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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Janaury 12, 2004**

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## Chief Justice to Deliver State of the Judiciary Address

Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard will deliver his seventeenth State of the Judiciary address to a joint session of the Indiana General Assembly on Thursday, January 15, 2004 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 new trial court interpreter program and other on-going Court-backed projects. Advance copies of the speech will be delivered to the State House media on January 15th prior to the speech.

Internet users will be able to listen to live audio of the speech by going to [www.IN.gov/legislative/session/audio.html](http://www.IN.gov/legislative/session/audio.html) and clicking on "Listen to Audio from the House." A videotape of the speech will be available on the Internet after the address. To view it after the speech, go to: [www.state.IN.us/judiciary/supreme/state\\_jud.html](http://www.state.IN.us/judiciary/supreme/state_jud.html).

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## New Members Named to Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program

[State of the Judiciary](#)

Six new members have been appointed to the Indiana Supreme Court's Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today. The new members are:

Tonya J. Boller, of Indianapolis  
Lawrence Superior Court Judge Michael A. Robbins, of Bedford  
Kimberly A. Jackson, of Cory  
Timothy O. Malloy, of Highland  
Stephanie J. Shappell, of Crown Point  
John R. Vissing, of Jeffersonville

Each will serve a three-year term, which ends December 31, 2006. They are joining the nine current members of the Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program, which is designed to help impaired judges and lawyers recover, educate the bench and bar about impairment issues, and reduce the potential harm of impairment to the individual, the public, the profession and the legal system.

The Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program (JLAP) was created by the Indiana Supreme Court and is funded largely through annual registration fees paid by Indiana's approximately 14,000 attorneys.

JLAP is governed by Indiana Admission and Discipline Rule 31, which can be found at: [www.IN.gov/judiciary/rules](http://www.IN.gov/judiciary/rules). Further information about JLAP can be located at [www.IN.gov/judiciary/ijlap](http://www.IN.gov/judiciary/ijlap).

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**February 12, 2004**

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## Chief Justice Shepard to Join Four Appellate Judges on Panel

Chief Justice Randall Shepard of the Supreme Court of Indiana will be a member of a prestigious panel discussion at Valparaiso University School of Law on February 16, 2004, at 4:00 p.m., C.S.T.

The Chief Justice will be joined by Chief Justice Christine Durham of the Utah Supreme Court, Justice Randy Holland of the Supreme Court of Delaware, Justice Laura Stith of the Supreme Court of Missouri and Judge Jack Landau of the Oregon Court of Appeals. This discussion will be moderated by Distinguished Professor Robert Williams of the Rutgers School of Law—Camden.

The judges will be discussing tomorrow's issues of constitutional law including: religious liberties, civil and criminal juries, use of history in constitutional interpretation, the best use for certified questions, and the effect of technology on habeas review.

The discussion will be held in Tabor Classroom and a live broadcast will be available in the Stride Courtroom at the law school in Valparaiso, Ind. A reception will immediately follow in the Duesenberg Commons.

The event is open to the public and media and all interested individuals are encouraged to attend.

A transcript of the discussion will be provided in Volume 38, No. 2 of the Valparaiso University Law Review. This issue is a symposium on the evolving trends and importance of state constitutional law and will include articles from the six participants listed above and others.

Please direct any questions to Curtis Jones, Symposium Editor at [curtis.jones@valpo.edu](mailto:curtis.jones@valpo.edu) or to David J. Remondini at [dremondi@courts.state.in.us](mailto:dremondi@courts.state.in.us).

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**February 26, 2004**

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## Benjamin Harrison Day Event Returns to Indiana Statehouse

[State of the Judiciary](#)

Two State House events on March 4th will mark the anniversary of the presidential inauguration of Benjamin Harrison, the only Hoosier to serve as President of the United States, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

President Harrison, who was also a U.S. Senator and a Reporter of the Indiana Supreme Court, was the country's 23rd president. He served from 1889 to 1893.

The event is the second annual State House celebration in honor of President Harrison. It will open at noon on March 4, 2004 in the State House Rotunda and will include remarks by Secretary of State Todd Rokita.

The six winners, from grades 4-8, of a Benjamin Harrison essay contest sponsored by the Indiana Supreme Court, the President Benjamin Harrison House, the Capitol Tour Office, and the IU Law School--Indianapolis Alumni Association, will also receive awards. Sen. Glenn Howard and Rep. Ed Mahern, who represent the district where the President Benjamin Harrison House is located in the Old Northside, will present the awards.

Following the events in the Rotunda on the second floor of the State House, the celebration will move to the third floor courtroom of the Indiana Supreme Court. In the courtroom the Indiana Supreme Court will host an interactive dramatization of the events surrounding Ex Parte Milligan. Benjamin Harrison was one of the lawyers highlighted in the case, which focuses on the use of a military tribunal that was convened in late May 1864 to try Lambdin Milligan on charges of treason.

Approximately 100 students are expected in the courtroom event, with approximately 20 students having the opportunity to participate in the dramatization. The performance will be repeated at 1:30 for another audience of approximately 100 school children.

Indiana Court of Appeals Judge Paul Mathias will lead a discussion of the case and its current relevance in light of the planned use of military tribunals in the on-going war on terrorism. To view the Courtroom event live or in archive form on the Internet, visit [www.IN.gov/judiciary/education](http://www.IN.gov/judiciary/education).

For more information about President Harrison visit, [www.presidentbenjaminharrison.org](http://www.presidentbenjaminharrison.org)  
For information about touring the State Capitol visit, [www.IN.gov/statehouse/tour](http://www.IN.gov/statehouse/tour).

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**February 26, 2004**

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## Indiana Supreme Court Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure Posts Proposed Rule Amendments for Public Comment

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Indiana Supreme Court Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure Posts Proposed Rule Amendments for Public Comment

The Indiana Supreme Court Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure has posted on the Internet at, [www.in.gov/judiciary/orders/rule-amendments/proposed.html](http://www.in.gov/judiciary/orders/rule-amendments/proposed.html), the following proposed rule amendments:

1. Indiana Admission and Discipline Rule 22, Oath of Attorneys.
2. Indiana Trial Rule 4.6, Service upon organizations.
3. Indiana Trial Rule 32, Use of depositions in court proceedings.
4. Indiana Trial Rule 81, Local court rules.
5. Indiana Post-Conviction Rule 2, Belated appeals.
6. Indiana Rules of Evidence, Evidence Handling, Retention and Disposition.

The Committee invites public comment on the proposed rule amendments. Those wishing to comment should do so, in writing, not later than April 23, 2004. Comments may be addressed to:

Lilia G. Judson  
Executive Director  
Indiana Supreme Court  
Division of State Court Administration  
115 West Washington Street  
Suite 1080, South Tower  
Indianapolis, IN. 46204

or

sent by email to [stad@courts.state.in.us](mailto:stad@courts.state.in.us)

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**February 26, 2004**

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## Indiana Supreme Court Posts Revised Rules of Professional Conduct for Comment

[State of the Judiciary](#)

The results of a lengthy project known as Ethics 2000 that was designed to review the rules that govern the professional lives of Indiana's attorneys moved closer to completion after the Indiana Supreme Court announced today that the proposed revisions have been posted on the Internet for public comment.

Ethics 2000 is a project that involves the model rules of Professional Conduct that have been developed by the American Bar Association. The Indiana State Bar Association lead the effort here in Indiana to review the model rules in light of the state's existing rules, customs and practices.

A number of committees reviewed the model rules and presented their proposal to the Indiana State Bar Association's House of Delegates earlier this year. The House of Delegates reviewed the proposal and then sent it to the Supreme Court.

Before it finalizes the proposals, the Supreme Court is seeking public input about the changes. The revised Rules of Professional Conduct for Attorneys as approved by the House of Delegates can be found at [www.in.gov/judiciary/orders/rule-amendments/proposed.html](http://www.in.gov/judiciary/orders/rule-amendments/proposed.html).

Those wishing to comment should do so, in writing, not later than April 23, 2004. Comments may be addressed to:

Lilia G. Judson  
Executive Director  
Indiana Supreme Court  
Division of State Court Administration  
115 West Washington Street  
Suite 1080, South Tower  
Indianapolis, IN. 46204

or

sent by email to [stad@courts.state.in.us](mailto:stad@courts.state.in.us)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 11, 2004**

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## Comment by Chief Justice Shepard on the Passing of Gov. Orr

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"I feel a weighty sadness about losing such a friend, but somehow it feels wrong to weep over a life so well lived.

Bob Orr believed in Indiana, and his vision about what Indiana needed for its future had been vindicated over and over. He thought the state needed a great leap forward in education, and pressed us to confront the challenge of a globalizing economy. It's hard to imagine where Indiana would be today if he hadn't spurred the state into action on both fronts.

He also transformed the individual lives of a great many people, including me, by being the very model of a decent servant of others and by giving us opportunities in life we'd never dreamed we would have. As I go further along in life, my list of heroes gets shorter, but Bob Orr has always been one of them."

Statement from the Hon. Randall T. Shepard, Chief Justice of Indiana

Chief Justice Shepard, formerly of Evansville, is a long-time friend of the late Gov. Orr. Both Chief Justice Shepard and Associate Justice Brent Dickson were appointed to the Supreme Court by Gov. Orr. Chief Justice Shepard was appointed to the Court in 1985 and Justice Dickson was appointed in 1986.

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# Press Releases



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 12, 2004**

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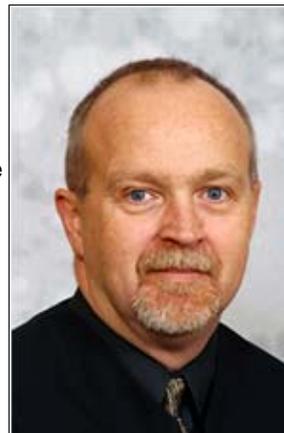
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## Judge William Hughes Named to Lead Local Pro Bono Effort

The Indiana Supreme Court has appointed the Hon. William J. Hughes, judge of the Hamilton Superior Court, Number 3, as the new chair of the District 8 Pro Bono Committee, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

As chair, Judge Hughes will direct the committee, known locally as the Heartland Pro Bono Council, that will continue to improve civil legal services for the needy in Hamilton, Hancock, Shelby, Johnson, Morgan, Hendricks, Boone, and Marion counties by supporting efforts to recruit attorneys to do volunteer legal work.

“Judge Hughes is a committed, energetic judge. He is exactly the kind of person who can build on the solid work the Heartland Pro Bono Council has already completed under the terrific leadership of Marion Superior Court Judge David Dreyer. I am grateful Judge Hughes is willing to take on this new responsibility,” said Chief Justice Shepard.



