

JUDICIAL BRANCH EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED



*Judicial Branch Employee
of the Year 2022
Robin Jenkins*

Robin Jenkins, Manager of Support Services at the Administrative Office of the Courts, was named the Judicial Branch Employee of the Year for 2022, and further was named one of five recipients of the Governor’s award for Excellence and Commitment in State Service for 2022. Robin recently celebrated more than 35 years of service with the state and has a depth of knowledge about all of the Delaware courts that is unparalleled and makes her the go-to resource. In addition, Robin has always been willing to step in and lend a hand even when it is outside her usual duties. She is described by supervisors and colleagues alike as “an amazing team player.”

Robin has also shown remarkable initiative and leadership by building a summer internship program from scratch. For more than 15 years, Robin has worked with the trial courts and partners at the Department of Health and Social Services to run a summer youth program that put kids who were aging out of the foster care system, and others, to work in the courts for several weeks in the summer to provide them with valuable real-life work experience. She also supplemented the program to teach the interns important life skills like creating a budget, resume writing and office etiquette, while also connecting them with professional mentors. Many have gone on to return to the courts as full-time employees and one even went on to law school and returned to clerk for a Supreme Court Justice.

More recently, Robin restructured the Support Services positions under her supervision – including the Filing and Payments Center, court collections, mail room and information desk – to provide her employees with better cross-training and depth of knowledge that both improved efficiency in court operations and allowed all to be reclassified at higher pay grades.

According to her nominator, Robin “is a great role model for her employees — knowledgeable, fair, and generous with her time. She offers unfailing support and ensures that her employees have the resources they need to grow and be successful.”

We also want to recognize the following employees nominated for the Judicial Branch’s Employee of the Year Award:

Brian Clairmont, Judicial Operations Manager, Superior Court. Brian, who has been with Superior Court since 2010, is regarded as an in-house expert in a variety of areas including civil cases, expungements and even technology and jury operations. A common answer to questions in the office is “go ask Brian, he’ll know.” Colleagues say Brian can also be counted on to pitch in whenever necessary and is regarded as a “jack of all trades” in the Sussex County Superior Court. “Brian is a model employee. He is dedicated. He knows procedures in and out. He has a heavy workload and yet gets everything done every day,” wrote one of his nominators.

Renee Julie Kinsey, Judicial Operations Manager, Court of Chancery. Renee was described as dedicated, knowledgeable, kind, and compassionate by her nominator, and a person who is key to smooth court operations. “Renee leads her guardianship team statewide, often picking up the slack from unfilled positions or underperforming employees. She is passionate about the work, has a wealth of practical experience, and is always looking to improve our system and protect those in need,” wrote her nominator.

Patricia (Patty) Licausi, Judicial Case Manager, Family Court. Patricia was cited for her dedication and teamwork by her court. She routinely volunteers to help with incoming filings and leverages her many years of knowledge and experience in the courts to ease transitions during staffing changes and challenges. “She is a true team player and her dedication to the Court is truly appreciated,” wrote her nominator.

Kristen Osborne, Judicial Operations Manager, Justice of the Peace Court. Kristen, who has been with the court since 2007, was nominated because of her “exceptional accomplishment, achievement, initiative, and leadership.” Kristen is regarded as not only knowledgeable about her job, but also always willing to assist other staff, assist other Justice of the Peace court locations and is an excellent trainer. “Kristen is the go-to person ... She is always first to volunteer to help when help is needed. Kristen is an exceptionally valued member of the Justice of the Peace Court,” wrote one of her nominators. ♦