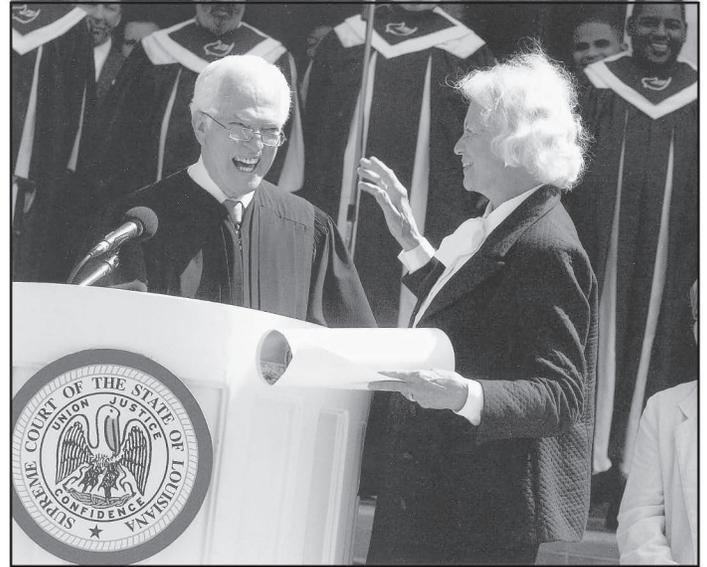


## *Supreme Court Building Dedicated*

United States Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor joined Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr., the Associate Justices of the Louisiana Supreme Court and the Judges of the Court of Appeal-Fourth Circuit, as they gathered on the steps of the newly restored courthouse at 400 Royal Street for a dedication ceremony to officially designate it as the Louisiana Supreme Court Building. The event marks the return of the judiciary to Royal Street in the French Quarter of New Orleans.



*Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero Jr. and United States Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor share a laugh during the dedication of the Louisiana Supreme Court Building.*

*Photo by The Times-Picayune*

“Returning the state’s highest court to this awe-inspiring building demonstrates to citizens and visitors alike that we, the people of Louisiana, value our system of justice, our rich cultural heritage and our distinctive architecture. However, let me assure you that the justices and judges who toil within these walls are fully aware that justice is not wrought by shaping marble and stone, but rather, by dedication to the rule of law and the painstaking application of mind, time and work ,” said Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr.

The Beaux Arts-style building was originally built in 1910 for the Louisiana Supreme Court and the Orleans Civil District Court. The building has now been restored for multi-purpose use to house the Louisiana Supreme Court, the Court of Appeal-Fourth Circuit, the State Judicial Administrator’s Office, the Law Library of Louisiana, an Attorney General’s Office and, in time, a legal museum. In May 2004, following more than 20 years of planning, the



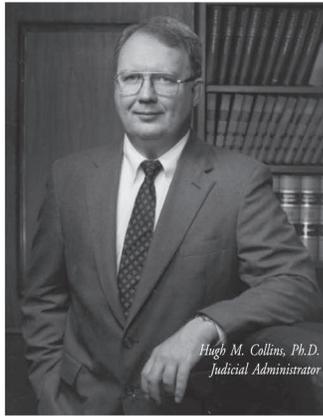
*Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr. addresses the crowd gathered for the dedication of the Louisiana Supreme Court building.*

*Photo by Vicki Stanwycks*



## C O R N E R

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*Hugh M. Collins, Ph.D.  
Judicial Administrator*

With children and families at the heart of the holiday season, it brings to mind the many initiatives and programs the Louisiana Supreme Court Judicial Administrator's Office manages through our Children and Families Department.

Under the direction of **Kären Hallstrom, Deputy Judicial Administrator-Children and Families** and supported by attorneys **Mark Harris**, who oversees the Louisiana Court Improvement Program (CIP) and **Lynette Adams**, who oversees the Families in Need of Services Assistance Program, the Department focuses on improving the justice system for children and families in Louisiana.

