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# News of the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks

# **ANNAPOLIS on Our Minds**

Bessie Decker (MD) Leslie Gradet (MD) Cynthia Rapp (DC)

The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of NCACC will be held July 31, 2011 through August 5, 2011 at the Loews Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland. Registration for early birds will be held on Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> as well as on Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>. The Program Committee is working hard preparing the educational sessions. Besides our wonderful BNA reception on Sunday evening, our event sponsored by Lexis will be a three hour cruise on the Chesapeake Bay and our event sponsored by West will be a reception at the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, DC with a special welcome from Justice Alito. Lexis will once again conduct a book donation for a needy organization in the Annapolis area. For members and guests arriving early, a walking tour of Annapolis on Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> is being organized and details will be included in your registration materials.

The rate at Loews Hotel under the NCACC room block is \$114.00 plus tax and is available now for you to make your reservations at 1-800-526-2593. To receive the low room rate your reservations will need to be made by July 8, 2011. We have three area airports - BWI Airport in the Baltimore area; Dulles and Reagan National Airports in the Washington area. Costs of shuttles will be in your registration materials. Parking vehicles is by valet and overnight valet parking is currently \$20.00 per day.

How exciting does this sound? Who would want to miss it!







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### THE DOCKET

# News of the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks

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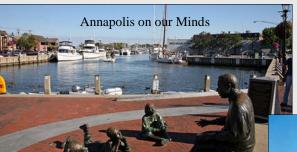
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HELP KEEP US INFORMED!!



### **To Remit NCACC Membership Dues:**

National Center of State Courts 300 Newport Avenue Williamsburg, VA 23185

# THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Bill DeCicco (DC)

Happy New Year! I hope all of you had a peaceful and enjoyable holiday season.

The Executive Committee met at the Mills House Hotel in Charleston, South Carolina on November 13, 2010. I informed the members of the committee that I had attended the Association Leadership Workshop at the National Center for State Courts in Williamsburg in October. This meeting was attended by nearly all of the presidents of



the associations supported by the National Center, including the National Association of Court Management, the American Judges' Association, the Conference of Chief Judges of the State Courts of Appeal, the National Association of Women Judges, the National Association of State Judicial Educators, the Conference of Court Public Information Officers, the National Conference of Metropolitan Courts, the National College of Probate Judges, and the Court Information Technology Officer Consortium. We were asked what our biggest issues were and what our solutions would be to those issues. It was not surprising that everyone mentioned the same two issues: membership and finances. As for solutions, it seemed that every solution to bolster dwindling membership numbers had a cost associated with it that adversely affected finances, e.g., discounts for multi-year memberships, free first-year membership, and reduced conference fees. I do not feel that the NCACC is in a position to offer such incentives right now, but these ideas should be kept in mind for the future. Solutions for financial problems included eliminating the printing of publications (which we have done), holding annual meetings in courthouses, and using webinars and regional conferences.

The workshop agenda also included several guest speakers. The first speaker discussed the state of the economy, and his message was simple: "It's not going to get better any time soon." He said this recession is deep and will be prolonged, and the state of not having sufficient funding will be the "new normal" condition. He advocated that senior managers instill a sense of urgency in middle management to plan for restructuring and reorganization so that offices could do more with less. Other speakers addressed the topics of meeting planning, contracting with hotels, website design, and foundation fundraising. Now that our relationship with Gadd-Guillot has ended, I discussed with the President of NACM the possibility of teaming with them to solicit funds from foundations.

As you know, the agenda for the Executive Committee meeting includes committee reports made by the liaisons on the Executive Committee. One piece of very good news we received was that our Montana Host, Ed Smith, returned \$32,300 from the 2010 annual meeting to our general operating account. This could not have come at a more opportune time! Also, thanks to the help of Vickie Van Lith, Tom Hall, and Marilyn May, we completed negotiations and signed a contract with the Renaissance Hotel in Seattle, Washington, for our 2013 annual meeting.

In addition to receiving reports on all of the work our committees are doing at the Executive Committee meeting, we had an opportunity to see the hotel and the city that will host our 2012 annual meeting. The hotel is a recently refurbished elegant and historical building located in the heart of Charleston. It was actually used by General Robert E. Lee during the Civil War. Our more senior members will recall that this is the same hotel that hosted our annual meeting in 1989. The museum of the Confederacy is just a few blocks from the hotel, and Fort Sumter is visible from the city's shoreline. If you're a history buff, this city is for you!