Hon. William Hughes

Judge Hughes has been a trial judge since 1988 and was in private practice before taking the bench. He is a noted judicial educator who graduated magna cum laude from the University of Evansville and the Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis.

District 8 is one of 14 Indiana judicial districts that have pro bono committees. The work of the committees is supported by the Indiana Pro Bono Commission, which distributed almost \$400,000 in January to the 14 districts. The Commission works in cooperation with the Indiana Bar Foundation, the Indiana State Bar Association, and the Supreme Court to assist people of limited means find pro bono legal help. For more information about the Commission, visit: [www.in.gov/judiciary/probono](http://www.in.gov/judiciary/probono).

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**March 16, 2004**

**317.233-1976 (voice)**

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## Clerk of Courts David C. Lewis Applauds Governor Kernan and Indiana General Assembly for Changing Clerk to Appointed Position

[State of the Judiciary](#)

INDIANAPOLIS – David C. Lewis, the Clerk of the Indiana Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Tax Court, today thanked both the Indiana General Assembly for passing Senate Enrolled Act 72 and Governor Joe Kernan for signing this important legislation, which was among 55 bills signed by the Governor Tuesday. The bill contains several provisions affecting election matters, including the method by which the Clerk of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Tax Court is chosen. As of the effective date of the bill, the Clerk will no longer be elected by Indiana's voters, but will be chosen by the Chief Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court.

"In addition to significant reforms in county voting list maintenance and the approval process for new voting systems, Senate Enrolled Act 72 puts the selection of the Clerk of Courts into the hands of the Indiana Supreme Court," Lewis said. "This change will provide greater accountability and greater efficiency in the services the Clerk's Office provides to the judiciary, the legal community, and the public."

According to the bill, which passed unanimously in the House and Senate, Lewis will complete his current term of office. Lewis was appointed by Governor Kernan in November, 2003 to fill a vacancy following the resignation of Brian Bishop. The current term ends on January 1, 2007. At that time, or upon Lewis's resignation, the next Clerk of Courts will be named by the Chief Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court.

Lewis added that "changing this position from elected to appointed is an example of good government. While the work of the Clerk's Office is vital to the functioning of the appellate courts, the Clerk is an administrative position with no policymaking authority. It is appropriate for the Supreme Court to have the power to employ the Clerk of its choosing, without reference to politics and without the uncertainty presented by the election of a Clerk every four years."

With the passage of SEA 72, Indiana has joined the 48 other states with an appointed Clerk of Courts.

"I would again like to thank Governor Kernan for appointing me to serve as Clerk of Courts and for his continued leadership and support," Lewis said. "I would also like to thank Representative Ed Mahern for acting to include this important initiative in SEA 72, and Senator David Ford for proposing a similar measure in the Senate."

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**Contact: Meg W. Babcock**

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**March 16, 2004**

**317.233.5394 (voice)**

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## Judicial Commission Files Charges Against Judge Danikolas

**[State of the Judiciary](#)**

The Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications filed judicial disciplinary charges today against Judge James Danikolas of the Lake Superior Court, Civil Division 3.

The Commission alleges that Judge Danikolas committed judicial misconduct when he fired former Magistrate Kris Costa Sakelaris on May 1, 2003. The Commission maintains that Judge Danikolas wrongfully fired Ms. Sakelaris in retaliation for her truthful testimony during a deposition in a prior disciplinary case involving Judge Danikolas.

Specifically, the Commission alleges that Judge Danikolas violated judicial ethical rules which require judges to uphold the integrity of the judiciary, to be faithful to the law, to discharge their administrative duties without bias or prejudice, and which prohibit them from using the power of the judicial office to advance their own interests.

Judge Danikolas may file an Answer to the Charges within 20 days. Then, the Supreme Court will appoint a panel of three judges to preside over an evidentiary hearing and report their findings to the Supreme Court. Judge Danikolas is represented by Stanley Jablonski, (219) 736-7101.

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**March 26, 2004**

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## Effort to Reduce Bias in Court System Moves Ahead

[State of the Judiciary](#)

An on-going effort to reduce prejudice based on race or gender is moving ahead following the Supreme Court's review of the project's initial series of recommendations, Chief Justice Shepard, announced today.

"The hard work and deliberation that led to the recommendations are quite evident. It is also plain that much work remains to be done in accurately documenting the status of race and gender fairness in the state's justice system and in reducing any barriers to full participation in the legal system, whether they are real or perceived," Chief Justice Shepard said.

The Supreme Court reviewed 29 recommendations that were presented by the Court's Commission on Race and Gender Fairness, which is led by former Justice Myra Selby and Court of Appeals Judge Ezra H. Friedlander.

Virtually all of the recommendations were either approved or were already underway through related court projects. Completion of some of the recommendations will depend on funding and collaboration with other organizations.

But Chief Justice Shepard noted in the Court's response to the Commission's recommendations, that "the Court has and continues to be committed to implement as many of the Commission's recommendations as possible."

Already, the Court has approved the Commission's recommendation to implement a Court Interpreter Program to ensure that qualified interpreters are used in trial courts.

The first class of Court Interpreter Certification Program has taken its oral proficiency exam. These 19 students attended a two-day orientation session, passing a written exam, and attending a two-day skills-building session. Those who pass will be listed by the Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration as certified interpreters.

In addition, the Court supported recommendations that would increase training on race and gender bias issues for new attorneys and judges and potentially for prosecutors and public defenders. The Court also supported the recommendation to develop ways to decrease instances of disrespect and incivility in the legal system.

In regard to the makeup of the legal profession, the Court supported a number of recommendations that would encourage further diversity and also collect data about the profession's demographics.

On criminal justice issues, the Court supported further education efforts about the judicial system and the plan to create a framework to keep more detailed race and gender statistics in the criminal justice system as the new Case Management System is developed.

In the civil, domestic and family law areas, the Court supported recommendations to increase victims assistance programs and to collect more race and gender data in family law cases.

The Court has asked the Commission to prioritize the recommendations and outline the order in which it would like to implement them.

For further information or to view the Commission's original report to the Court, visit:  
[www.IN.gov/judiciary/fairness/index.html](http://www.IN.gov/judiciary/fairness/index.html).

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 6, 2004**

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**317.233.3668 (voice)**

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## Cokie Roberts to Address National Association of Women Judges in Indianapolis

Noted political commentator Cokie Roberts will address the National Association of Women Judges Annual Conference this October in Indianapolis, conference planners announced today.

Ms. Roberts is a political commentator for ABC News where for fifteen years she has covered Congress, politics and public policy. She also serves as Senior News Analyst for National Public Radio.

She will speak at lunch on Friday, October 8, 2004 in downtown Indianapolis at the 26th annual meeting of the National Association of Women Judges. The local event, which runs October 7-10, is chaired by Indiana Court of Appeals Judge Margret Robb. The program chair is Indiana Court of Appeals Judge Patricia Riley.

"The National Association of Women Judge is thrilled that Cokie Roberts has agreed to speak at our conference. She is a dynamic speaker and brings a tremendous amount of insight. With her remarks coming less than a month before the November election, we are certain she will have quite a few interesting things to say," said Judge Robb.

The media is welcome to the cover the event. The luncheon is a joint program of the National Association of Women Judges and the Women in the Law Conference presented by the Indiana Lawyer. A limited number of tickets for the general public will be available at a cost of \$55 each. To register for the lunch, please visit [www.nawjindy2004.org](http://www.nawjindy2004.org). or contact Linda Schumaker at 317.472.5200.

For further information about Ms. Roberts, visit this website:

[www.harrywalker.com/speakers\\_template.cfm?Spea\\_ID=189](http://www.harrywalker.com/speakers_template.cfm?Spea_ID=189)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 12, 2004**

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## Supreme Court to Hold Oral Argument in Fort Wayne

[State of the Judiciary](#)

The Indiana Supreme Court will hold an oral argument in Fort Wayne on Tuesday, April 13, 2004 at 1:45 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, Chief Justice Shepard announced today.

The Court will hear the case of Pabey v. Pastrick, which involves the validity of the Democratic primary election for the Mayor of East Chicago, Indiana that was held last May 6, 2003. The defeated candidate, George Pabey, filed an action in Lake Superior Court, contesting the primary victory of incumbent Mayor Robert Patrick.

The special judge appointed to hear the case upheld the election result and the Court of Appeals later dismissed the appeal on procedural grounds. The Indiana Supreme Court granted transfer and has assumed jurisdiction over the appeal.

The argument will last about 40 minutes. The public and the media are welcome to attend the hearing. Seating will be on a first come, first served basis. The local public access television station, Access Fort Wayne, will also tape the event for later broadcast.

### **SPECIAL NOTICE FOR THE NEWS MEDIA**

Under certain guidelines, the Supreme Court of Indiana will allow the news media to use still and video cameras to cover the hearing.

One video news camera will be allowed inside the hearing room on the condition that the news station shares or provides "pool" coverage for other television news stations that wish to cover the event.

Two still news photographers will be allowed inside the hearing room on the condition that the news station shares or provides "pool" coverage for other print news organizations that wish to cover the event.

Both still and video cameras must be mounted on tripods or monopods and flash or artificial lights are not allowed. Each camera must remain in place for the entire forty-minute argument.

If you wish to be the one "pool" video camera or one of the two "pool" print news cameras inside the hearing, please contact David J. Remondini at 317.233.8684 (office) or 317.847.7041 (cell) or via email at [dremondi@courts.state.in.us](mailto:dremondi@courts.state.in.us).

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**April 29, 2004**

**317.233.8684 (voice)**

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## Judiciary Launches Online Child Support Calculators

[State of the Judiciary](#)

In a highly collaborative effort, the Indiana Supreme Court has created three new electronic tools that will make calculating child support obligations easier and faster, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

"These tools will assist judges, attorneys, and citizens around the state make accurate calculations of child support in domestic relations cases that follow the Indiana Child Support Guidelines," said Chief Justice Shepard.

These three calculators, which generate the required child support court forms, include:

1. an online, interactive Step-by-Step Calculator complete with instructions, definitions, and references to the Guidelines;
2. an online, interactive Practitioners' Calculator specifically designed for members of the justice community with experience calculating child support; and
3. a Downloadable Calculator for Microsoft Excel™ for use on computers without an Internet connection by members of the justice community with experience calculating child support.

The calculators are the product of collaboration between the Division of State Court Administration, the Indiana Judicial Center, the Judicial Conference of Indiana Domestic Relations Committee, the Indiana Supreme Court Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC), and the Marion Superior Court. Technical development of the online calculators was completed by eGov Strategies of Indianapolis. JTAC staff members completed the technical development of the downloadable calculator.

