

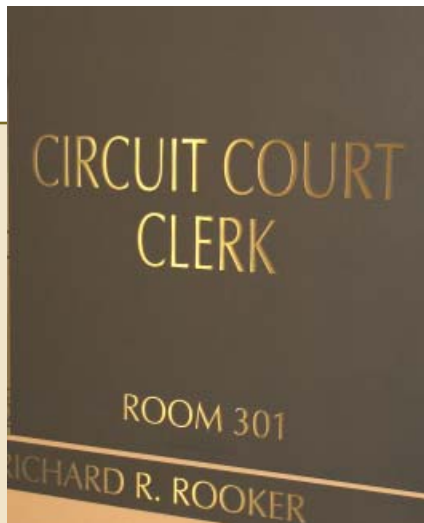
# Rooker Report

February 2007

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## *Fourteenth Anniversary Issue*



### **New Courthouse Facilities**

Public Information Director Margaret Larobardiere put together this photo tour of the new Circuit Court Clerk's offices in the Historic Courthouse. Just follow the numbers to the corresponding descriptions at right. The new offices opened to the public on February 12.

1. An overview of new Circuit Court Clerk's Office work area.
2. Both personal, technical service available for customers.
3. Expansive service counter offers greater efficiency.
4. Clerks accommodate customers in Probate Division.
5. Clerks learn latest technology in training classroom.

## CHEERS

Congratulations to **Lisa Jones** of the Traffic Violations Bureau on the birth of a son, her third child. Master **Brandon Walker Jones** arrived on January 26, weighing 6 pounds, 12 ounces and measuring 19 inches. The new arrival was welcomed by dad **Ernie Jones**, an employee of Juvenile Court, and the couple's two daughters, **Kaitlyn** and **Aubree**.

On February 12, Traffic Violations Bureau Docket Clerk **Beverly Swafford** became a grandmother for the eighth time when daughter **Lisa Wilson** gave birth to **Jordyn Alexandria Wilson**, who weighed 7 pounds, 12.5 ounces. Big sister is **Makensie Brooklyn Wilson**. The proud father is **Kevin Wilson**, an employee of the Metro Sheriff's Department.



DIXON

**Donnie Dixon**, a former member of the Corrections Corporation of America's special operations response team and a part-time Lakewood police officer, has been named security coordinator for the General Sessions Court. He replaces **John Rucker**, who retired from the post in January.

For more than five years, Dixon has specialized in court security, rising in rank from lieutenant to captain.

His father **Don Dixon** has been a member of the Metro Police Department for 33 years.

Dixon will turn 30 years old in May. He and wife **Shannon** have one daughter, **Brooklyn**, 5.

Meantime, General Sessions Court Judge **Leon Ruben** has selected veteran **Tony Carroll** as a court officer to replace **Mary Carter**, who retired in January. Carroll formerly was a court officer for Judge **John Brown**, who retired from the bench.

**Cindy Milligan**, a deputy clerk in the General Sessions Civil Division, is beaming with pride after her son **Nicholas Weiss** helped his Nashville Christian Middle School team capture the James C. Haile State Basketball Tournament championship recently. Weiss and his team of Eagles beat out 19 other schools from around the region, including the defending champions in the title game. As a bonus, Weiss and teammates **Brooks Taylor** and **Nick Walker** were named to the All-Tournament team for their outstanding play.

## ...TEARS

**JAMES EDWARD (EDDIE) MIMMS**, 52, father of Suzette Wells, secretary to General Sessions Judge John Aaron Holt, passed away on January 26. He was a retired Teamsters Union employee of 30 years. Other survivors include his wife, two other daughters and two sons.