Our annual meeting this summer will be in Annapolis, Maryland (July 31 – August 5). <u>Don't miss it</u>. We have an excellent educational program being assembled by Mike Richie and his Program Committee. Justice Crothers from the North Dakota Supreme Court will be back (he spoke to us in Pittsburgh in 2008) to address ethical questions. There will also be a panel discussion on courts and the media, a presentation on the sharing of data between courts and related justice agencies, and a presentation entitled "How the Courts Failed Germany." This presentation received high accolades when it was given at the Conference of Chief Justices. Our Annapolis Host, Bessie Decker, has planned several memorable events. For early arrivals on Saturday afternoon, July 30, there will be a walking tour of Annapolis that will include the Naval Academy and the State House. (Did you know that Annapolis once served as the capital of the

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(President's Page continued from page 3)

United States?) On Monday evening, a Chesapeake Bay cruise has been scheduled, and on Tuesday we'll visit the Supreme Court of the United States in Washington. We are honored that Justice Samuel Alito has agreed to speak to us.

If you face financial hurdles in attending, please contact Deena Fawcett, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, regarding applications for scholarships to attend the meeting. Understanding the financial constraints of your courts at this time, the Executive Committee is striving to make more funding than ever available for scholarships.

I want to thank all of you again for what you do for the NCACC, whether it's working on a committee, helping with the annual meeting, keeping our books and membership lists, or just simply participating with questions and comments on the listsery. It never ceases to amaze me what a tremendous group of talented people we have in the NCACC.

Best wishes to all for a successful 2011!

### NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS

Elsewhere in this issue, you will find the nomination form for officers and Executive Committee members for 2011-2012.

As you all know, nominations are so important to our organization and we want to take this opportunity to ask each member to take some time to think about the future of the organization and how your nominations of our members would benefit the leadership of our group for the future. Please also give consideration to your own willingness to serve by nominating yourself or asking someone to nominate you.

If you have any questions about what service as an officer or an executive committee member entails, feel free to contact one of the committee members listed below. A strong participation by all of our members would be appreciated very much.

The members of the Nominating Committee are:

Colette Bruggman (CA), Chair
Debbie Autrey (TX)
Susan Clary (KY)
George Geoghegan (KY)
Terry Lord (MO)
Cathy Lusk (TX)
Amy Reitz (OH)
Leslie Steen (AR)
Amy Reitz (OH), Executive Committee Liason



# Facts, Fiction, and Foolishness

Les Steen (AR)

We thought we would start the new year by teaching you about "paraprosdokian sentences." The first sentence has one meaning and the second one gives the phrase an entirely new meaning. There are some very wise messages here and some you can take to heart. For example:

I asked God for a bike, but I know God doesn't work that way. So, I stole a bike and asked for forgiveness.

Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.

The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it is still on the list.

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear to be bright until you hear them speak.

If I agreed with you, we would both be wrong.

War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in fruit salad.

Politicians and diapers have one thing in common. They both should be changed regularly and for the same reason.

I didn't say it was your fault. I said I was blaming you.

You do not need a parachute to skydive. You need a parachute to skydive twice.

A diplomat is someone who can tell you to go to hell in such a way that you look forward to making the trip.

Hospitality: making your guests feel at home even if you wish they were.

Some cause happiness wherever they go. Others whenever they go.

I used to be indecisive. Now, I'm not sure.

Knowledge is power and power corrupts. So study hard and be evil.

When buying and selling are controlled by legislation, the first things bought and sold are the legislators.

Personally, I always take life with a grain of salt . . . . plus a slice of lime . . . and a shot of tequila. Bottoms up!

### **Site Selection Committee Wants Your Site!**

One of the many attributes of our Conference is the willingness of individuals to showcase their state or area. The Site Selection Committee is beginning the process of selecting a site for our Conference in 2014. Would you be willing to be our Host or Hostess?

Please contact Christie Cameron at 919-831-5700, if you are interested in exploring this possibility. She will talk you through what is involved and the assistance that others will be able to give you.

# Good News!

Congratulations to **Stuart M. Cohen** (NY) who retired in November, 2010. Stuart was appointed Clerk of the Court in November, 1996 after serving nine years as deputy clerk and law clerk since 1983.



**Juleann Hornyak** (IL) retired in December, 2010 after serving the Illinois Supreme Court for 28 years as Clerk of Court.

**Holly K. O. Sparrow** has been appointed Clerk/Court Administrator of the Georgia Court of Appeals. Holly has worked in court administration for over twenty-five years.

