



The International Journal on the Reform of Family Courts

The Mongoose

Published by Greg Enos

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The Enos Law Firm

17207 Feather Craft Lane, Webster, Texas 77598

(281) 333-3030 Fax: (281) 488-7775

E-mail: greg@enoslaw.com

Web site: www.divorcereality.com

Please allow your e-mail program to download or view photographs in order to appreciate this special edition.

[Click here](#) for an archive of past issues of *The Mongoose*.



[Click here](#) to download the completely updated and verified 2015 Harris County Court Chart. I have included a list of family courts with their new personnel and locations, a 2015 court calendar and a map to the Harris County court complex.

Effective January 1, 2015 All phone numbers are (713) area code

HARRIS COUNTY FAMILY COURTS - 2015					
Court	Judge	Floor	Phone	Associate Judge	Coordinator
245th	Roy L. Moore	15th	368-3900	James "Jim" Cooper	Rose Diaz 368-5900
246th	Charley Prine	16th	274-4500	Chelsie Ramos	Yolanda Harris 274-4505
247th	John Schmude	15th	368-6570	Paula Vlahakos	Pamela Hunt 368-6570
257th	Judy Warne	16th	274-4560	Deborah Paterson	Melissa Parker 274-4564
280th	Lynn Bradshaw-Hull	15th	368-6420	No A.J.	Susan Lindemann 368-6429
308th	James Lombardino	8th	274-4600	Alyssa Lenkuil	Norma O'valle 274-4600
309th	Sheri Y. Dean	16th	274-4520	Beverly Malazzo	Madeline Russell 274-4520
310th	Lisa Millard	15th	368-6550	Conrad Moren	Molly Nguyen 368-6553
311th	Alidia Franklin	8th	274-4580	Meca Walker	Victor Almdarez 274-4583
312th	David Farr	16th	274-4540	Eileen Gaffney	Pat Plotkin 274-4540

All family courts are in the Civil Courthouse, 201 Caroline, Houston, TX

[Click here](#) to download all of the articles on legal topics printed in The Mongoose in 2014.

This newsletter tells the tale of this amazing year in Houston family law using photographs and art from the 26 issues of *The Mongoose* published in 2014. All year, I tried to write about family law and the need for reform in a way that was accurate, fair and occasionally humorous. I often worried about how my writing would effect people but I usually really enjoyed myself and had a lot of fun.

This year was a great year for me personally in ways far more important

I WOULD LIKE TO APOLOGIZE TO ANY ONE I HAVE NOT OFFENEDED. PLEASE BE PATIENT. I WILL GET TO YOU SHORTLY.

"Together, attorneys can improve our family courts!"

In this Issue....

[2015 Harris County Court Chart](#)

[Legal Articles Published in The Mongoose in 2014](#)

[2014 in Review As Told by Photographs and Art Work in The Mongoose - Part 1](#)



Part 2 - More 2014 in Review As Told by Photographs and Art Work in *The Mongoose*

I received support and tips from lawyers and judges all year. More and more attorneys were willing to speak out against improper and unethical behavior.



than my efforts to reform the family courts. In January, my grandson was born. I am so very proud of my daughter Catherine, who is now my firm office manager (which allows us to see little Colton almost every day). My son-in-law is a police officer and his perspective is what kept me from going to Ferguson, Missouri to join the protests (oh, and I really wanted to!).



In December, I married my amazing Toni, who supports and/or tolerates my many time consuming interests, including this newsletter. We live and work together and we share many mutual interests and a busy family of boys and dogs. Toni is the #1 reason I am always smiling!



I spent most of my time in 2014 helping to raise boys, dogs and reptiles and occasionally I practiced law.



The Mongoose doesn't just print stories of scandal and sordid ethical lapses. I printed 26 legal articles in 2014 on topics ranging from "Splitting Custody of Siblings" to "Are Pleadings Even Needed in Family Court?" Each article was carefully researched and edited. [Click here](#) to download an index with hyperlinks to all of my 2014 legal articles and forms.