"The greatest benefit of these calculators is their ease of use," said St. Joseph Superior Court Judge Michael Scopelitis, who chairs the Domestic Relations Committee. "Not only do the calculators simplify the process of determining support obligations in compliance with the Child Support Guidelines, but using each calculator should be intuitive for their respective audiences."

The idea for an online child support calculator originated when the Marion Superior Court initially contracted with eGov Strategies to develop an online calculator for its website. That calculator was widely popular, but became outdated when amendments to the Indiana Child Support Guidelines became effective at the beginning of 2004. In late 2003, in anticipation of the Guideline changes, Marion County handed the application over to JTAC so that JTAC could facilitate the necessary updates and the collaborative effort that has led to the development of two additional tools and make the tools available for statewide use.

"We're grateful to Marion County for allowing us to take its innovative idea and try to make it even better," said Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., Chair of JTAC. "We're hopeful these calculators will be used all over Indiana."

To access the Online Child Support Calculators, visit [www.IN.gov/judiciary/childsupport](http://www.IN.gov/judiciary/childsupport).

### About eGov Strategies

Since 1996, the eGov Strategies team has pioneered nationally-recognized website strategies,

processes and Internet-based technologies to enable online access to government and non-profit information and services. eGov Strategies LLC ([www.egovstrategies.com](http://www.egovstrategies.com)) works with city, town, county, and state governments to plan and implement the strategic evolution of their websites.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: David J. Remondini**

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**May 6, 2004**

**317.233.8684 (voice)**

## Supreme Court and Civil Rights Commission To Mark 50th Anniversary of Landmark Brown v. Board Of Education Case

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[State of the Judiciary](#)

The Indiana Supreme Court and the Indiana Civil Rights Commission on May 17, 2004 will mark the 50th anniversary of the landmark civil rights case, Brown v. Board of Education, the case that ordered the end of segregation in public schools, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

Chief Justice Shepard and Gov. Joseph E. Kernan will make brief remarks in the Supreme Court Courtroom on the third floor of the State House beginning at 10 a.m. Following their remarks, Sandra D. Leek, executive director of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, will introduce Gilbert Taylor, curator of the Crispus Attucks Museum, who will speak about his experiences attending segregated schools in Indianapolis.

In addition, the short program will also include a scripted trial of the events surrounding Brown. Audience members, including about 100 Indiana grade school students, will participant in this re-enactment. Dr. Suellen Reed, Superintendent of Public Instruction, will lead the students in a discussion of Brown.

Following the Courtroom event, from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in the House Chamber, the Supreme Court and the Civil Rights Commission are hosting a Continuing Legal Education session featuring Professor Kevin D. Brown, of the Indiana University School of Law.

Professor Brown will offer a session titled, "The Golden Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education: The Positives and the Negatives."

The Continuing Legal Education event costs \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. To register for the Continuing Legal Education event, contact Barbara Dobbins at 317.232.2644 or [bdobbins@crc.state.in.us](mailto:bdobbins@crc.state.in.us).

All events are open to the public and the media. The Courtroom event will be webcast "live" and archived for later viewing. To watch the webcast, visit [www.IN.gov/judiciary/citc](http://www.IN.gov/judiciary/citc).

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 6, 2004**

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## Clerk of Courts David C. Lewis to Meet with Indiana's Trial Court Clerks

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INDIANAPOLIS – David C. Lewis, the Clerk of the Indiana Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Tax Court, will visit the trial court clerks and their staffs in each of Indiana's ninety-two counties over the next eighteen months. This undertaking, which kicks off in Elkhart County on May 12, is intended to improve communication between the county clerks and the state appellate clerk with the objective of increasing the efficiency and quality of the appeals process.

"Nearly all of the thousands of cases that come through our office on appeal originate in the trial courts," Lewis said. "It is important that we on the appellate level have a good understanding of the functioning of trial court clerks' offices, and that the trial court clerks understand our operation. This crucial relationship has been neglected in the past, and I look forward to taking a first-hand look at the day-to-day work of the trial court clerk's offices."

In addition, Lewis will be discussing the future of Indiana's trial court and appellate clerks' offices. The Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC), a committee of the Indiana Supreme Court, is in the process of developing an electronic case management system that will be implemented over the next few years in all Indiana counties that choose to utilize it. This system will enable court clerks to make case documents and information available to the public on-line, and it will make the electronic filing of motions and briefs possible. On his county visits, Lewis will discuss JTAC and the case management system with the trial court clerks with the goal of making the transition to the new system as smooth as possible.

After Elkhart County, Lewis is scheduled to visit Vigo, Clark and Floyd counties in May, then Allen, Tippecanoe, Monroe, and St. Joseph counties in June. Following the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday, Lewis plans to visit Vanderburgh, Lake, Porter, and LaPorte counties. In August and September, Lewis will meet with clerks in Delaware, Wayne, Madison, Putnam, and Marion Counties. Visits to other Indiana counties are being scheduled through the end of 2004 and into 2005, and will be announced when dates have been confirmed.

"The explosion in computer technology is making the courts more accessible to all Hoosiers," Lewis said. "At the same time, it is important to remember that our courts and clerk's offices throughout the state are staffed by real people who are dedicated to ensuring that the administration of justice is fair, efficient, and friendly. I look forward to making personal connections with these individuals and to increase communication on issues vital to our work."

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 28, 2004**

**Contact: Mary Kronoshek**

**317.234.2710 (voice)**

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## Key Step In Technology To Make Court House Information More Accessible to be Announced in Clay County

A key step in the development of technology that will make vital courthouse information more accessible to the public and useful to government agencies will be announced on Wednesday, June 2, 2004 at 2 p.m. in the Clay Circuit Courtroom in Brazil, Ind.

Associate Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., and Judge Ernest E. Yelton of Clay Circuit Court and other officials from Clay County will be present for the announcement.

The event, which will last about one hour, will include a full-color demonstration of the new technology that will be suitable for videotaping. The demonstration will also offer a detailed explanation of the many ways this new technology will make many current government transactions easier and make more information available to the public.

Next Wednesday's announcement will represent an important milestone in the development of the technology system that may ultimately be adopted by other counties in the Wabash Valley and elsewhere in Indiana.

The news media is welcome to cover the entire event. Cameras will be permitted in the Clay Circuit Court for the purposes of this announcement.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 2, 2004**

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**317.234.2710 (voice)**

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## "Live" Testing Of New Statewide Court Computer System To Begin In Clay County

Brazil, Ind. -- A key step in the development of technology to make vital courthouse information more accessible to the public and useful to government agencies was announced today by Indiana Supreme Court Associate Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr. and Judge Ernest E. Yelton of the Clay Circuit Court.

Clay County will be the first of four counties where county workers will soon begin testing the new computerized Case Management System with actual data in a phase known as User Acceptance Testing.

The new Case Management System that will be tested is one of many projects being guided by the Supreme Court's Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC), which is chaired by Justice Sullivan.

"The new computerized court system will bring "21st century technology to our courts and put that same technology in the hands of citizens, law enforcement officers, and others who need and use court information," said Justice Sullivan.

For example:

- Citizens and lawyers will be able to check the status of their cases over the Internet.
- Courts will be able to transmit electronically orders suspending (or reinstating) driver's licenses to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.
- The state will be able to have an accurate electronic registry of all domestic violence protective orders issued by Indiana courts.
- A judge facing a criminal defendant will be able to determine immediately whether additional charges are pending anywhere else in Indiana
- Judges, clerks, prosecutors, lawyers, and their staffs will be able to process electronically countless transactions now laboriously performed by hand.

"There is still much to do before our vision of a statewide 21st century case management system becomes a reality. But thanks to the hard work of a great many people in Clay County and throughout the state, we are well underway," Justice Sullivan said.

Wednesday's announcement stems from work that began nearly two years ago in the fall of 2002. After a lengthy procurement process, the Supreme Court selected Computer Associates International, Inc. (CA), a major international computer software firm, to design and install a statewide computerized "case management system" to keep track of all developments in all cases pending in Indiana courts and make that information readily available to anyone who needs court information.

As part of its contract, CA will customize its existing court case management computer program to meet Indiana requirements and needs and then assist JTAC staff in implementing the system in all Indiana courts.

The company is developing specialized computer programs called "interfaces" to connect the case management system with key state agencies that need and use court information such as

the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, the State Police, and the Department of Correction. Other computer programs developed by CA and used by business and governments throughout the world to help run large computer networks are also included.

The Indiana General Assembly made this project possible, thanks in part to key support from Rep. Clyde Kersey, D-Terre Haute, who was also present.

"This entire project represents a great partnership between the Indiana judiciary and state and county government leaders. Beginning the testing in Clay County is a tremendous step forward in an effort that I consider to be the most important improvement in Indiana courts in over 30 years," said Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard in a statement released by his office. For further information about JTAC, please visit: [www.IN.gov/judiciary/jtac](http://www.IN.gov/judiciary/jtac)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 3, 2004**

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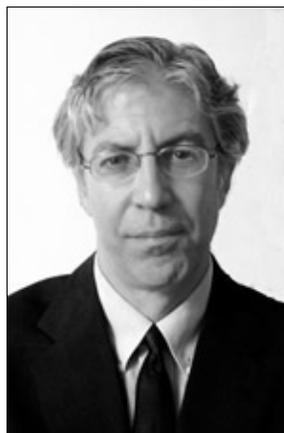
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## Supreme Court Administrator Douglas Cressler To Depart

Veteran Supreme Court Administrator Douglas E. Cressler has informed the Supreme Court that he is resigning to take a new position as Chief Deputy Clerk for the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit in Denver, Colorado, Chief Justice Shepard announced today.

Mr. Cressler has been the Indiana Supreme Court Administrator for nine years and previously had served as Deputy Court Administrator. He assumes his new position June 21, 2004.

“Doug has been a tremendous asset to the Court throughout his career here. His keen intellect, legal insight and attention to detail have been a great benefit to both the Court and the people of Indiana. I have enjoyed working with Doug and I will miss him. But I know he will be as successful in his new venture as he has been here. We wish both him and his wife Karen the best,” said Chief Justice Shepard.



Douglas E. Cressler

During his legal career, Mr. Cressler had practiced for three years at the law firm of Bingham McHale and had also spent ten years as a computer system analyst in the area of financial management at Methodist Hospital.

In addition, he has served as an adjunct professor at the Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis, teaching courses in both Appellate Procedure and Professional Responsibility. He is an accomplished author who has written a number of law review articles and law-related articles. He also lectures on a wide range of appellate matters.

A brief public ceremony marking Mr. Cressler’s tenure will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2004.

