



EQUAL JUSTICE

Through awareness, education and action

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An official publication of the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission

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SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE STEVEN GONZÁLEZ APPOINTED TO WASHINGTON SUPREME COURT



Washington Supreme Court Justice-designate Steven González

Governor Chris Gregoire has appointed King County Superior Court Judge Steven González to the Washington State Supreme Court to succeed retiring Justice Gerry Alexander.

In announcing her appointment of González to the state's highest court, Gregoire noted that "He is a legal scholar with deep experience in court, both on the bench as a

Superior Court judge and as an Assistant U. S. Attorney and Assistant City Attorney prosecuting cases of international terrorism, child prostitution and hate crimes. His experience with profoundly important issues, close study of the law and perspective as a trial court judge will make Judge González an excellent Supreme Court Justice."

Washington Chief Justice Barbara Madsen welcomed the appointment: "Judge González is a highly regarded and experienced trial court judge, a former federal prosecutor and an acknowledged leader in improving access to justice for all in Washington. Judge González will be an outstanding addition to the Supreme Court and I am confident he will continue to serve the public with great energy and distinction."

Judge González grew up in Claremont, California, graduated from Pitzer College, a member of the

Claremont Colleges, with a bachelor's degree in East Asian Studies, and pursued further undergraduate and advanced studies in Japan and China, before attending the University of California at Berkeley's law school, from which he received a J.D. degree. He was admitted to the Washington state bar in 1991. His legal career has included the practice of law with the Seattle law firm of Hillis Clark Martin and Peterson from 1991 to 1996, with the domestic violence unit of the Seattle City Attorney's Office from 1996 to 1997, with the U.S. Attorney's office for the Western District of Washington from 1997 to 2002, and, since his appointment by Governor Gary Locke in 2002, service as a King County Superior Court Judge.

Judge González has served as chair of the Washington State Access to Justice Board, co-chair of the Task Force on Race and the Criminal Justice System and co-chair of the Court Security Committee for the State of Washington. He has also served on the Board of Directors of El Centro de la Raza and on the steering committee of the Northwest Minority Job Fair. Prior to his appointment to the bench, he volunteered as a pro bono attorney for the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project.

In May, 2011, Judge González was awarded an honorary doctorate of law degree from the Gonzaga University Law School, where he gave the 2011 commencement address. The Washington State Bar Association recently presented the 2011 Outstanding Judge of the Year Award to González, along with King County Superior Court Judge Mary Yu, citing their work on promoting equal access to the courts.

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Washington State Minority and Justice Commission

Administrative Office of the Courts ♦ Post Office Box 41170, Olympia, Washington 98504-1170

Telephone: (360) 705-5327 ♦ Telefacsimile: (360) 956-5700 ♦ E-mail: Minority.Justice@courts.wa.gov

EQUAL JUSTICE

Equal Justice is the official publication of the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission. It serves as a communications and networking tool providing information about programs, projects and issues concerning the Washington State legal community.

Editorial Committee

Justice Charles W. Johnson
Judge Mary I. Yu
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As we seek to make *Equal Justice* more relevant and helpful to our readers, your responses and suggestions, as well as information concerning programs and activities occurring in Washington State's legal community, are critically important. We encourage your comments. They should be sent to Mr. Monto S. Morton, Executive Director of the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission, at: monto.morton@courts.wa.gov, or Administrative Office of the Courts, Post Office Box 41170 Olympia, Washington 98504-1170.

Website:

http://www.courts.wa.gov/programs_orgs/index.cfm

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Following Governor Gregoire's announcement, Justice Designate González stated: "It has been a great honor to serve on the State Superior Court for the last ten years. I thank Governor Gregoire for the opportunity to now serve on the State Supreme Court. I have known and admired Justice Alexander for twenty years, and it is a privilege to follow in his footsteps with his colleagues on the Supreme Court."

González will be the first Mexican American and only the second person of color to serve on the state's highest court.

