



THE CIRCUIT TIMES

NEWSLETTER OF THE 20TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SPRING 2015

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Judge Robert J. Branning's Investiture



"I never got this far in my dreams."

April 2nd is a day Judge Robert J. Branning will always remember. It's the day he was sworn in as a 20th Judicial Circuit Judge, but also the day he lost his father, Bobby J. Branning, two years prior. "My promise to all of you today, just as my parents taught me, is to do my very best," said Judge Branning.

Judge Branning was sworn in front of more than 200 family members, friends, attorneys, members of the judiciary and local dignitaries. During the hour-long ceremony at the Old Lee County Courthouse, guests both laughed and cried from stories told by Branning's brother, Jeremy, and wife, Noelle.



Noelle Branning speaking on behalf of her husband.

The Oath of Office was administered by recently retired Circuit Judge, Ed Volz, who Judge Branning said he sees as a mentor. Noelle and their two children, Lachlan and Connor assisted with the enrobing.

When it was Judge Branning's turn to speak he credited his feelings of the day to a quote by 2012 Masters Golf Tournament winner, Bubba Watson. Branning said, "Bubba Watson, when he got the green jacket, said... "I never got this far in my dreams." He also credited his grandma for the perseverance to follow his dream as well everything that his parents taught him. "My mother and father are the foundation for who I am today," said Judge Branning. "I promise you that I will always be faithful."

Following the Investiture, guests were invited to a reception on the second floor of the Lee County Justice Center for light appetizers, desserts and beverages.

Judge Branning was appointed to the bench by Governor Rick Scott in November 2014. Branning presides over Charlotte County's Domestic Relations, Domestic Violence, Juvenile Dependency, and Delinquency Judgments dockets.



Judge Branning's Investiture was held at the Old Lee County Courthouse in the County Commission Chambers.

Court Security Officers Receive Service Awards



R to L: CSO Pete Matticola, Sgt. Steve Keppen, and CSO Mike Paradiso

Three Lee County Court Security Officers were awarded with the inaugural Length of Service Award for more than a decade and a half of service. Sergeant Steve Keppen, CSO Mike Paradiso and CSO Pete Matticola were given service bars for 15 or more years of service respectively. Thirty other Security Officers also received awards for their years of service. The breakdown is as follows: 1-4 years receive a blank bar, 5-9 receive a bar with one star, 10-15 receive a bar with two gold stars, 16-20 receives a bar with three stars and 20+ receives a bar with four gold stars.

Court Security Officers provide a number of different services within the security field, with help to safeguard employees and visitors alike. As a consequence, it is vitally important for the Court to hire and retain competent and dedicated officers, who enthusiastically perform their duties on a consistent basis. The Lee County Court Security Department, Administrative Office of the Courts has adopted a policy of recognizing continued dedicated service via the Length of Service Award. Specifically, the program provides management with a tool to recognize the length of service of Court Security Officers in Lee County.



Court Security Director Jeff Torain presents awards to the three Court Security Officers

New Child Support Enforcement Hearing Officer Sworn In

After nearly 10 years of holding the position of Lee County Family Magistrate, Marianne Kantor was sworn in as a Child Support Enforcement Hearing Officer. Kantor replaces Sharon Kaskie who is retiring.

“Sharon is phenomenal. She did a great job of developing what appears to be a very smooth program to move into,” said Kantor.

As a Child Support Enforcement Hearing Officer, Kantor will work 20 to 25 hours a week throughout Lee, Charlotte and Hendry Counties. She and Matthew Henry are the only two CSE Hearing Officers for the entire circuit. Henry primarily covers Collier, Lee and Charlotte Counties.

“I decided I needed to make a move toward retirement,” said Kantor. “This will also allow me to have more personal time and spend more time with my husband.”

Throughout her 30 years practicing, Kantor has spent her professional career working in private practice as a mediator and a quasi-judicial officer, an in-house attorney for the Lee County School Board and an Assistant Lee County Attorney. She also volunteered her time for ten years as a CSE Hearing Officer for night court. Kantor received her Law Degree from DePaul University College of Law.



