



Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas

2009 JUDICIAL EDUCATION REPORT

*Honorable Pamela Pryor Dembe
President Judge*

*Honorable Lisa M. Rau
Co-Chair
Judicial Education Committee*

*Honorable Rosalyn K. Robinson
Co-Chair
Judicial Education Committee*

PHILADELPHIA COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
JUDICIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT - 2009

The Judicial Education Committee is a committee of the Board of Judges of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania, appointed by the President Judge. The goals of the Judicial Education Committee are:

1. To help judges to stay current on the state of the law.
2. To critically examine conscious and unconscious assumptions that might influence judicial decision-making.
3. To reduce judicial intellectual isolation.

SUMMARY

The Judicial Education Committee of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas is one of the most active such committees nationally with programs that keep Philadelphia judges up to date on the latest legal issues. Thirty nine Court of Common Pleas judges volunteer their time to make up 11 subcommittees developing and presenting programs to educate the 108 judges of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. Judges give up their lunch hours to attend presentations by experts¹ who generally agree to present without compensation. Attendance is very high with judges frequently attending programs in other divisions. Lengthier educational programs take place at the end of the work day so as not to compromise active courtroom schedules. The program ideas come directly from judges to address areas that are relevant to the work they do. During 2009, the Judicial Education Committee sponsored 57 educational programs for its judges averaging nearly 5 programs a month.

In the spring of 2007, the Judicial Education Committee worked with the National Judicial College to enable it to host an off campus course in Philadelphia. The National Judicial College requested to return to Philadelphia in 2009 with another off campus course because of the huge popularity of the inaugural 2007 program. In June 2009, the National Judicial College held an intensive one week course entitled "Dispute Resolution Skills" in Philadelphia that attracted judges from throughout the United States and as far away as Nigeria. The importance of this international educational event was recognized by Mayor Michael Nutter and other dignitaries who welcomed the judges at a dinner held in their honor at the National Constitution Center. The Philadelphia Common Pleas and Municipal Court judges also welcomed the guest judges at a reception at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. The visiting judges also attended a Phillies baseball game. Co-Chair Rosalyn Robinson dedicated many hours towards making Philadelphia's hosting of the visiting judges such a tremendous success.

¹ The presenters of judicial educational programs and the materials available from the Judicial Education website and law libraries represent the views and work product of the presenters. The information they present does not necessarily reflect the views of any judge or judges of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas or the Judicial Education Committee.

The Judicial Education Committee has used technology to enhance accessibility of judicial education materials to judges and updated its website in 2009 to make it more user friendly. Its website includes an electronic library of bench books and manuals along with recent program materials so that materials are immediately available to judges from their courtrooms, chambers or other locations. The Judicial Education Committee also retains a dedicated space in City Hall’s Judicial Library to maintain all resource materials for judges and law clerks who prefer materials in printed hard copy format.

In addition to the programming provided by the Judicial Education Committee to the Court of Commons Pleas judges to enhance their professional abilities, a substantial number of our judges also provided education to members of the bar and community by teaching courses or providing mentoring through internships to students. A discussion of those educational contributions by the judges is beyond the scope of this report.

Judicial Education Committee Co-Chairs :

Judges Lisa M. Rau & Rosalyn K. Robinson

Chairs of Judicial Education Subcommittees:

- Brown Bag Luncheons - Judges Flora Wolf & Ramy Djerassi
- Civil Conversations - Judges Sandra Mazer Moss & Annette Rizzo
- Conversations on Ethics – Judges Anne Lazarus & Patricia McInerney
- Criminal Conversations - Judges Gwendolyn Bright & Denis Cohen
- Family Conversations: Domestic Division-Judges Holly Ford & Doris Pechkurow
- Family Conversations: Juvenile Division-Judges Alice Beck Dubow & Daniel Anders
- FYI - Judges Sheila Woods-Skipper & Karen Shreeves-Johns
- Law Clerk Conversations - Judges Robinson & Lisa Rau
- Liaison State Judicial Education Committee – Judge George Overton
- New & Transferring Judges Training - Judge Marlene Lachman
- Perspectives - Judges Teresa Sarmina & Lillian Ransom

Committee Members:

