Connecticut Judicial Branch

COLORING BOOK

An Unlikely Home for Majestic Hawks

In February 2000, two red-tailed hawks* built a bulky nest of branches, sticks and twigs behind an eagle statue on the North side of the Hartford Superior Courthouse. The pair quickly captured the attention of courthouse employees, attorneys, jurors and passersby as they flew through the air to the spot behind the eagle with sticks, twigs, straw and other material in their beaks. By the end of March the female hawk had laid eggs. In early April, on Easter weekend, two baby hawks were hatched, the older a girl, the younger a boy.

The parents took turns guarding the chicks in their nest and flying around the area searching for food. Hawk watchers flocked to see the young hawks grow. Sadly, however, the mother hawk was killed when she flew into a building or a tree while being chased by crows. That left the father to guard the nest and to find food for his young ones—something most thought impossible.

Well Papa Hawk did it because in late May, a few weeks after their mother died, two small heads began popping up from the nest. The chicks were alive and growing.

By mid-June, the girl hawk was fledged—which means, her feathers were completely grown and she flew out of the nest. In bird language young hawks that leave or are forced out of their nests are called fledglings. The young boy hawk soon followed. Though reluctant to leave their home behind the eagle statue, both little hawks finally ventured forth. They could be found hunting for food with their father, perched in a tall pine tree behind the Supreme Court Building a block away, on ledges around the building—even looking at their images in windows.

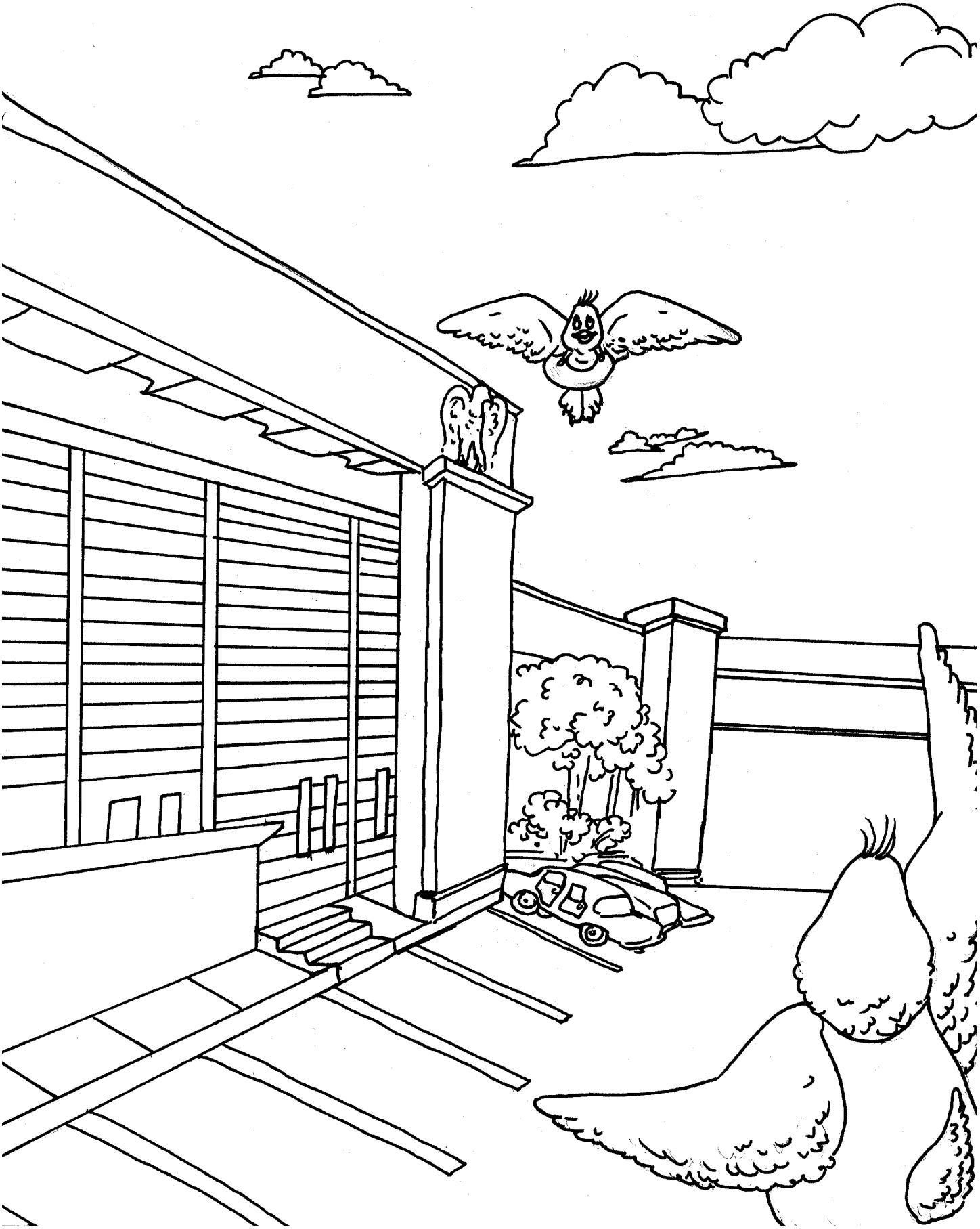
For months their screeches could be heard in the treetops or they could be seen swooping through the sky searching for food.

Since that winter of 2000, red-tailed hawks have adopted the quadrant between the Hartford Superior Courthouse, the Supreme Court and the State Capitol in Hartford.

As a result, the Judicial Branch has chosen the two young hawks as our Courthouse guides. We hope that you enjoy learning about the Judicial Branch through the eyes of Justy, our girl hawk and Fledge, her brother.

* The Red-tailed Hawk is one of the most common hawks and lives in more habitats than any other hawk in North America. Red-tailed hawks get their name from the brick red tails of mature adults, which they get after two or three years.

Fledge and Justy, the Courthouse Hawks.

