

## FOURTH CIRCUIT— LENA D. TAPSCOTT, CONTINUED...

### 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit Birthdays

#### The Current Quarter.....

Sharon Callahan	January 4 <sup>th</sup>
Lena Tapscott	January 11 <sup>th</sup>
Ruth Blackmon	January 21 <sup>st</sup>
Denise Williams	January 24 <sup>th</sup>
Leslie Wooten	February 5 <sup>th</sup>
Barbara Barry	February 20 <sup>th</sup>
Jennifer Mattia	March 29 <sup>th</sup>

“Birthdays are a new start, a fresh beginning, and a time to pursue new endeavors with new goals. Move forward with confidence and courage.”

Author Unknown

#### Kickin’ Collard Greens

1 tablespoon olive oil  
3 slices bacon  
1 large onion, chopped  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon pepper  
3 cups chicken broth  
1 pinch red pepper flakes  
1 pound fresh collard greens, cut into 2-inch pieces

##### Step 1

Heat oil in a large pot over medium-high heat. Add bacon and cook until crisp. Remove bacon from pan, crumble and return to the pan. Add onion and cook until tender, about 5 minutes. Add garlic and cook until just fragrant. Add collard greens and fry until they start to wilt.

##### Step 2

Pour in chicken broth and season with salt, pepper, and red pepper flakes. Reduce heat to low, cover, and simmer for 45 minutes or until greens are tender\*

\* I always add 1 tablespoon of brown sugar and a generous helping of red wine vinegar in step 2. I imagine that apple cider vinegar or any hot sauce would do, depending on your preference!

Submitted by Deb Reynolds by way of sharing from Shiela Cox

## FIFTH CIRCUIT—BARBARA ALCON

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

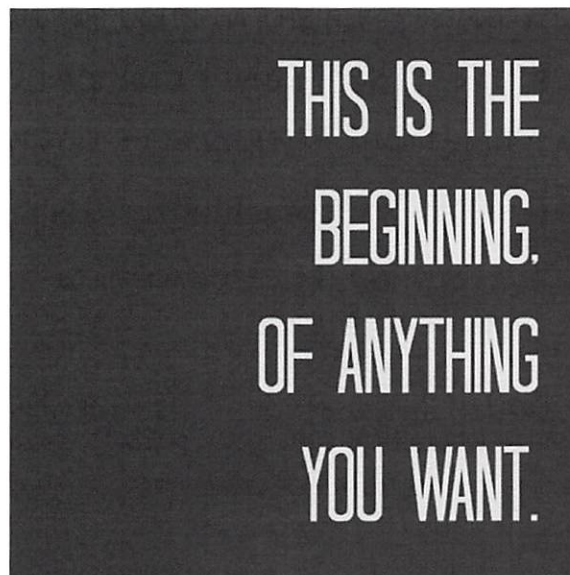


Message from your Circuit Rep Barbara Alcon:

Happy New Year Fifth Circuit (Members and Non-Members)!

I hope this message finds you and your families safe, healthy, and happy this new year. If you're like me, you're ready to put the past year in the rear-view mirror and start fresh. I CAN NOT WAIT for our Conference in Arizona and when I get to see all your beautiful faces! I've missed you so! And, I'm hoping to meet some new members and make some more FJAA friends. We need to stick together to "keep all the balls in the air" for our respective districts. I'm so thankful for my fellow JA's and I wish each of you a BIGGER, BRIGHTER, BETTER 2022 as we "PIVOT FORWARD" into this New Year!

