



U.S. District Court Eastern District of Missouri

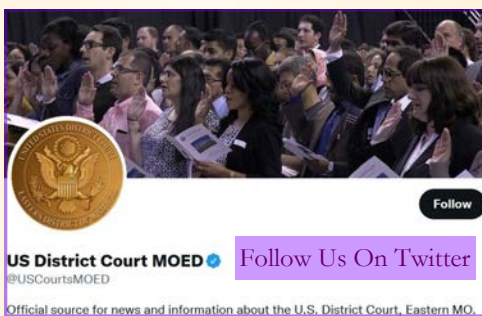
MAKING JUSTICE WORK

For the People of Eastern Missouri

The Eastern District of Missouri extended through August 29, 2022 the provisions of the CARES Act authorizing remote hearings and waiver of the Speedy Trial Act.

The Court’s criminal defendant caseload continues to be one of the largest in the federal judiciary. Firearms/explosives and sex offenses comprised higher portions of the caseload than other district courts. The Eastern District’s Pretrial Services Office had the highest proportion of high-risk cases in the nation, while the Probation Office had one of the largest post-conviction supervision caseloads.

More than 1,700 civil cases were filed with the court in the 12-month period ending March 31, 2022. Prisoner petitions, civil rights, tort actions, and contracts were the most commonly filed civil actions during this time.



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

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Plan Now to Attend these Coming Valuable Professional and Continuing Legal Education Offerings

Federal Practice Fundamentals for New Practitioners

November 10 teaches aspects of federal litigation; such as civil procedure, ethical advocacy, TROs, electronic filing & emerging issues

Alternative Dispute Resolution Court-Certified Neutrals Seminar

October 20 satisfies mandatory hours of accredited continuing legal education as set forth in Local Rule 6.03(A)(2)(g)

2022 POWER Act Webinar—Pro Bono Work to Empower and Represent

September 30 encourages pro bono services for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault & stalking

DISTRICT & MAGISTRATE JUDGES OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

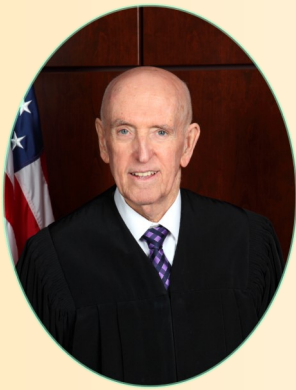


Standing L-R: Catherine D. Perry, Matthew T. Schelp, Stephen R. Clark, John A. Ross, Henry A. Autrey, Rodney W. Sippel, Audrey G. Fleissig, Ronnie L. White, Sarah E. Pitlyk, Jean C. Hamilton, Stephen N. Limbaugh, Jr.
Seated L-R: Edward L. Filippine, Patricia L. Cohen, Abbie Crites-Leoni, Nannette A. Baker, Shirley A. Padmore Mensah, David D. Noce, Noelle C. Collins, John M. Bodenhausen, Stephen R. Welby, E. Richard Webber

THE COURT EN BANC

THE HONORABLE

E. Richard Webber



The Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis named its Distinguished Lawyer Award after Senior U.S. District

Judge E. Richard Webber—now known as the **Hon. E. Richard Webber Distinguished Lawyer Award**. This annual award is the highest honor given by BAMSL; and is given for a great contribution to the St. Louis region in the area of law and community service, motivating other lawyers to work in the public interest, and exemplifying a lawyer as a good citizen contributing significantly to the community.

THE HONORABLE

Stephen N. Limbaugh, Jr.



Senior U.S. District Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh, Jr., a member of the Missouri Bicentennial Commission, deliv-

ered several addresses on “The Life and Times of Judge John Dillard Cook”. Cook was one of the first three Missouri Supreme Court judges. A **video** of the address is posted on The State Historical Society of Missouri’s website.

Judge Limbaugh and Chief Judge Beth Phillips, MOWD, conducted a naturalization ceremony in the rotunda of the Missouri Capitol as part of Missouri Statehood Day.

