

# Rooker Report

November 2008

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## HOLIDAY CLOSING SCHEDULE

Here are the dates our offices will be closed during the upcoming holiday season. The closings apply to the offices of Circuit Court Clerk, General Sessions Civil Division, Probate Court Clerk and Traffic Violations Bureau.

### THANKSGIVING

Thursday, November 27

Friday, November 28

Re-Open: Monday, December 1

### CHRISTMAS

Wednesday, December 24

Thursday, December 25

Friday, December 26

Re-Open: Monday, December 29

### NEW YEAR

Thursday, January 1

Friday, January 2

Re-Open: Monday, January 5

## Adoption Fees Increase

Persons filing adoption petitions in Circuit Court now must pay \$3 more than was previously required.

The fee increase, which went into effect on November 24, brings the total adoption filing cost to \$145.50. The \$3 hike represents the cost for certified copies of birth certificates, which goes from \$12 to \$15.

Starting on January 1, an additional \$15 privilege tax will be applied to all new cases filed in both civil and criminal courts. The surtax has been earmarked for courthouse security.

### THE 2009 TAX COST BREAKDOWN FOR CIVIL LITIGATION

CIRCUIT COURT .....	\$57.50
TRAFFIC APPEALS .....	\$57.50
TRAFFIC (MOVING VIOLATIONS).....	\$52.50
PROBATE COURT .....	\$57.50
GENERAL SESSIONS .....	\$38.75
ENVIRONMENTAL COURT .....	\$38.75

Cost totals include county and state taxes

## October Trial Verdicts

### Jury

#### Week of October 6

CASE	TYPE	COURT	PRAYER	VERDICT	PCT. FAULT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
06C-2789	PERSONAL INJURY	5		\$24,698			
08C-27	GSA/AUTO ACCIDENT	2		No AWARD	50-50%	DISMISSED	
07C-334	AUTO ACCIDENT	6		\$23,559			
05C-1330	GSA/AUTO ACCIDENT	2		MISTRIAL		P-\$810	PLAINTIFF

#### Week of October 13

CASE	TYPE	COURT	PRAYER	VERDICT	PCT. FAULT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
07C-1449	ASSAULT	1		\$30,000			
*07C-324	CONTRACT	6		\$173,975			

\*--JURY WAIVED

### Soft Tissue

CASE	TYPE	COURT	PRAYER	VERDICT	PCT. FAULT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
07C-2441	AUTO ACCIDENT/ST	2	125,000	DEFENDANT			

### Non-Jury

#### Week of October 20

CASE	TYPE	COURT	PRAYER	VERDICT	PCT. FAULT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
06C-739	SLIP/FALL	6		DEFENDANT			
06C-548	GSA/CONTRACT	1		\$3,715		P-\$5,262	DEFENDANT
06C-2318	AUTO ACCIDENT	6		\$1,200			
08C-983	GSA/AUTO ACCIDENT	2		\$6,120		TRANSFERRED	
08C-1866	GSA/CONTRACT	1		\$4,000		TRANSFERRED	
08C-1599	GSA/CONTRACT	2		\$16,374		P-\$21,837	DEFENDANT
08C-1273	GSA/CONTRACT	1		\$1,800		DISMISSED	PLAINTIFF
08C-1625	GSA/TRAFFIC	5		DEFENDANT		P-VERDICT	DEFENDANT
08C-1274	GSA/CONTRACT	5		\$12,102		P-\$12,221	DEFENDANT

### Appeals

#### GENERAL SESSIONS

## Cheers...

Imagine the thrill of having each of your two children delivering a grandchild on the same day.

It happened this month for **Kim Head**, a deputy clerk in the Traffic Violations Bureau, and hubby **Jeff Head**.

November 19 turned out to be an extremely busy day for the Head family.

It began at 6:40 p.m. at Baptist Hospital when it was announced that daughter **Jennifer Sychareune** had just delivered an 8-pound, 6.5 ounce baby girl. They named her **Olivia Bounlam Sychareune**.

Among those receiving the news in the hospital maternity waiting room was the Head's daughter-in-law, **Tiffany Head**, who also was pregnant and closing in on her due date.

