

May 2011

### **CONGRATULATIONS GAROLD E. JOHNSON**

By now most of you have probably learned that Governor Gregoire appointed Garold E. Johnson as the newest Department 10 judge. His public swearing in ceremony will take place in the County-City Building on May 12, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.; the exact location will be posted. He has already been involved in his orientation and is eager to begin.

### **GUARDIAN AD LITEM TRAINING**

GAL training is scheduled on the third Thursday of each month. May's training is set for Thursday, May 19, 2011 at noon in Courtroom 315 (CCB); speaker is Dr. Wendy Hutchins-Cook and the topic will be High Conflict Families and Resolutions.

### **WHAT HAPPENED ON A SUNNY SATURDAY IN MARCH?**

#### **ANSWER: THE SUPERIOR COURT SPRING RETREAT**

Superior Court Judges and Commissioners spent Saturday, March 12, 2011, concentrating on four of its strategic plan goals and discussing specific ideas how each might be accomplished:

- Goal 1.1 The Court will be structured and will function in a manner that best facilitates the expeditious, economical and fair resolution of disputes.
- Goal 4.1 To improve communications and cooperation with other branches of government.
- Goal 4.4 To improve communications and cooperation with the legal community.
- Goal 7.1: The Court will increase its community outreach.

Part of the afternoon was devoted to a report on the 2010 Family Court given by Judge Hickman and a report of Juvenile Court given by Judge van Doorninck. The afternoon included a discussion of longer panel rotations.

### **COURT INFORMATION DESK VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

Pierce County Superior Court, District Court and Tacoma Municipal Court are seeking volunteers to work at the information desks on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floors of the County City Building. The goal of this project is to assist building visitors in finding what they need and to provide general information to anyone visiting the building. Volunteers are requested to make a minimum commitment of 5 hours per week. Volunteer service is contingent upon successfully passing a background check. The program was funded by a grant from the State Administrative Office of the Courts. If you are interested in this program or know of someone who might be, please contact Mary Madden at Pierce County Superior Court; (253) 798-2991 or email at [mmadden@co.pierce.wa.us](mailto:mmadden@co.pierce.wa.us)