MINORITY AND JUSTICE COMMISSION MEETS WITH MINORITY BAR AND COMMISSION LEADERS; FOCUSES UPON JUVENILE DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT

Discussion with Minority Bar/Commission Leaders

At the invitation of Minority and Justice Commission Co-Chairs Justice Charles W. Johnson and Judge Mary I. Yu, leaders from the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington, the Middle Eastern Legal Association of Washington, the GLBT Bar Association of Washington, the Loren Miller Bar Association, the Washington Commission on African American Affairs, the Washington State Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, and the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs attended the Commission's meeting on November 4, 2011, to discuss shared interests, missions and objectives and explore enhanced communication and collaboration in pursuing common goals. A lengthy discussion touched upon a number of issues important in addressing racial and ethnic bias and disproportionality in the courts: establishing more partnerships and collaboration in addressing such issues; diversifying the judiciary; developing mentorship programs; developing pipeline programs for youth and college students, especially in Eastern Washington; educating the bench regarding GLBT issues, especially with regard to juveniles; compounding bias; disabilities; educating judges with regard to Middle Eastern issues, especially cultural competency and language barriers; educating judges about language barriers, culture competency, and immigration issues, especially with regard to Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) interactions with and in the courts; collection and expansion of desegregated demographic data in the criminal justice system, especially with respect to juveniles; alternative sentencing; convening a conference of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) bar organizations from throughout the nation to consider issues regarding AAPI youth; education in the justice system with regard to tribal law, especially relating to jurisdictional issues and challenges, and development in the justice system of Native American cultural competency; and disproportionate justice system contacts with minority youth.

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Juvenile Disproportionate Minority Contact

At its November 4th meeting, the Commission also committed to addressing the disproportionate contact by minority youth with the juvenile justice system following a presentation by Carla Lee, the project coordinator at the Center for Children and Youth Justice for the Washington component of Models for Change, the national juvenile justice reform initiative sponsored by the MacArthur Foundation. In response to Lee's presentation, the Commission adopted a resolution that notes that "minority youth are over-represented at every stage of the juvenile justice process,...that minority youth over-representation is aggravated at each successive decision point as minority youth progress through the juvenile justice process... that racial and ethnic bias inform decision-making at every stage of the juvenile justice process, and...[that] it is critical that the judicial branch, consistent with its obligation to administer justice fairly, efficiently and effectively, ensures that existing and proposed rules, policies and practices are fair and do not result in racially, ethnically, or culturally disproportionate outcomes...."

The resolution commits the Commission "to ongoing efforts to secure racial, ethnic, and cultural equity in the administration of the juvenile justice system" and to creating a Juvenile Justice Committee "to convene interested stakeholders to promote the adoption of laws, policies and evidence-based practices shown to reduce and, ultimately, eliminate disproportionate minority contact in the juvenile justice system."

SPOKANE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION DIVERSITY SECTION AWARDS MAXEY SCHOLARSHIPS AT ANNUAL RIVERBANK FORUM

The RiverBank Third Annual Fall Forum was held at Gonzaga University on October 20, 2011 which benefitted the *Carl Maxey Scholarship Award*. This award is presented annually by the Spokane County Bar Association Diversity Section to a Gonzaga Law School student(s) who intends to remain in the Spokane area to further the goals of diversity within Spokane's legal community consistent with the Diversity Section's Mission Statement.



Justice Page presents the Carl Maxey Scholarship Award to Shannon Pae as co-winners Emily Conwell and Courtney Miller look on.

The Spokane County Bar Association Diversity Section is committed to promoting inclusiveness through ongoing efforts focusing on recruitment and retention of attorneys of color and diverse ethnic background. They are working within the Spokane legal community to increase diversity of the local bar association and judicial system. In collaboration with Gonzaga School of Law and other organizations, they seek ways to address the racial and ethnic disparities that currently exists.

The Diversity Section used seed money donated from law firms and generated from its first annual Diversity Luncheon to establish a diversity fund in honor of the late Carl Maxey, a Spokane lawyer and champion for civil rights. The Fund will be used to further the Section's mission and may be available for scholarships.

This year's awards were presented to Gonzaga Law students Shannon Pae, Emily Conwell, and Courtney Miller.

Justice Alan Page, who is on the Minnesota Supreme Court, was the keynote speaker and shared a message titled, "*Commitment and Ethics: the Road to Personal and Business Success*". His speech can be found at: http://www.law.gonzaga.edu/News-and-Events/2011_alan_page.asp.

Photos of the event can be found at: <http://www.spokanediversitybar.org/photos.html>.

SU LAW'S KOREMATSU CENTER TO COMMEMORATE JAPANESE AMERICAN STUDENT'S COURAGE AND ULTIMATE VINDICATION IN COURT

In the spring of 1942, Gordon Hirabayashi, a 24-year-old Japanese American born and raised in the Seattle area and a student at the University of Washington decided to defy government orders imposing a curfew on all persons of Japanese ancestry and requiring Japanese Americans along the west coast to abandon their homes and report to internment camps.

