



Honored during an awards ceremony on Wednesday, Feb. 1, in Kingman for five years of service with Mohave County Courts are (not in order) Debra Daniels, Della Hiser and Sue Ann Seeley from the Clerk of the Superior Court's Office; Sandra Albright from the Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court; Kristen Blake, Erica Corona, Kim Goodman and Sally Miranda from Lake Havasu City Consolidated Court; Lori Linn from Superior Court; Cecil Adams, JoAnn Gorton, Paul Hernandez, Melanie Longi, Karen Wright and Patricia Zirkle from Probation. Jennie O'Neil from Bullhead City Justice Court was honored but unable to attend.

## Mohave County Courts honor employees

KINGMAN – The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Mohave County Court and Probation COJET (Committee on Judicial Education and Training) Conference was held Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 1 and 2, in Kingman.

Thursday morning's conference kicked off with Division 5 Superior Court Judge Rick Weiss passing the gavel of presiding judge to Division 1 Superior Court Judge Charles Gurtler. Gurtler also presented Weiss with a plaque of appreciation for his leadership during the last two years as presiding judge.

"Our court system has made a great number of accomplishments this past year," Gurtler said. "We were only able to do that through the hard work and



Photos courtesy Mohave County Mohave County Superior Court Judge Richard Weiss (left), Division 5, passes the gavel of Presiding Judge to Division 1 Superior Court Judge Charles Gurtler.



Honored for 10 years of service with Mohave County Courts are (from left) Patty Holstine from Bullhead Municipal Court; Bob Hanson, Dale Herren and Eric Oliva of Probation; and Mary Shamowski of Superior Court.

dedication of our fine group of judges and employees.”

Service awards were then presented to court employees.

Recognized for five years of service were Lori Linn of the Superior Court; Jennie O’Neil of Bullhead City Justice Court; Debra Daniels, Della Hiser and Sue Ann Seeley of the Superior Court Clerk’s Office; Sandra Albright of Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court; Kristen Blake, Erica Corona, Kim Goodman and Sally Miranda of Lake Havasu City Consolidated Court; and Cecil Adams, JoAnn Gorton, Paul Hernandez, Melanie Longi, Karen Wright and Patricia Zirkle of the Probation Department.



Honored for 15 years of service are (from left, front row) Melissa Register, Elaine Riegner and Karen Wheeler from Probation and (back row) Superior Court Judge Richard Weiss.



Limited Jurisdiction Court Presiding Judge Jill Davis presents the Limited Jurisdiction Court Volunteers Award. Pictured are (from left) volunteers Richard Lawhorn, Bill Baptista and Susan McAlpine, Davis, and Limited Jurisdiction Court Administrator Valerie Winters.

Honored for 10 years of service were Patty Holstine of Bullhead City Municipal Court; Mary Shamowski of Superior Court; and Bob Hanson, Dale Herren and Eric Oliva of the Probation Department.

Fifteen years of service recognition went to Terry Cline of Bullhead Justice Court; Melissa Register, Elaine Riegner and Karen Wheeler of the Probation Department; and Superior Court Judge Richard Weiss. Recognized for 20 years of service were Laurie Allen of Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court; and Brenda Melodia and Ann Rooney of the Probation Department.



Mohave County Court Automation Manager Kyle Rimel (right) presents the TEAM (Together Employees Achieve More) Award to Court employees Mim Quesenberry (left) and Susan Beeman.



Honored for 20 years of service with Mohave County Courts are Laurie Allen of the Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court and Brenda Melodia and Ann Rooney (pictured) of the Probation Department.

Dana Barber of the Superior Court Clerk's Office and Kingman Justice of the Peace John Taylor were honored for 25 years of service.

Gurtler introduced the annual Making a Difference awards honoring five employees, one team and one supervisor.

Bullhead City Municipal Judge Peter Psareas presented Charlotte Wages, in-office probation monitor, with the first Making a Difference award. "Sometimes she is the only positive role model they have," Psareas said. "I have personally seen her make a difference in the lives of many of the Kids.... The



Honored for 25 years of service with Mohave County Courts are (from left) Dana Barber from the Superior Court Clerk's Office and Kingman Justice of the Peace John Taylor.