Honorable Howland W. Abramson	Honorable Patricia A. McInerney
Honorable Jacqueline F. Allen	Honorable Robert J. Matthews
Honorable Daniel Anders	Honorable William J. Mazzola
Honorable Mark I. Bernstein	Honorable Sandra Mazer Moss
Honorable Gwendolyn N. Bright	Honorable Margaret T. Murphy
Honorable Ann Butchart	Honorable Arnold L. New
Honorable Ellen Ceisler	Honorable George W. Overton
Honorable Denis P. Cohen	Honorable John J. Poserina, Jr.
Honorable Pamela Pryor Dembe, PJ	Honorable Nitza Quinones Alejandro
Honorable Victor J. DiNubile, Jr.	Honorable Lisa M. Rau, Co-Chair
Honorable Ramy I. Djerassi	Honorable Lillian H. Ransom
Honorable Kevin M. Dougherty	Honorable Annette M. Rizzo
Honorable Alice Beck Dubow	Honorable Rosalyn K. Robinson, Co-Chair
Honorable Lori A. Dumas	Honorable M. Teresa Sarmina
Honorable Holly J. Ford	Honorable Susan I. Schulman
Honorable Glynnis Hill	Honorable Karen Shreeves-Johns
Honorable Renee C. Hughes	Honorable Carolyn Engel Temin
Honorable Barbara A. Joseph	Honorable Flora Barth Wolf
Honorable Marlene F. Lachman	Honorable Sheila Woods-Skipper
Honorable Anne E. Lazarus	

I. Program Series

A. Civil Conversations

Civil Conversations is a monthly opportunity for members of the bench to get together over lunch to discuss recent changes in civil law as well as address challenging issues that arise during the course of litigation. On the fourth Thursday of the month, our colleagues and/or outside guests led discussions about areas of law, judicial practices, or recent decisions of significance to judges assigned to hear civil cases. While the discussion was limited to matters of civil law, attendance was open to all members of the bench. The Civil Conversations series was planned and coordinated by Judges Sandra Mazer Moss and Annette Rizzo.

Topics during 2009 included the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>
January 22	“Elements of Statutory Employer Defense” Presenter: Judge Alan Tereshko
February 26	“What’s the BUZZZZzzzzz” A conversation with the President of the Trial Lawyers’ Bar, Michael Barrett, Esquire, and the President of the Defense Lawyers’ Bar, Richard Kolb, Esquire on current issues faced by their respective groups
March 26	“Proper Verdict Sheet Format under M-CARE Law” Presenters: Judges Mark Bernstein and Alejandro Nitza Quinones
April 23	“Insurance Coverage 101: A nuts and bolts review of coverage issues in civil litigation” Presenter: Gale White, Esquire
May 28	“Going through the Motions: An insider’s view of the Motions Court Operations and Docket” Presenters: Judges Gary DiVito and Idee Fox
June 25	“New Doings in Discovery Court” Presenters: Judges Hal Abramson and William Manfredi
July 23	“Primer on Fraudulent Conveyance Matters” Presenter: Judge Esther Sylvester
August 27	“Open Season/Open Forum” Discussion led by Judge Sandra Mazer Moss

- September 24** **“Boutique Dockets”**
 Presenter: Judge Peter Rogers, Administrative Agency Appeals
 (Discussed the mechanics of specialty caseloads)
- October 29** **“Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Pilot Program”**
 Presenters: Judge Annette Rizzo and
 Dominic Rossi, Deputy Court Administrator
- November 19** **“Landlord Tenant Appeals and the New Mediation Program”**
 Presenter: Judge Peter Rogers
 Discussed landlord tenant appeals from Municipal Court and the
 mediation program that became effective on November 10, 2009 and
 is staffed by lawyers serving pro bono.
- December 24** **“Complex Litigation Update”**
 Presenter: Judge Sandra Mazer Moss

B. Criminal Conversations

Patterned after Civil Conversations, Criminal Conversations began in the fall of 2001. The Criminal Conversations series is a lunch-time gathering and discussion of criminal law issues open to all members of the bench. Sessions were held on the third Wednesday of the month. Criminal Conversations was chaired by Judges Gwendolyn Bright and Denis Cohen with active participation by Judge Renee Cardwell Hughes.

