

## **February 2010 Bar News**

### **NEW CRIMINAL COURT COMMISSIONER**

Superior Court welcomes our new Criminal Court Commissioner Patrick H. Oishi. Commissioner Oishi was selected to fill this grant funded Criminal Commissioner position. He received his JD from Seattle University School of Law and a B.A. from Seattle University. For over 12 years, Commissioner Oishi worked as Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for Pierce County involved in a number of different trial units. For the last year he was in a civil litigation practice in Seattle. Commissioner Oishi brings with him over 13 years of experience in criminal and civil litigation. Please join the court in welcoming him.

### **NEW CRIMINAL CALENDARS**

On January 6, 2010, Superior Court implemented new criminal calendars and proceeding limits in Criminal Division 1 (CD1) and Criminal Division 2 (CD2). The criminal commissioner will preside in CD2, courtroom 270. The Superior Court judges will rotate the CD1 assignment, which will be located in courtroom 250. CDPJ will remain in courtroom 260. Please visit the Pierce County Superior Court webpage to see the new calendar examples. Calendar proceeding types and limits are subject to change and will be updated as changes occur.

### **NEW PROCEDURE FOR COURT TRANSCRIPTS FROM CRIMINAL DIVISION 2**

The official record now for Criminal Division 2, Courtroom 270 is CourtSmart Digital recording systems. If you want a transcript from a proceeding heard before Commissioner Oishi, please contact the Clerk of the Superior Court in room 110 to request a recording of the proceeding.

### **2011 and 2012 PRESIDING JUDGE**

The Judges elected Judge Bryan Chushcoff to a second consecutive term as Presiding Judge. Judge Chushcoff began his second year as Presiding Judge in January 2010. With the recent election he will serve through 2012.

### **CORRECTION TO 2010 JUVENILE COURT JUDGES**

Judge Beverly Grant has taken over as Presiding Judge and Judge Thomas Larkin assumed the position of Assistant Presiding Judge at Remann Hall, not Judge van Doorninck as reported in the January Bar News.

### **REMINDER – JUDGES' WORKING COPIES**

Reminder that judges' working copies should include the date of the motion/hearing pursuant to PCLR 7(7).

### **NEW - NATURE OF HEARING OPTIONS TO BE REQUIRED FOR COMMISSIONER AND JUDGE CALENDARS**

The court will soon complete the testing phase for the new "Nature of Hearing" options that will appear on all electronically filed Notes for Commissioner's Calendar and Note

for Judge's Motion Calendar early February. Once implemented, you will be required to select one or more "Nature of Hearing" description options from the LINX web page to set a Show Cause or Motion and e-file your Note. Examples of some of those options are: "Child Support", "Spousal Maintenance", "Parenting Plan", etc. Notice of implementation will be posted on Superior Court's Home web page and the LINX Public web site.

### **GUARDIAN AD LITEM CERTIFIED REGISTRIES**

Applications for the RCW 26.09 Guardian ad Litem/Parenting Investigator and the RCW 11.88 Guardian ad Litem Certified Registries will be accepted January 1, 2010 through March 24, 2010. Both Certified Registries are effective July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011. You may obtain your application packet in Superior Court Administration, 334 County City Building, Tacoma, WA 98402 or on the website at: [www.co.pierce.wa.us/superior](http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/superior)

Only applications with the revision date of 11/9/09 will be accepted. All new applicants and former registry members not currently serving on the RCW 11.88 Certified Registry and the RCW 26.09 Guardian ad Litem/Parenting Investigator Certified Registry must complete the "new applicant" application packet and supply all written documentation including a resume. All current members on the Certified Registries must complete the "renewal" application packet, submit a resume, and an updated residential history. The application period closes on Friday, March 24, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. All application must be submitted by the close of business to the Superior Court Administrator. No late applications shall be considered. If you have not attended the required training by the application closing date, you may timely submit your application and indicate when and where you will be attending the training. Once the training is completed, you must immediately forward a copy of your Certificate of Attendance to the Superior Court Administrator.

### **2009 PRO TEM SETTLEMENT VOLUNTEERS**

Attention Superior Court Pro Tem Volunteers: Please put January 27, 2010, on your planner for noon in Room 100 for an appreciation lunch for all your hard work in 2009. Your contribution to the justice system is truly appreciated by those who have benefited from your good work. Scores of civil cases have been settled in a timely fashion which would otherwise still be floundering in the system. We will have year end figures to share. The Pro Tem Committee hopes to see you there. Please call 798.3605 to RSVP.

### **26.09 GAL TRAINING FOR THOSE ON THE CURRENT GAL REGISTRY**

All meetings will be held at noon the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month in courtroom 100 unless notified otherwise. If you have specific issues you would like the GAL panel to address at meetings, please forward them to Kristine Maine (County-City Building, Room 334) in advance.

#### February 18, 2010

Dr. Marian Harris will speak on Issues facing African-American families in our community. Dr. Harris is an Assistant Professor at the U of WA in Tacoma, School of Social Work. She has served on several committees regarding race/family structure and

disproportionality including Co-Chair for the WA State Advisory Committee for Disproportionality.

No training in March, 2010.

April 15, 2010

Susan Adams, Director for the Crystal Judson Center will speak on Domestic Violence: Considerations for Parenting Plans & Custody Issues.

### **LOCAL COURT RULE CHANGES**

Please note in the recognition of fiscal constraints, all proposed local court rule changes will be published on the Superior Court website at: [www.co.pierce.wa.us/superior](http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/superior) then click on Proposed Local Rule Changes. Submit any comments on the proposed rule changes within the timeframe set forth on the website.

### **WANTED ATTORNEYS WILLING TO REPRESENT MINORS IN SEXUAL ASSAULT PROTECTION ORDER (PRO BONO)**

If you are willing to represent minors in sexual assault protection order matters, pro bono, please submit your interest to Andra Motyka, Superior Court Administrator, 930 Tacoma Avenue South, Room 334, Tacoma, WA 98402.

### **COURTHOUSE TOUR VOLUNTEERS WANTED**

Pierce County Superior Court is hoping to find energetic people that have some time to share with their community as a Courthouse Tour Guide. Introducing students to court and court proceedings can be a life changing experience and volunteers are critical to make this happen. This opportunity is a rewarding and enjoyable community service for the children and youth of Pierce County. Training will be provided. Retired educators and people from the legal community are encouraged to apply. For more information, please call 798-3654, press 7.