



## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

JUDICIAL AND COURT OPERATIONS  
SERVICES DIVISION

CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

### Beyond the Bench XXII

## Improving Justice for Children and Families: *The Legacy of Clarence Earl Gideon*

**Save-the-Dates: December 2-4, 2013**



Beyond the Bench brings together judicial officers, court professionals, social workers, probation officers, attorneys, educators, and others working with families & children coming to court. The conference is funded by registration fees, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, foundations and other agencies.

**Location:** Marriott Hotel, Anaheim, California  
**Conference and Hotel Registration:** Open in September

**Continuing Education Offered:** MCLE, Court Education Hours (for Judicial Officers and Court Staff), BBS, PSY, STC (pending approval)

**Call for Workshops:** If you are interested in presenting a workshop at Beyond the Bench, please click this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BTBXXIIPresenterForm> *Only online submissions will be considered. Deadline for Proposals is July 29, 2013. We encourage early submission.*

*This year marks the 50th anniversary of **Gideon v. Wainwright**. The case has continuing relevance today because it speaks to us about fairness, about the importance of the courts, and what is necessary for meaningful access to justice for all – not only in criminal proceedings, but in juvenile, family, and other court proceedings. Clarence Earl Gideon was a 50-year old man in Florida. He was arrested for breaking and entering a pool hall and stealing cash. When he went to court, he asked for an attorney and was denied one. He had an 8th grade education – he was a school dropout and juvenile delinquent; he was married numerous times and failed to pay child support; and he lost his children to the child welfare system. The jury convicted him and he was sentenced to state prison for five years. From prison, he wrote to the United States Supreme Court asking them to hear his case. He was appointed a pro bono attorney. The Supreme Court heard him and found that his trial without a lawyer violated the United States Constitution. At his retrial, this time with an attorney, the jury deliberated one hour and Mr. Gideon walked out of the courtroom a free man.*

*Mr. Gideon . . . stands for many things, including the duty to provide meaningful access to justice for all.*

Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye