

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY MIDDLESEX VICINAGE

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For immediate release: March 30, 2011

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Middlesex Vicinage Celebrates 50th Anniversary of Employee Carol Dooley

New Brunswick, NJ – A luncheon marking the 50th anniversary of Carol Dooley's employment with the Judiciary will be held on April 1 from noon to 2 p.m. in the jury room of the main Middlesex County Courthouse, 56 Paterson St., New Brunswick. Reporters and photographers are invited to cover the event"

Dooley, the assistant family division manager, has seen many changes in the courts during her half century of service.

When she began working in the Middlesex County Courthouse, John F. Kennedy was in the White House, the cost of a stamp was 4 cents and Bobby Darin's "Tossin' And Turnin'" topped the charts.

But one thing has remained constant: Dooley's still on the job, although it's not the same one she had when she began in 1961.

Dooley began her Judiciary career as a file clerk in the civil division of the old Middlesex County Courthouse, which opened in 1960. There were no security doors or security screening, and employees were not required to wear identification badges.

Court testimony was recorded by hand. The work day was shorter, and the attire was more relaxed. There were typewriters and a telephone switchboard. Docketing and bookkeeping was done by hand.

The civil records office consisted of six people who occupied one third of an office that is now a courtroom. Active cases fit into just five file cabinets. Today, the civil records division takes up two floors of the administration building.

Through the years, Dooley advanced in her career through a variety of jobs, including clerk typist, docket clerk and principal clerk. In 1968, she was the first woman to pass the court clerk test.

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