

NEWSLETTER

THE COURT REPORTER

SUMMIT COUNTY JUVENILE COURT



Summit County Juvenile Court Veterans Resource Case Manager Andrew Cox

**Community Programs****Attorney Help Desk**

Wednesdays | 9 - 11:45 a.m.

Virtual & In-Person Appointments

No Cost | Walk-Ins Welcome

For more info call, 330-643-5399.

To schedule a virtual appointment visit, <https://juvenilecourt.summitoh.net/index.php/legal-services/attorney-help-desk>.

[summitoh.net/index.php/legal-services/attorney-help-desk](https://juvenilecourt.summitoh.net/index.php/legal-services/attorney-help-desk).

Human Trafficking 101

November 8, 2022 | 5 - 6:15 p.m.

Youth Only

December 13, 2022 | 5 - 6:15 p.m.

Parents & Guardians Only

To schedule a virtual presentation

at no cost email, fdaniels@cpccourt.summitoh.net.

[summitoh.net](mailto:fdaniels@cpccourt.summitoh.net).

A Message from Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio

Summit County Juvenile Court Welcomes Magistrate Angela Walls-Alexander, Hires Veterans Resource Case Manager

I am pleased to welcome Magistrate Angela Walls-Alexander to Summit County Juvenile Court.

Magistrate Walls-Alexander will fill the vacancy that was created by Magistrate Brett Hammond's departure in September 2022.

Prior to joining Summit County Juvenile Court, she served as an assistant prosecuting attorney at the Summit County Prosecutor's Office and a criminal defense attorney for the Legal Defenders Office of Summit County.

Magistrate Walls-Alexander has the character, education, experience needed to serve all who come into contact with the Summit County juvenile justice system.

As Veteran's Day approaches, I find it fitting to announce that a veterans resource case manager has been hired at Summit County Juvenile Court.

The role of the veterans resource case manager is to promote positive outcomes for military veterans involved in child welfare cases.

Andrew Cox, a veteran of the United States Air Force with 18 years of service, has accepted the position.



Magistrate Angela Walls-Alexander and Summit County Juvenile Court Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio

Cox will be helping veterans, and their family members, access military benefits and supportive services such as: counseling, financial assistance, health care, housing, support groups, transportation services, and more.

He will also be walking alongside veterans as they navigate the court system, offering support and encouragement as they work toward family reunification.

Happy Veteran's Day!

Linda Tucci Teodosio



Employee Spotlight

SCJC Employee Jimmy Oliver Inducted into the Summit County Sports Hall of Fame

The game of basketball has taken Jimmy Oliver across the globe. On October 4th, Oliver's achievements in the game were celebrated in his adopted home. The Summit County Sports Hall of Fame enshrined Oliver with eight others who have excelled as an athlete or provided service to athletics in Summit County.

Oliver is a native of Menifee, Arkansas, one of six children. His skill on the court at Morrilton High School saw him named Mr. Basketball of Arkansas and he caught the attention of major colleges throughout the country. However, Oliver accepted a scholarship at Purdue University.

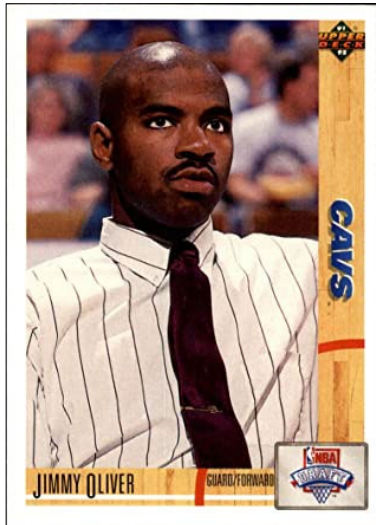
Oliver spent three seasons playing a shooting guard and a small forward on the Boilermakers' squad. It was during his junior season that he began to emerge as a viable Big Ten Conference player, averaging eight points a game while shooting 50% from the field. He helped Purdue to a 22-8 season and a berth in the NCAA Tournament where Purdue advanced to the second round.

His senior year, Oliver elevated his game to a new level. He averaged almost twenty points per game, shot 40% from 3-point range, and led his team in assists. His performance earned Oliver first team All-Big Ten honors. Again, he led Purdue to the NCAA Tournament.