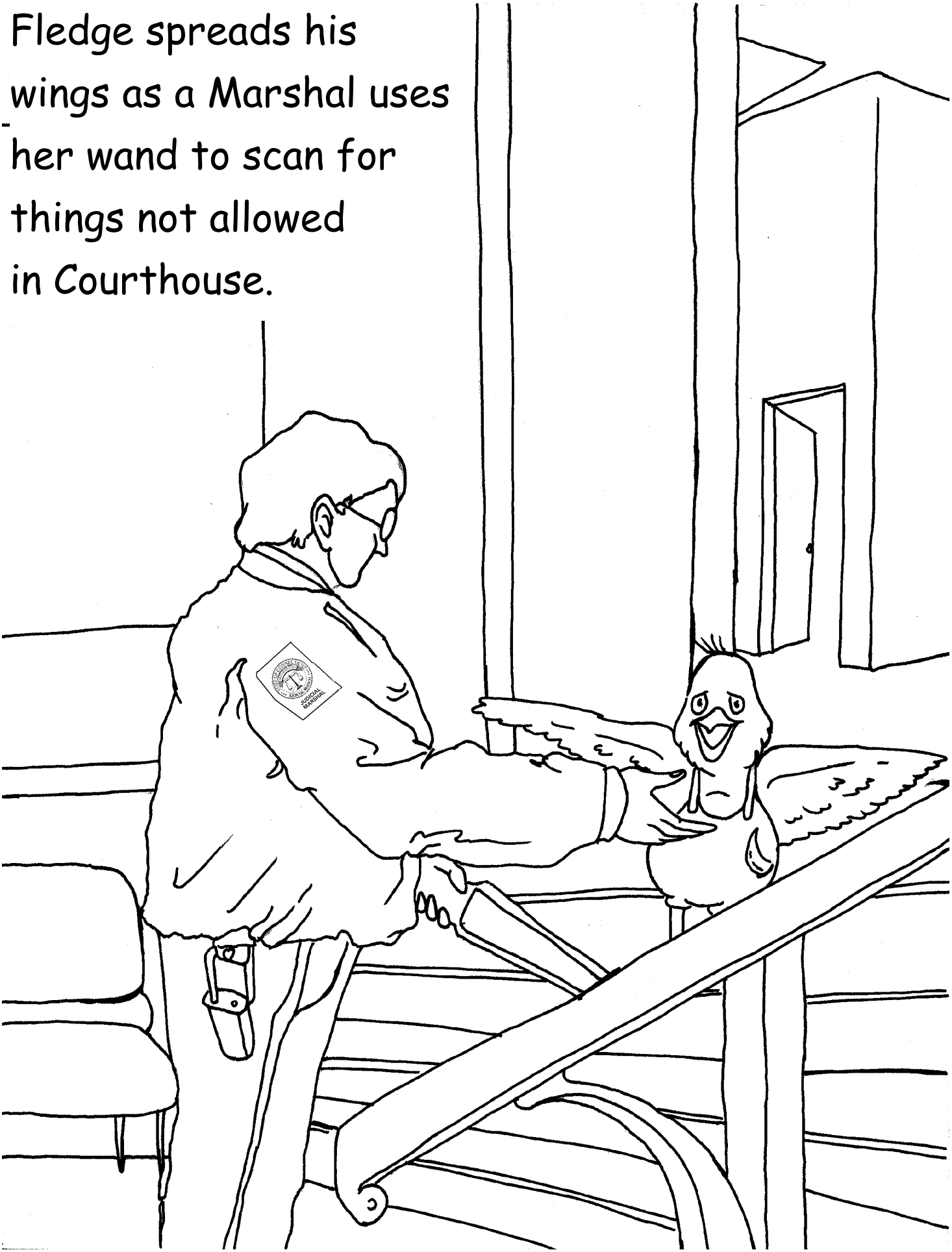


"Come on down, Fledge, it's time to tour the courthouse."

A court marshal greets Justy as she walks through the metal detector.

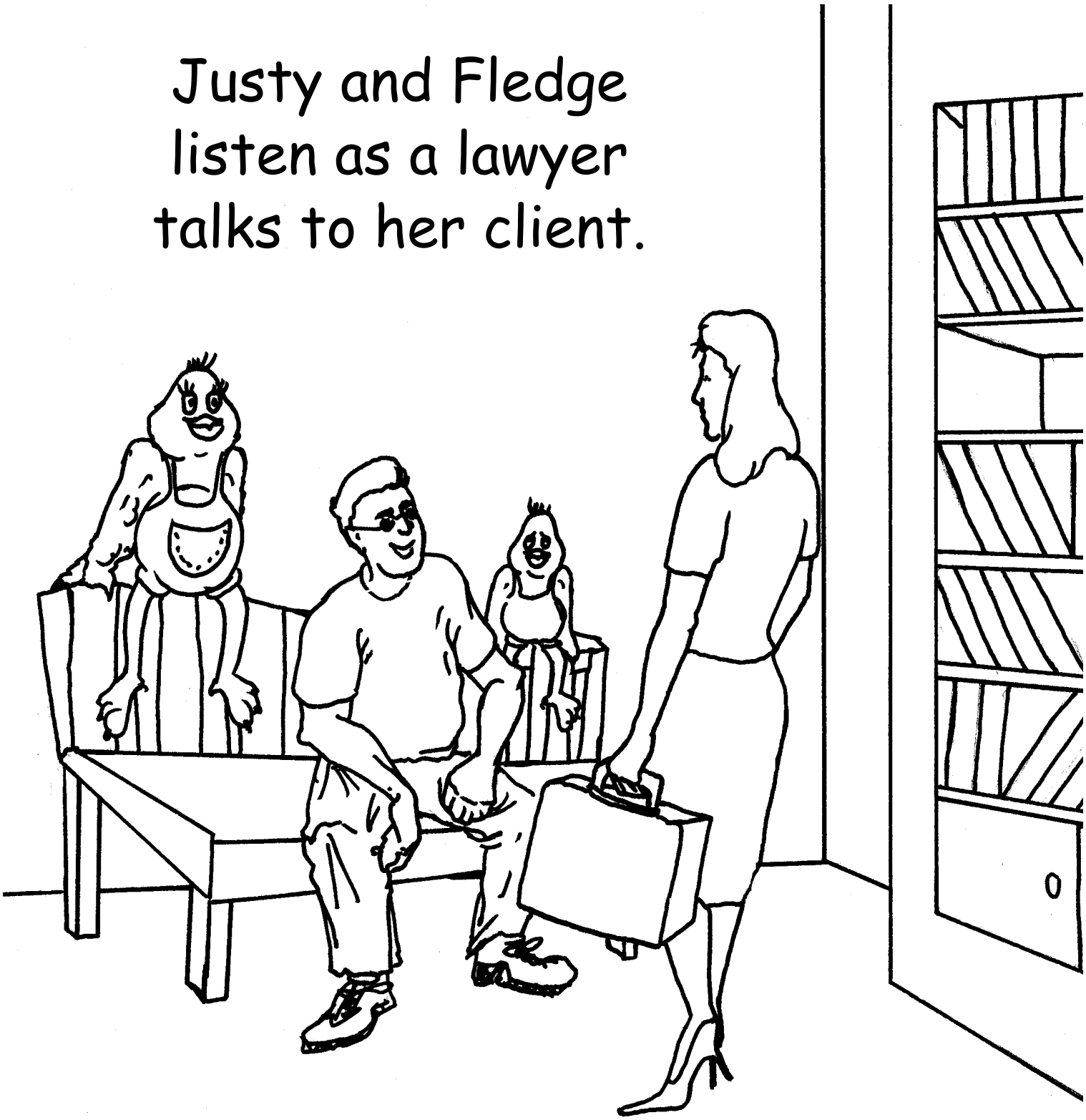
The Marshals make sure things are safe inside the Courthouse.

