

July 2020 Issue

Reviewing January—June 2020 & Looking Ahead at Events to Come in July—December 2020



U.S. District Court— Eastern District of Missouri

IN MEMORIUM

of

THE HONORABLE CHARLES A. SHAW

United States District Judge
Eastern District of Missouri

Presented by:

The Honorable Ronnie L. White
District Judge, United States District Court
Eastern District of Missouri

Our Mission: To serve the public, bench, and bar in an effective, fair, and impartial manner.

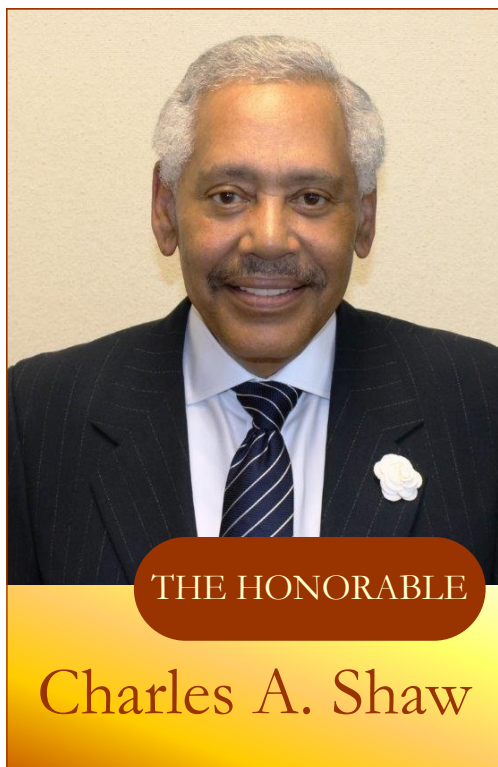
Serving the Citizenry of the United States by

- > Providing justice
- > Educating attorneys
- > Informing the public
- > Supervising & rehabilitating offenders
- > Using resources wisely

RESOLUTION

Senior United States District Judge Charles A. Shaw assumed inactive senior status on January 29, 2020, and passed away on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020, at the age of seventy-five. Judge Shaw served his country for a total of forty-one years, twenty-six of those years as a federal district judge, six years as a Missouri Circuit Judge, seven years as an Assistant United States Attorney, and two years as a National Labor Relations Board attorney. Judge Shaw was a highly respected jurist and was known as a courageous and relentless crusader for justice.

Judge Shaw was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri, and grew up in a segregated, tight-knit neighborhood in the Ville, in North St. Louis. His parents were very strict and insisted their three sons work hard and achieve. Judge

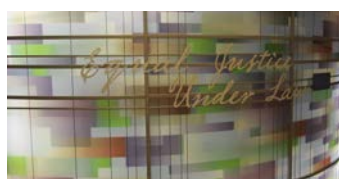


THE HONORABLE

Charles A. Shaw

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Coming to the Judicial Learning Center, T.F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse
'An Oral History of the Honorable Judge Charles A. Shaw'
as presented by the Honorable Judge E. Richard Webber

Shaw decided to become a teacher while in high school, in part because of the impact a fifth grade teacher who helped him overcome a stutter had on his life. In 1966, he earned a bachelor's degree from Harris Teachers College, a historically black public college, now Harris-Stowe State University, and embarked on his first career teaching fifth grade at a public school he had attended as a child. Soon realizing he did not have the patience required to teach, he began taking M.B.A. classes at the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri. In 1969, he and Kathleen (Kay) Ingram were married and he moved to Washington, D.C. where she worked as teacher. This was during the change and turmoil of the civil rights era. Judge Shaw taught fifth grade in a public school in D.C. while continuing to take classes, including a business law elective. That class introduced him to the Socratic method and the logic of the law. He immediately "realized the law controlled everything" and this was what he wanted to do. Judge Shaw completed his M.B.A. at Mizzou and then attained his law degree from Catholic University's Columbus School of Law in 1974.