**Irene M. Bizzoso** was appointed in December as Prothonotary of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Irene has more than a dozen years experience in the office of the prothonotary, beginning in April, 1998 as a legal assis-

tant, followed year stint as a prothonotary.



We know that many of our members are dog lovers. We had some space in this edition and decided to share this with you. We are not sure if this poem also applies to cats, hamsters, or gold fish. Sorry if we have offended.

### "From the Dog"

If you put it in the garbage . . . . . it's mine

Anything that comes off of or out of a cow . . . . mine

All your socks and dirty underwear . . . . it's mine

Anything rotten or disgusting in the backyard . . . . mine If you dropped it . . . . it's mine If you pick it up . . . . it's mine If one of the other dogs wants it . . . . mine If you want it . . . . it's mine Any other animals' food . . . . it's mine In fact, any food in the house left unsupervised . . it's mine The car's front seat . . . . mine The dog bed . . . . mine Your bed . . . . it's mine That little space between your feet while you sit on the toilette . . . . mine If you ever slept on, rolled on, or kicked dirt on it . . . . it's mine *If you throw it . . . . it's definitely mine* 

If I bring it back, you must re-throw it because . . . . . it is still mine

You . . . . definitely mine!

Jameson Bizzoso



Tiffany Shropshire (TX)

By now you may have heard about the move (in federal courts, at least) to submit electronic filings in PDF/A format. For those in the federal court system, you may be thinking, why must I undertake the additional burden of explaining to less-than-tech-savvy attorneys not only how to convert a document into PDF, but also into PDF/A? For those outside of the federal court system, you may be thinking, what the heck is a PDF/A?

The dates for a permanent transition to PDF/A filings vary from court to court, but all federal courts will currently accept the format when uploaded to the CM/ECF system<sup>1</sup>. Federal courts are adopting these guidelines for electronic filing submissions in order to better comply with National

Archives and Records Administration (NARA) policies for records transfer and permanent retention. To deal with an enormous and ever-increasing backlog of digital information coming into the archives, NARA has encouraged shifting at least some of the responsibility of digital preservation to the records' creators. The submission of PDF/A documents facilitates compliance with the technical criteria for transfer and retention of permanent records.

In this article I will attempt to condense for you the context for this shift from PDF to PDF/A, its long-term advantages and its short-term drawbacks, what a PDF/A is, how you go about creating one, and yes, why it's necessary.

### What is PDF/A?

As of October 2005, PDF/A-1 (PDF/A version 1.0) is the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) approved, archival standard for producing an exact visual digital reproduction of a page-oriented document for now and into the indefinite future. Unlike PDF/A files, traditional PDF files often use system fonts and other content stored externally. In order to be read, these documents need to draw information from outside sources when the file is opened. Over time, these external links can break, or the content can go offline. When that happens, the information needed to view the document in its original form is lost. PDF/A files solve this potential problem by embedding font, text, image and graphics metadata into the document itself, in order to ensure that the document can be opened in the future exactly as it was created<sup>2</sup>. Color spaces are specified in a device-independent manner, and transparency is removed<sup>3</sup>.

### Why PDF/A?

As the PDF/A format is inherently self-contained and self-describing, proprietary software is not needed in order to read them, making PDF/A more conducive to migration (transfer across progressively updated platforms) and therefore to long term preservation. PDF/A is also more "open source" in that its technical parameters are maintained by ISO, and not exclusively by a commercial vendor. PDF/A files are further unfettered in that they do not contain technical security mechanisms — they cannot be encrypted or password protected. They can, however, contain digital signatures for verification, but only after the document has achieved compliance.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It is important to note that this eventual requirement is not retroactive – that is, attorneys will not need to mass-convert any of their previously filed PDF documents into the PDF/A format.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Metadata simply means "data about data"- in this case, font size and type, color space information, etc. in a particular document.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Transparency is a technology typically used for shadow effects, to lighten (parts of) images so that the text on top remains readable, or to make objects fade into another object or to create a tint.

