

Rooker Report

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Dumas Accepts Second Term As Sessions Presiding Judge



JUDGE GLORIA DUMAS

Judge Gloria Dumas has accepted a second one-year term as presiding judge of the General Sessions Court.

The position carries with it the responsibility of overseeing the internal business affairs of the 11-division multifaceted court.

In her first year at the helm, Dumas focused on effecting smooth adaptation to the court's new venue at the Justice A. A. Birch Building and to gauging the effectiveness of docket revisions.

Among the changes implemented by the court during her first term were the consolidation of two civil dockets and the reduction of traffic dockets to one per day.

Dumas has not announced her agenda for the upcoming term.

The state trial courts are scheduled to announce their choice for presiding judge on August 30. Judge Randy Kennedy has held that position for the past two years.

Steve Holzapfel To Preside Over Night Court



STEVE HOLZAPFEL

Judicial Commissioner Steve Holzapfel has been selected to preside over the General Sessions Night Court.

He succeeds Tom Nelson, who presided over the five-member court since 2003. Nelson remains on the court, which provides judicial service around the clock 365 days a year.

Magistrates are appointed on a year-by-year basis by the full 11-judge General Sessions Court.

Holzapfel, who maintains a private law practice, was appointed to the Night Court in 2004.

He received his law degree from the Nashville School of Law in 1998 after earning a masters degree six years earlier from Belmont University.

He is married and the father of four daughters.

Two Members of Traffic School Program Named National 'Instructors of the Year'

Two veteran instructors with the General Sessions Traffic School program have been elected "Instructors of the Year" by the National Safety Council's International Advisory Committee.

Barrett Battle was recognized for his work in training instructors to teach Mature Driver classes, and William Jordan for teaching DDC8 classes to inmates.

Battle is the program coordinator at the Metro Southeast facility and Jordan specializes in fleet safety and first aid training in the private sector. The men will receive their awards at the National Safety Council's 2007 Congress in October.

The traffic school also won "Best Performance" recognition for outstanding training in four defensive driving courses, as well as being selected "Trend Setter" for its four-hour defensive driving course.

July Trial Verdicts

Jury

Week of July 16

CASE	TYPE	COURT	PRAYER	VERDICT	PCT. FAULT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
04C-2069	AUTO ACCIDENT	2		\$3,217			

Week of July 23

CASE	TYPE	COURT	PRAYER	VERDICT	PCT. FAULT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
06C-1379	GSA/AUTO ACCIDENT	3		\$2,164		P-\$3,500	DEFENDANT
06C-404	AUTO ACCIDENT	5		\$24,500			

Non-Jury

Week of July 9

CASE	TYPE	COURT	PRAYER	VERDICT	PCT. FAULT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
05C-2797	AUTO/DAMAGES	1		\$25,000			
06C-1961	GSA/DETAINER	2		DISMISSED		DISMISSED	DEFENDANT
05C-2788	WORKERS COMPENSATION	2		PLAINTIFF			

Appeals

GENERAL SESSIONS

CIRCUIT COURT

GENERAL SESSIONS

CIRCUIT COURT

Cheers...

Jacquelyn Gaut, a deputy clerk in the Traffic Violations Bureau, became Mrs. **Bradley Ryan Jones** on July 20 during wedding ceremonies at the First United Methodist Church in Morristown, Tennessee. Following the ceremony, presided over by **Dr. Charlie Boggan** and **Father Louis "Smokey" Oats**, the couple spent their honeymoon at Grove Park in Asheville, North Carolina. The groom is employed by Regions Bank and both newlyweds are students at the Nashville School of Law.

Joseph Day, a deputy clerk in the Traffic Warrant Office, became a father for the second time on July 24 when wife **Tomesia** gave birth to a son at Baptist Hospital. **Jaden Pierce Day** arrived at midnight, weighing 6 pounds, 2.25 ounces and measuring 18 inches.

Congratulations to **Bethany Hulan** of the Traffic Violations Bureau on the birth of her first child. **Claire Hulan** was born on August 21, weighing 8 pounds, 12 ounces and measuring 21 inches.

