

Fall 2016



Hartford Community Court News & Updates

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Produced by Chris Pleasanton



COMMUNITY SERVICE 2016

The Hartford Community Court
summer 2016 community
service projects (see more on
pages 5 & 6)

JUDGE GEATHERS TO SERVE AGAIN

The Hartford Community Court is pleased to announce that the Hon. Tammy Geathers has been assigned to serve another one-year term as the presiding judge of the Hartford Community Court. Judge Geathers has served in this post since September 2015.

"I am very pleased to stay at the Hartford Community Court," Judge Geathers said. "I have a vision to continue to improve upon this court and expand our long history of success."

Judge Geathers continued: "I intend to raise the standard of accountability to meaningfully meet the expectations of the communities we serve. We also need to strive to provide quality service opportunities for our defendants. Many need help and ignoring those needs does a disservice to them. The Community Court will also be a place of respect in the way we treat defendants and in the standards of conduct we expect in the courthouse from the public and staff alike."

Longtime Hartford Community Court judge, the Hon. Raymond R. Norko, who is now a judge trial referee will continue to serve at the Hartford Community Court, both by sitting on the bench each Tuesday and providing his experience in an advisory capacity.



Honorable Tammy Geathers

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Judge Geathers	1
Statistics & Community Justice 2016	2
HPD Cadets Visit, HFD Fire Prevention	3
Nancy Hunter & Elizabeth Rosa Honored	4
Summer 2016 Community Service Projects	5 - 6
Community Service Sites	7

Community Court Statistics

	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	TOTALS
Total Arraignments	429	414	365	349	1,557
Community Service Hours	1,992	2,458	2,227	2,346	9,023
Value of CS (\$9.15 Min Wage)	\$18,226	\$22,490	\$20,377	\$21,465	\$82,558
Social Service Referrals non DMHAS	39	41	33	9	122
Appearance Rate	90%	90%	89%	91%	90% AVG
Suburban Caseload	21%	24%	25%	23%	23% AVG

COMMUNITY JUSTICE 2016

The 2016 Community Justice International Summit was held in Chicago from April 13 to April 15. Guests and speakers attended from all over the United States and from countries including Australia, England, Mexico, Israel and Canada among many others. The Hartford Community Court was invited to participate by the Center for Court Innovation and the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance along with fellow Mentor Courts from Dallas, Texas, Orange County and San Francisco, California.

The Hartford Community Court was represented by Judicial Branch Program Manager Chris Pleasanton and Community Partners in Action Program Manager Deborah Barrows. The Division of Criminal Justice was represented by Senior Assistant State's Attorney Tom O'Brien. Each was a featured speaker on panels dealing with court development, community service and procedural justice respectively.



HARTFORD POLICE ACADEMY VISIT

The Hartford Community Court was pleased to host a visit to the court by the recruits from the Hartford Police Academy. The recruits, led by instructor Lt. Christine Mertes, met with Judge Raymond R. Norko for an hour on June 21. Judge Norko discussed the history of the Hartford Community Court, quality of life crime and community policing with the recruits. CPA Field Supervisor Elizabeth Rosa and Judicial Branch Program Manager Chris Pleasanton also spoke with the class.

“I was very impressed by the recruits from the Hartford Police Academy,” Judge Norko. “They are committed to serving their community and I would like to wish them all the best as they become police officers in the near future.”



Judge Norko with the HPD recruits

RAISING FIRE PREVENTION AWARENESS

In August, the Hartford Fire Department and the Hartford Community Court continued a longstanding collaboration to raise fire prevention and safety awareness when Lt. Mario Oquendo ran an informational table in the lobby of the court. Lt. Oquendo was joined by his colleagues, HFD Firefighter Michael Sawyer and HFD Cadet Romona Walters. Together, they provided information on Hartford Fire Department programs and basic fire safety tips to interested members of the public.

“We are very appreciative of the Hartford Fire Department coming to the courthouse to raise fire safety awareness,” Judge Geathers said. “Their efforts have a positive effect on our community and may even help save a life.”

For more information on Hartford Fire Department programs please visit their website at <http://hartford.gov/fire/> or call the Special Services Unit at (860) 757-4520.



