three of the members must be lawyers elected by the lawyers of the county. Three must be non-lawyers appointed by a committee consisting of the judge of the St. Joseph Circuit Court, the mayors of South Bend and Mishawaka, and the president of the board of St. Joseph County commissioners. The seventh member, who serves as chairman of the Commission, must be a justice of the Indiana Supreme Court or a judge of the Indiana Court of Appeals, and appointed by the Chief Justice of Indiana. Pursuant to this position, Justice Sullivan serves as chairman.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 16, 2008

Contact: Sandhya M. Graves
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sgraves@courts.state.in.us

JUDGE HOFFMAN TO RECEIVE 2008 LEGENDARY LAWYER AWARD

Judge George B. Hoffman, Jr. has been selected by the Fellows of the Indiana Bar Foundation as the recipient of the 2008 Legendary Lawyer Award. A practicing attorney for 57 years, [Judge Hoffman](#) retired from the Court of Appeals Indiana and currently serves as Senior Judge.

Judge Hoffman is an involved member of the legal community dedicating his time on the local, state and national levels. He was elected to the Appellate Court Bench in 1968. From 1972 through 1974, Judge Hoffman served as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. During his time as Chief Judge, Judge and has authored more than 3,000 majority opinions. Judge Hoffman began the Appeals on Wheels program, which takes the Appellate oral arguments from Indianapolis to the law schools, universities, high schools and court rooms throughout Indiana.



Judge Hoffman has been invited to participate in the State-Federal Appellate Judges' Conference in Washington, D. C., Tri-State Appellate Judges' Seminar in East Lansing, Michigan, and was the principal speaker at the 52nd Annual Convention Indiana State Council of Carpenters. He also has addressed many bar associations and service clubs throughout the years.

Along with serving as a guest speaker, Judge Hoffman is Past President of the Hammond Bar Association and Legal Aid Society of Greater Hammond. In addition, he is a former Chairman and Board of Trustees member of the Indiana Judges' Retirement System, Member of the American Bar Association, Member of the Indiana Bar Association and the Indianapolis Bar Association. His service to the Indiana State Bar Association includes serving on the House of Delegates for 30 years.

Additionally, he has been, and is currently, active in a number of community service organizations. Judge Hoffman has been active in Boy Scouts of America, American Red Cross, YMCA and Connor Prairie. In addition, he is a Member of Sigma Delta Kappa Law Fraternity and Pi Gamma Mu National Social Science Honor Society.

For his continued service to the community, Judge Hoffman received Man of the Year award from Knights of St. Peter Claver Assembly #14 in Indianapolis; a distinguished service award from the Legal Aid Society of Greater Hammond, Inc.; outstanding service award from Crown Point Community School Corporation; an award for exceptional contribution to the law profession from East Chicago Bar Association; a Sagamore of the Wabash from six Governors; award from the Indiana Judicial Center and the Indiana University Law School, Indianapolis, for developing the Indiana Judicial Center; and is the recipient of various awards from the Hammond Junior Chamber of Commerce.

During World War II, Judge Hoffman served as Combat Infantry, 102nd Infantry Division, January 1943 through April 1947. He was wounded in Germany.

Judge Hoffman will be honored at a luncheon on Friday, September 19th from noon to 2 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 1 S. Capital Avenue, Indianapolis. For more information regarding the award, contact Sandhya Graves at sgraves@courts.state.in.us or 317-694-1131.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 16, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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PUTTING THEIR OWN "JOHN HANCOCK" TO REPLICA CONSTITUTION GIVES STUDENTS CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE HISTORY.

Students will sign a replica U.S. Constitution as part of an interactive learning program sponsored by the Indiana Supreme Court. More than one-hundred students from 8 schools will take part in the Constitution Day event.

Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard is inviting the high school students to the State House to commemorate the anniversary of the September 17, 1787 signing of the U.S. Constitution. Students will read the preamble and the first amendment, discuss citizen rights and responsibilities, and sign a replica Constitution.

Print, radio, and television news media are invited to the program. **Media should note that the most visible element, the signing of the Constitution, will take place at the end of the program likely around 10:50 a.m.**

Wednesday, September 17th
Indiana Supreme Court Courtroom, 3rd Floor of the State House
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (signing around 10:50 a.m.)

The event was developed by the Indiana Supreme Court education outreach program, Courts in the Classroom, in partnership with the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana and the Indiana Department of Education. For more information visit the [Indiana Supreme Court Courts in the Classroom website](#).

The following schools will participate: Lawrence North High School, Indianapolis Metropolitan High School, Northwest High School, Perry Meridian High School, Academy of Lifelong Learning, Lighthouse Private School, Keystone Christian Academy, Southside Christian Academy.

Speakers include Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Suellen Reed, Court of Appeals Judge, Margret Robb, Federal Magistrate, Judge Tim Baker, and WRTV 6 Anchor/Reporter Dan Spehler. Students who are 18 or will turn 18 by Election Day will also have the opportunity to register to vote.



**Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission
Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications**

30 South Meridian Street, Suite 500

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3568

(317) 232-4706

FAX (317) 233-6586

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 18, 2008**

**Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722**

JUDICIAL COMMISSION ADMONISHES HOWARD SUPERIOR COURT 2 JUDGE

The Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications issued today a Public Admonition of Judge Stephen M. Jessup, Howard Superior Court 2. The Commission is a seven-member body comprised of the Chief Justice of Indiana, three lawyers elected by lawyers throughout the State, and three non-lawyers appointed by the Governor. Supreme Court rules give the Commission the discretion to issue a Commission Admonition instead of proceeding to formal charges when the judge consents to that resolution and when the Commission determines that a Public Admonition sufficiently addresses the misconduct alleged.

The Commission's Admonition can be found at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/jud-qual/admonitions.html>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 22, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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SUPREME COURT NAMED FINALIST IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

The Indiana Supreme Court has been named a finalist in the 13th Annual Information Integrity Coalition's international competition. The court was honored for its work on major technology initiatives including the Odyssey statewide case management system; electronic Protection Order Registry; electronic Citation and Warning System for law enforcement and electronic infraction reporting to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

"Our Judicial Technology and Automation Committee, chaired by Justice Frank Sullivan Jr., has worked tirelessly to develop cutting edge technology and make it available to our local courts, clerks and law enforcement officers. Providing these tools allows us to better protect our citizens and increase efficiency," said Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard.

The Information Integrity Coalition honors projects that have:

- Specific quantifiable benefits
- Significant accomplishments
- Demonstrated innovation
- Verifiable proof of accomplishments

The Indiana Supreme Court was one of 66 non-profit or government organizations nominated for the Award of Excellence. There is a separate category for business.

This year's non-profit nominees include local, state and national government agencies, professional organizations; universities, hospitals and international organizations. Nominees included the American Society for Quality; Asha-Deep Charitable Trust, India; Chile Calidad, Chile; Davenport University; Dubai Quality Group, UAE; Illinois Department of Human Services; Instituto Tecnologico de Costa Rica, Costa Rica; US Department of Labor; World Health Organization, and the United States Air Force.

The awards ceremony will be held Monday, October 20 in Chicago. At that time, Gold, Silver and Bronze awards will be given to three of the six finalists. More information on the awards is online at <http://www.informationintegrity.org/>

More information on these award-winning Indiana Supreme Court initiatives is online at www.in.gov/judiciary/jtac

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 26, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR, LILIA JUDSON, ELECTED TO SERVE AS VICE-PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL ADVOCACY GROUP

The members of the national Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) elected Lilia Judson to serve as their Vice-President. Judson, Executive Director of the Indiana Supreme Court Division of State Court Administration, accepted the position and will serve the 2008-2009 term, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

COSCA is a national organization dedicated to helping court administrators develop a more effective and efficient system of justice. Judson has been a member of COSCA since 1998. That is when she was appointed by Chief Justice Shepard to her current position in State Court Administration.

Judson credits COSCA with giving her guidance and support as she developed into a national expert in the field of state court administration. She explained, "During those first years on the job, I looked to COSCA for support. The experienced members quickly became my gurus and the conference programs became my learning tools. It is gratifying to now be in a leadership position with an organization that provides an avenue for court administrators across the country to work together on issues facing the judicial system."

As COSCA Vice-President, Judson will work with court executives and chief justices across the country to strengthen the judicial branch of state government and provide educational opportunities to trial courts. Chief Justice Shepard is confident Judson's leadership will benefit courts across the country. He explained, "We are fortunate to have Lilly's primary attention devoted to Indiana courts. She plays a crucial role in our success and that will continue. We are happy Lilly will also be in a position to lend her skills to other courts through COSCA."

Judson manages budgets totaling \$100 million. During the past 10 years she has helped the Indiana Supreme Court implement significant court improvement projects. The following are recent examples.

- **Court Reform Grants** – \$30,000 - \$50,000 grants that allow local court reform projects with guidance from State Court Administration.
- **Jury Pool Project** – Development of a more inclusive and diverse jury pool list by using records from the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicle and Department of Revenue.
- **Self-Representation Video** – A demonstration video that helps self-represented litigants navigate the court system.
- **Case Management System** – Launching a state-wide case management system for Indiana trial court.

Being elected to the COSCA Vice-Presidential position puts Judson in line to take over as President of the organization in 2010-2011. It also allows Judson to become a board member for the National Center for State Courts, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving justice. Working with both groups will allow Judson to shape policies for court improvement and give administrators the tools needed to implement those plans.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 6, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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NEW WEBSITE ALLOWS VOTERS TO LEARN ABOUT INDIANA SUPREME COURT AND APPELLATE JUDGES WHO ARE UP FOR RETENTION.

Voters can surf the web to learn about judges who are on the retention ballot in November. A new website has been created to help voters make informed decisions. The site is designed to give voters access to biographical information about the judges and details about the decisions they have made while serving on the bench.

The website was developed after Senate President Pro Tempore David Long urged the judiciary to provide more information about the retention election to voters. Court of Appeals Judges Terry Crone and Cale Bradford (who are not on the November ballot) coordinated the website creation. The Indiana Division of State Court Administration provided technical support.

The website is designed to be user-friendly with a number of ways for voters to learn about judges. Visitors to the site can watch appellate cases unfold first-hand. Video of oral arguments are webcast live and later archived. The retention website allows voters to watch those arguments. Voters can also search a database of judicial opinions. Opinions are the written decisions of a case. With the new website, voters will be able to read opinions written by judges on the retention ballot.

In an effort to provide voters with the most up-to-date and complete information, news articles about the retention elections will also be posted on the site. There will also be links to sites that explain the retention process and the structure of Indiana courts. Finally, voters can find the results of the Indiana State Bar Association retention survey.

Indiana selects appellate judges based on merit. The Judicial Nominating Commission interviews judicial applicants and provides the Governor with a list of candidates. The Governor makes the final selection. Once appointed, after serving two years, a judge must stand for retention in the first statewide general election. The voter is presented with the question "Should Justice (or Judge) John B. Jones be retained in office?" If the judge receives a majority of "yes" votes, the judge is retained. The judge is then on the retention ballot every 10 years.

There are five Indiana Supreme Court Justices, 15 Court of Appeals Judges, and one Tax Court Judge. Not all judges are up for retention at the same time. In November, the following Judges will appear on the retention ballot: Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, Supreme Court Justice Brent E. Dickson, Supreme Court Justice Theodore R. Boehm, Court of Appeals Judge Carr L. Darden, and Tax Court Judge Thomas G. Fisher.

The website can be found at courts.IN.gov/retention.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 8, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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RETIRED TEACHER TO BE HONORED FOR VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT TO COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA)

[Editor's Note: Due to unforeseen circumstances Harriet "Happy" Curts will not be able to attend the ceremony in person.]

When 79 year-old Harriet "Happy" Curts left the classroom she didn't walk away from children. Instead, the longtime teacher found a new way to use her talents. In 2000, Curts began volunteering for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). The group serves as a voice for abused and neglected children. State leaders are now recognizing Curts for her volunteer work.

Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard will present Curts with the Volunteer Teacher Award as part of the Indiana Retired Teachers Association Appreciation Day. The Indiana Supreme Court distributes funding and provides support to the Guardian ad Litem/Court Appointed Special Advocate (GAL/CASA) program through its Division of State Court Administration.

GAL/CASA is a mostly volunteer program run independently in 67 Indiana counties. Advocates are trained volunteers that make recommendations to the court about what may be best for a child in foster care. The advocates play a role in finding a safe and permanent home for the child. The Indiana Legislature and the Department of Child Services provides funding for the statewide programs.

The Indiana Retired Teachers Association is partnering with the Indiana Supreme Court to recruit volunteer advocates. Both organizations are encouraging retired teachers to donate their time to children in foster care. After years of service in the classroom, teachers have insight into the emotional and educational needs of children. Curts believes her experience as an educator allows her to work as a more effective advocate. She hopes other retired teacher consider volunteering.

Harriet "Happy" Curts has represented 14 children over the past 8 years. The 20-year Monroe County reading specialist is a proud Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) who will be honored for her years of service during the Indiana Retired Teachers Association Appreciation Day.

