

# SEATAC MUNICIPAL COURT

Your City.  Your Court.

*“Thank you SeaTac”*

## Accomplishments:

- Ensured compliance with State statutes, court rules, and constitutional requirements.
- Promoted separate but equal branches of government.
- Increased outreach to the community through this quarterly newsletter, engaged local students at court and in classroom including hosting mock trials, and Law Week celebrations.
- Increased access to justice by providing more information on webpage, allowing infraction hearings by mail and email, accepting payment on-line and by phone, installing kiosk in court lobby, enhancing court room access.
- Developed Quarterly Newsletter

I began at SeaTac Municipal Court in 2003, serving your community as a judge pro tem. In 2008, I was appointed as your judge when the Honorable Judge Paul Codd retired after 18 years of service for SeaTac. I served out his remaining term, and began my term almost four years ago. Because judge terms must run every four years, my first complete term is almost up. During this season of thanksgiving, I thought it would be the perfect time to thank the community for all of its support for the court. We have accomplished a lot since I came on board, and I am very proud of the court that serves your community.

Throughout my time here with SeaTac, my goal has been to improve court services, and increase the court's connection with the community. Improvement often involves change, which can, at times, be difficult. But no matter how difficult it may have been, I have always strived to ensure the court was in compliance with court rules, state statutes

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*Judge Elizabeth Cordi-Bejarano (far right) pictured with students who participated in a mock trial during Law Week, 2013.*



*For more information on court services, schedules, and answers to frequently asked questions, visit the courts webpage at: <http://www.ci.seatac.wa.us/index.aspx?page=130>*



*“Thank you,”*

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and constitutional mandates.

I have also established community outreach programs to encourage interaction with local middle schools, high schools, and the public in general. I have visited the senior center for court related programs, as well as the Tyee educational complex on many occasions to speak with and engage the students on issues related to court, the constitution, the law and jobs within the court system. We have hosted mock trials here at court, as well as Law Week programs that included movies at City Hall and the Senior Center focusing on constitutional rights. We held a Law Week Art contest for local students, mock trials, community roundtable discussions and law related presentations. I also began “Food4Food.” For this program I made quite a large quantity of baked goods, and for each 4 cans of food that were donated, the donor was able to take, in return, a bag of holiday treats. We donated 220 pounds of food to the Highline Food Bank through the Food4Food program.

I began this Quarterly Newsletter in an effort to inform the community on issues relating to the courts, laws and constitutional rights, and the community’s feedback has been wonderful. SeaTac Municipal Court was featured in the June 2013 edition of “Full Court Press,” a publication that is distributed to courts and citizens across our state.

You can access and review the article at: <http://www.ci.seatac.wa.us/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=7645> .

I have met a lot of people employed here by the city and within the community that have been very supportive of the court and have encouraged our efforts. I enjoy my job very much and I wanted to take this time to thank you all for allowing me to serve as your judge.



*Illustration of King County Courthouse, Copyright © 1986, Richard Hashagen*

*King County is holding its 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Adoption Day Event on November 22, 2013, 11 am – 1 pm at the King County Superior Court, Room E942 (9<sup>th</sup> floor), at 516 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Seattle, WA 98104. For questions, contact Merle Redd-Jones, Family Court Operations Manager at [Merle.Redd-Jones@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Merle.Redd-Jones@kingcounty.gov).*

## National Adoption Day is November 22, 2013

National Adoption Day is November 22, 2013. National Adoption Day is a collective national effort to raise awareness of the more than 100,000 children in foster care waiting to find permanent, loving families.

In 2005, the Washington Supreme Court Commission on Children in Foster Care sponsored the first statewide celebration in courts across Washington. Sponsors in Washington also include the Dept. of Social and Health Services' Children's Administration, the Superior Court Judges' Association, and the Administrative Office of the Courts.

This national annual one-day event has made the dreams of thousands of children come true, helping more than 40,000 children move to a forever family. Currently, more than 8,300 Washington children live in foster care and more than 1,600 are legally free (meaning their biological parents' rights have been terminated by the courts). These children are ready to join new families.