THE HONORABLE

Shirley A. Padmore Mensah



Judge Padmore Mensah with her mother & husband

U.S. Magistrate Judge Shirley A. Padmore Mensah received Missouri Lawyers Media’s **Women’s Justice Award—Public Service Award**. The Public Service Award recognizes women who work on behalf of a nonprofit organization, government agency or the judiciary; or have excelled in the field of education.

JUDGE NOTES & AWARDS

Planning Ahead & Fostering Collegiality

The Eastern District of Missouri hosted the Chief District Judges Meeting of the Eighth Circuit in May. The two-day agenda was filled with timely and important topics. Speakers included:

- Judge Roslynn R. Mauskopf, Director, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts;
- Donald L. Davis, Director, U.S. Marshals Service;
- Jim Duff, Executive Director, U.S. Supreme Court Historical Society;
- David Sellers, Public Affairs Director, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts;
- Christine Byers, KSDK Channel 5, reporter;
- Robert Patrick, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office;
- Rachel Marshall, Eighth Circuit Civil Education Specialist; and
- Dr. Jim Miller, Senior Research Scientist, Missouri Botanical Garden.



Judge Sippel with R.L. Davis-Director, U.S. Marshals Service

Sharing Expertise & Fostering Professionalism



U.S. District Judge Audrey G. Fleissig spoke at two breakout sessions at the National Workshop for District Judges I presented by the Federal Judicial Center (FJC) in April. Related to her position as Chair of the Court Administration and Case Management Committee of the Judicial Conference, Judge Fleissig led a discussion regarding ‘In-Person and Remote Proceedings during the Pandemic—Lessons for the Future’. She also moderated a session on Complex Civil Litigation; where participants discussed big-case discovery problems and solutions, as well as judicial case management techniques for large multi-party civil cases.

U.S. Magistrate Judges David D. Noce and Noelle C. Collins presented at the FJC’s National Workshop for Magistrate Judges I in April. Judge Noce co-led a breakout session titled ‘Strategies for Managing Difficult Attorneys’. Judge Collins co-presented ‘How to Create Connection, Calm and Joy in 2022’ and also co-led the breakout session ‘The Introverted Judge’. Judges Noce and Collins will present these offerings at the National Workshop for Magistrate Judges II in July. In addition, Judge Collins will co-present ‘Juneteenth: Our Nation’s Newest Federal Holiday’ at this second workshop.

Chief U.S. District Judge Sippel welcomes new federal bar members at the State Capitol



Criminal & Civil Litigation in the Eastern District

By The Numbers

CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS

Criminal cases were filed against 963 felony and misdemeanor defendants in the Eastern District during the 12-month period ending March 31, 2022—the 13th most in the federal judiciary.

- Almost one-half of defendants (425) were charged with a firearms/explosives offense as the most serious charge—the most in the federal judiciary.
- Almost one-tenth of defendants (83) were charged with a sex offense as the most serious charge—the 6th most in the federal judiciary.
- Drug offenses continued to be the 2nd most common criminal charges brought against defendants in the Eastern District (265), followed by property offenses (112).

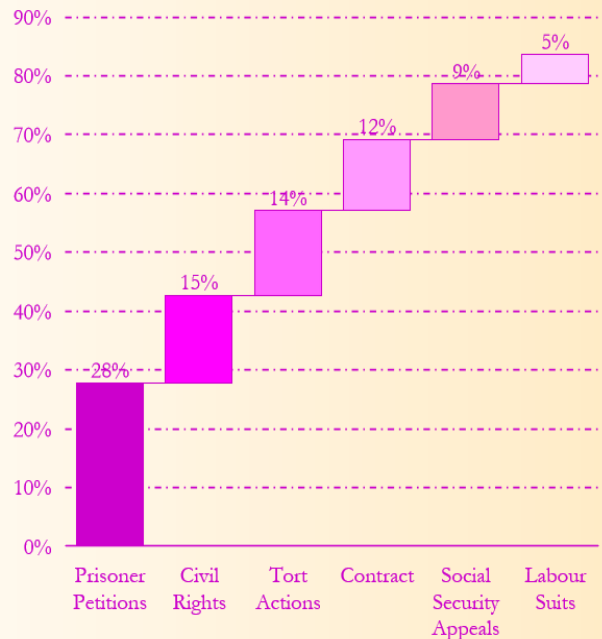
The Eastern District closed the cases of 1,134 felony and misdemeanor defendants during the 12-month period ending March 31, 2022—also the 13th most in the federal judiciary.