Fledge spreads his wings as a Marshal uses her wand to scan for things not allowed in Courthouse.



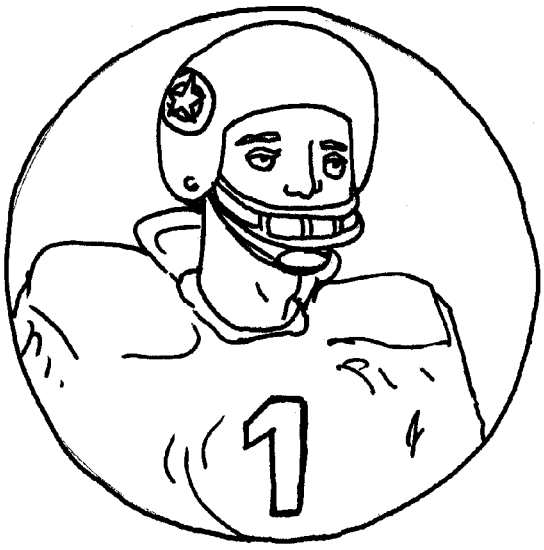
Fledge gives Justy a boost as they ask the clerk for directions.

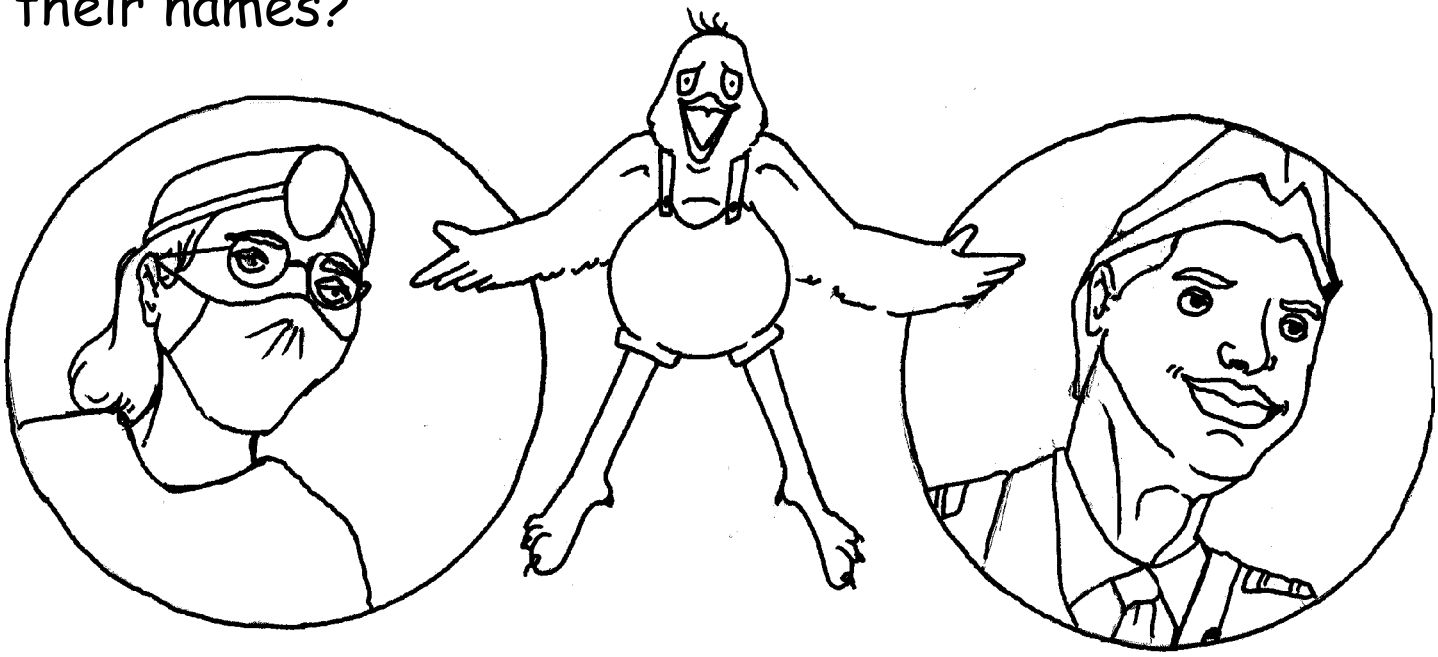
Court Clerks also help Judges with their work in Court.