Judge Shaw began his legal career at the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D.C., as an appellate attorney in the Division of Enforcement Litigation from 1974 to 1976. He and Kay returned to St. Louis where Judge Shaw became an associate at Lashly, Caruthers, Thies, Rava & Hamel, now Lashly & Baer. At the firm, he represented clients in labor, employment, and business litigation matters. Judge Shaw aspired, however, to work in the federal courthouse where his father had been a federal customs inspector for many years. He was very proud to achieve that goal when he became an Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri in 1980. Assigned to the criminal trial division, he enjoyed the "heat of battle" in the courtroom as a federal prosecutor.

The late Honorable Theodore McMillian of the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals encouraged Judge Shaw to apply for a state court judgeship. Taking Judge McMillian's advice, he persevered through twelve applications and was sworn in as a Circuit Judge in the 22nd Judicial Circuit, City of

St. Louis, in 1987. He joined his younger brother, Booker T. Shaw, who had become an Associate Circuit Judge in 1983. From 1987 to 1993, Judge Shaw presided over state civil and criminal cases, trying numerous cases and sentencing hundreds of defendants. He was elected Assistant Presiding Judge in 1992. In 1993, President William J. Clinton nominated him, upon the recommendation of Congressman William Clay, Sr., for the United States District Court, Eastern District of Missouri. Following confirmation by the Senate, Judge Shaw became the second African-American man to serve as a federal judge for the District.

Judge Shaw charted his own course as a District Judge. He was down to earth and funny, eschewing pretension and high-handedness. He always remembered where he came from and how he had been helped, and he helped others all his life. Judge Shaw was known for his candor, bluntness, and sharp sense of humor. He spoke to criminal defendants and their families in the courtroom with empathy and honesty, in a way they would understand but not talking down to them. He believed many nonviolent defendants could turn their lives around and always hoped to make a difference with just one person. He had an unerring moral compass and sense of fairness, he showed mercy and kindness, and he was always willing to risk reversal and public criticism to do what he saw as the right thing, a rare quality in a judge.

Throughout his career, Judge Shaw struggled over sentencing criminal defendants. He was always cognizant that he was taking away a person's freedom, likely separating family members, and weakening community bonds. Following the lead of the late U.S. District Judge Clyde S. Cahill, Jr. of this District, also an African-American former prosecutor, he fought against the disparity between sentences for powder and crack cocaine offenses and the disproportionate and negative effect of the "war on drugs" on the black community. He believed the mandatory federal sentencing guidelines wrongly deprived district judges of their ability to apply their experience and discretion to individual defendants' situations, and gave too much power to prosecutors. Former

President Clinton said he “will always be proud to have nominated him to the federal bench and grateful for his extraordinary service. Judge Charles Shaw leavened justice with mercy and helped make St. Louis and America fairer and stronger.”

Although Judge Shaw left the teaching profession, he always admired teachers and was a life-long mentor to many people, including practicing lawyers. While a jury was deliberating, he would sometimes call the lawyers into his chambers and explain how they could better build their cases or handle objections in the future. He would notice when one of his fellow judges did something kind and comment on it. He loved being a mentor and advice-giver to law students, young lawyers, and his law clerks, taking great pride in their accomplishments. He developed deep ties and friendships with his law clerks, who loved him.

Judge Shaw gave to the community by serving as a board member of the People’s Health Centers of St. Louis for over 30 years, the St. Louis Art Museum, the Arts and Education Council, Cardinal Ritter College Prep, and the Metropolitan Amateur Golf Association. He was a charter member of the St. Louis Chapter of the National Association of Guardsmen and the national black men’s service organization, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity (Eta Boulé), whose members mentor youth one-on-one. During his legendary career, Judge Shaw received many prestigious awards, including Distinguished Alumnus Awards from Harris Stowe, the University of Missouri and Catholic University; Aldermanic, Mayoral, Missouri House of Representatives and Gubernatorial Proclamations; the Federal Defense Bar Silver Gavel Award; the American College of Trial Lawyers Award; the Mound City Bar Association Legal Legend Award; NAACP Awards; the National Bar Association Gertrude Rush Award, and many others. In 2013, Judge Shaw released his memoir, “Watch Everything: A Judicial Memoir with a Point of View.” The phrase “watch everything” came from his father, who said that to his sons whenever they left the house, meaning the world is a dangerous place, in particular for African-American kids, so be careful out there.

