

2021 Through the Eyes of a Child - Biographies

Welcome & Updates	Nanci Thaemert, JFCPD	<p>Nanci Thaemert is the Director of Juvenile and Family Court Programs Division which is charged with developing, implementing, and evaluating court programs for statewide application in the Oregon courts. She has spent her entire career serving government and nonprofit entities to ensure families and children in the system are safe and free of abuse. Before moving to Oregon, Nanci spent a decade at the Idaho Supreme Court managing programs and services in the areas of family law, juvenile dependency and delinquency, domestic violence, and guardianships and conservatorships. She is an expert on guardianship reform efforts and has trained and presented on this topic across the country. Nanci holds a juris doctorate from the Willamette University School of Law and is a licensed attorney.</p>
Welcome & Updates	Heidi Strauch, JFCPD	<p>Heidi Olsen Strauch earned her BA in Political Science from Drake University and her JD from Lewis & Clark Law School. For seven years Heidi was a partner in general practice in a small-town law firm in Columbia County, encompassing both a civil practice and serving as city attorney for criminal matters, prosecuting misdemeanors in municipal court. After spending time as a full-time mother to her three children, Heidi provided litigation support in Multnomah County in complex civil cases. Heidi began work as a hearings referee and circuit court judge pro tem in 2014, mostly handling juvenile dependency cases. She also created and led the Marion County LGBTQ Foster Youth Work Group, working with community partners to improve outcomes for LGBTQ youth in foster care, served on the Marion County Visitation Practices Workgroup and was recognized as the Oregon Chief Justice's Juvenile Court Champion in 2018. Heidi now serves as the Juvenile Court Programs Manager for the Oregon Judicial Department.</p>
Data Update	Yousef Allouzi Data Analyst, JCIP	<p>Yousef Allouzi is a JCIP data analyst and author who currently resides in McMinnville, OR. He graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Economics from Oregon State University. He also holds a Master's Degree in Public Policy from the same institution. He previously worked 10 years for the Federal Bureau of Prisons, was a volunteer mediator, and loves to travel.</p>
Comments	Chief Justice Martha Walters	<p>Martha L. Walters was elected by her colleagues as Oregon's 44th Chief Justice and began service on July 1, 2018. Chief Justice Walters joined the Oregon Supreme Court as an Associate Justice in October 2006. Before joining the court, Chief Justice Walters practiced law for almost 30 years, emphasizing employment law and civil litigation as well as general civil practice. She practiced law in Eugene with Walters Romm Chanti & Dickens, P.C. and its predecessor firms (1985 - 2006), serving as firm president (1992 -</p>

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		<p>2006) and secretary (2004 - 06), and practiced law in Eugene with Harrang, Swanson, Long & Wilkinson, P.C. and its predecessor firms (1977 - 85). In 2007, after four years in other leadership positions, Chief Justice Walters was elected to a two-year term as the first woman president of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. She joined the Conference of more than 300 members in 1992 as one of Oregon's four commissioners. The Commission is a nonprofit organization that has worked to make state laws more uniform since 1892. All Commissioners are lawyers; none are paid for this work. A member of the Oregon State Bar since 1977, Chief Justice Walters has served in leadership positions and on many bar committees and task forces as well.</p>
Appellate Update	Hon. Megan Jacquot, Circuit Court Judge Coos County	<p>Megan Jacquot is a circuit court judge and the juvenile judge in Coos County. She is a member of the executive board of JELI, the judicial engagement and leadership institute through JCIP, the juvenile court improvement program of the Oregon Judicial Department. She also serves on the OSB juvenile law committee's executive board. Prior to taking the bench in 2016, she was a member of the Coos County Indigent Defense Consortium and the OPDS juvenile appellate panel since 2005, and an assistant public defender before that. Her practice focused on all aspects of juvenile law and adoptions, court-appointed and private, trial work and appeals. In the last year, Judge Jacquot has enjoyed working with other juvenile judges to audition virtual court platforms, work through difficult issues and evaluate legislation. She also learned to walk again following a spinal cord injury. When not working, Megan spends time with her husband and five teenagers. She enjoys reading, fishing and travel.</p>
Appellate Update	Hon. Darleen Ortega, Court of Appeals	<p>Darleen Ortega has served as a judge on the Oregon Court of Appeals since 2003 and is the first woman of color and the only Latina to serve as an appellate judge in Oregon. Before becoming a judge, she practiced law for 14 years, focusing her practice on all types of civil litigation at the trial and appellate levels. In her time on the bench, she has distinguished herself as a court leader on issues of juvenile dependency and on addressing the structural inequities that plague the legal system. Judge Ortega is a frequent speaker on topics related to equity, privilege, combatting structural and internalized racism and oppression, and learning to understand and value the perspectives of people at the margins. She spends hours each week with law students and new lawyers, especially those from marginalized communities, helping them to make sense of the legal world. She also is an avid movie and theater critic; her reviews appear regularly in the Portland Observer. Judge Ortega teaches Access to Justice at all three Oregon law schools.</p>
JELI Update	Hon. Eva Temple, Circuit Court Judge, Umatilla County	<p>Eva Temple graduated U of Oregon in 1993 with a double major in Psychology and International Studies and graduated U of Oregon Law School in 1996. She worked in primarily in private practice focusing on civil litigation, business and real estate</p>