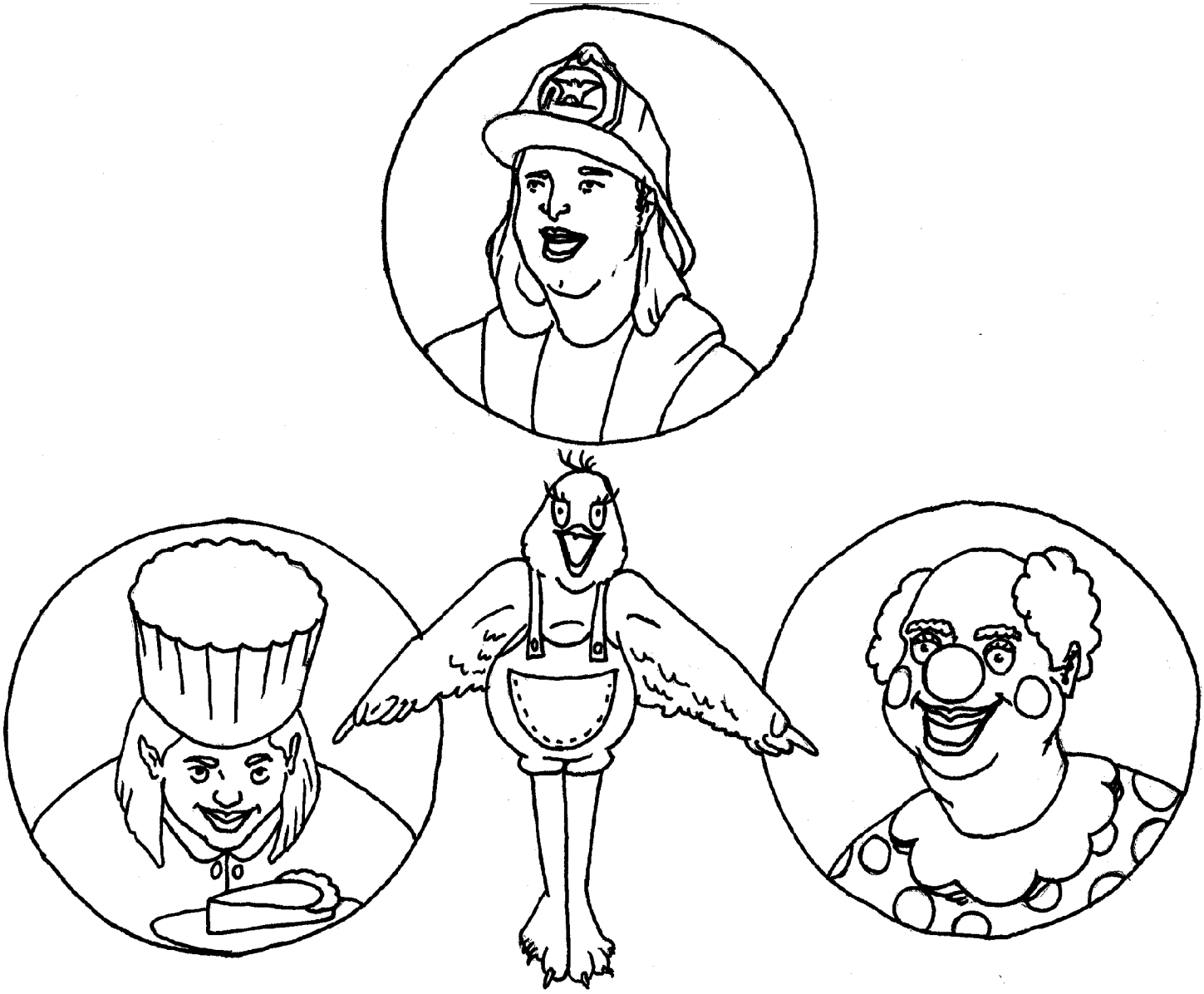


Lawyers work in the Courthouse.

Some people must wear special outfits or uniforms at work. Can you match these with their names?

