

AJA BENCHMARK

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AJA Says “Aloha” from Maui

Education in paradise! That’s the best way to describe the AJA’s Annual Educational Conference, when 170 judges from all across the United States and Canada convened in Maui from September 8 to 13, 2002. One of the best attended conferences in recent AJA history, this conference boasted 15.75 hours of continuing judicial education credit, with even more hours of fun in the sun.

The conference officially began on Sunday evening with a welcome reception for 15 new members and 37 first-conference attendees, their spouses, and guests. There were also eight invited guests from the National Association for Court Management, Conference of Chief Justices, National College of Probate Judges, National Association of State Judicial Educators, National Court Reporters Association, and National Center for State Courts.

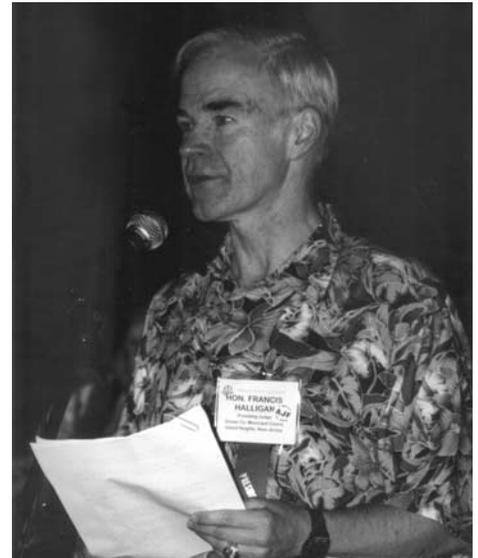
On Monday, while spouses and guests enjoyed a sightseeing tour to Old Lahaina, the Iao Valley, the Maui Tropical Plantation, and the Maui Ocean Center, the judges turned out in record numbers to hear a three-hour morning program on jury reform. A panel consisting of two judges, a law professor, and a former juror delivered a very thought provoking presentation on the challenges and issues facing jurors and the jury system in general. Judge Marie Milks from the circuit court in Honolulu entertained, enlightened, and educated the judicial audience with her keynote address at Monday’s luncheon on “Queen Kaahumanu, Innovator of Legal, Political, and Social Change.” For the remainder of the afternoon, the judges enjoyed Professor Charles

Whitebread’s U.S. Supreme Court update, delivered with his usual charm and humor, followed by a look at judicial burnout.

Several vendors displayed products and services of unique interest to judges at the vendor show on Tuesday.

The Second Annual Golf Tournament began at noon and was declared an overwhelming success by tournament host Michael Cicconetti, who coordinated the tournament for 26 participants. The putting contest was difficult for all participants due to the unique grass, but three judges emerged as winners: Judge Ed Kidd captured first place, followed by Judge Jim Van Winkle in second and Michael Cicconetti in third. A very well attended and received program on the effects of violence on children followed later in the afternoon. To close out the evening, participants enjoyed a spectacu-

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AJA’s new president, Judge Francis Halligan

AJA Elects New Officers at Maui Conference

Judge Francis X. Halligan, Jr., of New Jersey, became the new president of the American Judges Association at the 2002 Annual Conference on Maui. He replaces Judge Bonnie Sudderth, of Texas, who will serve as immediate past president. AJA’s new president-elect is Judge Michael R. McAdam, of Missouri, who previously served as first vice-president.

AJA’s new first vice-president is Judge Gayle Nachtigal, of Oregon, and the new second vice-president is Judge Michael Cicconetti, of Ohio. Judge Steve Leben, of Kansas, was elected secretary.

Judge Harold V. Froehlich, of Wisconsin, will continue as AJA’s treasurer. 