When the family members were advised they could view the new arrival, Tiffany immediately went into labor. She was rushed to Hendersonville Hospital where she later delivered an 8-pound son named **Dalton Wesley Head** to the delight of father **Jeremy Head**.

Baby Dalton made his entrance at 10:35 p.m. And, like cousin Olivia, measured exactly 20 inches from head to toe.

Olivia's father, by the way, is **Vinnie Sychareune**, who didn't mind sharing honors on a day of double miracles.

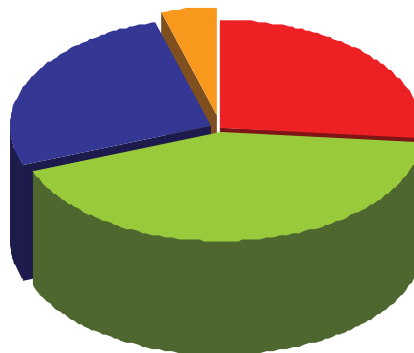
## ...Tears

**C. ALLEN HIGH, 83**, who served as a Davidson County Chancellor for 21 years before his retirement in 1995, passed away on November 12, leaving behind his wife of 60 years, Mary Frances High, and two sons. In addition to his service on the bench, he was a war hero, former state legislator and founder of the Tennessee Judicial Academy.

**RALPH A. PRICE, 92**, grandfather of Circuit Court Clerk Bookkeeper Mary Stephens, passed away on November 11. He was a veteran of World War II.

**PATRICIA J. GRIFFIN, 67**, sister of Juvenile Court Referee Bill Griffin, passed away on November 10 following an extended illness.

### Civil Trial Recap By Class



Miscellaneous.....	57%
Auto .....	23%
Contracts.....	18%
Medical Malpractice.....	2%



### DATA BANK

October 2008

#### Case Information

##### Circuit Court

New Civil Cases Filed.....	226
Jury .....	118
Non-Jury .....	108
Civil Cases Concluded.....	191
Jury .....	125
Non-Jury .....	66
New Divorce Cases Filed .....	207
Divorce Cases Concluded.....	209
Domestic Petitions Filed .....	275
Domestic Petitions Concluded .....	206

##### General Sessions Civil

New Cases Filed.....	4,877
Executions Issued .....	3,953
Garnishment Payments.....	4,590
Judgments Collected.....	\$926,236
Orders of Protection Petitions.....	170

##### Probate Court

New Cases Filed.....	152
Cases Closed .....	149

##### Traffic Violations

Moving Citations .....	13,683
Total Violations.....	20,115
Parking Violations.....	6,425
Total Fines Collected .....	\$605,050
Nullifications .....	2,135
Nullification Fees Collected .....	\$25,615
Environmental Citations.....	569
*Credit Card Payments .....	4,798
*--Online and phone payments combined	

### Case Analyses

GENRE	OCTOBER	YTD
<b>AUTO ACCIDENTS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>29</b>
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	3	18
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	1	8
NONE	2	3
<b>CONTRACTS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>23</b>
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	5	16
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	1	7
NONE	0	0
TOTAL AWARDS	\$211,966	*\$413,838
*REPRESENTS ONLY THOSE AMOUNTS DISCLOSED.		
<b>MEDICAL MALPRACTICE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	0	0
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	2
PENDING	0	1
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>72</b>
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	2	54
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	2	15
NONE	0	3

### Auto Accident Cases

	OCTOBER	YTD
JURY TRIALS	4	21
NON-JURY TRIALS	2	8
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	3	18
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	1	8
NONE	2	3
HIGHEST JUDGMENT	\$23,559	\$66,000
AVERAGE JUDGMENT	\$6,120	N/A

### Soft Tissue Auto Cases

	OCTOBER	YTD
JURY TRIALS	0	8
NON-JURY TRIALS	0	0
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	0	6
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	0	2

### General Sessions Auto Appeals

	OCTOBER	YTD
PLAINTIFF VERDICTS	0	5
DEFENDANT VERDICTS	1	2
NONE	0	0

## Rooker Report

Published by the Davidson County  
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(Circuit Court Clerk, 1968-1993)

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