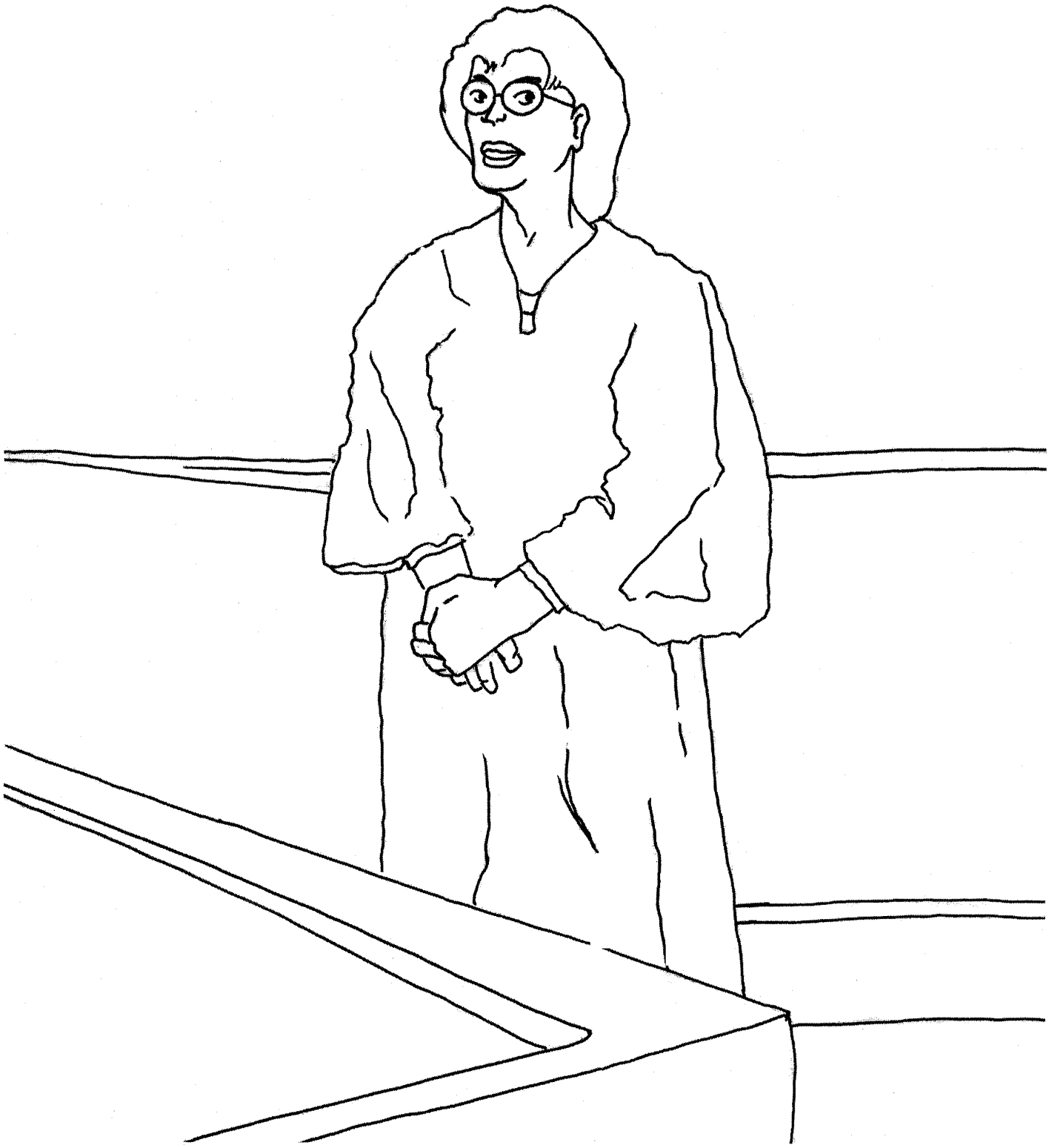




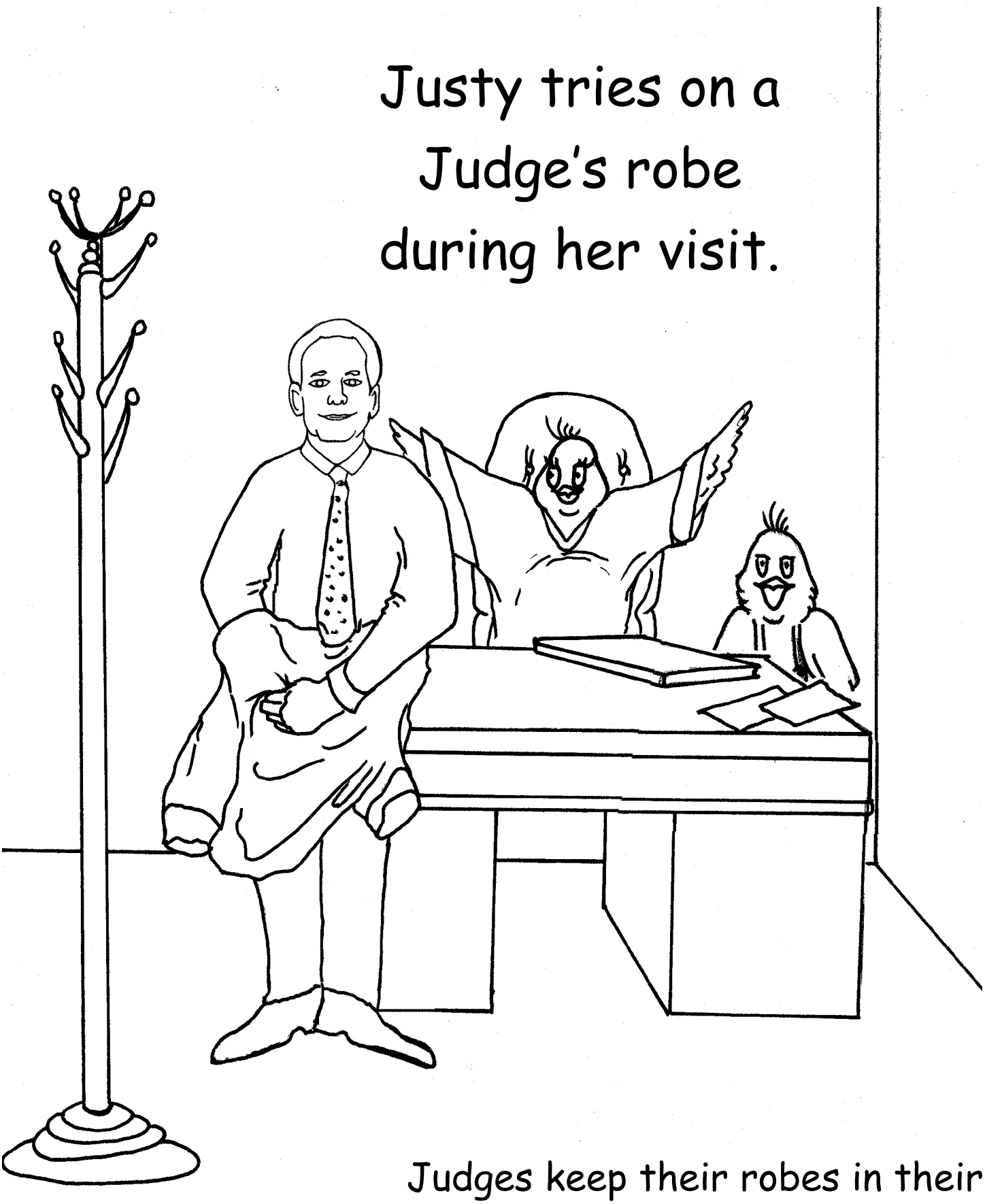


1. Chef
2. Surgeon
3. Clown
4. Football Player
5. Postal Worker
6. Soldier
7. Police Officer
8. Firefigher

In the courthouse the Judge wears a special robe that symbolizes respect and justice.
The judges' robes are black.



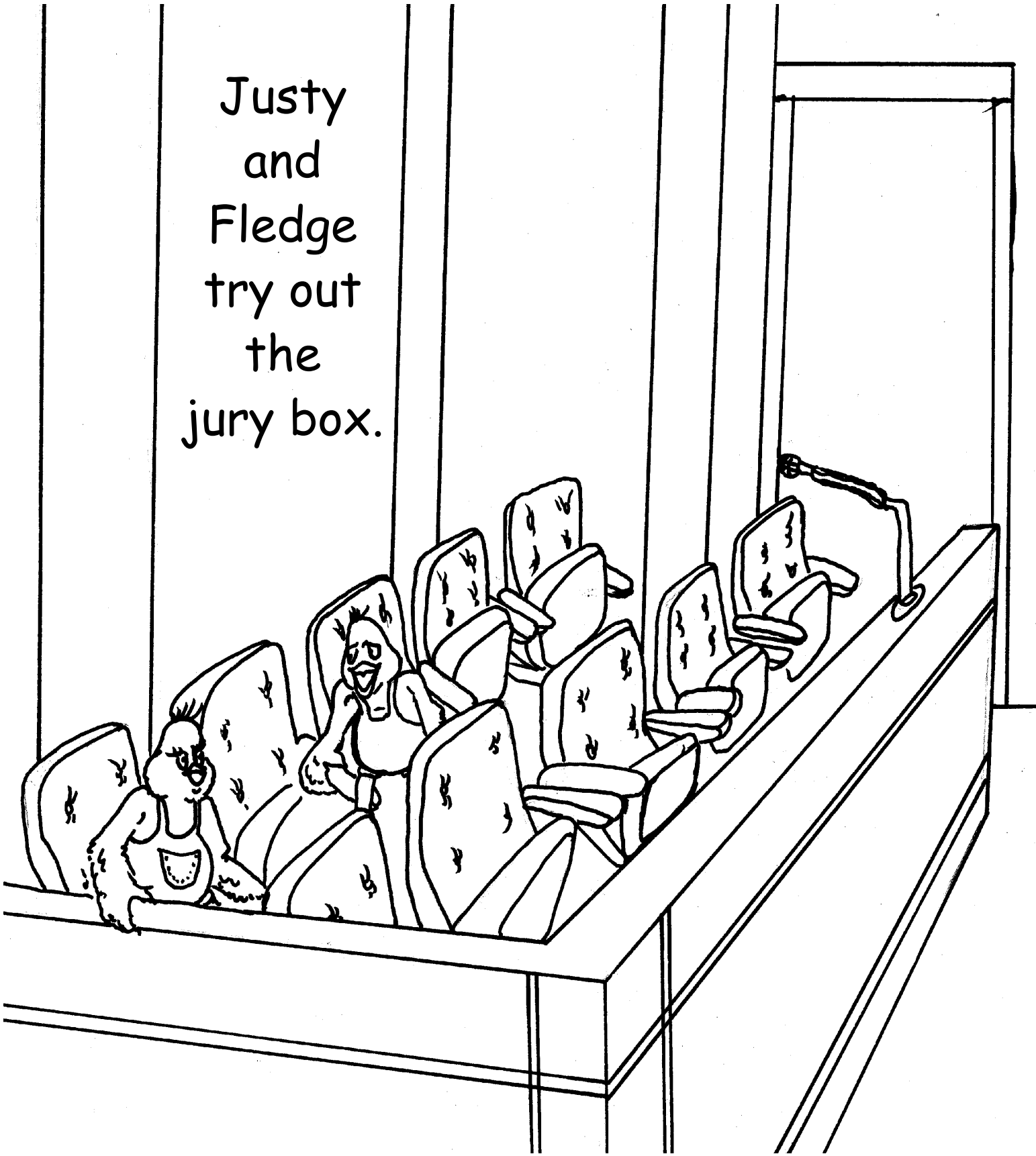
Judges are people in charge of the court.