Superior Court Judge Richard Weiss (left) and Administrator Kip Anderson honor Norma Delong with an individual Making a Difference Award.

Court is very, very lucky to have her."

Kingman Justice of the Peace John Taylor honored Justice Court



Deputy Clerk of the Mohave County Superior Court Heather Gillespie honors Kimberly Graves with an individual Making a Difference Award.

Service Assistant Barbara Potter with an award.

“Barbara Potter never fails to be a pillar of strength, enthusiasm and expertise,” Taylor said. “She does her utmost to provide top-notch service to her fellow and subordinate staff members, to the office manager and, especially, to the public we serve.”

Chief Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court Heather Gillespie presented a Making a Difference award to Court Service Assistant Kimberly Graves.

Gillespie said Graves “exemplifies the term ‘team player.’” She pointed out the assistant’s excellent work ethic and that Graves would probably say, “I’m just doing my job.”

Chief Probation Officer Darrell Reeves presented former Probation Officer Angela Krause with an award.

Reeves said Krause “was instrumental in the successful



Kingman Justice of the Peace John Taylor honors Barbara Potter with an individual Making a Difference Award.



Bullhead City Municipal Court Judge Peter Psareas honors Charlotte Wages with an individual Making a Difference Award.

continuation of the Moral Recognition Therapy program” which “impacts the lives of many probationers in a positive way.... She was quite effective in



Mohave County Chief Probation Officer Darrell Reeves honors Angela Krause with an individual Making a Difference Award.

changing the lives of probationers for a better community as a whole.”

Superior Court Administrator Kip Anderson brought Judge Weiss up to assist with the presentation of a Making a Difference award to Official Court Reporter Norma Delong.

Anderson said Delong deserved the award for “her dedication to her work. She has provided excellent service to us in the Court Administration. We rely on her.... We are grateful for her service.”

Court Automation Manager Kyle Rimel presented the Team Making a Difference award to Automation Systems Specialist Susan Beeman and Court Services Assistant Senior Mim Quesenberry.

Rimel said the two “came together and undertook a major pain-taking project that converted and published over 700 Superior Court forms



Limited Jurisdiction Court Presiding Judge Jill Davis presents the Supervisor of the Year Award to Bullhead City Municipal Court Judge Peter Psareas.

to our public website. Through their efforts, Mohave County Court has taken a huge leap forward in becoming one of the most technically advanced courts in the State of Arizona.”

Presiding Limited Jurisdiction Court Judge Jill Davis presented the Supervisor of the Year award to Judge Psareas and then gave special volunteer recognition to Bill Baptista of the Lake Havasu Consolidated Court, Richard Lawhorn of Bullhead Justice Court and Susan McAlpine of the Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court.

“The judge (Psareas) has shown leadership and strength to his staff along with understanding with compassion when necessary to enable his employees to trust and get to know him while instilling high standards of professionalism,” Davis said. “Our



Mohave County Superior Court Administrator Kip Anderson presented Cheryn Brewer a plaque of recognition for her "continued leadership as chair of the Mohave County COJET Committee."

volunteer mediators serve an invaluable role in the first days of the legal process by assisting litigants in resolving their disputes prior to any court action. For their selflessness, which includes many hours of training and many more hours in mediation," Baptista, Lawhorn and McAlpine were honored.

Anderson then recognized Court Secretary Cheryn Brewer for her work as chairman of the COJET committee for the third year in a row.



Mohave County Presiding Superior Court Judge Charles Gurtler (right) thanks Superior Court Judge Richard Weiss for his leadership as presiding judge for the last two years Wednesday, Feb. 1, during the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Mohave County Court and Probation Conference Wednesday at the County Administration Building in Kingman.

The COJET presentation continued with a historical look at the state by Judge Gurtler followed by departmental presentations on accomplishments. Former Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court Frank Gordon spoke about his experiences growing up in Kingman and as a lone Mohave County Superior Court judge from 1962 until joining the Supreme Court in 1975.

The COJET educational classes and presentations continued throughout Wednesday and Thursday.