His professional accomplishments aside, Judge Shaw will be warmly remembered in the Eastern District of Missouri for his jokes and friendliness to everyone, his sharp suits, ties, and shoes, and his love of golf. He never described himself as a good golfer even though he was fortunate enough to make five holes in one. Judge Shaw was an expert on the rules of the game and he loved to play it, tell stories about it, and watch it. He loved his family, friends, travel, and golf, and often said his dreams had been fulfilled.

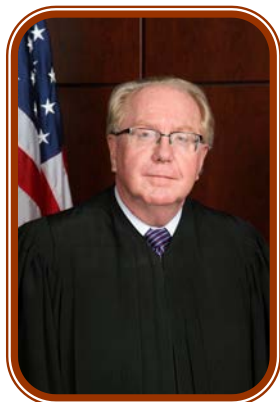
The Eastern District of Missouri will greatly miss Judge Shaw, an outstanding professional, lawyer, judge, and colleague, but first and foremost a kind, caring, and generous human being. The Court’s loss and the legal community’s loss is palpable. “We lost a thoughtful jurist and a courageous voice for justice,” Chief Judge Rodney W. Sippel said. “Judge Shaw’s legal career and time spent in service to the State of Missouri and our country serves as a shining example for all those fortunate enough to take the bench.”

Judge Shaw is survived by his wife of more than fifty years, Kathleen (Kay) I. Shaw, son Dr. Bryan I. Shaw, M.D., daughter-in-law Lt. Col. LaMisa G. Shaw, granddaughter Sydney and twin grandsons Brycen and Braylen Shaw; his brother, Booker T. Shaw, sister-in-law Jane B. Shaw, and many other relatives and friends.



On behalf of the judges and staff of the Eastern District of Missouri, I respectfully move for the adoption of this resolution.

The Honorable Rodney W. Sippel



Chief U.S. District Judge Rodney W. Sippel continued to serve as the Chair of the Judicial Conference of the United States (JCUS) Committee on the Judicial Branch. He was also appointed to serve on JCUS’s Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Group. The long-range planning group reviewed recommended changes to the *Strategic Plan for the Federal Judiciary* and completed a revised draft that will be considered by all of JCUS’s committees before ultimately being submitted to JCUS’s Executive Committee.. The final revised draft of the *Strategic Plan for the Federal Judiciary* was adopted in September.

Judge Sippel stepped down after 3 years from the Executive Committee of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis.

The Honorable Henry E. Autrey



U.S. District Judge Henry E. Autrey was featured in the April/May issue of *Practical Law The Journal: Litigation*. The magazine’s editorial staff invited Judge Autrey to participate in a wide-ranging Q&A piece where he shared his insight on readying clients for federal civil litigation, preparing for Rule 26(f) meetings & Rule 16 pretrial conferences, the impact of social media & emerging technologies on discovery & trial practice, and how to navigate the media & public opinion in high-profile cases.

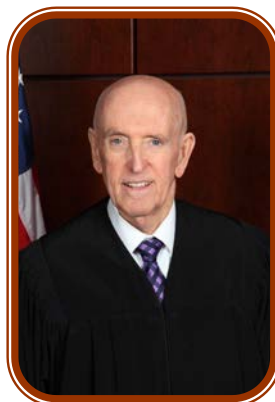
The article concluded with Judge Autrey extolling the virtues of the Supreme Court Justices he most admired, including their “...background of family goals and values, an emphasis on education and excellence in life pursuits, and a love and reverence for our Constitution. ...an ability to adhere to the law, write with precision, build consensus when necessary, and be intellectually honest. They rose above racism, bigotry, sexism, and ignorance to become strong defenders of our rule of law.”