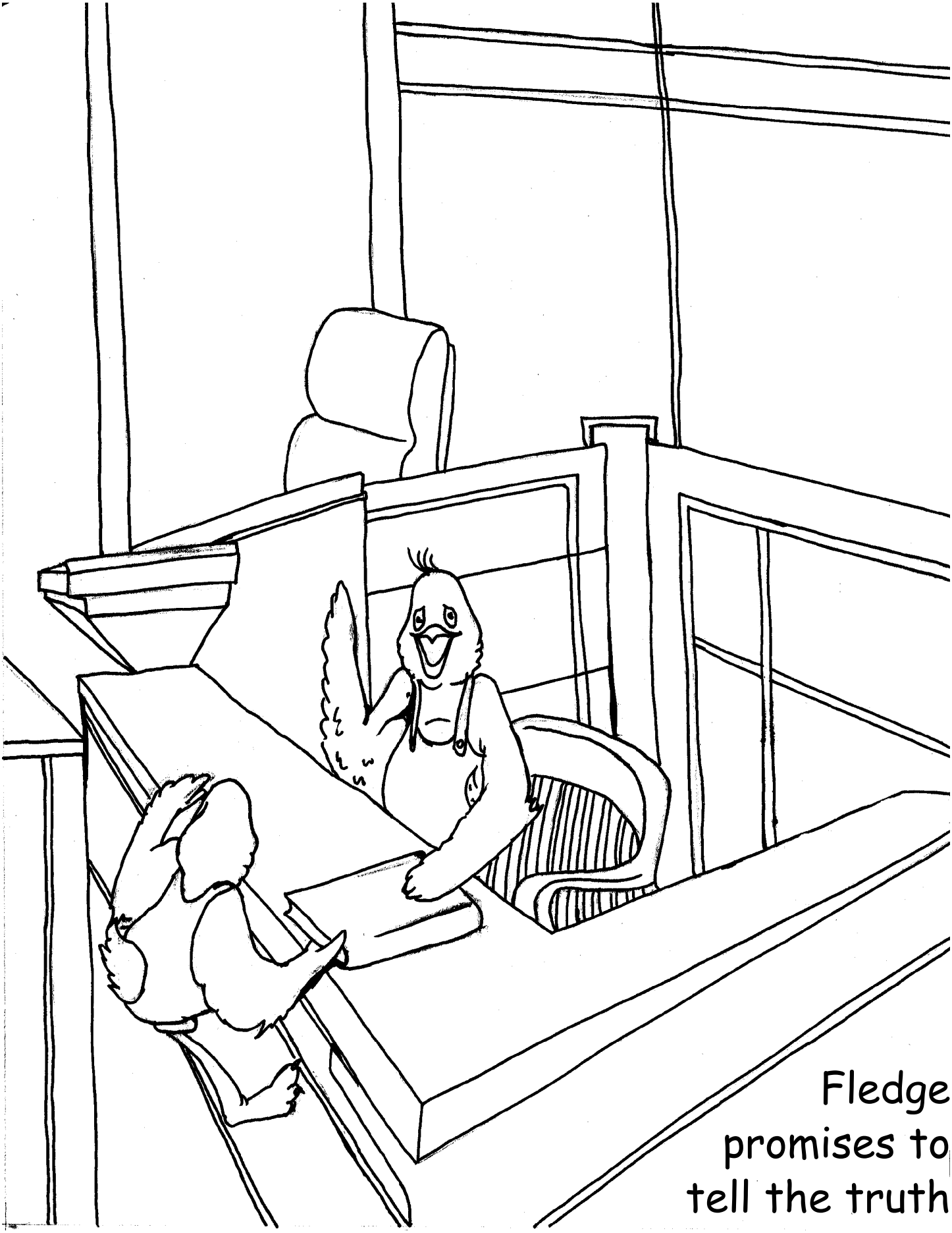
Judges keep their robes in their Chambers, the Courthouse name for an office.

Fledge and Justy tour the courtroom with a friendly Marshal.

Marshals also help the Judge in the Courtroom.



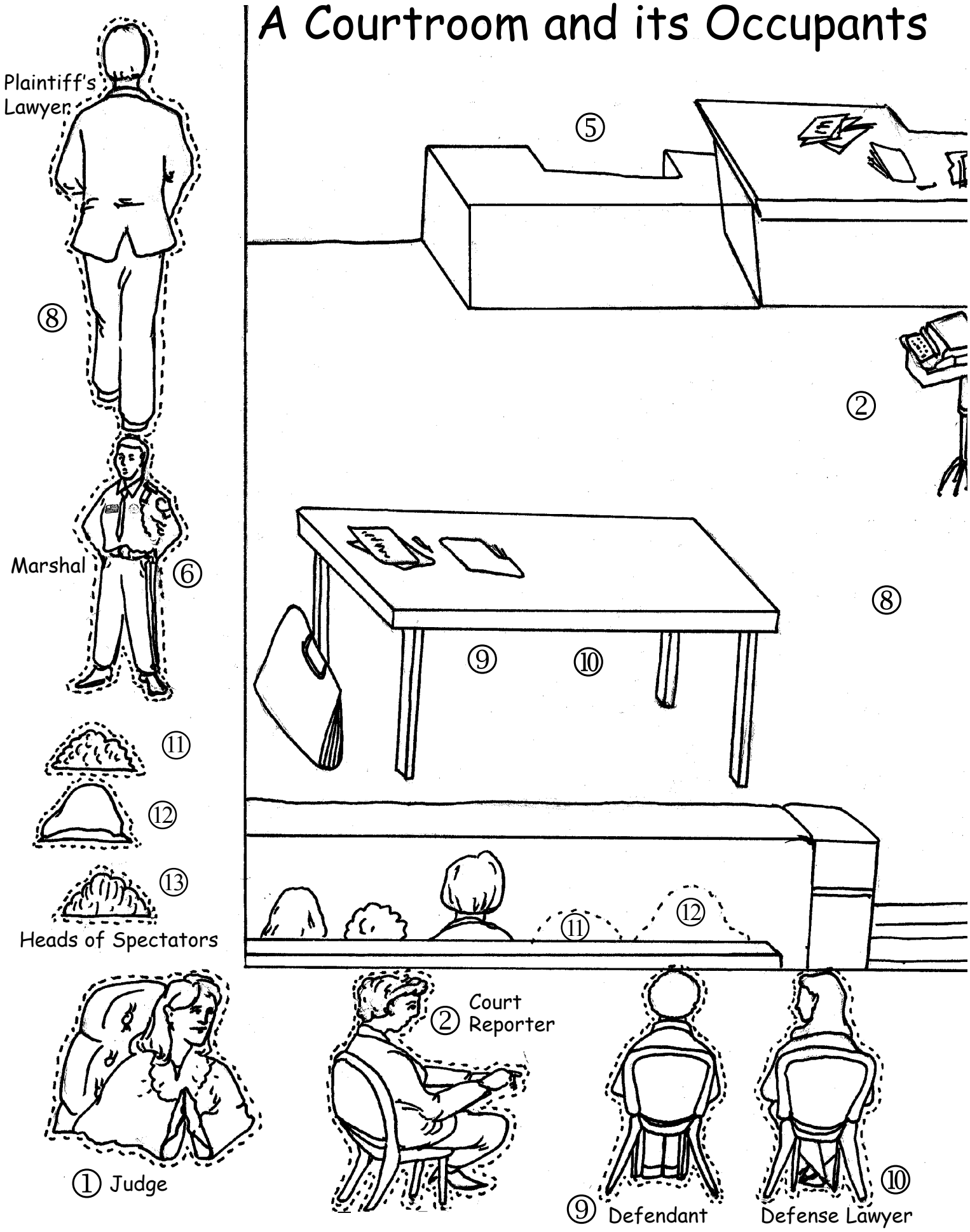
A jury is a group of people from the community like your parents, your aunts and uncles, your sister or brother, your neighbors or even grandparents.