The Cleveland Cavaliers selected him in the second round of the NBA Draft. It was the beginning of a professional basketball career that saw him play for five NBA teams and sixteen teams in the Continental Basketball Association and overseas.

Oliver played for several teams in Europe, and he was a pivotal player on teams that won the Copa Galicia championship, the FIBA Saporta Cup championship where he was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player Award, the Slovenian League championship, the Slovenian Cup winner, and Slovenian Super Cup winner.

When his career ended, he settled in Summit County, where he



has lived for the last 21 years.

He majored in sociology at Purdue and knew, in his second career, he wanted to work with youth. An acquaintance knew someone who worked at Summit County Juvenile Court who said there was an employment opportunity. Oliver applied for a job as a detention officer. He began working at the court in that capacity in April of 2008. He now serves as a cognitive behavioral therapy case manager, alongside his co-worker Natasha Ervin, and facilitates The Parent Project.

Oliver sees a parallel between being an athlete and working with youth who have behavioral issues.

"Athletics always throws challenges at you. Problem-solving is a big part of being an athlete; seeking ways to improve," he said. "I can apply that experience to the people I work with. I encourage them to solve problems, to find solutions, to look at every option and pursue it."



Summit County Juvenile Court Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Case Manager Jimmy Oliver holding his 2022 Summit County Sports Hall of Fame Award.



Veterans

Veterans Resource Case Manager Hired to Promote Positive Outcomes in Child Welfare Cases

One of the primary goals of the Summit County Juvenile Court is to investigate every method possible to keep a family intact. However, there are times when circumstances prevent that. It is then that the Court reverts to addressing the issues that separated the family and introduces programming aimed to re-unify the family.

Summit County Juvenile Court has implemented programs, such as the Family Reunification through Recovery Court and the Multidisciplinary Representation Team, that work with a particular demographic and provide guidance and assistance to overcome the issues that led to losing custody of their children.

In mid-October, the Summit County Juvenile Court became the first juvenile court in Ohio to focus on another demographic: veterans.

Andrew Cox, an 18-year Air Force veteran, was hired as the Court's Veteran's Resource Case Manager. His job will be to work with veterans who become Court-involved and are facing custody issues.

"There have been several cases that have come before me and our Magistrates when parents note their military service," said Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio. "I felt we had to do a better job of screening parents who have a military background and finding suitable benefits to help them."

There is a healthy infrastructure of organizations that aid veterans in Summit County and Cox will network with those organizations to access grants, counseling, and other benefits for those parents who are referred to him. He will help guide them through the process of obtaining aid that is uniquely designed for veterans. Cox will develop individual case plans for each person with the ultimate goal of reunification with their family.

"I struggled when I transitioned from the Air Force to private life," noted Cox. "I can say without hesitation that the support and advice I received from veteran's organizations in the community was significant, and I believe I can call on my experience to assist those who might need those same benefits."

Cox will also work with relatives who have taken temporary custody of children and link them with the necessary resources should they need them. Accessing mentoring, support and spousal groups, and transportation for veterans on his case load will also be part of Cox's job.

One of the local organizations that provide those facets of aid to

former members of the military is Warriors Journey Home. Its founder, Rev. John Schlupe, feels the hiring of Cox is a positive step forward.

"Summit County Juvenile Court Veteran's Resource Case Manager will be a true asset in providing veterans' earned services and support. Serving veterans means serving the veteran's family. A program that recognizes and addresses those issues and needs help bring veterans home," said Rev. Schlupe. "Coming home requires adjustments not only for veterans but their families. It's not solely the veteran's responsibility. That is why I am grateful to Judge Teodosio and Andrew for putting a program in place where the needs and resources can be determined and attained."

Another responsibility for Cox will be providing counsel to court-involved youth. Judge Teodosio noted that often a youth will infer that he or she is interested in joining the military. Cox will be able to provide advice and insight as to what branch of the military might be the most suitable for the youth.

