



# *Administrative Office of the Courts*

P.O. Box 4820, Portland, Maine 04112-4820

Tel: (207) 822-0792

---

*Mary Ann Lynch*  
Government & Media Counsel  
P.O. Box 4820  
Portland, Maine 04112-4820

(207) 592-5940  
[mary.ann.lynnch@courts.maine.gov](mailto:mary.ann.lynnch@courts.maine.gov)

## ***Maine Judicial Branch Announces Employee and Volunteer Service Awards for 2017***

November 2, 2017, Portland Maine. For Immediate Release — State Court Administrator James T. Glessner today announced the recipients of the Maine Judicial Branch employee performance and volunteer service awards for 2017.

Mr. Glessner announced that the *2017 Judicial Branch Career Performance Award* was awarded posthumously to Gerard Forgue who worked as an assistant clerk in the Penobscot Judicial Center in Bangor, and passed away unexpectedly late last summer. Mr. Forgue, who was a resident of Pittsfield prior to his death, was employed by the Maine Judicial Branch since January, 2000. In announcing the award Mr. Glessner observed that “Mr. Forgue had a long and varied career working as a clerk in a number of different courthouses around the state. In recent years, he frequently served as a mentor for new clerks. Most importantly, he cared greatly about the work of the court and the people who used the courts. Above all, he wanted the public to be treated well. He consistently contributed above and beyond his stated job responsibilities to assist in the delivery of justice.”

Mr. Glessner announced that Holly Jarvis, of Carmel, also employed at the Penobscot Judicial Center as the Civil Division Supervisor, was named the *2017 Outstanding Judicial Employee of the Year*. This award is conferred upon that person who best exemplifies the qualities of competence in providing court services, commitment to public service, respect, courtesy to fellow employees and members of the public, and a willingness to learn and grow. Mr. Glessner said, “Due to unexpected sickness and death, the office was frequently short-staffed in 2017. Ms. Jarvis took on an extraordinary amount of additional work and responsibility when she was called upon to fill in for the Clerk of Court on a temporary basis. She took on these additional responsibilities with grace and patience. Ms. Jarvis has been employed by the courts since 1985, and every year continues to impress us with her dedication and commitment.”

Bea Spencer was awarded the *2017 Outstanding Volunteer Award*. In making the award Mr. Glessner said: “Ms. Spencer has worked in every department in the Bangor courthouse, filing and working on myriad other projects at the request of the clerks. We are so appreciative of her volunteer service to the people of Maine”

The *2017 Roy Rice Award* is given to that person, group, or organization that has made an outstanding contribution to the safety and well-being of the employees of the Judicial Branch and public and others who participate in court activities. Mr. Glessner announced that this year’s winner is Reno Rioux, a sergeant for the judicial marshals in Aroostook County, who lives in Ft. Kent. Mr. Rioux has been employed by the Maine Judicial Branch since 2007. Mr. Glessner said, “Mr. Rioux is responsible for managing the security needs for the 5 courts in ‘The County,’ and shows leadership, initiative, and dedication each and every day.”

Chief Justice Leigh I. Saufley, who was unable to attend this year’s award ceremony, said, “One of my annual highlights is to read the nominations submitted for these awards. While we can only publically recognize a handful of Judicial Branch employees for their public service, the ones we recognize also represent their peers, their fellow nominees and colleagues. These are the people who understand that serving the public is a privilege. For members of the public coming to court, the experiences of filing or defending a case, being a witness, or contesting a traffic summons, can often be stressful. I am proud of the Judicial Branch employees who serve the public with respect, courtesy, helpfulness and efficiency each and every day. The employees recognized today, and their fellow employees, exemplify the public service provided by so many wonderful employees in the Judicial Branch, and I thank the individual award winners for their outstanding public service.”



**Left to Right: Superior Court Chief Justice Roland Cole, Justice Robert Mullen, Sergeant Rioux, District Court Chief Judge Susan Oram, and Judge Susan Sparaco**



**Left to Right: Penobscot County Court Staff accepting award on behalf of Gerard Forge**



**Left to Right: Superior Court Chief Justice Roland Cole, Justice Robert Mullen, Holly Jarvis, District Court Chief Judge Susan Oram, and Judge Susan Sparaco**



**Left to Right: Superior Court Chief Justice Roland Cole, Justice Robert Mullen, Bea Spencer, District Court Chief Judge Susan Oram, and Judge Susan Sparaco**