Topics during 2009 included the following:

- | <u>Date</u> | <u>Program</u> |
|--------------------|---|
| January 21 | “New Sentencing Legislation & Its Impact on Sentencing Guidelines”
Presenter: Mark H. Bergstrom, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing |
| February 18 | “Media and the Criminal Justice System”
Presenter: Aretha Marshall, Managing Editor of Dateline NBC |
| March 18 | “Social Services in Philadelphia’s Prisons”
Presenters:
Pat Hall, Human Services Program Administrator, Chief Social Worker
Yolanda Lockwood, Social Worker Supervisor, Work Release Program
Debra Lee, Options Social Worker
Byron Cotter, Esquire, Defender Association |

- April 15** **“Evidentiary Issues Update”**
 Presenter: Professor Jules Epstein
- May 20** **“Electronic Evidence”**
 Presenter: Professor Jules Epstein
- July 15** **“Re-entry Programs, the Assessment Process & Corrections Issues”**
 Presenter: Kathleen Gnall, Deputy Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections & Director of the State Department of Corrections Re-Entry Program from Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. Ms. Gnall is responsible for managing treatment and education programs designed to prepare the 16,000 annually released inmates for reintegration into communities.
- September 16** **“A Meeting with Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles H. Ramsey”**
 (accompanied by some of his top aides)
- October 21** **“New State Transfer Policies and Procedures”**
 Presenters:
 Chip Junod, Esquire, Assistant Managing Director to the Mayor
 Lt. Joseph Evans, Sheriff’s Office
 Sarah Hart, Esquire, Office of the District Attorney
 Tom Innes, Esquire, Defender Association of Philadelphia
- November 18** **“State Corrections Issues: Part II”**
 Presenter: Kathleen Gnall, Deputy Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections
 This was the Deputy Secretary’s second presentation and specifically focused on re-entry programs for outgoing state inmates as well as the assessment process for new inmates.
- December 16** **“Court-Appointed Counsel Fees”**
 Presenters: Kevin Cross & Kelly Press, Court’s Counsel Fee Unit

C. Family Conversations-Domestic Division

In 2006, a new subcommittee was formed to address topics specifically relating to the Domestic Relations Branch of Family Court. Judges Holly Ford and Doris Pechkurow were the Co-Chairs of this subcommittee. This subcommittee coordinated a wide array of presentations with presenters whose expertise could immediately benefit the Philadelphia families who appear in the Domestic Relations Branch. The Family Conversations Subcommittee's programs augmented other programs that were already being offered for Family Court judges under the leadership of Administrative Judge Kevin Dougherty.

The Subcommittee's programs during 2009 included:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>
January 8	"The Shut Down Learner" Presenter: Dr. Richard Selznick, a licensed psychologist who heads the Cooper Learning Center in New Jersey. Dr. Selznick is also the recent published author of "The Shut Down Learner". He has particular expertise in dealing with children and young adults with reading problems and ADD/ADHD. Dr. Selznick also requested feedback for what would be needed for a "snapshot" analysis of children involved in some of our family/custody disputes.
January 21	"Acting Out" Judges viewed the documentary, "Acting Out", followed by a discussion with the producer Ron Kanter. This documentary explores the use of improvisational theatre at St. Gabriel's juvenile facility as a therapy for kids adjudicated as delinquent.
February 5	"Paternity by Estoppel – What is its Current Status and its Future?" Presenter: Judge Angeles Roca Judge Roca was one of the attorneys who argued the case prior to her elevation to the bench. Judge Fox, author of the most recent opinion on paternity by estoppels, was unavailable for the presentation.
March 5	"Immigration and Nationality Law: Relevant Issues in Family Law" Presenter: Steven A. Morley, Esquire
April 2	"Available Services for those with Speech, Hearing & Mental Health Needs" Presenter: Daniel Reardon, Senior Vice President of Elwyn Institute

