



News Release

FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge
19th Judicial Circuit
Lake County
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

Nineteenth Judicial Circuit's Employees Honored

Each year the Chief Judge presides over a ceremony to recognize staff for their contributions to the organization and overall job performance. Employees are nominated by their peers and selected monthly by the Employee of the Month Committee. An Employee of the Year is chosen from the twelve monthly honorees. In addition, there are four titled special awards presented during this annual gathering that are listed below. The event is attended by judges, probation officers, court reporters, technology specialists, and clerical and administrative staff.

"Before I start the presentation of the awards, I want to thank all of you present for your continued dedication and commitment," commented Chief Judge Victoria Rossetti. "This is one of my most enjoyable occasions, and I just want you to know you are all deserving of being recognized for your hard work and everything you do for the good of the organization."

"It is my pleasure to announce that the 2011 Employee of the Year is Terry Barrett," said Judge Rossetti. "Terry is a highly respected probation officer and possesses the qualities you want a probation officer to have – high standards, leadership, and willingness to share his expertise with others." Terry is currently a Principal Probation Officer and Unit Coordinator in the Adult Probation Standard Caseload Unit, and he has been with the 19th Circuit for over 30 years. He began his career in 1981 after having graduated from Western Illinois University where he received a B.A. degree in Sociology and Psychology.

Those nominated and selected as employees of the month for 2011 included: January-Christine Pierce, Adult Probation DUI; February-Scott Francke, Juvenile Probation; March-Terry Barrett; April-Smita Sutaria, Juvenile Detention Educational Services; May-Anselmo Magana, Adult Probation Public Service; June-Jenny Marrero, Juvenile Detention; July-Shawn Brennan, Adult Probation Public Service; August-Matthew Bond, Adult Probation Surveillance; September-Vernita Allen-Williams, Court Reporter; October-Johnnie Wroten, Juvenile Detention; November-Kristen Perez, Juvenile Detention Educational Services; and December-Dennis McMahan, Juvenile Detention.

Other awards presented:

The Environmental Sustainability Award was presented to Brian Burns, who serves as an Office Automation Specialist for the 19th Circuit. This award is given to an employee who is noted for their

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dedication to green practices in the workplace and community and someone who promotes and practices recycling, waste reduction and energy conservation. The awardee is committed to and understands the importance of being environmentally proactive. Brian's dedication is evident through his role in the expansion of the Wyse Thin Clients technology. Thin Clients are a simpler version of desktops that are more compact and energy efficient. Since they don't have any moving parts, their service lives are extended and create less noise. Brian earned a B.A. in Computer Information Systems from Columbia College of Missouri and an Associate in Applied Science from the College of Lake County. Brian has been with the 19th Circuit since November 2006.

Shawn Brennan, Public Service Clerk at Adult Probation, received the Exceptional Employee Award. This award is presented to a non-sworn administrative support employee who best exemplifies commitment to the organization, excellent customer service, demonstrates high achievement, and promotes a positive impact in the work environment. Shawn joined the 19th Circuit in September 2005 and has been promoted twice in her six years with the organization. She is attentive to detail, displays a positive attitude and work ethic and is known as a "go to" person who is always willing to help others. She is well respected by staff and court customers she works with everyday. Shawn attended the Evanston School of Nursing and Northwestern University.

The Lawrence Bonds Officer of the Year Award was given to Robert Brothers, a Principal Juvenile Counselor in the Intake-Home Detention unit located at the Juvenile Court Complex in Vernon Hills. The award is presented to a probation officer or juvenile counselor who best exemplifies the highest effort in support of the Circuit's Mission. The employee contributes to the organization's culture by going beyond the boundaries of the job in program development; service delivery; has a positive approach to duties; participates in professional and community organizations; and is a role model for others. Robert is a member of the Database and Technology Analysis Focus Group (DATA), (a program created at juvenile probation to expand the use of technology in case management); the Illinois Probation and Court Services Association; and the Juvenile Officers Association. He has also served as President of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity which sponsors events for local schools. Robert obtained a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice from Lincoln University in Oxford, PA in 1997 and began employment with Juvenile Probation and Detention Services in August 1998.

Marci Jumisko, the Director of Administrative Services, was the recipient of the 2011 Leadership and Excellence Award. This award is presented to an employee who best illustrates the furtherance of the Court's Mission to the citizens of Lake County, the judiciary, and fellow co-workers by setting the highest standards in leadership and excellence. Marci is described as a dedicated leader who is involved in all organizational activities pertaining to budget, personnel, risk, training and special needs. She received a B.A. degree from Rockford College and earned an M.A. in Applied Economics from Northern Illinois University in 1994. Last spring, Marci became a Certified Court Executive and was honored as the 2011 recipient of the Institute for Court Management's (ICM) Vice President's Award of Merit for Applied Research. The ceremony took place in the U.S. Supreme Court Building in Washington, D.C., followed by a reception where Marci met and was photographed with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. Marci's career with Lake County began in 1999 with the County Administrator's office. In 2005, she transferred to the Administrative Office of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit. She currently serves as Treasurer of the Friends of the Lake County Discovery Museum and is on the Rockford College Board of Trustees.

The awards ceremony took place on Thursday, January 26th, and was held at the Courthouse in the Jury Assembly Room.

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