



THE  
15<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
OF FLORIDA



NEWS BULLETIN OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

# CIRCUIT COURIER

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## Three Long Time Jurists Retire

### ***Hon. Joseph Marx***

The Hon. Joe Marx's last official day with the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit was January 31, 2022.

Many of you know that Judge Joe Marx is a very highly respected jurist in this Circuit. He consistently received high marks from the Bar and usually had one of the lowest caseloads, due to his diligent case management.

After graduating from the University of Florida with his B.A. and J.D., Judge Marx was in private practice with Burman, Critton, Luttier, and Coleman. He then joined the State Attorney's office where he became the Chief of Organized Crime and the Chief of the Vice Unit. He worked as an Assistant State Attorney for over twelve years. In 2003, former Governor Bush appointed him to the County bench. He served in both the county civil and county criminal divisions before being appointed to the Circuit bench in July 2009 by former Governor Crist. While on the Circuit bench, among other highlights, Judge Marx served as the Administrative Judge of the Circuit Civil Division, presided over the Circuit Mental Health Court, and served as a Mentor Judge. In 2019, he received the Jurist of the Year from the North County Section of the Palm Beach Bar Association.



Hon. Joseph Marx

The Circuit thanks Judge Marx for his long service to the community of Palm Beach County, for his dedication to his role as a Judge, and for helping to maintain the reputation of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit as a Circuit of intelligent and professional jurists.



Hon. Leonard Hanser

### ***Hon. Leonard Hanser***

The Hon. Leonard Hanser's last day with the Circuit was February 28, 2022. Judge Hanser first started with the Circuit as a Magistrate. He was appointed to that position by former Judge Jack Cook and served as a Magistrate for sixteen years. On December 1, 2009, he was then appointed to the County bench by then Governor Charlie Crist to fill the vacancy created by the elevation of the Hon. Joe Marx from the County to the Circuit bench. Judge Hanser served on the County Criminal and County Civil bench. The Circuit appreciated Judge Hanser's diligence and dedication to his County position. We wish him a long and healthy retirement.

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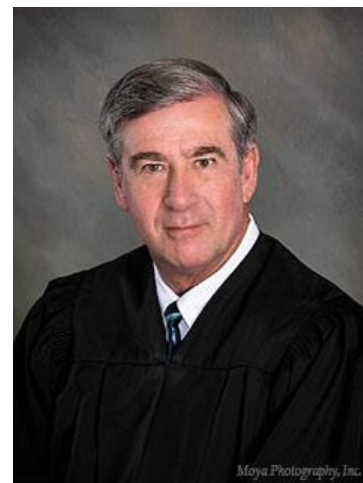
Hon. Mark Eissey

### ***Hon. Mark Eissey***

The Hon. Mark Eissey's last official day with the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit was January 31, 2022. Judge Eissey served as a prosecutor with the State Attorney's Office in Palm Beach County for seventeen years. On January 4, 2005, he was appointed to the County Court bench by then Governor Jeb Bush. He loved being a trial judge. The Judges and court staff will miss Judge Eissey and his humor. The Circuit appreciates all of his years of service on the bench, his dedication to his role as a Judge, and his passion for presiding over jury trials.

## **Chief Judge Kelley Holds a Town Hall**

On January 26, Chief Judge Kelley presented at the Palm Beach County Bar Association's Town Hall. The Chief discussed with the attendees the "Report for Improved Resolution of Civil Cases." The 184-page report, drafted by Supreme Court of Florida Judicial Management Council Workgroup, contains considerable changes proposed for the civil arena. The Workgroup was ordered by the Florida Supreme Court to focus on a long-range strategic goal to "ensure the fair and timely resolution of all cases through effective management" and to "utilize caseload and other workload information to manage resources and promote accountability."



Chief Judge Glenn Kelley

## Judge Silver takes the Bench



Hon. Ori Silver

Governor DeSantis appointed the Hon. Ori Feistmann Silver to serve as our newest County Court Judge. Judge Silver fills the vacancy created by the elevation of Judge Harper to the Circuit Bench. Before joining the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Judge Silver served as an Assistant State Attorney in the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit for 10 years.

