



**The 44<sup>th</sup> NCACC Annual Meeting**  
**in Lake Tahoe, Nevada**  
**August 6-11, 2017**

Please plan on attending the Annual Meeting in 2017 in beautiful Lake Tahoe! Lake Tahoe is the largest alpine lake in North America. It is so deep, you could stand the Empire State Building in it and not see the top! It is known for its amazing clarity and variety of beaches. The meeting will be held at Harvey's Resort in South Lake Tahoe. From Harvey's, you can easily walk to lots of restaurants, shopping, and other entertainment. Lake Tahoe is unparalleled in terms of outdoor recreation: hiking, kayaking, biking, and stand-up paddling are just some of the many options. You can check out this link for an overview of what Lake Tahoe has to offer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9stJx0Ej9YU> Apart from the wonderful location, there will, as always, be educational and informative programming, fun social events, and lots of opportunities to make new friends and renew old acquaintances. As a bonus, the Association of Reporters of Judicial Decisions will be holding their annual meeting in the same venue from August 3-6, so there will be a chance to interact with the Reporters, and maybe even share some informational sessions.

I am excited to welcome all of you to Nevada, and Lake Tahoe specifically. I hope to see you there!



## Inside This Edition:

<b>Conference in Lake Tahoe</b> <i>Tracie Lindeman (NV)</i>	Page 1
<b>The President's Page</b> <i>Irene Bizzoso (PA)</i>	Pages 3-4
<b>NCACC on Twitter</b>	Page 4
<b>A View from the EEOC Director's Chair</b> <i>Tim Gudas (NH)</i>	Page 5
<b>Great Time In Denver</b> <i>Polly Brock (CO)</i>	Page 6
<b>Host the 2020 Conference</b> <i>Trish Harrington (VA)</i>	Page 7
<b>Appellate Innovations Project Update</b> <i>Larry Royster (MI)</i>	Page 8
<b>Awards Presentations</b> <i>Deana Williamson (TX)</i>	Page 9
<b>Making Great Projects Happen</b> <i>Tim Gudas (NH)</i>	Page 10
<b>Privacy and Court Records</b> <i>Eileen Fox (NH)</i>	Page 11
<b>Technology Challenge: Trial Court Exhibits</b> <i>Jenny Kitchings &amp; John Reynolds</i>	Page 12
<b>Words of Remembrance</b> <i>Frans Labranche</i>	Page 13
<b>2016-2017 NCACC Committees</b>	Pages 14-17
<b>FUN IN DENVER!</b>	Page 18

## THE DOCKET

### News of the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks

---

President	Irene Bizzoso (PA)
President Elect	Eileen Fox (NH)
Vice-President	Dan Shearouse (SC)
Past President	Blake Hawthorne (TX)
Secretary	Sherry Williamson (TX)
Treasurer	Janet Johnson (AZ)
Executive Committee	Lisa Collins (UT) Jenny Kitchings (SC) Scott Mitchell (AL) Chris Prine (TX) Lillian Richie (LA) Jakob Trierweiler (AZ)

#### Communications Committee

Kevin Lane (CA)	(619) 744-0781
Chair and Editor	kevin.lane@jud.ca.gov
Sherry Williamson (TX)	
Assistant Editor	sherry.williamson@txcourts.gov
Paula Garcia (CA)	
	paula.garcia@jud.ca.gov
Tim Gudas (NH)	
	tgudas@courts.state.nh.us
Trish Harrington (VA)	
	pharrington@vacourts.gov
Greg Pachmayr (IN)	
	greg.pachmayr@courts.in.gov
Deana Williamson (TX)	
	deana.williamson@txcourts.gov

# THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

IRENE BIZZOSO (PA)

As I sit here ready to pen my first official piece for *The Docket* as President of the National Conference of Appellate Courts, I find it hard to believe that almost two months have passed since our Forty-Third Annual Meeting in wonderful Denver, Colorado. But, indeed, time has passed. Fall has begun and the first formal meeting of the 2016/2017 Executive Board, to be held at the site of our Forty-Fifth Annual Meeting in San Diego, California and hosted by the hardworking Editor of this publication, Kevin Lane, Clerk/Administrator California Court of Appeal Fourth Appellate District, is only a few weeks away. I imagine my year as President will proceed quickly, just as the past 16 years have passed so quickly, since my first Annual Meeting in Savannah, Georgia.



