

*Serving the  
Public*



*The Bench*

*and the  
Bar*



*in 2007*

**United States District Court  
Eastern District of Missouri**



**Thomas F. Eagleton  
United States Courthouse  
St. Louis, Missouri  
Eastern Division**

**Rush Hudson  
Limbaugh, Sr.  
U.S. Courthouse  
Cape Girardeau,  
Missouri  
Southeastern  
Division  
Opening Spring  
2008**



**Hannibal Federal  
Building and  
U.S. Courthouse  
Hannibal, Missouri  
Northern Division**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF JUDGE	i
MESSAGE FROM THE CLERK OF COURT	ii
JUDGES OF THE DISTRICT COURT	iii
SECTION ONE: SERVING THE PUBLIC	
BEST COURTHOUSE RECOGNITION	1
THE JUDICIAL LEARNING CENTER	2
CAPE GIRARDEAU COURTHOUSE PROJECT	3
THE SELF-HELP RESOURCE CENTER	4
COMMUNITY OUTREACH	5
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY FIRST-YEAR LAW STUDENTS	5
LAW DAY	6
NOTABLE VISITORS TO THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MO	7
A VISIT FROM MO STATE JUDICIAL RECORDS COMMITTEE	
AND THE COURT AUTOMATION COMMITTEE	9
ABA NATIONAL APPELLATE ADVOCACY COMPETITION	9
BAMSL INAUGURAL TRIAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION	10
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT	11
COURTHOUSE TOURS	12
WEBSITE RECONSTRUCTION	13
NATURALIZATION PROGRAM	14
JUROR APPRECIATION MONTH	17
RESULTS OF JUROR SURVEY	18
JUROR UTILIZATION	20

## **SECTION TWO: SERVING THE BENCH**

MAGISTRATE JUDGE STATISTICS AND UTILIZATION	21
IMPLEMENTATION OF MJSTAR	21
WORKLOAD ASSIGNED TO MAGISTRATE JUDGES	22
ENHANCING COURTROOM TECHNOLOGY	23
TIP (TELEPHONE INTERPRETING PROGRAM)	23
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION	25
STATISTICS ON ADR-REFERRED CASES AND MEDIATORS	25
CERTIFICATION OF MEDIATORS	25
CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLAN	26
PRO SE UNIT STATISTICS	26
CIVIL JUSTICE REFORM ACT OF 1990 REPORTS	27
NEW LAW CLERK ORIENTATION	27
ANNUAL RETREATS	28
JUDICIAL ASSISTANTS	28
LAW CLERKS	28

## **SECTION THREE: SERVING THE BAR**

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT (CJA) ATTORNEY APPOINTMENTS	29
CJA SEMINAR	31
FEDERAL PRACTICE FUNDAMENTALS SEMINAR	32
REVISIONS TO LOCAL RULES	33

CASE MANAGEMENT/ELECTRONIC CASE FILING (CM/ECF)	33
TRAINING AND SUPPORT	33
PARTICIPATION	33
COURT STATISTICS	34
NEW CASE FILINGS PROFILE	34
CALENDAR YEAR 2007 CASELOAD HIGHLIGHTS	35
CIVIL CASES	35
NOTEWORTHY TRENDS IN NEW CIVIL FILINGS	36
CRIMINAL CASES	37
TRIALS	38
ATTORNEY ADMISSIONS	38
JEFFERSON CITY SWEARING-IN CEREMONIES	38
BAR MEMBERSHIP - QUADRENNIAL RE-REGISTRATION	38

#### **SECTION FOUR: CLERK'S OFFICE REPORTS**

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIT REPORTS	39
MANAGEMENT RETREAT AND GOAL SETTING EXERCISE	39
OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT	41
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT	42
INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT	43
MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	45
JURY UNIT	46
COMMUNITY SERVICE	47
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PROJECT	47
CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS	48
BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY	49
TEAM DEVELOPMENT - INNSBROOK	50
CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING	51
FEDERAL COURT CLERKS' ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE	52

## SECTION FIVE: TRANSITIONS

NEW HIRES	53
RETIREMENTS	53
DEPARTURES	53
IN MEMORIAM: JUDGE WILLIAM L. HUNGATE	54
DEDICATION OF A MEMORIAL HONORING MARY FINOCCHIARO	55

**A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF JUDGE  
THE HONORABLE CAROL E. JACKSON**

The district court had another busy and productive year in 2007. As challenges have come our way, the court responded by accommodating necessary changes while being careful always to preserve the fairness of the judicial process. One of the roles I am expected to fulfill as chief judge of the district court is to help judicial officers and staff adapt, innovate, learn and sometimes transform the court in the face of internal and external challenges that surface from time to time. While so much that affects the court structurally and operationally is not in my power to control, it is imperative to create a culture and climate within the court which encourages creativity and allows constructive dialogue to flourish. As the reader will observe from a review of this year's annual report, the district court not only effectively managed its workload but also improved services and enhanced program quality through the combined efforts of hard working judicial officers and a talented support staff. We strive to do so every year knowing that change is essential to growth. As Winston Churchill once famously remarked, "To improve is to change. To be perfect is to change often."

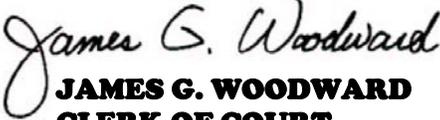
Our central mission, to provide citizens with a forum for the just and expeditious resolution of their disputes, is immutable. But I am proud to note that this court consistently takes a broad view of the scope of that mission. From state-of-the-art technology, to training for lawyers new to federal practice, to cost-free services designed to assist litigants without lawyers, to programs devoted to teaching the community about the work of federal courts, to job placement services for offenders under court supervision, the Eastern District of Missouri is at the forefront of trends and innovations that shape the quality of justice in the community we serve. This 2007 annual report presents an opportunity to highlight some of these achievements and to account for our activities during the year just ended. Thank you for taking a moment to learn about the work of the court.

  
**CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**

**A MESSAGE FROM THE CLERK OF COURT  
JAMES G. WOODWARD**

Justice can be an intangible. Sometimes justice is measured only by whether or not an outcome has met expectations. But research also suggests that it is the fairness of the court process, not so much the fairness of outcomes, that people regard as most important. Citizens expect courts to demonstrate respect for litigants, to be free of bias, and to allow meaningful participation in the process. In his book *Why People Obey the Law*, Professor Tom Tyler offered a simple recipe for justice: respect, caring, listening and fairness. These lessons are meaningful for judicial officers but they are also important for court staff to understand, given the small number of cases resolved by trial and considering that few litigants have direct contact with judges. For many, impressions about a court's fairness are formed primarily from dealings citizens have with staff in the clerk's office. Customer service at the public counter and through the "virtual courthouse" must therefore demonstrate, as much as possible, those elements of "respect, caring, listening and fairness" that people use to gauge the integrity of the court process.

To that end, a hallmark of 2007 was the district court's efforts to deploy better tools and practices to make access to services more convenient for attorneys and the public. We continue to enhance the court's electronic case filing system, which has become the backbone for receiving and storing court documents, and notifying case participants of all activity. With this system the public also has convenient remote electronic access to most case information. Because web access to services and information has become so vital, the court completely redesigned its web site in 2007 making it easier to navigate. In addition, citizens who report for jury duty now have wireless internet access while waiting in the jury assembly room. The court is also making fee payments more convenient through an on-line system for accepting those fees from the public. In the courtroom, we have expanded the capacity to teleconference witness testimony from remote locations, saving parties time and money. Community outreach continues to be a priority, with expanded programs in 2007 in the Judicial Learning Center, Law Day events and courthouse tours for school and civic groups. In these ways and many others described in this annual report, our intention is to demonstrate respect and courtesy for those who need the services of the district court.

  
**JAMES G. WOODWARD**  
**CLERK OF COURT**

# **JUDGES OF THE DISTRICT COURT**

## **UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGES**

★ **THE HONORABLE CAROL E. JACKSON - CHIEF JUDGE** ★  
THE HONORABLE JEAN C. HAMILTON  
THE HONORABLE CHARLES A. SHAW  
THE HONORABLE CATHERINE D. PERRY  
THE HONORABLE E. RICHARD WEBBER  
THE HONORABLE RODNEY W. SIPPEL  
THE HONORABLE HENRY E. AUTREY

## **SENIOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGES**

THE HONORABLE JOHN F. NANGLE  
THE HONORABLE EDWARD L. FILIPPINE  
THE HONORABLE STEPHEN N. LIMBAUGH  
THE HONORABLE DONALD J. STOHR

## **UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGES**

★ **THE HONORABLE TERRY I. ADELMAN - CHIEF MAGISTRATE JUDGE** ★  
THE HONORABLE DAVID D. NOCE  
THE HONORABLE FREDERICK R. BUCKLES  
THE HONORABLE LEWIS M. BLANTON  
THE HONORABLE MARY ANN L. MEDLER  
THE HONORABLE THOMAS C. MUMMERT  
THE HONORABLE AUDREY G. FLEISSIG

# SECTION ONE: SERVING THE PUBLIC

## BEST COURTHOUSE RECOGNITION



Cite this page 21 M.L.W. 883

October 1, 2007



### Best Courthouse

#### THOMAS F. EAGLETON U.S. COURTHOUSE

##### St. Louis

From his third-floor window, Jim Woodward, clerk of the court for the U.S. District Court Eastern District of Missouri, sometimes sees people stop in their tracks as they approach the courthouse. They stare up toward the domed rooftop - almost as tall as the St. Louis Arch — which, by law, no building can tower over. They are in awe.

“It’s a grand building,” Woodward said. “People instantly recognize this as a courthouse.”

Though modern in some ways (construction was completed in 2000), it has traditional features such as columns and the dome, which symbolizes that the building is a place of justice. On the 28th floor, that dome can be experienced from inside in a gallery outside the en banc courtroom.

Encompassing 1 million gross square

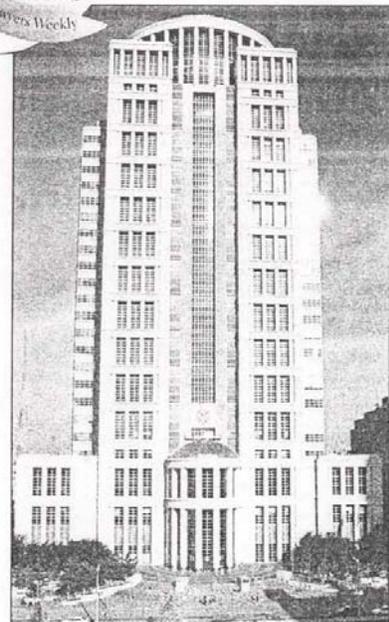
feet, Eagleton is the largest federal courthouse in the country. Because the courtrooms are up high, windows do not pose a security risk. That means natural light streams in throughout the day.

Situated on the southern edge of the downtown business core, the courthouse became a catalyst for redevelopment in the historic area. Now, Woodward says, “It is a prominent piece of architecture in the St. Louis skyline.”

Kids like it, too. In the judicial learning center, where the public can learn about the courts, children can sit in a judge’s or juror’s chair. Perhaps one day they will try to persuade both in this very courthouse.

**Second place:** Jackson County Courthouse, Kansas City

**Third place:** St. Louis County Courthouse



The above article was published in the October 1, 2007 edition of *The Missouri Lawyers Weekly* magazine. The Thomas F. Eagleton, United States Courthouse was voted “Missouri’s Best” Courthouse for 2007.

*The Jackson County Courthouse in Kansas City placed second*



*St. Louis County Courthouse placed third*

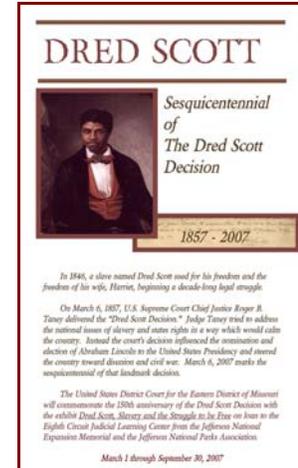
## THE JUDICIAL LEARNING CENTER

The Judicial Learning Center, completed in Spring 2006, is a unique space featured in the Thomas F. Eagleton United States Courthouse in St. Louis and an ideal place to begin tours and to provide an educational experience for those interested in the Federal judicial system. The Center, located on the main floor of the courthouse, is devoted to permanent exhibits, changing displays and interactive demonstrations about the role of federal courts and the operation of the justice system in the Eighth Circuit. The fabrication and installation of permanent, interactive exhibits and displays will begin in early 2008.

The Center is jointly sponsored by the courts of the Eighth Circuit and the Judicial Learning Center, a non-profit corporation whose board members represent the legal community in St. Louis.

This year, the JLC has featured the following exhibits:

- ***Brown v. Board of Education: In Pursuit of Freedom and Equality.*** Which was on loan from the Brown Foundation for Educational Equity, Excellence and Research, in Topeka, Kansas, from December 26, 2006 - February 28, 2007.
- ***Dred Scott, Slavery and the Struggle to be Free.***  
To commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the Dred Scott Decision, this exhibit was on loan from the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial and the Jefferson National Parks Association from March 1 through September 30, 2007. It was one of the most popular exhibits the JLC has hosted to date.
- ***The Presidents Men - Black United States Marshals.***  
132 years of dedicated service in the USMS by African American men is chronicled in this exhibit created by and on loan from retired U.S. Marshal Robert Moore and Robert Moore and Associates Black Police Resource Center in Springfield, Illinois from October 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007.
- ***Images of Justice.***  
Created specifically for U.S. Courthouses, *Images of Justice*, is the General Services Administration's (GSA) first traveling exhibit. The exhibit highlights art and architecture from U.S. courthouses across the country and is on loan from GSA October 1, 2007 through Spring of 2008.



