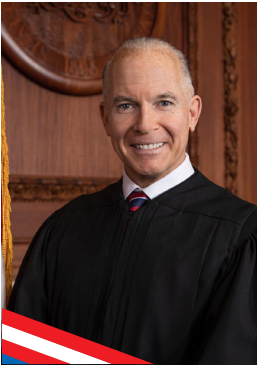

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

CELEBRATING VETERANS

IN THE PENNSYLVANIA COURTS 2023



The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania recognizes the contributions of jurists, court staff and their families who have served in the United States military and who continue to serve in the Pennsylvania Judiciary.



JUDGE DANIEL MCCAFFERY

SERVED 1983-1989

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Daniel McCaffery

Superior Court

- Served on active duty from 1983-1986
- Joined the Army at 18 years old and proudly served with the 1st Cavalry Division
- Selected to attend West Point Prep
- Served in the Army Reserves in the 304th Military Intelligence Unit from 1986-1989



JUDGE MARK MARTIN

SERVED 1985-2015

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Mark Martin

Cumberland County

- Served in active and reserve duty and retired as a Colonel after 30 years of service
- Served as Infantry Officer during nine years active duty
- Military Police and civil affairs assignments during 21 years reserve time
- Stationed three and one half years in West Germany during the end of the Cold War and was there when the wall came down
- Deployed twice to Iraq and twice to Afghanistan

“My military service and years abroad has significantly shaped and refined my world view, as I have had the opportunity to learn about and interact with people from dozens of cultures throughout the world, from regions such as Central America and Europe, to the Middle East. I believe that my experiences with people from so many diverse groups have helped me to better relate to those from other countries who have business in my court, and hopefully put them at ease while in my court.”



JUDGE CHRISTOPHER KALACINSKI

SERVED 2008-2016

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Christopher Kalacinski

Potter County

- Served as a U.S. Army Military Police Officer and Investigator from 2008-2016
- Stationed at Schofield, Hawaii 2008-2013
- Deployed to Afghanistan from 2012-2013



**PRESIDENT JUDGE
PATRICK DUGAN**

SERVED 1981-1989
REENLISTED IN 2003

UNITED STATES ARMY

President Judge Patrick Dugan
Philadelphia Municipal Court

- 1983-85: Airborne Infantryman Recon 1/505 ABN INF, 82nd ABN DIV
- 1985-86: 2nd Infantry Division, DMZ Korea
- 1988-89: 1/508th ABN INF Panama
- 2003-16: Reserves with 416th Civil Affairs and 153rd LOD
- 2004: Deployed to Mosul Iraq as a Civil Affairs Sgt and was assigned to Coalitional Provincial Authority (CPA) and worked (in civilian clothes) mainly as a liaison to regional governments such as Mosul City Council and Nineveh’s governor
- 2006-07: Deployed to Afghanistan as a Civil Affairs JAG
- 2016: Retired as a “Mustang” Captain

“I felt that it was my duty to go back and assist in our war on terrorism. My military service is who I am. The military instilled in me the confidence to do anything, to accomplish what is conceived as impossible. My military background has assisted me greatly every day on the bench and in life; the leadership taught in the Airborne Infantry is guiding me as a judge and in leading Philadelphia Municipal Court as President Judge. I have been able to continue to assist my fellow service-members as I lead a dedicated team in Philadelphia Veterans Court. I am blessed to be in the position I am today - and the road I traveled is who I am. Airborne!”



JUDGE WADE KAGARISE

SERVED 1990-1996

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Wade Kagarise
Blair County

- Served as an Army Reserve Infantryman
- Completed basic training and infantry school at Fort Benning, GA

“My military service was the initiation of a lifelong commitment to public service. I urge young adults to consider military service as a way to give back to our country or alternatively to find other ways to serve their communities.”



**JUDGE
CATERIA R. MCCABE**

SERVED 1986-1994

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Cateria R. McCabe
Philadelphia County

- Enlisted in civil affairs units with various military occupational specialties (MOS)
- Served as an officer with the Judge Advocate General’s (JAG) Corps

“It was an honor to serve in the U.S. Army Reserve. I obtained some life-long friends and learned valuable lessons. My military experience has enhanced my skills as a jurist in Family Court.”