My former boss and mentor Charlie Johns, Esq., once encouraged me to join the NCACC, advising me that it was the only organization that truly understood the job of an appellate court clerk, with its various challenges and intricacies and that I could learn a lot from the organization and its members. He also encouraged me to get involved in a leadership role stating, "One day I want you to represent Pennsylvania as the NCACC's President."

Charlie was insightful on all accounts. I have learned and grown in so many ways, not only professionally but personally, all because of my involvement with the NCACC. I would not be here today without the guidance and examples of others that have gone before me, such as our outgoing President, Blake Hawthorne, Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas. The strength of our organization is not based on one or two persons, it comes from our collective knowledge, skills and love of our jobs. Thus, I want to thank all of you for your continued membership and support and would like to welcome our new members to the NCACC.

I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the wonderful job our host, Polly Brock, Chief Deputy Clerk, Colorado Court of Appeals, did in hosting the meeting this year. I know a lot of time and effort went into pulling off such a wonderful meeting. She would be the first person to tell you that she could not have done such a thorough job without the backing of her Court and the assistance of people like Sonya Stromberg, Judicial Assistant to the Chief Judge of the Colorado Supreme Court; new member, Rito Vasquez, Technical Support Supervisor; and Deana Williamson, Deputy Clerk, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. Kudos to the Denver Appellate Court's beautiful judicial center and the strong program spearheaded by Eileen Fox, President-Elect, as Program Chair. I know that Rex Renk and his program committee will



# THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

IRENE BIZZOSO (PA) *(Continued)*

continue the legacy of providing us with quality, relevant educational and leadership topics, while Jakob Trierweiler will continue Rex's legacy by keeping us up to date with technical trends and developments via the vendor show in Tahoe next summer.

Speaking of Tahoe, as many are aware, Tracie Lindeman is leaving the Supreme Court of Nevada. Never fear, however, while she is no longer qualified to serve as Treasurer, she will continue to be our host for the Forty-Fourth Annual Meeting in Lake Tahoe, Nevada, August 5th through the 11th and is busy coordinating with the program and vendor chairs, along with sponsors such as Thomson Reuters. I look forward to continuing to work with Tracie and wish her all the best in her new endeavors. Speaking of new endeavors, the Executive Committee would like to welcome Janet Johnson (AZ) into the role of Treasurer and Christopher Prine (TX) as Janet's replacement on the Executive Committee pursuant to NCACC Bylaws, Article V(4) and Article VII(2)(b), respectively. I would like to thank the Nominating Committee for its assistance in filling these two critical roles. Without volunteers such as these the NCACC would not be able to be the organization it is and we would not be able to put on the quality educational programs for which we have become known.

I also wanted to thank the over fifty of you who have signed up for committees. Without your dedication and volunteerism to perform the work of the conference, the NCACC would flounder. As many presidents before me have relayed, it is the committee work that makes the NCACC a truly viable organization. With the changes made to the Bylaws this year, there are even more opportunities to serve, not less as many have expressed concern, since size limitations to most committees have been lifted. I want to take this opportunity to state that if you are interested in serving the NCACC through committee work, it is not too late.

Last, but certainly not least, I wanted to express my gratitude for the confidence you all have shown by selecting me as your President. I am deeply honored and will exert all possible efforts on the behest of the NCACC family.

## NCACC ON TWITTER!

If you have a Twitter account, please make sure to follow us—our username is @NCACCorg. If you tweet a matter of interest to the Conference, please make sure to include @NCACCorg in your tweet. Hashtags also provide an easy way for us to share photos and information with each other. If you post pictures to social media (Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram) during our annual meetings or if you ever have a picture that might be of interest to the membership, please include the hashtag #NCACCorg with your pictures so we can all enjoy them.

## A View from the EEOC Director's Chair

### John C. Lowrie – Director of Denver Field Office, EEOC

By: Tim Gudas

John C. Lowrie, director of the Denver field office of the United States Equal Opportunity Employment Commission (EEOC), gave an informative presentation at the conference on “lessons learned from two years at the EEOC and best practices in hiring.” The EEOC is the federal agency responsible for enforcing several anti-discrimination statutes, including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, the Equal Pay Act, and the Rehabilitation Act. Mr. Lowrie explained that courts run the risk of violating these laws because court officials and employees may overconfidently assume that “we know the law” and that our employment practices and policies “must be legal because that’s the way we’ve always done it.”