Chief Judge Jay B. Rosman gives Oath to Marianne Kantor

2nd Annual Eddie Swords Award

Lee County Court Security Officer Noel “Tony” Figueroa is the 2014 recipient of the Lee County Court Security Department’s Hubert “Eddie: Sword Commitment for Excellence Award. The award is given annually to an employee in the Court Security Department, who best exemplifies its tenets. CSO Figueroa is the second recipient of the award.

A native of Bronx, New York, CSO Figueroa is a 20 year veteran of the New York Police Department. He is married and the father of three daughters. Tony’s wife Miriam works for the Lee County Clerk of Courts. In his spare time Tony volunteers for both Habitat for Humanity and Goodwill Industries.

Eddie Swords served as a Court Security Officer from December 12, 2009 until his passing in November 14, 2012. He was a decorated U.S. Naval veteran and retired from the Federal Bureau of Prisons prior to becoming a member of the Court Security Department at the Lee County Justice

Center Complex. Eddie was known for his love of people, ability to effectively communicate with the public, staff, and co-workers. He was extremely dedicated to the Department and the Court. Eddie always displayed a professional demeanor and served as an informal mentor to new officers. Eddie Swords exemplified what it means to be a professional Court Security Officer and is deserving of an honor expressing the same in his name.

The award is made using a “peer to peer” nomination process with the final selection made by the award nominating committee. Winners are judged on collaboration,

commitment and leadership. The Eddie Swords Commitment to Excellence Award was created to recognize and reward court security employees who exemplify a consistent commitment to excellence.

“I am honored to be recognized by the people I work with,” said CSO Figueroa. “It is an honor to receive an award with the family members here of the person who the award is named for. I hope I live up to their expectations and the departments expectations.”

R to L: Court Security Director Jeff Torain, CSO Tony Figueroa, and Deputy Court Administrator Jim Sullivan



Probation Officer Joins AOC in Glades County

Michelle Lanier has joined the Administrative Office of the Courts as the sole Probation Officer in Glades County.

For several years, Glades County Probation was the only Probation Department in the 20th Circuit that was not administered or supervised by Court Administration. Lanier has been in her position as Probation Officer with Glades County since 2009. Previously she worked as the Procurement

Officer and Assistant to the County Manager of Glades County. She has worked for Glades County since 1997.

Lanier is responsible for all data entry and the supervision of 112 people, which doesn’t include Pretrial Diversion Cases. In the future, there is the possibility that Glades County will mirror Hendry County’s Probation Department to provide more efficient transfers of cases between the offices. This would make supervision more convenient for probation-

ers and also provide emergency coverage issues.



Motivational Interviewing Implemented in Lee County

In August of 2014 the Lee County Pretrial Services Department was afforded the opportunity to bring in a nationally recognized trainer through a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) grant to train both pretrial and probation officers on motivational interviewing. Motivational interviewing aligns with evidence based practice and suggests effective tools to handle resistance and changes the responsibility for behavior change to defendants. The model recognizes that defendants who need to make changes in their lives are at different readiness levels with some actively seeking to change and some who have never even thought of such. The approach is non-judgmental and non-confrontational but raises awareness to potential problems that caused consequences faced in the criminal

justice system. Officers were trained to:

1. Express empathy and understand from a defendant's perspective;
2. Develop discrepancy to help defendants appreciate the value of change through exploration of how they want to live their lives versus how they currently are;
3. Roll with resistance by accepting reluctance to change as natural; and
4. Support self-efficacy by embracing autonomy and helping defendants move toward change successfully and with confidence

The objective is to make interactions more change-focused thereby increasing positive outcomes and success while on supervision, as well as ultimately

reducing recidivism. Motivational interviewing allows officers to enforce orders while creating a desire for long-term change whereby defendants become productive members in the community. Since, Mr. David Duresky has provided refresher and practical training for staff in November, 2014 and February, 2015 and has thus far certified Deputy Criminal Division Director Amy Kinsey, Pretrial Supervisors Nicholas Stevens and Scott Peckham, Team Leads Michelle Meyer and Jennifer Fuller and Pretrial Officers Enrique Rosario, Frank Kanaski, Melissa Whittington, Mark Cavanaugh and Elizabeth Robideau. Certification requires demonstration levels of proficiency in all concepts of motivational interviewing. Mr. Duresky also provided a customer service training for clerical personnel.