## **CAPE GIRARDEAU COURTHOUSE PROJECT**

The new federal courthouse in Cape Girardeau, Missouri is scheduled to open in Spring 2008 and has been designated by an Act of Congress as the *Rush Hudson Limbaugh, Sr. United States Courthouse*.

The 154,000 square foot courthouse will feature four chambers, three courtrooms, mediation rooms, 24 indoor parking spaces, and an outdoor parking lot with 120 spaces. Together with the employees of the U.S. District Court's Southeastern Divisional office, the U.S. Marshal's Service, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and the General Services Administration will be housed in new courthouse. U.S. Senator Kit Bond, U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill, and U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson will also have field offices in the RHL U.S. Courthouse.



*Rush Hudson Limbaugh, Sr. United States Courthouse*

## **THE SELF-HELP RESOURCE CENTER**

The Self-Help Resource Center in the District Court Clerk's Office opened on November 1, 2006 to better serve the litigating public or those contemplating litigation. Printed and electronic materials have been made available in the Resource Center to aid litigants with a law-related problem who may lack the ability to retain an attorney. The Center further aims:

★ To improve access to the federal court for anyone.



★ To inform self-represented litigants and prospective filers about government, non-profit and community-based agencies and programs that may provide alternative services related to a dispute for which federal judicial relief may be unavailable.

★ To cooperate with area bar groups and the legal community in promoting bar-sponsored attorney referral and low-cost advisory services for self-represented litigants and others who, without access to these programs, may otherwise be considering



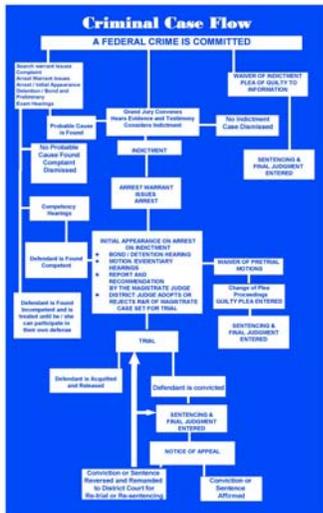
initiating a civil complaint in the district court without legal counsel.



★ To deliver web-based guidance and on-line information about federal court jurisdiction, how to initiate a case, sample forms for use in a civil case, and a simplified description of procedures required by local district court rules.

★ To enhance understanding of the civil legal process for unrepresented filers and prospective self-represented litigants so that claims and defenses are prepared and presented more effectively in the pretrial and trial stages of district court

litigation.





**Do You Need a Lawyer?**  
**Make the Right Call  
 For the Right Lawyer**

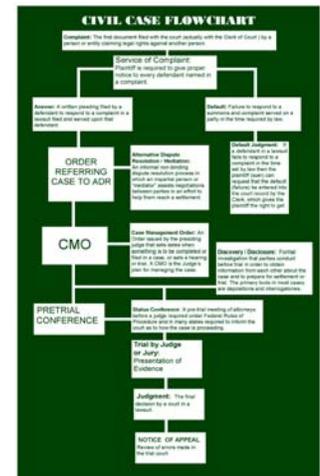
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## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The district court's community outreach efforts began in 2001 to promote and enhance public awareness of the role the federal courts play in the administration of justice. The District Court hosts at least two annual outreach events each year, coordinates courthouse tours, and provides educational events for local schools and universities.

### Washington University First Year Law Student Outreach Event

The judges of the District Court hosted the sixth annual Washington University First Year Law Student Outreach Event on Friday, January 19, 2007, and Friday, January 26, 2007. This yearly event is designed to provide a unique opportunity for law students to meet with our judges in a courtroom setting and gain a better understanding of the day to day workings of the federal courts.



*District Judge E. Richard Webber*

Judge Webber, Judge Sippel, and Judge

Noce met with half of the first year law students on January 19, 2007, and Judge Perry, Judge Medler, and Judge Fleissig met with the remaining 120 students on January 26, 2007. Topics discussed during the program included legal memoranda and drafting practice tips, professionalism and civility among lawyers, the day to day workings of the court, and technological features of the courtroom. Each program concluded with a question and answer session.



*Magistrate David D. Noce*



*District Judge Rodney W. Sippel*

## Law Day 2007



*Magistrate Judge Mummert*

Tuesday, May 1, 2007 was Law Day at the District Court. The theme of the celebration was “Liberty Under Law: Empowering Youth, Assuring Democracy.”

The program, attended by Crystal City High School, began in the Jury Assembly Room with morning refreshments and a welcome from Magistrate Judge Thomas C. Mummert, III and Clerk of Court, Jim Woodward.



*Clerk of Court  
Jim Woodward*

Five lawyers from the law firm of Thompson Coburn volunteered their time to participate in the Law Day festivities.

From the jury assembly room, the students proceeded to Judge Webber’s Courtroom to observe a non-jury trial, then to the Learning Center for a presentation on Dred Scott and a tour of the TFE Courthouse



*Crystal City  
High School Students*



*Sherry Compton  
ADR/Outreach Coordinator*



*Crystal City  
High School Students*

An essay contest was held in which students wrote essays about the U.S. Supreme Court case of **Veronia School Dist. 47J v. Wayne Acton**. The case involved a student and his parents challenging the Student Athlete Drug Policy of the District. The two winners of the essay contest were announced in Judge Mummert’s courtroom, they read their essays and each was awarded a U.S. savings bond as a prize. Judge Mummert, the students and the volunteer attorneys then held a discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of mandatory drug testing in high schools.



The students were then treated to lunch and participated in a trivia contest in the jury assembly room.



*Winners of the Essay Contest*

## NOTABLE VISITORS TO THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

On November 16, 2007, the TFE Courthouse was visited by five Georgian Court Officials participating in the International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP): Judge Omar Jorbenadze of the Tbilisi Court of Appeals, Mr. Otar Kakhidze, Project Assistant for the Georgian Young Lawyers Association (GYLA), Deputy Chief Vladimer Khuchua of the Special Investigations Unit of the Procuracy of Georgia, Bureau Chief Giorgi Otarashvili, Tbilisi City Criminal Court and the County Prosecutor for Shida Kartli and Mtshkheta-Mtianeti, Davit Sakvarelidze. Ms. Ekaterina Harke and Ms. Manana Kvlividze accompanied the party as Georgian language interpreters.

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs funds and administers the (IVLP), one of its premier professional exchange programs. The IVLP is designed to build mutual understanding between the United States and other countries through carefully designed visits that reflect the participants professional interests and support U.S. foreign policy goals. Participants are selected by American Embassies abroad and come to the U.S. to meet and confer with their professional counterparts and to gain an appreciation of the ethnic, cultural, political and socio-economic diversity of the U.S.

The Georgian judges' and court administrators' visit compliments that of John M. Walker, Senior Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, to Georgia, in July of 2007.

Judge Walker's support and ongoing country and to among other the community can in establishing law.



visit was to strengthen reforms in the determine, issues, how international assist Georgia the rule of

*Judge Mummert presents award*

*One winner reads her essay*

*Georgian Court Officials met with District Judge E. Richard Webber  
and Clerk of Court James G. Woodward*

The main interests of the Georgian dignitaries was jury trial management and electronic case filing, as the country recently instituted a new Criminal Procedure Code which requires jury trials for individuals charged with crimes. The guests of the district court also discussed legal matters with Judge E. Richard Webber and Clerk of Court Jim Woodward.

The aim of the project was to expose Georgian judges and court administrators to methods used by their U.S. counterparts for:

- drafting jury trial provisions;
- selecting juries,
- ensuring jury anonymity, and
- establishing courtroom security,
- equipping courtrooms with necessary technology,
- creating accurate trial transcripts, and
- other aspects of jury trial administration.

The issues of court management and administration that were emphasized included:

- compiling a pool of potential jurors and the voir dire process;
- establishment of reliable mechanisms for ensuring jury anonymity or sequestration;
- installation of adequate technology to allow presentation of audio and visual

evidence, surveillance recordings of conversations and accurate proceedings effective review.



such as videos or criminal , to jurors, recordings of to allow appellate

A project is in length and visits to four IVLP meet with counterparts U.S. public sector

typical IVL three weeks includes U.S. cities. participants professional and visit and private organizations

related to the project theme. In addition, IVs are often hosted by American families and participate in cultural activities during their U.S. visit.

*Judge Webber and Jim Woodward discuss Jury Trial Management  
in U.S. Courts with the Georgian Court Officials.*

## **A VISIT FROM MISSOURI STATE JUDICIAL RECORDS COMMITTEE AND THE COURT AUTOMATION COMMITTEE**

On December 7, 2007, members of the Missouri State Judicial Records Committee and the Court Automation Committee visited the district court to learn about electronic filing and storage of records.

The committees were comprised of Missouri State Representative Rachel L. Bringer, (D) 6th District, Judge Jimmie Edwards, Circuit Judge, City of St. Louis, Judge Glenn Norton, Appellate Judge Eastern District, Judge John LaPage, Associate Circuit Judge McDonald County, Judge Julian Bush, Circuit Judge, City of St. Louis, Judge Cliff Ahrens, Appellate Judge Eastern District, Judge Daniel Pelikan, Circuit Judge, St. Charles County, Roger Steele, Director of Data Processing, St. Charles County, Cindy Syberg, Chief Deputy Clerk, St. Charles County, Joan Gilmer, Circuit Clerk, St. Louis County, Cindy Turley, Deputy Clerk, Supreme Court and Sherri Paschal, Project Manager, OSCA.

The group viewed a presentation giving an overview of CM/ECF, a demo of filing a new case with CM/ECF, reviewed the local and federal rules that were created with the implementation of CM/ECF and the procedures put in place in the federal courts for CM/ECF. Magistrate Judge Audrey Fleissig also made a presentation to the committee members to discuss her uses of CM/ECF in chambers.



*Judge Fleissig*

The Clerk of Court, Jim Woodward and some of the district court staff were also on hand to discuss the pros and cons of not having paper filings, the equipment that the judges need to view records and to demonstrate other courtroom technology.

## **ABA NATIONAL APPELLATE ADVOCACY COMPETITION**

The American Bar Association, Law Student Division, held its St. Louis Regional Competition at the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals in the TFE Courthouse February 22 through February 24, 2007. The U.S. District Court, Bankruptcy Court and the Court of Appeals co-hosted the event. More than eighty (80) law students and more than one hundred (100) volunteer attorneys participated in mock appellate arguments.

A reception was held in the Judicial Learning Center at the close of the competition on February 24th.





## **BAMSL INAUGURAL TRIAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION**

The Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis (BAMSL), Young Lawyers Division, held its first annual Trial Advocacy Competition on February 23, 2007 at the Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse.

A total of ten teams competed in five mock trials. Law students from St. Louis University School of Law and Washington University School of Law participated in the competition as jurors.

The scoring of each lawyer's trial presentation was based on counsel's advocacy skills, not the judge's personal views of the merits of the case presented.

Five of the district court courtrooms were used for the trial advocacy competition. District Judges Jean C. Hamilton, Henry A. Autrey and Magistrate Judge David D. Noce participated in the mock trials, as did Circuit Court Judges Jimmie Edwards and David Lee Vincent, III.



*Judge Noce's mock trial*



*Judge Autrey's mock trial*



*Judge Hamilton's mock trial*

## ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Honorable E. Richard Webber is currently leading the district court effort to create oral histories on all retired and senior judges of the Eastern District of Missouri. The Southeast Missouri State University Visual Arts Department is providing production assistance for the recorded interviews.



*Judge Filippine*

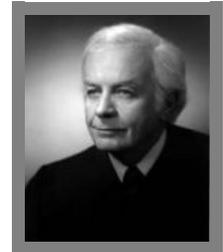


*Judge Hungate*

Judge William L. Hungate's production has been completed, Judge Edward L. Filippine's has been recorded and is in the process of being edited and Judge Webber has completed all the work to proceed with Judge John F. Nangle's oral history. The staff from SEMO and Judge Webber will travel to Savannah, Georgia to record Judge Nangle's history at some time in the near future.

The order for the remaining oral histories will be Judge Donald J. Stohr, Judge William H. Webster and Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh. An oral history on Judge Clyde S. Cahill will be prepared through reflections and observations of his family members and friends. Judge George F. Gunn's history is planned for future production.

"It takes over one hundred hours to prepare for each interview." said Judge Webber. "A lot of work remains to be done." he added. Judge Webber is excited about making these oral histories available to the public in the Judicial Learning Center.

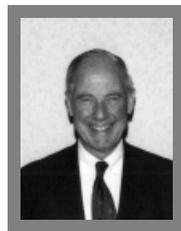


*Judge Nangle*

Future generations visiting the courthouse will greatly benefit from the unique historical and legal perspectives of these judges. An oral history is an effective method of preserving the past by recording a conversation highlighting the personal experiences, reflections and opinions of the subject based on his own accounts of historical events.