- May 1** **“Conversation with Justice Jane Greenspan”**
- August 6** **“Transfers to Schools Outside of Students’ Neighborhood”**
 Presenter: LaTretta Jones, Director of Student Placement, School District of Philadelphia
- September 9** **“Avoiding Mistakes in Equitable Distribution”**
 Presenter: Paul T. Murray, Certified Retirement Counselor and Certified Financial Advisor, Associate Vice President of Investments at Rose, Quigley & Murray Group in Quakertown, PA.
 Discussed tax and investment consequences of selling marital property and withdrawing pension plans & other financial issues pertaining to property division.
- October 7** **“Judicial Security”**
 Presenter: Michael Green, Federal Marshall
- November 4** **“Domestic Violence - How Do the Police Handle These Matters?”**
 Presenters: Captain Charles Bloom, Lieutenant Gould and Detective Valdez from the Philadelphia Police Department.
 The presentation focused on police education and training in the handling of domestic violence cases. Judge Ida Chen was integral to establishing this special program.
- December 2** **“Family Therapy Treatment Services”**
 Presenter: Collette Green, Director of Programming at Family Therapy Treatment Services
 The presentation addressed programs and services available to families, including reunification, conflict resolution, understanding blended family issues, healing from family violence and developing parenting issues.

D. Brown Bag Luncheons

Brown Bag Luncheons were initially convened in 1998 by Judge Flora Barth Wolf. Judges Wolf and Ramy Djerassi Co-Chaired this Subcommittee in 2009. Brown Bag Luncheons are held on the second Wednesday of each month and afford judges an informal opportunity for collegial exchange of ideas. Brown Bag has become the cornerstone of our efforts to provide informal judicial education, collegial exchange and relief from professional stress. Occasionally guests are invited to give presentations on matters of interest to the bench.

Invited guests and their topics of discussion during 2009 included:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>
January 14	** Open Forum **
February 11	<p>“The Federal Walsh Act & Pennsylvania’s Megan’s Law-An Update” Presenter: Lt. Douglas Grimes, Commander, Megan’s Law Section of the Pennsylvania State Police.</p>
March 11	<p>“The Federal Walsh Act and Pennsylvania’s Megan’s Law-An Update-Part II” Presenters: Ted Glackman, M.Ed., Executive Director, Joseph J. Peters Institute, Dr. Barry Zakireh, Joseph J. Peters Institute, Director of Adult Orientation & Forensic Evaluation Programs, Karl Baker, Esquire, Defenders Association, Jim Carpenter, District Attorney’s Office</p>
April 8	** Open Forum **
May 13	** Open Forum **
June 10	<p>“Probation Department’s New Risk Based Supervision” Presenters: Chief Robert J. Malvestuto, Ellen Kurtz, PhD, Director of Research, Kathleen Intenzo, Director of Operations Lindsay Ahlman, Research Associate</p>
July 8	** Open Forum **
August 12	** Open Forum **
September 9	“A Conversation with our President Judge Pamela Pryor Dembe”
October 14	** Open Forum **
November 10	<p>“Courts, Public Safety & the Prisons” Presenter: Claire Shubik, Senior Associate, The Pew Charitable Trusts’ Philadelphia Research Initiative</p>

December 9

“Conversations on Ethics”

Presenters: Judges Anne Lazarus and Pat McInerney

This was the first presentation planned by the newly established Conversations on Ethics Subcommittee of the Judicial Education Committee. The presentation focused on judicial participation in social functions, especially legal related events.

E. Conversations on Ethics

The Judicial Education Committee has always recognized the importance of judicial ethics and every year has included at least one or two programs on judicial ethics, usually presented as part of the FYI or Brown Bag series. However, in the fall of 2009 a decision was made to establish a new subcommittee dedicated to ethical issues in order to institutionalize the practice and increase the number of presentations. Judges Dembe, Rau, Robinson, McInerney and Lazarus worked on initiating this Subcommittee which was chaired by Judges Anne Lazarus and Patricia McInerney who are longtime members of the statewide Ethics Committee of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges. The goal of the Subcommittee is to present three programs a year during one of the designated days for Brown Bag Luncheons focusing on common ethical issues.

F. F.Y.I. (For Your Information)

F.Y.I. was created in the Spring of 2002, by Judges Kevin M. Dougherty, Annette Rizzo, Karen Shreeves-Johns, and Sheila Woods-Skipper, to provide additional orientation on administrative topics such as personnel issues, boards and commissions, and court operations. Although initially intended for “newer” judges, F.Y.I. has become a forum for matters of interest to judges in all of the divisions of the court and is actively attended by a cross section of the court. F.Y.I. meetings were held at lunchtime on the first Friday of the month.