- Approximately 93% of disposed defendants entered a plea of guilty, and 1% went to jury trial—with all but one being found guilty on at least one count. The remaining defendants either had the charges against them dismissed or were acquitted at bench trial.
- Of those with a guilty outcome, 92% were sentenced to prison, and the remainder were sentenced to probation or a fine only.
- The median time from filing to disposition was less than 15 months.

CIVIL CASES

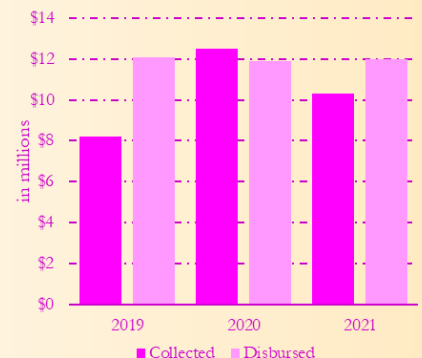
The Eastern District closed 2,063 civil cases during the 12-month period ending March 31, 2022; approximately 300 more than were filed (1,757) during that same time period, decreasing the Eastern District’s pending caseload by ~15%.

- Almost one-third of civil cases involved at least one self-represented litigant.



Calendar Year 2021 Finances

The Eastern District collected \$10.3 million in restitution, civil garnishments & refunds and paid out \$12.0 million to victims and creditors.



Ceremonies & Citizens

The Flag Day Naturalization Ceremony was held at the Missouri History Museum. U.S. Magistrate Judge Stephen R. Welby presided. Laura Leister, law clerk to Judge Welby and pro se law clerk, was the guest speaker. Ms. Leister, a 2nd generation Filipino-American, spoke about her family's journey to the United States after World War II, especially her grandfather's enlistment in the U.S. Navy without ever

having set foot in the United States and his faith in the American Dream. The Courthouse Singers, volunteers who sing at naturalization ceremonies in St. Louis to celebrate all who choose to become U.S. citizens, performed. More than 40 naturalization ceremonies were held during the first half of 2022.



Criminal Justice Act Annual Seminar

The **Annual Criminal Justice Act Seminar** was held in-person at the Eagleton Courthouse for the first time since 2019. The previous two years' seminars were virtual. The Federal Public Defender Offices of the Eastern District of Missouri and Southern District of Illinois co-sponsored the event. One hundred and forty attorneys attended the day-long seminar that covered courtroom litigation, ethics, criminal law, bias, and much more. The seminar's eight sessions included:

- The Eighth Circuit's new **Jury Instruction Builder**;
- Objections, exhibits, foundations, and interacting with witnesses in courtroom litigation;
- Criminal law updates for the 7th and 8th Circuits;
- Bureau of Prisons;
- Attorney-client division of authority; and
- Implicit bias language in jury instructions.

Session presenters were from a variety of legal professions—including district and magistrate judges, appellate & district federal public defenders, U.S. attorneys, and professors of law.

All the topics were very relevant and helpful

Lawyers rated the sessions 'Very Useful' ratings, with almost all sessions receiving four-fifths or more of 'useful' ratings. Responding attendees described the information presented in the seminar as excellent, well-rounded, and helpful. Attendees especially praised the Litigation Booster Shot (objections, exhibits, foundations, and witnesses), Judges' Roundtable, and Federal Bureau of Prisons sessions.

JIB nice tool; BOP contact very much needed and helpful; then Tom Stewart {Litigation Booster Shot presenter} - always enjoyable.

It's good to be together. The trial skills booster was great. The discussion re attorney-client relationship and roles was helpful and affirming. This was a very practical training.