Mr. Cressler’s departure creates a vacancy in the office of Supreme Court Administrator. Working at the direction of the Chief Justice, the position provides legal and administrative services to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court Administrator serves as the chief appellate counsel to the Supreme Court and oversees day-to-day management of Court operations and is responsible for managing the Supreme Court’s budget. Anyone interested in the position should send a resume and letter of interest to:

Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard  
 ATTN: Administrator position  
 200 West Washington Street  
 304 Indiana State House  
 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Applicants must be licensed to practice law in Indiana and possess excellent writing skills. The ideal candidate will have experience in litigation and management and a commitment to public service. The annual salary is in the mid to high 90s.

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Questions about the position may be directed to Greta Scodro (317-232-2540) or [gscodro@courts.state.in.us](mailto:gscodro@courts.state.in.us)  
Application materials should be tendered by June 18, 2004.

The Indiana Supreme Court encourages diversity in its workforce.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 24, 2004**

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## Greta Scodro Appointed Acting Supreme Court Administrator

Greta Morris Scodro was named as Acting Supreme Court Administrator following the recent resignation of Douglas Cressler, Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

Ms. Scodro, who has served the Supreme Court as deputy court administrator since 1996, has been responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Supreme Court's administrative and legal operations since Mr. Cressler's departure June 15. Her status as Acting Supreme Court Administrator was confirmed by an order issued by the Court.

Ms. Scodro is an accomplished lawyer. Prior to being named Deputy Administrator, she was a staff attorney for the Supreme Court Administrator's office and had also clerked for Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., and former Justice Jon D. Krahulik. She worked in the litigation sections of two major law firms: Barnes & Thornburg of Indianapolis and Cassidy, Schade & Gloor of Chicago.



Greta Morris Scodro

She received her law degree from Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis and her bachelor of arts degree in economics from DePauw University.

"The Court is very fortunate to have Ms. Scodro on its staff. The citizens of Indiana and the Court will be well served by her during this interim period while our search for Mr. Cressler's permanent replacement continues," said Chief Justice Shepard.

Mr. Cressler departed to take a new position as Chief Deputy Clerk for the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit in Denver, Colorado.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 29, 2004**

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## **Supreme Court Again Extends Ivy Tech Computer Training Program**

Due to continued success and high demand, the Supreme Court has extended enrollment through Fall 2004 for the Judicial Employee Computer Training Program at Ivy Tech State College, sponsored by the Indiana Supreme Court Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC), Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., JTAC's chair, announced today.

In mid-2001, JTAC began offering fully funded computer training to Indiana's judicial employees through a partnership with Ivy Tech. Since that time, approximately 1,036 employees in approximately 68 county clerk offices and trial courts throughout the state have participated in the program. Course offerings have included computing, the Internet, and Microsoft Office software such as Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft PowerPoint. In total, a variety of 262 courses have been taken for a total of 28,155 contact hours.

"JTAC is pleased that Indiana's court employees exhibit such a high level of ongoing enthusiasm about this program," said Kurt Snyder, Director and Counsel for Trial Court Technology. The Ivy Tech program was developed to enable trial court and county clerk employees to take advantage of the numerous technology tools currently available to them and to begin preparing them for the technology that will be available in the future.

In many locations, Ivy Tech has tailored the class curriculum to meet the specific needs of clerk and court employees. In some locations, where enrollment justified it, Ivy Tech has provided the classes in the local courthouse.

Because JTAC plans many advances that will require familiarity with computers and the Internet, JTAC strongly encourages judges, clerks, and their staffs to take advantage of this educational opportunity. Although JTAC will cover the entire cost of instruction, total funding is limited and will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis.

To learn more about the Ivy Tech training program, visit the JTAC website at:  
[www.IN.gov/judiciary/jtac](http://www.IN.gov/judiciary/jtac).

### **About Ivy Tech**

Ivy Tech State College is an open admission college awarding two-year degrees and technical certificates and offering customized training to Indiana employers. Enrollment at Ivy Tech's 23 campuses and five instructional sites throughout Indiana make it the state's second largest post-secondary education system. Ivy Tech is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**July 2, 2004**

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## **Judicial Branch Appoints Members to Compensation Commission**

Indiana's judicial branch has appointed its three members to the commission that will recommend appropriate levels of pay for the state's legislators, judges and statewide elected officials, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard and Court of Appeals Chief Judge James S. Kirsch announced today.

The nine-member Public Officers Compensation Advisory Commission, which was created by the legislature earlier this year, will meet this summer and present recommendations by September 1 for consideration during the upcoming session of the Indiana General Assembly.

The statute creating the Commission directs the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to appoint two members and for the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals to appoint one member. In addition, the Governor, the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tem of the Senate also appoint members to the Commission.

"Our goal was to appoint independent-minded people of great integrity who would bring instant credibility to this important commission. I am very grateful these individuals were willing to accept these appointments and provide guidance to the legislature," said Chief Justice Shepard.

Chief Justice Shepard has appointed Stephen A. Stittle, of Indianapolis, and Michael Browning, of Carmel. Mr. Stittle is chairman and chief executive officer of National City Bank of Indiana. Mr. Browning is president of Browning Investments, Inc.

Chief Judge Kirsch has appointed Jean Blackwell, who is the vice president, chief financial officer and chief of staff of Cummins Engine Company of Columbus, Ind., and a former state Budget Director.

Indiana House Speaker B. Patrick Bauer (D-South Bend) earlier appointed Allison Engine Co./Rolls Royce tool and die maker and U.A.W. Local 933 member John Bartlett of Indianapolis, who will serve as chair of the commission, and, Lee Marchant, of Bloomington, who is president and chief executive officer of L.J.M. Enterprises.

Indiana Senate President Pro Tempore Robert D. Garton (R-Columbus) appointed Mary Fink of Fort Wayne, who is a tax manager for Steel Dynamics, and Jon O'Bannon, of Floyds Knobs. Mr. O'Bannon is vice chairman, secretary and assistant publisher of O'Bannon Publishing. He is the son of the late Gov. Frank L. O'Bannon.

On July 1, Gov. Joseph E. Kernan appointed former Dean of Notre Dame Law School David Link of South Bend, and Ian Rolland, of Fort Wayne, former chief executive officer of Lincoln National Corp.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Carl Butler**

**July 6, 2004**

**317.232.2548 (voice)**

## **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 next week to begin the process of selecting a new superior court judge. On January 3, 2005, Judge William C. Whitman will retire, leaving a vacancy on the St. Joseph Superior Court.

"State law requires the Judicial Nominating Commission to nominate five candidates for appointment to the St. Joseph Superior Court when a vacancy arises," Justice Sullivan said. "The final appointment will be 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 Monday, July 12, at 8:30 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.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 9, 2004**

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## **Two Marion County Judges Receive Scholarship Grants**

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Two Marion County Superior Court judges have won scholarship grants to attend educational seminars sponsored by the State Justice Institute, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

Marion County Superior Court Judge Barbara Collins received a grant to attend a seminar on "Law and the Social and Behavioral Sciences."

Marion County Superior Court Judge David Dreyer received a grant to attend a seminar on "Justice, Law and Literature."

"Educational sessions offered by the State Justice Institute are always first-rate and they really provide an excellent way for our trial judges to get new perspectives on the latest developments in the law and the way courts operate," said Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard.

The grants from the State Justice Institute (SJI) are designed to cover the costs of tuition and transportation costs to the seminar sites. SJI is a non-profit organization established by federal law to award grants to improve the quality of justice in state courts nationwide, facilitate better coordination between state and federal courts, and foster innovative, efficient solutions to common problems faced by all courts. The SJI website is [www.statejustice.org](http://www.statejustice.org).

On July 1, Gov. Joseph E. Kernan appointed former Dean of Notre Dame Law School David Link of South Bend, and Ian Rolland, of Fort Wayne, former chief executive officer of Lincoln National Corp.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 13 , 2004**

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## Clerk of Courts David C. Lewis Mourns the Passing of Rev. Charles Williams, an Icon of Black America

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INDIANAPOLIS – David C. Lewis, the Clerk of the Indiana Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Tax Court, released the following statement upon the passing of Rev. Charles Williams:

“I had the honor of knowing the Rev. Charles Williams for the past six years, and I was the benefactor of his wisdom, knowledge, and greatness in our conversations over that time. The city of Indianapolis, the state of Indiana, and the entire nation has truly lost an icon. The achievements of my generation of African-Americans would not have been possible without Rev. Williams and the vision he inspired in so many of us. I hold him in the same regard as Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. My prayers are with the Williams family, and I know that Rev. Williams is looking down on us from the right side of God. The work to which he devoted his life – the spiritual, economic, and physical health of African-Americans – will continue to grow and blossom from the seeds he planted. He has truly enriched our lives.”

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Carl Butler**

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**July 15, 2004**

**317.232.2548 (voice)**

## **Nominating Commission to Accept Applications for St. Joseph Judicial Vacancy**

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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 County Superior Court must act promptly to apply and provide background information to the St. Joseph County Superior Court Nominating Commission.

That vacancy will be created when the Honorable William C. Whitman retires on January 3, 2005.

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 County Superior Court Nominating Commission, which is chaired by Associate Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr.

The nine factors that the Commission must consider are set forth in Indiana Code § 33-5-40-41 (1998) and include the applicant's 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 County Circuit and Superior Courts, who can be reached at (574)235-9772.

Applicants should consult the Nominating Commission statute, particularly Indiana Code § 33-5-40-41 (1998), 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 seven copies must be completed and returned to the office of the Clerk of the St. Joseph County Circuit and Superior Courts on or before Wednesday, September 1, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. Current applicants who previously submitted an application for another court vacancy must submit a new application along with the requisite number of copies.

Applicants must be available for personal interviews with the Nominating Commission on Monday, September 20, 2004 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 § 33-5-40-42 (Supp. 1999). 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 which 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.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 22, 2004**

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## Clerk of Courts David C. Lewis Announces Publication of "Pro Se Guide to Appellate Procedure"

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INDIANAPOLIS – David C. Lewis, the Clerk of the Indiana Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Tax Court, is pleased to announce the publication of Indiana's first "Pro Se Guide to Appellate Procedure." This publication is one element in the Clerk's initiative to improve public access to the appellate courts, and it is intended to assist the growing numbers of self-represented litigants filing appeals in Indiana.

"The Pro Se Guide to Appellate Procedure promises to be an important tool for litigants attempting to navigate the complex appeals process without the assistance of an attorney," said Lewis. "The guide provides answers to the most frequently asked questions about appeals, definitions of legal terms, and samples of forms necessary to an appeal."

