

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Senior Application Support Specialist Sruthi Raghunathan  
Named 2020 Judicial Branch Employee of the Year**

Sruthi Raghunathan, Senior Application Support Specialist with the Judicial Information Center, has been selected as the Judicial Branch's 2020 Employee of the Year.

Sruthi, who was also named the Administrative Office of the Courts 2020 Employee of the Year, has been working under the Process Improvement Manager for 2 years and has proved to be a key component of JIC's delivery of services to the Delaware Courts.

According to her nominator, Sruthi's sheer determination to complete a task, assignment, or project is evident in the work she performs. Her job role goes far beyond that of the average Business Analyst. Because of her eagerness to learn new things and her demonstrated success in tackling varied issues, Sruthi has become the "go-to" person in JIC. From Desktop Support to development changes and from conception to implementation, Sruthi is a true team player and a highly valued asset, not only to AOC/JIC, but to the entire Judicial Branch.

Sruthi's enthusiastic customer service is beyond reproach. One example is when she was directed to work on the Courts' Case Management System (CMS). To get a better understanding of this important system, Sruthi learned as much as she could about the old Case Management System and then developed scripts for more than 100 forms. Sruthi has also performed Information Technology troubleshooting, configuration, and debugging. But Sruthi's perseverance and grit really shone when she executed more than 100 test scenarios for the Contexte system. Sruthi goes above and beyond to provide excellent customer service, and she has demonstrated an outstanding ability to work as part of a team both within the Courts and with other State agencies. Sruthi also goes outside her normal duties by providing production application support for the Courts, assisting the Help Desk, Application Support and Operation Teams.

The Delaware Judiciary congratulates Sruthi on this well-deserved recognition and her name will now be forwarded to the Governor for consideration for the Delaware Award for Excellence and Commitment in State Service.

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We also want to recognize the following employees who were nominated for the Judicial Branch's Employee of the Year Award:

**Annette Ashley, Prothonotary, Superior Court.** According to her nominator, there really are not enough words in the world to describe what an asset Annette is to Superior Court. Annette never misses a beat no matter what is thrown at her. When the COVID-19 pandemic began, Annette adapted quickly by changing court schedules, reorganizing staff, managing technology challenges and even implementing a

cleaning schedule within her office, which she personally performs including wiping down the front counter, phones and door handles to keep employees healthy. Annette always responds quickly to a problem and the professionalism and compassion she shows motivates the entire staff immensely. Annette goes above and beyond what a supervisor needs to do and exemplifies what a Superior Court employee should be.

**Lori Moritz, Management Analyst III, Family Court.** According to her Court, Lori has done an excellent job being flexible and pitching in where needed throughout the COVID crisis. This includes agreeing to serve as point of contact to receive filings from all attorneys statewide until new mailboxes were set up, and going in during off hours/weekends to get other projects completed on time. Lori also volunteered to pick up loaner devices from DTI and deliver them to our Courthouses so multiple staff did not need to go and get them individually. This was not only an efficiency, but also an effort to keep everyone healthy by minimizing travel and contact.

**Whitney Frame, Staff Attorney, Court of Common Pleas.** According to her Court, in March of 2020 as COVID-19 began to impact the Court, Whitney stepped up without hesitation to lead the efforts to begin holding essential Court events virtually. She spent many hours testing courtroom A/V equipment and assisting the Court in its initial efforts to hear incarcerated preliminary hearing and bail hearings remotely. Whitney also served as the Court's liaison to the Department of Corrections and other justice partners on procedures for remote proceedings and was an integral part of ongoing planning. She did all this while continuing to support the Court in her role as staff attorney.

**Zoe Carter, Human Resources Specialist III, Justice of the Peace Court.** According to her Court, Zoe was selected because of her outstanding perseverance and accomplishment against great odds and difficulties in 2020. Just prior to the pandemic, Zoe took the lead responsibility for handling Human Resources in addition to her regular responsibilities due to a vacancy in the HR Manager position. She made sure that employees were paid, received their benefits and managed leaves that were necessitated by the stay at home orders and closings. Throughout this challenging time she remained positive and focused to make sure that the employees' needs were met so they could focus on the business of the court.