My reporting convinced one associate judge running for judge to return \$20,000 in illegal campaign contributions and persuaded another lawyer to stop calling herself "judge" in her on-line listings, even though she will now be an associate judge starting January 1.

2014 was a year when attorneys, courts and the clerks all mastered the art of electronic filing. "Going digital" was a rough transition, but we made it and it mostly works now. We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to our awesome District Clerks, Chris Daniel and John Kinard. My entire family helped campaign for Mr. Daniel.



In fact, throughout the year, I did my best to help steer the Republican party in the right direction.



In April, I went "all in" and mailed a special print edition of The Mongoose to all Galveston County Republican primary voters to make sure they were educated about the primary run-off election. To my delight, the voters selected the best candidates.



Bill Morris was awarded the David Gibson Award for Professionalism by the Gulf Coast Family Law Specialists. The annual award honors family law attorneys who exemplify excellence in family law, and Morris certainly does that!



I spent many hours writing this newsletter but probably dedicated just as much time to politics, reading many books on history and religion and researching a book I am writing set in London in 1881 (Hint: It was really 11B Robert Adams Street, not 221B Baker Street, where two unlikely flat mates first joined forces, as arranged by older brother "Mycroft" with the help of a former prostitute who changed her name from "Turner" to "Hudson" and became a respectable landlady).



My magnus opus on grandparents' rights and custody cases in Texas is still a work in progress.

I enjoyed 2014 in part because I am so blessed to work with an amazing attorney, mother and friend, **Christina Tillinger**. When our firm does a "good cop, bad cop" routine, Chris always gets to be the "good cop" because everyone likes her so much.



My law firm staff is like a family and they allow me to do what I do, especially **Anna Doyle**, who usually edits this newsletter and greatly tones down my outrage and silliness. At the end of the year, I rented a party bus and took the staff and spouses to dinner and to see the Transiberian Orchestra on the same day they all attended my wedding. We will miss our wonderful paralegal, **Jaclyn Chavez-Cobb**, who is leaving to be the Court Coordinator for the 306th Family District Court in Galveston.

I hope you enjoy this review of what happened in 2014 in the local family courts as told in this newsletter.



Houston family attorneys said "adios" to one of the legends of our profession, Iris Robinson.



I got invited to a fancy, invitation only fundraiser for Alicia Franklin. Rob Clark and I were presented the "Golden Broom" for sweeping Pratt out and clearing the way for Franklin to be appointed judge.



Back when I was a big Alicia Franklin supporter, I did my best to help her campaign (after helping to convince her to switch and run for the 311th). This story and ad ran in my March 24 newsletter.

**Alicia Franklin Fundraiser
Thursday!**

If you really want to see Judge Pratt off the bench, then you should attend Alicia Franklin's fundraiser this Thursday at the Cadillac Bar and you must make the largest political donation of your life. Franklin is winning endorsements from more Republican/Precinct Chairs each day, which is a strong indication of how her support is growing. We all should also send an e-mail blast to all of our clients and our entire contact list explaining to them how important it is to vote for Alicia Franklin, who drew the first position on the runoff ballot. Remember, anyone can vote in the Republican runoff as long as they get registered before the end of April and did not vote in the Democratic primary.

You are invited to a fundraiser
for Alicia Franklin!

Join us to help plan the run-off and a victory for Honorable Franklin!

Alicia Franklin
REPUBLICAN
FOR JUDGE
311th DISTRICT COURT

Location:
Cadillac Bar in the Lavado Room
1882 Shepherd Dr

Time:
Thursday, March 27 from 5:00PM to 9PM

Wine/beer Cash Bar

I had come to know and truly respect John Schumde well before most attorneys were surprised by his primary election success. Now, he has no shortage of admirers. These are Schumde's original campaign supporters.

Greg Enos
The Enos Law Firm

2014 in Review as Told by Photographs and Artwork in *The Mongoose* - Part 1



On December 31, 2013, Judge Denise Pratt shocked the legal world with her "New Year's Eve Massacre" by dismissing hundreds of cases without notice or hearing.