The Pro Se Guide to Appellate Procedure focuses primarily on appeals to the Indiana Court of Appeals, the intermediate level court that hears criminal and civil appeals from Indiana's trial courts and administrative agencies. The Guide also provides information on appeals to the Indiana Supreme Court.

The Pro Se Guide to Appellate Procedure is available in the Office of the Clerk of Courts, Room 217 in the Indiana State House, and online at <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/cofca/>. The online version of the Guide includes helpful links to rules, forms, and terms referenced in the Guide. The print version of the Guide will also be available in prisons and in county clerks' offices throughout the state.

"The Pro Se Guide is not intended to be a substitute for legal counsel or for the Indiana Rules of Appellate Procedure," Lewis cautioned. "I strongly urge all litigants contemplating an appeal to seek legal counsel. Those unable to secure an attorney, however, will find the Pro Se Guide to be an invaluable resource, and members of the public interested in learning more about the process of filing an appeal may turn to the Pro Se Guide for a comprehensive, user-friendly, plain-English explanation. This resource is an example of what good government is all about."

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Donald R. Lundberg**

**July 27, 2004**

**(317) 232-1807**

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### New Member Appointed And New Officers Elected To Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission

A new attorney member has been appointed to the Indiana Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission, which also elected a new set of officers, the Commission announced today.

The Indiana Supreme Court appointed Indianapolis lawyer R. Anthony Prather to the Commission for a five-year term beginning July 1, 2004. He replaces the Honorable Grant W. Hawkins, a judge of the Marion Superior Court, Criminal Division, whose second term on the Commission expired on June 30.

Mr. Prather is a graduate of Indiana University in Bloomington, where he received both his undergraduate and law degrees. He graduated from Indiana University School of Law in 1983 and was sworn in as a member of the Indiana bar that year. He is also a member of the bars of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Indiana. Mr. Prather is a partner in the Indianapolis office of the law firm of Barnes & Thornburg, practicing in the area of labor and employment law. His professional memberships include the American, National, and the Indianapolis bar associations. He is a member of the ABA Conference of Minority Partners and the Minority Counsel program.

In addition, on July 11, 2004, the Disciplinary Commission elected new officers. Diane L. Bender of Evansville was elected chairperson of the Commission. She was first appointed to the Commission in 1999 and was recently reappointed to a second five-year term, expiring in 2009. Bender is a sole practitioner who concentrates her practice in estate planning and probate administration. She is a 1980 graduate of the Notre Dame Law School and was admitted to the Indiana bar that same year. Ms. Bender replaces the previous chair, Janet Biddle, a citizen member of the Commission who is involved in family farming and related operations near Remington. Ms. Biddle remains on the Commission as a member.

Robert L. Lewis of Lake County was elected vice-chairperson of the Commission. He was initially appointed to the Commission in 1999, and was recently re-appointed to a second five-year term, expiring in 2009. Mr. Lewis is the principal in the Gary firm of Robert L. Lewis & Associates. Mr. Lewis received both his undergraduate and law degrees from Indiana University in Bloomington, in 1970 and 1973 respectively. He became a member of the Indiana bar in 1973. He is a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves Judge Advocate General Corps.

J. Mark Robinson, of Clark County, was elected secretary of the Commission. He is in his first term on the Commission, having been appointed on April 11, 2001 to a term expiring on June 30, 2006. He is a 1969 civil engineering graduate of Purdue, and he received his law degree in 1973 from the University of Louisville School of Law. Also an ordained Presbyterian minister, he is the managing attorney of the New Albany office of Indiana Legal Services, Inc., a provider of civil legal services to low-income clients.

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 or serve in judicial office and two are lay representatives.

In addition, Commission members who continue in their service include: Sally Franklin Zweig, a partner in the Indianapolis law firm of Katz & Korin, P.C.; Anthony M. Zappia, senior member of the South Bend firm of Zappia & Zappia; Corinne R. Finnerty, a partner in McConnell & Finnerty in North Vernon; and Fred Austerman, Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Sanyo Laser Products in Richmond.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 29, 2004**

## **Indiana's Chief Justice Named Chair-Elect of National Court Reform Organization**

**Williamsburg , Va.** – Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard has been named Chair-Elect of the National Center for State Courts' (NCSC) Board of Directors and President-Elect of the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ), a national organization that represents the top judicial officers of the 50 states and U.S. territories, and of which the National Center serves as executive staff. Both positions are one-year terms. The appointments were made during the National Center's Board meeting and CCJ's annual conference, July 25 – 29 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

"Chief Justice Shepard has worked closely with the National Center for years, and we are honored that he has moved into a leadership position," said Roger K. Warren, president of the National Center. "As a leader in the legal community, Chief Justice Shepard's knowledge and experience are invaluable to the National Center. He cares deeply about the importance of the work of America's state courts and the mission of The National Center as the preeminent national court reform organization."



Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard

The National Center's Board of Directors represents all levels and jurisdictions of state courts and the legal profession. During the Utah meetings, Chief Justice of Wisconsin Shirley S. Abrahamson was named Chair of the Board and President of CCJ. Established in 1949, CCJ is the primary voice for state courts before federal legislative and executive branches and works to promote legal reforms and improvements in state court administration.

Chief Justice Shepard's commitment to improving the justice system is far reaching. For years, he has worked closely with the National Center to help improve the judicial selection process, one of NCSC's top initiatives. Chief Justice Shepard also was designated by the Conference of Chief Justices as their representative in the American Bar Association's project to revise the Model Judicial Code, which includes reference to judicial election issues. Chief Justice Shepard took office in 1987 and has served as Chief longer than anyone in Indiana history. He was first appointed to the Indiana Supreme Court in 1985. Prior to that, he served on the Vanderburgh Superior Court bench from 1980 to 1985.

The National Center, headquartered in Williamsburg, Va., is a non-profit court reform organization dedicated to improving the administration of justice by providing leadership and service to the state courts. The National Center, founded in 1971 by the Conference of Chief Justices and Chief Justice of the United States Warren E. Burger, provides education, training, and technology, management, and research services to the nation's state courts. The National Center also is taking the lead on several key issues facing the justice system. For example, it has established a major civil justice initiative, a multi-year project that is examining best practices

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in civil case management and how complex litigation procedures can be improved. Other national initiatives being driven by the National Center include judicial selection reform and increasing citizen participation in jury service.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 5 , 2004**

## **Judicial Technology and Automation Committee Receives Collaboration Award**

The Indiana Supreme Court Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC) received *Government Technology* magazine's "Best Information Technology (IT) Collaboration" award, Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., JTAC's Chair, announced today.

The award was presented by Laura Larimer, State Chief Information Officer, at the Indiana Digital Government Summit on July 27, 2004 to JTAC and its Director, Kurt Snyder, for excellence in collaboration with other state agencies and jurisdictions, specifically with regard to JTAC's primary project of implementing a statewide electronic case management system. JTAC has worked effectively with agencies in the state executive branch as well as local elected officials including court clerks, elected judges, law enforcement officials, and others, she said.

"We are pleased that the Indiana Department of Administration, in conjunction with *Government Technology* magazine, has recognized the tremendous collaborative effort that JTAC has undertaken with the development and deployment of the statewide case management system," said Justice Sullivan. "We're proud to accept the Best IT Collaboration award, but we share it with all the state and local stakeholders who participate in this project, without whom the system could not be successful."

The Best IT Collaboration award is given to teams that have designed, developed, and deployed new applications or improved existing systems that assist the department or agency in handling its day-to-day work. The basic qualifiers for this award are an outstanding application resulting from a collaborative effort between agencies or jurisdictions.

For more information about JTAC, visit its website at [www.IN.gov/judiciary/jtac](http://www.IN.gov/judiciary/jtac).

**Kurt Snyder**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Jennifer Bauer**

**August 10, 2004**

**(voice) 317-232-1313**

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## **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," Allen Superior Court Judge Stanley Levine announced today.

Judge Levine, 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 by the Indiana Judicial Center by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 31, 2004. The awards will be presented at the Indiana Judges Association luncheon on September 23, 2004 in Evansville.

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](http://www.in.gov/judiciary/center).

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Jana Matthews**

**August 25, 2004**

**(voice) 317- 232.2542**

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### **Eighth Indiana CLEO Class Completes 2004 Summer Institute**

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The newest class of Indiana Conference for Legal Education Opportunity Fellows have completed the 2004 Summer Institute and will enter Indiana law schools in the fall as part of a long term project to increase diversity in the legal profession, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.



The Indiana CLEO Fellows class of 2004 includes 30 students who attended and successfully completed the eighth annual Indiana CLEO Summer Institute hosted by Indiana University School of Law, Bloomington, where they took classes in Civil Procedure, Civil Rights, Torts, and Legal Writing in preparation for law school this fall. Each Indiana CLEO Fellow will enroll in one of Indiana's four law schools this fall.

Indiana CLEO is a program of the Indiana Supreme Court. Indiana CLEO was created by the Indiana General Assembly in 1997 at the request of Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard to assist minority, low-income, and educationally disadvantaged college graduates pursue a law degree at one of Indiana's four law schools and later become members of the Indiana legal community.

Indiana CLEO provides various programs throughout the academic year to prepare Indiana CLEO for achievement in law school, on the bar exam, and for success once they enter the legal community. To date, 237 fellows have been part of the Indiana CLEO program.

"This class of Indiana CLEO Fellows will represent our program well as they pursue their legal education in Indiana," said Chief Justice Randall Shepard.

"I am confident that given their fine accomplishments thus far they will follow in the footsteps of our previous Indiana CLEO Fellows and one day become leaders and trendsetters, not only in our Indiana law schools, but also in many of Indiana's legal and professional communities," he added.

The 2004 Indiana CLEO Fellows include:

### **Indiana University School of Law- Bloomington**

Brian Johnson, Indianapolis  
Megan Lewis, Bloomington  
Shanida Sharp, Indianapolis

### **Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis**

Alphonso Atkins, Jr., Indianapolis  
Christopher Baca, Indianapolis  
Maya Carraway, Indianapolis  
Elisabeth Cheatham, Poland  
Patricia Chen, Carmel  
Veronica Davis-Smith, Carmel  
Lauren DeFrantz, Indianapolis  
John Oppon Gaidoo, Indianapolis  
Kelli N. Jones, Indianapolis  
Angela Joseph, Indianapolis  
Dea Che Lott, South Bend  
Kevin Muñoz, Indianapolis  
Sayif Saud, Fort Wayne  
Finis Tatum IV, Indianapolis  
Kania Warbington, South Bend  
A. T. Young, Atlanta, GA

### **University of Notre Dame Law School**

Elizabeth Hlavek, Lafayette  
Alex James, Fort Wayne  
Angel Orrantia, Queen Creek, AZ  
Leonard Stewart, Morris Plains, NJ  
Sravana Yarlagadda, Shipshewana

### **Valparaiso University School of Law**

Zachary Butler, Fishers  
Aimbréll Holmes, Gary  
David Payne, LaPorte  
Melanie Scott, Carmel  
Devin Schaffer, Indianapolis  
Jessica Yoder, Middlebury

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Julia Orzeske**

**August 25, 2004**

**(voice) 317. 232.1943**

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## Two Hoosiers Assume Leadership Roles in National CLE Organization

Two Hoosiers will take over key leadership roles in the national organization for state Continuing Legal Education programs, Chief Justice Shepard announced today.



