

Utah County Employee of the Month, January 2011
Julia Thomas-Fishburn - Attorney III
Attorneys Office - Criminal

Julia Thomas deserves to be the Utah County Employee of the Month because she has been a tremendous asset to the citizens of Utah County for the three years she's been working in the Utah County Attorney's Office, Criminal Division, continually going above and beyond her normal duties to make the daily workings of our office coalesce smoothly and efficiently. Despite a full workload in our Special Victims Unit (SVU), she always finds time to help out her co-workers with their tasks. Whether it is volunteering to cover various court hearings or an entire calendar for her SVU colleagues or assisting another attorney with a complicated felony jury trial, Julia exemplifies a Renaissance-woman employee.

When her supervisor is out of the office in court hearings, Julia regularly takes the reins and conducts effective weekly SVU staff meetings, which benefit all who attend. She gets along flawlessly with the defense bar, court personnel, and victims/witnesses alike. Importantly, she selflessly shares her years of experience and appellate insight in trainings and otherwise assisting younger attorneys in their legal development.

She always has an open door. In addition, her quiet confidence inspires those around her to go the extra mile on their own cases, to make victims whole and to keep criminals off the streets. She is usually the first to arrive and the last to leave. More than this, she has exemplified all the skills and qualities of a fair-minded, honest advocate for the most vulnerable victims in our society: children.

Additionally, Julia does all of this amazing work while being a "single mom" of three wonderful kids, since her husband has been living/working in Kentucky for over a year. It really boggles the mind to see how she can juggle so many balls in the air at the same time. We cannot say enough about her. She truly has been a trusted confidant and welcome employee at the Utah County Attorney's Office and we hope she will be with us for a long time to come.

Nominated by Craig Johnson, Rickie Liddiard, and Elizabeth Allen