



Justice Initiatives Releases 2009-2010 Annual Report

On November 1, 2010, Justice Initiatives released its annual report. Over the course of the year, Justice Initiatives provided \$45,775 in grant monies, a 30% increase over the previous year. To view a copy of the annual report, please visit Justice Initiatives homepage.

Justice Initiatives Announces its Spring 2010 Grant Funded Projects:

- Court Camp
- Customer Satisfaction Survey Incentives
- Drug Court Month
- Employee Development and Recognition
- Courts and Media Seminar

To learn more about these projects, please visit the Justice Initiatives homepage

Justice Initiatives Welcomes Jeff Goss to the Board

Jeff is an associate attorney with Ridenour & Murphy, P.A., in Sylva, North Carolina. His practice areas include criminal and civil litigation. Jeff graduated magna cum laude from the Charlotte School of Law in May 2010, where he served as the Senior Managing Editor of the Charlotte Law Review.



Jeff Goss

Justice Initiatives Hosts 2010 Pre-Election Events

District Attorney Candidate's Debate - Justice Initiatives, Inc. was proud to sponsor a debate between candidates for the office of District Attorney on Thursday, October 14th at The Charlotte School of Law. The public was invited to meet Michael Barnes (Democrat) and Andrew Murray (Republican) to learn more about their positions concerning the administration of criminal justice in Mecklenburg County. Julie Rose, WFAE 90.7 Reporter, moderated the event. The candidates addressed questions posed to them by audience members and a three-member panel composed of: Carolyn Greene-Logan, Mecklenburg County Criminal Justice Advisory Committee; Anita Blowers, Associate Professor, UNC-Charlotte Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology; and, Billy Wilson, Justice Initiatives Board Member.



Judicial Candidate's Forum - Justice Initiatives, Inc. proudly sponsored a judicial candidate's forum for all individuals vying for seats on the District Court Bench and Superior Court Bench in Mecklenburg County. The



forum took place on Thursday, October 21, 2010, at the Charlotte School of Law. Taylor Batten, The Charlotte Observer Editorial Page Editor, served as moderator for the event. Eleven candidates addressed questions from Taylor and the audience members. The format also allowed for the candidates to ask questions of each other, which led to interesting and insightful discussions.

Other Fall Events

Justice Initiatives hosts the Fall 2010 Courts & Media Seminar

Justice Initiatives, Inc., in partnership with The Trial Court Administrator's Office, held the Fall 2010 Courts and the Media Seminar on Wednesday, October 20. The purpose of what has become a semi-annual seminar is to foster a stronger relationship between the Mecklenburg County Courts and members of the local media, as well as educate the media about the courts, court procedures, and operational protocol. The seminar also serves as a means to educate judges and court officials about the media and allows for open discussion in a non-adversarial setting. The event focused on the foreclosure process and procedures in North Carolina in addition to Small Claims Court. Assistant Clerk of Superior Court Cameron Scott spoke to members of the media on foreclosures. Civil Magistrate Deborah Pope discussed the Magistrate's role in the judicial system and gave an overview of Small Claims Court.

Justice Initiatives sponsors Mecklenburg County's National Adoption Day

Each year, on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, the National Adoption Day Coalition sponsors National Adoption Day to raise awareness of the need to find permanent, loving homes for the thousands of children in foster care currently available for adoption and to insure that post-adoption services are available to families.

Justice Initiatives Inc., along with the Mecklenburg County Juvenile Court, the Mecklenburg County Clerk of Superior Court's Office, the Mecklenburg County (DSS), and the Guardian Ad Litem program, co-sponsored the seventh-annual National Adoption Day. The court session was presided over by Chief District Court Judge Lisa C. Bell and was part of a larger event that took place at the courthouse that included games and activities for children. Representatives from various adoption agencies were also on hand to answer questions regarding adoption.