(PDF/A continued from page 7)

Of course, there are drawbacks to this form of preservation, mostly due to the fact that all of the information must be entirely embedded and contained in the document. Multimedia such as videos and audio files will not play in PDF/A, because these objects require an external player to work. "Unmasked" hyperlinks, while still legible, will not automatically direct the viewer to the indicated website when clicked<sup>4</sup>. Any kind of "masked" hyperlink will not be preserved<sup>5</sup>. Copyrighted fonts cannot be embedded into a PDF/A file (all fonts must be legally available for unlimited, universal rendering). JavaScript and executable file launches are prohibited. Adobe Acrobat disables most editing functions after it creates a PDF/A file, such as page extraction, page-level editing, or addition of tags or form fields<sup>6</sup>. PDF/A files are somewhat larger and may require more hard drive space than a standard PDF file, as they do not rely on outside sources for their content- however, as storage costs continue to decrease, this will not pose much of a problem. It should be noted that while PDF/A files are larger than traditional PDF files, they are significantly smaller than lossless<sup>7</sup> TIFF files, another archival-quality file format<sup>8</sup>.

### PDF/A-1a and PDF/A-1b – What's the difference?

As we have discussed, the key element of PDF/A — what makes it "archival"— is its reproducibility and independence. There are two levels of PDF/A compliance (levels "a" and "b") which achieve this goal with varying degrees of severity.

PDF/A-1a compliance means that in addition to exact visual reproduction, this format includes mapping text to Unicode<sup>9</sup>, which means that the semantic properties of the document are defined in computer language. PDF/A-1a files can also extract text and define the logical structure properties of that text (that is, describes the elements of a document as 'heading', 'paragraph', etc., and how these elements relate to each other within the document)<sup>10</sup>. While it seems a bit far-fetched right now, this ability makes PDF/A-1a the only compliance mode which can restructure and display document text on a mobile device, an increasingly popular access point. PDF/A-1a is considered the strictest level of compliance to the PDF/A standard.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This is another example of the need of PDF/As to be independent and self-contained- there are no guarantees that the page the hyperlink connects to will still exist in the future, and so PDF/A compliance will involve severing these links.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Unmasked" hyperlinks have the website's URL fully written out in the document (i.e., <a href="http://www.supreme.courts.state.tx.us">http://www.supreme.courts.state.tx.us</a>). A "masked" hyperlink is a string of text which invites the reader to click and redirects to another website, but does not write out the URL on the page (i.e., <a href="Click here!">Click here!</a>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> However, other Adobe applications, such as PhotoShop, do not have these particular restrictions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Lossless data compression makes use of data compression algorithms which allow the original data to be exactly reconstructed after compression. This can be contrasted to "lossy" data compression algorithms, which discard bits of the original data for time and file size advantages (used in formats such as JPEG). Lossless compression is used when it is important that the original and the decompressed data be identical, such as in an archival setting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> TIFF (Tagged Image File Format) is an optionally extensive, tag-based format for storing and sharing raster images. They are not necessarily compressed, which means that no data is lost from the original digital image. For more information: http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/formats/fdd/fdd000022.shtml

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Unicode is the universal character encoding standard used to enable machines to read human language text. Unicode defines codes for characters used in all major languages. <a href="http://www.pdfa.org/doku.php?id=artikel:en:improved\_pdfa-1b">http://www.pdfa.org/doku.php?id=artikel:en:improved\_pdfa-1b</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> This is done without requiring any human intervention using a labeling technology called XMP (eXtensible Metadata Platform). For more information: http://www.adobe.com/products/xmp/overview.html

(PDF/A continued from page 8)

PDF/A-1b compliance simply means the format is a uniform visual reproduction, without the text mapping and content structuring. NARA, and therefore the federal courts, does not indicate a preference for one or the other, but in my experience it is easier and more pragmatic for most documents to conform to PDF/A-1b — the "lower level" of conformance. An important difference worth noting is that only PDF/A-1b supports keyword text search.

### How are PDF/A documents created?

Creation of fully supported PDF/As requires Adobe Acrobat 8 Professional (and above) or a similar software. Microsoft Office 2007 supports creation of PDF/A files through the downloadable Adobe plug-in (select *Preferences>Conversion Settings*, and either check the *Create a PDF/A-1a compliant file* box or select PDF/A-1b from the dropdown menu). Open Office introduced support for PDF/A in release 2.4 (in early 2008). Several commercial companies with products aimed at large enterprises have produced products supporting the creation, migration, and validation of PDF/A files: Apago, Inc., Visioneer (for scanning paper to PDF/A), Callas Software, gDoc Fusion, LiveCycle PDF Generator, Nuance, and PDF Tools AG<sup>11</sup>.