Veterans are a Priority



Lee County Judge Andrew Swett presides over Veterans Court

Judge Swett and Lee County Pretrial Intake Supervisor Scott Leland attended a training in January, 2015 hosted by the Association of Pretrial Professionals of Florida on veterans courts.

Veterans returning from combat may suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder or may have difficulty reintegrating into society. Due to alienation and lack of support, some veterans fall into drug and alcohol abuse or develop mental health issues. Veterans Courts have been established to address these issues. Across the United States, successful completion of Veterans Court has helped decrease the recidivism rates of its participants through the proper diagnosis and treatment of mental health issues and as a result of the supportive roles mentors play in the process.

During the training, Judge Jerry Brewer and his panel discussed their roles and court operations as well as staffed new cases of varying

degrees for the audience. The panel consisted of himself, a court case manager, and representatives from the state's attorney and public defenders offices, both State and County Probation/Diversion services and the Central Florida Safety Council. A question and answer period rounded out the session.

Judge Brewer has been a judge with the 9th Judicial Circuit since 1994 and has served as a judge in all areas, serving in various special division positions since 2004. Judge Brewer is a First Appearance Judge and a Marine veteran who was instrumental in starting a Veterans Court in Orange County.



Prioritizing Probation in Lee County, FL

Article by: National Training and Technical Assistance Center

The Background

According to the [Bureau of Justice Statistics](#), at the end of 2013 there were an [estimated 4.75 million adults](#) under community supervision. While this was down nearly 30,000 from 2012, it still means an average of one in 51 adults is in such a position. Those high numbers have strained the caseload of community corrections departments, many of which do not have a large number of probation or parole officers.

That was the exact problem facing the Lee County Probation Department (LCPD). The ongoing goal of the LCPD is to increase the number and length of face-to-face contacts with probationers for the purpose of reducing rearrest and probation violations, but with just 14 probation officers and nearly 3,000 cases, its resources were strained. LCPD realized it needed help.

“The overall goal in requesting assistance was to best determine which risk instrument tool should be utilized to classify probationers in accordance with risk factors,” says Liza Maldonado, Lee County Criminal Division Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts. “We recognized the fact that we needed to utilize our resources in the most efficient manner.”

LCPD sought assistance from the [Bureau of Justice Assistance](#) (BJA) [National Training and Technical Assistance Center](#) (NTTAC) to ensure those who needed the most oversight were receiving it and help the department make the best possible use of its resources.

Cultivating Change in the Probation Process

To help better understand and analyze the problem, and offer solutions, BJA selected Mark Carey and Madeline (Mimi) Carter from [The Carey Group](#) to provide technical assistance (TA) to LCPD. Mr. Carey and Ms. Carter noted from the outset that LCPD was very well-equipped for change—it had a strong leadership team that wanted to improve and a progressive-minded staff. The primary outcome LCPD sought to achieve through this TA was to differentiate the level of supervision based on risk to reoffend, allowing them to spend more time on high-risk cases and less time on low-risk ones. To help, LCPD was interested in implementing an actuarial risk instrument that would support classification of probationers by risk. To this end, The Carey Group spent two days onsite with LCPD, conducting interviews, surveying staff, and observing operations, to see how LCPD could better improve their processes and select/implement such a tool.

“We could tell they wanted to make sure they did the best possible job in terms of public safety,” noted Mr. Carey. “In the course of our work with them, it became pretty clear what needed to happen.” Although there were a number of recommendations stemming from this work, The Carey Group emphasized the overarching need for LCPD to priori-

tize its supervision services.

