

# COURT BULLETIN

May 2017

## Courts Celebrate Law Day



**Law Day Honor:** Framingham District Court Head Account Clerk Bert Schofield admires the Judge Campion award he was surprised to receive for his decades of community service, as First Justice David Cunis applauds. Bert's career spans 40 years at the Trial Court. To see more Law Day photos, [click the link below](#).

[See photos](#)

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## Court Officers Save Lives in Lowell, Quincy, Boston Courthouses

Court officers have been quick to use their First Responder training to save several lives at their respective courthouses over the past few months.

"We've raised the bar in terms of training, and our officers have risen to that bar - and then some," says Director of Security Jeffery Morrow, who adds that all court officers and many associate court officers have now completed the same level of basic emergency medical training as police, fire, and other certified first responders. "When you consider the lives that have been saved, the effort to provide these skills to court officers has been well worth it."

The ability of our officers to use these skills effectively, under intense stress, is remarkable..."

[See more](#)

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## Senate Budget Released, Amendments Filed

The Senate Ways & Means Committee released its FY18 budget recommendation on [May 16](#). The Senate's recommendation totals \$661.8 million, and includes \$1 million for a statewide Housing Court expansion. The Senate is expected to begin its debate of the budget recommendations and all amendments on [Tuesday, May 23](#).

"While we are cautiously optimistic about these numbers, we're also aware that they were based upon budget models that will probably be significantly revised because of revenue shortfalls," says Court Administrator Jon Williams. "We look forward to working collaboratively with our colleagues on the Hill to ensure that the Trial Court is funded at a level that allows us to maintain our ability to deliver justice and meet public safety needs."

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## EACC Arrives at District Court

Use of the Electronic Application for Criminal Complaints (EACC) has grown rapidly from its original 2014 pilot at the Dudley District Court to 30 District Courts across the Commonwealth, and will expand to all 62 divisions by year-end. All eight divisions of the Boston Municipal Court (BMC) work with the Boston Police Department, which piloted EACC in 2015.

Westborough District Court Acting Clerk-Magistrate Kenneth Candito, whose court in Dudley was the first to pilot EACC for the District Court Department, says that the new system saves his staff considerable time, especially at the start of the data entry process. He observed that there have been some challenges related to police departments' ability to update or add information to a case - something he feels can be fixed over time, with more training and system updates.

"EACC is new to all of us," says Clerk Candito. "There's always a learning curve involved with adapting to new technologies and changes..."

[Read more](#)

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## Worcester Juvenile's Arts Alternative Offers Youth Creative Alternatives



***Art in bloom:*** Young people install artwork at Worcester Trial Court as part of the Arts Alternative Program art exhibit.

*"In art I will always find my peace."*

*"Art helps you express your anger so you don't have to express it in other ways."*

- Arts Alternative participants

Arts Alternative, a collaboration between Worcester Juvenile Probation and the Worcester Art Museum, provides court-involved young people access and opportunities to the arts. Now in its fifth year, the program got its start when Probation Officer Fiona Bycroft-Ryder connected with Worcester Art Museum (WAM) Director Matthias Waschek to design a meaningful program for young probationers...

[Read more](#)

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## Housing Court Heads to the Hill...



*Housing Court Chief Justice Timothy Sullivan testifies earlier this month before members of the Legislature on the expansion of the Housing Court. The bill to expand the Housing Court statewide was re-filed during this current Legislative session.*

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## Access & Fairness Survey Seeks Court Users' Input



**Survey says...** Suffolk Probate Probation Office Manager Tawauka Bryant asks Attorney Ainsworth Jones to take the Trial Court's second Access & Fairness (A&F) survey on his way out of Boston's Brooke Courthouse earlier this month. The first

*A&F survey was conducted in 2007-2008.*

*More than 40 Trial Court volunteers are conducting the survey throughout May at 25 courthouses across the state. The 23-question survey, available in English and Spanish, asks about court users' experiences at the courthouse on the day of their visit. The Department of Research and Planning is administering the survey and is expected to report on its results in the fall.*

**2017 Access & Fairness Survey:  
English & Spanish**

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## Why, hello there...What's your court up to?



Adoption Day, BMC Central

**From Adoption Day to Law Day, we want to hear from you!**

Tell us about upcoming events or solutions your courthouse has developed.

Send us your latest news and photos so we can share them with your Trial Court colleagues across the Commonwealth.

Keep in touch: [execofc@jud.state.ma.us](mailto:execofc@jud.state.ma.us).

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