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Anne Davidson, of the Indiana Commission for Continuing Legal Education (CLE), was elected president of the Organization of Regulatory Administrators for Continuing Legal Education programs for the 2004-2005 term. Ms. Davidson is the office manager and the mediation services coordinator for the Commission. She was elected as the vice-president of O.R.A.C.L.E. in 2003.

Cheri Harris was also named executive director of O.R.A.C.L.E. Ms. Harris, a former law clerk to Chief Justice Shepard and staff attorney for the Indiana Judicial Center, will work out of Indiana's CLE office, beginning September 1 st.



Cheri Harris

"Anne and Cheri are first-class people. I am glad that both of them are being recognized for their skills. My colleagues and I offer our congratulations," said Chief Justice Shepard.

O.R.A.C.L.E. is the national organization representing the 40 continuing legal education jurisdictions. Regulatory duties in most states include program accreditation and attorney record-keeping duties for CLE program attendance.

In Indiana, active attorneys are required to take thirty-six hours of continuing legal education every three years.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**September 2, 2004**

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## **Chief Justice Shepard Appointed to National Steering Panel for Appellate Justice in the 21st Century**

Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard has been appointed to the Steering Committee for the 21 st Century Conference on Appellate Justice, it was announced last week.

The committee is organizing the 21 st Century Conference on Appellate Justice, which will be held in Washington, D.C. in November 2005.

He joins a distinguished panel of jurists, law school deans, and lawyers that is co-chaired by former Florida Supreme Court Justice Arthur J. England, Jr., Russell Wheeler of the Federal Judicial Center, and Gene Flango of the National Center for State Courts. Chief Justice Shepard was appointed to represent the Chief Justices of the state supreme courts.

This conference will examine the future role of appellate courts and follows a similar event held in 1975. The 2005 conference will feature a review of the predictions made 25 years ago and the future role appellate courts will play, particularly in regard to the "supply" and "demand" of the court system. The conference will also examine the current challenges facing appellate courts with a focus on the issue of growing litigation volume and the promise offered by emerging technologies.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 10, 2004**

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**317.233.2990 (fax)**

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## **State Attorney Registration Fees Are the Lowest in the Nation**

A recent national survey revealed that the annual registration fees Indiana attorneys pay to keep their license in good standing is the lowest in the nation.

The listing is compiled on a regular basis by the Office of Attorney Ethics of New Jersey and was recently distributed.

Indiana's annual fee, which is due by October 1st of each year, is \$105. The highest fee assessed to practice law is \$3,032 in Oregon. But that figure is based on the annual cost of mandatory malpractice insurance. Second highest is the state of Tennessee, which assesses its attorneys a total of \$535, which includes a \$400 state tax on each attorney license.

In the Midwest, Illinois charges \$229. Kentucky assesses \$221. Ohio lawyers pay \$138 and Michigan lawyers pay \$315.

Fees paid by Indiana's approximately 14,000 attorneys pay for the operations of the Disciplinary Commission, the Continuing Legal Education Commission and the Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program.

"Normally being at the bottom of any list is not the best place to be. But this ranking demonstrates that Indiana runs an efficient and productive attorney licensing system," said Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard.

**International Survey of  
Attorney Licensing Fees**  
Adobe PDF | 4 pages | 114 kb

07-01-04, Office of Attorney Ethics of New  
Jersey

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Carl Butler**

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**September 17, 2004**

**317.232.2548**

### **Public Interviews to be Held for St. Joseph Superior Court Vacancy**

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The St. Joseph Superior Court Judicial Nominating Commission will interview candidates for the upcoming vacancy on the St. Joseph Superior Court on Monday, September 20, 2004. The interviews will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the St. Joseph County Commissioners Conference Room, Seventh Floor, County-City Building, South Bend, Indiana.

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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**

1. Entry and exit into the room will be permitted only between interviews.
2. Only ambient lighting will be permitted. Flashbulbs and similar photographic equipment may not be employed during the proceeding.
3. There will be no movement of equipment, except between interviews.
4. Questioning of the applicant during the interview will be reserved for the members of the Judicial Nominating Commission. At the applicant's discretion, members of the public or the media may interview him or her before or after his or her interview with the Commission.
5. Members of the audience are requested to refrain from all other activities that might distract from the interview process.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Bill Brockman**

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**September 21, 2004**

**812.738.4890**

## **Corydon Capitol holds opening ceremony for reconstructed Coburn-Porter Law Office**

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The Corydon Capitol State Historic Site will hold an opening ceremony for the newly reconstructed Coburn-Porter Law Office on Friday, Sept. 24, at 2:30 p.m. EST. The law office is located in downtown Corydon on East Walnut Street, adjacent to the Governors Headquarters.

The reconstruction of the law office, which began in 2003, was made possible through the collaboration and dedication of the Friends of Corydon Capitol and Judge Porter's great-grandsons, Tim Griffin of Indianapolis and Fred Griffin of Corydon.

"The events that took place in Indiana's legal history played an integral role in how this state developed," said Chief Justice of Indiana, Randall Shepard, who will be speaking at the opening ceremony. "The research and documentation of the law office put together by the Friends Group and Judge Porter's grandsons allowed for an accurate restoration and the preservation of an important piece of Indiana's heritage."

The building will be interpreted as a law office of the 1850's and will be furnished with items similar to what would have been used, along with several original pieces saved by the Griffin family including a Rittenhouse stove, drop leaf table, cannonball bed and built-in bookshelves.

The Coburn-Porter Law Office is a one-story, frame structure that was built in 1819 for Henry P. Coburn, the clerk of the Indiana Supreme Court at the time. Judge William Anderson Porter purchased the building in 1837 and used it as a law office until his death in 1884.

The building originally stood facing Walnut Street near the north end of Elm Street. When the Corydon Presbyterian Church was constructed in 1906, it was moved west in the same lot. After the Maurice Griffin family built their residence in 1912, it was moved to the rear of the residence. In 1963 the law office was torn down to make room for a garage and back porch for the Frederick P. Griffin family.

Corydon Capitol State Historic Site, located 30 minutes west of Louisville, along scenic Interstate 64 in southern Indiana, is part of the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites Division, Department of Natural Resources, with 14 sites around the state. The site is closed most state holidays, except Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day. For more information about programs and special events, call 812-738-4890.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Carl Butler**

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**September 22, 2004**

**317.232.2548**

## **St. Joseph Judicial Commission Submits Five Nominees To Governor**

The St. Joseph Superior Court Judicial Nominating Commission today submitted to Governor Joseph Kernan its list of five candidates to fill a vacancy on the St. Joseph Superior Court, Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr. announced. The vacancy will occur on January 3, 2005 when the Honorable William C. Whitman retires. From the list, Governor Kernan will appoint Judge Whitman's successor.

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The nominees are:

- Larry Leonard Ambler, 58, a lawyer in private practice.
- Hon. David Charles Chapleau, 51, a Magistrate of the St. Joseph Circuit Court.
- Mark A. Kopinski, 46, a sole practitioner and public defender.
- Hon. Richard Leo McCormick, 36, a Magistrate of the St. Joseph Superior Court.
- Sen. Joseph C. Zakas, 53, an Indiana State Senator and lawyer with the firm
- 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 Kernan has sixty 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. Indiana law provides that any applicant for the vacancy whose name was not submitted to the Governor shall have access to any evaluation of him made by the Commission and the right to make the evaluation public.

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 appointed by the Chief Justice of Indiana. Pursuant to this position, Justice Sullivan serves as chairman.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 30, 2004**

**Contact: Anthony Zapata**

**317.234.1872**

### **Survey to Collect Gender Data**

The Commission on Race and Gender Fairness is coordinating with the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory to conduct a survey among licensed Indiana attorneys. The Commission is studying race and gender fairness issues throughout the Indiana judicial system. As part of that effort, the Commission will conduct a survey of 2000 Indiana licensed attorneys as to their experiences and views with regard to gender issues within the legal system. The survey will be sent out this October.

This survey is a follow-up to a 1990 survey conducted by the Indiana State Bar Association. The original survey was slightly modified and lengthened to produce the new version. The Commission collaborated with the Indiana State Bar Association Women in the Law Section and the Indianapolis Bar Association Women and the Law Division in creating this new version.

For more information about the Commission's work, please contact the Commission's staff attorney, Anthony Zapata, at [azapata@courts.state.in.us](mailto:azapata@courts.state.in.us) or (317) 234-1872.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: David J. Remondini**

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**October 6, 2004**

**317.233.8684**

### **Attorney Kevin Smith Named Supreme Court Administrator**

Kevin S. Smith, an attorney with Baker & Daniels and a former law clerk to Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, has been appointed as the new Supreme Court Administrator, the Chief Justice announced today.

Mr. Smith, who was a law clerk for Chief Justice Shepard from May 1996 to December 1997, will begin work October 25, 2004. Following his clerkship with the Indiana Supreme Court he served as a law clerk for Judge Alice M. Batchelder of the Sixth Circuit United States Court of Appeals and then worked as an associate attorney with Bose McKinney & Evans LLP, of Indianapolis, before joining Baker & Daniels' Indianapolis office in May 2000.



Kevin Smith, Esq.

Chief Justice Shepard said he is pleased Mr. Smith was returning to the Court.

"The Court has been especially fortunate to have assistance in its appellate work from a staff of very talented lawyers and we expect Kevin Smith will supply sound leadership to our Administrator's office of that same caliber," said Chief Justice Shepard.

Mr. Smith replaces Douglas E. Cressler, who left the Court last June to take a new position as Deputy Administrator for the federal Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver, Colorado.

The Supreme Court Administrator works at the direction of the Chief Justice and serves as the Court's chief appellate counsel, manages a legal and administrative staff, maintains statistical and physical records, as well as providing much of the payroll, benefit, budget and day-to-day operational management for the Court.