As an agency faced with a limited budget, inadequate staffing, and a large volume of discrimination charges, the EEOC has developed a “strategic enforcement plan,” which sets forth the EEOC’s hot-button issues and its enforcement priorities. The EEOC’s current priorities include eliminating harassment, bullying, and retaliation; protecting immigrant, migrant, and other vulnerable workers, including LGBTQ workers; enforcing Equal Pay laws and targeting compensation systems that discriminate based on gender; protecting aging baby boomers from age discrimination based on stereotypical assumptions about their technological inferiority to younger workers; and preserving access to the legal system by focusing on employer policies that restrict employees from exercising their rights under employment laws and on separation or severance agreements that limit or “gag” an employee’s right to participate or cooperate in EEOC investigations.

Mr. Lowrie offered the following recommendations for courts in hiring and managing employees:

- Hire the most qualified candidates.
- Follow your established procedures.
- Make sure job postings match the job.
- Provide employees with *candid*, not sugar-coated, performance appraisals on a consistent schedule.
- Check and update position descriptions and policies regularly.
- Address issues of harassment and bullying promptly.
- Be consistent in your employment decisions and actions.

Mr. Lowrie provided special words of caution about employers’ hiring-related use of social media and outsourced background checks and reports. He stated that employers should avoid using Facebook or other social media tools to screen or monitor candidates and employees. Doing so is “fraught with danger” because social media may reveal information about a candidate or employee that the employer has no legitimate business to know (such as medical information about a candidate). Outsourced background checks about an employee or job applicant should be conducted only if the employee or applicant has given permission, and the employee or applicant must be provided with a copy of the report and a “notice of rights” if the employer decides not to retain or hire the person because of something in the report.



# 2016 Denver

Denver Colorado July 31st-4th, 2016 Forty-Third Annual Meeting

## **GREAT TIME IN DENVER!**

By: Polly Brock

Whew! For those of you who made it to Denver, you know what an action-packed week we had. Sunday night started with a discussion about Ralph L. Carr, Governor of Colorado during WWII, and was followed by small group tours of the Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center and Learning Center. We had an amazing dinner hosted by Bloomberg BNA right in the building. Monday, August 1st, which is Colorado Day, we went to the Colorado History Center for a Colorado-inspired buffet and a walk through the History Museum, hosted by Thomson Reuters. On Wednesday night, we danced the night away to *That '80s Band* at the great LexisNexis party.

The week was filled with great learning opportunities. If you were not able to come to Denver, you can check out two of the programs right on the NCACC homepage—1) our Opperman Speaker Scott Berkun, *Making Great Projects Happen* and 2) Dr. Herrmann of the German Supreme Court, *Court Structures in Germany and Technology Initiatives in European Courts* are available for you to view.

Most importantly, we had 83 NCACC members and 9 retirees (and with family, friends, and vendors 223 total) meet in Denver to share insight and friendships. It was a really wonderful time to connect with each other, and as the now *Past Host*, I look forward to meeting in Lake Tahoe next summer to learn about what all of you have been up to this

For the complete collection of photos from the conference, go to this link:  
<https://blakehawthorne.smugmug.com/upload/5xJQH8/ncacc2016>

## SHOW OFF YOUR CITY/STATE— HOST THE 2020 CONFERENCE!!!

The Site Selection Committee is seeking bids to host the NCACC annual educational conference in August 2020. This invitation is open to all members, including past hosts. This is an excellent opportunity to show off the wonderful features of your city or state. There are plenty of resources to use to host a conference so that you are not alone in handling all of the tasks. Your local visitors' organization can help solicit bids from local hotels and accompany you on site visits. There is a Host Handbook with lots of information compiled by former hosts to guide you. Former hosts are also willing to answer questions or give you advice as you plan the conference. Also, the Contracts Committee has a collection of recent hotel contracts that you can review to compare to hotel bids. That committee also helps by reviewing any proposed contracts as things progress. During the conference itself, you will have huge amounts of help from the Program Committee, Convention Assistance Committee, and others. If you are concerned about having sole responsibility for hosting, you can pair with another clerk to co-host and share the duties. We can promise you that you will enjoy showing your fellow clerks all the wonderful features of your city and will be glad you took on the challenge. Please contact any of the members listed below if you are interested in hosting or have any questions.