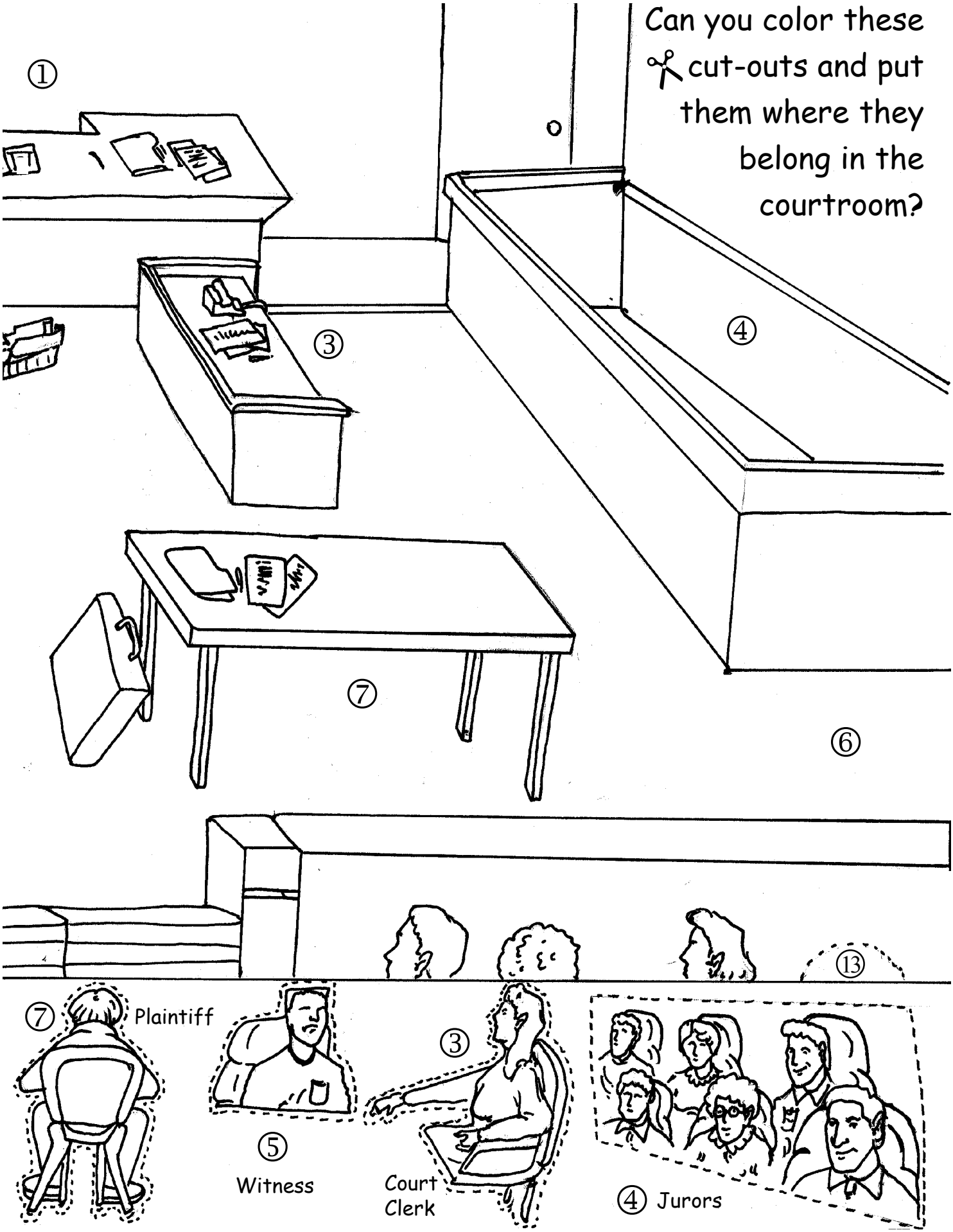
Fledge
promises to
tell the truth
in the witness box.

Draw your own pictures here.