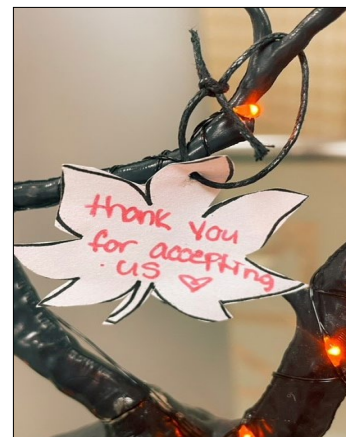
"Beyond his vast experience as a veteran, Andrew brings an enthusiasm for this job that I could sense when I met him," said Judge Teodosio. "He has a genuine desire to help his fellow veterans leverage resources and, most importantly, help them reunite with their families."

For more information please call, 330-379-3610.



**Summit County Juvenile Court
Veterans Resource Case Manager
Andrew Cox.**

Detention



In November 2022, youth being held in the Summit County Juvenile Detention Center gifted a gratitude tree to the Summit County Juvenile Court Women's Board. The tree was created by girls participating in a gratitude themed Peace Circle, a structured discussion designed to bring youth and members of the community together in an effort to resolve conflict, build and strengthen bonds, and more. The gratitude tree is currently on display in the main lobby at Summit County Juvenile Court. Podium on loan from the Summit County Historical Society.

Employee Spotlight

Daniels Awarded Scholarship that Promotes Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Shines in *Social Work Advocate Magazine*

On October 3, 2022, Summit County Juvenile Court Assistant Restore Court Coordinator Felicia Daniels was featured in *Social Work Advocates Magazine* as a recipient of a scholarship that promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Daniels, a graduate student at Case Western University, was awarded the 2022-2023 Verne LaMarr Lyons Memorial Master of Social Work (MSW) Scholarship, an honor that is awarded to master's degree candidates in social work who have demonstrated an interest in or have experience with health/mental health practice and have a commitment to working in African American communities.



For more information visit, <http://www.socialworkblog.org/>.

Award

City of Akron, Keep Akron Beautiful Honors SCJC with 2022 Beautification Watch Award

In September 2022, the City of Akron recognized Summit County Juvenile Court's adopted Keep Akron Beautiful site with a 2022 Beautification Watch Award.



Summit County Juvenile Court's flowerscaped garden is located at 650 Dan Street in Akron, Ohio. The site is annually prepared, planted, and maintained by court-involved youth participating in the Child Responsibility Project.

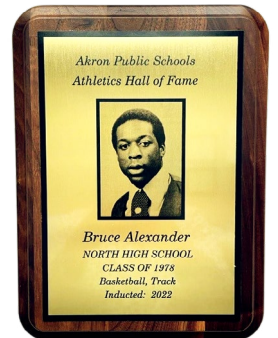
The Child Responsibility Project provides juvenile offenders with meaningful work experience while holding them accountable for their delinquent acts that result in property damage, property loss or personal injury. By performing community service activities at an hourly wage (under the supervision of a court employee), project participants pay restitution (\$1,000 maximum, per case) to the victim of their offense.

For more info, visit <https://www.keepakronbeautiful.org/>.

Employee Spotlight

SCJC Employee Bruce Alexander Inducted into the Akron Public Schools Athletics Hall of Fame

On Saturday, October 1, 2022, Bruce Alexander, a probation case manager at Summit County Juvenile Court, was inducted into the Akron Public Schools Athletics Hall of Fame.



Alexander, a proud graduate of Akron North High School, was an outstanding student-athlete who excelled in basketball. So much so, he was named Akron Beacon Journal Player of the Year in 1978.

After graduation, Alexander attended Youngstown State University. As a penguin, he scored 1,480 points and became the 18th player in Youngstown State University history to score over 1000+ points. In honor of this achievement, Alexander was inducted into the Youngstown State University Athletics Hall of Fame in 1994.

Off the basketball court, Alexander found professional success serving the citizens of Summit County. In addition to his tenure at Summit County Juvenile Court, Alexander has served as a member of the Akron Public School Board since 2009.

To learn more about the Akron Public Schools Athletic Hall of Fame call 330-761-2813 or visit, <https://www.akronschools.com/departments/athletics>.



The Court Reporter is a publication of Summit County Juvenile Court, located at 650 Dan Street, Akron, Ohio 44310.

Summit County Juvenile Court strives to serve the best interests of Summit County children through outreach, early intervention, community education and innovative programming, while administering justice fairly to those whose lives are impacted by the juvenile justice system.

For more information about the topics covered in this edition call, 330-643-2904.

juvenilecourt.summitoh.net