The Honorable Audrey G. Fleissig



U.S. District Judge Audrey G. Fleissig, serves as Chair of the Judicial Conference Committee on Court Administration and Case Management. She also served on the judiciary’s Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Group– which has completed a revised draft of the *Strategic Plan for the Federal Judiciary* .

The Honorable E. Richard Webber



Senior U.S. District Judge E. Richard Webber held a naturalization ceremony in June for a homebound person in Cape Girardeau.

Effective May 1st, Judge Webber was appointed Presidential Liaison for the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis.’ 2020-21 Board of Governors.

The Honorable S.A. Padmore Mensah

U.S. Magistrate Judge Shirley A. Padmore Mensah presided over the spring U.S. District Court Swearing-In Ceremony for new lawyers held in conjunction with the Western District of Missouri. The ceremony is usually held in the State Capitol, but because of the COVID-19 pandemic it was conducted remotely.



The Honorable J.M. Bodenhausen

U.S. Magistrate Judge John M. Bodenhausen announced the Veterans Court – an intensive supervision program in partnership with the Department of Veteran Affairs – resumed operation, holding its first remote session. U.S. District Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh, Jr. started the Veterans Court in 2011.



The Honorable Abbie Crites-Leoni

U.S. Magistrate Judge Abbie Crites-Leoni will oversee the Eastern District's inaugural Federal Justice Fellowship. The pilot program is at the R.H. Limbaugh, Sr. U.S. Courthouse in Cape Girardeau. Four students from Southeast Missouri State University got fellowships.



Judge Crites-Leoni and the court's new Court's Education and Outreach Committee started the program—a month long summer fellowship that provides fellows with a greater understanding of the Constitution & judiciary, the opportunity to observe & shadow court personnel while at work, and an introduction to legal writing.

Judge Crites-Leoni is an alumna of Southeast Missouri State University and former president of the Southeast Alumni Association. She hopes the fellowship program will help students with an interest in the law make more informed career decisions.

Judge Crites-Leoni also serves on the Eighth Circuit Civil Jury Instruction Committee.

- excerpted from Southeast Missouri State University News

Understanding Implicit Bias: Dismantling Assimilationism in the Legal Profession

In furtherance of its commitment to diversity in the workplace, the Eastern District of Missouri and the Federal Bar Association co-sponsored an April CLE on implicit bias in the legal profession. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CLE was offered as a WebEx. One hundred and one participants registered for the seminar.

The seminar featured Christopher Pickett, Officer & Chief Diversity Officer at Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale P.C. Mr. Pickett highlighted attrition in the legal profession among people of color, women, people

who identify as LGBTQIA+, and people who live with a disability. He outlined how workplace expectations of conformity and assimilation, even when subtle and/or unconscious, may contribute to isolation and lack of opportunity for individuals from historically marginalized groups causing them to leave the workplace. Mr. Pickett stressed all employees' talents are needed to provide the best legal service and gave tips on how to create a welcoming workplace for all.

Almost all participants who gave feedback indicated the seminars content will motivate them to take action to lessen bias, both personally and in the workplace.

NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES

The Court Adapts to Meet the Challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Eleven naturalization ceremonies were held in early 2020, most at the T.F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse or the Robert A. Young Federal Building. There were also several offsite ceremonies.

In January, U.S. Magistrate Judge John M. Bodenhuisen presided over a ceremony at the historic Old Courthouse in downtown St. Louis. Chief Judge Lavenski R. Smith of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit was the guest speaker.

U.S. District Judge Sarah E. Pitlyk presided over her first naturalization ceremony in February. The ceremony was held on the campus of St. Charles Community College and featured performances by the college's chamber choir and remarks by guest speaker Joseph Hodes—St. Louis Ward 16 Committeeman.

Due to the pandemic, 14 ceremonies were canceled between March 20 and June 5. Beginning on June 8, the Court hosted a series of socially-distanced express ceremonies in the first floor lobby of the Eagleton Courthouse. Ceremonies were held at

9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:30 pm, and 2:30 pm. A maximum of 10 petitioners was sworn in at each ceremony. Over seven weekdays, 317 petitioners were naturalized in 34 ceremonies.

