

Week in Review



Ethics CLE

Dan Satterberg hosted an inspired Ethics CLE on Wednesday (Dec. 4) with the Seattle PAO team. He shared powerful stories from his trip with [Fair and Just Prosecution](#) to Selma, Alabama, the National Memorial for Peace and Justice and [Montgomery's Legacy Museum](#). This CLE was recorded and the video will be available later. Thanks to Kristin Relyea for her strategic help. If you missed Wednesday's CLE, Dan will do the same presentation at the MRJC Friday (Dec. 6) at noon in courtroom 3F.

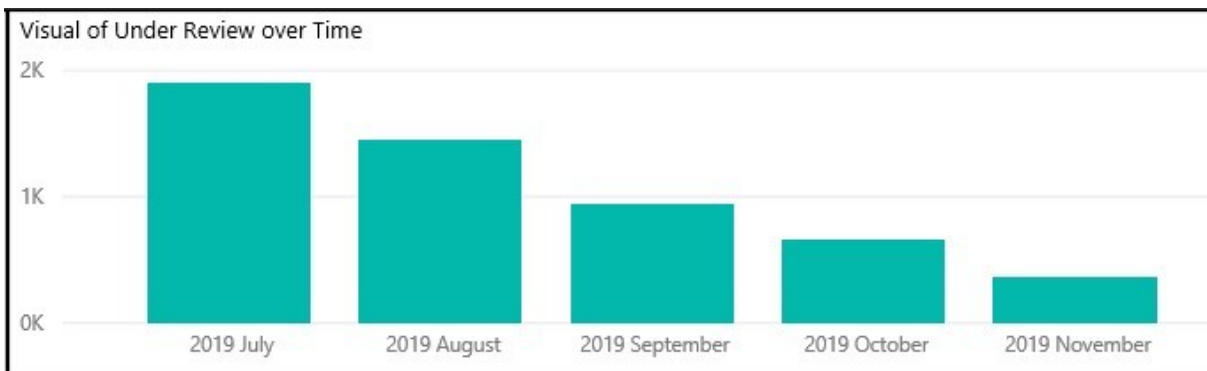
DCU's Big Win

There was a big celebration with plenty of food for the District Court Unit (DCU) recently. Through hard work and long hours, they conquered the backlog of 8,000 referrals and are now current. (more below)



It started in early 2019 when Leah Taguba and David Baker talked about organizing and redoing DCU's stats using Baker's new data analysis tools. Having the tools helped them drill down, see patterns and then strategize the best and most effective solutions. Ultimately they saw an opportunity to address a real issue. Having a backlog is a community safety issue as well as a time of uncertainty for the accused.

The DCU team tackled the problem. For nine solid months, filers, trial DPAs, staff and recent grads worked diligently to manage the backlog. Going forward: DUIs and "person crimes" are being processed within days of referral and decisions on cases are made on cases we had historically deprioritized. Now communities are safer and we are prosecuting crimes in real time. Thanks to everyone in the District Court Unit for all the work that went into this achievement.



Employee Giving Drive

We got some great news last week. In both dollars and participation, our office has surpassed the previous year's Employee Giving Drive totals!

Big shout out to your Employee Giving Drive ambassadors: Kris Bridgman, Chentel Cretini, Dan Fernandez, Aleks Letts, Jennifer Nelson-Ritchie, Linda Thomas, and Karla Vargas.

Here are the numbers. Our current donations are at \$51,934.08 and our total employee participation total is 16.7%. Way to go us!

Department	Employee Count	Current Donors	Percent Participation	Current Donations	New Connectic
PAO - Prosecuting Attorneys					
Civil	103	22	30.1%	\$20,710.00	
Criminal	346	24	9.8%	\$11,864.08	
Family Support	44	13	31.8%	\$10,680.00	
Policy, Admin, Grants	27	7	29.6%	\$8,680.00	
Total	520	66	16.7%	\$51,934.08	



Juvenile Division's 15th Annual "sit down" Thanksgiving

For the 15th year in a row, and despite the chaos of moving into a new building the very next week, 31 people did what the Juvenile Division has been doing every year: they set a beautiful table, brought in homemade food, used the "fancy gold plastic" and broke bread together.

Juvenile Division Manager Stephanie Trollen said it means as much if not more to her than her family Thanksgiving because her co-workers are like family. Usually the event is reserved only for Juvenile Division employees, but for the last two years, they let Leesa, Carla and Dan join in. Front office staff was humbled.



After breaking break, they got back to shrinkwrapping everything in their office as they moved into their new space this week at the new Children and Family Justice Center. To ensure nothing is left behind, some employees are shrink-wrapping holiday mugs to their body!

Rivera the MRJC Courthouse Dog Turns 4!

