

Justice in Kansas

Talking Points—

Some Fun Facts from the Guinness Book of World Records

- **The oldest statute:** The earliest surviving judicial code is that of King UR-Hammu during the third dynasty of Ur, (Iraq!), c. 2110 B.C.
- **Most protracted litigation:** Ended in Poona, Indian, on April 28, 1966, when the plaintiff received a favorable judgment on a suit filed by his ancestor 761 years earlier in 1205. The points at issue were the rights of presiding over public functions and festivals.
- **Highest bail:** \$100 billion set on four defendants in the Dade County Courthouse, Miami, FL, on October 16, 1989 in an armed robbery case.
- **Largest suit:** The highest amount of damages ever sought to date is \$675 trillion in a suit brought in the US District Court in New York in 1971 against General Motors and others for polluting all 50 states.
- **Longest sentence ever imposed:** Sentence passed in 1973 in Fairfield, CA, on convicted mass-murderer Juan Corona for killing 25 farm workers in 1970-71 near Yuba City, Ca—25 consecutive life terms.
- **Most successful lawyers:** Sir Lionel Luckhoo, senior partner of Luckhoo and Luckhoo of Georgetown, Guyana, succeeded in getting his 245th successive murder charge acquittal.
- **Best attended trial:** In January 1959 in Havana, Cuba, 17,000 people came to the sports palace to see the trial of a man accused of 108 murders.
- **Lowest Murder rate:** In the Indian state of Sikkim, in the Himalayas, murder is practically unknown, while in the Hunza area of Kashmir, in the Karakoram, only one definite case of murder has been recorded since 1900.
- **Most parking tickets:** Silvia Matos of New York city set a record in unpaid parking tickets totaling \$150,000. She collected 2,800 tickets between 1985 and 1988, but authorities were unable to collect; she registered her car under 19 addresses and 36 license plates and cannot be found.