## Council Honors Retired Judges Faimon, Brown

### YEARS OF SERVICE ON THE BENCH

**DIVISION III**  
**William Faimon...24**  
**June 1982-Sept. 2006**

**DIVISION V**  
**John P. Brown...24**  
**Sept. 1982-Sept. 2006**



Retired General Sessions Court Judge **William Faimon** expresses his appreciation before a Metro Council audience after he was presented a hand-lettered scroll resolution honoring his many years of service on the bench. Councilman **Adam Dread** prepares to make the presentation. **Faimon** stepped down from the bench last September after serving for 24 years. Also honored at the ceremony was retired General Sessions Judge **John Brown**, who is currently on a one-year teaching assignment in Russia. **Brown's** son **Jack Brown** accepted the scroll in his father's absence. Like **Faimon**, **Brown** was elected to the bench in 1982 and did not seek re-election last year. Councilman **David Briley** was a co-presenter at the February 6 ceremony.

## Four Trial Judges Began in Sessions

Four currently active state trial court judges served terms on the General Sessions Court in their early years of service on the bench:

Criminal Court Judge **J. Randall Wyatt**, 1974-1982.

Circuit Court Judge **Hamilton Gayden, Jr.**, 1974-1978.

Circuit Court Judge **Barbara Haynes**, 1982-1990.

Criminal Court Judge **Mark Fishburn**, 1998-2003.

Retired State Supreme Court Justice **A. A. Birch, Jr.** also began his judicial career on the General Sessions Court in 1969.

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

### BIRTHSTONE: BLOODSTONE

#### Circuit Court Clerk

12 **Cyndi Snuggs**  
17 **Deanna Alexander**  
20 **Barbara Hinch**

#### General Sessions Civil None

**Traffic Warrants**  
12 **Roy Bohannon**

#### Probate Clerk

10 **Penny Hubbell**  
21 **Kyle Sowell**  
24 **Tommy King**

#### Traffic Violations

3 **Bethany Hulan**  
4 **Krista Stanberry**  
5 **Wanda Clymer**  
7 **Denise Beverly**  
9 **Hayden Guest**  
24 **Lisa Jones**

## JANUARY JURY TRIALS

APPEALS

GENERAL SESSIONS

### Week of January 8

### CIRCUIT COURT

CASE	TYPE	COURT	PRAYER	VERDICT	PCT. FAULT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
05C-749	MALICIOUS PROSECUTION	6		DEFENDANT			

### Week of January 22

CASE	TYPE	COURT	PRAYER	VERDICT	PCT. FAULT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
05C-1641	MEDICAL MALPRACTICE	1		DEFENDANT			

### Week of January 29

CASE	TYPE	COURT	PRAYER	VERDICT	PCT. FAULT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
01C-3150	DEFAMATION/CHARACTER	6		DEFENDANT			
06C-1530	GSA/AUTO ACCIDENT	5		\$20,192		DEFENDANT	PLAINTIFF

### Soft Tissue Auto Cases

CASE	PRAYER	COURT	VERDICT	PCT. FAULT	GENERAL SESSIONS	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
04C-556	\$125,000	1	P-No AWARD				
05C-2414	\$400,000	3	\$80,000				

## NON-JURY TRIAL RESULTS

APPEALS

GENERAL SESSIONS

### Week of January 15

CASE	TYPE	COURT	VERDICT	PCT. FAULT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
04C-704	CONDEMNATION	1	D-\$26,750			
06C-2090	GSA/DEBT	3	\$838 (DEFAULT)		P-\$838	DEFENDANT
05C-3361	WORKERS COMPENSATION	2	PLAINTIFF			
06C-1572	NEGLIGENCE	2	DEFENDANT			
05C-2033	WORKERS COMPENSATION	1	PLAINTIFF			
05C-3642	WORKERS COMPENSATION	2	PLAINTIFF			
05C-2815	WORKERS COMPENSATION	6	UNDER REVIEW			
06C-1691	CONTRACT	3	\$26,000			

## Kicking Off Our 15th Year as Monthly Report

Much progress has been made since the Rooker Report came into existence in February 1993.

From four bland typewritten pages of simple text distributed to employees only, to computer windows software, full-color aesthetics and readership availability in both hard copy and internet forms, the report has become a staple in the legal community's desire for information.

Along the way, we have strived to keep pace with technological improvements as they became available. First, we were able to offer black and white photographs. Then came "spot" color for window dressing. And, finally, digital and laser reproduction capability that enabled the full color and higher definition quality of today's publication.