What's better than a doggie birthday party?
Almost nothing! [Check out his birthday pix!](#)



Festive Look at Seattle Courthouse

Thanks to Civil Legal Services Supervisor Diana Cherberg for the lovely swag on the 4th and 5th floors. It smells lovely! Diana says it's her creative side. The biggest challenge is finding 14 of something! And this year it's the deer's head. Plaid was in style as well. Thank you Diana!

Mark's Exit Interview

Mark Larson's last day is Dec. 31. In preparation for that, Dan Satterberg recently sat down with him at KCTV for a wide-ranging interview. We will bring you excerpts over the coming weeks. [This week, Mark's early years.](#)



Calendaring

Calling All Bakers and Craftspeople Dec. 9

Please let Kirtsi Cooper-Goodwin know if you are interested in participating in the craft/bake sale in Seattle this year. If there is enough interest we'll schedule it for some time in the next few weeks. All earnings from the bake sale will go to NW Harvest. All crafts must be hand-made. We also need volunteers to sell the baked goods. Please contact Kirtsi Cooper-Goodwin at 206-477-1175 or Kirtsi.Cooper-Goodwin@kingcounty.gov by 11:00 a.m. on Dec. 9th.

Hazardous Waste Trip Dec. 13

WANTED: Spent Batteries and Old Fluorescent Bulbs. Marjorie Bedford is making a trip to Hazardous Waste and has volunteered to take our old batteries and bulbs/tubes with her. Please contact Marjorie ahead of time at Marjorie.Bedford@kingcounty.gov to arrange for drop-off at the SVP Unit (Admin. Bldg. 9th Floor) by Friday, December 13, 2019.

Page Ulrey Goodbye Party Dec. 13

If you miss Page Ulrey already, you will have another chance to say goodbye and good luck. Page's office send-off is Friday, Dec. 13 from 12 – 1pm in Mark's 5th Floor Conference Room. A light lunch will be served.

Seattle Courthouse Holiday Party Dec. 18



JINGLE



MINGLE

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL PAO

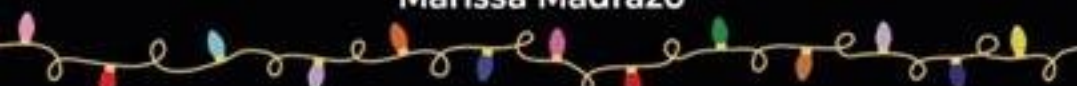
Holiday Party

Wednesday, December 18th - 12pm

Seattle Courthouse - 5th FL Rotunda

Donate cash to Cammy Hendrix
or Susie Harris

Sign up for a potluck dish or
dessert with Susie Harris and
Marissa Madrazo



More News

Thank You Note for DPA Danika Adams

We rarely get thank you notes, but DPA Danika Adams did. Patrick Hinds shares the story:

A long-time property/maintenance manager for an HOA in Redmond was charged with unauthorized use of the HOA credit cards. That's where the case started, but as Danika and her team dug in, they realized it was much more than that.

"If we knew then what we know now, it likely would have been filed and handled as a pre-assigned Complex Fraud case," said Patrick.

Danika worked closely with the HOA presidents and treasurer and, after a nearly two-year odyssey, 600 pages of exhibits, finally a resolution was reached with Judge Amini.

Danika did a great job with it and was ultimately able to get a plea, a jail sentence, and over \$180,000 in restitution (actually paid, not just ordered). The victims were quite pleased, as you can tell from this email from John Eisen, the HOA's president.

"I thought I would mention something that happened tonight, at our annual Cedar Ridge homeowners meeting, I learned about the fate of our former property manager--he used Cedar Ridge funds for his himself. Danika did amazing work -held her ground. This person, Warren, was convicted of First Degree Theft, paid our CR insurance company \$170,000 plus he paid Cedar Ridge \$8,500, plus 15 days in jail (that was very unexpected) and 45 days of being monitored.

The interesting event that led to Warren's being discovered was a receipt from a sport store. He purchased a 9 mm handgun. That receipt led our board treasurer to start looking at other receipts. As reported tonight, in a bit of irony, what started this whole uncovering was Warren buying a gun, now he is convicted felon, now he cannot own a gun.

Having worked as a paralegal in VISTA and helping to assist an attorney with criminal cases, I know our courts provide the opportunity for justice, but it may not always happen, yet in this case, I felt this was a good outcome.

It must be fun working with people like Danika."



For her part, Danika had high praise for the past and current presidents and the treasurer of the HOA.



Getting to know.. District Court Unit Supervisor Leah Taguba

She took an unexpected path to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. [Learn more about Leah.](#)

Volunteer Story

This week's volunteer profile comes to us from Paralegal Nicole Walters. You MUST read [about her Ladies Rock \(N' Roll\) Camp!](#) Send us your volunteer story so others can join you!

Safety

There has been a lot of focus on safety this week. HR thanks you for bringing your concerns to them. Stephanie and Heidi remind us that we should not hesitate to call 911 when needed. If you witness any other safety issues, [please use the county's incident reporting system.](#)

Expect more information about safety classes and videos in the coming months.