Where: Indiana State House Rotunda

When: Thursday, October 9th
11 a.m.

The Supreme Court is also launching the "Each One Reach One" campaign in an effort to recruit volunteer advocates. In 2007, nearly 7,000 Indiana children were represented by an advocate. However, another 3,000 children remain on the waiting list. To learn more about the program call 800-542-0813 or visit our website courts.IN.gov/galcasa.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 14, 2008

Contact: Steve Lancaster, Administrator
317.232.4196

COURT OF APPEALS SENIOR JUDGE JONATHAN J. ROBERTSON DIES

Indiana Court of Appeals Senior Judge Jonathan J. Robertson died on Monday, October 13, 2008 at his home in Jackson County. He was 76.

A Jackson County native, Judge Robertson was a trial court judge there when he was among the last judges to be popularly elected to the Court of Appeals prior to the advent of the retention selection system. He was elected to the Appellate Court in 1970, assumed office in 1971, and served for more than 26 years until his retirement in 1997. He was Chief Judge of the Court from 1975 to 1978 and was retained by election three times - in 1974, 1984 and 1994.

On January 1, 1998, he became a senior judge, serving on trial courts throughout southern Indiana and on the Court of Appeals. Judge Robertson maintained an office at the Court of Appeals in downtown Indianapolis until his death.

Chief Judge John G. Baker knew Judge Robertson for more than 30 years. "I met him before I even went to law school; he was a family friend," he said. "I was always impressed with his intellect and wonderful sense of humor. He was above all a real patriot who loved his country, his state, his family, and the law."

As a senior judge, Judge Robertson served with Court of Appeals Senior Judges Betty Barteau, William I. Garrard, George B. Hoffman, Jr., John T. Sharpnack, and Patrick Sullivan. Senior Judges Hoffman, Garrard, and Sharpnack also recall their colleague's warm sense of humor. He was an "old-fashioned Hoosier tale-teller" who will also be remembered for his prolific opinion-writing ability, they said.

Services are pending.

A biography of Judge Robertson is available on the Court of Appeals website at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/bios/past/robertson.html>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 15, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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INDIANA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS WATCH LANDLORD-TENANT DISPUTE UNFOLD BEFORE SUPREME COURT. ORAL ARGUMENT WILL BE HELD IN BLOOMINGTON

The Indiana Supreme Court will hold an Oral Argument at the Indiana University School of Law in Bloomington. The case involves a landlord-tenant dispute. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard describes it as an opportunity for the law students to see firsthand how the Supreme Court operates.

The case is **Stan Klotz v. Sarah Hoyt and Chrissy Kornmann**. It is a dispute between a landlord and tenants regarding the payment of back rent and return of the security deposit. The Delaware Circuit Court ruled in favor of the tenants. The Court of Appeals reversed that decision. But the Supreme Court agreed to hear the case and now has jurisdiction over the appeal.

Each side will have 20 minutes to argue its case. Typically, the five Supreme Court Justices ask questions of the attorneys during that time. The Court will then take the matter under advisement. The public is invited to attend the argument. There is limited space; therefore, seating will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. The Oral Argument will be webcast live.

Thursday, October 16th, 12:00 p.m.
Moot Court Room of the Indiana University School of Law-Bloomington
211 South Indiana Avenue

At the conclusion of the argument, time permitting, the Court generally conducts a question and answer session for the benefit of the audience.

NEWS MEDIA COVERAGE INFORMATION

The Indiana Supreme Court allows print, television, and radio journalists to cover oral arguments. Photography and recording of its arguments are also permitted under certain conditions. The Supreme Court will allow two still news photographers and two video news photographers. No flash photography is allowed. Photographers must use a tripod or monopod and remain in place for the entire argument. To make arrangements for media coverage, contact Kathryn Dolan, 317.234.4722 or at kdolan@courts.state.in.us.

If more than two still photographers and two video news photographers are present, the 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. Making the pool arrangements is the responsibility of the news media and the Supreme Court will not become involved other than to exclude all cameras in the event there is a dispute.

SUPREME COURT

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October 17, 2008**Contact: Kathryn Dolan**
317.234.4722**HEARING SET FOR LAKE COUNTY "EARLY VOTING SITE" CASE**

Special Judge Diane Kavadias Schneider has set a hearing for the case relating to a dispute involving "early voting sites" in Lake County.

On October 16, 2008, the Indiana Supreme Court appointed Judge Schneider as a special judge to hear the consolidated cases of Lake Circuit and Lake Superior Courts. The consolidated case number is 45D01-0810-PL-82. After a conference call with the attorneys of record in the matter--Judge Schneider set the case for hearing.

When: Monday, October 20th
10:00 a.m. Central Time

Where: Courtroom 1
232 Russell Street, Hammond

The Indiana Supreme Court allows print, television, and radio journalists to cover trial court proceedings.

Photography and recording of trial court proceedings are NOT permitted. Further inquiries about the case or media coverage should be directed to Kathryn Dolan, Indiana Supreme Court Public Information Officer, (317) 234-4722 or kdolan@courts.state.in.us.

[View the Supreme Court Order: Order Appointing Special Judge](#) 

SUPREME COURT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 22, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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1820 INDIANA SUPREME COURT SLAVERY CASE RE-ENACTED BY ELEMENTARY STUDENTS IN VINCENNES.

The Indiana Supreme Court declared Polly Strong a free woman in 1820. Nearly 200 years later the interactive drama *Bound for Freedom: the Case of Polly Strong* allows school children to experience history. The play documents a young black woman's struggle for freedom as Indiana moved from Territory to Statehood.

The drama is based on the case of *Lasselle v. State*. At the time, Polly Strong was being held as a slave by Knox County businessman Hyacinthe Lasselle. The Knox Circuit Court ruled in favor of Lasselle and gave 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. The Court decided that Lasselle's claim to Polly violated the prohibition of slavery. Polly was set free.

Approximately 450 students from Southwest Indiana attended the play Tuesday October 21st at the Mariah Creek Chapel on the campus of Vincennes University. A Vincennes actress, Annette O'Rourke, stepped into the role of Polly Strong—bringing life to the historic figure in a professional and accurate manner. Dozens of the students filled speaking roles in the drama taking on the parts of bailiff, judges, attorneys, and other production personnel. Simple props added to the script allowed the 4th and 5th grade students to feel transported into Indiana history.

The original script was developed by Courts in the Classroom and the Leora Brown School in Corydon with funding from the Indiana Bar Foundation. The Foundation provided additional grant money for this debut performance in Vincennes. The Knox County Bar Association and the law firm of Emison Doolittle Kolb & Roellgen also provided support.