JAKE PRESLEY
SERVED 2004-2010

UNITED STATES ARMY

Jake Presley
AOPC

- Operation Iraqi Freedom - Dec. 2004-Nov. 2005
- Operation Iraqi Freedom - March 2007-May 2008
- Operation Enduring Freedom - Nov. 2009-Nov. 2010




SENIOR JUDGE
ROBERT MAZZONI
SERVED 1970-1976

UNITED STATES ARMY

Senior Judge Robert Mazzoni
Lackawanna County

- Served in the U.S. Army National Guard
- Rank: E-4




JOHN M. SKOCIK
SERVED 1988-1994

UNITED STATES ARMY

John M. Skocik
AOPC

- 72G MOS Telecommunications TSSBI
- Basic - FT. Jackson, SC. Squad Leader
- AIT - Signal Corps Ft. Gordon, GA
- Combat Support Coordination Team #3 -Camp Yongin, South Korea
- US ARMY Criminal Investigation Division Command - FT. Holabird, MD



JUDGE
JEFFREY JOHN WOOD
SERVED 1971-1977

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Jeffrey John Wood
Perry County

- Served in the U.S. Army and Pennsylvania National Guard
- Rank: E-6



SENIOR JUDGE
D. WEBSTER KEOGH

UNITED STATES ARMY

Senior Judge D. Webster Keogh
Philadelphia County

- 103rd Engineer Battalion
- Combat Engineer, 1331 CPT Company Commander



JUDGE
LEONARD G. BROWN, III
SERVED 1991-2019

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Leonard G. Brown, III
Lancaster County

- Retired in 2019 after 28 years of service
- Served during his early years as an Airborne Combat Engineer
- Transitioned to serve as a JAG officer
- Ended career working with the U.S. Africa Command in Stuttgart, Germany



JUDGE
MATTHEW P. SMITH
SERVED 26 YEARS

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Matthew P. Smith
Cumberland County

- Colonel-Pennsylvania Army National Guard
- Currently the State Staff Judge Advocate with the Army Reserve
- Served in the military for over 26 years in various positions such as Ammunition Platoon Leader, Intelligence Officer, Instructor, Trial Counsel and Deputy Staff Judge Advocate
- Deployed overseas three times, once each to Nicaragua, Iraq and Kuwait
- Performed temporary duty at the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait and interacted with his counterparts in the Kuwaiti, Saudi Arabian and Jordanian militaries
- Awards include the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Citation, Combat Action Badge, and Airborne and Air Assault Badges, amongst others

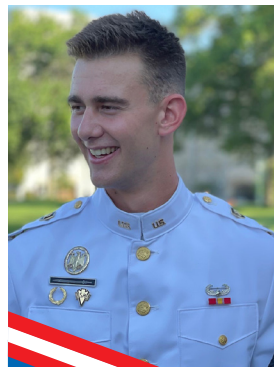


SENIOR JUDGE
MICHAEL H. SHOLLEY
SERVED 1975-1995

UNITED STATES ARMY

President Judge Michael H. Sholley
Snyder and Union Counties

- Served in the Military Police Corp from 1975-1978
- Commissioned a Lieutenant, U.S. Army, Infantry in 1981
- Served in the National Guard and Reserves as an Infantry, Armor and JAG officer until 1995 and resigned as a Major

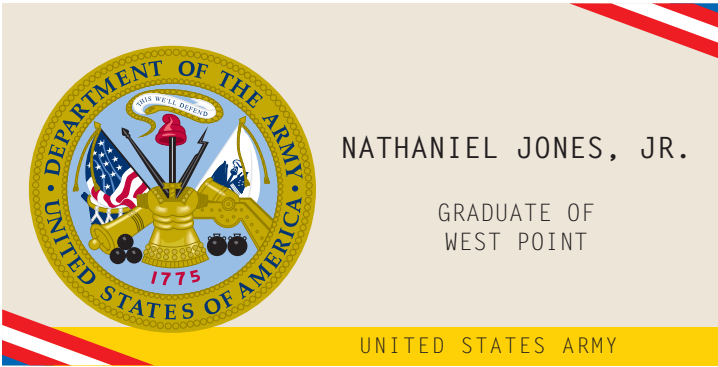


LUKE BROWN
CADET AT WEST POINT

UNITED STATES ARMY

Luke Brown
*Son of Judge Leonard Brown,
Lancaster County*

- Cadet at West Point, Class of 2024, majoring in mechanical engineering



NATHANIEL JONES, JR.

GRADUATE OF
WEST POINT

UNITED STATES ARMY

Nathaniel Jones, Jr.