Trish Harrington, Chair (VA)  
[pharrington@vacourts.gov](mailto:pharrington@vacourts.gov)  
(804) 786-2251

Debbie Autrey (TX)  
Ed Hosken (DC-Ret)  
Marilyn May (AK)

Ron Carpenter (WA-Ret)  
Petra Hulm (ND)  
Sandra Skinner (MO)

Tom Hall (FL-Ret)  
Lisa Matz (TX)

## APPELLATE INNOVATIONS PROJECT UPDATE

*By Larry Royster (MI)*

The first full day of the 2016 NCACC conference was “book-ended” by presentations on the topic of innovation. The morning presentation by this year’s Opperman Speaker, Scott Berkun, discussed themes from his best-selling book, *The Myth of Innovation*. The myth, as explained by Mr. Berkun, is that innovative ideas and discoveries often arise from epiphanic “Eureka” moments. In reality, technologies considered innovative usually result from arduous research and experimentation that incrementally improve the ideas or products that preceded them. The afternoon presentation, Appellate Innovations Project Update by John Doerner, illustrated that point as it pertains to appellate court innovations.

Mr. Doerner, a principal court management consultant with the National Center for State Courts, oversees an exciting project that is being funded through a grant from the State Justice Institute and administered by the NCSC—the Appellate Innovations Project.

The objective of the Appellate Innovations Project is to develop a catalog of innovative programs and practices of appellate courts that primarily decrease the disposition times of cases. Although the focus is on delay reduction, the catalog will also include programs and practices with indirect, hard-to-quantify effects on reducing disposition times. As an initial step in developing the catalog, the NCSC sent a survey in late July 2015 to all state<sup>1</sup> courts of last resort (COLR) and intermediate appellate courts (IAC) to determine the programs and practices they currently have in place. Federal appellate courts were not surveyed. The survey results were included with the conference educational materials, which are available on the [NCACC’s website](#).

Fifty-three percent of the COLR and 35% of the IAC responded to the survey. The majority of respondents indicated that their courts currently have, or will soon have, electronic filing, electronic records, electronic transcripts, and document management systems. Other technological applications mentioned by the responding courts included upgraded case management systems, electronic notification of the courts’ opinions and orders, electronic voting and signatures of the judges/justices, and paperless case files. At the conference session, there was much interest and discussion about web-based transcript management services being utilized in some states.

The vast majority of survey respondents also answered that their courts measure the time to disposition, through explicit or implicit time standards, and believed that technological applications have helped achieve efficiencies in disposing of cases.

In the near future, Mr. Doerner intends to post the survey results and the catalog of innovative programs and practices, along with the names and contact information of persons responsible for the programs and practices, on the NCSC website so that other courts considering similar projects can speak to someone with knowledge and experience. The webpage should serve as a terrific resource for implementing and improving innovative programs and practices in our own courts.

---

<sup>1</sup>The state courts included the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the territories of Guam, US Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.





## **BILL DECICCO RECEIVES THE J.O. SENTELL AWARD**

Each year the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks (NCACC) recognizes a member of the organization who has exhibited extraordinary leadership, service and devotion to the organization, while furthering the Conference's professional objectives in support of the advancement of the judicial system and dedication to public service. Established in 1979, the award is named for the Conference's first President and one of its founding members, J.O. Sentell, Clerk of the Alabama Supreme Court. This year the NCACC honored Bill DeCicco, the Clerk of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, with its highest award at its annual meeting held in Denver, Colorado, during the week of July 31, 2016. Bill has provided outstanding service and leadership to the NCACC throughout his 15 years as a member. His contributions to the NCACC have been significant.

He served as President in 2010-2011 and two terms as Secretary, as well as chairing numerous committees. In addition to his service in these positions, he offers many other contributions. He is always the first to volunteer to sit at the registration table for the annual conference. It is a delight to walk up and be greeted by his warm smile and friendly personality! He is quick to welcome our new members and offer assistance in any way possible. Through his involvement in NCACC, Bill has become a very dear friend to all of us. The NCACC recognizes Bill for his distinguished service to our organization, and is deeply grateful for his time and efforts.

