

MJC QUARTERLY

The Milwaukee Justice Center

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Milwaukee
Justice Center
Courthouse 104J
901. N. 9th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Editor:
Noah Gehling
ctimail@wicourts.gov

MJC Quarterly Inaugural Issue

The Milwaukee Justice Center (MJC) is proud to introduce *MJC Quarterly*, a newsletter where we can share exciting news about the MJC with our volunteers and supporters.

We decided to publish our newsletter in an electronic format so that

noteworthy updates can be easily and widely shared.

In this inaugural issue of *MJC Quarterly*, you will read about the launch of the MJC's user-friendly self-help website, an interview with this edition's featured volunteer, Thomas Neuman, along

with other exciting updates from the Milwaukee Justice Center.

We hope you will enjoy reading our newsletter and find the information useful. Please feel free to contact the MJC. We would love to hear from you, and value your feedback.

Expansion of Access to Justice

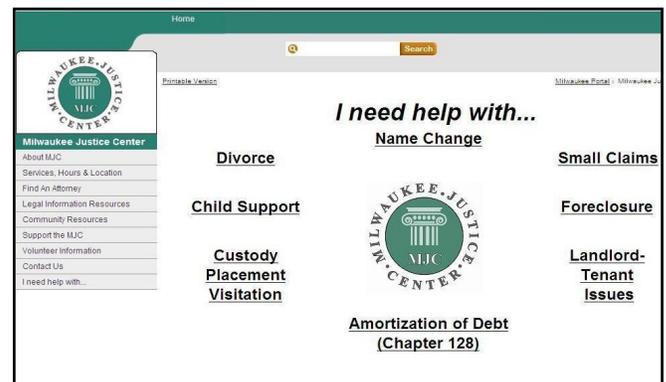
Launch of www.MilwaukeeJusticeCenter.com

By NOAH GEHLING

In October, the MJC announced the release of its user-friendly website, www.milwaukeejusticecenter.com, and it is already receiving thousands of hits each month.

The MJC offers free self-help civil legal assistance to those unable to afford an attorney. The website now offers access to this assistance 24 hours a day online.

"By centralizing this information online, county residents who are unable to come to



A screenshot of the Milwaukee Justice Center website, www.MilwaukeeJusticeCenter.com.

the MJC during operational hours will still be able to access the vital information, forms, and step-by-step checklists from a home computer or a local library," said John Barrett, Milwaukee County Clerk of Circuit Court.

Currently, the website offers information about divorce, child support, custody, small claims, foreclosure, landlord-tenant issues, chapter 128, and name change.



MJC Volunteer Spotlight: Thomas Neuman

By MARY ANN CAVANAGH



*MJC Volunteer
Thomas Neuman,*

Thomas Neuman, of Brookfield, Wisconsin, graduated in May of 2011 with a M.B.A. from Marquette University Graduate School of Management. He completed his undergraduate studies at Marquette University in 2008 with a B.A. in Classical Studies and English Literature.

In addition to being a well-rounded student,

Thomas plays the fiddle and violin in a local country western band and works part-time as an English tutor to foreign exchange students.

How did you learn about the MJC?

My pre-law advisor at Marquette University told me about the opportunity and I began volunteering in June 2010.

In what capacity do you volunteer at the MJC?

I volunteer 10 hours per month at the Self-Help Desk where I assist self-represented litigants in properly filling out Family Law forms.

What compels you to volunteer?

I thoroughly enjoy helping others in a hands-on way. It is a wonderful

give and get cycle – I give my time and knowledge of the legal process and gain the wonderful satisfaction that I helped another person.

How has this been a rewarding experience for you?

It is immensely rewarding because I learn how the legal process works, where improvement is needed and I get a glimpse into the lives of other people.

What has been challenging about this experience?

This has been challenging insofar that you're working with people on sensitive and emotional topics – you never know what you're going to encounter. Sometimes you see someone breakdown into tears out of sheer frustration and exhaus-

tion. Other times, you get a kindly "thank you" and a handshake.

What are your plans for the future?

I will attend Marquette University Law School in the fall of 2012. Before my experience at the MJC, I planned on studying Business Law. However, I have found Family Law very interesting as well. I'll try my hand at both and see which is a better fit for me.

To Get Involved

For information about volunteer opportunities contact Dawn Caldart, Executive Director of the Milwaukee Justice Center.

ctimail@wicourts.gov

The MJC Now Accepting Online Contributions

By NOAH GEHLING

Making a donation to help support the work of the Milwaukee Justice Center just got easier. As of fall 2010 you can now make contributions online via the Milwaukee Bar Foundation's Pay Pal account. To make an

online donation you can visit the Milwaukee Bar Association's website, www.milwbar.org, and click on the "Justice Center" link to be directed to the Pay Pal form.

All donations are tax deductible and 100% of all

contributions go to fund the Milwaukee Justice Center and the work we do throughout the Milwaukee community.

Please consider making a donation to the Milwaukee Justice Center today!





New Addition to MJC

By NOAH GEHLING



Dayna Frenkel in the MJC's Self-Help Center

Dayna Frenkel, a 2010 graduate of Washington University in Saint Louis School of Law, joined the Milwaukee Justice Center earlier this year.

Frenkel is a deferred Associate at Michael

Best & Friedrich LLP, a partner of the Milwaukee Justice Center. She will be working at the Milwaukee Justice Center throughout 2011.

Frenkel works on administrative programming which will help expand the hours and impact of the Milwaukee Justice Center. She also helps supervise the MJC Family Law Self-Help Desks.

"I'm very excited that this opportunity presented itself, allowing me to get such good experience during my

deferral year," said Frenkel. "The Milwaukee Justice Center is an important addition to the legal services available to low-income self-represented litigants. I am confident that the lessons I learn over this year will make me a better attorney at Michael Best & Friedrich LLP and instill in me a lifelong commitment to pro bono work."

Welcome Dayna!

MJC Releases 2010 Annual Report

The MJC 2010 Annual Report is now available on the MJC website, www.milwaukeejusticecenter.com. The report includes client statistics and demographics, images of the MJC in action, as well both client and volunteer testimonials. Check it out, visit our website today!

Schultz is New Pro Bono Coordinator at Marquette University Law School

By NOAH GEHLING

MJC partner, Marquette University Law School, recently hired Attorney Angela Schultz as their new Student Pro Bono Coordinator.

In her role as Student Pro Bono Coordinator, Schultz supervises and recruits Marquette

University law students to participate in pro bono opportunities available in the greater Milwaukee community, including volunteering at the Milwaukee Justice Center.

Also, Schultz supervises one shift a week

at the MJC Self-Help Desks, and one shift a week at the Marquette Volunteer Legal Clinic at the Milwaukee Justice Center.

Welcome Angela!

Impact of the MJC in 2010

7,514

self-represented litigants assisted

304

volunteers

7,058

pro bono hours

\$630,615

value of volunteer service

Thank you to all our volunteers and supporters!

