

January 2011

## **CHANGES, CHANGES.....**

### **2011 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMPOSITION**

The 2011 Executive Committee is: Presiding Judge Bryan Chushcoff, Judges: Ronald Culpepper, Vicki Hogan, Kathryn Nelson and John Hickman.

### **2011 CRIMINAL DIVISION PRESIDING JUDGES**

CDPJ will be shared in 2011. Judge Frank Cuthbertson is taking the first half of 2011 and Judge Edmund Murphy will assume the second half. During their tenure as CDPJ, they will be located in Courtroom 260.

### **2011 JUVENILE COURT JUDGES**

Judge Kitty-Ann van Doorninck is taking over as Presiding Judge and Judge Thomas Felnagle has assumed the position of Assistant Presiding Judge at Remann Hall.

### **2011 DRUG COURT JUDGE**

Judge Thomas Larkin begins 2011 as the drug court judge.

### **2011 FAMILY COURT JUDGES**

Judge Kathryn Nelson and Judge James Orlando are the family court judges.

### **2011 PRESIDING COURT COMMISSIONER**

Commissioner Mary Dicke is the 2011 Presiding Court Commissioner.

### **NEWEST COURT COMMISSIONER**

Wendy Zicht was sworn in as the newest court commissioner on January 6, 2011 at 4:00. Congratulations and Welcome!

### **JUDGE GARY STEINER RETIRES**

Judge Steiner's contributions to the bench over the years are innumerable; he will certainly be missed. He was appointed November 20, 1981 and will retire at the end of January. Among many of the awards he has received throughout his tenure, in 2006, he was named "Outstanding Judge" by the Washington State Bar Association. Judge Steiner was instrumental in the creation of the Pierce County Superior Court Drug Court and most recently creation of the Veterans Court. A reception is planned for January 27, 2011 at 4:00-5:00 p.m. in Courtroom 100; stop by and wish him well!

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Judges James Orlando and Frank Cuthbertson have both been named to the new Washington State Partnership on Juvenile Justice. The Governor's Office has established the Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice, through Executive Order 10-03 (This entity replaces the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Council.) Through collaborative leadership and direction, the Partnership Council will be charged to provide a strong, proactive role, recommending innovative juvenile justice reforms and best practices for implementation.

### **MINOR SETTLEMENTS/SPECIAL NEEDS TRUSTS**

Reminder: Commissioners, not judges handle minor settlements and the creation of special needs trusts that includes appointment of minor settlement GALs.

### **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 3, 2011 through March 24, 2011. Both Certified Registries are effective July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012. 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 12/1/2010 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 Thursday, March 24, 2011 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.

### **THANK YOU PRO TEM PRO BONO SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS**

The 45 Pro Tem Pro Bono Settlement Conference volunteers have put it **many, many** hours to aid the court and the litigants. As of November 30, 2010, the volunteer attorneys have conducted 74 settlement conferences; 32 settled, 42 did not. All the effort is greatly appreciated!!

### **FILLABLE PDF CRIMINAL DOCUMENTS**

The following forms Superior Court criminal forms are fill-able PDF documents: Felony Non-Sex Plea, Felony Sex Plea, Misdemeanor Plea, the Attachment B and Criminal Scheduling Order. The forms are available online at [www.co.pierce.wa.us/superior](http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/superior). To access the fill-able PDFs select the “Forms” link located under the “Information” section. These fill-able forms allow the user to fill in the pertinent information, save and print the form for proper submission to Superior Court. If you have questions regarding the use of the fill-able forms please contact DCM at 798.2988