Review the current caseload and restructure it based on need: The Carey Group recommended that for a short period of time LCPD implement the use of a tool called the [Proxy Risk Triage Screener](#) in order to gather information about the recidivism risk of the population typically supervised by the agency. Data from the first 60 days of collection identified 46 percent of LCPD’s cases as low-risk, 36 percent as moderate-risk, and 18 percent high-risk. This information is being used to support LCPD’s reallocation of caseloads and establishment of differential supervision levels to ensure each risk level is managed in accordance to the risk principle (increasing levels of supervision level for higher risk cases).

Establish differential caseloads based upon assessed level of risk: The average LCPD officer manages nearly 250 cases at any given time, with each probationer seen by LCPD an average of five times over a six- to 12-month supervision period. While the Proxy Risk Triage Screener was used to develop a preliminary understanding of the current caseload, LCPD seeks to establish a long-term strategy for assessing risk and assigning probationers to supervision levels accordingly. As noted by the [American Probation and Parole Association](#) (APPA):

“Not every offender needs the same type or amount of supervision. To be effective and efficient, there must be varying amounts of supervision provided to offenders. The more serious or higher priority cases are assigned a greater level of supervision, meaning that the officer will be expected to have more frequent contact with that offender. Lower priority cases demand less time of the caseload officer.”

Effective supervision requires that officers invest greater time and resources, particularly with moderate to high-risk probationers, while low-risk probationers could use less contact. APPA sets the following standards for case to staff ratios: 20:1 for intensive supervision caseloads; 50:1 for moderate to high-risk cases; 200:1 for low-risk cases. By choosing a tool to help them prioritize its cases, LCPD can work toward achieving these caseload standards, reduce recidivism rates, and ultimately save time and resources.

The Carey Group’s TA culminated with specific recommendations to help LCPD achieve its primary goal: to begin to implement data-driven decision making into the day-to-day processes of the probation department. According to Maldonado, LCPD has implemented the Proxy Risk Triage Screener for initial probationer classification and is in the process of finalizing a differentiated case supervision model. LCPD hopes to implement the model this spring.

Both Mr. Carey and Ms. Carter see a positive future for LCPD. “We were incredibly impressed by how responsive and progressive they are,” Mr. Carey noted. “We were extremely pleased with their engagement and level of involvement in the technical assistance.”

A Special Mental Health Court Graduation

For the last ten years, Brian Siebert has been a familiar face in Lee County Mental Health Court. But, on April 1, 2015 he was given his own graduation as he moves on from a 20 year stint with Coastal Behavioral Healthcare to take a new position in the area. During the goodbye ceremony, Mental Health Court Judge Andrew Swett presented Mr. Siebert with an honorary doctorate degree from Mental Health Court. "How do you graduate a person who has taught us all the most? We make you an honorary Ph.D.," said Judge Swett. "Your work has been instrumental in changing the lives of countless people who took part in the MHC program. We will never forget your kind and caring nature."

Siebert was the Coastal Behavioral Program Coordinator for Mental Health Court, conducted jail and community screenings for entry into the MHC program, and coordinated outreach specialists that worked with MHC clients to connect them to services within the community. Rachel Marciniak, who has

been working with Siebert in this program for four years as an outreach specialist, will take over his position.



"Since I've been on the bench, Brian has been an inspiration to me. I really believe in this program and one of the reasons I believe in this program is because of Mr. Seibert," said Judge Swett.

Collier's New Probation Computer Program

Collier County Probation went live with a new computer program effective November 1, 2014. Collier had been utilizing the Clerk of Courts "Case Information System" which was designed back in the 1980's using green screen technology. In 2008 the clerk purchased a new case maintenance system and migrated all of the court applications to Showcase. Showcase provides work flow management and allows for electronic images in all areas of the court system.

