



TEAM award winners (from left) Jordan Gaiser, Alan Palomino, Steve Arend, Rodger Stewart, Daniel Perez, Roger Dunn, Bob Stefick, Cecil Adams, Josh Frisby and Eric Oliva pose with Chief Probation Officer Friend Walker during a Mohave County Court System awards ceremony Tuesday, Jan. 13, at the Mohave County Administration Building in Kingman.



Mohave County Court System employees who have served for five, 10, 15, 20 and even 30 years were honored during a Mohave County Court System awards ceremony.

## Court honors standout employees

KINGMAN – Several Mohave County Court System employees were honored Tuesday, Jan. 13, with individual recognition awards for outstanding service.

“We wish to recognize a number of employees... who are truly making a difference,” Mohave County Superior

Court Presiding Judge Randolph Bartlett said. “The Superior Court Judicial Merit Commission has selected seven individuals who have demonstrated outstanding job performance, exemplary customer service, who have made a note-worthy accomplishment that has improved court operations and/or who



Kingman/Cerbat Justice of the Peace John Taylor (right) presents Bullhead City Municipal Judge Michael Slovek with a "Making a Difference" individual recognition award.

went above and beyond in furthering our court's progress in achieving our strategic plan."

Kingman/Cerbat Justice of the Peace John Taylor presented the first three awards for the Limited Jurisdiction Courts, of which Taylor is presiding judge. His first presentation was to Bullhead City Municipal Judge Michael Slovek.

"Judge Slovek has implemented better standards for his employees," Taylor said, "to ensure they are proud of their work and their court. He has made a positive impact for not only the Municipal Court employees, but also customers."

Bullhead City Justice Court Services Assistant Terry Cline received the next honor.

"Terry worked with the Bullhead City Justice Court the last six years," Taylor said. "Prior to that, she worked with the Superior Court in Bullhead City for several years. During this time Terry has primarily worked the civil desk. In 2007-2008, Terry handled 2,192 cases involving small claims, civil and evictions. Throughout it all, Terry has



Judge Taylor presents Bullhead City Justice Court Services Assistant Terry Cline with a "Making a Difference" individual recognition.

exemplified the qualities that any employer hopes for a good employee. She is dependable, efficient, conscientious, hard working and knowledgeable."

Taylor also presented a Making a Difference individual recognition award to Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court Services Supervisor Laurie Allen.

"Laurie, in addition to her regular duties, which include supervision of approximately 15 employees, served as the acting Limited Jurisdiction Court administrator while the long recruitment process was underway. She has been a tremendous asset..." and "her knowledge is an asset to the court family as a whole."

Moccasin Consolidated Court Justice of the Peace Mitch Kalauli presented Moccasin Justice Court Services Supervisor Barbara Brown with the next award.

"Barbara has made my job easy," he said. "She has been in the court system for 20 years and has done things for the Moccasin Court that you couldn't



Judge Taylor presents Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court Services Supervisor Laurie Allen with a "Making a Difference" individual recognition award.

believe. She was able to get running water and electricity," he laughed, "and was able to get the court high-speed internet access, which is an almost-impossible feat. I think, before she retires, her goal is to get us a court that we can live with. Barbara has spent the last 20 years doing a wonderful job."

Progress is being made toward getting a new facility for Moccasin Court, Bartlett said. "I'm hopeful we will be able to accomplish that within 18 to 24 months."

County Chief Probation Officer Friend Walker said, "It's an honor for me to make the next presentation to Probation Surveillance Officer Rodger Stewart. Rodger exudes enthusiasm. Rodger never says 'no.' He constantly volunteers to do more. On his own initiative, he came up with programs in the summer of 2008 called 'Turning it Up,' and in the fall of 2008, he came up with an initiative called 'Let's Do It All This Fall,' where he got a lot of folks together and accomplished a lot of work for Mohave County. We are all proud of Rodger."



Moccasin Consolidated Court Justice of the Peace Mitch Kalauli presents Moccasin Justice Court Services Supervisor Barbara Brown with a "Making a Difference" individual recognition award.

Bartlett introduced Mohave County Superior Court Administrator Kip Anderson to make the next presentation.

"He (Anderson) has been a very moving force, a very positive individual and a delight to work with," Bartlett said. "If it wasn't for his efforts, and his staff's efforts, we would not have been able to accomplish the strategic plan that we have in place."

Anderson then honored Administrative Program Specialist Bunnie Morey with an individual award with praise for her productivity and enthusiasm.

"She does an incredible job," he said. "She is always available, always willing to help and do whatever she is asked. She has a positive attitude about her job and her life."

Mohave County Clerk of the Court Virlynn Tinnell was scheduled to present Court Services Assistant Barbara Hallisy with a Making a Difference



Mohave County Chief Probation Officer Friend Walker (right) presents Probation Surveillance Officer Rodger Stewart with a "Making a Difference" individual recognition award.

individual award, but neither was able to attend due to prior-scheduled training. That presentation will be made at a later date.

Walker then presented the TEAM (Together Employees Achieve More) award for 2009 to selected Probation Department members. According to Bartlett, the TEAM "award was established in an effort to recognize a team of employees who worked together to achieve a goal, critical project or outcome that greatly improved customer service and/or court operations."

"This team consists of our instructors who teach defensive tactics, fire arms and safety," Walker said. "This is an important calling and an additional duty. Each team member has responsibilities they must complete every day. But they have all stood up to the plate and volunteered to do extra



Mohave County Superior Court Administrator Kip Anderson (right) presents Administrative Program Specialist Bunnie Morey with a "Making a Difference" individual recognition award.

hours and extra duty to make sure the men and women of the Probation Department come home safely. It's an honor to recognize these folks."

Bob Stefick, Alan Palomino, Josh Frisby, Jordan Gaiser, Cecil Adams, Roger Dunn, Daniel Perez, Rodger Stewart, Steve Arend and Eric Oliva were presented the TEAM award.

Anderson then honored Limited Jurisdiction Court Administrator Valerie Avila, who was chairperson of the two-day Mohave County Court and Probation Conference during which the awards ceremony was held.

Court employees were also honored for their many years of service to Mohave County. Those who received honors for five years of service were: Kip Anderson, Mary Auld, Sherill Edgell, Marcella Haskell, Regina Johnson, Brian Koehler, Linda Moore, Thomas Moore and Greg Olson.

Those who received honors for 10 years of service were: Roger Dunn, Gloria Dusek, Janice Gardam, Sharon Heisel, Christine Reed, Shaleen Reed, Virlynn Tinnell, Lorie Valandingham and Judge Randolph Bartlett.

Those who received honors for 15 years of service were: Bob Lawless, Cherie Olivas, Cecilia Tait, David Talk and Doris Yellowhair.

Barbara Brown and Angela Giovanardi were honored for 20 years of service.

Valerie Reiser, who was unable to attend, was honored for 30 years of service.

Bartlett told the Mohave County Court employees assembled in the County Administration Building Board of Supervisors auditorium, “Although we may not have awards for all of you, in my opinion, and the opinions of the administrative staff, if we could do it, we would give each and every one of you individual awards for all the good work that you do for the courts.”