His decision led to two federal misdemeanor convictions which he appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The Court upheld the convictions, in its 1943 decision in *Hirabayashi v. United States*, ruling that the orders which he was convicted of violating were justified by military necessity and were, therefore, constitutional. A year and a half later, in *Korematsu v. United States*, the Court relied wholly on its decision in *Hirabayashi* to uphold the constitutionality of the mass removal of Japanese Americans to internment camps.

Following World War II, Hirabayashi earned BA, MA, and PhD degrees in sociology from the University of Washington and served as the chair of the department of sociology at the University of Alberta from 1970 until his retirement 1983.

Forty years after the Supreme Court's decision in *Hirabayashi v. United States*, in 1983, represented by a remarkable and dedicated team of lawyers, Hirabayashi reopened his case, filing a petition for writ of error *coram nobis* in Seattle which sought vacation of his wartime conviction on the ground that the government, during World War II, had suppressed, altered, and destroyed material evidence relevant to the issue of military necessity. In 1986, the Ninth Circuit, in an opinion authored by Judge Mary Schroeder, vacated both Mr. Hirabayashi's curfew and exclusion convictions on proof of the allegations of governmental misconduct. *Hirabayashi v. United States*, 828 F.2d 591 (9th Cir. 1987).

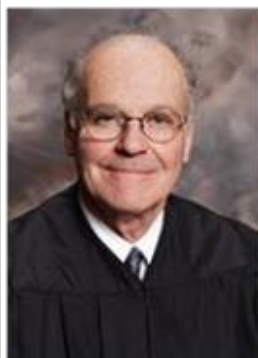
Gordon Hirabayashi's courageous acts of civil disobedience and the legal history that they precipitated, will be commemorated at a day-long conference, "The 25th Anniversary of the United States v. Hirabayashi Coram Nobis Case: Its Meaning Then and Its Relevance Now," hosted by Seattle University Law School's Korematsu Center for Law and Equality on Saturday, February 11, 2012, in the university's Campion

Ballroom. The conference will begin with a continental breakfast from 8:30 am to 9:00 am.

Conference admission for members of the general public is free, but registration is required to attend. Admission for attorneys wishing CLE credit is \$50.00. Those wishing to attend may register on the Korematsu Center website at http://www.law.seattleu.edu/Centers_and_Institutes/Korematsu_Center/US_v_Hirabayashi.xml.

For further information about the conference, please contact Junsen Ohno, Korematsu Center Administrator, (206) 398-4283, ohnoj@seattleu.edu.

RETIRING JUSTICE GERRY ALEXANDER TO RECEIVE GOLDMARK DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



*Washington Supreme Court Justice
Gerry L. Alexander*

The Legal Foundation of Washington will present the 2012 Charles A. Goldmark Distinguished Service Award to Justice Gerry L. Alexander at the 26th Annual Goldmark Award Luncheon. The luncheon will be held Friday, February 24, 2012, at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel between 12:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. For more information and registration visit: <http://www.legalfoundation.org/sites/legalfoundation/upload/filemanager/Goldmark-Award/Press-Release-10-11.pdf>.

NEW UW LAW CLINIC ADDRESSES DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT (DMC) IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

The UW Clinical Law Program has added a new, year long course for the 2011-12 academic year, The Race and Justice Clinic, under the direction of Professor Kim Ambrose. The problem solving, multi-forum advocacy clinic was begun in response to the increasingly disproportionate numbers of youth of color entering the juvenile justice system. UW law students are seeking solutions from multiple angles, beginning by talking to and partnering with youth both inside and outside of the system. The students developed the following mission statement:

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University of Washington School of Law's Race and Justice Clinic students. Back Row: Dan Phillips, Louis Edelman, Jay Singh, and Daniel Zavala; Front Row: Prof. Kim Ambrose, Aurora Janke, Alyssa Pomponio, and Marek Falk

The Race and Justice Clinic works to disrupt the systemic overrepresentation of youth of color in school discipline and the juvenile justice system by empowering youth and their support networks through community education and direct representation.

Clinic law students are engaged in a variety of activities in order to gain a broader understanding of the issues, including: attending anti-bias training, convening youth focus groups, participating in police ride-alongs, observing juvenile court proceedings, interviewing stakeholders, attending school board and other community meetings and leading a workshop for girls in juvenile detention. The students will apply what they are learning to develop strategies for addressing disproportionate minority contact in the juvenile justice system. It is anticipated that the future work of the clinic will include engaging youth and ensuring that their voices are heard.