## **KARYN BOWIE RECEIVES THE MORGAN THOMAS AWARD**

The Morgan Thomas Award is for recognition of an individual other than a regular member of the NCACC who has made distinguished contributions to enhancing professionalism and supporting the goals of the NCACC as a body and of its members individually. The recipient this year for the Morgan Thomas Award was Karyn Bowie of Bloomberg BNA. Karyn was presented the award during the NCACC 2016 annual conference in Denver, Colorado. She has been attending the annual conference for many years and has been instrumental in creating a partnership between Bloomberg BNA and NCACC. In recent years, she has brought more BNA staff to the conferences, further supporting the NCACC's goals and developing professional relationships. The NCACC is proud to acknowledge all of the tremendous contributions Karyn has made to our organization over the years.





# Making Great Projects Happen

## Scott Berkun – Project Manager, Author, and Professional Speaker

By: Tim Gudas

The Dwight D. Opperman speaker at this year's conference was Scott Berkun, a former project manager at Microsoft and a frequent author and speaker on innovation, creativity, and project management. His books include The Myths of Innovation and Making Things Happen: Mastering Project Management. In an engaging and fast-paced presentation that is viewable on the NCACC website, Scott explained that the popularly held notion of how innovation and progress happen – a sudden “light bulb” in the mind, an epiphany, or a eureka moment – is wrong. Isaac Newton did not “discover” gravity simply by having an apple fall on his head, and Thomas Edison's greatest contribution did not come from his “invention” of the light bulb. Rather, Newton developed his law of gravity only after years of repeated observation and analysis, and Edison's light bulb would have had little impact if Edison had not also painstakingly developed the complex electrical system that allowed the light bulb to improve people's lives. In each instance, however, the innovation myth has survived and thrived because people “remember simple stories, even if they are false, more easily than complex stories, even if they are true.”

For successful project management, the true story of innovation and progress is that experimentation is required. Experimentation is the testing of *uncertain* outcomes in a protected way, which means that the experiment (a pilot program of an e-filing system, a beta test of new technology, a focus group for possible rules changes, etc.) may not produce the desired or intended result. Rather than treat such a result as a failure, however, we should view the “mistakes” as valuable data for improving the project or even leading the project in a new and different direction. For example, 3M's popular Post-it® Notes resulted unexpectedly from an employee's effort to develop an industrial-grade adhesive.

As many of us may have experienced, court technology projects can often grind at a frustratingly slow pace. Scott offered the following tips to overcome that problem:

- Make the team smaller (no more than 5-6 members).
- Use even smaller sub-teams to act as “scouts” or “explorers” to quickly and simultaneously gather information concerning different possible approaches.
- Give the team more authority (committees should never lead, but only advise).
- Choose a leader that earns trust.
- Set smaller goals, with faster pace.

Finally, Scott emphasized that project management is fundamentally about the process of shepherding an idea for improvement from the idea phase to the success phase. Most projects fail at the “pitch” phase. Thus, persuasion and perseverance in selling the idea within your court are as important as creativity.

**Professor Anne Klinefelter**  
**Privacy and Court Records – “Digital is Different”**

By Eileen Fox

Professor Anne Klinefelter, Associate Professor of Law at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Director of the University of North Carolina Law Library, addressed conference attendees on the topic of “Privacy and Court Records.” Professor Klinefelter described the UNC Law Library’s project to digitize briefs and appendices filed with the North Carolina Supreme Court prior to the court’s implementation of e-filing. The UNC Law Library was one of several libraries that received copies of briefs and appendices filed in Supreme Court cases. The Law Library decided to digitize the records to increase the ease of public access. Recognizing that the court filings contained sensitive personal information, Professor Klinefelter and a colleague began an empirical study to determine the extent to which sensitive information appeared in the records.

Professor Klinefelter began her presentation with a review of the history of access to courts and court records, and the development of privacy law. She described the long history of open trials and court records throughout the United States. This openness serve many functions, including ensuring that our system of justice operates fairly and is accountable to the public. She then described the development of privacy law and the increasing recognition of the need and right of individuals to protect personal information.

