

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS IN THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

DISTRICT COURT OF MINNESOTA BRANCH

Annual report for the Year Ending June 30, 2014

The District of Minnesota Branch has continued its longstanding “Portraits of Justice” project to preserve the Court’s history through videotaped oral histories of its judges. Production was completed on the taped interview with Senior Judge Richard H. Kyle’s Portrait of Justice. An interview of Magistrate Judge Arthur Boylan was also arranged and completed to mark his retirement. The video was edited and approved by Judge Boylan.

Two subcommittees were created. A display subcommittee is researching topics and formats for a new display for the lobby of the Minneapolis courthouse. A subcommittee was also created to recognize past committee members who have made significant contributions to the committee. The subcommittee will define the criteria for recognition and explore ideas for appropriate gifts.

Legislation was passed to name the Fergus Falls courthouse in honor of the late Judge Edward J. Devitt. A dedication ceremony took place April 22, 2014.

The committee also worked to improve the historical accuracy of the Court’s public website. The succession chart for district court judges was updated to reflect recent changes. A succession chart for the magistrate judges is planned. An out-of-date history of the bankruptcy court was removed and a link was added to a current version.