Professor Ambrose notes that “Although there is much to applaud in our juvenile justice system (e.g., detention, commitment and arrest rates are at an almost all-time low and our Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration is recognized as a national model), youth of color continue to be over-represented at almost every stage of the proceedings. We need more and fresh voices for minority youth to tackle these pervasive and persistent challenges. Hopefully, the UW Race and Justice Clinic will be one of those voices - learning justice by doing while preparing a generation of leaders for the global common good.” For more information Professor Ambrose may be contacted at kambrose@uw.edu.

INSTITUTE FOR NEW COURT EMPLOYEES ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROVIDES CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING

The Institute for New Court Employees annual conference was held on October 23-26, 2011, in Olympia, Washington and was sponsored by the Board for Court Education and staffed by the Administrative Office of the Courts. The conference brought together Washington State new court employees for several days of training on various subjects. This in-depth and intensive training introduced new court employees to the judicial system and their role in promoting justice. Court staff are often the first and last point of contact for court users, and therefore, leave a lasting impression on members of the public. Sessions provide information on topics ranging from customer service to ethics. Significant emphasis was placed on understanding due process, court structure, workplace safety, and working in a culturally-diverse environment. In addition, participants learned about online resources and the Person Business Rules in a hands-on computer lab designed for their court level. Other highlights included viewing and discussion of the award-winning film, *Gideon's Trumpet*, which tells the story of the landmark Supreme Court “right-to-counsel” case, and opening remarks by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Judicial Services Director, Dirk Marler.

As part of the conference, a session was held on cultural competency which was sponsored by the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission. The session was co-presented by Lolita Burnette, Achievement Architects, Peggy Nagae, PeggyNagae Consulting, and Frank Maiocco, Kitsap County Superior Court Administrator. The session objectives were: define cultural competency and its importance to the administration of justice; understand what diversity is and is not; recognize how diversity and cultural competency impact perceptions and behaviors at work; learn and practice key cultural competency and diversity communication skills; and develop specific strategies to foster an inclusive court environment.

TASK FORCE ON RACE AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM BEGINS ITS SECOND YEAR OF WORK

November 2011 marked the first anniversary of the Task Force on Race and the Criminal Justice System. Convened to address racial disproportionality in the

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criminal justice system, the Task Force has brought many people and organizations together to join in its work. The Task Force's preliminary report on race and Washington's criminal justice system, released in March 2011, is being published this winter and spring in the *Gonzaga Law Review*, the *Seattle University Law Review*, and the *Washington Law Review*. In its first year, the Task Force has presented its findings to many audiences, including the 2011 Spring Conference of Superior Court Judges, the Fall 2011 Judicial Conference, and, most recently, the state Senate Judiciary Committee.

A major task force initiative on race and juvenile justice is being led by Judge Mary Yu, co-chair of the Minority and Justice Commission, and Dean Kellye Testy of the University of Washington School of Law. They are leading working groups involved in research, recommendations, education, and community engagement that will present their findings and recommendations initially to the state Supreme Court in March 2012 and then will work in the coming years to implement their recommendations.

Task Force co-chairs, Seattle University Law Professor Robert Chang and Seattle attorney Nicole Gaines, invite those interested in its work to join the Task Force. Professor Chang notes that the Task Force will need the ideas, energy, and hard work of many to accomplish the goal of reducing racial disproportionality in Washington's criminal justice system by 50% by 2020.

Information about the Task Force on Race and the Criminal Justice System is located on its website at: http://www.law.seattleu.edu/Centers_and_Institutes/Korematsu_Center/Race_and_Criminal_Justice.xml.

WHITE HOUSE HONORS UW LAW PROFESSOR RON WHITENER

Professor Ron Whitener, Director of the UW Law Tribal Court Criminal Defense Clinic and the Native American Law Center at the University of Washington School of Law was honored by the White House as a "Champion of Change." The award was presented to Whitener on October 13, 2011, for his dedication to "closing the justice gap in America."