*Son of Judge Lucretia Clemons,
Philadelphia County*

- 2022 Graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point
- Second Lieutenant
- 199th Infantry Division, Calvary, Amour Basic Officer Leadership Course
- Stationed at Fort Benning, GA



JUDGE MATTHEW WOLF

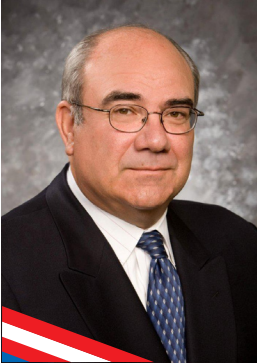
SERVED 2003-PRESENT

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Matthew Wolf

Philadelphia Municipal Court

- Joined the Army Reserves at age 35 in 2003
- Deployed to Iraq in 2006 and Afghanistan in 2008
- In Afghanistan, he served as the Rule of Law adviser to the sole lawyer overseeing the Afghan National Police
- In Feb. 2020, Judge Wolf transferred from being a Major (O-4) in the U.S. Army Reserve to Alpha Troop, 1st Squadron - 104 Cavalry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, and enlisted in that unit as a Specialist (E-4)
- In June of 2020, he served for a period of time on State Active Duty dealing with civil unrest in the City of Philadelphia
- Completed his MOS transition course from 27A to 19D (Cavalry Scout) in Sept. 2020
- Continues to drill monthly and perform Annual Training at Fort Indiantown Gap



**SENIOR JUDGE
JAMES GARDNER COLINS**

SERVED 1978-1983

UNITED STATES ARMY

Senior Judge James Gardner Colins

Superior Court

- Served in the U.S. Army Reserves for eight years
- Honorably discharged with the rank of Captain in 1983
- Assigned to various civil affairs units during his service

“The Army has enriched my life. The first big thing the Army teaches you is about doing things for more than just yourself. You think of others. There’s no place for ego. Leadership comes from that. You have the back of your fellow soldiers and they have yours. As a judge, you continue to work as a team with the staff, the parties, attorneys and witnesses to achieve justice. It is a wonderful thing if it works right and just like the Army, justice is not about me being the judge, it is about being a member of a team. A judge is like a high-ranking officer and that judge has to guide people through a challenge. It is about ensuring a fair process and a fair result.”



KIERA FLANIGAN

CLASS OF 2024 AT WEST POINT

UNITED STATES ARMY



JOHN WITHEROW

SERVED 1984-1991

UNITED STATES ARMY

Kiera Flanigan

Daughter of Judge Chris Flanigan and Pete Flanigan (Court Administration), Westmoreland County

- Member of the Class of 2024 at West Point, majoring in Arabic

John Witherow

Pennsylvania Supreme Court

- Served in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard
- Aviation Company Executive Officer



SHEYLA STREET

SOPHOMORE AT WEST POINT

UNITED STATES ARMY



DANIEL A. DURST

SERVED 1989-1993

UNITED STATES ARMY

Sheyla Street

Daughter of Judge Sierra Thomas Street, Philadelphia County

- Cadet at West Point, majoring in cybersecurity

Daniel A. Durst

Pennsylvania Supreme Court Rules Committee

- Medic



SENIOR JUDGE EDWARD REIBMAN

SERVED 1969-1975

UNITED STATES ARMY



DANIEL CEISLER

UNITED STATES ARMY

Senior Judge Edward Reibman

Lehigh County

- Served in the U.S. Army Reserves as a Drill Sergeant

Daniel Ceisler

Son of Judge Ellen Ceisler, Commonwealth Court

- Deployed to Afghanistan once
- Deployed twice to the Pentagon to assist the Army with regards to military issues and needs related to the COVID-19 crisis and then to address domestic civil unrest



JUDGE
RICH KNECHT
SERVED 1974-1977

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Rich Knecht

Columbia/Montour Counties

- Served in the Military Police Corp
- Stationed at Fort Ord California with the 7th Military Police Company, attached to the 7th Infantry Division
- Received advanced training in the guarding of high-ranking personnel and providing security for major troop movements
- Participated in two of the first joint military exercises conducted in the Mojave Desert



JUDGE
FRANK A. RUGGIERO
SERVED 1988-1995

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Frank J. Ruggiero

Lackawanna County

- Served in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard
- Co. B. 1/109th Inf. (M) 28th Infantry Division
- Motivated to enlist through the service of his father and brother
- Honorable discharge

“I often credit my decision to enter the military at 17 years of age as one of the most important decisions of my life. From this decision and my involvement in the military at a young age, I came to understand the concepts of teamwork, dependability and accountability. Lessons I keep with me and continue using every day on the bench. Joining and being a part of the U.S. Military has made me a better person.”