Cheers, Barb



## **FIFTH CIRCUIT—BARBARA ALCON, CONTINUED...**

**\*\*\*\* FIFTH CIRCUIT – MIDDLE DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA \*\*\*\***

### **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FEDERAL RULES AND FORMS**

The Judicial Conference Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure has approved publication for public comment of the following proposed amendments to existing rules and forms, as well as several new rules and forms:

- Appellate Rules 2 and 4
- Bankruptcy Restyled Rules Parts III-VI; Rules 3002.1, 3011, and 8003; and new Rule 9038
- Official Bankruptcy Forms 101, 309E1, 309E2, and 417A; and new Official Bankruptcy Forms 410C13-1N, 410C13-1R, 410C13-10C, 410C13-10NC, and 410C13-10R
- Civil Rules 15, 72, and new Rule 87
- New Criminal Rule 62
- Evidence Rules 106, 615, and 702

The proposals include rules for declared emergencies as directed by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (Mar. 27, 2020). The emergency rules are reflected in the proposed amendments to Appellate Rules 2 and 4, and proposed new Bankruptcy Rule 9038, Civil Rule 87, and Criminal Rule 62.

The proposals and supporting materials are posted on the Judiciary’s website at: <http://www.uscourts.gov/rules-policies/proposed-amendments-published-public-comment>

**The public comment period opened on August 6, 2021 and closes on February 16, 2022.**

# SIXTH CIRCUIT— JENNIFER HODGE



## Chief Judge Sutton Speaks in Memphis

Jeffrey Sutton, Chief Judge of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, recently travelled to Memphis to speak to the Leo Bearman Sr. Inn of Court in Memphis. Before his presentation, he paused for this picture with many members of our court.



## Happy Birthday Sixth Circuit Members!!!

**October**  
 Yvonne Carpenter    October 26th

**November**  
 Alisha Kaszubski    November 2nd  
 Cathy Gray            November 27th

**December**  
 Jennifer McGaugh    December 2nd  
 Haley Hages           December 12th

### First Quarter 2022 Birthdays:

**January**  
 Daphne Rankin    January 17th  
 Tracy Young        January 19th

**February**  
 Bonnie Zaidel      February 3rd  
 Elizabeth Claes    February 3rd  
 Carol Kronquist    February 24th  
 Bernita Henley     February 26th

**March**  
 Danielle Hardee    March 2nd  
 Debby Sawyer      March 26th

**SIXTH CIRCUIT— JENNIFER HODGE CONTINUED...**

## Judge Julia Gibbons Receives 2021 Devitt Award

*Published on October 7, 2021*



Judge Julia Smith Gibbons, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

Judge Julia Smith Gibbons, former budget chair for the U.S. Judicial Conference who was a pioneering woman judge in her home state of Tennessee, is the recipient of the 2021 Edward J. Devitt Distinguished Service to Justice Award. Gibbons serves on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

The Devitt Award honors an Article III judge who has achieved a distinguished career and made significant contributions to the administration of justice, the advancement of the rule of law, and the improvement of society as a whole.

Recipients are chosen by a committee of federal judges, which this year was chaired by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Neil M. Gorsuch and included Judge Thomas M. Hardiman, of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and Judge Christine M. Arguello, of the District of Colorado.

“Judge Julia Gibbons is a trailblazer and role model in the legal profession,” Gorsuch said in a statement. “In addition to discharging her judicial duties, for nearly 30 years Judge Gibbons has also played a vital role in the governance and administration of the federal judiciary nationwide.”

Gibbons grew up in the rural Tennessee town of Pulaski. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Vanderbilt University in 1972 and a law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law three years later. In 1981, she became the first female trial judge in the state of Tennessee.

## **SIXTH CIRCUIT— JENNIFER HODGE CONTINUED...**

Two years later, she was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee. At 32, she was the youngest U.S. district court judge in the country. Gibbons was nominated by President George W. Bush to the Sixth Circuit in 2001 and received her commission in July 2002.

As a federal judge, Gibbons was chair of the U.S. Judicial Conference's Budget Committee from 2004 to 2018, and of the Judicial Resources Committee from 1994-1999. She also was a member of the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation. Gibbons testified 16 times before Congress in her role as Budget Committee chair.

"I am honored to receive the 2021 Devitt Award," Gibbons said. "I am humbled that the selection committee and others believed me worthy of this recognition."

Gibbons added, "Serving with federal judicial colleagues and staff for the past 38 years, as we have conducted trials, decided cases, and done the work of judiciary governance, has given me great faith in the federal courts as an institution. Given this context, being the representative of the Third Branch to receive the Award this year is deeply meaningful."

