

Exceptional Judicial Branch Employees Recognized by Chief Justice Heavican During Annual Awards Celebration

Friday, September 25, 2015

Chief Justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court, Mike Heavican, presented 11 Employee Recognition Awards to individuals and team members on September 25, 2015, during the Nebraska Supreme Court's seventh annual recognition event.

The Employee Recognition Committee selected ten individuals and one team from the nominations submitted for the Employee Recognition Awards. Candidates for the awards were chosen and nominated by their supervisors and colleagues in the courts and probation offices where they work. The purpose of the program is to recognize ongoing court and probation employee dedication, acknowledge exemplary contributions, and encourage employee commitment.

This is the seventh year that the Nebraska Supreme Court has recognized court and probation employees with awards for outstanding job performance and commitment to public service. Employees were honored by Chief Justice Mike Heavican, Court Administrator Corey Steel, Probation Administrator Ellen Fabian Brokofsky and invited guests with a ceremony in the Warner Chamber of the Nebraska State Capitol.

The awards are the highest honors given by the Nebraska Supreme Court recognizing exemplary performance by court and probation employees in the Nebraska Judicial System. There are nearly 1,500 employees in the judicial system in court and probation offices statewide.

The 2015 Award Recipients include:

Employee of the Year presented to Gary Dietrich, Senior Probation Officer, District 4J, Omaha. The award recognizes one employee for exemplary performance, professionalism, loyalty and other accomplishments that establish the values and professional standards of the daily work of the Judicial Branch.

Diversity Leadership Award presented to Adriana Hinojosa, Interpreter Coordinator, Omaha. The award recognizes employees for their exceptional efforts to promote diversity within the Judicial Branch.

Innovation Award presented to the Carrie Rodriguez, Deputy Chief Probation Officer, District 5, Columbus. The award recognizes employees for their contribution of effectiveness, efficiency, or economy to the Nebraska Judicial System operations.

Outstanding Clerk of the District Court (Marjorie Schaffer Memorial Award) presented to Janet Wiechelman, Clerk of the Cedar County District Court, Hartington. The award recognizes exemplary performance by a clerk of a district court.

Outstanding Court Supervisor/Administrative Employee presented to Darla Schiefelbein, Clerk Magistrate, Platte County Court, Columbus. The award recognizes exemplary performance by a supervisor or administrative employee in the Nebraska Judicial System.

Outstanding Customer Service in the Courts Award presented to Johnny Blackburn, Accounting Clerk, Douglas County Court, Omaha. The award recognizes employees who have implemented creative and effective programs that improve customer service to external or internal court/probation customers.

Outstanding Probation Employee (Jean Miller Memorial Award for Probation Support Staff) presented to

Danielle Graybill, Office Manager District 5 Probation, Columbus. The award recognizes exemplary performance by any probation support staff employee in the Nebraska Judicial System.

Outstanding Probation Officer (LaDonna Snell Probation Officer Award) presented to **Jeff Banholzer**, Specialized Substance Abuse Supervision Probation Officer, District 5 Probation, Columbus. The award recognizes exemplary performance by a Probation Officer.

Outstanding Probation Supervisor (Bob Keller Memorial Award for Probation Supervisor) presented to **Heather Briggs**, Probation Supervisor, District 4J Omaha. The award recognizes exemplary performance by a Probation Supervisor.

Outstanding Team Award is presented to the **CCJ/COSCA Planning Team: Marcie Luhman, Eileen Janssen, Carole McMahon-Boies, Judy Beutler, Jennifer Rasmussen and Ralene Cheng**, Administrative Office of the Courts, Lincoln

Outstanding Trial or Appellate Court Personnel presented to **Jackie Hladik**, Administrative Assistant for Chief Justice Heavican. This award recognizes exemplary performance by an employee serving in any office of the trial or appellate courts in the Nebraska Judicial System.

Detailed information about the award winners can be found on the Supreme Court Recognition Program page.



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Corey Steel, State Court Administrator
Administrative Office of the Courts | P.O. Box 98910 |
Lincoln, NE 68509-8910