JUDGE
ROBERT BURKE

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Robert Burke

Delaware County

- Called into active service for the U.S. Army Reserve after college
- Served a 13-month tour in South Korea during the Vietnam era
- Ended his military career having achieved the rank of Captain



JUDGE
CRAIG STEDMAN
SERVED 1986-1994

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Craig Stedman

Lancaster County

- Captain
- Military Intelligence

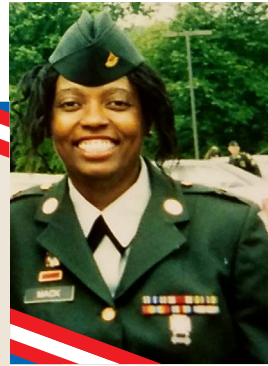


SENIOR JUDGE
DAN PELLEGRINI

UNITED STATES ARMY

Senior Judge Dan Pellegrini
Superior Court

- Artillery Officer
- Served in Turkey



THERESA MACK

SERVED 1986-1996

UNITED STATES ARMY

Theresa Mack
AOPC

- Served in active duty in the U.S. Army from 1986-1994
- Multiple Launch Rocket Systems Repairer
- Served in the U.S. Army National Guard from 1994-1996 - 14T - Patriot Missile Systems Repairer
- Defense Language Institute (basic Russian) during Operation Desert Storm
- Past Commander, American Legion Post 826, Carlisle, PA



ROB GRANZOW

SERVED 1988-1997

UNITED STATES ARMY

Rob Granzow
AOPC

Pennsylvania Army National Guard

- June 1995-Nov. 1997: Military Police "95B"
- U.S. Naval Reserve
- Jan. 1988- Feb. 1994: Corpsman, USMC-FMF, (8404)
 - HM2: Operation Desert Storm



SFC
NICHOLAS A. RANGOS

UNITED STATES ARMY

SFC Nicholas A. Rangos
Son of Judge Jill Rangos, Allegheny County

- Served in the Army Special Forces
- Finished with rank of Sgt 1st Class



**JUDGE
JOHN PESOTA**

SERVED 1971-1998

UNITED STATES ARMY



**JUDGE
JOSEPH FALCONE**

SERVED 1985-1996

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge John Pesota

Lackawanna County

- Commissioned Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army, Military Intelligence, 1971
- Additional branch qualifications: Infantry, Civil Affairs
- Served in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve Units from 1975-1998
- Equal Opportunity Adviser at 79th Army Reserve Command
- Retired with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel

Judge Joseph Falcone

Bucks County

- Served for 30 years
- Captain, U.S. Army, JAG, 1985-1988.
- Reentered active duty as a Major in the U.S. Army Active Guard Reserve, 1993-1996.
- Colonel, U.S. Army Reserve (Ret.). Completed 30 years of active duty and reserve military service.
- Military assignments include service in the Government Appellate Division, 157th Separate Infantry Brigade, 78th Division, 153rd Legal Support Organization, 1215th Garrison Support Unit and the 80th Training Command

“Going into the Army was the best thing I ever did.”



JOSH ALBRIGHT

SERVED 2000-2006

UNITED STATES ARMY

Josh Albright

AOPC

- Fire Direction Specialist: MOS 13D in B-Btry 1/108th Field Artillery, Waynesboro and Gettysburg
- Forward Observer: MOS 13F HHB 1/108th Field Artillery, Carlisle PA



**JUDGE
SCOTT GROSS**

SERVED 1972-1978

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Scott Gross

York County

- Served in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard for six years
- Staff Sergeant in the 271st Mobile Communications Squadron located at Fort Indiantown Gap



SENIOR JUDGE DANIEL BOWMAN

JOINED 1969

UNITED STATES ARMY

Senior Judge Daniel Bowman

Adams County

- Joined the Army at 17 years old in 1969
- Served in Vietnam as a Sgt. E-5 with 9th Inf., 25th Inf. and E Troop 17 Cav. 173 Airborne Brigade
- Motivated to serve by the service of his father, seven uncles and two aunts who served in World War II

“I have learned to never discount anyone. Everyone has strong and weak points. Work with whomever you have to deal with, form a relationship in a joint effort towards the goal you seek. Be fair, be civil but don’t be afraid to use any tools that you need to make good and fair decisions.”