Judge Silver obtained her bachelor degree from the University of Florida. She graduated with her Juris Doctorate from the University of Florida Frederic G. Levin College of Law.

Judge Silver began her tenure on January 7. She is currently assigned to Division M at the Main Courthouse.

She is assisted by Shakeria Hamilton-Knowles.

## Swearing-in of Magistrate Klee

A formal swearing-in of Magistrate Jennifer Klee was held on Friday, March 4. Chief Judge Kelley had the honor of officiating the swearing-in. The event was organized by Magistrate Peter Bassaline. Judges, court staff, and family members attended in-person and via ZOOM.

Magistrate Klee was raised in Florida. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Journalism from the University of Florida. She graduated with her Juris Doctorate from the University of Florida Fredric G. Levin College of Law.

Magistrate Klee, who began her work as a Magistrate on August 16, is currently assigned to the Family Division in North County. She is assisted by Maria Camporese.



From left to right: Magistrate Klee, Chief Judge Kelley, Magistrate Bassaline



## Judges Recognized at Bench Bar 2022



From left to right: Judge Delgado and Judge Schosberg Feuer

The Palm Beach County Bar Association hosted its annual Bench Bar Conference in March at the Palm Beach County Convention Center. Judge Delgado received the Judge Edward Rodgers Diversity Award. This award recognizes a member or organization that promotes and supports diversity and inclusion initiatives within the legal community. Judge Schosberg Feuer received the Judge Meenu Sasser Mentorship Award. This award recognizes a Palm Beach County Bar Association attorney or judge who has demonstrated or promoted mentoring in Palm Beach County.

## Pro Bono Awards



From left to right: Kalintha Dillard, Destinie Baker Barnes, Sandra Powery Moses, Magistrate Williams, Sia Baker-Barnes, Chief Judge Kelley, Judge Schosberg Feuer, Denise A. Mutamba

On Wednesday, March 9, the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committee hosted their annual Awards Pinning Ceremony and Ice Cream Social. The ceremony honored attorneys who went above and beyond with their pro bono service in 2021, in conjunction with the Legal Aid Society, West Palm Beach. Special guests and speakers included retired Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente, the Hon. Glenn Kelley, Chief Judge of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, and President-elect of the Florida Bar, Gary Lesser.

## Visit to the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit

In early January 2022, the Chief Judge invited the State Attorney and staff and the Public Defender and staff to accompany him to view the new the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit courthouse. Chief Judge Kelley and our court partners were specifically interested in viewing courtrooms outfitted with advanced technology systems. The Seventeenth's Chief Judge, Jack Tuter, and Trial Court Administrator, Kathy Pugh, graciously provided the tour.



**Pictured from left to right:** Sunil "Sunny" Nemade, Chief Information Officer; Dan Eisinger, Assistant Public Defender; 17th Circuit Chief Judge Jack Tuter; Carey Haughwout, Public Defender; Chief Judge Glenn Kelley; Barbara Dawicke, Trial Court Administrator; Reid Scott, Assistant State Attorney; Kathy Pugh, 17th Circuit Trial Court Administrator; Noel Chessman, Chief Technology Officer

The new courtrooms in the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit allow litigants, attorneys, and witnesses to appear via ZOOM from a remote setting or in-person inside the courtroom. The Circuit's IT and Audio/Video departments developed a process to interface ZOOM into technology that already existed in the courtrooms. When put to use, these virtual courtrooms offer many advantages to seamlessly maintain court dockets.



*Photo credit: Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida*

View of technology enhanced courtroom from jury box



*Photo credit: Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida*

View of technology enhanced courtroom from plaintiff table

## **Judges Speak at Palm Beach County Bar Association Event**



On February 16, four judges spoke at the Palm Beach County Bar Association's Young Lawyer's Section Sidebar Series. The panelists discussed the "Dos and Don'ts" for oral advocacy and argument. It was the second in a series on best practices in civil court. The event was sponsored by Rabin Kammerer Johnson and Fox Rothschild, LLP.