Courts in the Classroom develops educational programming on behalf of the Indiana Supreme Court. Teachers interested in the Polly Strong drama and other Courts in the Classroom materials will find them available online at www.in.gov/judiciary/citc/. To learn more about future interactive learning events, including how to attend a program, please contact Dr. Elizabeth R. Osborn at eosborn@courts.state.in.us or 317.232.2550.



Elementary School Students Re-enact the Case of Polly Strong

SUPREME COURT

Kathryn Dolan

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OF INDIANA

<http://courts.IN.gov>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 28, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

THE INDIANA COURT OF APPEALS WILL HEAR ORAL ARGUMENT IN A LAKE COUNTY VOTING CASE

A Lake County voting dispute will come before the Indiana Court of Appeals for oral argument Thursday, October 30, 2008. Court of Appeals Chief Judge John Baker signed the order for the Court setting the case for oral argument after the Indiana Supreme Court denied a motion to accept jurisdiction of the case.

This expedited, interlocutory appeal arises from a preliminary injunction issued by the Lake Superior Court enjoining the Lake County Board of Elections and Registration from terminating in-person absentee voting for the 2008 General Election in Gary, Hammond, and East Chicago.

The Court of Appeals assigned the case to a writing panel according to the Court's standard predetermined case assignment procedures. Three Court of Appeals Judges will hear oral argument in the case in the Supreme Court Courtroom at the Indiana State House, room 317.

Thursday October 30, 2008
1:30 p.m. E.S.T.
Supreme Court Courtroom

The oral argument will be webcast live and later archived. To watch the webcast visit courts.IN.gov.

Watch the ARCHIVED October 30, 1:30 pm (EST) Oral Argument

Windows Media:





Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications

30 South Meridian Street, Suite 500
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3568
(317) 232-4706
FAX (317) 233-6586

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 29, 2008

Contact: Meg Babcock
317.232.4706

JUDICIAL COMMISSION FILES CHARGES AGAINST SENIOR JUDGE, FORMER LAPORTE SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

The Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications filed formal charges of judicial misconduct against the Honorable Walter P. Chapala, a Senior Judge and former Judge of the LaPorte Superior Court #1, the Commission announced today.

The Commission filed a "Notice of the Institution of Formal Proceedings and Statement of Charges" with the Clerk of the Indiana Supreme Court accusing Senior Judge Chapala of violating ethical rules for judges. The charges stem from the judge's conduct in two separate cases. In the first allegation, the Commission charges that Senior Judge Chapala, when he was the elected judge, suspended a significant portion of a man's prison term in the Department of Corrections in exchange for the man's father's \$100,000.00 contribution to two court programs. In the second allegation, the Commission charges that Senior Judge Chapala, also while an elected judge, instituted contempt proceedings against the Sheriff of LaPorte County for having lawfully returned Chapala's daughter-in-law's nephew over to Michigan authorities, then continued to preside over the nephew's Indiana case.

[The Clerk's Online Appellate Docket](#) lists the matter as public record under cause number 46S00-0810-JD-580. The filing includes a background detailing the events in which led to the charges.

Senior Judge Chapala is entitled to file an answer to the charges within 20 days, after which the Supreme Court will appoint a panel of three judges to preside over an evidentiary hearing and report its findings to the Indiana Supreme Court. If the Court finds the Commission proved its charges, it will determine the appropriate sanction, which could involve discipline against Senior Judge Chapala both as a senior judge and as an attorney.

The Commission on Judicial Qualifications is a seven member board that screens and investigates allegations of judicial misconduct. According to Commission attorney, Meg Babcock, "The Commission receives 300 to 400 complaints each year. Many are dismissed because they do not raise issues of ethical misconduct. However, when the Commission believes a judge has violated the Code of Judicial Conduct, it either cautions the judge or, as in this case, files public charges of misconduct. According to Supreme Court rules, the fact that a judge has retired does not strip the Commission of its ability to file charges for alleged misconduct during his or her elected term."

Senior Judge Chapala is represented by Kevin P. McGoff, (317) 635-8900.

The Charges against Senior Judge Chapala can be found at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/jud-qual/docs/charges/chapala-102908.pdf>

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 5, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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VOTERS RETAIN ALL INDIANA SUPREME COURT, COURT OF APPEALS, AND TAX COURT JUDGES ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT

Indiana Supreme Court [Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard](#), Supreme Court [Justice Brent E. Dickson](#), Supreme Court [Justice Theodore R. Boehm](#), Court of Appeals [Judge Carr L. Darden](#), and Tax Court [Judge Thomas G. Fisher](#) were all retained by Indiana voters. The Indiana Secretary of State reported all five appellate judges garnered more than 650,000 "yes" votes.

For the first time, Indiana voters had access to a website designed specifically for voters interested in learning more about the judges on the ballot. The new site, courts.in.gov/retention, was launched in October. It gave voters access to biographical information about the judges and details about the decisions they have made while serving on the bench. Court of Appeals Judges Terry Crone and Cale Bradford (who were not on the November ballot) coordinated the website creation. The Indiana Division of State Court Administration provided technical support.

Indiana selects appellate judges based on merit. The Judicial Nominating Commission interviews judicial applicants and provides the Governor with a list of candidates. The Governor makes the final selection. Once appointed, after serving two years, a judge must stand for retention in the first statewide general election. The voter is presented with the question "Should Justice (or Judge) John B. Jones be retained in office?" If the judge receives a majority of "yes" votes, the judge is retained. The judge is then on the retention ballot every 10 years.

There are five Indiana Supreme Court Justices, 15 Court of Appeals Judges, and one Tax Court Judge. Not all judges are up for retention at the same time.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 6, 2008**Contact: Kathryn Dolan**
317.234.4722

Indiana Supreme Court Receives Honorable Mention in International Award for Information Accuracy

The Indiana Supreme Court has been recognized by the Information Integrity Coalition (IIC) for providing accurate, consistent and reliable information. Chief Deputy Executive Director of State Court Administration, Dave Remondini, accepted the award on behalf of the Court in Chicago, Illinois on October 20th at the 13th annual awards banquet.

The court was honored for its work on major technology initiatives including the [Odyssey statewide case management system](#); electronic [Protection Order Registry](#); [electronic Citation and Warning System](#) for law enforcement and electronic reporting of driver suspensions and convictions to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard is extraordinarily proud of the entire team that works on JTAC projects. Chief Justice Shepard explained, "We are committed to developing cutting edge technology to make our local courts, clerks and law enforcement officers better able to serve our citizens. By increasing efficiencies we position ourselves to take on additional challenges with enthusiasm."

