

CONGRATULATIONS JUDGE TOLLEFSON

Judge Brian Tollefson received his Masters in Judicial Studies from the University of Nevada, Reno, December, 2009 graduating with a 3.92 GPA.

APPRECIATION LUNCH

On January 27 the Court held an appreciation lunch for the 31 retired judges and attorneys who volunteered their time in 2009 to conduct settlement conferences. A total of 97 settlement conferences were held with a settlement rate of 45%. The work performed by these individuals was a significant help to the court but even more so to the litigants. Hats off to them – Heather Young, Joe Quaintance, Joe Sloan, Randy Hansen, Hillary Holmes, Donald Thompson, Charles Brocato, Larry Couture, Rob Nettleton, Terrence McCarthy, Brad Maxa, Craig Beetham, Michael Scholl, Robin Balsam, George Kelley, John Cain, Ron Thompson, Tim Edwards, James Cushing, John Purbaugh, Ret. Judge Sergio Armijo, Ret. Judge Waldo Stone, Toni Froehling, Elizabeth Martin, Michael Riggio, Phil Sloan, Larry Little, Daniel Smith, Kevin Boyle, Douglas Tufts, Clint Johnson, Ron Ripley.

COMMISSIONER COURT ITEMS:

Ex Parte Orders

Pro tem commissioners will not sign ex parte orders that are unrelated to their docket. Ex Parte orders are to be handled in the Ex Parte Department, Courtroom 105.

Working Copies for the Commissioners

As a reminder, working copies are due by noon two court days prior to the hearing date to Commissioner Services Department in Room 140. When submitting working copies, a Note for Commissioner's Calendar must be attached to each set of copies and indicate on the upper right corner who is delivering the paper (*moving party* or *opposing party*).
PCLR 0.4(1)(D)

Order Continuing Hearing

Anytime the Court continues any hearing, a responsible party must schedule a hearing by filing a Note for Commissioner's Calendar on the date the order was signed. If the cap on the docket has been reached, a copy of the Order and a Note for Commissioner Docket must be given to Commissioner Services Department in Room 140.

26.09 GAL TRAINING FOR THOSE ON THE CURRENT GAL REGISTRY

All meetings will be held at noon the 3rd 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.

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 are to be published on the Superior Court website at: www.co.pierce.wa.us/superior then click on Proposed Local Rule Changes.

These proposed changes are the result of a comprehensive review of the local rules in order to clean up awkward and outdated language and to comply with existing practices for family law, guardianship, probate and minor settlement matter. Please submit any comments on the proposed rule changes before 4:30 p.m. March 31, 2010 to Commissioner Robyn A. Lindsay, Chair, Local Rules Committee. Notice: All comments will be provided to the Judges and Court Commissioners. Thereafter, the Local Rules Committee will review and consider all comments as deemed necessary. The proposed changes will then be presented at a meeting of all the judges.

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.