



MC President Judge Presenza presents Employee Alice Flamer with her award at the MC Awards Banquet

# The Courterly

## Juror Appreciation Day Another Success

*It's also an opportunity to appreciate the FJD Jury Selection Commission employees*

In 2005, over 75,000 citizens reported for jury duty in the First Judicial District. That's a lot of customers for a relatively small workforce – the Jury Selection Commission employees – to deal with. And, since they are the first court employees that many people meet, they have an important role and image to maintain.

While the rigorous demands of the job require the employees of the Jury Selection Commission to be efficient (they have to provide services to more than 300 citizens who show up at about the same time each day), they must also do so with a smile. The employees manage to do a tremendous job with large groups of individuals from many varied backgrounds,



**Juror Day Lineup:** (l-r): a Philadelphia Bar Assn. representative, Ben Franklin, Judge Pamela P. Dembe, former Phillies Star Gary Maddox, Judge Joel S. Jonhson, Trial Div. Civil DCA Charles A. Mapp, Sr.

attitudes, and dispositions. Moreover, Jury Commission

workers are a very important part of the court's effort to bolster public trust and confidence: widely recognized as one of the most important goals for trial courts to achieve.

Every year, the FJD hosts juror appreciation day. This is an important affirmation of the integral role that jurors play in the administration of justice. This is a true symbol of democracy – putting justice in the hands of the people, our peers. This year, Juror Appreciation Day was celebrated on May 4<sup>th</sup>, with special events, luminaries from local politics and sports, and the leaders of the courts. This

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### Special points of interest:

- **Juror Appreciation happens every day at the Jury Selection Commission**
- **Domestic Relations Security Detail keeps families safe.**
- **MC Awards Ceremony features rousing ovations and team spirit.**



**Every Day is Jury Day** for the Jury Selection Commission Employees. Front Row – (Left to Right) Arlene B. Bey, Gail T. Blair, Anne Foy and Marita Roccia. Second Row – (Left to Right) Lorraine Bellinger, Helen Holdsworth, Patrick Martin, Tanya Covington, Jury Commissioner Roger F. Gordon, Cynthia Young, Michele DiPietro and Carol Blackmon. Not pictured: Marie Reitman



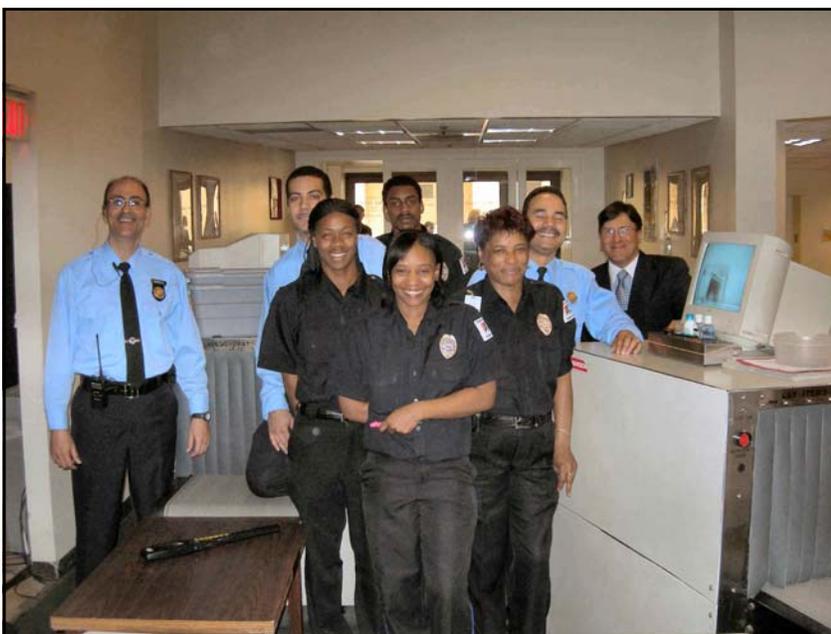
## Domestic Relations Security Detail Hard at Work

The Courthouse that houses the Domestic Relations Section of the Philadelphia Family Court at 34 South 11<sup>th</sup> Street has four lobby entrances that service 600 employees and 2,500 clients daily. While it's a very difficult space to monitor, the Domestic Relations Court Security Unit does an excellent job.

The Security Guards who are stationed at the entrances' metal detectors have a monumental responsibility. While helping to ensure the safety and security of more than 3,000 people every day, they confiscate over 5,000 weapons each year during the screening process. Domestic Relations judicial and administrative leaders have implemented numerous security enhancements to improve the safety of the staff and the public, including emergency preparedness plans and procedures. In addition, all the security guards have successfully completed in-house training programs and they're certified to perform CPR/AED emergency services. Basic First Aid has been added to the training curriculum.