A look at the federal courts' PACER website suggests the conversion process from a traditional PDF is as simple as clicking *Save As...PDF/A*. Unfortunately (at least, in my experience) this method doesn't always work, for numerous technical reasons that are too difficult to explain in this one article<sup>12</sup>. Basically, during this conversion, the file being processed is checked against the PDF/A standard described above. If it does not meet the requirements for this standard, you are prompted to either cancel or create a non-compliant (traditional PDF) file. The prompt will also suggest that you run the document with the Adobe PreFlight tool for an explanation as to why your conversion did not work.

To use this tool, go to *Advanced>Preflight*. In the Profiles tab, select *PDF/A compliance>Convert to PDF/A-1b*, then click *Analyze and Fix*. Acrobat will prompt you to save the file. The tool will then run and deliver a report- either no problems with the conversion were found, or (a more likely case) problems were discovered in the process. While it is possible to perform individual fixes for each problem using "single fixups," this may require more time and effort than you're willing to invest<sup>13</sup>.

If using PreFlight alone fails to create a valid PDF/A, another trick exists. In Acrobat, go to *Export>PostScript>Save*. Close the PDF document. Open the PostScript file with Adobe Distiller. Select PDF/A-1b from Document Settings dropdown menu. If you are using Adobe Acrobat 9, the appearance of a PDF/A document with a blue bar across the top stating "You are viewing this document in PDF/A mode" is an indication of a successful conversion. This can be additionally verified by clicking on the PDF information icon in the left corner and then clicking *Verify Conformance*, which will again check the document against PDF/A standards.

Batch conversion to PDF/A is also possible, and there are two potential ways to go about this. While in Adobe Acrobat, one can go to *Advanced>Document Processing>Batch Processing*, then run the Preflight conversion tool on multiple documents from there. Or from the Preflight tool, you can go to *Options>Create Preflight Droplet*. This is an application, saved to your computer, which uses the "drag and drop" method – all files dropped into the Droplet icon can be converted at the same time. The program compares multiple files simultaneously against the PDF/A standard, and separates the successfully converted from the stubbornly heathen.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> An extensive list of PDF/A compliant products has been put together by AIIM: <a href="http://www.aiim.org/article.aspx?ID=33749">http://www.aiim.org/article.aspx?ID=33749</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> The published ISO PDF 1.4 Reference Manual (which must be understood to understand PDF/A-1) alone has almost 1,000 pages. The PDF/A standards reference manual contains an additional 29 pages.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> For additional help with files that just won't convert, try the tips on this page: http://www.fcla.edu/digitalArchive/pdfs/PDFGuideline.pdf

(PDF/A continued from page 9)

### The Future and PDF/A

While the National Archives does accept electronic records, as of this writing many state archives do not (as is the case in Texas). Therefore, for state court systems it is even more important that all permanent digital records (or those with a retention period of 5+ years)<sup>14</sup> are digitally maintained within your court for long-term preservation, preferably with an additional paper or — even better — microform master copy which can eventually be sent to your state's archives.

A new version of PDF/A (called PDF/A-2, based on the updated standard PDF version 1.7) is in the final stages of approval, but ISO has mandated that all future versions of the format must be backwards compatible. This means that all of the PDF/A-1s created now will still be accessible in the future when the switch to PDF/A-2 is complete.

If you are still interested in learning even more about the wonders of PDF/A, but you do not wish to read the 1000+ pages in the ISO reference manuals, *PDF/A* in a Nutshell: Long Term Archiving with PDF by Olaf Drümmer et al is an excellent resource at only 87 pages. I am unsure whether or not it is currently available in PDF/A, but I imagine it could be.

About the author: Tiffany Shropshire has a master's degree in information studies with an emphasis in archives and preservation from the University of Texas at Austin. She is currently the archivist for the Supreme Court of Texas.

<sup>14</sup> This is a very general, personal recommendation based upon my training and observation.

## **SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**

Michael Richie (OK

The NCACC's Thirty-Eighth Annual Conference program is going to an intellectual rollercoaster ride. We will begin on Sunday with North Dakota Justice Daniel Crothers addressing the on-going ethical concerns associated with social networking. Monday's focus will be the well being of our offices and ourselves. These presentations will, to the extent possible, be interactive as programming of this nature is generally well received by conference attendees. On Tuesday our attention will be drawn to the importance of the judiciary's role in maintaining the democratic institutions we all cherish. U.S. Supreme Court Clerk Bill Suter will start us off with a review of the U.S. Supreme Court's significant cases from the past year. This will be followed by a presentation by Dr. William Meinecke of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum



concerning "How the Courts Failed Germany". Next on Tuesday will be the Thomson/Reuters event – an evening at the U.S. Supreme Court hosted by Justice Samuel Alito. We all are indebted to Bill Suter, Cynthia Rapp and Bessie Decker for bringing this event together.

