



News Release

FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge
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COURT COLORING BOOK PLAYS ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT IN KOSOVO

Chief Judge Victoria A. Rossetti is proud and excited to announce that the Coloring Book Project undertaken a number of years ago by the Circuit Court of Lake County is still impacting youth – this time, however, outside of Lake County.

Late last year Robert Zastany, Executive Director of the Administrative Office of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, volunteered to work with trial courts in Kosovo. This was Bob's second year that he had volunteered to participate in the Kosovo Justice Support Program, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and was assigned to the Municipal Court of Prizren and the Gjakova Municipal Court in Kosovo.

One of the goals of the trial courts was to develop outreach programs to the citizens of the country. A target group that Bob worked on with project staff was a coloring book geared toward second graders. Capitalizing on the efforts of judges and staff here in Lake County, the materials were modified to meet the learning objectives of the Kosovo judiciary and the Ministry of Education. University art students were given the opportunity to compete in the creation of the coloring books, and Bob was actually one of the judges who evaluated the entries.

The coloring book series entitled "***Learning About Justice***" was designed to help young children understand the basic principles of their democratic government and the important role that courts play in the foundation of their society. The coloring book series consists of three separate books that address core education themes –

“Learning About Responsibility” addresses legal rights and shared responsibility of all citizens to adhere to laws, honor agreements, obligations and debts.

“Learning About Judges” displays the judicial system and the courts, as well as professional ethics, accountability, and impartiality.

“Learning About Law” informs students about the Constitution and laws which protect rights and freedoms for all citizens.



Learning About Responsibility



Learning About Judges



Learning About Law

The coloring books were produced in 2010 by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) for the USAID Justice Support Program in Kosovo. The series was adapted from **Law Day U.S.A.**, of the Circuit Court of Lake County

The debut of the coloring books took place on June 1st, International Children’s Day. The National Center for State Courts provided funding for shipment of over 5,000 boxes of Crayola crayon sets donated by supporters from the U.S. and Europe. U.S. Ambassador to Kosovo Christopher Dell praised the program and encouraged the presiding judges and court administrators in Kosovo to continue their public education initiatives. By fall 2010, the outreach program will have distributed an additional 5,000 coloring books to schools in urban and rural areas.

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