CIP is a federally funded program for improving the adjudication of child abuse and neglect in the state. Through FINSAP the Judicial Administrator's Office manages funds provided by the legislature to assist local Families in Need of Services processes and to assure fiscal and program accountability. FINS facilitates interagency provision of social services to at-risk children and families, often preventing the need for formal court intervention.

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004 the Children and Families Department and the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court judges coordinated a National Adoption Day event to celebrate the many area children formerly in foster care who have been adopted by permanent, loving families...now that is the spirit of the season!

## *Five adoptions finalized at Adoption Day Event*

Orleans Parish Civil District Court Judge Madeleine Landrieu, Orleans Parish Juvenile Court Judges Ernestine Gray and Lawrence Lagarde, Jr., representatives of the Louisiana Court Improvement Program, and area Office of Community Services (OCS) case workers joined to celebrate National Adoption Day at the Louisiana Children's Museum in a ceremony which formally finalized the adoptions of five local children in foster care.

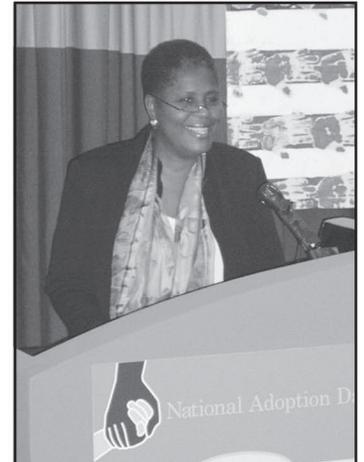
According to Judge Gray, "In the United States there are 126,000 children in foster care waiting to be adopted by permanent, loving families. Orleans Parish alone accounts for 100 of these children. This is a day to raise the public's awareness of the ever-growing need for adoptive homes for these waiting children. It brings us great pleasure today to see the Wright, Evans, Mukhtar and Armstrong families reduce these numbers by five."

Judge Landrieu welcomed a crowd of more than 85 families whose lives have been touched by the adoption of a foster child. Judge Gray and Judge Lagarde presided over the adoption proceedings which included the children, their new families and their individual OCS case worker(s).

Sally Richardson, Legislative Correspondent, U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu's Office, spoke on behalf of Senator Landrieu who is herself the mother of an adopted son and daughter.

The celebration reception followed with children and their families participating in a number of activities and art projects designed to underscore the joy of family and the ongoing need for more foster care and adoptive parents.

For information on the steps to take to become a foster care or adoptive parent contact the Office of Community Services at 1-888-617-3298.



*Orleans Parish Juvenile Court Judge Ernestine Gray presided over the formalization of five adoptions during the National Adoption Day ceremony at the Louisiana Children's Museum.*



*Orleans Parish Civil District Court Judge Madeleine Landrieu speaks to the families gathered for the ceremony.*



*Orleans Parish Juvenile Court Judge Lawrence Lagarde Jr. assists in the creation of an Adoption Day banner following the ceremony.*



*Children take part in creating the Adoption Day banner for display at the Children's Museum.*



# Drug Courts in Louisiana by Scott Griffith, JD, MPA, Louisiana Supreme Court Drug Court Office

Drug and alcohol addiction is a problem that has grown in scope dramatically over the past three decades. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, during the 1980s and 1990s the problems associated with drug and alcohol abuse were considered by many to be the paramount public health issue facing the United States. Drug abuse has also had an impact on the criminal justice system. National statistics show that approximately two thirds of adult arrestees tested positive for drugs at the time of their arrest, and that nearly one third of all inmates in state custody report having been under the influence of drugs at the time they committed their offense. Further, approximately twenty percent of all inmates in state custody are serving time for a drug-related offense.

Drug courts were developed in response to the increase in drug-related cases in state courts and as a way to more effectively intervene in the lives of substance-abusing offenders. Drug courts hold offenders accountable for their crimes while also holding them accountable to strict treatment regimens designed to treat addictions and promote a healthier, law-abiding lifestyle. Drug courts rely on the commitment and combined efforts of judges, prosecutors, defense counsel, treatment providers, and representatives from the community to ensure that offenders are tested often and are complying with all treatment requirements. Nationally, and in Louisiana, drug courts are proving to be one of the more innovative—and successful—developments in the justice system in recent years.