Divisional Bench & Bar Seminars

The divisional Bench & Bar Seminars were held in-person at the Rush Hudson Limbaugh, Sr. U.S. Courthouse in Cape Girardeau and the U.S. Federal Building and Courthouse in Hannibal. More than 60 attorneys attended the two continued legal education offerings, with many stating it was good to be in-person again.

{Professor Chad Flanders, SLU School of Law} ... Made constitutional law easy to understand and fun.

Sessions included the Eighth Circuit's new

Jury Instruction

Builder, a review of the U.S. Supreme Court's last term, ethics, recent changes in social security disability law, and a judges' roundtable.

In Cape Girardeau, Senior U.S. District Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh, Jr. recounted 'The Life and Times of Pioneer Judge John Dillard Cook'.

Really enjoyable CLE - presenters were outstanding & very informative. Expertise was unparalleled.

Law Day

In celebration of Law Day 2022, the Eighth Circuit and the Judicial Learning Center launched an online version of the Judicial Learning Center’s new **Tinker v. Des Moines exhibit**. The exhibit features the black armband worn by Mary Beth Tinker to protest the Vietnam War.

In May, 60 Belleville West High School students came to the Eagleton Courthouse to visit the Tinker v. Des Moines exhibit and participate in a moot court activity based on this First Amendment case. U.S. Magistrate Judge Stephen R. Welby and local attorneys coached the students in playing the roles of justices, petitioners, and respondents as the students argued their cases. In addition, before the field trip, the students wrote essays specifying the constitutional amendment they think has made the



Judge Welby coaches student justices

biggest difference in people's lives. Chief U.S. District Judge Rodney W. Sippel announced the essay winners on Law Day. 1st and 2nd place winners received a gift card from the Judicial Learning Center.



Judge Sippel with event winners

Educators. The Court provided several virtual professional development programs for teachers during the first part of the year.

The annual Street Law Teacher Workshop, a coordinated effort with The Missouri Bar, was held in March. Thirty teachers were treated to a full day of learning facilitated by Street Law. Topics included the Sixth Amendment right to an impartial jury and the voir dire process. The event culminated in a moot court activity during which the teachers participated as attorneys and judges. Chief U.S. District Judge Rodney W. Sippel and Missouri’s 31st Circuit Judge Jason Brown spoke.

The Court, the Supreme Court of Missouri’s Civic Education Committee, and the Missouri Bar’s Department of Citizenship Education provided a virtual session for teachers as part of the Missouri Council for the Social Studies’ annual conference. Chief Judge Sippel and Missouri Supreme Court Judge Mary R. Russell continued their collaboration on civic education, speaking together as part of the session.

U.S. District Judge Stephen R. Clark spoke virtually to Fort Zumwalt School District middle and high school social studies teachers as part of its annual professional development training.

Educator & Student Programs

Students. In-person tours of the Eagleton Courthouse and Judicial Learning Center resumed in Spring 2022. From January to June, 18 middle and high school groups from public, parochial, and private schools in Missouri and Illinois visited.

However, virtual programming continued to be popular with schools. During the spring semester, judges, attorneys, and court



staff met virtually with 14 classes. Participants included first-year law students from both Saint Louis University and Washington University {pictured above}, as well as Rockwood School District {pictured at left} students interested in a law-related career.



Juries: Through the Eyes of Students

Student Art Competition

The Judicial Learning Center, Inc., held its 2nd annual Student Art Competition. Elementary through high school students from counties in the jurisdiction of the U.S. District Court—Eastern District of Missouri were eligible to participate. The competition’s theme was **“Juries: Through the Eyes of Students”**. In addition to the art competition, teachers from participating schools were given an optional lesson plan explaining the jury system. Competition winners were selected by an independent panel of attorneys. The students’ artwork is displayed on the Judicial Learning Center’s website and in the Eagleton Courthouse’s Jury Assembly Room. *[First place high, middle, and upper & lower elementary winning submissions are below.]*