*Judge Cahill*



*Judge Webster*



*Judge Gunn*

## Courthouse Tours

U.S. District Court Clerk's Office staff and other agencies in the TFE U.S. Courthouse hosted sixty-three (63) tours of the courthouse to the public during 2007. The tour groups were comprised of 5th grade through college level students from public and private schools throughout the metro St. Louis area, including St. Charles and Jefferson Counties. Several Senior Citizens' groups, including various "Red Hat Ladies" chapters, also toured the courthouse.

The visiting groups usually begin their tour in the Judicial Learning Center and proceed to the U.S. Marshal's Office, a District Court proceeding, the Justice Blackmun Rotunda on the 27th floor, and the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals En Banc courtroom on the 28th floor. Many Judges volunteer their time to meet with the tour groups and answer questions from the visitors. These



*Judge Stohr*

*Judge Limbaugh*

visits make a positive and lasting impression on the citizens who rarely see, first hand, the justice system in operation.

*Mason Ridge Elementary Students sit in on a Naturalization Ceremony during a courthouse tour*



## WEBSITE RECONSTRUCTION

In January of 2007, the Eastern District of Missouri launched its redesigned website. The Website Redesign Committee and the Information Systems Department worked together to update content and make the web page more user friendly.

Criteria for developing the new web page was borrowed from Justice Served, a court management consulting organization, which sponsors a world-wide competition for the ten best court-related websites each year. Justice Served has identified the criteria described below, all of which have been incorporated into the new district court website.

The first criterion is **Court Functionality**. **Court Tasks** - Users should have the ability to perform court business on the Web without having to make a personal appearance at the courthouse. E-filing functionality earns a high rating. **Forms** - Forms must be available preferably by download or completed online. **Self Help** - Easy to use instructions should assist users looking for procedures and forms. **Financial Transactions** - The user should be able to pay fines and fees online using a credit card. A secured site is preferable. And finally, **Indexing** - the user should have access to a searchable database of court cases.

The second criterion is **Web Functionality**. **Links** - The court site should have links to other Web resources of interest to users. **Aesthetics** - The site should have good design, color and layout. **Navigation** - Users should be able to easily navigate the site. Specifically, Website content should be easily accessible, without the need for extraneous mouse clicks and navigation buttons should be intuitive and conveniently placed. An internal search engine should enable users to locate desired information within the site. **Finding the Site** - The site should also be listed with multiple search engines so users can readily find the site if they do not have the address handy.

The third criterion is **Extras**. **High Impact** - To have high impact, a court site should be geared to the public as opposed to attorneys or other users of court services. The site should also be customized to meet the needs of frequent court customers. **Recent Updates** - Continuous updates are important. The site should indicate when it was last updated and the updates should be frequent. Finally, **Feedback** - Users should be able to voice their opinions and comments about the site and its content, by emailing a court official from the home page.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the United States District Court Eastern District of Missouri. The header includes the court's name and contact information for the Clerk of Court, Jim Woodward, and the Main Phone numbers for St. Louis and Cape Girardeau. A navigation menu lists various services such as Local Rules, Judges, Clerks Office, Jury, Attorney, Self Help, Training, and Opinions. A central announcement box with a yellow diamond icon reads: "Are you driving to the Thomas F. Eagleton United States Courthouse? Click here for links to important information about highway construction and road closures that may affect your travel." Below this is an "Announcements!" section with a link to a notice regarding attorney renewals. On the right side, contact information is provided for the St. Louis Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse and the Cape Girardeau Courthouse. The Hannibal Courthouse address is also listed at the bottom right.

## NATURALIZATION PROGRAM



*Petitioners taking the Oath of Allegiance at Harris-Stowe State University June 22, 2007*

Naturalization ceremonies are usually conducted on the first and the third Friday of the month in the Thomas F. Eagleton Federal Courthouse.

Occasionally, special ceremonies are held at the Old Courthouse in downtown St. Louis, local universities and high schools to accommodate a larger number of petitioners and provide students with a unique opportunity to participate in one of the more enjoyable court proceedings.



*Petitioners taking the Oath of Allegiance at The Old Courthouse September 17, 2007*

The District Court coordinates with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to conduct a meaningful ceremony for the new citizens. The district judges and the magistrate judges rotate to preside over one of the two monthly ceremonies.



*Petitioners taking the Oath of Allegiance at Harris-Stowe State University Ceremony September 28, 2007*

Two-thousand, four-hundred and seventy-seven (2,477) petitioners representing 115 countries took the oath of allegiance to become American citizens during the twenty-seven ceremonies held in 2007, an increase of three hundred and ninety-eight (398) new citizens over last year's total of two-thousand and seventy-nine (2,079). One of the new citizens taking the oath in 2007 was St. Louis Cardinal's First Baseman Albert Pujols.

Three ceremonies were held at Harris-Stowe State University, whose administration generously allowed the District Court and USCIS the use of its main auditorium to accommodate a larger number of petitioners and their guests. During these three ceremonies alone one thousand and two (1,002) petitioners became new citizens.



*District Judge Rodney W. Sippel and Missouri Secretary of State Robin Carnahan at the June 14, 2007 Flag Day Ceremony at the Old Courthouse*

Special ceremonies for Flag Day, Independence Day and Constitution Day are traditionally held at the Old Courthouse in downtown St. Louis. The staff of the National Parks Service at the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial always does a wonderful job of hosting these special ceremonies.

This year the Park Service handed out the *National Park Owner's Manual for New Citizen's of the United States of America* to the new citizen's at those ceremonies.

This year marked the sesquicentennial of the Dred Scott Decision. One of Mr. Scott's trials took place at the Old Courthouse in 1857. To commemorate Mr. Scott's struggle for freedom, the Court invited Ms. Lynne M. Jackson, great-great granddaughter of Dred and Harriet Scott, to speak at the Independence Day Ceremony.



*Ms. Lynne M. Jackson and District Judge Henry E. Autrey at the July 3, 2007 Naturalization Ceremony at the Old Courthouse*

Members of the court family who acted as guest speakers at naturalization ceremonies during 2007 were: Catherine Hanaway, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri, Lee Lawless, Public Defender for the Eastern District of Missouri, Leonora Long, Bankruptcy Trustee, Dana McWay, Clerk of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri and retired Assistant United States Attorney Joseph Moore.



*Joan Swartz, Past President of BAMSLS*

Bar members John Medler, Jr., Rodolfo Rivera, Lenny Kagan, W. Dudley McCarter, John Stobbs and Joan M. Swartz spoke at ceremonies, encouraging the new citizens to take advantage of their newly gained rights by becoming active in their committees and reminding them of the responsibilities that come with citizenship.



*John F. Medler, Jr. and Magistrate Judge Mary Ann L. Medler*

Other speakers included Missouri Secretary of State Robin Carnahan, Mrs. Lulli Akin, wife of United States Representative Todd



*Mayor Francis G. Slay*



*Missouri Secretary of State Robin Carnahan*

Akin, St. Louis Mayor Francis G. Slay, Tatjana van der Horst Swendinger, Chief Administrative Judge of the St. Louis Office of the EEOC, Pamela Jackson, Great-Great Granddaughter of Dred Scott, Founder of the Dred Scott Heritage Foundation and General Services Manager of the law firm of Bryan Cave, Ruth A. Smith, President/CEO Human Development Corporation of Metropolitan St. Louis, Dr. Warren Hoffman, Sr. Pastor of the Third Baptist Church and Eduardo Vigil.



*Michael Murray, Denise Woodside, Rev. Leslie Limbaugh, and Dr. Warren Hoffman*

Many members of the Court family lent their extraordinary vocal talents to the Court for several ceremonies. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Reginald Harris and Deborah Golemon as well as Ann Treiber of the Office of the U.S. Attorney graciously volunteered their voices. Vocalists Mary Collins, R.N. of the TFE Employee Health Unit, Amy McFarland, Law Clerk to the Honorable Terry I. Adelman, Denise Woodside, Law Clerk to the Honorable Donald J. Stohr and Michael Murray, former Law Clerk for the Honorable John F. Nangle, attorney and husband of Ms. Woodside and retired District Clerk's Office Financial Deputy Nancy Beem also performed beautifully at various ceremonies. Other talented singers who participated were

Soprano Carin Thyssen, The Geyer Road Baptist Church Choir, Dr. Warren Hoffman, Sr. Pastor of the Third Baptist Church, Reverend Leslie Limbaugh of the Third Baptist Church and the Mason Ridge Elementary School 5th Graders. Thanks to all of these talented people for making these ceremonies so special.



*Soprano Carin Thyssen*



*Mr. Robert Fletcher  
of the American  
Legion and  
Judge E. Richard  
Webber*

Various local Posts of the American Legion participate in the ceremonies and generously donate small American flags which are given to each of the new citizens. Mr. Robert Fletcher of the American Legion attends every ceremony he can and works with the Court to provide information on the donating Posts and coordinates Post attendees for each ceremony. Dedicated volunteers from the League of Women Voters are also available after each ceremony to register new citizens to vote.

This year, a new volunteer group has joined the District Court in celebrating the Naturalization of our new citizens: The National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, Webster Groves Chapter. The DAR generously donates patriotic bookmarks for the citizens and has offered their support, through volunteer Connie Abeln and others.

A special thanks is due Father Thomas Molini of St. Gerard Majella Parish who offered a special invocation at the October 5, 2007 ceremony. The Court is also grateful for the assistance of local Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts who do such a fine job acting as color guard during many of the ceremonies.



*Boy Scouts of America Troop 685, St. Gerard Majella*



*Boy Scouts of America,  
Trailblazers District,  
Troop No. 468 retiring the  
colors at the  
June 22, 2007 Naturalization  
Ceremony at Harris Stowe*



*Peggy O'Dell, Superintendent  
of Jefferson National Expansion  
Memorial*

## JUROR APPRECIATION MONTH

Juror Appreciation Month was again observed by the Eastern District of Missouri in May 2007. On two separate dates, jurors received breakfast treats from St. Louis Bread Company, giveaways, Certificates of Appreciation and drawings for gift baskets. The Juror Appreciation Poster Contest, open to school-aged children of Clerk's Office and Chambers' staff, was also held with prizes being awarded to the entrants. Chief District Judge Carol E. Jackson and Senior Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh welcomed and thanked the jurors for their participation in the judicial process.



*Jurors enjoying special appreciation breakfast*



*First Place Winner  
2007 Juror Appreciation  
Poster Contest*



*Judge Limbaugh  
Addresses Jurors*



*Second through Fourth Place Poster Entries*



## RESULTS OF JUROR SURVEY AND JURY STATISTICS

### Jurors' Evaluation of Jury Service

Beginning July 1, 2007 and continuing through December 31, of 2007, citizens who reported for jury selection were asked to answer a short, confidential survey after the completion of their jury service to aid the District Court in improving efficiency and juror satisfaction.

The surveys were numbered and color-coded in order to distinguish between jurors who were not selected, jurors who completed the voir dire process, but were not selected and jurors who completed the voir dire process and were selected to serve on a panel, deliberated and returned a verdict.

Seven-hundred and nine (709) respondents completed the surveys between the July 1 through December 31 time frame. Of that number, 14 surveys were incomplete, 381 jurors completed voir dire, 222 jurors were selected to serve on a jury panel and deliberated returning a verdict and 106 jurors did not participate in voir dire and were not selected for jury service.

The first part of the survey asked jurors to rate eight aspects of jury service. The percentages displayed below in Table 1 reflect an overall high degree of juror satisfaction with the listed factors.

<b>Table 1: Jurors' Ratings of Jury Service</b>	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	Not rated
Information provided before report date	57.3	34.4	4.5	0.7	0.1	3.0
Initial orientation	59.1	32.2	3.8	0.4	0.1	4.4
Treatment by court personnel	77.3	17.3	2.3	0.0	0.1	3.0
Physical comforts	62.8	28.5	4.5	0.8	0.1	3.2
Parking facilities	39.8	41.0	10.9	1.8	0.4	6.1
Scheduling time at courthouse	38.8	38.2	15.2	2.8	1.3	3.7
Automated phone notification	56.4	32.7	4.9	1.7	0.7	3.5
Length of term of service (2 weeks)	29.6	33.6	25.4	5.4	2.0	4.1

In the second part of the survey, jurors were asked if their impression of jury service had changed after their experience at the district court. The survey also asked jurors to indicate their age group, their sex and if they had asked that their service be deferred or that they be excused from service.

Of the jurors who completed the surveys, 66.6 percent indicated that their impression after completing jury service was more favorable than it had been before reporting for duty (compared to 43.8 percent in 2006), while 25.8 percent (compared to 50 percent in 2006) indicated no change in their impression of jury service. Both ratings measure a significant increase in juror satisfaction. Only 2.3 percent (compared to 2.1 percent in 2006) indicated that their impression was less favorable. (5.4 percent did not rate this item on the survey).

Only 9.3 percent of the respondents stated that they had asked to be excused or deferred from jury service, compared to almost twice that number (18.2 percent) in 2006.

A space for comments or suggestions was also made available to the jurors completing the surveys. A few jurors felt that the two-week term of service was “too long”. Others stated that they needed more notice to appear for service in order to arrange time off with their employers.

A number of jurors requested more nutritious snacks while others suggested that their time at the courthouse could be better coordinated.

Most of the jurors commenting expressed that jury service had been a very positive and educational experience. The great majority of juror comments were complimentary towards court staff and the district court in general.

## **Juror Utilization**

Table 2 (below) displays statistics on juror utilization during calendar years 2005, 2006 and 2007. It should be noted that the number of qualification questionnaires sent out in 2005 and 2007 is significantly higher than in 2006, due to the “master jury wheel” being refilled in each of those years. When the master jury wheel is refilled every two years, a larger number of questionnaires are required to be mailed.

**Table 2: Juror Utilization Statistics between 2005 - 2007**

	Calendar Year 2005	Calendar Year 2006	Calendar Year 2007
No. of people sent qualification questionnaires	20,500	16,448	24,000
No. of jurors summoned for jury duty	7,773	9,684	10,353
No. of jurors who appeared for jury duty	3,069	2,874	1,969
No. of jurors who participated in voir dire*	2,673	2,542	1,782
No. of jurors who were selected for trial	642	716	567
No. of jury trials (civil and criminal)	62	70	53

\* This figure includes the jurors who were selected for trial, challenges for cause or peremptorily and participated in voir dire but were not selected or challenged.

An important aspect of jury utilization is minimizing the number of jurors who report for jury service, but are not selected to serve on a jury panel. The most recent report on juror utilization nationally was completed for the twelve month period ending on June 30, 2007 by the Administrative Office of U.S. Courts. The national average of jurors not selected, serving or challenged (NSSC) on the first day of jury service was 38%. In comparison, the Eastern District of Missouri’s NSSC score was 33%, five percentage points lower than the national average. For this reporting period, the Eastern District of Missouri ranked fifth out of the ten Eighth Circuit District Courts. Since June 30, 2005, the national average of juror utilization has risen slightly each reporting period from 36.4% in 2005, 37.4% in 2006, and finally to 38% in 2007. The Eastern District of Missouri has stayed below the national average for the past three annual reporting periods with NSSC rates of 34.6% in 2005, 32.3% in 2006, and a 33% in 2007.

By calculating the data in a calendar year reporting period (January-December), the Eastern District of Missouri exceeds the effective juror utilization standard of 30% established by the Judicial Conference of the United States with a score of 25.9% in 2007. Since 2005, the Eastern District of Missouri has not only significantly improved juror utilization, but has also seen the percentage of jurors who participate in voir dire rise from 87.1% in 2005 to 90.5% in 2007. These measures among others, indicate the concerted effort on the part of the Eastern District of Missouri to perform consistent with or better than the national standards for efficient utilization of juror resources.

## **SECTION TWO: SERVING THE BENCH**

### **MAGISTRATE JUDGE STATISTICS AND UTILIZATION**

#### **Implementation of MJSTAR (Magistrate Judge Statistics Through Automated Records)**

In 1999, the decision was made to include MJSTAR requirements as part of the first release of the CM/ECF system in the district courts. The system is a fully automated application that extracts data from entries made in CM/ECF. MJSTAR has replaced the paper format JS-43 monthly statistical reports used to record and analyze Magistrate Judges' workload for the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AO).

The MJSTAR (Magistrate Judge Statistics Through Automated Records) component of the CM/ECF system has been designed to collect and compile a record of time spent by magistrate judges conducting proceedings and performing their other judicial responsibilities. The time information collected for magistrate judges is similar to the time information that is collected for district judges through the JS 10 form.

In the past, the Magistrate Judges Division of the Administrative Office collected data from the JS 43 forms submitted by all magistrate judges, as well as CVB data on petty offense cases disposed of by magistrate judges, and data from the Statistics Division on Class A misdemeanor cases disposed of by magistrate judges, to compile workload tables depicting the workload of each United States magistrate judge.

Additional data elements on magistrate judge caseloads and utilization were identified as requirements of the MJSTAR project. Magistrate judges from across the country, clerks of court, and other court personnel developed the expanded requirements to be captured by the MJSTAR report. The Magistrate Judges Committee of the Judicial Conference also endorsed the new reporting requirements.

These data are of fundamental importance in assessing what magistrate judges do and how they are utilized by the district courts. The information is a key component of the magistrate judge survey reports used by the Judicial Conference Committee on the Administration of the Magistrate Judges System to assess the allocation of magistrate judge resources in the district courts. Collection of detailed data on magistrate judge workloads by the Administrative Office is mandated by statute, 28 U.S.C. § 604(d)(2) & (3).

The local MJSTAR Committee members are: Magistrate Judge David D. Noce, Judicial Assistants Denise Bone and Kathy Schroeder, Chief Deputy Clerk Lori Miller-Taylor and Operations Manager Karen Moore.

The Eastern District of Missouri went "Live" with MJSTAR reporting on June 1, 2007. With the implementation of CM/ECF Version 3.1, additional enhancements were created for MJSTAR reporting.

**Workload Assigned to Magistrate Judges**

The Eastern District of Missouri consistently has one of the highest number of magistrate judge consent dispositions not only within the Eighth Circuit, but also nationally among the 94 districts. According to the 2005 and 2006 Annual Reports from the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, the Eastern District of Missouri ranked first in the Eighth Circuit and fourth nationally in consent dispositions (486 in 2005 and 461 in 2006) during both reporting periods<sup>1</sup>.

Table 3 (below) indicates, in part, the civil caseload assigned to magistrate judges in the Eastern District of Missouri between 2005 and 2007. By local rule, magistrate judges are included in the civil case assignment system to receive new civil cases at time of filing.

**Table 3: Civil Cases Assigned to U.S. Magistrate Judges between 2005-2007<sup>2</sup>**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total Civil Cases</b>	<b>Civil Cases Exclusively Assigned to U.S. District Judges</b>	<b>Civil Cases Available to U.S. Magistrate Judges</b>	<b>Civil Cases Assigned to U.S. Magistrate Judges</b>	<b>Percent of Cases Assigned to U.S. Magistrate Judges</b>
2005	2719	n/a	n/a	1065	39%
2006	2120	n/a	n/a	739	35%
2007 <sup>3</sup>	2358	184	2174	647	30%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>7197</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>2174</b>	<b>2451</b>	<b>35% Average</b>

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<sup>1</sup>The reporting period for civil consent cases terminated by U.S. Magistrate Judges under 28 U.S.C. 636(c) was completed for the twelve month period ending on September 30 of each respective year. The 2006 data is the most recent report available.

<sup>2</sup>The figures presented in this table do not reflect civil consent cases terminated by U.S. Magistrate Judges under 28 U.S.C. 636(c), but only workload directly assigned.

<sup>3</sup>2007 was the first reporting period that assignment distribution was available in CM/ECF.

## **ENHANCING COURTROOM TECHNOLOGY**

The Information Systems Department of the District Court strives to keep abreast of the ever improving technology available to enhance court proceedings and the general workings of the Clerk's Office. The following projects were completed by ISD in 2007:

- New Evidence Presentations System (EPS) carts and plasma screens were purchased and placed in every courtroom. New combination VHS/DVD/CD players were installed in the evidence presentation carts to replace the old VHS or DVD/ VHS players.
- New jury monitors, which utilize new Video over Cat 6 technology, were installed in each courtroom.
- New monitors were installed in conference room 2C.
- A New Video Conference Codecs that runs the video conferencing equipment in six courtrooms and conference room 2C was installed in the ISD control room.
- Two portable video conferencing carts which can be used anywhere there is a phone jack were also purchased.

## **TELEPHONE INTERPRETING PROGRAM (TIP)**

In 1989, the Judicial Conference authorized a pilot experiment to determine whether telephone interpreting for non-English speaking defendants was a feasible alternative to using live interpreters for courtroom proceedings. In November of 1990, the District of New Mexico implemented a prototype telephone interpreting system. In 1994, the Judicial Conference approved the expansion of the pilot program.

As part of the pilot phase, telephone interpreting was used to provide services to select district courts primarily in the Spanish language. Several staff and contract interpreters were trained during the pilot phase and, in turn, they trained other interpreters how to provide telephone interpreting services.

In the final phase of the pilot program, a website was developed and is hosted by the Central District of California to assist in the scheduling of telephone interpreting services. The program became available nationally in 2002.

TIP offers the following benefits:

- Provides easy access to interpretation services when resources are not locally available.
- Provides certified/qualified interpreters.
- Increases court personnel efficiency in locating certified/qualified interpreters
- Reduces expenditures

- Reduces time and travel cost associated with importing certified interpreters from outside of the area.
- Ensures defendant access to a certified/qualified interpreter in court proceedings.
- The receiver court needs minimum equipment (a two-line telephone system in the courtroom) to participate.

In 2001, sixteen district courts were participating in the TIP pilot program with 975 events at a cost of \$20,379 with a savings of \$264,451. When the program went nationwide in 2002, twenty-four district courts participated with 1581 events at a cost of \$48,463 and a savings of \$472,869. Forty-eight district courts participated in the program in 2007 with a nationwide total of 3683 TIP events at a cost of \$102,196 and an estimated nationwide savings of \$1,114,586.

Since the Eastern District of Missouri began participating in the TIP program in 2003, there has been a steady increase in the number of TIP events locally. In 2007, both in-court and TIP interpreters were used in 315 docketable events at a total cost of \$35,862.82. The cost for the TIP proceedings alone was \$5,428 with an estimated savings in interpreter fees of \$66,833 in 2007. (The estimated savings for interpreter travel costs are not calculated due to the variability in airfare and lodging costs.)

***TIP STATISTICS FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI***

Year	No. of Events	Actual Costs <sup>1</sup>	Est. Savings in Fees
<b>2003</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>\$801</b>	<b>\$8,523</b>
<b>2004</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>\$1,940</b>	<b>\$34,357</b>
<b>2005</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>\$3,656</b>	<b>\$44,296</b>
<b>2006</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>\$5,745</b>	<b>\$49,866</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>\$5,428</b>	<b>\$66,833</b>

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<sup>1</sup>Costs are paid from a centralized, nationwide budget.

## **ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR)**

From its inception in October 1994, the ADR program was designed to achieve three goals:



*Large ADR Suite*

- to help reduce costs of civil litigation;
- to speed the disposition of cases not requiring a trial; and
- to enhance parties' satisfaction by offering them more control over the resolution of their dispute.

The ADR Advisory Committee (formed in June 2000 and currently chaired by Judge Charles Shaw) oversees the program to ensure that the program's goals are being met and to recommend enhancements to the court's current ADR practices and procedures. The committee consists of district and magistrate judges, law professors, and court certified neutrals.

### **Statistics on ADR-Referred Cases and Mediators**

- Three hundred and eighty (380) cases were referred to Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in 2007 compared to four hundred and thirty-eight (438) cases referred in 2006 and five hundred and thirty-two (532) cases referred in 2005.
- Three hundred and thirty-three (333) mediations were conducted in 2007 compared to two hundred and sixty-three (263) in 2006 and three hundred and thirty-six (336) in 2005.
- The settlement rate among ADR-referred cases in which a compliance report was filed was 52 percent in 2007; 54 percent in 2006; 58 percent in 2005.
- Thirteen attorneys were certified as Neutrals during 2007, bringing the total number of certified neutrals available in the Eastern District of Missouri to one hundred and ninety-seven (197).

### **Certification of Mediators**

Neutrals on the Court's certified panel have the following qualifications:

- Admission to the practice of law for at least 5 years.
- Experience in communication and negotiation techniques.
- Knowledge about civil litigation in federal and state court.
- Sixteen hours of training by the court or other training organization.
- Membership in good standing in a bar association of a state.



*Small ADR Suite*

## **CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLAN (COOP)**

The Eastern District of Missouri's Continuity of Operations Plan fulfills the court's legal obligation to the people of the United States to maintain operational capabilities prudently and efficiently in the event that a disaster would make normal activities and legal proceedings within the courthouse impossible. The plan is updated on a regular basis in order to insure the safety of employees, to provide efficient communications between court/chambers personnel and other governmental agencies and to coordinate with state and municipal officials and agencies to stabilize, secure and maintain public records and property for continuation of court operations.

The COOP provides policy, delineates responsibilities and outlines procedures to ensure the continuation of the Eastern District of Missouri's essential functions when the use of its courthouse facilities in St. Louis, Cape Girardeau, and/or Hannibal is threatened or diminished. In 2007, a review of the plan was completed to update contact information for judicial officers and employees of the court.

### **PRO SE UNIT STATISTICS**

Of the two-thousand three hundred and fifty-three (2,358) civil cases filed in the Eastern District of Missouri, eight hundred and ninety-four (894) were reviewed in the Pro Se Unit. This is 38% of all civil filings. One hundred and seventy-six (176) of the cases were Social Security Administration cases. The Pro Se unit performed substantive initial review on seven hundred and eighteen cases (718), representing 31% of all civil filings.

Five hundred and sixty-nine (569) prisoner petitions were filed consisting of two hundred and ninety-five (295) prisoner complaints; one hundred and eighty-one (181) state habeas petitions, and ninety-three (93) federal habeas petitions. Approximately 70% of these cases were dismissed after the statutorily required frivolity review.

The Pro Se Unit generated approximately two thousand , one hundred and ninety-eight (2,198) orders: two thousand, one hundred and forty-three (2,143) orders in civil litigation and fifty-five (55) orders in criminal litigation.

### **CIVIL JUSTICE REFORM ACT OF 1990 (CJRA) REPORTS**

The CJRA report continued to be a semi-annual submission to the Administrative Office of U.S. Courts (as of March 31 and as of September 30) with data in the following categories:

- Reportable motions (motions pending six months or longer).
- Bench trials (case pending more than six months after the last day of trial).
- Bankruptcy appeals (pending more than six months after the filing date).
- Social Security appeals (pending more than 10 months after the answer was filed).
- Three-year old civil cases (pending more than three years after date of filing).