A 1994 graduate of the UW School of Law, Whitener worked as a tribal attorney for the Squaxin Island Tribe, of which he is a member, representing the tribal

government in treaty rights defense, gaming and enterprises, and infrastructure development. He later worked at the Northwest Justice Project's (NJP) Native American Unit in Seattle and headed the Indian Law Clinic, a joint project between the NJP and the UW School of Law. In 2002 Whitener left the NJP to become the director of the Tribal Court Criminal Defense Clinic at the University of Washington School of Law where his research interests focus on the intersection of law and health issues for Native Americans. In 2006-2007 he was a Fellow of the University of Colorado, Health Sciences Center, Native Elder Research Center, and in 2008 he was awarded a MacArthur Foundation Models for Change grant to identify strong programs and areas of need for Washington State tribal juvenile justice programs.

Whitener is an Associate Justice of the Northwest Intertribal Court of Appeals, a Judge of the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation, and Of Counsel with Foster Pepper PLLC. In 2009, he received the American Association of Law Schools Section on Clinical Education's Shanara Gilbert Emerging Clinician Award, recognizing a clinician with ten or fewer years of teaching.

UW LAW PROFESSOR JOEL NGUGI NAMED A JUDGE OF THE HIGH COURT OF KENYA

Joel Ngugi, an associate professor at the University of Washington School of Law, was recently appointed a judge of the High Court of Kenya. Under Kenya's new constitution, the High Court has unlimited original jurisdiction in criminal and civil matters and is the primary court on constitutional issues. The court also has supervisory powers over subordinate courts.

Professor Ngugi, who is 38 and a native of Kenya, has been involved in legal reforms in Kenya as a scholar, an activist involved in human rights, and as a lawyer. This judicial appointment will allow Ngugi to directly contribute to Kenya's legal reform.

"Kenya's new Bill of Rights marries traditional civil and political rights based in part on American law with innovative social, economic, and cultural rights based in part on South African law," Ngugi said. "I plan to use my comparative law experience to craft a constitutional jurisprudence that maximizes individual autonomy while ensuring reasonable existence and subsistence for all citizens as promised in the new constitution."

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Ngugi joined the law school faculty in 2004. His research interests include the role of law in economic development, market regulation and wealth allocation. He also researches human rights and legal reforms in developing economies. At UW Law, Ngugi won the Professor of the Year award in 2004 and 2011.

Ngugi is taking a leave of absence from UW but plans to continue his involvement via externships, independent studies, and international legal research opportunities for students.

Prior to joining the faculty, Ngugi practiced corporate and international litigation with Foley Hoag, LLP in Boston. He also practiced with the Kenyan firm Kariuki Muigua & Company Advocates. Ngugi has worked with the United Nations Mission in Kosovo and conducted research for the Global Coalition for Africa/World Bank, the Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research at Harvard University and the Global Trade Watch Division of Public Citizens, Inc. in Washington, DC.

Ngugi received his doctorate from Harvard Law School, and his undergraduate degree from the University of Nairobi, Kenya. At Harvard University, Ngugi was one of two recipients of the John Gallup Laylin Prize in International Law in 2002. At Harvard, his fellowships and grants included the Clark Byse Fellowship for academic distinction among graduate students and the European Law Research Center Seminar Fellowship. Ngugi was also awarded dissertation fellowship grants from the Institute for the Study of World Politics, Washington, D.C. and the MacArthur-Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.

KOREAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON TO CELEBRATE 20TH ANNIVERSARY

The Korean American Bar Association will hold a 20th anniversary luncheon celebration on Thursday, February 23, 2012 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Palace Ballroom located at the corner of 5th Ave and Lenora in downtown Seattle. The keynote speaker will be Washington State Supreme Court Justice-designate Steven González. The luncheon will also feature the installation of KABA's new President, David Ko, and its new board members.

Following its successful initial Home Foreclosure Prevention workshop held in June, KABA held a second workshop on Saturday, December 3, 2011 at Korean Calvary Baptist Church from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Federal Way, Washington. In June, KABA held its first successful workshop. The purpose of the workshop is to reach Korean homeowners who are in distress due to the economic downturn in the housing market, to connect the Korean community with resources and assistance from pro bono attorneys and HUD certified housing counselors by providing language and culturally competent services, and to assist with applications for loan modifications and prevent foreclosures. The workshops are the product of successful partnerships with the Northwest Justice Project, Washington Home Ownership Resource Center and Korean American Coalition.

KABA, in 2012, will chair the Joint Asian Judicial Evaluation Committee (JAJEC). This important assignment, which is rotated among the Asian minority bar associations, underscores KABA's interest in promoting a greater role by its membership in identifying qualified judicial candidates and encouraging more minorities to seek judicial office.