Sheila Woods-Skipper and Karen Shreeves-Johns Co-Chaired F.Y.I. during 2009 with the following programs:

Date

Program

February 6

“Technology 101”

Presenters: Clifford Baumbach, Director of MIS and Dave Wasson, Deputy Court Administrator.

A presentation on our current computer technology and how we can save time, go green and increase efficiency.

March 6

“Ethics Redux”

Presenters: Judges Pat McInerney and Judge Greg Smith

A discussion on current ethical issues facing our bench including issues surrounding election and retention runs.

- April 3** **“What’s Going on in Your Hood?”**
 Presenters were Community Court Representatives:
 Kate Lunger, Program Manager
 Kathleen Rapone, Deputy Court Administrator, Municipal Court Criminal
 Janet DiTomasso, Director, Municipal Court Diversion Program
- May 1** **“Conversation with the Honorable Jane Cutler Greenspan, Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court”**
 Our distinguished guest discussed her experiences thus far on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Family Court hosted this event at 1801 Vine Street.
- October 22** **“Conversation with the Honorable Debra Todd, Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court”**
 Once again Family Court hosted our distinguished guest who talked about her view from the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.
- December 4** **“Stress Management”**
 Presenters:
 Gwyn MacDonald, Moon & Associates
 Judy Moon, Certified Massage Therapist, Moon & Associates
 Zac Weiser, Washington Square Chiropractic Center

II. Individual Programs

A. Judicial Perspectives

Years ago, under the leadership of Judge Mark Bernstein, the Judicial Education Committee committed itself to have at least one program a year under the category “Perspectives.” The goal of the Perspectives programs is to confront core values and ingrained thought patterns that may develop and go unrecognized and unchallenged when one wears a robe. During the last several years, Judicial Perspectives has been Co-Chaired by Judge Lillian Harris Ransom and Judge Teresa Sarmina.

Barnes Foundation Tour

On September 21, 2009, 29 judges of the First Judicial District and their guests visited and toured the world famous Barnes Foundation collection housed at its location in Merion, Pennsylvania. The Foundation’s well versed docents guided the judges and their guests on a very informative tour.

The Barnes Foundation was established in 1922 by Dr. Albert C. Barnes to promote the advancement of education and the appreciation of fine arts. The Foundation is the home of one of the world’s largest collections of Impressionist, Post-Impressionist and

early Modern paintings. In addition to collecting numerous paintings by Picasso, Renoir, Matisse, Modigliani and Cezanne, Barnes was an early and vigorous collector of African art. Barnes believed that the African works represented a major art form that was aesthetically as important as any other art movement. Also on view at the Foundation are works by local African American artist, Horace Pippin. Barnes arranged wall ensembles of the art pieces to illustrate the common visual elements and aesthetic traditions which come from different time periods and from different cultures.

B. Conversations @ Sidebar

Conversations at Sidebar was launched in 2008 as a program to follow the Quarterly Board of Judges Meetings to enable judges to congregate and discuss issues of common concern in a social setting. Judge Rosalyn Robinson organized these events on February 12th and November 19th. The program proved to be enormously popular and drew judges from all judicial divisions.

III. New Judges' Training

In 2009, Judge Marlene Lachman who is the Chair of the New and Transferring Judges' Training Subcommittee organized three orientation sessions for the seven new judges who were elected or appointed to fill vacancies on the court. These training sessions were held on July 9th, October 20th and December 3rd.

Judges and administrators who attended one or more of the sessions and assisted with the training included the following:

President Judge Pamela Dembe and Administrative Judge Webster Keogh, Supervising Judge of Criminal Sheila Woods-Skipper, Judges Marlene Lachman, Mark Bernstein, Renee Cardwell-Hughes, Ramy Djerassi, Marlene Lachman, Anne Lazarus, Robert Matthews, Patricia McInerney, Arnold New, Lisa Rau, Annette Rizzo, Rosalyn Robinson, Leon Tucker and Court Administrator David Lawrence and Deputy Court Administrator Janet Fasy.