The Supreme Court technology projects are developed by the [Judicial Technology and Automation Committee](#) (JTAC). The group is a part of State Court Administration and is under the supervision of Executive Director, Lilia Judson. Mary DePrez serves as the Director and Counsel for JTAC. JTAC is chaired by Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr.

The Information Integrity Coalition is a not-for-profit organization. It promotes awareness and understanding of information integrity. The mission of the organization is to enable society to use and exchange information with confidence. The international competition awards ceremony honored projects that have:

- Specific quantifiable benefits
- Significant accomplishments
- Demonstrated innovation
- Verifiable proof of accomplishments

The Indiana Supreme Court was one of 66 non-profit organizations nominated for the Award of Excellence. There is a separate category for business. More information on the awards is available online at www.informationintegrity.org/ and at courts.IN.gov.



Awards Banquet at The Great Hall of Café Brauer in Chicago, Illinois.

SUPREME COURT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 10, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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RACE AND GENDER FAIRNESS COMMISSION HAS NEW VICE-CHAIR THROUGH 2011. SUPREME COURT NAMES LAKE COUNTY JUDGE TO POSITION.

The Indiana Supreme Court named the Honorable Judge Lorenzo Arredondo to serve as Vice-Chair of the [Commission on Race and Gender Fairness](#). The appointment was announced by Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard today. Former Indiana Supreme Court Justice, the Honorable Myra Selby, will continue to Chair the Commission.

Judge Arredondo replaces Indiana Court of Appeals Judge, the Honorable Ezra Friedlander. Judge Arredondo will serve the remainder of Judge Friedlander's term, which expires October 31, 2009. Chief Justice Shepard also appointed Arredondo to serve as Vice-Chair from November 1, 2009 through October 31, 2011.

Chief Justice Shepard expressed appreciation for Judge Friedlander's service, "When the Commission was newly formed, Judge Friedlander quickly agreed to help shape its mission. Studying race and gender issues and making recommendations for change would not be simple. Judge Friedlander chose to use his talents to ensure the Commission had a productive start." Judge Friedlander is proud to have been a part of the Commission since it was developed in 1999 and pointed to the Court Interpreter Program as a visible example of the Commission's progress. He said, "I am confident the Commission will continue to educate and bring about positive change."

Judge Arredondo, a Lake Circuit Judge, was first elected to the bench in 1977. Judge Arredondo is already a Commission member and he looks forward to taking on a leadership position. He explained, "I grew up in East Chicago, an area with a very diverse population, where many ethnic groups lived and worked together. It provides me with a unique perspective." As a bi-lingual judge who has served as a law clerk, prosecutor, and county attorney, he has a passion for removing language barriers in court. He knows the Commission is one avenue to break down those barriers.

The Commission on Race and Gender Fairness is charged with studying and making recommendations on race and gender issues in Indiana's justice system. One notable accomplishment is the creation of the Court Interpreter Program, which has certified more than 50 court interpreters in Spanish, Arabic, and French to ensure all citizens gain equal access to the courts. Additionally, the Commission sponsored the Diversity Summit in 2005 to generate ideas for improvement to the justice system. The Commission also partnered with the Women In Law section of the Indiana State Bar Association to study perceptions and practices within the legal profession with respect to gender issues. The results were used as the basis for a 2008 law review article. The Race and Gender Fairness Commission will continue efforts to promote the value of diversity in Indiana's legal system under the direction of former Indiana Supreme Court Justice Myra Selby and Judge Lorenzo Arredondo.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 12, 2008

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MORE THAN ONE MILLION VOTERS SAY "YES" TO SUPREME COURT JUSTICES ON THE NOVEMBER RETENTION BALLOT

The 2008 retention ballot marks the first election where any Indiana Supreme Court Justice has attracted more than one million "yes" votes. Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, Justice Theodore R. Boehm and Justice Brent E. Dickson were each retained by Indiana voters with a solid "yes" across the state.

- **1,348,172** voters cast their ballot in favor of keeping Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard on the state's highest court.
- **1,290,882** voters cast their ballot in favor of keeping Justice Theodore R. Boehm on the state's highest court.
- **1,298,751** voters cast their ballot in favor of keeping Justice Brent E. Dickson on the state's highest court.

This year, approximately 72% of the voters statewide asked that the three justices be returned to the bench (according to the numbers most recently available from the Indiana Secretary of State.) Historically, the justices have maintained a high approval rating by voters. In 1998, the last time Chief Shepard, Justice Boehm, and Justice Dickson were on the retention ballot, more than 70% of the voters cast a "yes" ballot.

Indiana voters had access to a new website this year, designed specifically for voters interested in learning about the judges on the ballot. The site was launched in October. It gave voters access to biographical information about the judges and details about the decisions they have made while on the bench. Court of Appeals Judges Terry Crone and Cale Bradford (who were not on the November ballot) coordinated the website creation. The Indiana Division of State Court Administration provided technical support. More than 6,000 people visited the website. It can still be viewed at courts.in.gov/retention.

Appellate judges were first placed on the statewide ballot in 1972. At that time, Indiana moved to a merit selection system for appellate judges. The Judicial Nominating Commission interviews judicial applicants and provides the Governor with a list of candidates. The Governor makes the final selection. Once appointed, after serving two years, a judge must stand for retention in the first statewide general election.

There are five Indiana Supreme Court Justices, 15 Court of Appeals Judges, and one Tax Court Judge. Not all judges are up for retention at the same time.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 19, 2008

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UKRAINIAN JUDGES VISIT INDIANA TO EXAMINE THE RULE OF LAW

Five Ukrainian jurists participating in the Open World Program will spend eight days in Indianapolis and Noblesville examining the U.S. judicial system. The November 15-22 visit includes meeting with William Greenaway, Magistrate of the Hamilton Superior Court, Julie C. Sipe, Attorney at the Indiana Judicial Center, and Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard.

While in Indiana, the Ukrainian jurists will attend an oral argument and a luncheon at the Indiana Supreme Court, view criminal and civil proceedings in Indianapolis and Noblesville, visit the Indiana Women's Prison, and exchange information with the Indiana Judicial Center, the Indiana Supreme Court Division of Supreme Court Administration, and the Commission on Judicial Qualifications.

"The Supreme Court is very proud to host the Ukrainian guests. We have always found these exchanges to be interesting and informative. We hope they enjoy their stay and benefit from seeing the U.S. justice system." said Chief Justice Shepard.

Open World is managed by the Open World Leadership Center. It is the only exchange program in the U.S. legislative branch. Participants get an inside look at the U.S. judicial system and develop ties with the U.S. judges who host them. They also gain insight into how the U.S. political system promotes and protects judicial independence and the rule of law.