(L to r) Lt. Mario Oquendo, HFD Cadet Romona Walters, and Firefighter Michael Sawyer

NANCY HUNTER RECOGNIZED

Nancy Hunter is one of the most important people at Hartford Community Court. That is not an overstatement. As a clinical outreach worker for InterCommunity, Ms. Hunter works in collaboration with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services team on the Jail Diversion Substance Abuse program, known as JDSA, that aims to make fast and direct treatment placements for defendants being arraigned at the Hartford Community Court and GA14 Hartford Superior Court on Lafayette Street. Through her efforts, many dozens of people have been placed in quality treatment programs instead of facing possible incarceration and continued addiction.

Ms. Hunter was recently recognized by the Connecticut Certification Board with the David Powell Lifetime of Service Award for her many years of outstanding work in in this and other programs to help people suffering with substance abuse and mental health illnesses.

“For Nancy Hunter, helping people isn’t just her job, it’s her calling,” Judge Geathers said. “She so richly deserves this recognition and I would like to congratulate her on behalf of the community court.”

(Right) Intercommunity Clinical Outreach Coordinator
Nancy Hunter



ELIZABETH ROSA HONORED

Being a good neighbor is something many of us aspire to. For Elizabeth Rosa, it is a daily reality at the Hartford Community Court. Ms. Rosa, Community Partners in Action crew leader on the court’s community service team, was recently honored by the students of the Adult Education Center in Hartford, located three buildings from the court, for opening our door to the students and making available winter clothes donations. Students were able to select winter coats, hats, gloves, and scarves to keep them warm in winter. The clothes were obtained by CPA through their outreach efforts and staff donations and are given to in-need defendants and local residents.

“Elizabeth’s efforts to help our neighborhood’s students exemplifies the core values of what this court is about community,” Judge Geathers said. “It is also a reflection of Elizabeth’s values of integrity and humanity as a professional and a person.”

(Right) CPA Crew Leader Elizabeth Rosa



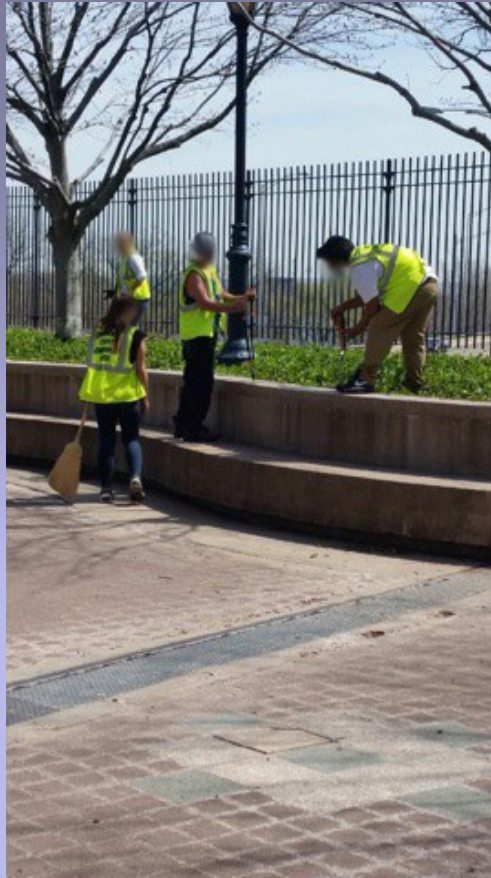
SUMMER 2016 COMMUNITY SERVICE



(Above) Community service crews working in the Earle Street Community Garden (Below Left and center) cleaning in Hyland Park (Right and below right) Helping set-up at the CHS National Community Health Center Day event



SUMMER 2016 COMMUNITY SERVICE



(Left) Cleaning on Park Street., (Middle) Working on the plant beds at Riverfront Recapture (Above Right) CPA Field Supervisor Kristine Velez with Mayor Luke Bronin at South Green Park Flag Day ceremony



(Left right and below)
Cleaning overflowing garbage bins
and debris from city streets

PLEASE NOTE:

All faces obscured to protect the
privacy of the defendants



COMMUNITY SERVICE SITES

June 2016

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 Elizabeth Park Rose Garden, Waverly Street	2 Foodshare, Knox Parks—Earle St. Community Garden	3 Ebony Horsewomen, Riverfront Recapture
6 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Knox Parks—Earle St. Community Garden	7 Ebony Horsewomen, South Green Park w/ DPW, Stonington St., Van Block Ave., Curcombe St.	8 CRT Mobile Foodshare, Elizabeth Park Rose Garden, Russ St., Jefferson St.	9 Foodshare, South Green Park w/ DPW, Plainfield St.	10 Foodshare, Ebony Horsewomen, Sherbrooke Ave., Hillside Ave., Grafton St.
13 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Knox Parks—Earle St. Community Garden	14 Ebony Horsewomen, Riverfront Recapture, Washington St., Foot Wear w/Care	15 Elizabeth Park Rose Garden, Knox Parks—Earle St. Community Garden	16 Foodshare, Knox Parks—Earle St. Community Garden	17 Ebony Horsewomen, Riverfront Recapture
20 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture	21 Holcomb Farm, Washington St., Knox Parks—Earle St. Community Garden, Ebony Horsewomen	22 Foodshare, Elizabeth Park Rose Garden	23 Foodshare, Sherbrooke Ave., Hillside Ave., Grafton St.	24 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture
27 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture,	28 Ebony Horsewomen, Holcomb Farm, Maple Ave., Webster St., Barry Square	29 Elizabeth Park Rose Garden	30 Foodshare, Mark Twain Dr.	

July 2016

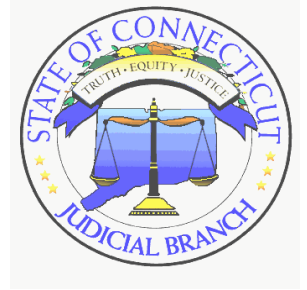
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1 Riverfront Recapture, Knox Parks—Earle St. Community Garden
4 Independence Day	5 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Holcomb Farm, Chestnut St., Walnut St., Sargeant St.	6 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Knox Parks—Earle St. Community Garden, South Green Park	7 Foodshare, South Green Park, Knox Parks—Earle St. Community Garden, Stonington St.	8 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Maple Ave., Washington St., Elizabeth Park Rose Garden
11 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, South Green Park, Ridgefield St.	12 Place of Grace Food Pantry, Tower Ave. Jewish Cemetery, Harriet Beecher Stowe Center	13 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Knox Parks—Earle St. Community Garden, Elizabeth Park	14 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Washington St., Russ St.	15 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Tower Ave. Jewish Cemetery, Hudson St., Webster St.
18 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Bliss St.	19 Foodshare, Holcomb Farm, Benton St.	20 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Elizabeth Park Rose Garden	21 Foodshare, Washington St., Knox Parks—Earle St. Community Garden	22 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Elizabeth Park Rose Garden
25 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Grafton St.	26 Foodshare, Holcomb Farm	27 Foodshare, Foodshare Salvation Army, Elizabeth Park Rose Garden	28 Foodshare, New Park Ave., Maple Ave. Webster St., Barry Square	29 Foodshare, Riverfront Recapture, Washington St. Garden

August 2016

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 Riverfront Recapture, Foodshare	2 Foodshare, Holcomb Farm, Keney Park, Mark Twain House	3 CRT Food Truck, Capen St., Elizabeth Park Rose Garden	4 Foodshare	5 Riverfront Recapture, Foodshare, City-wide trashbag pickup
8 Riverfront Recapture, Foodshare	9 Foodshare, Holcomb Farm	10 Lozada Park, Rusee St., Putnam St. Playground Elizabeth Park Rose Garden	11 CHS Health Fair, Foodshare	12 Riverfront Recapture, Hyland Park w/ DPW, Foodshare
15 Riverfront Recapture, Foodshare	16 Foodshare, Holcomb Farm	17 Charter Oak Health Fair, CRT Food Truck, South Green Park, Elizabeth Park Rose Garden	18 Foodshare	19 Riverfront Recapture, Foodshare
22 Riverfront Recapture, Foodshare	23 Foodshare, Holcomb Farm	24 Elizabeth Park Rose Garden, Tower Ave. Jewish Cemetery	25 Foodshare	26 Riverfront Recapture, Foodshare
29 Riverfront Recapture, Foodshare	30 Foodshare, Holcomb Farm	31 Sigourney St. Playground, Elizabeth Park Rose Garden, South Green Park, CRT Food Truck		

STATE OF CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH

HARTFORD COMMUNITY COURT



FALL 2016 NEWSLETTER

PLEASE VISIT US ON THE WEB: www.jud.ct.gov



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