Those interested in joining KABA or seeking more information may email Michelle Chen at boksulee@gmail.com or go to the KABA website: <http://kaba-washington.org/>.

THE WASHINGTON COMMISSION ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS DEVELOPS NEW PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Washington Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs is developing a new resource for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in response to a rise of requests and data which indicate that unemployed Asians face longer durations of unemployment in comparison to other groups. Expanding on the Commission's existing webpage on jobs, regular electronic alerts of job listings received by the Commission's office, will be featured. Community members can sign up to receive an *E-Jobs Alert* by visiting the main page of the agency's website and entering their email address and clicking on "government services" or contacting agency staff. Employers can also email job postings to the agency at capaa@capaa.wa.gov.

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At the beginning of 2012 the Commission will launch a new program, Community Connections, designed to remove barriers and increase access to services for the community. The aim of the program is to institutionalize a longstanding infrastructure within the Asian American and Pacific Islander community that allows for regular direct in-person exchanges of information and offers an alternative forum for the community to raise issues of concern. Community organizations interested in participating should contact capaa@capaa.wa.gov.

Celebrating the third year of the fellowship program sponsored by the Commission's Community Leadership Foundation (ACLF), the Commission invites college students to apply. The fellowship is based in Olympia during the regular legislative session beginning in January 2012. Applications are welcome from college juniors, seniors, and graduate students. Application review began on December 1, 2011. Applications received after December 15th will be considered on a space-available basis. More information can be found at: www.capaa.wa.gov.

The Commission is extending special recognition to Commission member Rey Pascua for his successful efforts to establish October 2011 as the first Filipino American History Month in Washington State. For the past two years, Pascua has worked with the legislature on the passage of resolutions and the Governor's Office on a proclamation recognizing this special time. He was instrumental in working with school districts, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and numerous organizations to raise awareness of this month.

THE WASHINGTON STATE COALITION FOR LANGUAGE ACCESS ENCOURAGES PARTICIPATION BY LAW ENFORCEMENT IN ITS ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

The Washington State Coalition for Language Access (WASCLA) held its annual statewide training conference on October 14-15, 2011, in Olympia. The conference offers a variety of training sessions relating to language access in the justice system as well as in educational and medical services and other areas in which language access is a factor in the delivery of services to the public. WASCLA, with the support and participation of members of the National Latino Peace Officers Association (NLPOA) encourages law

enforcement officers to attend the conferences and has submitted information to the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission to facilitate professional training credits officers attending.

An important presentation and discussion at the October conference included interpreter ethics and focused on situations in which law enforcement officers find they are relying on untrained, unprofessional interpreters, who are unfamiliar with police procedures or interrogation techniques, and unaware of legal interpreter ethical standards.

The WASCLA welcomes participation in any of its monthly conference calls which are free to discuss issues of concern or solutions to language access challenges which it encounters.

The WASCLA Web site is at www.wascla.org.

SEATTLE TO HOST 2012 HISPANIC NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

The 37th Annual Convention of the Hispanic National Bar Association, scheduled for August 22-25, 2012, will gather hundreds of attorneys, judges, and students in Seattle for the four-day program which will feature Continuing Legal Education panels with top legal experts, national policymakers and leaders discussing pressing issues; networking events and workshops; and the nation's largest Hispanic Career Fair with recruiters from prominent firms, companies, and government agencies. The theme for the convention is "The Voice of the Future."

CLE sessions will be presented in four separate tracks: (1) business, (2) litigation/ADR, (3) public interest/criminal, and (4) professional/personal development. The Convention Planning Committee is accepting CLE session proposals until January 31, 2012. Proposals should be relevant to the conference theme and criteria listed on the proposal form, available on the convention website at: <http://www.hnba.com/hnba-2012-annual-convention-call-presentations/>.

2012 ACCESS TO JUSTICE CONFERENCE WILL FOCUS ON LEGAL SERVICE NEEDS IN THE CURRENT ECONOMY

The Washington State Access to Justice Board and the Washington State Bar Association will hold the 2012

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Access to Justice Conference on June 8–10, 2012, in Yakima. The theme of the conference, “Our New Economic Reality: The Legal Profession’s Role” will focus on exploring solutions and building skills to help address Washington State’s ever-growing legal service needs in this “new economic reality.” The impact of this economic reality on the legal system means that traditional legal services are no longer able to operate with a business-as-usual strategy. In this new era, the legal profession has an important role in responding to the economic reality towards the goal of a just society. Proposals are due January 13, 2012. A proposal form and complete details may be found at: <http://www.wsba.org/Legal-Community/Committees-Boards-and-Other-Groups/Access-to-Justice-Board/ATJBLC>.