Security cameras have been installed in the main lobby, the Domestic Violence waiting room and on the floor housing the courtrooms. Officers are stationed at security desks located on each floor and security mirrors are strategically placed in the hallways.

Courtroom doors have been installed with viewing devices. A log-in book and a procedure for issuing temporary daily passes have been implemented for visiting



*Top: Standing, (l-r), Ronald Brown (Court Security Officer), Clayton Carter III (Senior Manager, Security & Facility Operations), Deborah Jackson (Court Security Officer), Domestic Relations Deputy Court Administrator Mary Lou Baker, Frank Spatocco (Security Manager), Roy Chambers (Director, Building & Field Operations), Lt. Mark Poggio (Court Security Officer), Sitting, Luiz Fonseca (Court Security Officer).*

*Above: Photo 3x Front row, l-r, Katrina Johnson (ACSS Security Officer), Lovey Jackson (ACSS Security Officer), Belinda Rush (ACSS Security Officer) Back Row, l-r, Luiz Fonseca (Court Security Officer), Gurnell Williams Jr. (Court Security Officer), Matthew Pernel (ACSS Security Officer), Raphael Vargas (Court Security Officer), and Frank Spatocco (Security Manager)*



Above, Judge Amanda Cooperman listens to the speeches



Above: Ben Franklin entertains prospective jurors while Jury Commissioner Roger Gordon helps out in the background. .

## Jury Continued

year's theme was "*Jury Duty: It's in Your Hands.*" Aside from host Judge Pamela Pryor Dembe, jurors on that day also heard speeches from the Mayor; President Judge C. Darnell Jones, III; Administrative Judge James J. Fitzgerald, II; other members of the judiciary, Phillies legend Gary Maddox; and Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds Brown who graciously read a City Council Proclamation. Jurors also received gift bags with tokens of appreciation for their service including FJD coffee mugs, money-saving coupons, and other gift items.

The day could also be a tribute to the FJD employees, also our peers, who strive each day to make sure that the judges, administrators and employees in the courtrooms and other areas of the court system can proceed with their jobs to provide justice to the citizens of Philadelphia. With an eye towards continuous improvement of the juror experience, during calendar year 2005, the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Jury Commission introduced some new changes to the old practices.

With the assistance of Courtroom Operations, two rooms on the second floor of the Criminal Justice Center were made available to sitting jurors. Now, jurors on trial always have a private lounge for eating, reading and relaxation, away from court witnesses and parties.

Congestion in the Criminal Justice Center is a constant. The program creating waiting areas for sitting jurors also included allowing a court officer to utilize elevators previously restricted to court personnel only, in order to transport jurors directly to appropriate floors. During tax season, all federal income tax forms are made available to jurors in the jury assembly room.

For efficiency, more jurors are now scheduled to appear on Mondays and Tuesdays. This move provides jurors for the Civil Section ear-

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## Anniversaries

(January 1 through March 31, 2006)		
Name, Assignment, & Years of Service		
Kalniz, William D	DR CHILD SUPPORT	40
Shearer, Theodore	JUVENILE BRANCH	35
Shechtman, Judith	ADULT PROBATION	35
Marrella, Richard	JUDGE MOSS	30
Simmons, Marvella	PROTHONOTARY PRJ	25
Loneragan, Sally P	JUDGE TERESHKO	20
Kuczynski, Edward	JUDGE GILBERT	15
Anderson, Trina M	ADULT PROBATION GE	5
Griffin, Linda M	ADMINISTRATIVE SER	5
Latif, Aliyah J	ADULT PROBATION GE	5
Peterson, Adam E	ADULT PROBATION GE	5
Ramsey, Wanda D	ADULT PROBATION GE	5
Salter, Paul D	CIVIL ADMINISTRATI	5
Savage, Deborah	PROTHONOTARY PRJ	5
Simpkins, Kim V	JUDGE CLARK	5

## Retirements

(January 1 through May 30, 2006)		
Name, Assignment, & Years of Service		
Amen, Rosalie L	Clerk Typist II	16
Cimorelli, James N	Legal Clerk 4	31
Gabor, Carol A	Admin Secretary 2	22
Messina, Clare	Dep Ch Ctrm Op TC	27
Fitzgerald Jr., John J	Director I	43
Vessells, Mildred L	Court Adm Ofer 2	30
Brunelli, Domenic F	Probation Off. V (Un	36
Simpkins, Robert A	Probation Ofer 2	21
Benton Jr., James R	Probation Ofer 2	33
Carlone, Alfred R	Director 2	31
O'Brien, Mildred M	Tipstaff 1 (Gen)	10
Doyle, Mary M	Court Adm Ofer 2	16
Falcone, William H	Senior Court Reporte	33
Jackson, Bernard L	Security Guard Serge	24
Peiffer, Mary L	Social Worker 3	34
Aiken, Jr., George D	Tipstaff 1 (Gen)	10

## Security Continued

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guests of the Domestic Relations Section.