Pratt started to feel the political heat during the Republican primary campaign and was even caught taking flyers exposing her wrong-doing off tables at a Republican event.



Meanwhile, a few attorneys who had made a good living off Pratt contributed to a video extolling Pratt's virtues.



In August, I spoke at the Advanced Family Law Seminar and operated a booth with the help of the world famous Mongoose Girls.



Also in August, I began my campaign against abuse of court appointments in CPS cases and the enormous fees paid to Gary Polland, among others.



To my surprise and sorrow, my research into CPS appointments showed that Alicia Franklin, before she was appointed Judge, had billed impossible hours, billed for lawyer work after she became a judge and improperly asked to be "re-elected." I wrote about these problems and Judge Franklin promptly changed her campaign literature but refused to admit any wrongdoing regarding her ad litem billing.



My investigative journalism helped explain some of Pratt's worst actions, including altering an order after the attorneys had approved it and taking away a mother's visitation without notice or hearing:

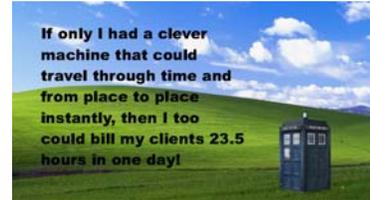
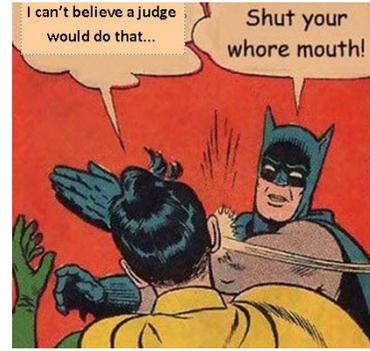
When asked why Judge Pratt would then scratch out all of the mother's agreed periods of visitation in that order on two different pages of the order, [Pratt's criminal defense attorney, Terry] Yates had an easy answer. "George Clevenger and Ronnie Harrison were in the judge's chambers as they often are," said Yates. "Those hard working, dedicated attorneys were counting and rubber banding stacks of cash and got a little silly and started singing the 'Oompa Loompa' song from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and that distracted the judge, who then accidentally scratched out several pages of visitation rights for this mother. Judge Pratt went ahead and initialed those accidental changes because she assumed the mother probably did not deserve to see her child any way - she is an unmarried woman working outside the home after all." Yates explained that the wording of the body of the order, which took away the mother's visitation without hearing or evidence or even a request from the father, would control over the inadvertent change of "temporary" to "final" in the title of the order. [Note: In case you did not figure it out, the above was satirical fiction].



This newsletter sparked an unprecedented revolt against an incumbent judge.



In March, I organized a very fun protest at the Republican County convention



All year, the *Houston Chronicle* reported about my work and I in return reported on what the *Chronicle* was saying.



Franklin's defense boiled down to "everyone does it." Teenagers everywhere rejoiced with hope that thinking adults might possibly accept that excuse.

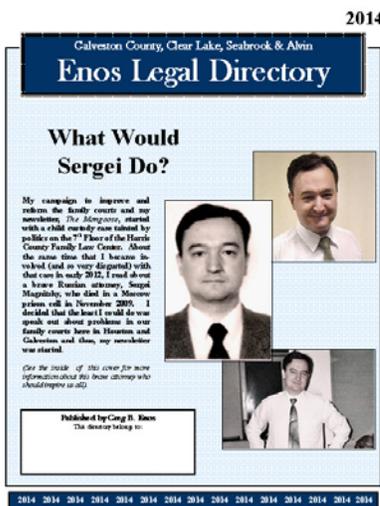


(I am the handsome fellow in the Lincoln costume).



My criminal complaints against Franklin and Pollard are apparently being ignored by their pal, D.A. Devon Anderson, who would recuse herself if she had a shred of integrity. At least, the amount spent by Harris County on CPS appointments decreased sharply after I started my reporting. Three ethical judges adopted new rules to make sure such abuse could not happen in their courts. Other judges decided to let their special pets continue to feed at the taxpayer trough.