While the aesthetics of our product are far from perfect, we look

forward to the never-ending advancement of technology to help us achieve that goal. Perhaps this will be the year.

The Rooker Report is produced totally in-house--from composition to printing to distribution. It can be found in countertop displays in each of the Circuit Court Clerk's departments--Circuit, Probate, General Sessions Civil Division, Traffic Violations Bureau and Traffic Warrant Office. It also is posted monthly on the Circuit Court Clerk's internet website at [www.nashville.gov/circuit](http://www.nashville.gov/circuit).

A full year of back issues also can be accessed on the website.

While the publication is not offered through subscriptions, it is made available to many Metro Government offices via interoffice mail.

Thank you for 14 years of support.

--Gene Baker, Editor

### CASE ANALYSES

GENRE	JANUARY	YTD
<b>AUTO ACCIDENTS</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
•PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	3	3
•DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	0
•NONE	0	0
<b>CONTRACTS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
•PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	1	1
•DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	0
•NONE	0	0
TOTAL AWARDS	\$26,000	\$26,000
<b>MEDICAL MALPRACTICE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
•PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	0	0
•DEFENDANT VERDICTS	1	1
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
•PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	4	4
•DEFENDANT VERDICTS	2	2
•NONE	2	2

### Auto Accident Cases

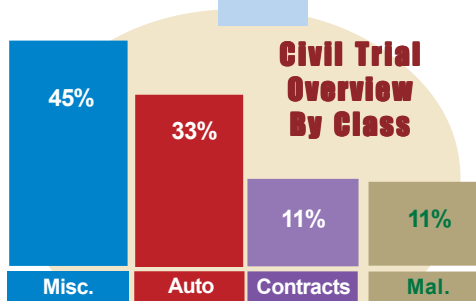
	JANUARY	YTD
JURY TRIALS	3	3
NON-JURY TRIALS	0	0
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	3	3
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	0
NONE	0	0
HIGHEST JUDGMENT	\$80,000	\$80,000
AVERAGE JUDGMENT	N/A	N/A

### Soft Tissue Auto Cases

	JANUARY	YTD
JURY TRIALS	3	3
NON-JURY TRIALS	0	0
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	3	3
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	0
PENDING	0	0
HIGHEST JUDGMENT	\$80,000	\$80,000
AVERAGE JUDGMENT	N/A	N/A

### General Sessions Auto Appeals

	JANUARY	YTD
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	1	1
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	0
NONE	0	0



## DATA BANK

Statistics compiled for the month of January

### CASE INFORMATION

#### \*Circuit Court

NEW CIVIL CASES FILED	N/A
JURY	N/A
NON-JURY	N/A
CIVIL CASES CONCLUDED	N/A
JURY	N/A
NON-JURY	N/A
NEW DIVORCE CASES FILED	N/A
DIVORCE CASES CONCLUDED	N/A
DOMESTIC PETITIONS FILED	N/A
DOMESTIC PETITIONS CONCLUDED	N/A

\*--FIGURES WERE STILL BEING CALCULATED AT PRESS TIME AND WILL BE OFFERED LATER.

#### General Sessions Civil

NEW CASES FILED	4,316
EXECUTIONS ISSUED	4,232
GARNISHMENT PAYMENTS	4,193
JUDGMENTS COLLECTED	\$794,588
ORDER OF PROTECTION PETITIONS	184

#### Probate Court

NEW CASES FILED	201
CASES CLOSED	151

#### Traffic Violations

MOVING CITATIONS	13,880
TOTAL VIOLATIONS	24,433
PARKING VIOLATIONS	5,884
TOTAL FINES COLLECTED	\$780,130
NULLIFICATIONS	4,868
NULLIFICATION FEES COLLECTED	\$58,413
ENVIRONMENTAL CITATIONS	595

## Rooker Report

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Established by George L. Rooker (1929-1993)  
(Circuit Court Clerk, 1968-1993)

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Gene Baker.....Editor



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