The Open World Program is a unique, nonpartisan initiative of the U.S. Congress that builds mutual understanding between the emerging political and civic leaders of participating countries and their U.S. counterparts. It also exposes delegates to ideas and practices they can adapt for use in their own work. Founded in 1999 with a focus on Russia, the program has also in recent years hosted delegations from Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Delegates range from first-time mayors to experienced journalists, from nonprofit directors to small-business advocates, and from political activists to high-court judges. Nearly 13,000 Open World participants have been hosted in all 50 U.S. states. The program's administering agency, the Open World Leadership Center, is a legislative branch entity with offices at the Library of Congress.

The visiting delegates are Liliya Anatoliyivna Andryushyna, Judge, Makeevka City Court; Taras Mykhaylovych Antonyak, Judge, Ivano Frankivsk City Court; Andriy Yuriyovych Malyeyev, Judge and Head of the Court, Ivano-Frankivsk City Court; Volodymyr Mykolayovych Shyyan, Judge and Head of the Court, Kyiv District Court of Poltava; and Serhiy Mykolayovych Yaroshenko, Assistant to Deputy Head Judge of the Criminal Chamber, Appellate Court. Iryna Oleksiyivna Khymchak accompanies them as a facilitator.

The Ukrainian jurists will also take part in several cultural and community activities, including visits to the Indiana State Museum, the Indianapolis Museum of Art, and the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art.

For more information, please contact Kathryn Dolan at 317-234-4722, or Jeffrey Magnuson, Open World Program Manager, at 202-707-6555. For more information on Open World, please visit <http://www.openworld.gov>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 20, 2008**Contact: Kathryn Dolan**
317.234.4722**INDIANA SUPREME COURT RECOGNIZES JUDICIAL OFFICERS WHO COMPLETED "JUDICIAL COLLEGE"**

Indiana judicial officers who completed 120 hours of judicial education were recently honored by their colleagues and the Indiana Supreme Court as graduates of the Indiana Judicial College. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard presented 20 judicial officers with a certificate acknowledging the accomplishment.

The "Judicial College" is a program offered by the Indiana Judicial Center. The Indiana Judicial Center sponsors the continuing education of 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.

To complete the "Judicial College," a judicial officer must attend 120 hours of educational programming. The programs offered for college credit are designed specifically for judicial officers. Some of the available sessions include classes on the problem-solving courts, state bail issues, handling high profile cases, best practices for dealing with self-represented litigants, evidence, juvenile law and constitutional law.

Chief Justice Shepard strongly believes in continuing education for all members of the judiciary. He explained, "The programming developed by the Indiana Judicial Center is absolutely top quality. The Judicial College is a wonderful opportunity for Indiana judicial officers to further their legal education. I am pleased to congratulate the 20 members of the bench who completed the required coursework. They are an example of Indiana's finest."

The 2008 Judicial College graduates include:

Craig J. Bobay, Allen Circuit Court Magistrate	Edward J. Nemeth, Porter Circuit Court Magistrate
Linda E. Brown, Marion Superior Court Judge	Carol J. Orbison, Marion Superior Court Judge
Gregory A. Gillis, Lake Superior Court Magistrate	John A. Rader, Warren Circuit Court Judge
Frances C. Gull, Allen Superior Court Judge	Victoria M. Ransberger, Marion Superior Court Commissioner
Gregory A. Horn, Wayne Superior Court #2 Judge	Clark Rogers, Marion Superior Court Judge
James D. Humphrey, Dearborn-Ohio Circuit Court Judge	Kathleen A. Sullivan, Lake Superior Court Magistrate
Rick Maughmer, Cass Superior Court #2 Judge	Richard L. Tandy, Johnson Superior Court Magistrate
Roderick D. McGillivray, Bartholomew Superior Court #2 Judge	Ronald T. Urdal, Jennings Circuit Court Judge
Keith A. Meier, Warrick Superior Court #1 Judge	Jon W. Webster, Jennings Circuit Court Judge
William Joseph Nelson, Marion Superior Court Judge	W. Michael Wilke, Decatur Superior Court Judge

The judicial officers graduated from the Indiana Judicial College in a ceremony held in Indianapolis, Indiana in September 2008. Judges from across the state joined in congratulating the judge on achieving the high standard of educational excellence. The ceremony took place during the Judicial Conference of Indiana. The Conference membership includes all Indiana judges—including Circuit, Superior, and County courts as well as magistrates. The appellate judges of the Tax Court, the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court are also members of the Conference.

The Indiana Judicial Center serves as the state's judicial research and continuing judicial education agency.

For more information on the Center visit courts.IN.gov/center/.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 20, 2008

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INDIANA SUPREME COURT HONORS JUDICIAL OFFICERS WHO HAVE SERVED ON THE BENCH FOR MORE THAN TWO DECADES

The Indiana Supreme Court honored 2 judicial officers who have served on the bench for 24 years. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard recognized the judges at a ceremony in Indianapolis.

Most Indiana trial court judges are elected to a 6 year term. Typically, a judge reaches the 24 year milestone after being elected 4 times. Magistrates are appointed by the Judge of their county. Judges and Magistrates who reached the 24 year mark were awarded with the "24 Year Certificate" of accomplishment.

The Honorable George E. Brown of LaGrange Superior Court and the Honorable Olga H. Stickel of Elkhart Superior Court received the certificate in Indianapolis, Indiana in September 2008. The ceremony took place during the Annual Meeting of the Judicial Conference of Indiana. The Conference membership includes Indiana Circuit, Superior, and County court judges as well as magistrates. The appellate judges of the Tax Court, the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court are also members of the Conference.

Chief Justice Shepard was pleased to honor the "24 year" judicial officers—especially with their colleagues in the audience. Chief Shepard explained, "The judges we are recognizing have dedicated their legal career to public service. They have given back to the people of their counties and we are proud to have them on the bench. Serving as a trial court judge is an incredibly challenging profession, but it comes with the reward of knowing you are making our state a better place. We send our deepest thanks to the judges who have been making our state a better place for more than two decades."

The Indiana Judicial Center serves as the state's judicial research and continuing judicial education agency. For more information on the Center visit courts.IN.gov/center/.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 21, 2008

Contact: Sandhya M. Graves
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JUDGE KIRSCH RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS BUCHANAN AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

[Judge James S. Kirsch](#) was awarded the Paul H. Buchanan Jr. Award of Excellence at the Indianapolis Bar Association/Indianapolis Bar Foundation Recognition Luncheon held on November 20, 2008. Appointed to the Indiana Court of Appeals in 1994, Judge Kirsch served as Chief Judge from 2004 to 2007.