In collaboration with Dwight Brock's office, a program was developed for probation within the Showcase management system. The programming has been ongoing for several years however there were concerns that the legacy system would crash and probation would be in a difficult position so in September

2014 all parties decided to go forward effective November 2014. It was crunch time for that two month period however we received so much support from the Clerks IT and Criminal Director that the transition was fairly smooth. Showcase provides the ability to copy a case from the original court case to a probation case. This has eliminated the clerical staff from entering data already stored in the court case. All the standard forms have been entered into the system so that they are pre populated which saves a tremendous amount of time for both clerical and the probation officers and everything is driven by docket codes which have work flow attached so that there is a natural progression in the data entry process, less human error and consistency in procedures. Every document is electronically imaged with the goal of be-

coming green at every level possible.

We are still in the process of developing various reports. Probation officers are able to pull their own reports for specific case events (conditions), end dates, monthly tracking or specific zip codes for field visits. The time to produce monthly statistical reports has been drastically reduced since the clerical staff no longer has to manually total the information.

None of this would have become possible without the advice, assistance and guidance from various individuals within the clerk's office. We are still in the developmental process but expect to have everything full implemented by the end of May 2015.

Florida Supreme Court Certifies New Judges

The Supreme Court has certified two new Lee County Judges in the higher courts annual certification opinion released in December. The opinion called for 32 new judges in county courts and three for the circuit bench. The court did not ask for any new appellate judges. Due in large part to the recession, the court states the judicial branch has had no increase in trial court judges since 2007, despite a documented need.

“This certification request is conservative in that we are requesting the minimum number of trial judges necessary to address sustained documented workload,” the opinion stated.

The court said its most recent analysis of circuit court statistics from Fiscal Year 2012/2013 to preliminary FY 2013/2014 indicates a six percent increase in probate filings, a nine percent increase in dependency filings, and a circuit civil filing (excluding real property/mortgage foreclosures) increase of one percent. Conversely, domestic relations filings declined by three percent, while felony and juvenile delinquency filings experienced a seven percent decline.

“We also continue to control for the foreclosure crisis in our judicial workload forecasts and certification requests, which currently suggest that this crisis will taper off with possible pre-recessionary filing normalization occurring in the summer of 2015, barring any unforeseen circumstances,” the court said.

According to the opinion, the courts three-year average net need analysis indicated that additional judge-ships are necessary in the First (one judge) and Fifth (two judges) judicial circuits. “This is due to the First Circuit continuing to experience a heavy criminal workload as well as a steady number of tobacco cases, which frequently go to trial and thus require significant judicial labor.” It goes on to say the Fifth Judicial Circuit continues to be one of the fastest growing areas of the state with a corresponding workload increase.

Several chief judges also have referenced high jury trial rates, increases in motions and hearings, and the emergence of more complex civil cases as factors that continue to increase trial court workload, according to the opinion. Several chief judges also advised the court that statutory requirements for additional hearings for certain

case types contribute to case complexity and judicial workload, including the Timely Justice Act of 2013 and changes to Jimmy Ryce Act proceedings. The court’s opinion also noted that judges continue to absorb the work previously performed by case managers, law clerks, magistrates, and other supplemental support staff lost in the budget reductions of recent years.

“The consensus among chief judges is that loss of support staff translates into slower case processing times, congested dockets, and long waits to access judicial calendars,” the court said.

As with circuit court work, county court workload remains high with unmet judicial need holding steady. In some counties, chief judges report that misdemeanor, domestic, and stalking violence cases are increasing county court workload. Additionally, the passage of new laws each year contributes to increased workload.

“For example, in October 2013, the texting-while-driving law went into effect. This law creates a new infraction that, although a secondary offense, is nonetheless likely to increase judicial caseloads,” the court said. “The loss of civil traffic infraction hearing officers in county court, coupled with added workload associated with new legislation, continues to increase county judge workload.”

The justices said those factors, among others, contributed to such a high county court judicial need.

“Additionally, self-represented litigants who are frequently unprepared for the rigors of presenting evidence, following rules of procedure, and generally representing themselves in court also create additional work for trial judges,” the court said.

The court did not certify a need for any new district court judges. The Legislature funded the new three DCA judges last year and supported upgrades to district court facilities across the state.