Adoption hearings are not open to the public except for a few days in November when courts and communities across Washington and the U.S. celebrate National Adoption Day. This year Washington is celebrating National Adoption Day November 15<sup>th</sup> through November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

For details on a National Adoption Events in Washington state, go to [www.courts.wa.gov/newsinfo/adoptionDay/?fa=adoptionDay.home](http://www.courts.wa.gov/newsinfo/adoptionDay/?fa=adoptionDay.home). Also, for more information about National Adoption day, visit, [www.nationaladoptionday.org](http://www.nationaladoptionday.org).

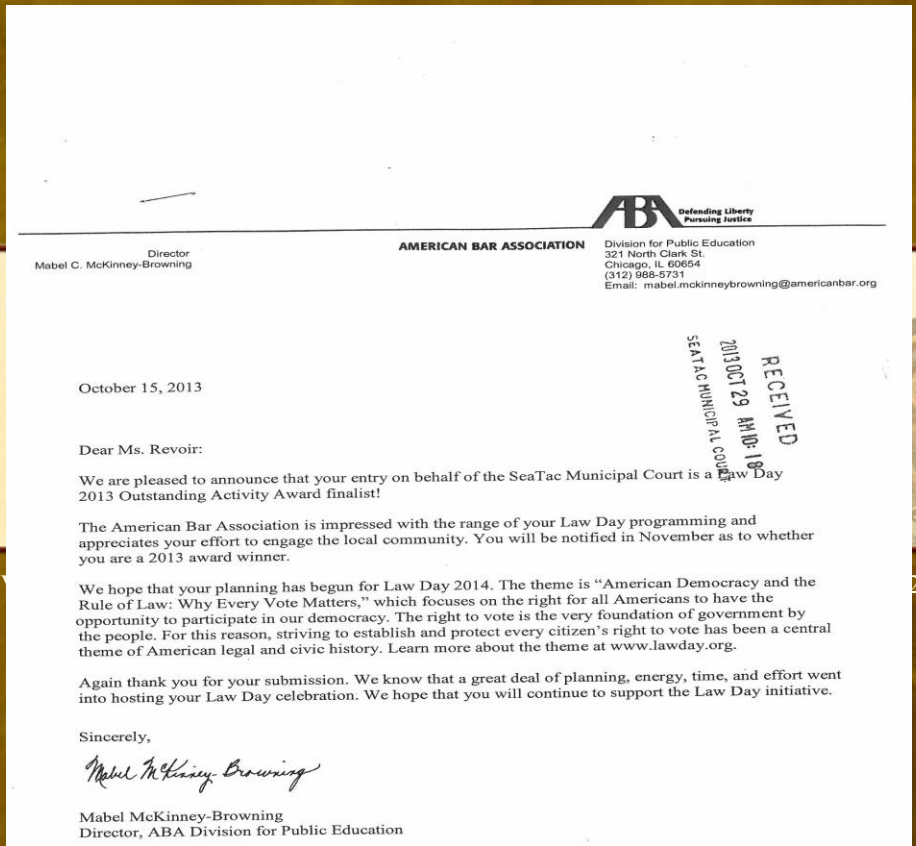


*Proclamation made by Governor Jay Inslee declaring  
November 22, 2013 as National Adoption Day.*



*SeaTac Municipal Court was named a 2013 American Bar Association Law Day Outstanding Activity Award finalist! To see details about the three winning programs (Houston Bar Association, State Bar of Georgia and their 11 partner organizations, and the Connecticut Judicial Branch), visit:*

*[http://www.americanbar.org/groups/public\\_education/initiatives\\_awards/law\\_day\\_2014/law-day-2013-outstanding-activity-award-winners.html](http://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_education/initiatives_awards/law_day_2014/law-day-2013-outstanding-activity-award-winners.html)*



NO

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The Court wishes everyone a safe and  
Happy Thanksgiving holiday!

SeaTac Municipal Court  
4800 S. 188<sup>th</sup> Street  
SeaTac, Washington 98188  
206-973-4610

<http://www.ci.seatac.wa.us/index.aspx?page=130>



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*To receive a copy of this quarterly newsletter via email, or to stop receiving this newsletter, simply email the Lead Clerk, Ms. Ruth Davis, at:*

[rdavis@ci.seatac.wa.us](mailto:rdavis@ci.seatac.wa.us)

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**206-973-4610**