Funding for drug court programs in Louisiana is provided by the state legislature and is administered by the Supreme Court Drug Court Office (SCDCO). There are currently 39 drug court programs in the state providing services to approximately 2,500 adult and juvenile clients monthly.

The SCDCO has developed fiscal and programmatic standards for local programs and works closely with drug court judges, coordinators, the Louisiana Association of Drug Court Professionals, the Office of Addictive Disorders, the Department of Social Services and other partnering entities to ensure accountability and promote best practice.

For more information about drug courts in Louisiana, please contact the SCDCO at (504) 568-2020.

### Supreme Court Drug Court Office Staff:

**Scott Griffith, JD, MPA**  
Deputy Judicial Administrator  
Drug Court Program Director

**Johanna Braud**  
Fiscal Officer

**Jamie Pena, MBA, MS**  
Research Analyst

**Gwen Dennis**  
Technical Program Assistant



INNOVATIONS

**CYBER COURTS**

**National Association of Drug Court Professionals**  
[www.nadcp.org](http://www.nadcp.org)

**Louisiana Association of Drug Court Professionals**  
[www.ladcp.com](http://www.ladcp.com)

**9th Judicial District Court**  
[www.familycourts.org](http://www.familycourts.org)

**National Center for State Courts Technology Conference, CTC9**  
[www.ctc9.org](http://www.ctc9.org)

**University Law Review Project**  
[www.lawreview.org](http://www.lawreview.org)



## A look at the Supreme Court Building dedication

*Continued from page 1*

Supreme Court moved back to the French Quarter courthouse that it vacated in 1958.

Also participating in the dedication ceremony, emceed by Ambassador Lindy Boggs, were Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu, Attorney General Charles Foti, Jr., Mayor Ray Nagin, Louisiana Division of Administration Commissioner Jerry Luke LeBlanc, Louisiana State Bar Association President Michael McKay, and representing the Louisiana Supreme Court Historical Society, U.S. District Court Judge Eldon Fallon. Stirring musical performances by United States Marine Corps Reserve Band and the Franklin Avenue Baptist Choir of New Orleans underscored the dignity and excitement of this important day in Louisiana history.

As part of the ceremony, on behalf of the Court, Chief Justice Calogero presented U.S. Supreme Court



*Louisiana Supreme Court Justices Catherine D. "Kitty" Kimball, Bernette Johnson, Jeffrey P. Victory, Chet D. Traylor, Jeannette Theriot Knoll, and John L. Weimer gather prior to the ceremony.*

Justice O'Connor with a watercolor print of the courthouse. Additionally, by proclamation, Mayor Nagin officially declared October 2, 2004 as "Sandra Day O'Connor Day" in New Orleans.

When the ceremony ended, the courthouse doors were opened for invited guests and the public to tour the public areas of the Louisiana Supreme Court Building. On Sunday, October 3, 2004, an Open House was held from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. for members of the public and the Louisiana Bar who were welcome to tour the building.

*Photos by Vicki Stanwycks*



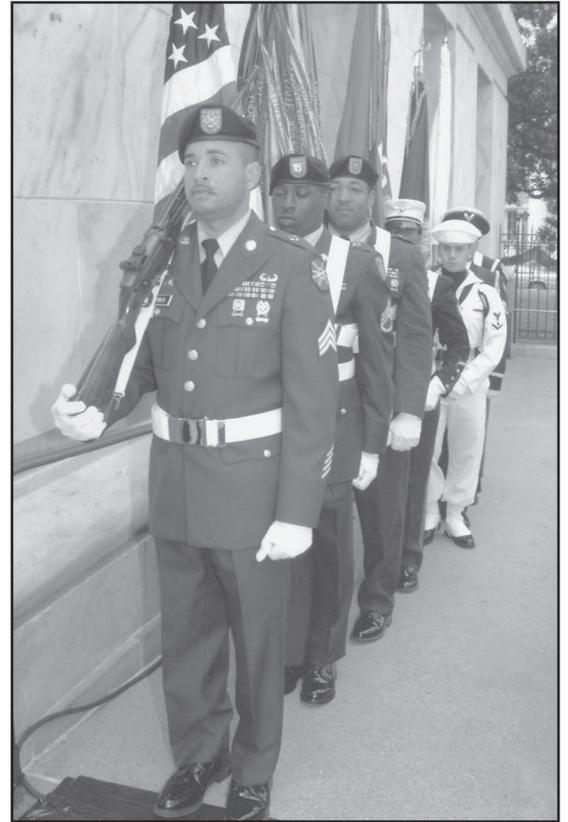
*(above) Louisiana Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco shares a laugh with the guests gathered for the ceremony; (below) the United States Marine Corps Reserve Band, under the direction of CWO 2 Forest Brown, performs a slate of patriotic music.*



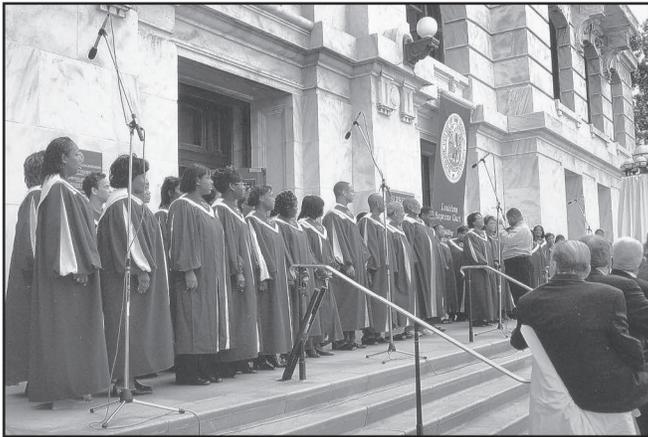
*(below) Louisiana Lieutenant Governor Mitchell J. Landrieu speaks as (from left) Louisiana Supreme Court Historical Society President U.S. District Court Judge Eldon E. Fallon, Louisiana State Bar Association President Michael W. McKay, Louisiana Division of Administration Commissioner Jerry Luke LeBlanc, City of New Orleans Mayor C. Ray Nagin, Louisiana Attorney General Charles C. Foti, Jr., New Orleans City Councilwoman Jackie Clarkson, United States Senator Mary Landrieu, and Mistress of Ceremonies Honorable Corrine M. "Lindy" Boggs watch.*



*Hon. Corrine M. "Lindy" Boggs, former United States Representative and Ambassador to the Vatican, served as Mistress of Ceremonies.*



*A Joint Service Color Guard, comprised of representatives of all branches of the military, presented the colors for the ceremony.*



*The Franklin Avenue Baptist Church Mass Choir, under the direction of Byron Johnson, performed two patriotic numbers during the musical interludes.*

*"A courthouse is a place where we publicly show our reverence for the ideals embodied in the law. Its pillars suggest strength, tradition, permanence and optimism. It gives citizens a sense of ownership. There is no mistaking this courthouse for an office building. The Louisiana Supreme Court has now returned to the home that was designed and built for it nearly a century ago."*

*-U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor*



*Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr. and United States Supreme Court Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor enjoy the moment as the Louisiana Supreme Court Building is formally dedicated.*



## *Pillar of the Community: Hammond City Court*

### *Kinder-Melody: Sounds of Success*

Kinder-Melody, a prevention initiative in the City Court of Hammond's Vision in Prevention Program, is now in its second year of operation. Initiated through a partnership with the City Court, Southeastern Louisiana University's Miss Southeastern 2003, Jennifer Soileau, and the Tangipahoa Parish School System, Kinder-Melody is now in both Woodland Park Elementary and Perrin Early Learning Center. The Kinder-Melody program involves music education and enrichment to pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students. Reginald Sanders, deputy clerk for the City Court and VIP Coordinator, along with Jennifer Soileau, offer specialized musical instruction and a curriculum that coordinates movement, communication skills, and performance.

As a cooperative group, students participate in a five-week instructional and enrichment program with a final performance given to the entire student body. Offered as an extension of the Court, this school-based service was implemented to increase the students' attention skills and basic communication skills through use of music. In keeping with the City Court's Juvenile Services Division mission to offer positive life skill development activities, Kinder-Melody offers an early learning and prevention program through pro-social development and enrichment.



*Hammond City Court Deputy Clerk Reginald Sanders and Miss Southeastern 2003 Jennifer Soileau lead a "Kinder-Melody" session with local students.*

### *CAMP is in Session in Hammond*

Hammond City Court Judge Grace Bennett Gasaway has welcomed over 30 new volunteer mentors of the City Court's newest program, Court Appointed Mentoring Program (CAMP), designed to involve a number of agencies working together to provide a voice for children and fragile families.

"I am very excited about this program as I have envisioned having an organized program for children and families that come through the court for many years whether it is through truancy, drug court, FINS, or other delinquency matters," said Judge Gasaway. "Through this program I believe that we will be able to put together trained, caring adults who can offer much needed support and guidance to children and families who do not have that readily available to them."

Child Advocacy Services, who has administered the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program, will provide mentor recruitment, training and supervision of the CAMP initiative.

"I have worked with the CASA program almost since it first began, over 10 years ago, and I know that CASA provides the high quality of advocacy that abused and neglected children require. I believe the expertise that Child Advocacy Services provides will result in a similar growth for CAMP," said Judge Gasaway. "This is the first step in what we believe will be a longtime enhancement of services offered to families of the 7th Ward."

For more information on the program, contact Guy Recotta, Clerk of Court, at (985) 542-3456.



*Hammond City Court's first CAMP mentors (l to r) top row: Tammy Yoes, Joyce Allen and Megan Hamilton; bottom row: Beth Daschbach, Jill Knighten and Judge Grace Bennett Gasaway.*



## Houma City Court Holds Mock Trial

In its effort to be a resource for the community, **City Court of Houma** conducted a mock trial for an audience of fourth and fifth grade students from two local schools in Terrebonne Parish. In the trial, Cinderella sued her stepmother and stepsisters for back wages. **Houma City Court Judge Jude Thaddeus Fanguy** presided over the trial.

As the students learned about the judicial process through a familiar fairy tale, they were entertained by the silly antics of the characters and the outlandish costumes. The comical script was provided by the American Bar Association to commemorate Law Day. After watching the trial, Judge Fanguy instructed the students on their duties as the jury. The students went back to their class to discuss and decide the case.

Participating in the trial were Brenda Ellender Johnson, Social Service Coordinator for City Court, as Cinderella with City Court Administrator Doug Holloway as her Prince.



Assistant District Attorney Laddie Freeman and Elrin Fanguy, a juvenile detective with Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office, were the step-sisters.

Assistant District Attorneys Cheryl A. Carter, Juan Pickett and Laddie Freeman were joined by local lawyer Louis Watkins Jr. and Elrin Fanguy, a juvenile detective with the Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office as the main players in the mock trial.

Photo by *The Houma Courier*



Brenda Ellender Johnson, Social Service Coordinator for City Court, was Cinderella while Doug Holloway, City Court Administrator, was the Prince.

Photo by City Court of Houma

## Second Circuit Court of Appeal Holds Court in Richland Parish

On October 27, 2004, judges from the Second Circuit Court of Appeal conducted oral arguments at the Richland Parish Arts Center located in Rayville, Louisiana. More than 500 high school students from East Carroll, Franklin, Madison, Tensas, Richland and West Carroll parishes heard arguments on cases about wrongful death, insurance defense, and obligations and contracts.

Judge John Larry Lolley, who represents Division A, Section 2, First District, worked with John R. Sartin, Superintendent of Richland Parish Schools, to organize the morning and evening sessions of court to provide an opportunity for students to view court in process.