Training and discussion on the following topics:

Judicial Ethics
Judicial Education Resources: National, state & local
Court Administration & Personnel Issues
Setting Up Chambers
Opinion writing/Appellate Issues
Decision Making/Courtroom Management
Evidence
Contempt
Role of the Board of Judges
AOPC and Relations with the State

Mandatory Reports (703, Financial etc)
Pro se Litigants
Stress Management and Judicial Community
Interpreter/Court Reporter Services

IV. Continuing Resources

A. Judicial Education Library

The Judicial Education Committee maintains a dedicated space in the Judicial Library located on the 6th floor of City Hall to maintain all materials from recent Judicial Education Programs as a resource for new or transferring judges, those who could not attend the programs and as a refresher for those who attended when the programs were first presented. The Committee continues to maintain a videotape or DVD lending library of the programs offered by the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges. Co-Chairs of the Family Conversations Subcommittee maintain the materials from their programs in their library at 34 South 11th Street for the greater accessibility to the judges serving in the Domestic Relations Division.

B. Judicial Education Website

In 2009, the court's website continued to expand to serve as an online educational resource for our judges and through the assistance from two summer interns modified the website to make it more user friendly to judges and their law clerks. It now includes electronic access to a variety of Bench Books, Practice Manuals, Standard Jury Instructions and educational materials provided by program presenters. It includes a listing of the video and DVD lending library catalogue available in the Judicial Education Library. The Judicial Education Website also provides an up to date calendar of educational programs for the convenience of the judiciary.

V. Contributions to Legal Education

In addition to the activities of the Judicial Education Committee, judges of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas routinely serve as legal educators, both nationally and locally, for lawyers, judges, students and the community at large. A substantial number of judges volunteered their time by joining up with lawyers to teach law throughout the academic year in Philadelphia public high schools through a Philadelphia Bar Association sponsored program entitled Advancing Civics Education (ACE). Finally, the judges also serve as teachers and mentors through our extensive summer internship program organized by Judge Lillian Harris Ransom and these activities are set forth in Addendum 1.

VI. Conclusion

The Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judicial Education Committee is one of the leading such groups in the nation in providing continuous educational programming to address the needs of the judiciary to be familiar with developments in the law. The major accomplishments of this committee were attained by the enthusiastic volunteer work of Subcommittee Co-Chairs and Committee members. We are also grateful to the many presenters who generously contributed their time and energy with high quality programs to assist in keeping our judges current. Through the diligent efforts of our judicial colleagues in coordinating educational programs, it is our goal to ensure the fair delivery of justice to and on behalf of all citizens of the Philadelphia community.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Rau, Judge
Judicial Education Committee,
Co-Chair

Rosalyn K. Robinson, Judge
Judicial Education Committee
Co-Chair

ADDENDUM 1

SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

In a continuing effort to serve the legal community, the judges of the First Judicial District served as mentors for high school, college and law school students who have expressed an interest in pursuing a career in law. Judge Lillian Harris Ransom continues to chair this continuously expanding program and arranged for the placement of students with judges in the various divisions of the First Judicial District. Judges gave their interns assignments designed to increase the students' fund of knowledge about the legal system and to help them make informed decisions about careers in law.

Additionally, Judge Ransom, with the assistance of her staff, arranged field trips that gave the student interns the opportunity to: attend a line-up at one of the local jails; attend a lecture on firearms identification; attend a lecture on the packaging and identification of illegal narcotics; hear oral arguments before the Pennsylvania Superior Court; hear arguments and take a tour of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Students were involved in a brown bag luncheon series which focused on topics such as career opportunities in the public service sector of the Philadelphia legal community, passing the bar exam, staying connected with various bar associations and making career choices within the legal profession.

In 2009 the summer internship program provided summer placement for approximately one hundred students who attend schools from throughout the country. Approximately one-fourth of our interns represented ethnic minorities. While the FJD does not provide direct stipends for the students, the FJD has been designated as an approved work-study site. Eligible students are able to use their summer internship as part of their school's financial aid package.

The summer internship program has been enthusiastically received by the FJD judges, the student participants, and their schools. The program has grown every year since its inception and provides an outstanding educational opportunity for young people interested in a career in the legal field.