The March 31, 2007 report showed 5 reportable motions<sup>2</sup> (compared to 37 in 2006 and 10 in 2005) and the September 30, 2006 report showed 5 reportable motions (compared to 13 in 2006 and 25 in 2005). There were no bankruptcy appeals and one bench trial reportable on the March report. Two social security appeals were reportable on the September report. The March 31 report showed 13 three year-old civil cases (16 in both 2006 and 2005) and the September 30 report showed 22 (compared to 18 in 2006 and 12 in 2005).

The Eastern District of Missouri was second in the 8th Circuit and fifteenth in the country for having the least number of three-year-old cases pending.

## **NEW LAW CLERK ORIENTATION**

Each September, the Eastern District of Missouri presents an Orientation for incoming law clerks to familiarize them with the district court. In Fall of 2007, five new law clerks joined the court:

Nigel Cooney, Law Clerk to District Judge Catherine D. Perry  
Jessica Gunder, Law Clerk to District Judge E. Richard Webber  
Gina Moshiri, Law Clerk to Senior District Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh  
Michael Kuhn, Law Clerk to Senior District Judge Donald J. Stohr  
Charles Insler, Law Clerk to Magistrate Judge David D. Noce.

Orientation was a two-day event, scheduled September 12th and 13th of 2007. Human Resource/Training Coordinator Jeanne Pattrin opened the program on day one with a preview and then the newcomers were welcomed by Chief District Judge Carol Jackson and Clerk of Court Jim Woodward. Following those opening remarks, representatives from each court unit and agency briefed the new law clerks on the work of their respective departments.

## **ANNUAL RETREATS**

### **Eight Circuit Judicial Assistants' Workshop**

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<sup>2</sup>Motions that are pending more than six months after they were filed.

Judicial Assistants throughout the Eighth Circuit attended a three-day workshop which was held October 24 through October 26, 2007 at the Hilton at the Ballpark, in downtown St. Louis. A welcome reception was held the evening of October 23 in the Grand Foyer. Clerk of Court Jim Woodward and Chief Judge Carol Jackson of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri welcomed attendees on the morning of October 24th.

The workshop highlight was a luncheon address by former U.S. Senator Jean Carnahan who was introduced by Judge Rodney W. Sippel.

Topics addressed by guest speakers at the workshop were: *Retirement (FERS), Changes in Travel Regulations/non-case related travel, OSCAR, Health Care/Long Term Insurance/Disability Insurance, Retirement (CSRS), Tips on Word/Word Perfect/PowerPoint/Lotus Notes, Navigating the J-Net, Adobe PDF, Innocence Project of Minnesota, Preservation of Chambers Papers (Closing Chambers), Judiciary On-line University, Westlaw Training (researching databases, nuts& bolts case and statute research), Beyond Bookshelves (Website, Research Tools, Blogs and More) and Presenting a Positive Image.*

The most popular topics were those dealing with retirement and changes in travel regulations.

### **Law Clerks' Annual Retreat**

The annual Law Clerk's Retreat was held June 22, 2007 at Sqwire's restaurant near Lafayette Square in St. Louis. Guest speakers and topics:

Toni Decker, Assistant U.S. Attorney, *An Overview of U.S. Attorney Practices and Procedures.*

Josh Bullock, Law Clerk for the United States Judicial Panel on Multi-District Litigation, *An Overview of the MDL Panel.*

Bryan Bacon, Law Clerk to the Honorable David P. McDonald, Bankruptcy Court, *Views of the Bankruptcy Court.*

James Bennett, Attorney, Dowd and Bennett, LLP, *Reflections on Clerking at the U.S. Supreme Court.*

Keith J. Grady, Attorney, Lewis, Rice and Fingersh, LC, *Views on Law Firms Management of Patent Law Cases.*

Alan Prazel, Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State of Missouri, *The Investigation of Complaints of Attorney Ethical Misconduct.*

## SECTION THREE: SERVING THE BAR

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT (CJA) ATTORNEY APPOINTMENTS

Tables 4 through 6 below provide a profile of attorney appointments/assignments in criminal cases over the past three calendar years (2005 - 2007). Attorney appointments are made under the Criminal Justice Act and from the Federal Public Defender's Office. Retained counsel are hired by the defendant/defendant's family.

Table 4: 2005 through 2007 Client Representations											
CJA			FPD			RET			Total		
2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
310	377	380	760	866	899	410	560	555	1480	1803	1834 <sup>1</sup>

**LEGEND:** CJA = Criminal Justice Act FPD = Federal Public Defender RET = Retained

Table 5: CJA by Number of Appointments per Attorney								
1-3			4-9			10 or more		
2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
54	62	53	15	17	16	9	12	11

Table 6: CJA vs. FPD Appointments					
2005		2006		2007	
FPD	CJA	FPD	CJA	FPD	CJA
760	310	866	377	899	380

Total attorney appointments (CJA and FPD) increased 2.9 percent in 2007 compared to 2006 and 19.5 percent compared to 2005 (1,279 appointments in 2007; 1,243 appointments in 2006; 1,070 in 2005).

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<sup>1</sup>Includes multiple appointments in a single case as well as appointments in probation and supervised release revocation proceedings.

In 2007, 29.7 percent of the attorney appointments were CJA (380) compared to 2006, 30.3 percent of the appointments were CJA (377). FPD appointments accounted for 70.3 percent of the appointments in 2007 and 69.7 percent were FPD (866). In 2005, 29 percent of the appointments were CJA (310) and 71 percent were FPD (760). There was a less than 1 percent increase in CJA appointments(380) compared to a 21.6 percent increase in the number of CJA appointments in 2006 (377) over that of 2005 (310). FPD appointments increased 3.8 percent in 2007. FPD appointments were 13.9 percent in 2006 (866) compared to 2005 (760). The number of private counsel retained by defendants decreased less than 1 percent in 2007, while retained counsel hirings had increased 36.6 percent in 2006 (560) compared to 2005 (410).

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT (CJA) SEMINAR

The fifth annual CJA panel seminar was held on May 17, 2007, at the Eagleton Courthouse. Seventy-one CJA panel and lead panel attorneys attended the seminar. The Clerk of Court, members of the FPD's office, seven District and five Magistrate Judges also attended the seminar.



The seminar began with welcome remarks from Chief Judge Jackson and Mr. Lee Lawless, Federal Public Defender for the Eastern District of Missouri. Seminar topics included:

*Criminal Law and Procedure Opinions in the 2006-2007 Term of the United States Supreme Court: Discussion, Analysis and Predictions.* Presented by Paul Rashkind, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Southern District of Illinois.



*Effective Representation of Non-English Speaking Clients.* Presented by Caterina DiTraglia, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Eastern District of Missouri and Kathleen O'Hanlon, Certified Interpreter.

*Defending Federal Money Laundering Cases.* Presented by attorney Scott Golde, of the firm of Armstrong Teasdale.



*Sentencing Post Blakely/Booker/FanFan: New Trends, Issues and Strategies.* Presented by the Honorable Henry Autrey, U.S. District Judge, Eastern District of Missouri; Professor Frank Bowman, University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law and Attorney John Lynch.

*Dealing and Cooperating: Ethical Implications of Proffers and Cooperating Informants.* Presented by the Honorable Thomas C. Mummert, III, U.S. Magistrate Judge, Eastern District of Missouri; Sam Bertolet, Assistant U. S. Attorney, Eastern District of Missouri; and Steve Welby, of the law firm of Welby and Ridings, LLC.



## FEDERAL PRACTICE FUNDAMENTALS SEMINAR

The third annual Federal Practice Seminar, sponsored by the United States District Court and the Federal Practice Memorial Trust was held on September 20, 2007. Entitled, *Inside the Federal Courts: A Tutorial for New Practitioners*, the seminar was designed to introduce new attorneys, who have been members of the court's bar for one year or less, to the Federal Courts in general and the procedures, policies and resources of the Eastern District of Missouri specifically.



Chief District Judge  
Carol E. Jackson



Veryl Riddle, Chair  
Federal Practice Memorial Trust



Lori Miller-Taylor  
Chief Deputy Clerk



Jim Woodward  
Clerk of Court



Attorney Dan O'Keefe  
and District Judge  
E. Richard Webber



Denise Woodside, District Judge  
Catherine Perry,  
Operations Mgr. Karen Moore  
and Team Leader Melanie Berg

The seminar has been so popular that all of the attorneys who wanted to participate could not be accommodated in the past due to the size of the facility used. In 2007, the seminar was held in the jury assembly room on the first floor of the Eagleton Courthouse to accommodate a larger number of participants. Many judges, returning speakers and attendees commented positively on the change of venue.

Veryl Riddle, Chair of the Federal Practice Memorial Trust, welcomed the new practitioners and gave a brief history of the Trust. Chief Judge Carol Jackson and Chief Deputy Clerk Lori Miller-Taylor also greeted the attendees. Clerk of Court Jim Woodward presented a profile of the Eastern District of Missouri, explaining the roles of different judges, the magistrate consent process and a brief statistical breakdown of the case types included in the court's workload.



Session I, *Federal Civil Procedure*, was presented by District Judge Catherine D. Perry, Operations Manager Karen Moore, Law Clerk Denise Woodside and Team Leader Melanie Berg. Session II, *Ethical Advocacy in the Federal District Court*, was presented by District Judge E. Richard Webber and Attorney Dan O'Keefe. Session III *Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)*, was presented by Clerk of Court James G. Woodward and Attorney James W. Reeves. Session IV,

*An Overview of CM/ECF in the District Court*, was presented at the end of the program by Lori Miller-Taylor. Session V, *Criminal Practice*, was presented by Magistrate Judge Frederick R. Buckles and Attorney Michael Gorla. Session VI, *Website Resources* was presented by ISD Software Trainer Michael Newsham. Session VII, *Courtroom Technology*, was presented by Magistrate Judge Audrey Fleissig and ISD Technology Specialist Adam Zipprich.

The Judges' round table, an open forum during which the new practitioners could ask questions of or make comments to Magistrate and District Judges, was the highlight of the day for many of the attendees.

## **REVISIONS TO LOCAL RULES**

The judges of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri approved amendments to two Local Rules which became effective in May of 2007, upon approval of the Eight Circuit Judicial Council.

Local Rule 26 - 3.01 was amended to reflect the changes to F.R.Civ.P. 26 regarding disclosure of documents and electronically stored information. The amendment reads as follows: ***Electronically stored information shall be disclosed in a form or forms in which it is ordinarily maintained or in a form or forms that are reasonably usable. A party need not disclose the same electronically stored information in more than one form.***

The amendment to Local Rule 83 - 12.01 was intended to clarify that an attorney appearing in a matter transferred to this court by the Judicial Panel on Multi-district Litigation is not required to be admitted to practice in the Eastern District of Missouri, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1407.

## **CASE MANAGEMENT/ELECTRONIC CASE FILING (CM/ECF)**

### **Training and Support**

- Special training on CM/ECF Version 3.1.1 offered several times including on-site visits to large law firms.
- CM/ECF training classes for attorneys and support staffs continued on a monthly basis.
- The court's website provides access to computer-based training, the CM/ECF Administrative Procedures Manual, criminal and civil events lists, and the Local Rules.
- Help desk support was available during courthouse hours to both external and internal users. A special help desk e-mail address was also available to external users.

### **Participation**

- **Attorney Registration:** As of December 31, 2007, 3,556 attorneys have newly registered for electronic filing compared to 6,951 during 2006.
- **Attorney Docketing:** During calendar year 2007, attorneys logged 44,491 transactions in CM/ECF (compared to 49,897 in 2006 and 53,414 in 2005).
- **Staff Docketing:** During calendar year 2007, court personnel logged 125,258 transactions in CM/ECF (compared to 199,680 in 2006 and 204,032 in 2005).

## COURT STATISTICS

### New Case Filing Profile

Table 7 below provides a three-year profile of new case filings in the Eastern District of Missouri. The civil and criminal numbers do not include reopened cases, but the criminal numbers include probation/supervised release transfers. The defendant numbers are not included in the criminal case totals and do not include defendants from transfers of probation/supervised release cases.