Because of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the normal full-scale reception and award presentation at the U.S. Supreme Court will not be held this year. Instead, a special dinner is planned for next year in honor of Gibbons and Judge Rya W. Zobel, of the District of Massachusetts, who received the award in 2020.

The Devitt Award is named for the late Edward J. Devitt, longtime chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota. The award is sponsored by the Dwight D. Opperman Foundation.

"Women judges have risen to the top," said Julie Opperman, Chairman of the Dwight D. Opperman Foundation. "I remember asking Dwight more than a decade ago, why only men got the award. He replied that women haven't been on the bench long enough to achieve the lifetime status that is required. Well, I am very pleased to say that the women have earned their stripes and are receiving their long overdue recognition."

## U.S. District Court TN/WD-Eastern Division to be Renamed

On December 16, 2021, U.S. Representative David Kustoff (TN-08) introduced a bill to rename the United States Courthouse in Jackson, Tennessee after Judge James D. Todd. It will be known as the "James D. Todd United States Courthouse." Every member of the U.S. House of Representatives in the Tennessee delegation supported the bill.

Judge Todd served as an Article III District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee for 36 years. He was appointed in 1985 by President Ronald Reagan. He, along with his staff, retired September 30, 2021.

## SIXTH CIRCUIT— JENNIFER HODGE CONTINUED...



(PHOTO: Gov. Bill Lee, left; Joe Frye, U.S. Marshal’s Fugitive Task Force; Tony Parker, the commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Correction and Tyreece Miller, U.S. Marshal)

### ‘... not a story of tragedy, but of triumph,’ Joe Frye receives U.S. Marshals Purple Heart

Joe Frye, Tennessee Department of Correction Special Agent, who was hit multiple times by gunfire while serving arrest warrants on Morningside Drive, Nov. 2, 2020, received a U.S. Marshals Purple Heart during a ceremony at the U.S. Courthouse in Jackson.

“While a Purple Heart Award symbolizes an injury or an ultimate sacrifice, today we honor the heroic efforts displayed on Nov. 2, 2020, by not only Special Agent Joe Frye, but the entire U.S. Marshals Service Task Force,” said U.S. Marshal Tyreece Miller, “This is not a story of tragedy, but of triumph. They overcame an extremely dangerous situation and accomplished the mission by arresting the suspect.”

Miller was joined by Gov. Bill Lee and Tony Parker, the commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Correction for the presentation.

Joe Frye, who is part of the U.S. Marshal’s Fugitive Task Force, suffered minor gunshot wounds while approaching a home in Jackson to serve a warrant on fugitive Bobby Joe Claybrook, Jr.

Claybrook, 39, was placed on the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation’s Top Ten Most Wanted list in August on charges of attempted second degree murder, felon in possession of a handgun and aggravated assault.

**SIXTH CIRCUIT— JENNIFER HODGE CONTINUED...**

**Retirement of Past President Cathy Gray**



Photo of Cathy's last day of work.



Photo of Cathy and Judge Lipman



Photo of Cathy with Judge McCalla and staff

FJAA Past President Cathy Gray retired at the end of the fiscal year in September 2021. Cathy has been with the Court for 16 years. She worked for the Honorable Jon P. McCalla for 9 years and for the Honorable Sheryl H. Lipman for the last 7 years. Judge Lipman hosted a retirement celebration, honoring her and her service to the Court on November 17, 2021. Court staff, family and friends all gathered to celebrate her retirement with her.



## SEVENTH CIRCUIT— Cathy Geier



Happy 2022!

I hope you were all able to spend some time with family and friends over the Holiday! After receiving my booster shot in October, my daughter and I once again traveled to Florida to celebrate Thanksgiving with my mom and the rest of our Florida family. This time however, we spent a few days at the happiest place on earth first!



In early December, I was also able to fly my mom here for Christmas. Although my family is spread across the country, my mom, daughter and I have spent Christmas together every year with the exception of Christmas 2020, when we did zoom Christmas, so this year was extra-special! It has been a long-standing tradition with the three of us to open Christmas pajamas on Christmas Eve. Over the years, I have made all, or portions, of those pajamas. This years pajamas were probably my favorite yet! I would be lying if I said we didn't have more fun with that box this year than three adults ever should!



As for upcoming travel adventures, my daughter and I have resumed planning our trip to England, Ireland and Scotland that was cancelled in May of 2020. We have purchased tickets for travel the first two weeks of May and are hopeful that we will actually get to go this time! Stay tuned . . .

## SEVENTH CIRCUIT— CATHY GEIER, CONTINUED

### *News from the Central District of Illinois . . .*

Submitted by Whitney Gingrich



The Honorable Jonathan E. Hawley has been reappointed as a Magistrate Judge for the Central District of Illinois upon recommendation of a duly appointed Merit Selection Panel, and with the unanimous concurrence of the District Judges of the Court. Judge Hawley's reappointment is for a term of eight years beginning on March 1, 2022, when his current term is scheduled to expire. Judge Hawley will continue to preside in the Peoria and Rock Island Divisions over civil cases by consent of the parties and preliminary proceedings in criminal cases; the trial and disposition of misdemeanor cases; discovery hearings, settlement conferences, and various other pretrial hearings in civil cases; and other matters as may be assigned. Judge Hawley's Paralegal Whitney Gingrich is a long time member of the FJAA and former 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Representative.

Need to warm up with some souper cozy, yummy-sounding soups? Jill Adkins, Judicial Assistant to Senior U.S. District Judge Joe Billy McDade, submitted a list of soup recipes she collected from *Delish*. Among the recipes submitted were Chicken Alfredo Lasagna soup, Chicken Pot Pie soup, Creamy Parm Tomato soup, and Escarole & White Bean soup. I haven't tried any of these, but I have tried several others from the *Delish* site and have not been disappointed!

### *News from the Western District of Wisconsin . . .*

Submitted by Melissa Hardin

Our court is back to authorizing zoom video hearings in criminal cases. This means the JA's have again taken point on contacting defense attorneys to see if their clients will waive personal appearance, then contacting the local jails and prisons to reserve rooms (hopefully without needing to change the date of the already-scheduled pleas and sentencings). Our clerk's office takes over once that is done with sending out the zoom invites and hosting the zoom calls. Nothing like being back on zoom to make you realize how much easier it is to schedule things in court. In other news, our clerk of court is retiring the end of April, so we are in the midst of interviews for that position.

# EIGHTH CIRCUIT— DONNA O’KROY

Nothing much happening in our neck of the woods, but I would love to share the below highlight that is happening in Stillwater!



*January*  
18TH-23RD  
2022

**WORLD SNOW SCULPTING  
CHAMPIONSHIP**

*Lowell Park*  
STILLWATER,  
MINNESOTA, USA

GREATER STILLWATER  
CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE

PRESENTED BY THE GREATER STILLWATER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
WORLDSNOWSCULPTINGSTILLWATERMN.COM

Inaugural World Snow Sculpting Championship  
Lowell Park in Stillwater MN  
Stillwater, Minnesota, United States of America  
January 18-23, 2022  
"There's NO business like SNOW Business!"



Happy New Year to all! Hopefully 2022 will be better, fingers crossed! I am so looking forward to Arizona! Donna

# NINTH CIRCUIT— SUZANNE LOFTON



Photos submitted by

JANICE M. RIHERD, Judicial Assistant  
to the Honorable Lawrence VanDyke,  
Reno, Nevada

My husband and I took our granddaughters on a Polar Express Train Ride on Thanksgiving weekend. Winding through the mountains toward the “north pole” in an 1800’s era parlor car was quite the event. How blessed we are to once again see Christmas through the eyes of a child.

(Pictures attached.)



Tucson, Arizona JA’s held a courthouse food drive and collected and donated to the Southern Arizona Community Food Bank:

- \* 375 food items,
- \* 1 bag of dog food, and
- \* 850.00 dollars!