Courts are regularly called upon in the context of cases to determine when individual privacy interests support restrictions on public access to records or proceedings. But the interests of open access and privacy may also come into conflict when courts decide to make records available online by digitizing court records or implementing e-filing. Digital technology presents new privacy risks because the harm that individuals may suffer when private information is made available digitally is greatly increased. “Digital is different,” Professor Klinefelter said, and this may require a rebalancing of the interests of access and privacy.

In connection with the UNC Law Library’s digitization project, Professor Klinefelter and her colleague analyzed more than 500 briefs and appendices to determine the categories and types of sensitive information that they contained and the frequency with which the information appeared in the filings. Their analysis revealed that the most common types of sensitive information in the filings was information about location, identity, criminal proceedings, health, assets, financial information and civil proceedings. Professor Klinefelter said, for example, that the State’s brief in a criminal case described the abduction and rape of a 10 year-old rape victim and included her name. A civil filing included the plaintiff’s date of birth, social security number, home address and medical records.

Professor Klinefelter said that courts must carefully balance the competing public access and privacy interests when deciding how to make court records available online. She concluded her presentation with a series of questions that policy makers may want to consider in making these decisions, and suggested that courts consider developing best practices for dealing with this important and difficult issue.

## Technology Challenge: Trial Court Exhibits

*Jenny Abbott Kitchings and John Reynolds*

In South Carolina, appellants are responsible for creating the record on appeal for review by the court. In many instances, this is a document with numbered pages. However, some types of exhibits entered into the record below cannot be reproduced in paper or as a pdf. What's an appellate court to do? Our rules allow for exhibits to be physically transported to the appellate court (with certain exceptions, notably guns and drugs) by order of the clerk. See [Rule 210\(f\), SCACR](#).

One of the issues we have faced is making those exhibits available to court personnel for viewing. Our case management system allows us to upload a url, which points to a special exhibits server. Once uploaded, the user simply clicks on the exhibit and it will automatically play with the default media player. It's great, *if* we can convert the exhibit to a digital format supported by the player. We can color scan photos and upload videos, but more and more we are coming across videos and/or audio files that require proprietary players to view. Our judges and staff have become accustomed to the convenience of watching videos from anywhere, and it is a time-consuming inconvenience if we can't convert the media.

Perhaps a rule change would help set the stage for positive change. As noted, in South Carolina, the appellant is responsible for creating the record on appeal, so we could by rule require the parties to convert proprietary media to some universal format. Maybe vendors could provide a "save as" feature for their proprietary media to allow for a more usable format.

So we are throwing this one out to the crowd, with a promise of an update in a future edition of *The Docket*. How do your courts deal with this dilemma? Let us know at [jkitchings@sccourts.org](mailto:jkitchings@sccourts.org).





## WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

### BY YOUR ORIGINAL LOGO



“Greetings!!! I am your original logo, created by your founding mothers and fathers after much discussion and with a sense of dedication, inspiration and meaning. I was given birth along with the idea of organizing The National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks in 1973. An idea formulated and encouraged by the Chief Justice of the United States and several forward thinking Justices and Appellate Court Judges. I remember those formative meetings and was so proud to be created to be The Logo for this new conference dedicated to improve the skill and knowledge of Appellate Court Clerks of the United States (both state and federal, including military courts and the territories and possessions of the U.S.), so they could better serve their courts and the cause of Justice.”

“Now friends, Appellate Clerks and readers all, lend me your eyes. Look at me. My major presentation consists of tall Roman columns (they are utilitarian and prove significant in the unification of the citizens) and with the capital, represent the Halls of Justice in which all clerks and others are privileged to serve.”

“Next, that building is protected by two sentinels, replicas of our National Flag; WHICH IS PRESENT IN EVERY U.S. COURT. This highlights the importance of flag and country and the freedom, justice for all, vigilance, valor, perseverance and equality for which they stand. They are icons. The letters of the conference are placed vertically *inside* the Halls of Justice to indicate we must be upright, dedicated and inspirational, as we function *inside* and subject to the Court. Our letters are linked or transitional, indicating unity of purpose and membership.”

“For every one’s benefit, some special notification and/or consulting could have been afforded the *founding members* of this Conference.”

“Today, I am very sad because I was REPLACED as your Logo at the 2016 annual business meeting in Denver, Colorado by 37 members. The most hurt was felt because the drawings of two American Flags, which stand as sentinels to the Halls of Justice, were accused of being contrary to ‘our new membership policy on international members.’ I am not opposed to accepting International members as special members, provided they understand they are joining a *United States Appellate Court Conference*, as our name properly and historically indicates.”