Pictured from left to right: Judge Schosberg Feuer, Judge Nutt, Judge Gillman, Judge Bristow

## **Sheree Davis Cunningham Black Women Lawyers Association**

The Sheree Davis Cunningham Black Women Lawyers Association held its inaugural installation ceremony and reception on February 24. The organization is named after the Honorable Sheree Davis Cunningham, the first Black woman to serve on the bench in Palm Beach County. Judge Cunningham was appointed by Governor Chiles in 1993. She presided over county criminal and county civil divisions before retiring in 2019. The organization's mission is to provide mentoring, guidance, and support to Black women lawyers in the legal profession. For more information, visit them online at <https://sdcbwla.wildapricot.org/>.



Hon. Sheree Davis  
Cunningham



## Juvenile Education Clinics

Even during challenging times throughout this pandemic, the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit's Juvenile Division offered educational sessions and provided community opportunities for youth involved in the juvenile justice system. In 2021, due to limitations created by Covid-19, the Juvenile Division hosted 11 Juvenile Education Clinics, virtually, via Zoom, serving 157 participants who earned nearly 800 community service hours. During the two hour sessions, youth are engaged in an interactive session that educates and motivates them to become productive citizens. There are three separate clinics: "Jobs 101," covers interviewing etiquette, how to complete a job application, information pertaining to criminal records, and participate in mock interviews; "Know Your Record," a chance to learn more about commonly used terms in delinquency and juvenile justice, the difference between Court and law enforcement records, confidentiality and sealing/expunging juvenile records; and "Unlock Your Potential," teaches youth how to overcome setbacks they may face in life, as well as set and achieve goals. The Juvenile Division is excited to be introducing a fourth topic this year that will emphasize online safety and etiquette. The clinics are held monthly.



## Family Drug Court

The Family Drug Court program supports Palm Beach County parents with open dependency cases where substance abuse is a barrier for the parents. In this program, a multi-agency team of professionals collaborates with treatment professionals and other providers to monitor and support the participants with the goal of ensuring that the affected children have safe, nurturing and stable homes within the statutory timeframes, and parents succeed in their recovery. Program participants are also assisted by a non-profit organization that provides resources to the participants and their family, including: transportation assistance, incentives, holiday meals and rewards and assistance with basic needs.

## Drug Court's 2,000th Graduate



Hon. Charles Burton  
congratulating the graduate

In January 2022, the Adult Drug Court successfully graduated its 2,000th participant. That is

2,000 avoided overdoses, 2,000 employable members of our community, and 2,000 families giving their loved ones a second chance.



## Delinquency Drug Court

At risk youth are a challenging population to work with. Add in teenage substance use issues and juvenile crime, and issues become even more complicated. The Circuit's Delinquency Drug Court program has consistently been successful in working with these youth since 2008. During the pandemic, the program continued full operations and adapted by utilizing remote video hearings and telehealth treatment. To date, 78 participants have graduated from the program and boasted a 15% recidivism rate, not an easy task with the target population. Though the program requires a commitment and can be labor-intensive, a dedicated team of stakeholders works closely together to monitor and support youth and offers free individual, group and family counseling as well as drug testing. Through a partnership with a local non-profit organization, participants have benefitted from supports and incentives that assist in the path to sobriety. In 2021, over 300 incentives were awarded to participants for hard work, compliance and graduation. Delinquency Drug Court is excited to be hosting several trainings for the team in 2022, focusing on best practice, substance use trends and adolescent brain development to help us better serve the population we work with daily.

## Florida Court Reporting and Captioning Week



Susan Catucci, Court Reporting II

Governor Ron DeSantis issued a proclamation in recognition of Florida Court Reporting and Captioning Week from February 5 through February 12, 2022. Court reporters are essential assets to courtrooms across Florida and the United States. Court reporters create verbatim transcripts of court proceedings, depositions, and meetings using stenographic equipment to capture the spoken word and preserve the record for legal proof and verification.