Crowd control is often a daunting task, but the guards nonetheless manage to balance courtesy and security. The members of the Domestic Relations Security Unit successfully enforce all policies, procedures, and rules and regulations in a fair and impartial manner. They recognize the sometimes very sensitive nature of domestic relations cases. The security detail is also mindful of the social interrelationships and constitutional rights of all the people who seek relief from difficult and pressing problems at home through accessing the



capable services provided by the judges, administrators and staff of the Domestic Relations Division of the Philadelphia Family Court.

Above (l-r): Clayton Carter III (Senior Manager, Security & Facility Operations), Lolita Torres, (ACSS Security Officer) Sgt. James Smith (Court Security Officer), Lt. Mark Poggio (Court Security Officer)

## LeClaire Golf Outing a Three-Way Success

The Sgt. Joseph LeClaire 2<sup>nd</sup> Memorial Golf Tournament was a success in several ways. First, the moneys raised were donated to a worthy cause: the Toys for Tots Campaign. Second, the memory of Joe LeClaire was honored by many friends, family, and coworkers. Third, a lot of people had a lot of fun at a great outing.

As FJD readers know, Sergeant LeClaire, a former Marine, was mortally wounded on March 19, 2004 while attempting to apprehend a fugitive along with several other members of the FJD Warrant Unit who were lucky to have barely escaped with their lives. He became the first FJD employee killed in the line of duty. Joe was also a great guy who was well-liked by his friends and coworkers. As if to prove that fact, 85 golfers out of a total of 150 people showed up for the fun and festivities, to honor Joe and contribute to the Toys for Tots cause.

The contributions raised by the tournament added up to \$3,000 and a check in that amount was presented to the Marine Corps unit that administers the Toys for Tots campaign in Philadelphia. That Unit will soon be sent to Camp Lejeune for training and eventual deployment in Iraq come September.

All the while, a lot of people had a lot of fun with the golf, good company, a raffle, a dinner, and other activities. Golf shirts were handed out. The raffle in-



Officer Ron Sankus looks on as Bob Morris presents a check for \$3,000 to the Marine Unit that administers the Toys for Tots campaign in Philadelphia.

cluded an autographed hockey stick signed by Peter Forsberg. It was won by Kevin Reynolds of the Probation Department, who, in an ironic twist, plans to send it to a friend in (where else?) Sweden.

The Sgt. Joseph LeClaire Memorial Golf Tournaments are organized by FJD Warrant Unit employees who have formed a Board. They include: **Bob Morris, Heather MacReady, Ron Sankus, Edward Timcho, Andrea Sharamatew, Erik Jones, Vincent DiSandro, and Tony Grant.**

The day's events were organized at the John F. Byrne Golf Course

Next year, the tournament will be held on May 19<sup>th</sup> so you can mark your calendars now, and plan to be there for three great reasons – to

contribute to a good cause, honor the memory of one of our FJD employees who gave his life to do his duty, and to have fun doing both.

These events help to remind us that however difficult our jobs sometimes become, some of our coworkers risk their lives every day just by coming to work and doing their job.

*Special Note: On June 8, 2006 a special plaque to commemorate Sergeant LeClaire as part of the Philadelphia Hero Cop Plaque Program that places plaques throughout Philadelphia to commemorate the heroism of Philadelphia police officers who have given their lives serving in the line of duty. Judges and administrators may attend a ceremony will commence at the site of Sgt. LeClaire's demise. Speakers will include Representative John M. Perzel, President Judge C. Darnell Jones, II, President Judge Louis J. Presenza, Administrative Judge James J. Fitzgerald and Mrs. Gretchen LeClaire.*

# Jury Day, Jury Commission

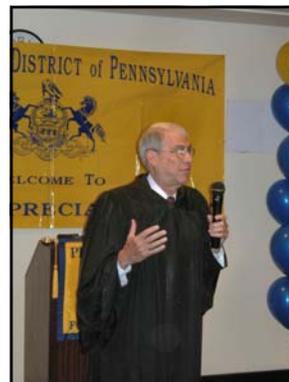
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lier in the week. In the past, Civil was scheduled for jury selection on Thursdays and Fridays.