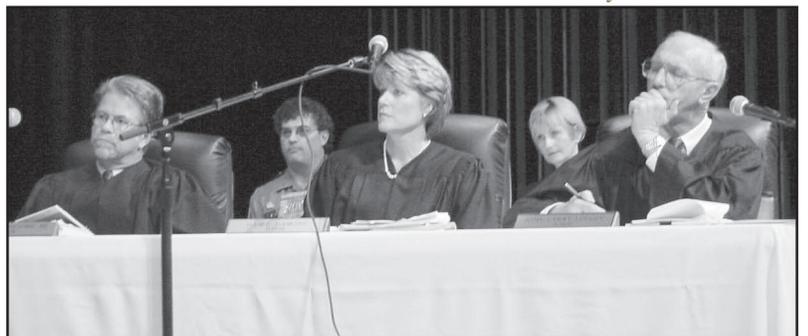
Other judges on the court were Judge Felicia Toney Williams representing Division C, Section 1, First District; Judge Gay Gaskins, representing Division C, Section 2, Third District; Judge Harmon Drew, representing Division A, Second District; and Judge D. Milton Moore, representing Division B, Section 2, First District.

After the oral arguments, the Fifth District Bar Association hosted a reception at the Boeuf River Country Club in Rayville.



Above: Judge Harmon Drew and Judge Felicia Toney Williams  
Below: Judge D. Milton Moore, Judge Gay Gaskins, and Judge John Larry Lolley; Back row: Eugene Vinson, Bailiff, and Diana Pratt-Wyatt, Clerk of Court.

Photos by William L. Lowe





## IPSO FACTO... 400 Royal Street

If the walls of the newly restored Louisiana Supreme Court Building could talk there is one person at the Court that would give them something to talk about....the only one person currently housed at the 400 Royal Street courthouse who has had a significant professional history within these walls during a legal career spanning 50 years.

### IT'S A FACT:

After graduating first in his class of Loyola Law School, **Chief Justice Pascal F. Calgero, Jr.** was sworn in as a member of the state bar in June, 1954 in the original Supreme Court building. In 1957-1958, after three years of army service, he returned to 400 Royal Street as one of two law clerks for the judges of Civil District Court which was then housed in the courthouse. Thereafter, during his years in private practice, Chief Justice Calgero argued many a case in the courthouse in the Civil District Court, the Court of Appeal and even on occasion before the Louisiana Supreme Court where, as the walls tell it, he won.



# YOUR HONORS



■ **Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal Chief Judge Joan Bernard Armstrong** was elected to serve as Chairman of the Louisiana Conference

of Court of Appeal Judges at the Fall meeting held in New Orleans, making her the first woman to hold this office.

■ **4th JDC Judge Benjamin Jones** has been elected Chair of the Judiciary Commission for 2005. Attorney **Lynnette Hall-Lewis**, from New Orleans, has been elected Vice Chair for 2005.



■ **Diana Pratt-Wyatt, Clerk of Court/Court Administrator, Second Circuit Court of Appeal** was inducted as President of the National

Conference of Appellate Court Clerks during the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual NCACC Conference in Anchorage, Alaska. She is also a member of the Louisiana Court Administrators Association; National Association of Court Administrators; and National Association of Legal Administrators. Diana has been employed by the Second Circuit since 1975 and was appointed Clerk of Court/Court

Administrator in 1986.

■ **Judge Mary Ann Vial Lemmon** of the United States Court District for the Eastern District of Louisiana became chair of the National Conference of Federal Trial Judges at the Annual Meeting of the American Bar Association in Atlanta. The conference includes U.S. District, Magistrate, Bankruptcy, Claims, Tax and International Trade Court Judges. As a state district court judge for 15 years, Judge Lemmon served on the Executive Committees of the Louisiana District Judges Association and of the American Bar Association National Conference of State Trial Judges. She is married to **Justice Harry Lemmon**, who re-

cently retired from the Supreme Court of Louisiana and is now an appeals consultant. They have six children and eight grandchildren.

■ **The Law League of Louisiana** presented the Bernard J. Caillouet Award to **Yvonne Saloom**, wife of retired **Lafayette City Court Judge Kaliste J. Saloom, Jr.**, and mother of **Lafayette City Court Judge Douglas Saloom**. The award is given to those who are actively involved in promoting law related educational activities for members of the community at large.

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