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		<p>transactions and estate planning until becoming a judge in January 2011. Gov. Kulongoski appointed her in January 2011, and she has been re-elected twice. She has been the civil and juvenile administrative judge in Umatilla County since Fall of 2018.</p>
<p>Dependency Cases in the Time of COVID</p>	<p>Hon. Amy Holmes Hehn, Circuit Court Judge Multnomah County</p>	<p>The Honorable Amy Holmes Hehn is a Multnomah County, Oregon, Circuit Court Judge handling family law matters, including domestic violence, probate and juvenile matters. A native Oregonian, Judge Holmes Hehn was appointed to the bench in January of 2013. Before her appointment she served for 25 years as a Deputy District Attorney in the Multnomah County DA's Office, including as Senior Deputy of the Juvenile and Domestic Violence Units. She has a long history of involvement in domestic violence, juvenile justice and child welfare system improvement efforts on the local, state and national level.</p>
<p>Dependency Cases in the Time of COVID</p>	<p>Hon. Lindsay Partridge, Circuit Court Judge Marion County</p>	<p>Judge Lindsay Partridge grew up in Lebanon and graduated with a BS in political science from Willamette University in 1986 (cum laude). Having no immediate job prospects, he migrated across Winter Street to Willamette College of Law and received his JD in 1989 (cum laude). After being admitted to the Oregon State Bar in 1989, he briefly worked for the Oregon Judicial Department before entering private practice in Marion County. His practice focused on the areas of juvenile law and criminal defense. In January 2012, Gov. Kitzhaber appointed him to the Marion County Circuit Court. He served as the Presiding Juvenile Court judge in Marion County for from July 1, 2013 until January 20, 2017. Judge Partridge has served as a judge pro tem in Salem Municipal Court, as president of the Marion County Bar Association, and the chair of the Oregon State Bar Criminal Law Executive Committee.</p>
<p>Dependency Cases in the Time of COVID</p>	<p>Hon. Dawn McIntosh, Circuit Court Judge Clatsop County</p>	<p>Dawn McIntosh was elected to the Clatsop County Circuit Court bench in 2016. Prior to becoming a judge, she worked as an Oregon trial lawyer for nearly 25 years in Multnomah, Clatsop and Tillamook counties, practicing primarily criminal, family and juvenile law. Judge McIntosh earned a B.S. from Willamette University and a J.D. from Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College. She is currently the Presiding Judge for Clatsop County and serves on several Oregon Judicial Department committees, including the State Family Law Advisory Committee and the Judicial Engagement and Leadership Institute. She chairs the Clatsop County Dependency Team and the Local Family Law Advisory and Mediation/Arbitration Committees. Judge McIntosh sits in a court of general jurisdiction handling all manner of civil, criminal, and family law matters.</p>

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<p>Judicial Leadership of Model Court Teams</p>	<p>Hon. Douglas Johnson, Retired Circuit Court Judge</p>	<p>Judge Douglas F. Johnson, recently retired, was appointed to the Separate Juvenile Court of Douglas County, Nebraska in 1993. He served as an Adjunct Professor of Juvenile Law at Creighton University School of Law from 1995 to 2019. He is a Past President of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) and a longtime member of its teaching faculty. He continues to provide training on a variety of issues related to child welfare and juvenile justice.</p> <p>In 2005, Judge Johnson started Nebraska’s first 0-5 Family Drug Treatment Court. In 2014, he expanded the program to include all families with children from birth to five in the Douglas County Juvenile Court and renamed it Impact from Infancy.</p> <p>He has written numerous articles and authored Chapter 14, Zero to Three Family Drug Treatment Court, in <i>Clinical Work with Traumatized Children</i>, Ed. Joy D. Osofsky (2011).</p> <p>Judge Johnson served as a Co-chair of the Nebraska Supreme Court’s Commission on Children in the Courts from its inception in 2004 until 2019. He served as Co-chair of Youth Impact! of Douglas County (serving crossover youth) from its inception in 2012 to 2019 and on various other committees. He continues to serve as Co-chair of the Nebraska Young Child Institute since its inception in 2015. Judge Johnson has been recognized for his service work including, most recently, the 2018 Douglas County Nebraska CASA Unsung Hero Award for Innovation and the 2019 Concord Mediation Center Pathways Award.</p> <p>Judge Johnson’s certified therapy dog and loyal companion, Finnegan, recently passed. During his eight years at court, Finnegan added an element of warmth and connection. Countless children (and adults!) requested time and photos with Finnegan.</p> <p>Judge Johnson’s greatest achievement is that his wife, Mary, remains married to him after more than 33 years!</p>
<p>Judicial Leadership of Model Court Teams</p>	<p>Hon. Colleen Gilmartin, Circuit Court Judge, Clackamas County</p>	<p>In August 2018 Judge Gilmartin accepted the position of pro-tem/referee for Clackamas County and currently serves as the lead judge for the Juvenile Court where she presides of dependency and delinquency cases. Judge Gilmartin serves as the chair of the Clackamas County Model Court Team and the Delinquency Workgroup. In 2019, Clackamas County was selected by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) to be an Implementation Site, receiving guidance and technical assistance to improve the process for court involved families. More recently, Clackamas County was selected by NCJFCJ to</p>

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receive targeted technical assistance to address commercially sexually exploited children in juvenile and family court. Additionally, Judge Gilmartin oversees the adult Community Court program and civil commitment cases.

From 2003 through 2018 Judge Gilmartin served as a Deputy District Attorney for Clackamas County, specializing in juvenile matters. As a Deputy District Attorney, she was involved with the Clackamas Multi-Disciplinary Team, providing regular trainings to the Team.

Born and raised in Arizona, Colleen Gilmartin attended the University of Arizona, receiving a Bachelor's of Science in Physiological Sciences in 1998. In 2002 she received her juris doctorate from Willamette University College of Law and was a member of the Willamette Law Review.

When not at work she enjoys backpacking, running, and spending time with her husband and two dogs, Miss MoneyPenny and Auggie.