PRESIDENT JUDGE DANIEL WALLACE

SERVED 1988-1992

UNITED STATES ARMY

President Judge Daniel Wallace

Mercer County

- Graduated from West Point in 1988
- Served from 1988-1992 in an M1A1 Armor Battalion in Garlstedt, West Germany
- Deployed for combat during Operation Desert Storm



JUDGE MICHAEL TOOMEY

SERVED 1991-2004

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Michael Toomey

Northumberland County

- Retired from active Army and Army Reserve duty in 2004
- Military Police Corps
- Rank: Master Sergeant
- Deployed to Iraq for 12 months
- Served in Operation Desert Storm in 1991 and in Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2003-2004



JUDGE FRANK PERANTEAU, SR.

SERVED 1967-1970

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Frank Peranteau, Sr.

Bucks County

- Specialist 5
- Served in Vietnam with the 815th Engineer Battalion



JUDGE
CHARLES CHRISTNER

SERVED 1967-1968

UNITED STATES ARMY

Senior Judge Charles Christner
Westmoreland County

- Republic of Vietnam Military Police
- Bronze Star Recipient
- Army Accommodation for TET Offensive

"The Military made a man out of me. I was a kid when I went and I came back a man."



JUDGE
LEAH WILLIAMS DUNCAN

SERVED 1985-1996

UNITED STATES ARMY

Judge Leah Williams Duncan
Allegheny County

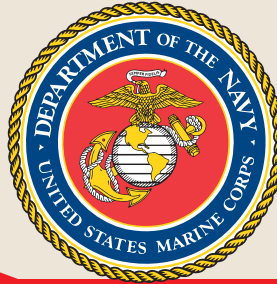
- Served in the U.S. Army Reserves
- Commissioned as a Lieutenant in Jan. 1988
- Administrative Officer for the 318th Light Equipment Maintenance Company in State College, PA



JUDGE JAMES T. ANTHONY

SERVED 1981-2009

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS



LEO ZUVICH

SERVED 1984-1990

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Judge James T. Anthony

Lehigh County

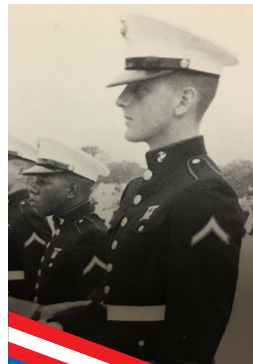
- Commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve through the PLC program in Aug. 1981 after graduating from OCS in Quantico, VA
- Designated an Unrestricted Officer in June 1984 after graduating from the Basic Officer Course at the Basic School in Quantico, VA
- Served on active duty from 1984-1987, including a one-year deployment to Okinawa
- Joined the Selected Marine Corps Reserve in Jan. 1988
- Returned to active duty from June 2004-June 2005, and from Sept. 2006-Sept. 2007, with two deployments to Iraq and temporary duty in Afghanistan
- Awarded the Bronze Star Medal in 2006 for service in Iraq
- Served in support, combat arms and staff billets during career
- Retired at the rank of Colonel in March 2009
- Father of an active-duty Army officer and an active-duty Navy officer - veterans of the war in Afghanistan and the war in Iraq, respectively

Leo Zuvich

Judicial Conduct Board

- Served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve
- Corporal
- Company "E" 2nd Battalion, 25th Marines, 4th Marine Division

"Semper Fi!"



JUDGE DAVID HOWELLS

SERVED 1977-1983

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Judge David Howells

Lehigh County

- Non-Commission Officer
- First Marine Corps Division
- Infantry 0341 Mortarman
- Marine Barracks 8th & I Washington D.C.
- Presidential Security Marine for President Carter stationed at Presidential Retreat, Camp David, MD



JUDGE LEE GRIMES

SERVED 2005-2010

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Judge Lee Grimes

Delaware County

- Specialty: Infantry
- Deployment: Iraq



JUDGE MICHAEL THATCHER

SERVED 2006-PRESENT

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Judge Michael Thatcher

Allegheny County

- Graduated from the Naval Academy in 2006
- U.S. Marine Corps Infantry Officer
- Deployed to Afghanistan in 2008 and 2010 in Helmand Province with 1st Battalion 6th Marine Regiment
- Served as Company Commander for Kilo Company 3rd Battalion 25th Marine Regiment, a reserve unit based in Pittsburgh



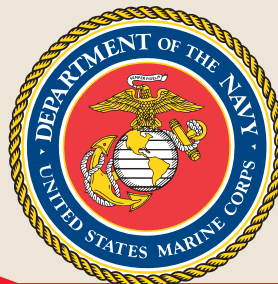
JAMES MUNDY

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

James Mundy

Son of Justice Sallie Updyke Mundy

- First Lieutenant
- Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 25th Marines



JUDGE
JEFF CONRAD

SERVED 1985-1990

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Judge Jeff Conrad

Lancaster County

- Rank: First Lieutenant

“Serving my country as a U.S. Marine Corps Officer was a dream come true. As a child, I met an uncle of mine who was a Marine and his walk, talk and bearing was different; he moved with confidence and took life in stride. The training I received as a Marine helped me to realize that the human body is made to do so much more than we think and that groups of hard-charging Americans infused with esprit de corps, and God’s blessing, can conquer any enemy. Civilian world translation: there is no problem too big to handle.”



STEVEN L. YEAGER

SERVED 1982-1986

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Steven L. Yeager

AOPC



JEFFERY LANG
SERVED 2006-2010

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Jeffery Lang

AOPC

- Deployed to Iraq



JUDGE MICHAEL MCCARTHY

SERVED IN VIETNAM

UNITED STATES NAVY

Judge Michael McCarthy

Allegheny County

- Served as a Combat Engineer with the Navy Seabees
- Received the Navy Combat Badge and a Bronze Star
- Deployed to Vietnam from 1970-1971



MARK FRANKLIN
SERVED 1984-1987

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Mark Franklin

AOPC



JUDGE TIM KRIEGER

SERVED 1985-1991

UNITED STATES NAVY

Judge Tim Krieger

Westmoreland County

- Served active duty USN 1985-1989, USNR 1989-1991
- Served as a Surface Warfare Officer on the USS Penscola (LSD-38)
- Deployed to Mediterranean twice as part of Marine Amphibious Ready Group (MARG)
- Spent four months at Guantanamo, Cuba
- Distinguished Graduate of the Naval Officer Candidate School

“The responsibilities entrusted to me as a young naval officer shaped me in some profound ways. I draw upon those experiences every day as a judge.”



JUDGE
RAYMOND ZYDONIK
SERVED 1989-1992

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Raymond Zydonik

Warren County



JUDGE DANIEL DAVIS

SERVED 24 YEARS

UNITED STATES NAVY

Judge Daniel Davis
Mercer County

- Served in the Navy Reserves for 24 years



SENIOR JUDGE
CHERYL AUSTIN

SERVED 24 YEARS

UNITED STATES NAVY

Senior Judge Cheryl Austin
Montgomery County

- Retired as a Captain
- Served for 24 years - seven active duty and 17 in Reserves
- Entered the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps in its first class of women while she was an undergraduate student at Northwestern University



JUDGE MILES BIXLER

SERVED 1976-1981

UNITED STATES NAVY

Judge Miles Bixler
Lancaster County

- Rank: Hull Technician 1st Class
- Made four deployments aboard the aircraft carrier USS Saratoga to the Mediterranean Sea



SENIOR JUDGE
DAVID KLEMENTIK

SERVED 26 YEARS

UNITED STATES NAVY

Senior Judge David Klementik
Somerset County

- Served as a Captain
- Served six years active duty, 20 years reserve
- Flew the A-6 Intruder aboard the USS Forrestal for two deployment cruises with over 200 carrier landings



RYAN Q. MILLER

UNITED STATES NAVY

Commander Ryan Q. Miller
*Son of Judge Charles Miller,
Schuylkill County*

- Attached to the Carl Vinson Strike Group
- Home base San Diego, CA



JUDGE
DENNIS JOYCE
SERVED 1974-1977

UNITED STATES NAVY

Judge Dennis Joyce
Allegheny County

- Assigned to the Naval Construction Battalion Center in Port Hueneme, CA
- Served as a JAG officer



JENNIFER A. EICHENLAUB
SERVED 1995-1997

UNITED STATES NAVY

Jennifer A. Eichenlaub
AOPC

- Served as a Personnelman at the Career Counselor Office from 1995-1997
- Stationed at Naval Auxiliary Landing Field San Clemente Island, CA
- Recipient of the National Defense Service Medal

