

municipal judge for 24 years.

District 10: **Matthew Uetz** was elected in the Village of Colfax replacing incumbent Eugene Dunagan. **Linda Duval** was elected in the Village of Woodville replacing incumbent Duane Deyoung.

WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW JUDGES!

SEMINARS

15 new judges and 3 new court commissioners will be attending the upcoming **Orientation & Institute Seminar**. This year's seminar will be held May 12-14, at the Stevens Point Holiday Inn.

In addition to our standard seminars, this year we will be offering a **Law & Humanities Seminar** on July 15 & 16, 2004, at the Fox Hills Golf Resort in Mishicot. The topic will be "A History of Wisconsin's Legal System" and will provide a perspective on the persons, events, and public debates that shaped Wisconsin's legal system. Attorney Joseph A. Ranney and Professor Daniel D. Blinka will present this program. Attorney Ranney is in private practice in Madison and is the author of the book "Trusting Nothing to Providence: A History of Wisconsin's Legal System" as well as the author of over 47 articles on Wisconsin's legal heritage. Professor Blinka teaches courses in evidence, trial practice, criminal law, professional responsibility and American History at Marquette University Law School. He is the author of Wisconsin Evidence (2nd

ed 2001), published by WestGroup (volume 7, Wisconsin Practice Series).

We are planning a group dinner and entertainment for Thursday evening. Guests are welcome to attend (for an additional fee). For those who golf, a golf outing may also be organized. We will provide you additional details as they are finalized. Please mark your calendars as this looks to be a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a fascinating seminar and socialize with your peers.

Other seminars for the current reporting period (5/1/2004-4/30/2005) are:

Traffic – August 26 & 27, 2004, at the Radisson Hotel in Lacrosse.

Municipal Court Clerk Seminar October 7 & 8, 2004, at the Marriott Madison West.

Trial – November 11 & 12, 2004, at the Sheraton Milwaukee, Brookfield.

Special Topic – March 10 & 11, 2005, at the Heidel House Resort in Green Lake.

A 2004/2005 Seminar Calendar is attached.

2004 QUESTIONNAIRE

Enclosed with this newsletter is the 2004 Municipal Judge Questionnaire. Please take the time to complete and return it to our office by June 30, 2004. Each year the Municipal Judge's Association compiles the results from this questionnaire to prepare a document that many municipal courts have found useful in supporting budget requests.

WISCONSIN STATE LAW LIBRARY

Connie Von Der Heide, from the Wisconsin State Law Library, presented a session on *Finding the Law on the Internet* at the March 2004 Special Topic Seminar. In addition to information on Internet legal research Connie also discussed the many services available to judges from the State Law Library. We received many comments from the participants regarding how helpful this information was and how glad they were to learn about the available resources (both print & electronic).

Set forth below is contact information and highlights of some of the library services and resources available to you as a municipal court judge. If you are interested in taking advantage of these services and resources please contact Connie Von Der Heide at the Law Library to obtain a library card and let her know that you are a municipal court judge.

State Law Library
120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd
P.O. Box 7881
Madison, WI 53707-7881

Toll Free: 800-322-9755
Reference: 608-267-9696
Email: wsl.ref@wicourts.gov
Fax: 608-267-2319
Hours: Mon. – Fri. 8 - 5

Reference Assistance

- Reference & legal research assistance, available in person, by telephone, fax or email.
- Web site, <http://wsl.state.wi.us> provides access to the library's automated catalog

and links to many law-related web resources. Cardholders may also access the LegalTrac law review index.

- Computerized Legal Research Service
- Circulation by mail of library materials
- After hours service (limited to Wisconsin-licensed attorneys)
- Library orientation tours. Please phone to schedule
- Seminars and workshops on using legal information resources, print and electronic. See Classes & Tours section of the website, or call for information

Resources

- Statutes, case law and court rules for all 50 states.
- An extensive collection of treatises and other materials for the legal practitioner
- Special Wisconsin materials, including Attorney General Opinions, Wisconsin Jury Instructions, selected decision of State administrative agencies, Judicial Counsel materials, and briefs for Supreme Court and Court of Appeals cases.
- Local ordinances from many municipalities

As a municipal judge, you may borrow materials for 30 days. If you are unable to visit the library, materials can be mailed to you. There is no charge if the materials are for municipal court business. More information about the resources and services is available on the Library's website, under User Services.

Helpful Booklets

The State Bar of Wisconsin has recently published two pocket-sized booklets that municipal judges may find helpful. **Wisconsin OWI Laws** is a compilation of all statutes pertaining to OWI offenses. **Critical Terms in Criminal Proceedings; In Spanish & English** is designed for everyday use, this booklet contains useful terms needed when working with Spanish-speaking defendants. Included in this booklet are: terms commonly used in criminal and traffic proceedings, the Wisconsin interpreter request form, the new Court Interpreter Code of Ethics and a list of Wisconsin statutes related to court interpreters. If you are interested in ordering either of these books contact the State Bar at (800) 728-7788, by fax at (608) 250-6020, or online at www.wisbar.org/cle/books Each booklet costs \$10.00 plus shipping and handling.

NEW LEGISLATION:

2003 Wis. Act. 199 – Allowing Municipal Courts to Hold Refusal Hearings

This Act has been signed by the Governor and is scheduled for publication on April 22, 2004. This is a very significant change in the law as it allows municipal courts to hold hearings relating to a person's refusal to provide a breath, blood or urine sample in OWI case under Wisconsin's implied consent law. This act takes effect on August 1, 2004. Because of the importance of this bill, it has been included in its entirety with this copy of the

Muni View.

2003 Wis. Act 209 – Imposing Liability on the Owner of a Vehicle that Violates Railroad Crossing Laws - This law allows a traffic officer to charge the owner of a vehicle with a violation of railroad crossing laws, based on a report by railroad personnel. The act takes effect on April 23, 2004.

REMINDER: Please make sure and review the Legislative Bulletins that have been sent to you over the past two months by the Director of State Courts Office for other recently passed legislation. Also, check the State Court Website at www.wicourts.gov for the most current copy of New Laws/New Cases prepared by the New Laws/New Cases Faculty Committee.

Muni View

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