**20TH ANNUAL CHILDREN’S JUSTICE
CONFERENCE
IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 14-15**

The 20th annual Children's Justice Conference will be held on May 14-15, 2012 at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle. The conference is one of the foremost multi-disciplinary juvenile justice gatherings in the country, and is presented annually by the Washington Children’s Justice Task Force and the Washington Department of Social and Health Services’ Children's Administration. Each year the two-day conference draws more than 1000 participants from throughout the country to a large and diverse offering of professional continuing education qualified presentations by leaders and respected professionals in medicine, law, child welfare, education, mental health, law enforcement, substance abuse treatment, the judiciary, and other disciplines touching on all aspects of juvenile justice and welfare. More information about the conference and registration information will be posted at: <http://www.dshscjc.com/component/content/article/1-latest/84-news1>.

**9TH ANNUAL TRI-CITIES YOUTH AND
JUSTICE FORUM BEGINS WITH WELCOME
FROM JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR**

The Tri-Cities Youth and Justice Forum was held on October 28, 2011, at Columbia Basin Community College. This year, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor welcomed approximately 200 students and 60 volunteer professionals by a prerecorded video. The Forum was co-sponsored by the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission, the local and state

bar associations, including the Washington State Latina/o Bar association, Columbia Basin College, ESD 123, Columbia Center Rotary Club, and Washington’s three law schools. The forum was also sponsored with donations from Patricia Chvatal; Katherine Sierra Kelley; Allison M. King; and Joseph R. Schneider.



Tri-Cities Youth and Justice Forum break-out session educating students about the justice system.

Seventh through twelfth grade students from southeast Washington, including those from economically disadvantaged and historically underrepresented communities were encouraged to become interested in professions within the justice system. The Forum brought together around 200 seventh- through twelfth-grade students from the surrounding school districts and approximately 60 volunteer justice system professionals, including judges, attorneys, law enforcement officers, probation officers, court clerks, interpreters, and educators, joined the students in a day filled with skits, presentations, work demonstrations, breakout sessions, and a mock trial. The objective was to stimulate the students to think about their legal rights and responsibilities and about possible careers in the justice system.

**MINORITY AND JUSTICE COMMISSION
SEEKS TO EXPLORE AND UTILIZE
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

The Outreach Committee of the Minority and Justice Commission has established an Information Technology (IT) Work Group to identify and review advances in information technology and IT resources. Its work will focus on identifying IT resources that are available and feasible for enhancing the production and dissemination of Commission publications, including this newsletter, and that should be considered by the

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Commission to advance its mission and outreach.

Outreach Committee chair Judge Dennis Yule, (retired) noted that “it is essential, particularly in a time of drastically shrinking budgets and resources, that the Commission track advances in information technology and utilize them whenever possible to improve the effectiveness and efficiency with which it pursues its mission.”

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

OneAmerica – formerly Hate Free Zone, is searching for an executive director. More information can be found at: <http://weareoneamerica.org/oneamericas-next-executive-director>

Washington State Bar Association – has these openings:

Director for Justice and Diversity Programs

Diversity Program Manager

Job announcements can be found at: <http://www.wsba.org/About-WSBA/Careers/WSBA-Jobs>

King County Sheriff’s Office – is seeking a legal advisor to manage its labor relations. The responsibilities include negotiating contracts, managing the day-to-day operations of the labor relations function, and serving as a key advisor to the sheriff in labor policy. Salary range - \$89,487-\$112,318/annually plus benefits. For more information call Virginia Gleason at (206) 205-7601. To apply, please send a résumé and cover letter to Human Resources Manager, King County Sheriff’s Office, 516 Third Ave., Seattle, WA 98104.

LITERATURE AND VIDEOS OF INTEREST

Literature

Alexie, Sherman. *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*. Grove Press, 2005. In this darkly comic collection, Alexie brilliantly weaves memory, fantasy, and stark realism to paint a complex, grimly ironic portrait of life in and around the Spokane Indian Reservation. These twenty-two interlinked tales are narrated by characters raised on humiliation and government-issue cheese, and yet are filled with passion and affection, myth and dream. Against a backdrop of alcohol, car accidents, laughter, and basketball, Alexie depicts the distances between Indians and whites,

reservation Indians and urban Indians, men and women, and, most poetically, modern Indians and the traditions of the past.