The Fifteenth Judicial Circuit employs four official court reporters. The Circuit thanks our Court Reporters for their dedication.

## Youth Law Day

The Fifteenth Judicial Circuit and the Palm Beach County Bar Association's Law Related Education Committee hosted Youth Law Day on February 26. Carver Middle School students, home schooled pupils, and Boy and Girl Scouts joined judges, law enforcement, and attorneys for a day of interactive presentations focused on the law. Judges Schosberg Feuer, Rowe, and Collins participated in the event.



Hon. Cymonie Rowe addresses attendees



Participants with presenters

## World Speech Day



Judge Schosberg Feuer addresses the students

March 15th is recognized as World Speech Day. The Hon. Samantha Schosberg Feuer took the opportunity to present to the 4th and 5th grade students at the Greene School in West Palm Beach. Judge Schosberg Feuer spoke about the Constitution, the First Amendment, and her career as a judge.

## Florida Court Personnel Training



From February 21 through February 23, Tammy Anton, Chief of Personnel, Family Court Director Tara Kranz, and Alternative Dispute Resolution Director Danni Hoefling, attended the Florida Court Personnel (FCP) Faculty Institute in Orlando. Hosted by the Office of the State Courts, the FCP training prepares court staff as instructors.

From left to right: Tammy Anton, Tara Kranz, Danni Hoefling

## New Trial Court Law Clerk

Ms. Kirsten Hirt has been hired to serve as a Trial Court Law Clerk for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit. Ms. Hirt holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminology and Psychology from Florida State University. She received her Juris Doctorate from Florida State University College of Law. Previously, she was employed with Hill & Ponton, P.A. in Orlando, first as a Veterans Affairs Disability Case Manager for five years, then, until recently, as a Veterans Affairs Disability Attorney.

We wish Ms. Kirsten Hirt success in her role as a Trial Court Law Clerk.



Ms. Kirsten Hirt,  
Trial Court Law Clerk



## The Circuit Remembers Judge Bollinger

On February 25th, the Honorable William Bollinger passed away. Judge Bollinger was a native of West Palm Beach. He earned a bachelor's in English Literature from Florida Atlantic University and graduated from law school at the University of Florida. After law school, he moved back to West Palm Beach and began his law career working for another future judge, Marvin U. Mounts, as an Assistant County Solicitor. He continued as an Assistant State Attorney for 16 years. He was appointed to the County Court by Governor Bob Martinez in 1987, where he remained until his retirement in 2006.



Hon. William Bollinger

During his 19 years on the bench, Judge Bollinger exercised compassion for the mentally ill and those suffering from addictions. He will be missed by the Fifteenth Circuit Bench and the legal community.

## Retirements



From left to right: Kim Phillips, Deputy Amoroso, and the Hon. Dina Keever-Agrama

Kim Phillips, Judicial Assistant to the Hon. Dina Keever-Agrama, retired after employment with the Circuit for over seven years. At the same time, Judge Keever's Deputy, Dawn Amoroso, retired.

In January, Erin Borden, long-time Judicial Assistant of the Hon. Laura Johnson, also retired. Ms. Borden served as a Judicial Assistant for 25 years.

In March, Mona Driscoll, Judicial Assistant of the Hon. Joseph Marx, also retired. Ms. Driscoll had been with the Circuit for nearly 13 years.

The Circuit wishes all of the retirees many happy and healthy years. We thank them for their many years of service.

## AROUND THE CIRCUIT

### Taco Truck



Popular venue

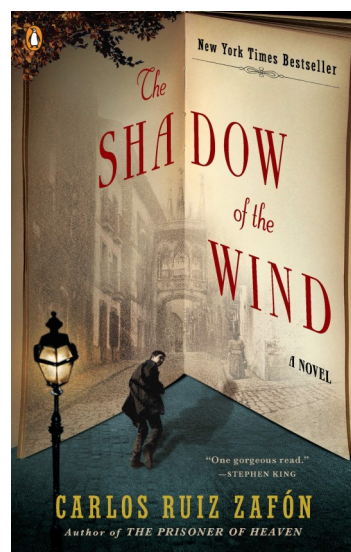
On Thursday, March 31, the Main Courthouse was visited by a popular local food truck, Tacos Al Carbon. The truck was conveniently parked on the West side of the building. People were able to enjoy tacos, burritos, and more. Special thanks to those who waited patiently in line.