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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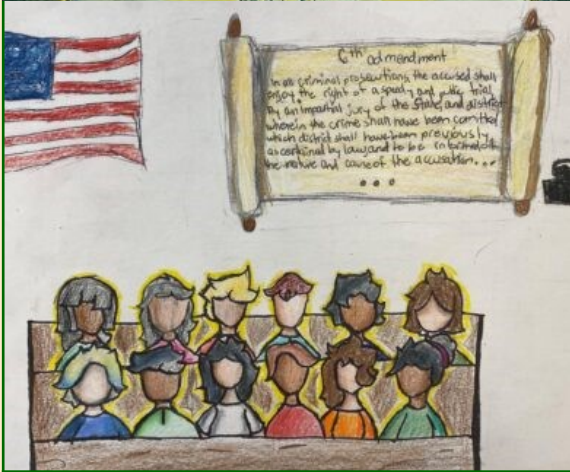
"The Final Verdict" - Alicia Gonzales
Gateway Science Academy High School



"Tough Call" - Caitlyn Clark
Homeschool



"Rights of the People" - Helen Kim
St. Stephen Protomartyr



"Jury Trial" - Reid Lovegreen
St. Vincent Catholic School



Summer 2022
Programming

The first in a series of summer programs at the Eagleton Courthouse and the Judicial Learning Center was held on June 30—Girl Scout Day. Girl Scouts of all levels spent the day learning about legal and law enforcement careers, fulfilling requirements toward earning Democracy and Inside Government badges.



Girl Scouts receive Constitution

PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICE

PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICE

PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICE

Supervision Caseload

Pretrial Reports & Release Rate. The Eastern District of Missouri Pretrial Services Office interviews and prepares pretrial reports on all supervised release violators, as well as supervises any who are released on bond. When the statistics for supervised release violators are removed from the Eastern District of Missouri’s overall rates, from June 1, 2021 to May 1, 2022, 956 new interviews were completed with 457 defendants released on bond. The adjusted release rate is 48%.

High Risk Supervisees. The adjusted release rate in the Eastern District of Missouri is comparable to the national release average; which is remarkable considering that from May 1, 2021 through May 1, 2022, 95% of the new cases fall into high-risk categories—placing the Eastern District of Missouri first in the nation in overall high-risk cases for the past four consecutive years. The Eastern District was first in the nation in both firearms and sex offenses, and fourteenth in drug offenses.

Violations of Supervision. Finally, the national statistics for the above timeframe indicate there were only eight failures to appear out of 953 defendants supervised. There were also 49 arrest violations among 41 defendants, which was only 4.3% of the total of defendants under supervision. While the national report indicated the highest number of technical violations in the country occurred in the Eastern District to Missouri, there were only 66 defendants whose bonds were revoked. The number of technical violations is likely due in large part to the number of high-risk and location monitoring cases supervised in the Eastern District of Missouri.

SAIL

After the last Sentencing Alternatives Improving Lives (SAIL) graduation in December 2021, six new participants were selected to begin the program, bringing the number of total current participants to 15. To date, 54 defendants (including current participants) have participated in the SAIL program, with 28 total program graduates. Since its inception in March 2015, the program has yielded \$3 million in savings by averting the costs of incarcerating these defendants. Another graduation ceremony is anticipated to take place later this year with at least two participants on track to successfully complete the program.

Staff Notes

Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Mark Reichert leads the U.S. Pretrial Services Office in the Eastern District of Missouri. However, he is retiring in October 2022, after 31 years of service to the federal judiciary. Mark began his career as a pretrial services officer in 1991. Supervising U.S. Pretrial Officer Susan Hendrickson was chosen to be the new Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer, effective October 2022.

In May 2022, the Pretrial Services Office’s Community Service Committee participated in its first in-person large group community service event with the St. Louis Zoo and St. Louis Children’s Hospital’s Make Tracks Through the Zoo. Make Tracks Through the Zoo is a 5K race through the zoo and Forest Park, with proceeds from the event benefitting the zoo’s conservation work. Nineteen pretrial employees and their family members and friends *{pictured at right}* volunteered to direct racers and avert outside traffic.