Cobas, José A. et.al. *How the United States Racializes Latinos: White Hegemony and Its Consequences*. Paradigm Publishers, 2009. Until recently, members of Congress, major newspapers, and entrepreneurs in the United States openly racialized Latinos and Latin Americans. Latinos and Latin Americans were often viewed as inferior mongrels that had to be saved from their ways. Such ideology justified armed invasions of sovereign nations, dispossession of land, and economic exploitation. Noted Latin American, Latino, and U.S. social scientists address the extent and costs of U.S. hegemony. Immigration restrictions, institution of U.S.-style racism, violence, and suppression of Spanish and intergroup conflict are some of the developments they analyze.

Fletcher, Shirley Anderson. *The Dance of Difference: The New Frontier of Sexual Orientation* (Volume 1). CreateSpace, 2011. It is rare for heterosexuals to acknowledge, much less write about, their own homophobia. This black grandmother who grew up in the homophobic culture of Jamaica in the 40's and 50's offers a moving look into the challenges faced daily by people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) because of the learned biases, attitudes and behavior of heterosexuals. The author, a behavioral scientist, who migrated to the United States 30 years ago, shares examples from her early life experiences as well as examples from her long career as an organizational consultant in the United States and Europe.

Kang, Jerry, Nilanjana Dasgupta, Kumar Yogeewaran, & Gary Blasi. *Are Ideal Litigators White?: Measuring the Myth of Colorblindness*. J. Empirical Leg. Studies, 886-915 (2010). This study examines whether explicit and implicit biases in favor of whites and against Asian Americans would alter mock jurors’ evaluation of a litigator’s deposition. They found evidence of both explicit bias as measured by self-reports, and implicit bias as measured by two Implicit Association Tests. In particular, explicit stereotypes that the ideal litigator was white predicted worse evaluation of the Asian American litigator (outgroup derogation); by contrast, implicit stereotypes predicted preferential evaluation of the white litigator (ingroup favoritism). In summary, participants were not colorblind, at least implicitly, towards even a “model minority,” and these

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biases produced racial discrimination. This study provides further evidence of the predictive and ecological validity of the Implicit Association Test.

Ogletree, Charles. *The Presumption of Guilt*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2010. Professor Ogletree analyses an incident on July 16, 2009, when a fellow Harvard University professor, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., MacArthur Fellow and Harvard professor was mistakenly arrested by Cambridge police for attempting to break into his own home. This incident was a clash of absolutes, underscoring the tension between black and white, police and civilians, and the privileged and less privileged in modern America.

Matsuda, Mari. *Where is Your Body?: Essays on Race, Gender and the Law*. Beacon Press, 1996. Mari Matsuda is a professor at the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii. Social critic Catharine MacKinnon says of Matsuda's book, "Her writing shines, her politics illuminate, her passion touches and reveals...Community grows in her hands. Read her. We need this."

Videos

Race: The Power of an Illusion. Executive Producer: Larry Adelman, California Newsreel, 2003. Running time about 56 minutes per episode. The video challenges one of our most fundamental beliefs: that

human beings come divided into a few distinct groups. This definitive three-part series is an eye-opening tale of how what people assume to be normal, commonsense, even scientific, is actually shaped by their history, social institutions and cultural beliefs. Everyone can tell a Nubian from a Norwegian, so why not divide people into races? That's the question taken up by the first episode, the difference between us, which demonstrates how recent scientific discoveries have toppled the concept of biological race. The second episode, the story we tell, questions the belief that race has always been with us. Ancient peoples stigmatized "others" based on language, custom and especially religion, but they did not sort people into "races." Race may be a biological myth, but racism is very real. The final episode, the house we live in, focuses not on individual behaviors and attitudes, but on how institutions shape and create race, giving different groups vastly unequal life chances.

The Color of Fear. Director: Lee Muh Wah, StirFry Productions, 1995. Running time: 90 minutes. This video is an insightful, groundbreaking film about the state of race relations in America as seen through the eyes of eight North American men of Asian, European, Latino and African descent. In a series of intelligent, emotional and dramatic confrontations the men reveal the pain and scars that racism has caused them. What emerges is a deeper sense of understanding and trust. This is the dialogue most of us fear, but hope will happen sometime in our lifetime.

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Washington State
Minority and Justice Commission
Administrative Office of the Courts
Post Office Box 41170
Olympia, Washington 98504-1170

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