IJIS Replacing CJIS

There has been lots of talk about IJIS for the past few years and especially for the past several months. So what is IJIS and, more importantly, why IJIS?

For starters, IJIS is the abbreviated name for Integrated Justice Information System. In simplest terms, IJIS is intended to replace the aging case management system named CJIS. CJIS has served the Twentieth Circuit well for many years and our team has continually expanded its functionality to keep up with the constantly changing needs of the court agencies. But by June, all agencies will be fully migrated off of CJIS. Microsoft no longer maintains the Visual Basic 6 platform upon which CJIS was built and that platform's capabilities, especially with regard to interfacing with other systems, are limited and antiquated. Plus, CJIS just plain looks and feels old!

Enter IJIS ... While it is true that IJIS will replace all of the functionality currently found in CJIS, that is only part of the story. The "Integrated" por-

tion of the name "IJIS" is meant to emphasize the new system's enhanced integration capabilities. This is an important aspect of the new system because the criminal justice process is becoming increasingly automated and interconnected, requiring the ability to electronically exchange data with Clerks of Courts, law enforcement agencies, jails, and others. Much of this capability stems from our early decision to build IJIS upon Microsoft's modern .NET (pronounced "dot net") Framework and the Visual Basic.NET programming language. We are also utilizing a set of visual controls from Infragistics Corporation that provides a great deal of functionality including grids that allow for sorting, column re-ordering, grouping, filtering, and pinning as well as exporting of the data to various format.

The latest technologies and tools can only get an application so far. The rest comes from the considerable talent, training, experience, and skills of your CJIS team (yes, our department is still named "CJIS") in conjunction with the outstanding work of each agency's

CJIS analysts and testers. At the risk of forgetting some people, I must recognize Rex Arnold, Kris Brooks, Joe Friess, Suzanne Kendall, Rich LaVorgna, Bobby Ricci, and Shawn Ruberg for their tireless (OK, exhaustive!) efforts in the development process. We also owe a debt of gratitude to Terry Fletcher, Pam Fitzwater, Dawn Greene, Rebecca Miller, and Lourdes Muina for their participation in countless meetings and hours of testing to ensure that IJIS does exactly what the agencies need.

So, why IJIS? Because IJIS not only replaces CJIS, it truly supersedes CJIS. It is the innovative product of a collaborative effort between the agencies and the CJIS department that delivers what the agencies need today and provides the foundation for delivering what they will need in the future.

Court Staff on Track to Certification

Ten staff members of the Administrative Offices of the Courts have completed the first of eight training levels of the Florida Certified Public Manager program (CPM). Classes began in January at FGCU and are administered by the Florida Center for Public Management, which is part of the Askew School of Public Administration at Florida State University.

CPM is a nationally-recognized program for training and developing public managers and supervisors. It is currently offered in 38 states. The primary goals are to professionalize public management and improve organizational efficiency and effectiveness. The program focuses on the fundamentals of leadership and management, with an emphasis on improving one's people skills, team leadership, and organizational effectiveness. The course, which consists of 32 days of classroom study, extends over a two

year period. The eight levels are divided into 4 days of instruction every 2-3 months, with testing and homework during the non-class periods.

Florida has one of the largest, and most successful, CPM Programs in the country, with 4,800 graduates from more than 100 agencies. This summer 420 students graduated from the program – the most in a single year

Participants in the program are: Lois Milazzo, David Toumey, Eric Fishbeck, Allison Holland, Deb Mravic, Pamela Barger, Stephen Childs, Brenda Giessman, Ashley Gregory, and Scott Leland.

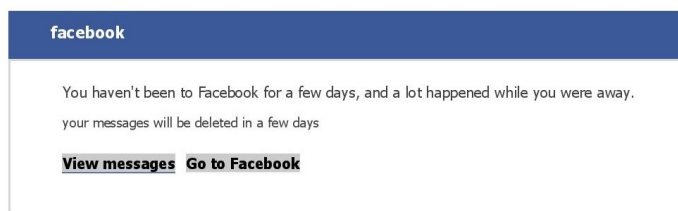


Six Reasons to be Weary of Email's From Facebook

Article by: Craig McLean

I'm not going to tell you to ever open Facebook again, I use it myself to keep up with family and a few friends. But, bad guys are now targeting, more than ever, Facebook and social media to trick us into clicking and giving up information that we shouldn't give out. This past Sunday I received the following email saying I hadn't been on Facebook in a while and I needed to log in.