Food on the way!

### Book Club

After a two-year hiatus, Book Club held its first meeting on Friday, February 18. Attendees discussed Carlos Ruiz Zafón's *The Shadow of the Wind*. The second session was held on Friday, April 22, at which time the Club discussed Pam Jenoff's *The Lost Girls of Paris*. The meetings are held on ZOOM. If you would like to participate, email Elizabeth Fairall, Law Library Manager, at [EFairall@pbcgov.org](mailto:EFairall@pbcgov.org). Book Club is open to all current employees of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit.



Cover of *The Shadow of the Wind*

## New Hires

Welcome to our new employees who began their duties in  
January - March 2022:

- **Hon. Ori Silver**, County Judge, January 7
- **Alexander Veal**, HR Coordinator, January 10
- **Connie Dawson**, Judicial Assistant to Judge Corlew, January 12
- **Lisa Miskanic**, Digital Court Reporter, January 19
- **Kirsten Hirt**, Trial Court Law Clerk, January 31
- **Shakeria Hamilton-Knowles**, Judicial Assistant to Judge Silver, February 7
- **Peterson Pierre**, OPS Court Program Specialist II, Civil, February 17
- **Kimia Bayat**, Family Court Case Manager, March 2
- **Emma Soler**, Administrative Assistant I, March 7
- **Heather Redlich**, Law Library Associate II, March 14
- **David Goodman**, Desktop Manager/Systems Administrator III, March 14

Also, congratulations to the court employees who started a new  
position in the Circuit:

- **Cheyenne Grace**, Judicial Assistant to Judge Kerner, January 1
- **Donna Holden**, Judicial Assistant to Judge Kastrenakes, January 10
- **Marianna Contreras**, Judicial Assistant to Judge Scher, January 18
- **William Rivera**, Judicial Assistant to Judge Surber, January 2022
- **Violeta Woxberg**, Judicial Assistant to Judge Johnson, February 1
- **Roseanna Skidmore**, Court Program Specialist II, Civil, February 14
- **Harriet Merlin**, Judicial Assistant to Judge Suskauer, March 2022
- **Johnna Hochella**, Judicial Assistant to Judge Keever-Agrama, March 2022
- **Maria Camporese**, Assistant to Magistrate Klee, March 2022
- **Shamina Saemmer**, Assistant to Magistrate Kirigin, March 2022



## Administrative Orders

The following AOs were updated or created January - March 2022:

- 5.509 - 1/4 - Batterer's Intervention Programs
- 11.102 - 1/10 - Assignment of Administrative Judges and Executive Committee
- 12.515 - 1/11 - COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols and Operational Measures
- 12.594 - 1/24 - County Canvassing Board
- 12.797 - 1/24 - Order Permitting Clerk to Inspect Non-Public Files After Flooding
- 11.101 - 2/1 - Assignment of Judges
- 11.104 - 2/1 - Seniority Listing of Judges
- 11.106 - 2/1 - Alternate Assignments
- 11.109 - 2/9 - Duty Judge Roster
- 2.604 - 2/16 - Court Appointed Counsel
- 12.301 - 3/1 - Order Temporarily Assigning the Honorable Ashley Zuckerman as an Acting Circuit Judge
- 11.106 - 3/1 - Alternate Assignments
- 11.104 - 3/1 - Seniority Listing of Judges
- 11.101 - 3/1 - Assignment of Judges
- 3.102 - 3/4 - Case Distribution County Civil
- 12.504 - 3/7 - County Canvassing Board
- 11.502 - 3/8 - Flower Fund
- 6.201 - 3/14 - Prehearing Review of Probate Documents

For updates to the latest Administrative Orders (AOs) for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, please visit our website at: <https://www.15thcircuit.com/administrative-orders>



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