

IN MEMORIAM

AJA member **William J. Obermiller**, retired judge of the Whiting City Court (Illinois), died on August 14 following a stroke. He was 77 years old. Judge Obermiller became known as the “spanking judge” for ordering a bailiff to spank a teen-age boy appearing before his court for calling his mother “an idiot.” He also focused on interventions with juveniles’ parents and schools, avoided sentencing defendants to jail if possible, and often gave reading and essay assignments as terms of probation.

Long-time AJA member **Judge James Lopez “Skiz” Watson**, of the United States Court of International Trade, died of cancer in his Harlem home on September 2. He was 79 years old. Judge Lopez spent 35 years on the federal bench and was known as the nation’s most senior African-American federal judge. He was appointed to the bench by President Lyndon Johnson in 1966 and served as a state senator. He was elected to the New York City Civil Court in 1963. 

Future Conferences

2002 Midyear Meeting

Biloxi, Mississippi • April 18-20
Beau Rivage Resort & Casino
(\$119.00 single or double)

2002 Annual Meeting

Maui, Hawaii • September 8-13
The Westin Maui
(\$155 single or double – golf/mountain view;
\$169.00 single or double – ocean view)

2003 Midyear Meeting

Billings, Montana
(Dates and hotel to be determined)

2003 Annual Conference

Montreal, Quebec
(Dates and hotel to be determined)

Survey of Judicial Salaries Available Online

The National Center for State Courts’ Knowledge Management Office has posted the summer 2001 *Survey of Judicial Salaries* (volume 26, issue 2) on the Web at www.ncsc.dni.us/is/summer2001.pdf. The *Survey* is current through July 2001. Here’s a summary of the results:

- Salaries of chief justices range from \$90,842 to \$170,312, with a mean of \$123,363 and a median of \$120,924.
- Salaries of associate justices of the highest courts range from \$89,381 to \$162,409, with a mean of \$119,343 and a median of \$116,357.
- Salaries of judges of intermediate appellate courts range from \$85,887 to

\$152,260, with a mean of \$117,130 and a median of \$112,908.

- Salaries of judges of general jurisdiction trial courts range from \$81,593 to \$137,165, with a mean of \$106,656 and a median of \$104,149.
- Salaries of state court administrators range from \$73,000 to \$160,000 with a mean of \$104,319 and a median of \$101,714.

The *Survey* offers detailed tables that list judicial salaries by state for all levels of courts. State rankings are featured, as well. For more information on the *Survey of Judicial Salaries*, contact Betsy Foard at (757) 259-1566 or by e-mail at infoservice@ncsc.dni.us. 