

# COURT BULLETIN

## In this issue...

- Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court Ralph D. Gants Sworn in at John Adams Courthouse
- Court Officers Honored at Police CPR/First Responder Awards
- Trial Court Seeks Proposals to Create New Center of Excellence for Specialty Courts
- Governor Signs Trial Court FY2015 Budget
- Probation Officer Exam Held at Boston Convention Center
- Homeless Court Gets People Back on Track
- Fall River Lithograph Dedicated in Memory of Probation Officer Mickey Considine
- Trial Court to Develop 10-Year Capital Plan
- Fee-Fi-Fo-Fum: Jack & the Beanstalk Mock Trial Held in Fall River

## Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court Ralph D. Gants Sworn in by Governor Patrick



*Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court Ralph D. Gants receives a standing ovation after being sworn in by Governor Deval Patrick in the Great Hall of the John Adams Courthouse in Boston on July 28th. Supreme Judicial Court Justice Margot Botsford served as Master of Ceremonies. At left is Hon. Dina E. Fein, First Justice of the Housing Court, Western Division, and a special advisor for Access to Justice initiatives, who was a guest speaker. Two high school students from the Boston Arts Academy sang the national anthem, and musicians*

*Athene Wilson and Rollins Ross gave a special musical performance.*

---

## Court Officers Honored at Police Training Council CPR/First Responder Awards



*[L to R] Court Officers Anthony J. Holmes, Tina Soares, and Christopher Tufo pose with their families and awards. Security Director Jeff Morrow and Chief Court Officer Jeanmarie Turley are on the far right.*

***Celebrating Success:*** As the Trial Court's Strategic Plan moves forward, we want to highlight various success stories happening throughout the court system. Here's the fourth in a series...

Court Officers Anthony Holmes and Chris Tufo from Quincy District Court, along with Court Officer Tina Soares from Wrentham District Court, were honored in June by the Massachusetts Police Training Council (MPTC) for their quick-thinking actions that prevented the probable deaths of two prisoners held in lock-up. [Read more>>](#)

---

## Trial Court Seeks Proposals to Create New Center of Excellence for Specialty Courts

As the Trial Court expands its use of specialty courts, Chief Justice Paula Carey and Court Administrator Harry Spence announced that the Court is accepting proposals until August 15 from qualified organizations or educational institutions to help develop and administer a new Center of Excellence for Specialty Courts. The Center will be funded in part by a \$300,000 legislative appropriation from the FY2015 state budget. [Read more>>](#)

---

## Governor Signs Trial Court's FY2015 Budget

In mid-July, the Governor signed the Trial Court budget passed by the Legislature and recommended by the Conference Committee. It provides \$612.5 million for Fiscal Year 2015, which is \$5.7 million less than the Trial Court's original maintenance estimate, but should allow the Court to maintain its projected staffing level of 6,500.

The FY2015 Trial Court budget has 15 line items, which include a Specialty Courts line item for \$3 million and approximately \$700,000 for HOPE/MORR recidivism reduction programs. The budget also contains the provision that one HOPE/MORR program must be located in a rural county with high case volume.

## Probation Officer & Court Officer Exams Held at Convention Center



*Some of the 1,300 potential candidates take the Trial Court's first ever exam for Probation Officers on June 28th at the Boston Convention Center. On July 19th, 1,137 registrants took the Court Officer exam at the same location.*

## Homeless Court: "Court of Second Chances" Clears Legal Barriers, Improves Access to Court System

Homeless Court began as a pilot program in 2010 at the West Roxbury Division of the Boston Municipal Court. Since then, the program has expanded throughout the jurisdiction of the Boston Municipal Court (BMC) Department. The result of close collaboration between the BMC, Lemuel Shattuck Hospital, the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, the Committee for Public Counsel Service (CPCS), and Hope Found, the specialized session seeks to expand access to the criminal justice system by removing legal obstacles that prevent the homeless from becoming productive members of their communities.

The Court Bulletin recently interviewed First Justice Kathleen Coffey of the West Roxbury Division of the Boston Municipal Court about the Homeless Court program. [Read more>>](#)

## What's happening at your courthouse?

We'd like to hear from you...

Please email us at [execofc@jud.state.ma.us](mailto:execofc@jud.state.ma.us) with your newsworthy and noteworthy programs, initiatives, people, and events you'd like to share with your Trial Court colleagues. We welcome your suggestions and comments.

## Fall River Lithograph Dedicated in Memory of Probation Officer Mickey Considine



*First Justice Gilbert J. Nadeau addresses the standing-room-only crowd Fall River District Court dedication ceremony.*

Fall River District Court First Justice Gilbert Nadeau presided over the July 18th unveiling of the Fall River Ironworks lithograph. The recently restored lithograph depicts an important piece of local history, and was dedicated to the memory of Fall River Probation Officer Mickey Considine.



The lithograph was originally given to Officer Considine's father and uncle by the plant manager of the American Printing Company before its purchase two years ago by Daniel MacDonald, Assistant Director of the Fall River Housing Authority. Mr. MacDonald decided to donate the piece to the courthouse in honor of Officer Considine's many years of service to the community.

Probation Commissioner Edward Dolan, Chief Probation Officer Carol Ann Silvia, Mr. MacDonald, and members from the Greater Fall River legislative delegation -- Representatives Patricia Haddad, Alan Silvia, and Carole Fiola attended the event -- along with members of the Considine family. The [Fall River Herald News](#) covered the event.

---

## Trial Court to Develop 10-Year Capital Plan

**10-year Capital Plan Begins to Take Shape**  
*Charts course of action through 2025.*

The Capital Plan, a major undertaking by the Trial Court and DCAMM (Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance), is a 10-year capital investment plan for the Court's 5.5 million gross square foot portfolio of buildings. The purpose of the Capital Plan is twofold: to evaluate existing facilities, and identify and prioritize facility improvement projects over the next 10 years. [Read more>>](#)

---

## Fall River Court Delivers Verdict on Jack & the Beanstalk



*Fee-fi-fo-fum: Fall River public school second graders participated in the June 17 trial of Jack (last name unknown) from "Jack and the Beanstalk" at the Fall River Children's Museum, formerly the Superior Courthouse. Judge E. Susan Garsh presided. The jury found Jack guilty of larceny and not guilty of murder. He is currently serving two months of house arrest and restitution, which includes replanting his mother's garden.*

---

### Coming up in our September issue:

- District Courts Pilot Expanded Hours
- Safe & Secure: Trial Court Security Heads in a New Direction
- Q&A with Judicial Institute Director Ellen O'Connor