According to criteria for the award, the award was created to honor the Honorable Paul H. Buchanan Jr. for his "long and distinguished career, his devotion to the interests of justice as a leader of the Bench, the Bar and the community, and his commitment to service." The award is presented to individuals "whose attainments as a lawyer have been notable, whose contributions to the Association have been unique, and whose honorable service to the profession has extended over a significant period of time." This prestigious award is given to reward individual accomplishments and also to inspire others to such service.

Honored as the recipient of the award, Judge Kirsch stated, "The fourteen women and men who have received the Buchanan award before me are without exception the epitome of professionalism and civility. It is my great privilege to have known each of them. They represent the best our profession has to offer, and I feel great pride and great humility to have my name added to their number."

Since 1990, Judge Kirsch has held an appointment as Visiting Professor of Law and Management at the Krannert Graduate School of Management at Purdue University. He is a past-president of the Indianapolis Bar Association and of the Indianapolis Bar Foundation and a former member of the Board of Visitors of the Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis. In addition, he is a past-president of the United Way/Community Service Council Board of Directors and a current member of the Board of Directors of the United Way of Central Indiana. Judge Kirsch also is on the Board of Associates of Rose Hulman Institute of Technology, and on the Boards of Directors of the Goodwill Industries Foundation of Central Indiana, Community Centers of Indianapolis, the Indianapolis Urban League, the Legal Aid Society of Indianapolis, and the Stanley K. Lacy Leadership Association. He is a Fellow of the Indiana State Bar Foundation and of the Indianapolis Bar Foundation. He is a frequent speaker and lecturer and has served on the faculty of more than 200 continuing legal education programs. Judge Kirsch has been named a Sagamore of the Wabash by four different governors.

For more information regarding the award, contact Sandhya Graves at sgraves@courts.state.in.us or 317-694-1131.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 21, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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SUPREME COURT e-TICKET WINS 3RD HONOR

The Indiana Supreme Court's electronic Citation and Warning System (eCWS) was honored with the first place Cygnus 2008 Innovation Award for Software at the International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference in San Diego, California earlier this month.

eCWS also received an honorable mention in the prestigious 2008 Best of the Web and Digital Government Achievement Awards given by the Center for Digital Government and was part of the Indiana Supreme Court's international Information Integrity Coalition winning entry.

Used by Indiana State Police and 38 other law enforcement agencies, the e-ticket system allows law enforcement officers to use a hand held device to scan a bar code on a driver license and registration to create a ticket at the roadside.

In the future, the eCWS system will give officers access to up-to-date records in the field.

"The recognition this project has received is a true testament to the teamwork that made it such a success. eCWS would not have been possible without the assistance of the Indiana State Police, Criminal Justice Institute, the Indiana Sheriffs' Association, Association of Chiefs of Police, the Prosecuting Attorney's Council and local law enforcement," said Chief Justice Randall Shepard.

The Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC) of the Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration built eCWS in-house and gives the system and its source code to other governmental agencies for free. eCWS was developed with state and federal grant dollars, using TAG as the software developer.

Using a unique interface, officers can complete a field stop in less than five minutes. The application is capable of adding up to four offenses per ticket, and assigning a court date. A combination of citations and warnings can be issued and printed on separate official documents using standard printers.

Citations are uploaded to a Web-based Central Repository, and cases can be automatically filed with Indiana's court case management system (Odyssey), eliminating data errors, and saving countless dollars and administrative time on paper filing and tracking.

More information on the eCWS program and a demonstration are online at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/jtac/programs/ecws.html>. Or sign up for the JTAC blog and get up to date information on one or all of JTAC projects at <http://indianacourts.org/blogs/jtac/index.php>.



Accepting the award for the Indiana Supreme Court's electronic Citation and Warning System are, left to right: Auri Rahimzadeh, TAG; Lt. Col. Larry Larkin, ISP; Maj. John Clawson, ISP; Mike Ward, Executive Director, Indiana Association of Chiefs of Police Foundation, Inc.; Col. Rick Weigand, ISP; Chief George Kehl, Fishers Police Department; Chief Richard Russell, Noblesville Police Department.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 25, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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INFORMATIONAL VIDEO FOR SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS DEBUTS ON INDIANA SUPREME COURT WEBSITE

The Indiana Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration has released an informational video for people considering representing themselves in family law cases. The video is available online and will be distributed in DVD format across the state. To watch the video visit courts.IN.gov/webcast.

"Family Matters: Choosing to Represent Yourself in Court" was developed by the Supreme Court's Family Court Project to help people make informed decisions regarding legal representation. It provides important information about the legal process and the responsibilities that a person takes on when they decide to appear in court without an attorney.

The video runs 46 minutes and is divided into short segments. Each segment is designed to provide viewers with information about different stages of a case. For example, there is a section on general responsibilities and another on preparing for court. The video also provides resources for viewers who decide against self-representation and are interested in finding an attorney.

Lilly Judson, Executive Director of State Court Administration, explained the importance of the video, "There are common questions that arise when individuals consider representing themselves in court. The legal system can be intimidating—there are frequent deadlines and requirements for courtroom behavior. This video will provide clear information to litigants who decide to move forward with their case without an attorney. The video will also ease the burden on court staff across the state by setting forth clear expectations for litigants who go to court without a lawyer."

The video posted on the Indiana Supreme Court website includes information that is applicable to litigants in any Indiana county. In addition to the statewide version, customized versions of the video have been completed for three counties. Johnson, Lake, and Monroe Counties each developed a plan for integrating the video into their existing Family Court programs. The three county videos include specific information about the local courts and legal resources in their communities. Funding has been set aside to develop local versions of the video for more counties in 2009.

The video was produced in partnership with the Indiana Bar Foundation by Innovative, an Indianapolis production company. In addition to the online posting, more than 500 DVDs will be distributed to all Indiana public library districts, law schools, pro bono districts, and other legal aid organizations.

SUPREME COURT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 3, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
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SUPREME COURT HONORS LONG-TIME EMPLOYEES

The Indiana Supreme Court is proud to honor 15 employees who have dedicated their careers to serving the judicial branch. The employees will be recognized in a 3 p.m. ceremony Wednesday, December 3rd at 30 S. Meridian Street in the 8th floor atrium. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard will emcee the event and welcomes court employees to join him in honoring their colleagues.