Wednesday will be primarily dedicated to technical subjects. The IJIS Institute will speak to Integrated Justice Standards as a bridge between the Courts and the rest of government. This will be followed by the Vendor Luncheon and the Vendor Showcases. Thursday's highlights include the ever-popular "What's Bugging You" followed by a Christie Cameron moderated panel addressing The Court's Relationship with the Media.

Amidst all of this will be two plenary sessions, the BNA and Lexis/Nexis events and a golf tournament. There are still a couple of speakers to be secured. So you will just have to wait for "the rest of the story" as Paul Harvey would say.

The Program Committee is very hopeful that the Annapolis program will be exciting and helpful, that you will take home valuable lessons learned and that along the way you had an enjoyable time with your colleagues.

# NOMINATION FORM FOR OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2011-2012

Deadline to submit form is February 25, 2011

Office of Vice-President:
Presently held by Rory Perry (WV)
Office of Treasurer:
Presently held by Irene Bizzoso (PA) (Treasurer can be reelected)
Executive Committee Position 1:
Presently held by Susan Festag (CO)
Executive Committee Position 2:
Presently held by Steve Kenyon (ID)
Executive Committee Position 3:
Presently held by Amy Reitz (OH)
Your participation in the nomination process is vital to the well-being and growth of NCACC
The Nominating Committee actively seeks nominations from all members and relies heavily on
those nominations in determining the proposed slate of officers. Feel free to submit a list of partia
nominations if you don't have suggestions for every position. Consider nominating yourself if you
are willing to serve. Do what you can, but please do something!
are willing to corve. Do what you our, but pleade do comothing.

Please submit nominations to:

Colette Bruggman, Chair Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District 621 Capitol Mall, 10th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814 Colette.bruggman@jud.ca.gov (916) 653-0201 Phone (916) 653-0317 Fax

# NCACC AWARDS COMMITTEE WANTS YOUR NOMINATIONS NOW

The 2010-2011 Awards Committee wants your nominations for the J.O. Sentell Award and the Morgan Thomas Award. These awards will be presented at the 2011 NCACC Annual Conference to be held in Annapolis, Maryland.

The past recipient of the J.O. Sentell Award was listed in the October 2010 issue of *The Docket*. A survey made in 1995 of the past recipients of the J.O. Sentell Award indicated that past members felt that some of their best qualities were expressed in these words: love your work, set and achieve goals, be diligent, be committed, demonstrate patience, use sound judgment, be sensitive to your fellow men and women, and give your best. I know that many of the NCACC members I have known since joining the conference demonstrate these qualities so please send your nomination for these two awards to the committee.

The J.O. Sentell Award is given to a member of the NCACC who has contributed substantially to the objectives of the conference, including improving skill and knowledge through conferences, seminars or other educational programs; promoting and improving the contribution of appellate court clerk offices within the area of effective court administration; and collecting and dissemination of information and ideas concerning the operation and improvement of the offices of appellate court clerks.

The Morgan Thomas Award is for recognition of an individual who is not a member of the NCACC and who has made distinguished contributions to enhancing professionalism and supporting the goals of the NCACC as a body and of its members individually.

The Awards Nomination Form should be sent by February 14, 2010 using email, fax or and mail to:

Trish Harrington NCACC Awards Committee Chair Supreme Court of Virginia 100 N. 9<sup>th</sup> St., 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Richmond, VA 23219

E-Mail ▶ pharrington@courts.state.va.us

Fax ► 804-786-6249

### **Awards Committee 2010-2011**

Trish Harrington, Chair (VA) Ed Hosken (DC) Joseph Lane (CA)
Marilyn May (AK) Mike Yerly (CA)

# **Awards Committee Suggestions Form**

### J. O. SENTELL AWARD

Please	make	your	recommendation	below	and	give	your	reasons.	(If more	space	is needed,	please	attach	additional
page(s).	)													

page(s).)	
I nominate:	No nomination []
Reasons:	
	MORGAN THOMAS AWARD
Please make your recommendation l page(s).)	pelow and give your reasons. (If more space is needed, please attach addition
I nominate:	No nomination []
Reasons:	
Please return this form by February	

by FAX ► Trish Harrington, Clerk FAX: (804) 786-6249

by Mail ▼

Trish Harrington, Clerk of Court Supreme Court of Virginia 100 North Ninth Street, Fifth Floor Richmond, VA 23219-2305