...Tears

DAVID LEE VINCENT, JR., 79, noted civil rights attorney, passed away on August 1 following an extended illness. He was a long-time associate in the firm of Looby & Williams, regarded as one of the nation's top civil rights firms. Other assignments in his legal career included service with the Davidson County Public Defender's Office and the Davidson County Election Commission. In 2002, the Nashville Bar Association honored him with the John C. Tune Award for excellence.



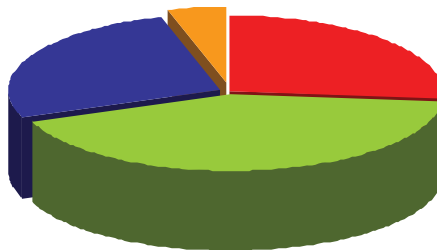
JAMES "WOODY" LANIER, 69, father of Antonio Lanier of the Traffic Warrant Office, passed away on August 17. He was a resident of Shelbyville.

GOLDENA NIXON, 77, passed away on August 12 in Springfield. She was the aunt of Patsy Jackson, a deputy clerk in the Traffic Violations Bureau's Metro Court Division.

WILLIAM PITT, 85, father-in-law of Traffic Warrant Office Supervisor Steve Rose, passed away on August 20 in Cottontown where he resided.

HARRY L. NELSON, father of General Sessions Night Court Commissioner Tom Nelson, passed away on August 21 in Langdon, North Dakota.

Civil Trial Recap By Class



Miscellaneous 49%
 Auto 27%
 Contracts 21%
 Medical Malpractice 3%



DATA BANK

July, 2007

CASE INFORMATION

Circuit Court

New Civil Cases Filed.....	184
Jury.....	84
Non-Jury.....	100
Civil Cases Concluded.....	234
Jury.....	133
Non-Jury.....	101
New Divorce Cases Filed.....	197
Divorce Cases Concluded.....	245
Domestic Petitions Filed.....	196
Domestic Petitions Concluded.....	327

General Sessions Civil

New Cases Filed.....	4,276
Executions Issued.....	3,440
Garnishment Payments.....	4,124
Judgments Collected.....	\$796,804
Orders of Protection Petitions.....	203

Probate Court

New Cases Filed.....	166
Cases Closed.....	150

Traffic Violations

Moving Citations.....	13,104
Total Violations.....	20,008
Parking Violations.....	6,320
Total Fines Collected.....	\$645,119
Nullifications.....	3,236
Nullification Fees Collected.....	\$38,828
Environmental Citations.....	688

Steve Leary Retires

From Traffic Warrant Office

Steve Leary has retired as a deputy clerk in the Traffic Warrant Office.

Leary, who served in the office for more than six years, was treated to a breakfast by co-workers on Friday, August 24, his final day of duty.

"I appreciate Mr. Leary's service to the office and wish him the very best in his future endeavors," said Traffic Violations Bureau Chief Clerk Bill Cartwright.

Case Analyses

GENRE	JULY	YTD
AUTO ACCIDENTS	3	24
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	3	21
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	2
NONE	0	1
CONTRACTS	0	19
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	0	16
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	1
NONE	0	2
TOTAL AWARDS	N/A	\$119,244
MEDICAL MALPRACTICE	0	3
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	0	0
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	2
MISTRIALS	0	1
MISCELLANEOUS	3	43
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	3	24
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	11
NONE	0	8

Auto Accident Cases

	JULY	YTD
JURY TRIALS	3	20
NON-JURY TRIALS	0	4
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	3	21
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	2
NONE	0	1
HIGHEST JUDGMENT	\$24,500	\$80,000
AVERAGE JUDGMENT	\$2,164	N/A

Soft Tissue Auto Cases

	JULY	YTD
JURY TRIALS	0	6
NON-JURY TRIALS	0	0
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	0	5
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	0
PENDING	0	0
HIGHEST JUDGMENT	N/A	\$80,000

General Sessions Auto Appeals

	JULY	YTD
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	1	4
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	1
NONE	0	0

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If you have a disability and require assistance, please contact 862-5204