Chief U.S. District Judge Rodney W. Sippel presided over the first three express ceremonies. U.S. District, Magistrate, and Bankruptcy judges took turns presiding over subsequent ceremonies. As reported by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Judge Sippel observed that the new citizens had had accomplished a great deal on their path to naturalization, including coping with delay caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and were very excited to complete the ceremony—the last step towards citizenship.



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PUBLIC EDUCATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Meeting The Pandemic Challenge

Outreach Tours & Programming Truncated by COVID-19 Pandemic



Students in the Circuit Courtroom

Before suspending tours in March, 22 tour groups visited the T.F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse. Visitors included K-12 school classes, Scouts & Explorers, the First District Congressional Youth Cabinet, and a scholar from Japan. In additions, hundreds of first-year law students from Saint Louis and Washington universities attended the Court’s annual law school judge chat in January.



Judge Webber with Student Group

Pivoting Activities Online during the Pandemic

Several learning outreach and education offerings moved online because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Existing lesson activities were re-purposed and new activities were created to continue to help educators teach about the judicial branch to students e-learning at home. A new webpage was created on JudicialLearningCenter.org that collected these resources in one place. The website also includes educational videos produced by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

In addition, a webinar series was created and launched to offer a virtual courthouse experience, especially to those classes whose tours were cancelled. The webinars included 45 -minute sessions with judges from the district court, federal public defenders, probation & pretrial services officers, and representatives from the Eighth Circuit. Each webinar included a presentation and an interactive Q & A portion. Eleven webinars were held for students during April and May.

Teach Teachers to Teach the Constitution

The Eastern District and the Judicial Learning Center collaborated with the Missouri Bar’s Citizenship Education Department to bring the Street Law Professional Development Workshop to the T.F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse in St. Louis. Thirty-six high school teachers attended the workshop.

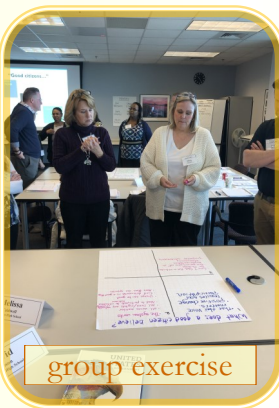


Judge Mensah addresses teachers

Street Law, an organization devoted to making constitutional issues accessible to students, led the workshop. Attendees were introduced to cases currently being considered by the U.S. Supreme Court—including application of the Civil Rights Act to sexual orientation and limits imposed by the Second Amendment on gun-control legislation. The teachers also engaged in activities centered on citizenship, the minimum wage, and amendments that were proposed but not ratified.

Representatives of the Missouri Bar coached the attendees on strategies for teaching about these issues in a manner consistent with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s Social Studies Standards. Attendees were given classroom-ready materials that included case studies, deliberation activities, and moot court exercises.

As part of the learning activities, attendees worked with U.S. District Judge Stephen R. Clark, U.S. Magistrate Judge Shirley A. Padmore Mensah, Federal Public Defender Brocca Morrison, and Assistant



group exercise

U.S. Attorney Saylor Fleming. They also lunched with former federal law clerks to gain their insight on how the court work.

Other workshop leaders were Cathy Ruffing & Jen Wheeler—Street Law, Rachel Marshall—U.S. District Court, and

Dr. Anthony Simones, Becky Libbert & Russ Sackreiter—The Missouri Bar.



