

# COURT BULLETIN

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## SSTA Conversion Completed

***Celebrating Success:*** Each issue of the Court **Bulletin** highlights one of many success stories happening throughout the court system. Please send us your examples of local successes.

The payroll period ending on [October 4th](#) marked the final group of court locations to convert to Self-Service Time and Attendance (SSTA). All Trial Court payroll processing is now done through the Commonwealth's online SSTA platform. The Fiscal Department reported that the final conversion went very smoothly. Local payroll coordinators did a great job making the transition to the online system, which improves the accuracy and efficiency of payroll tracking and processing. Trial Court staff can now easily view and plan the use of their accrued time. Special thanks to the Fiscal Department's payroll team under the leadership of Donna Lee, and to OCP Fiscal Manager Donna Connolly.

**Questions on SSTA?** Visit the Trial Court intranet for [SSTA training videos>>](#)

## Worcester Juvenile Court Wears Pink for Sessions Clerk



*Worcester Juvenile Court wears pink in support of Sessions Clerk Yolanda Marrero, who returned to work earlier this year after battling breast cancer. Yolanda (top row, center), now cancer-free, thanks Trial Court employees from around the Commonwealth for their sick time contributions, which prevented financial hardship for her family. Front row [L to R]: Judge George Leary; Clerk's Office Case Specialist John O'Connor; Probation Office Manager Sandy Nordstrom; Judge Marybeth Keating, Clerk's Office Case Specialist Meaghan Reynolds; Clerk's Office Case Coordinator Stephanie Ljunggren; Assistant District Attorney Kanchana Fernando Vega; Session Clerk Franklyn Ponte; Associate Probation Officer Gerry Buono; and Assistant District Attorney Don Xenos. Back row [L to R]: Session Clerks Patti Lavallee, Tina Doyle, Katie Walsh; Head Administrative Assistant Lisa Diaz; Clerk's Office Operations Supervisor Gloria Mazzolla; First Justice Carol Erskine; Sessions Clerk Yolanda Marrero; Clerk's Office Account Clerk Julie Loosemore; Probation Case Coordinator Khyuen Do; Clerk's Office Case Specialist Andrea Guillotte; Clerk's Office Case Coordinator Tiffany Cabrera; and Judge Anthony Marrotta.*

## Lynn District Court Awarded Federal Grant

**Will double the number of Drug Court participants, coordinate community-based treatment services.**

The Lynn District Court is set to receive a \$200,000 Department of Justice grant to significantly expand its drug court program over the next two years. The grant will allow the court to double the number of participants in the drug court program to 120 high-risk, high-need adult

probationers, and hire a full-time Drug Court Coordinator, who will be responsible for identifying and placing addicted people into appropriate treatment services. The Trial Court will be able to apply the lessons learned from the program to other specialty courts.

The court will partner with the Lynn Community Health Center (LCHC) to coordinate physical and behavioral treatment services for program participants. LCHC uses an integrated health care strategy of medication-assisted treatment coupled with intensive outpatient services. Under the leadership of First Justice Albert S. Conlon and presiding Judge James L. LaMothe, the Lynn District Court will continue its close partnership with the Essex County Sheriff's Department to ensure early identification of eligible drug court participants.

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## **Barnstable Superior Court Remembers** September 11th



*Trial Court Facilities crew members Don Reynolds and Cory Fleming ring the bell atop the Barnstable Superior Courthouse 13 times, once for each year passed, starting at 8:46 a.m. on [September 11th](#).*

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## Professional Development 101: Q&A with Ellen O'Connor, Director of Judicial Education

Ellen O'Connor has the court system in her DNA: Her father, the late Justice Francis P. O'Connor, served on the Superior Court and Supreme Judicial Court, and was her inspiration to pursue a career in law.

After many years in private practice, Ellen joined the Trial Court as a Program Manager for the Judicial Institute (JI) in 1998. Once there, she became a Lead Program Manager, and in 2003 Ellen became the Institute's Director of Judicial Education. [Learn more about training in the Trial Court>>](#)

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## Centuries of Probate Court Records Now Online

Free for Researchers, Public as SJC Archives & Records Preservation Goes Digital

***Essex (1638-1881) and Middlesex (1648-1871) County Probate records first to go online; race to preserve Hampshire County Probate records starts with Innovation Grant.***

Thousands of probate cases, each a unique, historic time capsule, will be preserved in digital form and available online, thanks to the combined efforts of the Supreme Judicial Court's division of Archives and Records Preservation, the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), and FamilySearch.org, a genealogical online service. The three organizations joined forces to create searchable databases with close to 1.7 million images that will make historic probate documents from the 1600s - 1800s available for free online.

The NEHGS website currently hosts the searchable databases, and the FamilySearch website will host them in the future. The first steps of an archival effort have begun at the Hampshire County Probate & Family Court, thanks to operational funding awarded through a Trial Court Innovation Grant. [See what's online>>](#)

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## New Citizens Sworn in at Rockwell Museum



*First Justice Fredric Rutberg of the Southern Berkshire and Pittsfield District Court and Berkshire County Chief Court Officer William Bateman prepare for the ceremony to naturalize 17 new American citizens from 14 countries at the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge last month. For more photos, go to [iBerkshires.com](http://iBerkshires.com). (photo courtesy of iBerkshires.com).*

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## **Drug Court Conference Highlights New Evidence-Based Treatments, Support for Specialty Courts**

This month, close to 200 judges and Trial Court staff attended the New England Association of Drug Court Professionals (NEADCP) conference "Drug Courts: Where Justice and Treatment Meet." Workshops covered topics such as judicial leadership development, and the latest research on juvenile drug courts and veterans courts in Massachusetts. [See conference photos and read more on drug courts>>](#)

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## **Trial Court to Host its First Drug Court Conference in December**

The Trial Court will host its first Drug Court training conference for new Drug Court teams on Thursday, [December 4th](#) and Friday, [December 5th](#) in Leominster. Trainers will include members of the treatment community, judges, defense and prosecutors, as well as people with "lived experience:" individuals in recovery who have successfully graduated from a Drug Court program. For more information, contact Sheila Casey, Specialty Courts Administrator, at [617-878-0247](tel:617-878-0247).

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## **Brooke Courthouse Security Staff Collects Confiscated Items**





*Every day, Trial Court Security stops weapons and other dangerous objects from getting through the front door. Trial Court Associate Court Officers [L to R] Patrick Damas, Catherine Rosselli, Supervisor Oronde James, and James Biggs showcase the range of forbidden items they helped confiscate this summer at the Edward W. Brooke Courthouse. Seized objects are logged and placed into a locked safe until they are transported to Security's central offices. Security impounds approximately 100,000 items a year.*

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## What's new at your courthouse?

Drop us a line, anytime at [execofc@jud.state.ma.us](mailto:execofc@jud.state.ma.us) and keep us posted on the latest news and events at your courthouse. We'd like to share your Trial Court events and photos with your colleagues around the state. As always, we welcome your suggestions and comments.

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### Coming up in our November issue:

- Q&A with New Trial Court Bail Administrator
- Trial Court Selects New Partner for Specialty Courts Center of Excellence

## Don't miss out: Still can't see the Court Bulletin?

### Update your Zimbra settings now...

If you're having trouble receiving emails where images are not showing, or see links that appear as regular text, call the TCIS Help Desk at [617-878-0245](tel:617-878-0245) or try this [quick solution>>](#)