**Table 7: EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI: NEW CASE FILINGS<sup>1</sup>  
2005 through 2007 {Jan. 1 - Dec. 31}**

Division/ Case Type	2005	2006	Diff.	% change [2005- 2006]	2007	Diff.	% change [2006- 2007]
Eastern CV Cases	2417	1858	-559	-23.1	2,116	258	13.9
Southeastern CV Cases	220	193	-27	-12.3	184	-9	-4.7
Northern CV Cases	82	69	-13	-15.9	58	-11	-15.9
<b>TOTAL CV Cases<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>2719</b>	<b>2120</b>	<b>-599</b>	<b>-22.0</b>	<b>2,358</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>11.2</b>
Eastern CR Cases	752	781	29	3.9	770	-11	-1.4
Southeastern CR Cases	185	175	-10	-5.4	198	23	13.1
<b>TOTAL CR Cases</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>968</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Eastern CR Defendants	927	991	64	6.9	1063	72	7.3
Southeastern CR Defendants	191	183	-8	-4.2	208	25	13.7
<b>TOTAL Defendants</b>	<b>1118</b>	<b>1174</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>1271</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>8.3</b>
<b>Total Miscellaneous Cases<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>719</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>-116</b>	<b>-14.9</b>
<b>TOTALS<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>4375</b>	<b>3854</b>	<b>-521</b>	<b>-11.9</b>	<b>3,988</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>3.5</b>

1 - This does not include reopened cases in civil and criminal filings

2 - Civil case filings include sealed civil cases

3 - Miscellaneous case filings include sealed miscellaneous cases

4 - Defendants are not included in totals

## Calendar Year 2007 Caseload Highlights

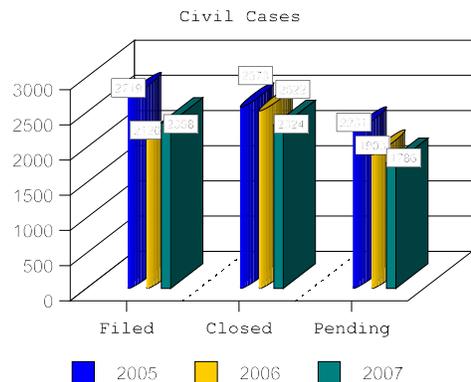
- Civil filings in the Eastern District of Missouri increased just over eleven percent from 2006 to 2007 (11.2 percent). The most notable changes occurred in the Eastern and Northern Divisions. St Louis observed a 13.9 percent increase in civil filings, while Hannibal had a 15.9 percent decrease in civil filings.
- Overall criminal filings increased 1.3 percent from 2006 to 2007 (956 v. 968). Cape Girardeau saw a 13.1 increase, while St. Louis experienced a 1.4 decrease in new criminal case filings.
- New criminal defendants increased 8.3 percent from 2006 to 2007 (1174 v.1271). Cape Girardeau observed a 13.7 increase, while St. Louis saw a 7.3 percent increase in new criminal defendants.
- Miscellaneous filings decreased 14.9 percent from 2006 to 2007 (778 v. 662).
- Trial starts (includes jury and bench trials) in the Eastern District of Missouri decreased 26.8 percent from 2006 to 2007 (82 v. 60). There were 34 civil trial starts in 2007 (27 jury trials and 7 bench trials) compared to 46 civil starts in 2006 (34 jury trials and 12 bench trials). Criminal trial starts decreased by 27.7 percent from 2006 to 2007 (36 v. 26)

compared to a 12.5 percent increase from 2005 to 2006 (32 v. 36).

### Civil Cases

New civil filings increased 11.2 percent from 2006 to 2007 (2,120 v. 2,358). New civil cases were filed at an average rate of 197 per month in 2007 (2,358 new filings) compared to an average rate of 177 per month in 2006 (2,120 new civil filings). This overall increase in new civil filings in the Eastern District of Missouri compares to a less than 1 percent decrease in civil filings at the national level (based on fiscal year 2007 data<sup>1</sup>). The termination

rate for civil cases decreased from 2006 to 2007 with an average rate of 194 terminations per month in 2007 (2,324 cases) compared to 210 terminations per month in 2006 (2,522 cases). The overall decrease in terminations was 7.9 percent from 2006 to 2007 (2,522 v. 2,324), compared to the national trend of a 9.6 overall decrease in civil terminations (based on fiscal year 2007 data<sup>2</sup>). The inventory control index<sup>3</sup> as of December 31, 2007 was 9.2 only slightly higher than the index of 9.1 as of December 31, 2006. The mean disposition time for all civil cases closed during 2007 was 9.8 months, which was higher than the mean disposition time of 8.8 months for civil cases closed



<sup>1</sup>New Civil case filings for the U.S. District Courts are based on national data for twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2006 ending September 30, 2007.

<sup>2</sup>Civil terminations for the U.S. District Courts are based on national caseload data for the twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2006 ending September 30, 2007.

<sup>3</sup>This index represents the number of months it would take to dispose of the pending civil caseload based on the court's average monthly termination rate for the previous 12 months (assuming that no new civil cases were filed). A decline in the index suggests either more terminations, fewer filings, or both.

during 2006. The median disposition time for 2007 cases was 6.5 months, which was slightly lower than the median of 6.8 months for 2006. Compared to the 2007 national median time of 9.6 months, the Eastern District of Missouri resolved cases more than 30 percent faster.

**Noteworthy trends in new civil filings during 2007:**

- Tort actions in the “other torts” category dramatically increased by 710.3 percent from 2006 to 2007 (29 v. 235).<sup>4</sup> At the national level , there was a 24 percent<sup>5</sup> increase in such filings.
- Social security cases increased 18.2 percent, while nationally, there was a 6.3 percent<sup>6</sup> decrease.
- Prisoner petition cases increased 17.7 percent in comparison to a 1.8 percent<sup>7</sup> decrease nationally.
- Contract case filings increased 12.9 percent, consistent with the increase at the national level<sup>8</sup>.
- Tort actions in the “other personal injury category” decreased by 26.6 percent. Nationally, “other personal injury”<sup>9</sup> case filings decreased 25.2 percent<sup>10</sup>.
- Civil Rights (Title VII) cases decreased by 20.0 percent compared to a 3.4 percent<sup>11</sup> decrease at the national level.

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<sup>4</sup>The filing surge in the “other torts” category can be attributed to cases being transferred to the Eastern District of Missouri for pretrial case management by order of the Judicial Panel on Multi-district Litigation.

<sup>5</sup>“Other torts” case filings for the U.S. District Courts are based on national caseload data for the twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2006 ending September 30, 2007.

<sup>6</sup>Social security case filings for the U.S. District Courts are based on national caseload data for the twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2006 ending September 30, 2007.

<sup>7</sup>Prisoner petition case filings for the U.S. District Courts are based on national caseload data for the twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2006 ending September 30, 2007.

<sup>8</sup>Contract case filings for the U.S. District Courts are based on national caseload data for the twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2006 ending September 30, 2007.

<sup>9</sup>“Other personal injury” cases include, but are not limited to personal injury cases, negligence, non-motor vehicle, assault, libel, slander, medical malpractice and Federal Employer’s Liability Act.

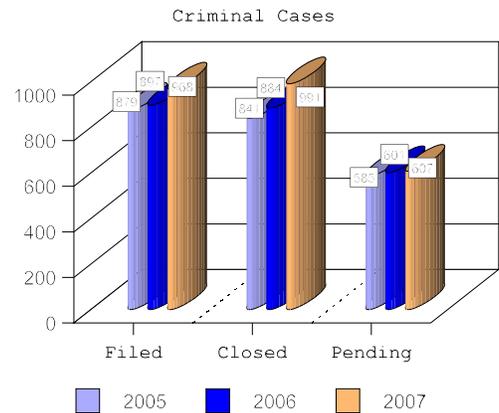
<sup>10</sup>“Other personal injury” case filings for the U.S. District Courts are based on national caseload data for the twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2006 and ending September 30, 2007.

<sup>11</sup>Civil Rights (Title VII) cases for the U.S. District Courts are based on national caseload data for the twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2006 and ending September 30, 2007.

- Labor cases decreased by 9.1 percent in comparison to a 13 percent increase at the national level<sup>12</sup>.

### Criminal Cases

The number of new criminal cases filed in the Eastern District of Missouri during 2007 increased slightly from 2006 (1.3 percent), but remained consistent with the national trend of new criminal case filings (2 percent increase). New criminal cases in 2006 (excluding probation/supervised release transfers) were filed at an average rate of 81 per month (968 cases) compared to 75 per month in 2006 (897 cases). There were 770 new criminal cases filed in the Eastern Division and 198 new criminal cases filed in the Southeastern Division. New criminal case filings in Cape Girardeau increased 13.1 percent from 2006 to 2007 (175 v. 198). However, new criminal cases in the St. Louis office decreased 1.4 percent from 2006 to 2007 (781 v. 770). The new criminal caseload comprised 29.1 percent of the court’s overall new workload (excluding miscellaneous cases) in 2007 (31.1 percent in 2006). The average termination rate for criminal cases in 2007 was 83 per month (991 cases) compared to 74 per month in 2006 (884 cases).



New defendants in calendar year 2007 were filed at an average rate of 106 per month (1271 defendants) compared to 98 per month in 2006 (1174 defendants). The average termination rate for criminal defendants in 2007 was 100 per month (1196 defendants) compared to 99 per month in 2006 (1184 defendants). The mean disposition time for all defendants termed in 2007 was 8.1 months, which is about one month higher than the mean disposition time in 2006 ( 7 months). The 2007 median disposition time for defendants was 6.3 months, which was the same (6.3 months in 2006). The national median disposition time<sup>13</sup> for the 12-month period ending September 30, 2007 was 7 months.

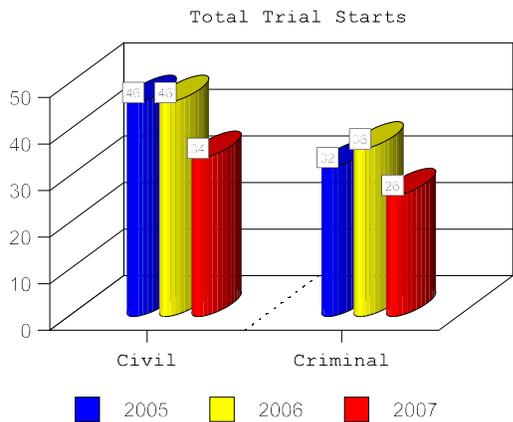
### Trials

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<sup>12</sup>Labor case filings for the U.S. District Courts are based on national caseload data for the twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2006 ending September 30, 2007.

<sup>13</sup>The national median time from filing to disposition is based on felony defendants. The reporting period ending on September 30, 2007 is the most recently published data on national trends. The median time for the Eastern District of Missouri is based on all criminal defendants.

The total trial starts in the Eastern District of Missouri decreased 26.8 percent from 2006 to 2007 (82 v. 90) compared to a 5.1 percent increase from 2005 to 2006 (78 v. 82). In 2007 there was a total of 53 jury trials. (27 civil jury trials and 26 criminal jury trials) and a total of 7 bench trials (7 civil bench trials and 0 criminal bench trials).



During 2006, there were 46 civil trial starts (34 jury trials; 12 bench trials), which matched the 46 civil trial starts during 2005 (also 34 jury trials and 12 bench trials) compared to the 34 civil trial starts for 2007 (27 jury trials and 7 bench trials).

There were 36 criminal trial starts during 2006 (all jury trials); 32 during 2005 (28 jury trials; 4 bench trials) compared to 26 criminal trial starts during 2007 (all jury trials).

## **ATTORNEY ADMISSIONS**

- Admission fees processed for newly admitted attorneys: 351 (compared to 249 in 2006 and 313 in 2005).
- Fees processed for attorneys granted pro hac vice admission: 832 (compared to 1,009 in 2006 and 1,064 in 2005).
- Total number of attorneys re-registered and admitted in the Eastern District of Missouri as of December 31, 2007: 4,688.

### **Jefferson City Swearing-in Ceremonies**

Special swearing-in ceremonies for new attorneys were conducted jointly with the Western District of Missouri twice during 2007 in Jefferson City, Missouri. On April 28, 2006, sixty-nine (69) attorneys were sworn in by Chief District Judge Carol E. Jackson. Of those sixty-nine attorneys, sixteen have since been admitted to the MOED bar. On September 20, 2007, two hundred and eighteen attorneys (218) were sworn in by Senior District Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh. Of that number, ninety-nine have completed their applications to the MOED. New attorneys are administered the oath of admission to federal court following their admission ceremony before the Missouri Supreme Court.

### **Bar Membership - Quadrennial Re-registration**

Pursuant to Eastern District of Missouri local rule 12.01(D), the quadrennial renewal of the roll of attorneys admitted to practice in this court was commenced in November 2006 and was extended into 2007. Four-thousand, six-hundred and eighty-eight (4,688) attorneys were re-registered. Attorneys who missed the deadline for re-registration were removed from the roll and are required to reapply for admission to the bar and pay the full attorney admission fee.

## SECTION FOUR: CLERK'S OFFICE REPORTS

### DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIT REPORTS

#### Management Retreat and Goal Setting Exercise

Court performance standards and goals for 2007 were established during the annual Fall 2006 Retreat for senior staff.

#### **The Major Long Term Goals for 2007 were:**

- Human resources staffing - reorganize and strengthen the HR unit and add to the management team.
- Judicial support: New judge orientation and survey on CJA, TIP, COOP, ADR, and MDL.
- Prepare for the move into new Cape Girardeau courthouse.

These objectives were partially achieved with the hiring of Kara Holtmeyer in 2007 as a Management Support Deputy and Colin "Coley" Lewis as Policy and Research Analyst (who will begin his employment in January of 2008). Reorganization of the HR unit will take place in 2008 with the hiring of an Human Resource Manager.

The New Judge Orientation program is currently being created by Lori Miller Taylor and Kara Holtmeyer. Program surveys are also being developed for 2008. The target date for the move to the new Cape Courthouse is Spring of 2008.

#### **The Short Term Goals for 2007 were:**

- Streamline process for MDL (multi-district litigation) consolidation of claims.
- Enhance hiring interview process.
- Add CCAM (Civil and Criminal Accounting Module) to FAS<sup>4</sup>T (Financial Accounting System for Tomorrow) for cash receipting and criminal debt management. Training will begin in 2008 on CCAM.
- Update Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP).
- Revival of ADR.