From: Facebook Administration [mailto:frederic.lecompte@hol.f]
Sent: Sunday, March 29, 2015 7:28 PM
To: waho.01@att.net
Subject: [Bulk] Wahoo Ominously your messages will be deleted in a few days judgment



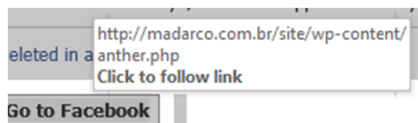
This message was sent to waho.01@att.net. If you don't want to receive these emails from Facebook in the future, please [unsubscribe](#).
 Facebook, Inc. Attention: Department 415 P.O. Box 10005 Palo Alto CA 94303

Just before I clicked to “go to Facebook”, I noticed a couple of things that were out of place and took a second to do a little investigation. I found **SIX** warning signs that this email is not legit.

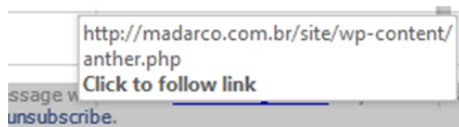
1. From: Facebook Administration [mailto:frederic.lecompte@hol.f] this address is incorrect, it should have the Facebook.com address.
2. Notice the **[Bulk]** in the subject line, this is an indication (although not always) that this message was sent to multiple addresses and is most times an indication that the message is spam. Seeing this always makes me a little suspicious.
3. Wahoo Ominously your messages Misspelled words are a giveaway. (You would think that they would do research on proper spelling or grammar)
4. **View messages** (when I hovered my mouse over this hyperlink, it was going to take me to a different site)



5. **Go to Facebook** (hovering over this link takes me to the same bogus address)



6. Hovering over the “**unsubscribe**” shows me the link isn't to facebook.com.



Be careful of the same kinds of emails requesting attention to a “matter” whether it be a bogus email from your “administrator” to change your password, an undeliverable package from FedEx or UPS, a request to update your bank account, PayPal, your veterinarian, etc. It pays to be careful, and remember that you can put your pointer on any link and it will show you where it is going to take you. So the next time you get a questionable email, practice a little sleuthing on your own. (don't click on the links, remember to just hover your mouse over it) Hopefully this will help you the next time you get something that you “just aren't quite sure about” Happy clicking.

Please Congratulate...

Ms. Michelle Meyer and Ms. Jennifer Fuller who have obtained the Certified Pretrial Services Professional Certification through the National Association of Pretrial Services Committees on Education and Training. Ms. Meyer and Ms. Fuller qualified in experience and education and passed an examination on both general legal issues and issues specific to pretrial investigation and release. This demonstrated a basic understanding of the pretrial movement and the history upon which it is based. The Certification Program is designed to advance the overall knowledge level of practitioners in the pretrial field, and help ensure that they are aware of the most current information and best practices. Further, it promotes the capabilities of pretrial professionals—both within the program and to the public in general—by demonstrating their adherence to the NAPSA Code of Ethics, and enhancing their public image thereby aiding in the recruitment and formation of new and talented staff.



Looking Ahead....

Judge Mary Evans Investiture

June 5th, 2015 at 3 p.m.

Old Lee County Courthouse



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Mr. Scott Leland as he was afforded the opportunity to attend Orientation for Pretrial Executives in Denver, Colorado. This training was coordinated and sponsored by the National Institute of Corrections for pretrial professionals across the United States. This training focused on how to sustain public support for pretrial programs in opposition to bail programs or other services and how to enhance the effectiveness in maintaining and capitalizing existing services. The training highlighted National Association of Pretrial Service Agencies Standards, ABA Standards, legal foundations and current state law.

Circuit Times Newsletter

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