



**For Immediate Release**

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

**Recognizing Excellence in Court Administration**

Justice Initiatives, Inc. announced Erica Adams, Operations Administrator for the 26th Judicial District Trial Court Administrator's Office, as the winner of the first annual Raising the Bar Award at the annual Evening at the Courthouse Event on May 16.

While the general public may never come in direct contact with Erica Adams, they benefit from her hard work, vision, and contributions to the court system. Erica is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English. She holds a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Erica is also a graduate of the North Carolina Certified Public Manager's Program, which is an intensive, two year management training course offered through the Office of State Personnel. Erica has worked for the TCA's Office for over ten years and has made numerous significant and notable contributions to the advancement of the Mecklenburg County court system during that time. Erica has served in several capacities during her tenure, including Jury Coordinator, Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinator, and Interpreter Manager. Under the general direction of the Trial Court Administrator, in her current position as Operations Administrator, Erica is responsible for human resources for a staff of over 50 employees, fiscal services for the courthouse, and technology and facility management. In addition, Erica currently oversees the day-to-day operations of the Jury Management Office, Fine Collection Program, and Post Judgment Services Center (PJSC).

Each year, the Raising the Bar award is presented by Justice Initiatives, Inc. to honor a court employee who has made a significant and notable contribution to the advancement of the Mecklenburg County court system. The type of contribution made can vary, and may be related to performance, leadership, innovation, advocacy, public education or some other meritorious area related to the public good. The Board of Directors of Justice Initiatives, Inc. determines the relevancy, level of importance and degree to which each contribution has made a difference. The winner receives a check for \$1000.00, a plaque in recognition of their accomplishment and the permanent listing of their name in the registry of past winners.

When asked how she feels about winning this award, Erica says, "I am honored to be selected as the first recipient of this annual award and am very thankful for the thoughtfulness of those who nominated me. I look forward to serving the Mecklenburg County justice system and community for many years to come."

**For more information regarding this news release,  
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