These short term goals have been or are being met as follows:

- Processes are being developed to streamline MDL litigation.
- Procedures will be developed with the new HR Manager to enhance the interview process.
- Training for CCAM will begin in 2008.
- The COOP plan will be reviewed and revised after surveys are returned.
- Plans are underway to revamp and revive ADR in 2008 after surveys are returned.

At the 2007 senior staff retreat additional goals were set with the Court Performance Standards\* in mind:

\* Court Performance Standards were developed by the National Center for State Courts.

**PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND GOALS FOR 2008**

**OVERVIEW**

<b>LONG TERM GOALS FROM 2007</b>	<b>COURT PERFORMANCE STANDARD</b>
CAPE MOVE	<p><b>Standard 4.5 – Response to Change</b>                      The trial court anticipates new conditions and emergent events and adjusts its operations as necessary.</p>
COOP	<p><b>Standard 4.5 – Response to Change</b>                      The trial court anticipates new conditions and emergent events and adjusts its operations as necessary.  <b>Standard 5.1 Accessibility</b>                      The public perceives the trial court and the justice it delivers as accessible.</p>
REVIVAL OF ADR : A SURVEY OF JUDGES	<p><b>Standard 3.1 – Fair and Reliable Judicial Process</b>                      Trial Court Procedures faithfully adhere to relevant laws, procedural rules, and established policies.</p>
<b>LONG TERM GOALS FOR 2008</b>	<b>COURT PERFORMANCE STANDARD</b>
STAFF RECOGNITION	<p><b>Standard 4.3 -- Personnel Practices and Decisions</b>                      The Trial Court uses fair employment practices.</p>
CRIMINAL DUTY STAFFING	<p><b>Standard 4.5 – Response to Change</b>                      The trial court anticipates new conditions and emergent events and adjusts its operations as necessary.</p>
EMPOWERING EMPLOYEES	<p><b>Standard 4.5 – Response to Change</b>                      The trial court anticipates new conditions and emergent events and adjusts its operations as necessary</p>
TECHNOLOGY PLAN	<p><b>Standard 1.3 – Effective Participation</b>                      The Trial Court gives all who appear before it the opportunity to participate effectively, without undue hardship or inconvenience.</p> <p><b>Standard 1.5 – Affordable Costs of Access</b>                      The costs of access to trial court proceedings and records... are reasonable, fair and affordable.</p> <p><b>Standard 4.5 – Response to Change</b>                      The trial court anticipates new conditions and emergent events and adjusts its operations as necessary.</p>
NEW EMPLOYEE CHECKLIST AND ORIENTATION	<p><b>Standard 4.3 -- Personnel Practices and Decisions</b>                      The Trial Court uses fair employment practices.</p>
TRAINING POLICY PROGRAM	<p><b>Standard 1.4 -- Courtesy, Responsiveness, and Respect</b>                      Judges and other court personnel are courteous and responsive to the public, and accord respect to all with whom they come into contact.</p> <p><b>Standard 4.3 -- Personnel Practices and Decisions</b>                      The Trial Court uses fair employment practices.</p>

**Operations Department**

Two employees left operations in 2007 and four new employees were hired. (*See Section 5: Transitions*). Two team leaders, Melanie Berg and Michele Crayton, were promoted to Quality Control positions to enhance the integrity of the court's records. Melanie and Michele will retain their team leader positions in addition to the QC duties.

CM/ECF was upgraded to version 3.1.1, which required staff and chambers training. This major upgrade will allow attorneys to file sealed documents, remotely. This feature will become effective in March, 2008.

Thirty-three (33) Daily Activity Reports (DARs) from the CM/ECF program are quality controlled by case managers each day. Checking the electronic entries for accuracy and conformity is just one aspect of the case managers' job. Court is covered by each case management team member for both district and magistrate judges, electronic recordings are produced for the magistrate proceedings, courtroom minutes are entered, orders and other documents are docketed. Public and attorney contact, in person by telephone or email is also part of the case managers daily routine. The case managers also work with the jury clerks to obtain efficient jury management.

Currently the Operations Department is mentoring the Southern District of Illinois with the implementation of MJSTAR in that court. All aspects of what needs to be accomplished for a successful implementation are being communicated to SDIL so the court will have a smooth transition on their "Go LIVE" date.

Other notable accomplishments achieved by the Operations Department in 2007 were:

- New cases opened:
  - Civil - 2,358.
  - Criminal - 997 (includes probation/supervised release transfers).
  - Miscellaneous - 662.
- Orders processed:
  - 30,848 civil orders.
  - 24,151 criminal orders.
- Electronic filing transactions:
  - Attorneys - 44,491.
  - Court personnel - 125,258.
- Trial starts covered:
  - Civil - 27 jury trials; 7 bench trials.
  - Criminal - 26 jury trials, no bench trials.
- Criminal defendant guilty pleas, sentencings, and judgments processed:
  - Guilty pleas - 901 defendants.
  - Sentencings - 1,007 defendants.
  - Judgments - 1,317 defendants.
- Operations personnel were actively involved with implementation and training for MJSTAR, which went live in June 2007 and with the quadrennial attorney bar membership renewal process.
- Multi-district Litigation (MDL) case management:
  - *In Re: Gen Amer Litigation*
  - *In Re: Bank America Corp*
  - *Minshew et al v. Express Scripts, Inc.*

- *In Re: Air Crash Near Kirksville, Missouri, on October 19, 2004*
- *In Re: Celexa and Lexapro Products Liability Litigation*
- *In Re: LLRICE 601 Contamination Litigation*
- Number of Transcripts filed by Court Reporters in 2007: 679.

### **Administrative Services Department**

Calendar year 2007 was a year of transition and preparation. The financial unit began the year with Pay.gov newly implemented and available for attorneys to process payments through the internet. In January the court implemented the Case Assignment Module in CM/ECF. This implementation began the decentralization of case assignment duties from the cashier to various clerks assigned specific case opening duties. The initial transition involved only civil case assignment duties. Later in the year criminal case assignment duties were also transitioned to case opening clerks. The remaining miscellaneous and other case assignment duties will be taken over by the case opening clerks in 2008.

The financial unit has been anxiously waiting for the implementation of CCAM (Civil and Criminal Accounting Module) which will be used to track criminal debt. In anticipation of this implementation much time has been devoted to the review and completeness of criminal debt records in this court. In the spring of 2007 the financial unit obtained the primary conversion software from the AO which allowed the initial development of an automated tool to move records from our legacy system into the conversion system. The financial unit is continuing this process into 2008 as we officially join a CCAM implementation wave. Our conversion is scheduled to go live in June 2008 or possibly sooner.

The procurement unit worked diligently to receive, schedule and oversee the installation of new furniture for the new Cape Girardeau courthouse, originally scheduled to open in 2007. New furnishings are in place and ready for occupancy. The moving of the existing furniture has been coordinated for the occupancy of the new courthouse and awaits final scheduling in 2008.

The procurement unit worked with chambers staff to procure and install many new furniture selections as requested. The attorney witness rooms for all courtrooms and several other high traffic areas were repainted during the year. The jury assembly room was also enhanced with new training tables and upgrades to the video and audio systems. These changes make the room more versatile and accommodating for a variety of training needs.

### **The finance unit's disbursing support and payment certification were continued during the year for the ten agencies supported:**

- The District Court, the Bankruptcy Court, the Probation Office, the Pretrial Services Office and the Federal Public Defender's Office.
- The offices of the 8th Circuit - the Circuit Executive's Office, the Court of Appeals, the Circuit Librarian, the Staff Attorney and the Bankruptcy Appellant Panel.

### **Finance unit transactions during calendar year 2007:**

- Restitution program: \$3,057,490.35 was collected. Restitution payments were made to 4,717 victims in the amount of \$3,207,766.60. The restitution balance (to be paid to victims) as of December 31, 2007 was \$190,058.87.
- Support for CJA-appointed attorneys: 604 CJA vouchers processed in 2007 with payments totaling \$2,521,671.12, compared to 575 CJA vouchers processed in 2006 with payments totaling \$2,164,187.92.
- Checks issued: 16,960; Receipts issued: 11,285.
- Bonds posted: 132
- Admission fees processed for newly admitted attorneys: 351; admission fees processed for attorneys who were granted pro hac vice admission: 832. Attorney re-registration was also completed in 2007, re-registering 4,688 attorneys and receipting re-registration fees in the amount of \$93,760.
- *(See Telephone Interpreting Program (TIP) Section II: Serving the Bench).*

### **Information Systems Department (ISD)**

ISD is a combined unit that not only provides information technology support to the District Court, but also serves the Probation Office, and the Pretrial Services Office. ISD also provides technical “help desk” support to attorneys and their support staffs, primarily in the realm of electronic case filing.

A new video system was designed by ISD and installed in the Jury Assembly Room to allow the room to be used for training events. Two 50-inch plasma monitors and six, 42-inch monitors were included in the design, to accommodate high-tech presentations for large groups.

The Evidence Presentation Systems (EPS) in each courtroom were replaced with new carts and new equipment. Each courtroom now has an EPS. All courtroom 37-inch courtroom monitors were upgraded to 42-inch plasma monitors. Two portable video conference carts were also installed along with a new, centralized videoconferencing equipment for courtroom and conference room use.

Two Emergency Response Kits, configured with laptops, first aid kits, satellite phones and other equipment were created for the Clerk of Court and the ISD Director to use to keep the District Court operational in the event of a natural disaster or terrorist threat.

ISD staff, in partnership with the operations department, prepared and presented training for the new CM/ECF case opening feature and other features of CM/ECF Version 3.1.1. Development of the E-ProSe (Electronic Filing for Pro Se Litigants ) program continues. When completed the E-ProSe program will provide unrepresented (pro se) litigants the ability to complete court documents for electronic filing. Features of the program are:

- Interactive dialogue preparation of court documents and interface with CM/ECF.
- Touchscreen capabilities.
- Simplified questions for data entry.

- Automatic preparation of pleadings from the data entered.
- Quality control of documents by court staff.

ISD staffers, with input from Website Redesign Committee members, redesigned the District Court's website to create a true "home page" that facilitates the public's ability to access information about the court. The new website was launched in February 2007. The MOED Intranet website, for internal court use, was also revamped.

**Cyclical replacement:**

- Fifteen laptops (For use by those Tele-commuting).
- Fifty-one desktop computers (29 in district judge chambers; 22 in the Clerk's Office).
- Fourteen printers (Chambers, 7; Cape Girardeau office, 2; Clerk's Office, 5).
- Seven computers for FTR Gold (Digital Recording System used in Magistrate Courtrooms).
- Seven Scanners (Chambers, 3; Clerk's Office, 4).

**Internal training during 2007:**

- New probation officer training.
- New law clerk training.
- Computer security training.
- Developed and delivered CM/ECF training for version upgrade.
- Corel Presentation training.
- JРАН training
- JOU (Judicial Online University) training.
- Judges' laptop training.
- Website training for Fundamentals of Federal Practice Seminar.

**External training during 2007:**

- Training on new CM/ECF case opening feature (both at Eagleton courthouse and at large law firms).
- Nine ISD staff members attended National Court Information Technology Conference.
- Three ISD staff members attended the National Court Technology Conference.
- Four ISD staff members attended Perl training.

**Support for move into new Cape Girardeau courthouse:**

- Coordinated vendor installation of audiovisual system and provided information to vendor.
- Coordinated vendor installation of data and telecommunications cables and provided information to vendor.
- Coordinated the installation of the infrastructure for the building's local area network.

**CM/ECF support:**

- Implemented the case assignment module.
- Installed version 3.0.5 and 3.1.1.

**JMS (Judicial Management System):**

- Consolidated the JMS and CM/ECF Servers.

**CCAM (Civil and Criminal Accounting Module):**

- Worked with Finance to convert existing data from spreadsheets to conversion software for installation of CCAM.

**Management Support**

Management Support is a diverse department that performs various duties including human resources, training coordination, attorney admissions, naturalization support, courthouse tours coordination, ADR/community outreach coordination, policy/research analysis, and telecommunications service. Management Support gained one new employee in 2007. (*See Section 5*).

**The Management Support Unit:**

- Obtained traveling exhibits from various lenders for the Judicial Learning Center and together with procurement personnel, set up and arranged those exhibits.
- Produced posters and brochures for exhibits hosted by the JLC.
- Assisted in the attorney re-registration project.
- Maintained of the Self-Help Resource Center.
- Provide scanning, docketing, appeal processing and intake assistance.
- Maintained attorney E-filing registration forms and provided log-ins and passwords to registered attorneys.
- Arranged and clerked at naturalization ceremonies.
- Updated and maintained Hannibal Court docket.
- Revised several in-house manuals, brochures and pamphlets.
- Assisted with the CJA Seminar and Federal Practice Seminar.
- Developed a Trivia Slide Show for Law Day.
- Worked with Operations Support Unit to create State of the Docket Reports.
- Provided case reports to various public researchers.
- Coordinated with Outside Agencies to provide Courtrooms for Administrative Law Judges' use.
- Provided CM/ECF Dictionary Support along with Operations Support.
- Performed Disbursing Clerk duties.
- Prepared annual report with input from Managers and other staff members.
- Tabulated data from various court surveys.