In April, I published my 18th annual *Enos Legal Directory* for Galveston County and Clear Lake. You can find a copy on the desks of all of the court coordinators and judges in Galveston County.



After the November General Election, I reported on the appointment of new Associate Judges. I praised Charley Prine's selection of Chelsie Ramos as his A.J. and I invited her for a ride in my kayak in a desperate bid to make her forget about riding in Bobby Newman's owned jet.

Finally, at the end of March, Judge Pratt resigned rather than face indictment on a criminal charge that resulted from witnesses I provided the District Attorney after they found me via *The Mongoose*. District Attorney Devon Anderson at first fibbed, then admitted she had made Pratt a sweet-heart deal no regular citizen would ever have received: resign and face no criminal charges.



HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Oversize Mongoose Prowls Courts

More than half a million residents at 141 Super stores owned by Speer's may have had critical financial information stolen in a sophisticated computer scam that persisted for a year and a half, the company announced Friday.

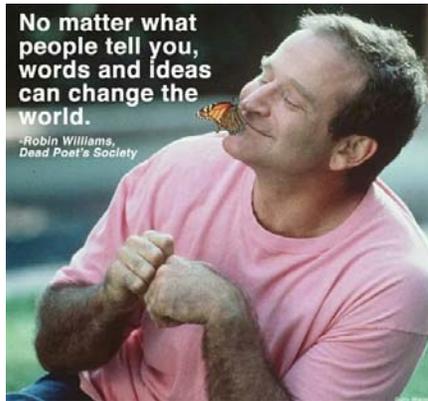


Embattled judge quits under cloud

Facing inquiry, Pratt decides to end her bid for re-election

Under investigation by Harris County prosecutors for dismissing hundreds of cases without notice, embattled family court judge Denise Pratt resigned Friday, abruptly ending her re-election bid.

In the battle with Pratt, I never lost faith that the power of words and the truth could make our justice system better.



In April, I organized the first ever political fundraising CLE event and funded a PAC that had real influence in Galveston County (every candidate this PAC endorsed won - in Harris County as well). Over 200 lawyers attended my "Ultimate Property Division" seminar and no one took me up on my offer to refund the seminar fee if they did not think it was one of the most useful, practical seminars they had ever attended. I wrote all of the articles for this seminar, which you can download by clicking here.



This PAC has since gone rogue, changed its name, cut all ties with me and is steering a very independent course.

In May, I wrote about the horribly nasty race for the 212th District Court in Galveston County. I explained how Governor Perry appointed Bret Griffin judge over the objection of State Senator Larry Taylor and how a staggering amount of money was being funneled into the race by plaintiff's attorneys, including Tony Buzbee, and by business groups who claim to fight "lawsuit abuse." Griffin ended up in the primary runoff against Patricia Grady. Mrs. Grady won this race despite a series of horribly false mailers sent by a mystery PAC from Georgia and even though Mr. Buzbee bused his mass tort clients to the polls to vote in the Republican primary.

post-judgment motions; and because of a reborn amicus attorney who eventually did everything a child's advocate could do and more (unlike the first 18 months of his service on the case).

At the end of the year, the Houston Family Bar said "good bye" to retiring Judges Jim York, Bonnie Hellums, Michael Hay and Bob Newey.



In Galveston County, we bid farewell to Judges Kerri Foley and Jan Yarbrough.



In my last Mongoose in December, I promised to return in January with a vengeance. I plan to start by discussing attorneys who are allowed to practice law in courts where their spouses are a judge. Stay tuned because I have a lot more to say and do in 2015!



I hear from attorneys, litigants and court personnel all the time with story ideas. Please e-mail me at greg@enoslaw.com if you have a suggestion for an article or information on unethical or illegal activity in the family courts. I do not name or quote my sources.

I was accused of being anti-semitic by Judge Pratt supporters because of the photograph I include in every newsletter showing a German shipyard worker refusing to join in the Nazi salute. I told the poignant tale of brave August Landmesser and his love for a Jewish woman that ended in their deaths in my February 17, 2014 newsletter.