This year's theme was "Jury Duty – You Make the Call." Television news cameras captured the action as jurors were treated to a pep talk by Gary Maddox and an array of dignitaries led by Mayor John Street.

The event was also gives us the opportunity to applaud our coworkers for whom every day is juror appreciation day, and every day they ensure that jurors know they are appreciated, hundreds of times over. We want the employees of the Juror Selection Commission to know that we appreciate the great job that *they're* doing. Congratulations for a job well done.

Clockwise from top left: Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds-Brown; Trail Div. AJ James J. Fitzgerald, II; Judge Marlene F. Lachman and CP President Judge C. Darnel Jones, III; Judge Victor J. DiNubile, Jr; Ben Franklin and Gary Maddox; and Judge Pamela Pryor Dembe



## Best of Municipal Court

Recently, Municipal Court leaders and employees decided to expand their annual luncheon celebration that had previously been focused on the Employee of the Year Award. This year, they held the First Annual Philadelphia Municipal Court Awards Ceremony that included: a special recognition of Court Administrator Joseph A. Cairone, the Municipal Court Civil and Criminal Division Employees of the Year, the Supportive Service Award, and a Special Appreciation Award. Also feted were 2005 retirees, employees with 20 to 35 years of service, and a host of employees with perfect attendance. Municipal Court President Judge Louis J. Presentza acted as emcee of the event that was held in the recently renovated space at the Municipal Court Building at 34 South 11<sup>th</sup> Street.

The major awards winners were: Civil Employee – **Bernice Capobianco**; Criminal Employee – **Chris DiLolle**; Supportive Service – **David**

**Preski**; and Special Appreciation Award – **Judge Massiah-Jackson**.

The spirit of the gathering was demonstrated when each award winner was celebrated with a standing ovation. These awards are very important to each of the judges and employees who strive to do an outstanding job, and to the team as a whole because they realize that outstanding performances by individuals translate into successful effort by the entire group.

It was obvious to some of us in attendance that Municipal Court employees want to recognize their co-workers who work hard, set an example, and dedicate their time and effort toward improving justice in Philadelphia through their work in the “People’s Court.”

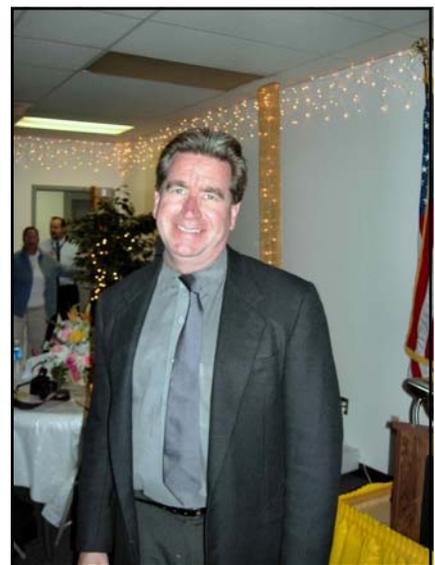
*Top: MC Awards Ceremony Committee members (l-r) Theresa Cannon, Carol Marron, Janet DiTomasso, Maryanne Fratantuono, Russell Micciche (Chairperson), and John Joyce. Right: MC Employee of the Year Chris DiLolle.*



*Bernice Capobianco receives the Civil Employee of the Year Award from President Judge Louis J. Presentza.*



*Joanne Winter receives a 25 Years of Service Award.*



*Long-time MC Administrator Rich McSorley enjoys the ceremony and luncheon.*

## Saint Patty's Day Spirit

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Office of the Court Administrator  
Room 395  
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Phone: 215-686-3775  
Fax: 215-683-6984

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*Gail Byrne from the probation Department models her finery for the annual Saint Patrick's Day celebrations.*

## Facts

- The IRS employees' tax manual has instructions for collecting taxes after a nuclear war.
- The average American eats at McDonalds more than 1,800 times in their life.
- A jiffy is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second. Thus the saying, I will be there in a jiffy.
- Women blink twice as many times as men do.
- We are about 1 cm taller in the morning than in the evening. Layers of cartilage in the joints are compressed during the day.
- The strongest muscle in the human body is the tongue.
- The world's youngest parents were 8 and 9 and lived in China in 1910.
- The largest known kidney stone weighed 1.36 kilograms (approx. 3 lbs.).
- Babies are born without kneecaps. They appear when the child is 2-6 years of age.
- A baby is born every seven seconds.
- You breathe about 10 million times a year.
- After eating too much, your hearing is less sharp.
- There are more people alive today than have ever died.
- Women's hair is about half the diameter of men's hair.
- During an average lifetime, a man will spend 3,350 hours removing 8.4 meters of stubble while shaving.