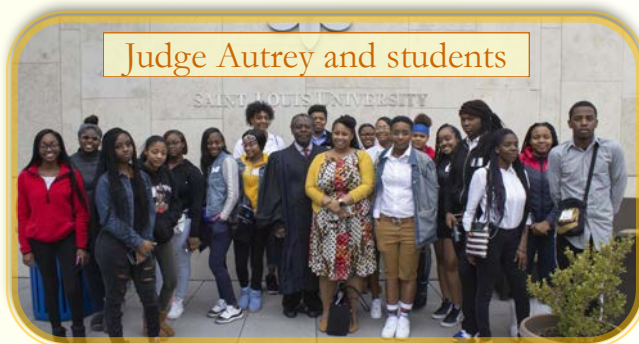
Judge Clark confers w/ teachers

“It is civic education at its best. By exposing teachers to cutting-edge content and methodologies, we are ultimately training the next generation of citizens to appreciate, understand and analyze vital constitutional issues.” - Dr. Simones, Director of Citizenship Education for The Missouri Bar



Judge Pitlyk engages with teachers

The Court Fosters Inclusion & Diversity



Judge Autrey and students

On March 4, U.S. District Judge Henry E. Autrey, his staff, and several local attorneys provided a real-life court experience to local high school students. The students were visiting the Saint Louis University School of Law through programming offered by the Office of Inclusion and Diversity Education. As part of the day’s activities, Judge Autrey held two civil hearings in the law school’s courtroom.

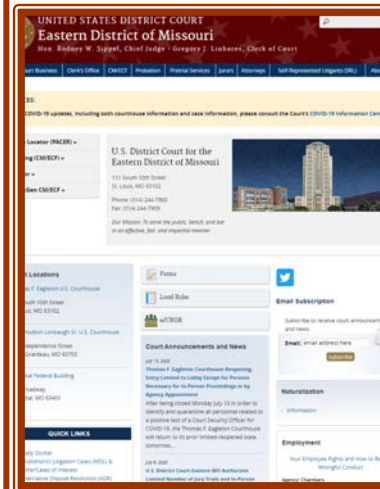
Information Technology in the Age of Pandemic

In response to the national emergency and under the authority of the CARES Act, staff of the Eastern District’s IT Department devised and implemented a number of strategies to keep the Court operational during the pandemic. To ensure the continuation of court hearings, the IT Department provided video-conference-capable laptops to county jails holding federal defendants so hearings could be held remotely. IT also arranged for judges to preside from their courtroom bench via video cart(s) linking the actual to the virtual courtroom using ZoomGov and the U.S. Court’s National VTC Bridge.

When on very short notice the district’s courthouses limited access and staff began teleworking, IT held “open house” sessions to orient court employees on the software and hardware requirements needed to keep the Court open, providing USB drives with virtual private network (VPN) software and instructions. IT also provided on-demand, in-person instruction about VPN remote access to critical court software and networks—such as CM-ECF, HRMIS, and other shared drives.

The IT Department reformatted its Help Desk intranet site to facilitate the transition to teleworking. Learning and troubleshooting guides for essential software and electronic devices were reorganized for more intuitive access and navigation.

COVID-19 Information Center



The Eastern District created an information center for its orders and public notices in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The information center can be accessed from the top front page of our website. Information covers requirements for entry to the courthouse, operational restrictions & office hours, civil litigation orders—including SRL filers, criminal proceeding orders, instructions for public access to court hearings, and contact information for naturalization ceremonies.

The Eastern District Supports the Fallen Heroes Memorial Run



Fallen Heroes runners

The 2020 United States Marshals Service Fallen Heroes Memorial Run was held on March 06, 2020. The run honors U.S. Marshals who have been killed in the line of duty. Eastern District staff participat-

ing in the run met at the T.F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse early that morning. The runners ran to and from the Gateway Arch National Park’s river front.

The Clerk’s Office hosted a breakfast and ceremony after the run. The ceremony began with a moment of silence. Chief U.S. District Judge Rodney W. Sippel and U.S. Marshal John Jordan spoke on the bravery and sac-

rifice of fallen marshals. The name of Deputy U.S. Marshal Chase White, killed in 2018 while serving a warrant in Mississippi, was placed on the U.S. Marshal Services’ Wall of Honor Plaque.