Mr. Smith graduated near the top of his class from Indiana University with a degree in Business and a minor in English in 1992. In 1996, he graduated *magna cum laude* from Indiana University School of Law-Bloomington where he was Notes and Comments Editor for the *Indiana Law Journal* and a member of the Order of the Coif.

At Baker & Daniels, he was a member of the Labor and Employment Team, which included representing employers in litigation involving state and federal and employment discrimination and worker's compensation statutes at both the trial and appellate levels.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Kelly Voorhies**

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**October 6, 2004**

**317.233.3668**

### **National Association of Women Judges to Meet in Indy**

Indianapolis, Ind. – The 26 th annual meeting of the National Association of Women Judges will meet in Indianapolis Oct. 7-10, 2004 for their 26 th annual conference and involve hundreds of women jurists.

Judges from nearly every state and several foreign countries are expected at the conference, which has been titled, “At the Crossroads.”

Indiana Court of Appeals Judge Margret G. Robb, who is the general conference chair, said dozens of people have spent much of the last two years preparing for the event.

“The contributions we have received from the legal community and our other friends have been immense. I cannot tell you how many volunteer hours have been spent getting ready for what I know will be an outstanding conference. We are proud of our educational planning and the chance to show off Indiana’s capital city,” said Judge Robb.

Among the conference highlights will be discussions on the Globalization of Decision Making and The Globalization of Human Rights, along with breakout sessions on Decision-making Without A Constitution, Social Change Moving the Law, Project Innocence, Co-dependency of Medical and Legal Issues, Addressing Racial, Cultural, Gender and Pro Se Issues, Specialized Courts and Programs, Book Publishing by Judges, and Judicial Independence

For further information on the NAWJ Conference in Indianapolis, please visit [www.nawjindy2004.org](http://www.nawjindy2004.org).

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**Contact: David J. Remondini**

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**October 20, 2004**

**317.233.8684**

## **Gary Attorney Gilbert King Jr. Appointed to Board of Law Examiners**

Gary attorney Gilbert King Jr. has been appointed to serve a five-year term on the [Indiana Board of Law Examiners](#) beginning December 1, 2004, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

Mr. King, who was admitted to the Indiana bar on October 9, 1974, maintains a private law practice in Gary, which includes government defense and labor law. He has wide experience in municipal law and public finance and he has held a number of legal positions for the City of Gary. He graduated from Kentucky State University in 1967, served two years in the U.S. Army, and earned his law degree at University of Kentucky in 1972.



Gilbert King, Jr., Esq.

Mr. King replaces another Lake County attorney, Calvin D. Hawkins, of Gary, who has served two five-year terms as a member of the Board of Law Examiner. He was appointed by former Justice Roger O. DeBruler in 1994. Currently, Mr. Hawkins is a Chapter 7 Trustee in Bankruptcy Court for the U.S. District Court of Northern Indiana.

"We are very grateful for the long and vital service Mr. Hawkins has provided to the Indiana Board of Law Examiners. He has set a very high standard. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to Mr. King. His background in the law makes him quite valuable as a member of the Board of Law Examiners," said Chief Justice Shepard.

The Board of Law Examiners is comprised of ten members who are responsible for writing and grading the bar examination for Indiana bar applicants. Two bar examinations are administered each year. The Board also oversees the admission of attorneys from other states.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: David J. Remondini**

**October 21, 2004**

**317.233.8684**

### **Allen County Judge Nancy Boyer to Join CLE Commission**

Allen County Superior Court Judge Nancy Boyer, has been appointed to the Supreme Court's Commission on Continuing Legal Education, Associate Justice Frank Sullivan Jr. announced today.

Judge Boyer was chosen to replace Jeanine Marie Gozdecki, of South Bend as a Commission member. Judge Boyer's term will begin on January 1, 2005 and end December 31, 2009.

"We are very grateful for the tremendous leadership and skill Ms. Gozdecki has provided the Commission. Her contributions have been substantial and she will be missed. We are also looking forward to having Judge Boyer on the Commission. She is a first-rate trial judge who has a strong commitment to continuing legal education for our attorneys," said Justice Sullivan.



Hon. Nancy Boyer

Judge Boyer graduated from DePauw University, *cum laude*, in 1973 and received her law degree, *cum laude*, from Indiana University-Indianapolis in 1976.

The Commission has 11 members. They receive no salary for their service and each serves a term of three years.

The Commission is primarily responsible for approval of the individual educational opportunities that Indiana's attorneys are required to receive and for approval of the sponsors who present the educational seminars. Additionally, the Commission sets standards for training courses for Indiana's registered mediators and regulates attorney specialization in the state.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Kelly Voorhies**

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**October 25, 2004**

**317.233.3668**

## **Four Earn Awards From the National Women Judges Meeting in Indy**

Four people, including Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, earned awards from the 26 th annual National Association of Women Judges Conference in Indianapolis, which concluded recently.

Retired Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Rosalie Wahl, a founding member of the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ), was named the Joan Dempsey Klein Honoree of the Year for her longstanding support of NAWJ.

New York attorney Conrad L. Klein was named as the 2004 Florence K. Murray Awardee. Mr. Klein is the husband of NAWJ Founding Mother, the Hon. Joan Dempsey Klein, and has been a supporter of NAWJ since it was established in 1979.

Milwaukee Circuit Court Judge Maxine White was named the 2004 recipient of the Mattie Belle Davis Award. Named for the late NAWJ founder, it is presented to a member who demonstrates growing leadership with the NAWJ.

Chief Justice Shepard earned the Norma J. Winkler Excellence in Service Award. The award is given to an NAWJ member who has performed above and beyond the call of duty in support of NAWJ. The Chief Justice received the award in recognition of his overall belief in NAWJ's mission and his support for the 2004 conference in Indianapolis from Oct. 7-10, 2004.

While the Winkler Award is normally given at the annual meeting, Chief Justice Shepard was actually presented his award by NAWJ President, the Hon. Carolyn Temin, in July at the Conference of Chief Justice's meeting in Salt Lake City.

"There are many members of the NAWJ who deserve recognition for their support of NAWJ and their hard work in their communities. We are very pleased to single out just a few of these people for their tremendous contributions," said Indiana Court of Appeals Judge Margaret G. Robb, who chaired the conference in Indianapolis.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 28, 2004**

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## **Judge Sharpnack to Join CLE Commission**

Indiana Court of Appeals Judge John T. Sharpnack, has been appointed to the Supreme Court's Commission on Continuing Legal Education, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

Judge Sharpnack term will begin on January 1, 2005 and end December 31, 2009.

"Judge Sharpnack will be a tremendous asset to the CLE Commission. Not only is he a distinguished jurist, but his background in private practice will bring an important perspective to the Commission's work," said Chief Justice Shepard.



Hon. John T. Sharpnack

Judge Sharpnack graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1955 and received his LL.B from the same school five years later. He was a partner with Sharpnack, Bigley, David and Rumble in Columbus, Ind. from 1963 until 1990. His term on the Court of Appeals began January 1, 1991.

The Commission has 11 members. They receive no salary for their service and each serves a term of five years.

The Commission is primarily responsible for approval of the individual educational opportunities that Indiana's attorneys are required to receive and for approval of the sponsors who present the educational seminars. Additionally, the Commission sets standards for training courses for Indiana's registered mediators and regulates attorney specialization in the state.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 29, 2004**

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## **Allen County Judge David Avery Appointed as CLE Liaison**

Allen County Superior Court Judge David Avery has been appointed to be the liaison from the Indiana Judicial Conference to the Supreme Court's Commission on Continuing Legal Education, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

Judge Avery currently serves as chair of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee of the Judicial Conference and because of that position, the Supreme Court has appointed Judge Avery to serve as liaison to the Commission on Continuing Legal Education. His term as liaison will coincide with his term as chair of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee, which expires in September 2006.

"We are very grateful to Judge Avery for this position. I am looking forward to working with him," said Chief Justice Shepard.

Judge Avery graduated from Illinois State University in 1973 and received his law degree from Valparaiso University in 1976.

The Commission is primarily responsible for approval of the individual educational opportunities that Indiana's attorneys are required to receive and for approval of the sponsors who present the educational seminars. Additionally, the Commission sets standards for training courses for Indiana's registered mediators and regulates attorney specialization in the state.



Hon. David Avery

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 4, 2004**

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### **Court Hosts Spirit and Place Event on *Brown v. Board of Education* Desegregation Case**

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The Indiana Supreme Court, in conjunction with the Indiana Bar Foundation, will host a Spirit and Place event in its Courtroom re-enacting aspects of the famous desegregation case, *Brown v. Board of Education*, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

About 100 students from three Central Indiana schools will take part in the event by role-playing various parts of *Brown* and the related desegregation cases. It will begin at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2004 in the Courtroom on the third floor of the Indiana State House.

May 17, 2004 was the 50 th anniversary of the famous U.S. Supreme Court case, which banned segregation of schools by race.

The event will be broadcast live on the Internet at [www.IN.gov/judiciary/citc](http://www.IN.gov/judiciary/citc). It is part of the ninth annual "Sprit and Place" Festival. Spirit and Place is Central Indiana's annual civic festival of the arts, humanities, and religion. Produced by The Polis Center at IUPUI, the festival is a collaboration of dozens of partner organizations.

The 2004 festival takes place November 5 - 21, 2004 throughout Central Indiana. This year's theme is Building & Belonging, with 100 events inspired by this fruitful idea. For more information, visit: [www.spiritandplace.org](http://www.spiritandplace.org).



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 18, 2004**

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## **Supreme Court to Host Oral Argument in New Albany, Ind.**

The Indiana Supreme Court will hold oral argument in New Albany, Ind. at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 18, 2004 at the downtown Grand Theatre, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

The case is John P. Myers v. State of Indiana and originated in Scott County. The Scott Superior Court denied the defendant's motion to suppress a handgun seized during a warrantless search of his vehicle.

Before the trial concluded, the defendant appealed that decision to the Indiana Court of Appeals, which upheld the trial judge's decision earlier this year. The defendant then appealed that decision to the Supreme Court, which has agreed to accept the case.

The Supreme Court was invited to the Grand Theatre at 138 E. Market Street in New Albany at the request of the Sherman Minton Inn of Court, an association of lawyers and judges who work to enhance the practice of law through mentoring and education. Sherman Minton is a native of New Albany (1890-1965) and is the only person from Indiana to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. He was also a U.S. Senator.

"The Supreme Court is pleased to be asked to visit Southern Indiana. My colleagues and I feel it is important for us to travel to other parts of the state so people can get a first hand look at how our courts work," said Chief Justice Shepard.

The argument will take about an hour and each side will have twenty minutes to argue its sides of the case. The public is invited to attend.