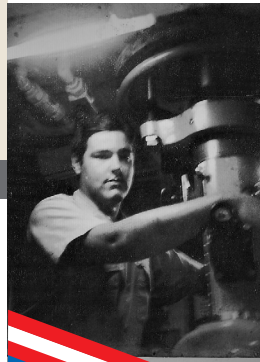


AARON FRANCISCO
SERVED 2019-PRESENT

UNITED STATES NAVY

Aaron Francisco
Son of Angela Butler, AOPC

- Air controlman Petty Office Second Class
- Enlisted in the Navy in 2019 and graduated boot camp in Feb. 2020
- Graduated A-School approx. Oct. 2020
- Meritorious Mast - Nov. 4, 2021
- Deployed on amphibious assault ship, USS Tripoli (LHA-7) - 2022
- Deployed on amphibious assault ship, USS America (LHA-6) - 2023
- Currently in active service



JUDGE RICHARD THOMAS
SERVED 24 YEARS

UNITED STATES NAVY

Judge Richard Thomas
York County

- Retired as Lieutenant
- Stationed on the USS John Marshall (SSN-611) submarine in the early 1980s
- Served as a nuclear trained submarine officer during the Cold War
- Mission was to observe and monitor Soviet submarines and ships in the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea while remaining undetected

“Being in the military shapes you for a lifetime; it certainly did for me. You learn discipline, but more importantly, you learn to take responsibility for your actions.”



SENIOR JUDGE
ANTHONY CEOFFE

SERVED 1979-1985

UNITED STATES NAVY



JUDGE
WAYNE VLASIC

SERVED 1988-2013

UNITED STATES NAVY

Senior Judge Anthony Ceoffe

Allegheny County

- Petty Officer Second Class (Communications)
- Served aboard the USNS Marias - an Oiler that refueled ships destined for an attempt to rescue the hostages held in Iran
- Later served aboard the USS Charleston - an amphibian cargo and assault ship that participated in the Granada Campaign
- Traveled to over 32 countries on three different continents

Judge Wayne Vlastic

Westmoreland County

- Activated in 2003 - Operation Iraqi Freedom
- Bethesda Naval Hospital
- Fleet Hospital, Fort Dix, NJ
- Comm. Naval Forces Europe/Comm. Sixth Fleet Naples, Italy
- Maritime Partnership Program - served at the embassy in: Mozambique, Morocco, Tanzania and Mauritania



STEVE SONDHEIMER

SERVED 1980-1987

UNITED STATES NAVY



JUDGE
BARRY BROWN

UNITED STATES NAVY

Steve Sondheimer

AOPC

- U.S. Navy - Data Systems Technician 3rd Class
- Served aboard USS America (CV-66)
- Stationed at Submarine Base, New London, CT

Judge Barry Brown

Cameron County

- Nuclear Electrician
- Attended Bootcamp in Orlando Fl., and attended "Prototype" at the S3G Reactor Site in Ballston Spa, NY
- Final duty station was Groton, Ct.
- Served on the USS Groton 694 - a "Fast Attack" nuclear-powered submarine.



JUDGE
DAVID PLUM
SERVED 1983-1989

UNITED STATES NAVY

Judge David Plum
Franklin County

- Electronic Technician (E-5)
- Stationed at Naval Special Warfare Command, Little Creek, VA
- Deployed to Bahrain, Operation Desert Shield, as well as Honduras, Panama, Scotland, Denmark and Germany



KAITLYN
O'CONNOR SOMMER
SERVED 2001-2010

UNITED STATES NAVY

Kaitlyn O'Connor Sommer
Superior Court of Pennsylvania, Chambers of the Hon. Megan King

- Commissioned - U.S. Naval Academy in 2005
- Served onboard USS HUE CITY (CG 66) as an electrical officer and fire control officer
- Deployed overseas twice in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom
- Honorably discharged as Lieutenant in 2010



SERVED 2022-CURRENT

JOANNE RODRIGUEZ

UNITED STATES NAVY

Joanne Rodriguez
Delaware County Court Administration

- Currently a U.S. Navy reservist stationed in Lakehurst, NJ with the Seabees
- Petty Officer Third Class Yeoman (YN3)
- Enlisted and graduated boot camp in 2022

"Since I was little, I have always looked up to so many family members that are or have been in the service, and I would always tell them I would do my part in protecting our country like they did. Joining the Navy has taught me so many important lessons that I can carry with me always. One thing that the Navy taught me was to have confidence in everything I do. Whether it's a job in the Military or a job in the civilian world, I know that what I do is helping someone."