- contributions on page by Katie Stephens

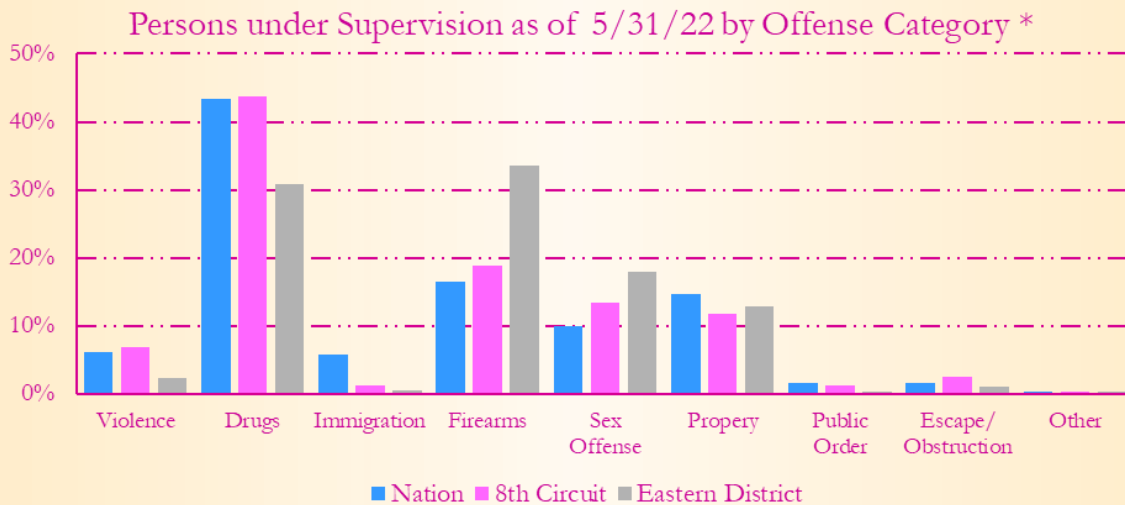
PROBATION OFFICE

POST-CONVICTION SUPERVISION CASELOAD

For the 12-month period end March 31, 2022; the Eastern District of Missouri’s Probation Office received 1,050 ex-offenders for post-conviction supervision—the 13th highest in the federal judiciary. During the same period, 1,099 ex-offenders were removed from post-conviction supervision, leaving the Eastern District’s Probation Office with 2,184 ex-offenders under supervision as of March 31, 2022—the 15th highest in the federal judiciary. Of these, almost 90% were received on a term of supervised release from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, with the remainder being on court-ordered probation.

As of March 31, 2022, 733 of the Eastern District Probation Office’s ex-offenders under supervision had been convicted of a firearms offense—more than any other district in the federal judiciary. In comparison to the nation and 8th Circuit, sex offenses also made up a disproportionate share of the Probation Office’s supervision caseload.

The Eastern District’s Probation Office revoked and closed 1,017 post-conviction supervision cases in the 12-month period ending March 31, 2022—the thirteenth highest number in the federal judiciary. Of these, 377 were revoked.



* The Eastern District of Missouri is not included in the Nation and 8th Circuit totals.

Eastern District Probation Officer to Teach at Federal Academy



U.S. Probation Officer Greg Hronick {at left}, Southeastern Division, began a 3-year appointment as a temporary instructor for the Initial Probation and Pretrial Services Training Program with the Federal Probation and Pretrial Academy. The academy is located at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Charleston, South Carolina. Officer Hronick will instruct new officers and those serving as firearms, safety, and search instructors in their district in policies, procedures, and techniques related to pretrial investigations and supervision, presentence investigations, post-conviction supervision, officer safety and firearms. Trainees access traditional and virtual classrooms, electronic learning modules, scenarios, lab, and practical exercises.

PROBATION OFFICE

PROBATION OFFICE

The Model Intern Diversity Pilot Program A Partnership of The Eastern District of Missouri's Bankruptcy Court & Probation Office

by Tiana Barr

I was given the amazing opportunity to be employed as a student intern at the Eastern District of Missouri U.S. Bankruptcy Court and U.S. Probation Office for a one-year student internship as part of the Model Intern Diversity Pilot Program offered through the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. I started my internship on June 7, 2021, and will end on June 3, 2022. Throughout my internship, I would rotate every three months between the U.S. Bankruptcy Court and the U.S. Probation Office.