The news media is also invited to attend. The Indiana Supreme Court allows photography and recording of its arguments under certain conditions. The Supreme Court will allow two still news photographers and two video news photographers. 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.

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 Grand Theatre 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.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 22, 2004**

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## **Interviews for Lake County Superior Court Judgeship Set**

Interviews for an upcoming vacancy for a judgeship on the Lake County Superior Court will be held on Friday, February 11, 2005.

Associate Supreme Court Justice Robert D. Rucker, a former Gary resident, will preside over the selection process as chairman of the Lake County Judicial Nominating Commission. Justice Rucker was named chairman of the Commission in the spring of 2000 by Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard.

The interviews for the position as Judge of the Lake Superior Court, Criminal Division 3, are open to the public and will be held in the courtroom of the Lake County Board of Commissions in the Government Center in Crown Point, Ind. After conducting the interviews, the Lake County Judicial Nominating Commission will make its nominations and submit to the Governor of Indiana the names of three candidates.

Applications will be available at all offices of the Clerk of the Lake Superior Court. Ten copies of each application must be received by 4 p.m. on Saturday, January 29, 2005 at the offices of the secretary of the Judicial Nominating Commission, Ronald Layer, at 5832 Hohman Avenue, Hammond, Ind. 46320.

Attorneys who reside in Lake County, are citizens of the United States and are admitted to the practice of law in the Courts of Indiana are eligible to apply.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 23, 2004**

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## **Legal Aid to the Poor Gets Boost From Supreme Court: Court to Adopt Universal IOLTA Plan**

Thousands of indigent residents of Indiana will have greater access to justice following a decision by the Indiana Supreme Court to fold all Indiana lawyer trust accounts into the Court's current trust account program, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

The decision by the Supreme Court to bring all lawyer trust accounts into the seven-year old Interest On Lawyer Trust Account (IOLTA) program is expected to generate an additional \$75,000 to \$200,000 annually for programs that encourage Indiana lawyers to provide free, or *pro bono*, civil legal services to the indigent.

The action by the Court follows a nearly unanimous approval by the Indiana State Bar Association's House of Delegates of a resolution on October 15, 2004 that supported the move to universal IOLTA.

"Thanks to the leadership of the Indiana Pro Bono Commission, the Indiana State Bar Association and the Indiana Bar Foundation, there will be greater funding for programs that help people with legal problems obtain justice," said Chief Justice Shepard.

In 1997, the Indiana Supreme Court formally approved court rules that allows interest on lawyer trust accounts to be collected by the Indiana Bar Foundation and used to fund programs that encourage *pro bono* work by Indiana lawyers. With that 1997 decision by the Court, Indiana became the 50 th state to form an IOLTA program. It became operational in the fall of 1999.

Attorneys must keep client funds separate from their own, and most attorneys put all client funds into a single checking account. Previously, the law prevented these checking accounts from paying interest. In any event, the amount of interest that could be earned for each client was small and would likely not generate enough interest to pay for the cost of calculating the interest and mailing a check. When the federal banking regulations changed in the early 1980s, it became possible to earn interest on the total of the client funds in an account. The IRS approved a program that would allow that interest to be used for charitable causes.

In many states, bar foundations organized a program to collect that interest on a statewide basis and to use the money to fund free legal services for the poor and other law-related projects. Today, these programs generate over \$100 million each year.

In 28 states, all attorneys with trust accounts must be part of the IOLTA program. In a handful of states, attorneys have the option to "opt-out" of the program. Until this change, Indiana was an "opt-out" state. A number of states began as "opt-out" states and later switched to a program that required all attorneys to enroll.

Since the fall of 1999, Indiana's IOLTA accounts have generated over \$1.7 million and the bulk of that money has been used to fund local programs that encourage attorneys to provide free, or *pro bono*, civil legal services to the poor. Thousands of Indiana attorneys have signed up to take

cases in local programs supported by the Supreme Court, the Indiana Bar Foundation and the Indiana State Bar Association.

While the program has been successful, the drop in interest rates prompted the Indiana Bar Foundation, which operates the IOLTA program for the Supreme Court, and the Indiana Pro Bono Commission, which reviews the funding request from the 14 local pro bono committees, to ask the ISBA's House of Delegates to support a resolution urging the Supreme Court to require all Indiana attorneys to enroll in the IOLTA program. The ISBA's Board of Governor's had also voted to support the resolution.

In 2005, the Indiana Bar Foundation will provide almost \$400,000 to the local programs. The drop in interest rates has had a dramatic impact. In 2001, the program collected \$803,032 in interest but only \$397,328 for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2004. Switching to the more comprehensive program will generate an additional \$75,000 for pro bono programs each year. It is estimated that about 60 percent of the lawyers in Indiana with trust accounts are already enrolled.

An exact timetable for implementation is being developed. However, attorneys can enroll in the IOLTA program immediately, explained Charles Dunlap, executive director of the Indiana Bar Foundation.

"Converting to an IOLTA account is relatively simple and requires little more than filling out a one-page form. Our staff and the bank will do the rest, including calculating and collecting the interest. You won't need new signature cards or checks. The only real difference is that the Bar Foundation will begin paying standard monthly service fee, if there is any. It is really an easy way to support an excellent cause," he said.

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## Supreme Court Law Library Is Now Searchable on the Web

A searchable database of the thousands of volumes and documents at the Supreme Court Law Library is available to the public through an on-line connection over the Internet, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

The online catalog is accessible at: [www.in.gov/judiciary/library](http://www.in.gov/judiciary/library)



“This is a tremendous step forward for our library. Judges, lawyers, law students, and members of the general public will all benefit from this improvement. It is one of many improvements we have planned for the library,” said Chief Justice Shepard.

The on-line connection is available because the Indiana Supreme Court Law Library is a new member of the Indiana Shared Library Catalog (ISLC). The ISLC is a shared, integrated library automation system, including a web-based online catalog and integrated circulation module. The ISLC is supported by the Indiana Cooperative Library Services Authority ( INCOLSA), which is a resource-sharing tool for small public, school and special libraries. INCOLSA is the statewide network providing leadership in cooperative activities for Indiana libraries.

The Law Library contains a comprehensive collection of legal materials of over 70,000 volumes and is a repository for publications produced under grants from the State Justice Institute. Items received are catalogued and listed in the Indiana Court Times. These publications are made available to judges throughout the state. The Law Library is also designated as a selective depository for United States Government publications.

The online catalog will allow the Supreme Court Law Library’s collection to become web-accessible to patrons in and beyond the library.

The Supreme Court Law Library originated with an 1867 Act of the Indiana legislature, which gave custody of the law books then in the State Library to the Supreme Court. The primary mission of the Supreme Court Law Library is to support the research needs of the judges, staff, and agencies of the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, and the Tax Court. The Supreme Court Law Library also serves as the primary law library for many state agencies, the Office of the Governor, the legislature, members of the private bar, and the citizens of Indiana.

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## Press Releases



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Members Named to Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program**

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The Indiana Supreme Court has named the committee members for the Court's Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program for terms that begin next year, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced today.

David F. Hurley, of Indianapolis, was appointed to a second three-year term, which begins January 1, 2005. The Hon. David L. Shaheed of the Marion Superior Court, Daniel G. McNamara, of Fort Wayne, and K. Shane Service, of Indianapolis, were appointed to their first terms, which also begin January 1, 2005 and end December 31, 2007.

Michele S. Bryant, of Evansville, was appointed to fill the remaining term of Gaylon J. Nettles, of Indianapolis, which expires December 31, 2006.

In addition, the Judges and Lawyers Assistance Committee elected Mr. Hurley as chair, and current members Timothy O. Malloy, of Highland, as Vice-Chair, the Hon. Thomas F. Marshall, of Rushville, as Treasurer, and Kimberly A. Jackson, of Terre Haute, as Secretary.

"The Supreme Court is very grateful these individuals have volunteered their time to assist our efforts to make sure the legal community has all the tools it needs to address issues of addiction and other impairments," said Chief Justice Shepard,

The Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program is designed to help impaired judges, lawyers and law students recover, educate the bench and bar about impairment issues, and reduce the potential harm of impairment to the individual, the public, the profession and the legal system.

The Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program (JLAP) was created by the Indiana Supreme Court and is funded largely through annual registration fees paid by Indiana's approximately 14,000 attorneys. JLAP is governed by Indiana Admission and Discipline Rule 31, which can be found at: [www.IN.gov/judiciary/rules](http://www.IN.gov/judiciary/rules). Further information about JLAP can be located at [www.IN.gov/judiciary/ijlap](http://www.IN.gov/judiciary/ijlap).

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**December 17, 2004**

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### **Marion County to Receive \$15,000 More in Court Funds**

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A fresh infusion of cash from the Supreme Court will help move termination of parental rights more swiftly through the juvenile courts system, Associate Justice Frank Sullivan announced today.

The \$15,000 grant from the Supreme Court's Court Improvement Program will continue the pay for a part-time commissioner to hear Termination of Parental Rights cases in the Marion County Superior Court system and extend the life of the program.

Marion County Superior Court Judge James Payne said the funding has been very beneficial to the citizens of Indianapolis.

"With these funds, Marion County has started a program to improve services by early referrals for parents to the services to have children returned. That program continues as a nationally recognized approach to early intervention. Modeled after the Lake County pilot, the current grant has allowed termination cases to receive special attention from a hearing officer dedicated to these important cases," said Judge Payne.

The Court Improvement Project is a federally funded program overseen by the Supreme Court and has been supplemented with funds from the Indiana General Assembly.

The project's funds are intended to help juvenile courts put Children In Need of Services cases on a "fast track" to reduce the time children spend in the juvenile justice system. A backlog of Termination of Parental Rights cases can cause delays in finding a permanent solution for children placed in foster care. The additional commissioner helps move the cases along.

A Court Improvement Project Executive Committee led by Justice Sullivan reviews grants from courts that wish to attempt new and innovative ways to help troubled and challenged children.

"Resolving cases involving children should be done quickly and effectively. Marion County has done a great deal to improve the way cases with children are handled. We believe this new funding will help them continue the good work they have begun," said Justice Sullivan, who has led this effort along with Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard.

Since it was first organized in 1995, the Court Improvement Project has distributed over \$900,000 to support court programs and technology development around the state.

In early 2004, the Marion County Court system received a grant of \$35,830, which had been matched by a grant from the county of \$12,101 for the commissioner's position.

Funding for that grant will end March 1, 2005 and the request from the Marion County Court system will extend the funding until May 30, 2005.

For more information about the Court Improvement Project, visit: [www.in.gov/judiciary/cip/index.html](http://www.in.gov/judiciary/cip/index.html)