“In closing, I truly wish *The National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks*, a long and meaningful life. (*Although you have retired me*, I hope the Conference will at least remember and preserve my image for historic, if for no other, reason.).

“I forgive those who voted me out, perhaps you didn’t understand what I meant and stood for all these 43 years. Make your founding mothers and fathers proud of you.”

*GODSPEED AND GOD BLESS THE NCACC.”*

*RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY,*

*Frans J. Labranche, Jr.*

# 2016-2017 NCACC Committees

## AWARDS, RESOLUTIONS AND MEMORIALS COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to recommend to the Executive Committee nominees for the J.O. Sentell Award and Morgan Thomas Award, to prepare appropriate resolutions for adoption by the Conference as formal expressions of its will and intent and to prepare memorials for deceased members.

Chair: Deana Williamson (TX)

EC Liaison: Lillian Richie (LA)

Members: Bill DeCicco (DC); Ed Hosken (Ret.) (VA); Marilyn May (AK); Meredith Montgomery (AK); and Ruth Willingham (AZ).

## BYLAWS COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to consider amendments to these Bylaws and to make written reports to the Executive Committee each year by April first. The Bylaws Committee shall consist of no more than 5 members including the Chairperson and any ex-officio members.

Chair & EC Liaison: Dan Shearouse (SC)

Members: Sandra Grosko (OH); Ed Hosken (Ret.) (VA); Terry Lord (MO); and Penny Miller (ND).

## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to:

- (a) inform the membership of the activities of the Conference, to provide information to enhance the professionalism of appellate court clerks and their offices, and to publish the NCACC newsletter at least quarterly; and
- (b) promote the mission and objectives of the NCACC by providing information about the Conference and its members to appropriate individuals and groups.

Chair: Kevin Lane (CA)

EC Liaison: Sherry Williamson (TX)

Members: Paula Garcia (CA); Timothy Gudas (NH); Trish Harrington (VA); Greg Pachmayr (IN); and Deana Williamson (TX).

## CONTRACTS COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to review any contract referred to it by the President or the Executive Committee. The Contracts Committee shall report its recommendation to the President and the Executive Committee.

Chair: Tom Harris (NV)

EC Liaison: Scott Mitchell (AL)

Members: Kristen Brown (PA); Ron Carpenter (Ret.) (WA); Tom Hall (Ret.) (FL); Meredith Montgomery (AK); Stacey Pectol (AR); and Larry Royster (MI).

# 2016-2017 NCACC Committees

## CONVENTION ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to provide practical guidance, advice and assistance to Clerks who are hosts of upcoming annual meetings. The Convention Assistance Committee shall consist of an unlimited number of members.

Chair: Deana Williamson (TX)

EC Liaison: Lisa Collins (UT)

Members: Debbie Autrey (TX); Kristen Brown (PA); Pam Estes (TX); Diane Fremgen (WI); Timothy Gudas (NH); Tom Harris (NV); Brandon Henson (CA); Jenny Kitchings (SC); Lisa Matz (TX); Chris Prine (TX); Dorian Ramirez (TX); Douglas Shima (KS); Sonya Stromberg (CO); and Rito Vasquez (CO).

## EDUCATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to develop sources of income to be invested in a restricted fund, the proceeds of which shall be used for educational purposes as more fully set out in the Operational guidelines. The Educational Fund Committee shall be composed of the President-Elect, the Treasurer, and one Executive Committee member to be named by the President. The President shall appoint one of these members as Chairperson.

Chair: Chris Print (TX)

EC Liaison: Eileen Fox (NH)

Members: Janet Johnson, Treasurer

## FINANCE AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to recommend finances and investments to the Executive Committee. The Finance and Investment Committee shall consist of the Treasurer, who shall serve as its Chairperson, and four members appointed by the Executive Committee.

Chair & EC Liaison: Janet Johnson

Members: Chris Crow (Ret.) (LA); Ed Hosken (Ret.) (VA); Joseph Lane (CA); and Penny Miller (ND).