During my time with the Probation Office, I was able to observe court hearings and noncompliance meetings in the office, navigate the PACTS computer system, mail documents to federal prisons, write program proposals, contact offenders in the community to assist with them finding housing employment and other resources, learn about urinalysis and the forensic laboratory, accompany the resource/reentry officer in conducting Cognitive Based Therapy class at federal prisons, attend the briefing of the search team, and observe the detaining process. I was also able to assist with the annual Holiday Program, College Bound Program, and Back to School Program. At the Bankruptcy Court, I was able to shadow Chief Judge Surratt-States and attended 341 meetings, motion dockets, chapter 13 confirmation dockets, various court proceedings, navigate the courts CM/ECF system, conduct research about the Pro Se program, examine case records, and become familiar with bankruptcy processes and court operations.

I am a senior at Webster University pursuing a BA in Psychology with a double minor in Legal Studies and Spanish on a Pre-Law Track. In addition to being a student, I am a four-year athlete on the Webster University cheerleading team and have been the captain since 2021. Furthermore, I am involved in several clubs and work alongside the admissions department at Webster University as a student representative. I am expected to graduate December 2022 and plan to attend law school the following fall semester. I have a strong interest in criminal law and in the future, I hope to become a judge. I am forever grateful for this internship and will continue to use the knowledge I have gained from this great experience in my future endeavors.



Ms. Barr & U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Surratt-States

PROBATION OFFICE

District Court Information

Clerk's Office

Temporary Assignments with the AO

Eastern District of Missouri staff Angel Hernandez (IT Manager) and Jacob Potter (Programmer Analyst) are participating in a Temporary Duty Assignment with the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts in the development and deployment of a Risk Assessment Notification tool for the Department of Program Services, Case Management Systems Office, Probation & Pretrial Systems Division. The tool will notify officers when active supervision PCRA scores may have become out-of-date. Mr. Hernandez is the Project Owner and Mr. Potter is a Developer.

Joseph Vradenburg (Policy & Research Analyst) and Scott Moore (Programmer Analyst) are participating in a Temporary Duty Assignment with the Administrative Office's Judicial Data and Analysis Office, assisting with the development of court statistical and management BusinessObject Reports in the recently created Electronic Data Warehouse and promoting their use by district courts in the federal judiciary.

Community Service

This winter the Clerk's Office Outreach Committee collected coats, hats, scarves, and gloves for donation to the Salvation Army. For Valentine's Day, office staff donated cards and gifts to infants through teenagers receiving medical care at Children's Hospital. American Red Cross blood drives, sponsored by the Employee Health Unit, were held in February and May. In March, toiletries were collected for donation to BSA Scout Troop 323's Eagle Scout service project providing items to the homeless. In April, the Outreach Committee collected shoes for Soles 4 Souls for donation to the poor.

The Honorable
Rodney W. Sippel
Chief Judge

Gregory J. Linhares
Clerk of Court

Mark M. Reichert
Chief Pretrial Services
Officer

Kim Bramlett
Chief Probation
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

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE Fallen Heroes Honor Run 2022



The United States Marshals Service **Fallen Heroes Honor Run** began in the Eastern District of Missouri 6 years ago. The run memorializes marshals who lost their lives in the line of duty and has become a popular nationwide event. This year's run in the Eastern District honored Deputy U.S. Marshals John Perry and Josie Wells, as well as SDUSM Ryan K. Marten. Participants *{pictured above}* ran approximately 2.25 miles from the Eagleton Courthouse to the Arch grounds and back, led by the Deputy U.S. Marshals in full kit as they took turns carrying the American Flag. A donation was made to The Backstoppers, Inc., which provides assistance to spouses and dependent children of police officers, firefighters, and paramedics & EMTs who died in the line of duty.