LT. HOBART
KING KISTLER

UNITED STATES NAVY

Lt. Hobart King Kistler
Son of Senior Judge Thomas Kistler, Centre County

- Attended the U.S. Naval Academy
- Graduated in 2013
- Served his country on the USS Louisville submarine and the carrier USS JF Kennedy
- Killed on April 30, 2021. Buried at Arlington National Cemetery



BRIAN DARBROW

SERVED 1992-1999

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Brian Darbrow

AOPC

- Computer Technician, 37 CS/SCST
- LAN Technician, HQ USCINCPAC



JUDGE JAMES LILLIS

SERVED 1974-2004

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Judge James Lillis

Berks County

- Retired from Pennsylvania Air National Guard as Brigadier General after serving in the Guard and U.S. Air Force
- Served five years active duty as Minuteman Missile Crew Commander
- Deployed as a NATO Commander for Operations Allied Force during the Kosovo conflict and for Operation Decisive Endeavor, Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Served as Vice Commander, 193d Special Operations Wing, Middletown, during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Force



JENNIFER LOVE

SERVED 1999-2001

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Jennifer Love

AOPC

- Stationed in Los Angeles, CA
- Served as a Medical Assistant



JUDGE JOSEPH DEMARCHIS

SERVED 1973-1977

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Judge Joseph DeMarchis

Westmoreland County

- Security Police (Law Enforcement Specialist)
- Served two years overseas, Republic of Korea



JUDGE DEAN R. PATTON

SERVED 1973-1984

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Judge Dean R. Patton

Berks County

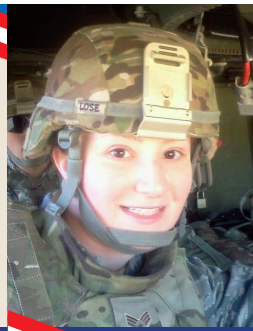
- Served in the U.S. Air Force (1973-1977) and U.S. Army National Guard from 1983-1984
- 509th Security Police Pease AFB, NH
- 36th Security Police Bitburg AFB, Germany
- 1028th MP Squadron, Hamburg, PA



JUDGE ANTHONY VERWEY

SERVED 1979-1982

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE



CYNTHIA LOSE-MORGAN

SERVED 2009-PRESENT

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Judge Anthony Verwey

Chester County

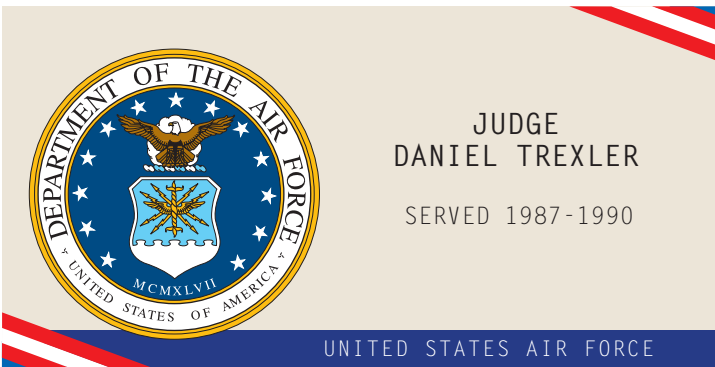
- Security Police (Law Enforcement Specialist)

Cynthia Lose-Morgan

*Deputy District Court Administrator
Clearfield County*

- U.S. Air Force and Pennsylvania Air National Guard
- Technical Sergeant
- Rank: E-6
- 193 Special Operations Wing:
211 Engineering Installation Squadron based out of Fort Indiantown Gap
- Deployments: Afghanistan (May-Nov. 2012); Iraq, Jordan, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Qatar (Jan.-Aug. 2017)

“My military service has, among many things, taught me to be flexible in fast-paced, dynamic environments with individuals from many different backgrounds. I find myself drawing on my military experience daily in the county-level judicial system.”



Judge Daniel Trexler

Lehigh County

- Aerospace ground equipment mechanic, Macdill AFB Tampa, FL.



Senior Judge Martin Kane

Luzerne County

AOPC

AOPC/COMMUNICATIONS THANKS THE JUDGES, STAFF AND FAMILY FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE FOR RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR MILITARY SERVICE.

JUDGES AND STAFF NOT FEATURED IN THE NEWSLETTER WHO SERVED IN THE MILITARY SHOULD CONTACT THE COMMUNICATIONSOFFICE@PACOURTS.US TO BE INCLUDED IN FUTURE ISSUES.