## MEMBERSHIP & PICTORIAL COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to:

- (a) solicit new members and distribute information about the Conference and its activities to new or prospective members;
- (b) to update and maintain the pictorial directory of the Conference, including the annual meeting summaries contained therein; and
- (c) maintain and promote participation in the NCACC listserv.

Chair & EC Liaison: Lisa Collins (UT)

Members: Bryan Boyd (NC); Colette Bruggman (CA); Diane Fremgen (WI); Carol Anne Harley (TX); Sandra Skinner (MO); Kevin Stinson (CA); Lonn Weissblum (FL); and Ruth Willingham (AZ).

# 2016-2017 NCACC Committees

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

The purpose of the committee is to recommend the nomination of regular members to office. The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least five, but no more than nine members, including its Chairperson, and shall be appointed by the President, with the approval at least before the annual business meeting.

Chair: Colette Bruggman (CA)

EC Liaison: Eileen Fox (NH)

Members: Polly Brock (CO); Terry Lord (MO); Chris Prine (TX); and Ruth Willingham (AZ)

## PAST-PRESIDENTS' COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to assist the President and Executive Committee as needed. The Past-Presidents' Committee shall be composed of all living Past-Presidents of the Conference.

Chair & EC Liaison: Blake Hawthorne (TX)

Members: David Beach (VA); Susan Clary (KY); Bill DeCicco (DC); Leslie Gradet (Ret.)(VA); Marilyn Graves (MI); Tom Hall (FL); Jean Kennett (MA); Frans Labranche (LA); Steve Lancaster (IN); Joseph Lane (CA); Terry Lord (MO); Marilyn May (AK); Penny Miller (ND); Rory Perry (WV); Keith Richardson (IA); Christie Roeder (NC); and Sandra Skinner (MO).

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to organize and present an educational program at the annual meeting of the Conference to further the objectives of the Conference and to enhance the skill and knowledge of appellate court clerks.

Chair: Rex Renk (MT)

Vice-Chair & EC Liaison: Jakob Trierweiler (AZ) (Vendor Chair)

Polly Brock (CO); Kristen Brown (PA); Colette Bruggman (CA); Muriel Ellis (MS); Eileen Fox (NH); Eydie Gaiser (WV); Jenny Kitchings (SC); and Larry Royster (MI)

## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to recommend recipients of scholarships to the Executive Committee. The Scholarship Committee shall consist of three members, including its Chairperson, and shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.

Chair: Marilyn May (AK)

EC Liaison: Janet Johnson (AZ)

Members: Lisa Matz (TX) and Amy Reitz (OH)



# 2016-2017 NCACC Committees

## SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to solicit potential hosts for future annual meetings, to evaluate invitations from states, and to make appropriate recommendations to the Executive Committee.

Chair: Trish Harrington (VA)

EC Liaison: Dan Shearouse (SC)

Members: Debbie Autrey (TX); Ron Carpenter (Ret.) (WA); Tom Hall (Ret.) (FL); Ed Hosken (Ret.) (VA); Petra Hulm (ND); Lisa Matz (TX); Marilyn May (AK); and Sandra Skinner (MO)

## STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to review and evaluate ideas and suggestions referred to it by the Executive Committee and based upon its review and evaluation recommend to the Executive Committee courses of action the Executive Committee should adopt.

Chair & EC Liaison: Eileen Fox (NH)

Members: Ed Hosken (Ret.) (VA); Penny Miller (ND); and Dan Shearouse (SC) ex officio

## TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE:

The purpose of this committee is to provide technical support and advice to appellate court clerks and their staff and to coordinate communications between the Conference and other organizations regarding technology issues.

Chair & EC Liaison: Jenny Kitchings (SC)

Members: Larry Royster (MI) and Rito Vasquez (CO)

## REST IN PEACE, ARNIE



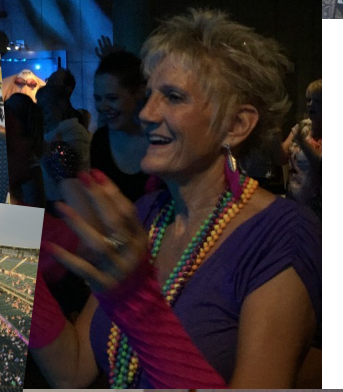




F  
U  
N



I  
N



D  
E  
N  
V  
E  
R