Channing & Josie Wells, Jr. with the organ recipient, USM Jordan and DUSM Sean Mallon

Deputy Marshals John B. Perry and Josie Wells, fallen heroes with ties to the Eastern District were remembered. Josie Wells’ widow and son were present, as was a recipient of one of Josie Wells’ donated organs. The ceremony concluded with the presentation of the Eastern District’s Deputy U.S. Marshal of the Year Award to Sean Mallon.



Judge Sippel & USM Jordan

PROBATION OFFICE

Vashell Anderson National & Regional Award Winner

The Board of Directors of the Federal Probation and Pretrial Officers Association (FPPOA) selected Vashell Anderson, Senior U.S. Probation Officer, as the 2019 Richard F. Doyle Award winner—a national award for significant achievement in or contribution to the Federal Probation and Pretrial Services System. In addition, the FPPOA chose Ms. Anderson as the 2019 Central Region Line Officer of the Year. This is the fourth year in a row that the winner of the Central Region Line Officer of the Year has come from the Eastern District.



Vashell Anderson

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the presentation ceremony was conducted via WebEx—with Chief U.S. District Judge Rodney W. Sippel, Chief U.S. Probation Officer Scott Anders, FPPOA staff, and many of Ms. Anderson’s coworkers attending.

Ms. Anderson became a probation officer in the Eastern District in 1999. Her past duties include financial specialist, safety officer instructor, lead community support post-conviction officer, presentence writer, Morale Corral president, and supervision training officer. She also served on the Probation Office’s diversity and surveillance committees. Ms. Anderson has been involved in a wide variety of programming—including reentry/prerelease; the Mentorship & Speaker’s Bureau; Community Partner Recognitions Breakfast; and the FOCUS, Family, Education, Housing, and Program; the ‘Hygiene, Clothing, Food Pantry & Emergency Meals’ programs

Ms. Anderson completed the FJC Leadership Development Program and has earned degrees and certifications in criminal justice, criminology, legal analysis, and procurement & acquisitions.

- contribution by Lisa Berry

Cultivating Leaders

The Probation Office offered FranklinCovey’s 7 Habits on the Outside leadership program—the second district in the federal system to do



Participants & Probation Office Staff

so. Eleven participants completed the program. Probation Officers Allison Lupo, Matt Shekell, Stacie Dixon, and Tara Peasel led the third program.

- contribution by Matt Shekell

Education, Employment and A Livable Wage

The Probation Office prioritizes gaining employment that provides a livable wage for ex-offenders under supervision, as stable employment is strongly associated with long-term positive change. Unfortunately, many of our supervisees are at risk of job loss during the pandemic. However, commercial truck driving is an essential service that continues to be in high demand. The Eastern District continues to offer CDL training through its community partners. Training lasts all day for 3-4 weeks and includes classroom instruction, real world driving experience, test preparation, Department of Transportation physicals, and other employment support services.

Michael, a former ex-offender, earned his CDL in 2015. His instructors praised him for his high scores and positive attitude. Since graduation, he has maintained full-time employment, purchased his own home, and through his church mentored people in early recovery from addiction. Michael stated, “Getting my CDL impacted me more than I could have realized. I resisted starting the class and now I do not know why. I just try to tell everyone, if you want the help, your probation officer will help you. I am so grateful. This has changed my life.”

- contribution by Toni Smith

PROBATION OFFICE

Project Home The American Dream and Beyond

For 13 years, Project Home has educated ex-offenders on federal supervision on how to become a homeowner, while coordinating the use of using local resources. The ‘Knowledge is Power’ program teaches personal finance, budgeting, and the importance of establishing and maintaining good credit. Probation officer mentor participants through the home buying process, working with reputable lenders and non-commissioned driven realtors to achieve the American Dream. To date, more than 75 participants have bought a home, all with a fixed rate mortgage that has often been less than what was paid in rent. Recently, Project Home began working with the St. Joseph Initiative and St. Mary’s High School in the Dutchtown neighborhood of south St. Louis to make rehabilitated homes available for purchase at a price far below the appraised value.