The employees being recognized have dedicated between 10 and 30 years of service to the Court. It is a tradition for the Supreme Court to honor the long serving members of the judicial branch with a plaque commemorating their loyalty. Chief Justice Shepard is proud to personally thank each employee, "I look forward to the employee recognition ceremony as an opportunity to say thank you to those individuals who have dedicated their careers to the Indiana Supreme Court. We are very fortunate to have such loyal employees. They are colleagues and friends that deserve our applause."

The following individuals will be honored by the Court:

10-Year Service:

Anne G. Jordan
Jane A. Seigel
Michelle D. Shorter
Renita M. Wright
Thomas M. Carusillo
Geoffrey P. Davis
Dawn P. Wheeler

15-Year Service

Rebecca K Goldstein
Robert C. Shook
Michele E. Straub
Honorable Frank Sullivan, Jr.

20-Year Service

Vicki L. Davis
Rusty L. Lowe

25-Year Service

Deborah J. Baumer

30-Year Service

Sharon Scholl

New employees were also recognized at the ceremony.

SUPREME COURT

Kathryn Dolan

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OF INDIANA

<http://courts.IN.gov>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 12, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP INDIANA SUPREME COURT CELEBRATE ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

The Indiana Supreme Court is partnering with the Indiana State Bar Association to host a statewide birthday bash for Abraham Lincoln. The 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth is February 12, 2009. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard invites attorneys to join him in honoring America's 16th President by visiting classrooms around the state. Chief Justice Shepard will visit school children to talk about Abraham Lincoln and his importance to the rule of law.

"Why Lincoln Was A Lawyer" is a project created by Courts in the Classroom, the educational outreach program of the Indiana Supreme Court. The program was specifically designed for attorneys to teach school children about Lincoln and the law.

The Indiana Supreme Court needs volunteer attorneys and judges to participate in the program. Chief Justice Shepard said, "I encourage judges and attorneys to sign-up for this volunteer opportunity. It is a wonderful way to help students learn about citizenship and the law. It is a chance to relate the story of an Indiana child who eventually became one of our nation's greatest leaders. I am looking forward to spending time in a classroom on February 12th and I am confident others who join in the celebration will be glad they participated."

Attorneys and judges can sign up by filling out an online volunteer form. The form can be found at the Courts in the Classroom website at <http://courts.IN.gov/citc/lincoln> or contact Carissa Long at clong@inbar.org or 1.800.266.2581. The deadline has been extended beyond the original December 15th date.

Teachers interested in participating in the program can also learn how to sign up at the [Courts in the Classroom website](#). Lesson plans are available online. For more information contact Dr. Elizabeth R. Osborn at eosborn@courts.state.in.us or 317.232.2550.

 Lincoln Logo

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 17, 2008

Contact: Kathryn Dolan
317.234.4722

INDIANA SUPREME COURT APPOINTS INDIANAPOLIS ATTORNEY WITH SPECIALTY IN APPELLATE WORK TO RULES COMMITTEE

The Indiana Supreme Court named Maggie L. Smith to the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. Smith's term begins January 1, 2009 and expires June 30, 2014, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

Smith replaces Mary Nold Larimore whose term expires at the end of 2008. Larimore, an Ice Miller attorney, was appointed to the Committee in January 1999. Chief Justice Shepard is grateful for her service and said, "Mary has dedicated many long hours to this Committee. It is obvious that she is committed to serving the Court and her fellow attorneys by making sure Indiana has clear and understandable rules. She truly left her mark of professionalism by helping to shape rules ranging from parenting time guidelines to evidence."

Smith regularly practices before the Indiana Supreme Court and believes that courtroom experience will serve the Committee. She also points to her clerkship with Justice Brent Dickson as having shaped her view of Indiana trial, appellate, and evidence rules. Smith explained, "I really developed an appreciation for just how important "rules" are in the legal field when I clerked for Justice Dickson. I saw the tremendous impact the failure to understand or adhere to rules had on cases the Supreme Court was deciding."

The Supreme Court Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure 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.

Smith serves as senior counsel to Locke Reynolds. She is married to Kevin Smith, Supreme Court Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Tax Court for the State of Indiana. They have two children and live in the Indianapolis area.





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 19, 2008

Contact: Donald R. Lundberg
317.232.1807

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED TO SUPREME COURT DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION

The Indiana Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission has elected three new officers, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

Sally Franklin Zweig, of Indianapolis, was elected Chairperson of the Commission. The Indiana Supreme Court first appointed Ms. Zweig to the Commission in 2001, and in 2006 it re-appointed her to a second term expiring in 2011. She obtained her undergraduate degree in political science and English from Washington University in St. Louis in 1971. She was admitted to practice law in Indiana in 1986, the year she graduated from Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis. Ms. Zweig is a partner in the Indianapolis law firm of Katz & Korin P.C., where she concentrates her practice in complex commercial litigation and health law. She has held leadership roles in many professional and community organizations in central Indiana. Ms. Zweig replaces Anthony M. Zappia of South Bend as Chairperson. Mr. Zappia continues as a member of the Commission.

Corinne R. Finnerty, of North Vernon, was elected Vice-Chairperson. Ms. Finnerty was first appointed to the Commission in 2003, and she was reappointed to a second term in 2008. She received her undergraduate degree from Indiana University in Bloomington. In 1981, she graduated *magna cum laude* from the Mauer School of Law at Indiana University in Bloomington, where she was selected for membership in the Order of the Coif. She practices law in the partnership of McConnell Finnerty Waggoner, PC in North Vernon.

Fred Austerman, of Richmond, was elected Secretary. Mr. Austerman, one of two non-lawyer members, was first appointed to the Commission in 2003, and reappointed in 2008 to a second five-year term. Mr. Austerman is the President and CEO of Optical Disc Solutions, Inc. in Richmond, a company that provides DVD and compact disc replicating services and project management for media developers. He attended Indiana University East and graduated from Indiana University/Purdue University in Indianapolis in 1983 receiving an undergraduate degree in business, specializing in accounting.

The Disciplinary Commission is the agency of the Indiana Supreme Court charged with responsibility for investigating and prosecuting claims of lawyer misconduct. The Commission is made up of nine members appointed by the Supreme Court. Seven are lawyers from throughout Indiana who actively practice law and two are lay representatives.

In addition to the newly elected officers of the Commission and Mr. Zappia, the outgoing Chairperson, members who continue in their service include: Diane L. Bender, a sole practitioner in Evansville; Maureen I. Grinsfelder, Executive Director of the Fort Wayne Educational Foundation; Robert L. Lewis, principal in Robert L. Lewis & Associates, of Gary; R. Anthony Prather, a partner in the Indianapolis office of Barnes & Thornburg; and J. Mark Robinson, Managing Attorney of the New Albany Office of Indiana Legal Services, Inc.