**Human Resources/Training Coordinator:**

- Processed new hires and retirees and provided necessary documentation to AO.
- Disseminated information on various opportunities offered through the Employee Health Unit, as well as information on Employee Benefits.
- Assisted with the Annual Health Fair.
- Planned Law Clerk Retreat and Orientation.
- Scheduled and provided tours to public groups.
- Together with ISD, developed and coordinated CM/ECF Training for attorneys, staff and chambers, as well as other types of training (e.g. Diversity, How to Deal with Difficult People, etc.).

### **Community Outreach Coordinator/ADR/DCM Coordinator:**

- Planned and conducted outreach programs for first year law students from Washington University in St. Louis and for the court's participation in the nationally observed Law Day program.
- Produced Reports on the Court's ADR program.
- Reserved ADR Conference Rooms for attorney use.
- Staff support for ADR Advisory Committee.

### **Telecommunications Analyst Projects:**

- Wiring of all USDC courtrooms was completed to provide for Video Teleconference (VTC) access, at a moments notice, and to conduct court sessions remotely when necessary.
- Maintained entire TFE Courthouse telecommunications network.
- Planning for telecommunication systems in the new Cape Girardeau courthouse.

### **Jury Unit:**

In 2007, 24,000 qualification questionnaires were sent out to prospective jurors and 10,353 summonses for jury service were issued.

The Jury Unit of the Eastern District of Missouri joined the AO's Web Page Project Team working to develop on-line access for jurors to complete qualification and summons information forms, query their status, obtain information and reporting instructions.

The jury assembly room was also revamped in 2007, adding plasma screens and portable tables which serve the dual purpose of providing convenience to jurors and making the space more suitable for hosting large employee and attorney training programs.

Wireless Internet access was added for juror use in the Jury Assembly Room. Several past juror exit surveys had suggested in the "comments" section of the survey that providing internet access would make waiting time more productive for jurors.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

### **Habitat for Humanity Project**

On May 19, 2007, a group of 19 volunteers from the Clerk's Office staff donated their time and sweat equity on a renovation project for Habitat for Humanity in the Mark Twain neighborhood of North St. Louis. The assignment was to help remove debris and old flooring from a former police station being converted to a community center in an impoverished neighborhood. Many of the volunteers had been involved in last year's project. Clerk's Office staffers commented on the strong sense of accomplishment that volunteering gives them. The Habitat for Humanity community service project is so popular it has become a yearly event, allowing staffers to relate in a setting much different from the office, yet instilling teamwork and comradery which carries over to the workplace. The work is hard, dirty and satisfying.



*Habitat for Humanity staffers, Clerk's Office volunteers and others work on their assigned project for 2007*

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**ARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS**

The following private contributions were made in 2007 as a result of the Hospitality Committee's fund-raising efforts and the generosity of our employees:

<i>Memorials:</i>	<b>\$450.00</b>
St. Jude's Children's Hospital	50.00
United Methodist Church	50.00
Alzheimer's Association	100.00
VFW Foundation	50.00
Human Society of Missouri	50.00
American Kidney Foundation	50.00
American Stroke Association	50.00
American Heart Association	50.00
 <i>Donations to Habitat for Humanity:</i>	 \$ 50.00
 <i>Fund-raisers:</i>	 \$491.00
Multiple Sclerosis Walk for Faith	125.00
Cystic Fibrosis Walk	50.00
Susan G. Komen Foundation	316.00
 <b>Total Charitable Contributions in 2007:</b>	 <b>\$991.00</b>



**Office Donations to Probation Office Programs**

Through the efforts of the office's Hospitality Committee, dozens of coats were collected for the annual Probation Office Coat and Clothing Drive and nine boxes of canned and dry goods were collected for the Probation Office's Food Pantry.

The donated coats, clothing, food and dry goods are given to offenders under the supervision of the Probation Office to help them and their families make the transition from prison back into mainstream society.



## **BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY**

On July 26, 2007, the Clerk's Office held its annual "Bring Your Child to Work Day". Sixteen children of employees arrived at the courthouse with their parents, anxious to see what their moms and dads do at the courthouse.

The day started off with donuts in the Jury Assembly Room, then it was off to Judge E. Richard Webber's courtroom to witness a sentencing. Following the proceeding, Judge Webber graciously allowed the group to visit his chambers and spoke with the children about the duties of a District Court Judge.

A tour of the St. Louis branch of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was the highlight of the day for the children. They viewed weapons seized during various raids, sat in a surveillance van, and visited the FBI control room.

After lunch, the kids donned Judges' robes and had their pictures taken on the bench. Everyone then participated in a mock trial complete with jury deliberations and the return of a verdict. Assistant U.S. Attorney Tiffany Becker wrapped things up by giving a very interesting overview of the United States Attorney's Office.

Before they left for the day, everyone enjoyed ice cream sundaes in the Jury Assembly Room. The children had a wonderful time and were all anticipating next year's event.





## TEAM DEVELOPMENT - INNSBROOK

On July 17th and 18th Clerk's Office staffers headed for Innsbrook Resort for the third annual team development experience, arranged by the Team Building Committee. Attendance was voluntary with court coverage being provided by those who could not or chose not to attend. The facilitators were employees of "Team Builders" of Webster Groves, Missouri.

After everyone had settled into their condos on the first evening, the group met back at the main lodge for a hula-hoop ice-breaker and dinner. After dinner there was free time. Many staffers gathered at the lake front for refreshments, snacks and a sand volleyball game.



The work continued on day two after a hearty breakfast. This year's team activities included sand sculpting your ideal work place, canoe limbo, blindfolded/guiding exercises, in tandem skiing, and a newspaper clothing competition. At the lunch break, the fare was "ballpark food" then it was back to work.

Employees enjoyed working with fellow employees they usually do not interact with as a team and learning a little more about themselves as well as their coworkers.



## CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING

Training on the *Code of Conduct for Judicial Employees* was presented on May 22, 23 and 24 of 2007 to all employees of the Clerk's Office. The training was presented by Sandy Louis, Attorney Advisor for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri.



The code is a statement of the standards of professional practice or behavior adopted by the judiciary for its employees to ensure fairness, impartiality and competence in the performance of duties. The code derives from ethical obligations to serve the public, serve our employer and not to use power to serve our own interest.

Five ethical canons, gift regulations and honoraria regulations comprise the code. The code applies to all judicial employees except justices and employees of the Supreme Court, federal judges and employees of the AO, FJC, Sentencing Commission and the Public Defenders Office. The Judicial Conference of the United States Courts adopted the current Code of Conduct in 1995. The current code consolidated five prior codes and became effective January 1, 1996.

Each team/unit/department was required to develop at least one hypothetical fact situation that illustrated a real life (if not actual) circumstance that would present an ethical dilemma related to the work of that group. The topical areas considered for the hypothetical were: Gifts, Confidentiality, Misuse of Official Position, Outside Employment, Outside Activities and Political Activity. The hypotheticals had to be based on a realistic set of circumstances reflecting the areas of work for which each group is responsible. The scenarios were used as part of the group discussion during the training. Each sessions generated lively discussion and thoughtful insights about the ethical obligations of court employees.

The programs objectives were to:



- Anticipate situations that could present ethical dilemmas for employees of the judiciary.
- Describe the behaviors required by the Code of Conduct for Judicial Employees.
- Analyze situations in terms of the guidelines in the code to determine an appropriate course of action.

## FEDERAL COURT CLERK'S ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Four members of the Clerk's Office attended the 2007 FCCA Conference in Tempe, Arizona: Mike Newsham of ISD, Laura Robinson of Finance, Stephanie Jones of Operations Support, and Burma Wilkins of Jury. The attendees were chosen for their contributions to special projects and committee assignments.

The conference was held June 23rd through June 28th at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel in Arizona.

On Monday, the 25th, the group attended a morning meeting for first time FCCA conference attendees. The rest of the day was filled with a welcome by Chief Judge John M. Roll, D. AZ. and Chief Judge Mary M. Schroeder (9th Cir. COA), personal and professional development workshops and an evening with retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

Tuesday and Wednesday were filled with personal and professional development workshops. Thursday, the 28th, the conference came to a close after plenary sessions, workshops, a business meeting, free afternoon and a farewell cocktail reception and dinner dance.



*Stephanie, Laura and Burma*



*Mike*

## **SECTION FIVE: TRANSITIONS**

### **NEW HIRES**

#### **Chambers**

Lolita Flinn, previously the Judicial Assistant for Judge Audrey Fleissig, moved into her new position as Judicial Assistant to U.S. District Judge Shaw. Lolita fills the position which opened with the retirement of Carole Peek.

Sara Armbrecht was hired as Judicial Assistant to U.S. Magistrate Judge Audrey Fleissig to fill the position which became vacant with Lolita moving to Judge Shaw's Chambers.

#### **Clerk's Office**

Kara Holtmeyer, who worked as an intern in the Clerk's Office for three months, fills the Management Support position left vacant with the passing of Mary Finocchairo.

Operations gained the most new employees in 2007 with the addition of Kelley Foresyth in the Sippel/Limbaugh/Medler Team, Tim Christopher joined the Hamilton/Autrey/Fleissig Team, Ron Douglas became the newest member of the Perry/Webber/Mummert Team and Nathan LaNassa was added to the Shaw/Stohr/Buckles Team.

Scott Moore joins ISD as the Senior Programmer Analyst. Tim LaBeaume, ISD Technical Support rounds out the new staffers.

#### **Pro Se Unit**

Lee Ann Zigler replaced John Taylor as one of the District Court's Pro Se Law Clerks.

### **RETIREMENTS**

#### **Chambers**

Carole Peek, Judicial Assistant to Judge Shaw retired on October 31, 2007 after forty-two (42) years of dedicated service to the Court. Carole's wit and laughter will be greatly missed at the Courthouse.

### **DEPARTURES**

#### **Clerk's Office**

Chris Ahring of the Sippel/Limbaugh/ Medler Team left the district court after 9 years of service. Chris wanted to spend more time with her children. Laura Wildermuth, former Team Leader for the Jackson/Adelman/Noce Team took a position with the Office of the Public Defender for the

Southern District of Illinois after 10 years at the MOED. Mike Penick, of the Management Support Team, left his position as Policy and Research Analyst to continue work on his PhD. Mike was with the Court for 6 years.

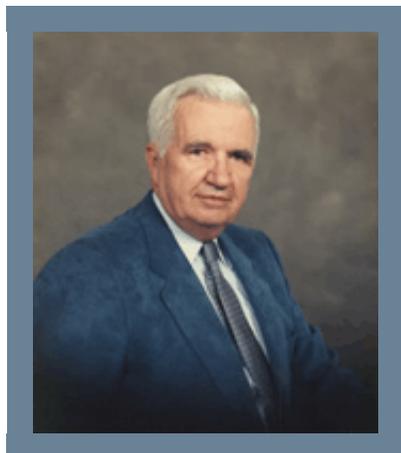
### **Pro Se Unit**

Pro Se Law Clerk John Taylor left the Eastern District of Missouri after almost 16 years of service to take a position as Pro Se Law Clerk with the Southern District of Illinois.

### **IN MEMORIAM**

The Honorable William Leonard Hungate was a District Judge with the Eastern District of Missouri from 1979 until his retirement in 1992.

Born December 14, 1922 in Benton, Illinois, Judge Hungate began his higher education with an A.B. from the University of Missouri in 1943. He served in the United States Army from 1943 until 1946 and received the Combat Infantryman Badge, three Battle Stars and the Bronze Star.



He went on to Harvard Law School and received his LL.B in 1948 and was in private practice in Troy, Missouri from 1948 until 1968. In 1969, he was awarded a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Harvard Law School.

Other highlights of the judge's professional career include serving as Prosecuting Attorney for Lincoln County, Missouri from 1951 to 1956, Special Assistant State Attorney General for the State of Missouri from 1958 to 1964, U.S. Representative for Missouri's Tenth Congressional District from 1964 to 1977.

Judge Hungate was a member of the House Judiciary Committee, and was the principal author of one of the three articles of impeachment of President Richard M. Nixon. He was the Chair of the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Criminal Justice. This "Hungate Subcommittee", as it became known, investigated the presidential pardon of Nixon by Nixon's successor, Gerald R. Ford in 1974. The judge returned to private practice in St. Louis, Missouri from 1977 until 1979.

In 1979, he was nominated by then President Jimmy Carter on May 17, 1979 to a new seat on the district court bench. He was confirmed by the Senate on September 25, 1979 and received commission on September 26, 1979. He assumed Senior status on October 1, 1991. The Judge's service terminated on June 30, 1992, due to retirement. He remained active in the St. Louis legal and political community. Judge Hungate passed away on June 22, 2007 at the age of 84.

**DEDICATION OF MEMORIAL PLAQUE  
AND PLANTING OF REMEMBRANCE TREE  
IN HONOR OF MARY FINOCCHIANO**

Mary E. Finocchiaro passed away on Thursday, December 7, 2006, at the age of 52. Mary began her service to the Court on October 27, 1986. Mary was a devoted member of the Clerk's Office Staff with over twenty years of court service. On March 31, 2007 a dogwood tree was planted on the grounds of the Eagleton Courthouse in Mary's memory. Bridget and Joseph Finocchairo, Mary's children, were present at the ceremony as was Senior District Judge Edward L. Filippine, for whom Mary served as administrative assistant. Members of the Clerk's Office and Court Family attended this memorial ceremony to honor Mary's friendship and years of dedication to the Court.



*Friends Gather at  
the Memorial  
Ceremony*



*Clerk of Court Jim Woodward  
Addresses Mary's  
Friends and Family*



