

Assigned Counsel Division Newsletter

Volume 8, December 2015

Interstate Compact

New Fee Starting 1/1/2016

The 2015-17 biennial budget (WI Act 55) adopted language that requires collection of a transfer fee from adult offenders who submit an interstate compact application. Effective January 1, 2016, a \$150.00 application fee will be required for each proposed residence in another state. Payment of this fee must be received by DOC prior to the submission of the transfer request to the receiving state. Questions regarding interstate compact should be directed to DOC Interstate Compact Commissioner Tracy Hudrik (608)240-5333.

Welcome Augustine Sanchez!

In October, Augustine Sanchez (Augie) began working part-time in the Assigned Counsel Division and part-time in the Client Accounts and Verification Unit. Prior to coming to SPD, he worked as a customer service representative for A.J. Manufacturing in Bloomer, WI. Augie also served 8 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, completing 3 tours of duty in Iraq and 1 in Afghanistan. He is married, has a 5-year old daughter, and is pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice from Lakeland College.

Have an Office Max in your neighborhood? Get copies cheaper.

The Wisconsin State Bar has partnered with Office Max. Follow this link for more information: <http://www.wisbar.org/aboutus/membership/membershipandbenefits/pages/office-products-program.aspx>.

Thank You Taylor Vande Zande!

Later this month, Taylor Vande Zande will finish her 5-month limited-term employment appointment in the Assigned Counsel Division. Taylor is a senior at UW-Madison pursuing a double major in Legal Studies and History. After graduation she plans to attend law school. Thank you for your service Taylor.

Calculating Jail Credit Tools

Some of us still do it the old fashioned way (um, with a pencil and paper) but it's always nice to verify with an online tool such as <http://www.timeanddate.com/date/duration.html> or <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/date-and-time-calculator/id552798167?mt=8>

Assigned Counsel: End of Year Checklist

End of Year 1099 Tax Forms

The year end is fast approaching and 1099s will be mailed out in mid-January 2016. If you have changed your address or want your 1099 mailed to a different address, please notify SPD before 12/31/15. You can contact Kim Salas at salask@opd.wi.gov

2015 CLE Credit Requirements

It is the time of year to report continuing legal education (CLE) credits to SPD. All private bar attorneys must complete six credits of continuing legal education each calendar year in SPD case type areas. Credits are reported through your online billing site.

Attorneys who do not report credits as required will not be in compliance and will be suspended from taking SPD appointments.

If you have questions about your current reported CLE credits or SPD credit requirements, please contact Heather Harris-Fatty at harrish@opd.wi.gov

Need 2015 CLE credits? Visit our Training Division's webpage for upcoming SPD CLE courses and current online training courses:

<http://wispd.org/index.php/for-the-legal-practitioner/training>

Back to Basics: The definition of "bias"

"Bias is a term used in the "common law of evidence" to describe the relationship between a party and a witness which might lead the witness to slant, unconsciously or otherwise, his testimony in favor of or against a party. Bias may be induced by a witness' like, dislike, or fear of a party, or by the witness' self-interest. Proof of bias is almost always relevant because the jury, as finder of fact and evaluator of credibility, has historically been entitled to assess all evidence which might bear on the accuracy and truth of a witness' testimony." *U.S. v. Abel*, 469 US 45, 52(1984). For a discussion of (inadmissible) generalized bias see *State v. Burton*, 306 Wis.2d 403, 414 (2007) in which the court of appeals distinguishes the individual and specific bias evidence in *Abel* from the "low worth" of generalized bias testimony based on group tendencies.

Harvard "Free the Law" Project

Coming soon...

A free online database of all US Case Law.

<http://today.law.harvard.edu/harvard-law-school-launches-free-the-law-project-with-ravel-law-to-digitize-us-case-law-provide-free-access/>





Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

From all of us in ACD

Kathy Pakes, Mark Rinehart, Augie Sanchez, Taylor Vande Zande, Heather Harris-Fatty, Kim Salas and Larry Judkins