In 2019 Project Home was presented at both the 2nd Chance Act and First Step Act conferences. The presentation stimulated an abundance of interest among districts in developing a similar program. Project Home has since been replicated in the Northern District of Texas, District of Nevada, and Middle District of Tennessee—the latter celebrating its first homeowner in June of this year.

The Probation Office has partnered with St. Louis University to assess Project Home program outcomes. The need for housing among ex-offenders on supervision is not confined to homeownership. As the number of First Step Act releases has increased, so has the need for rental housing. Long periods of confinement and criminal history can complicate ex-offenders search for affordable rental housing near the workplace. The Probation Office now collaborates with Beyond Housing, Fox Grove Management, Sunshine Ministries, Tower Grove Community Development Corporation, DeSales Community Development Corporation, Top STL Properties, and HomeQuest in assisting ex-offenders search for affordable rental housing.

- contribution by Lisa Berry

Supporting Those We Supervise During the COVID-19 Crisis

The Probation Office’s supervision caseload experienced an increase in older offenders who were incarcerated for 10 or more years (reaching as high as 133 people), many of whom had little to no community or family support. When the COVID-19 health threat became evident, the Probation Office contacted this group to in the hopes of providing wrap around services specifically tailored to their immediate needs. Most wanted help with basic needs—cleaning supplies, toiletries, and food; which were provided from our food pantry and hygiene closet. We later received requests for these items and also infant care products from other, unemployed ex-offenders.



Our faith-based partners contributed to the material wellbeing of the ex-offenders under supervision during the pandemic. St. Nicholas & Assumption Greek Orthodox Church donated over \$500 in grocery store gift cards and \$900 worth of diapers and wipes. The Catholic charity Caritas donated a large supply of household cleaning products and toiletry items.

In June, 48 bags of food and hygiene products were given to offenders in need and their families.

- contribution by Lisa Coldon nee White

Eastern District Staff Supports the Community

Eagle's Nest Cafeteria. Eastern District staff continue to support their community during the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the measures to prevent the spread of illness, the in-building Eagle's Nest Cafeteria was closed indefinitely, leaving four cafeteria workers—some of whom had children—with limited means of support. The court's Hospitality Committee, led by Kristine Mauldin and Alicia Thompson, led a court-wide fundraiser that raised \$12,000 for the laid-off workers.



Community Service/Outreach Committee. The Eastern District's Community Service/Outreach Committee also spearheaded the collection of luggage and duffels for children in foster care so that they will have something of their own transport their belongings in trash bags. The committee collected about 20 pieces of luggage. The committee also solicited more than \$300 for the Australian Wildlife Rescue Center to help after the massive fires there. In response, Rebecca Latimer of the New South Wales Wildlife Information Rescue & Education Service wrote, *"Thank you so much for your support of our rescue and care work with wildlife. It is a very difficult time for native animals and we are extremely appreciative of your support."*

Hospitality Committee. A \$50 donation was made to Beverly Farms, an assisted-living facility, on behalf of a staff member's deceased father.

Sandra Perry is the new District Supervisor for the Court Security Officers in the Eastern District of Missouri. Ms. Perry started in law enforcement in 1981 at the Cape Girardeau County Sheriff's Department in Jackson, Missouri. In 1991, she became a Court Security Officer at the Cape Girardeau Federal Courthouse and was promoted to the Lead Court Security Officer in 2007. She served in this position until becoming the District Supervisor.



SAUNDRA PERRY

District Supervisor

District Court Information

**The Honorable
Rodney W. Sippel,
Chief Judge**

**Gregory J. Linhares
Clerk of Court**

**Scott A. Anders
Chief U.S. Probation
Officer**

**Mark M. Reichert
Chief Pretrial Services
Officer**



Eastern District Court Locations

**Thomas F. Eagleton
U.S. Courthouse
111 South 10th Street
St. Louis, MO 63102
314-244-7900**

**Rush Hudson
Limbaugh, Sr.
U.S. Courthouse
555 Independence St
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703
573-331-8800**

**Hannibal Federal Bldg
801 Broadway
Hannibal, MO 63401**