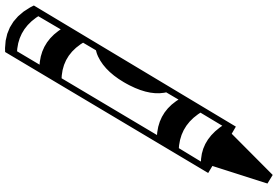
A Courtroom and its Occupants

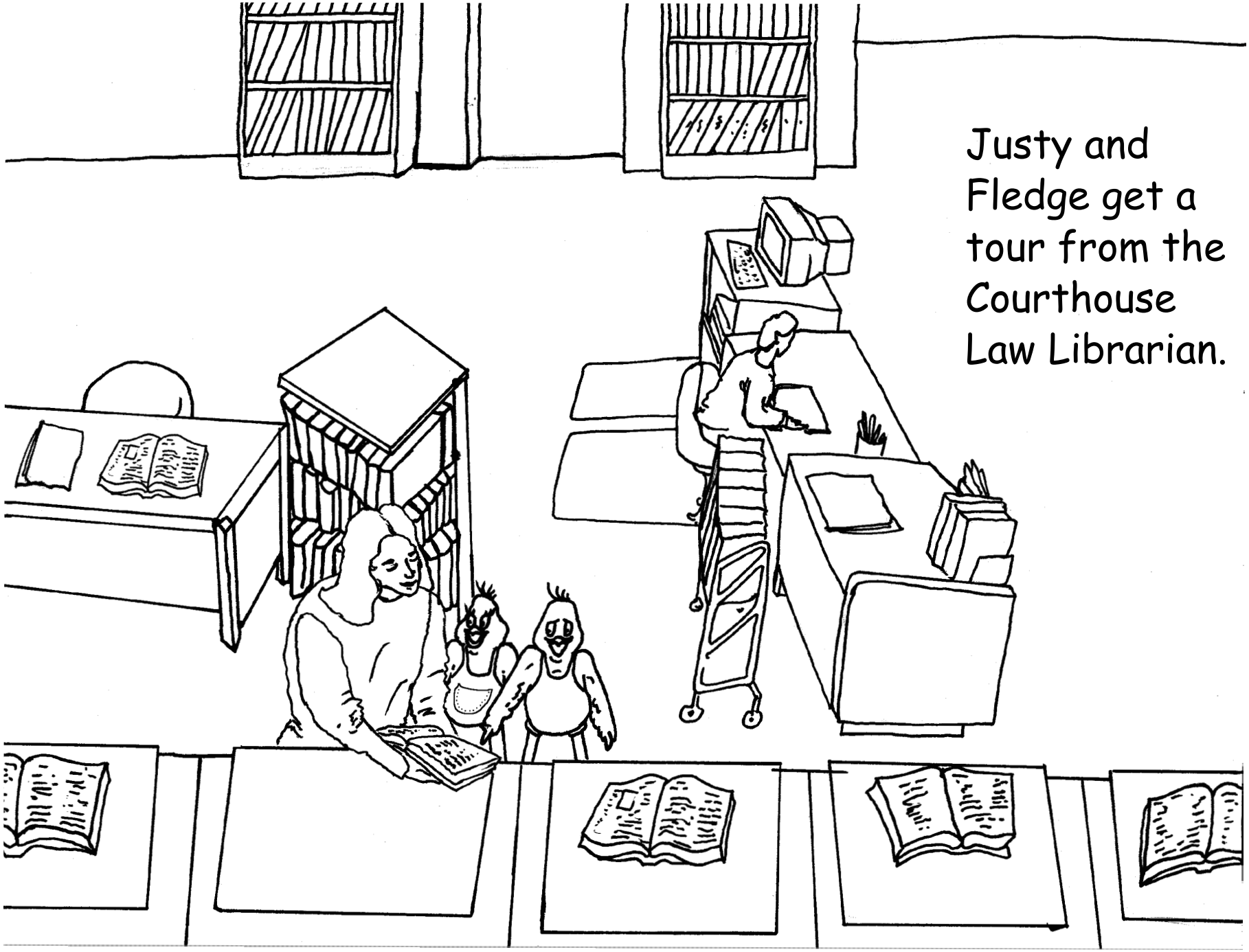


Can you color these ✂ cut-outs and put them where they belong in the courtroom?



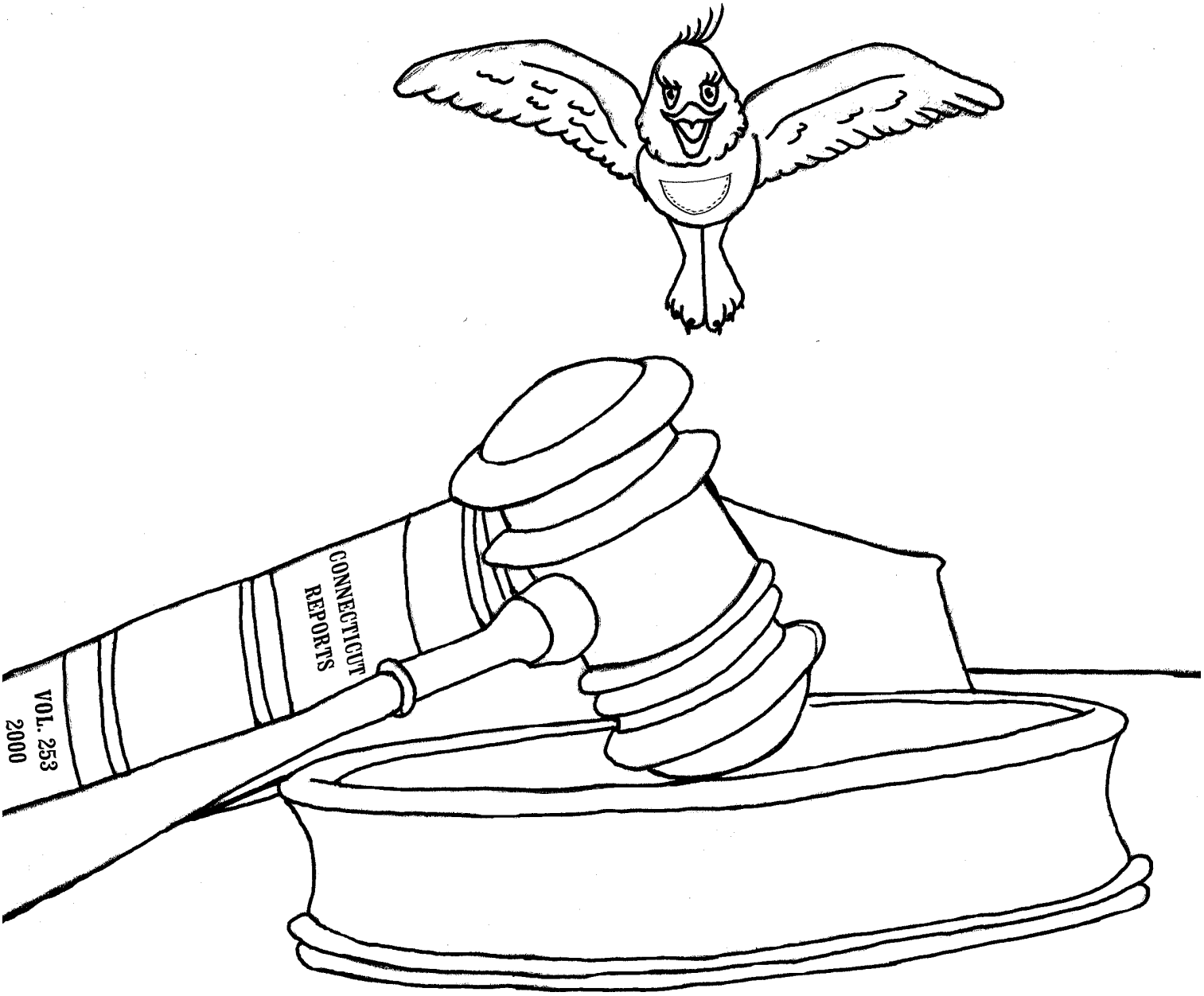
Can you draw the courtroom here?





Judges, lawyers and the public use the Law Library to find out information.

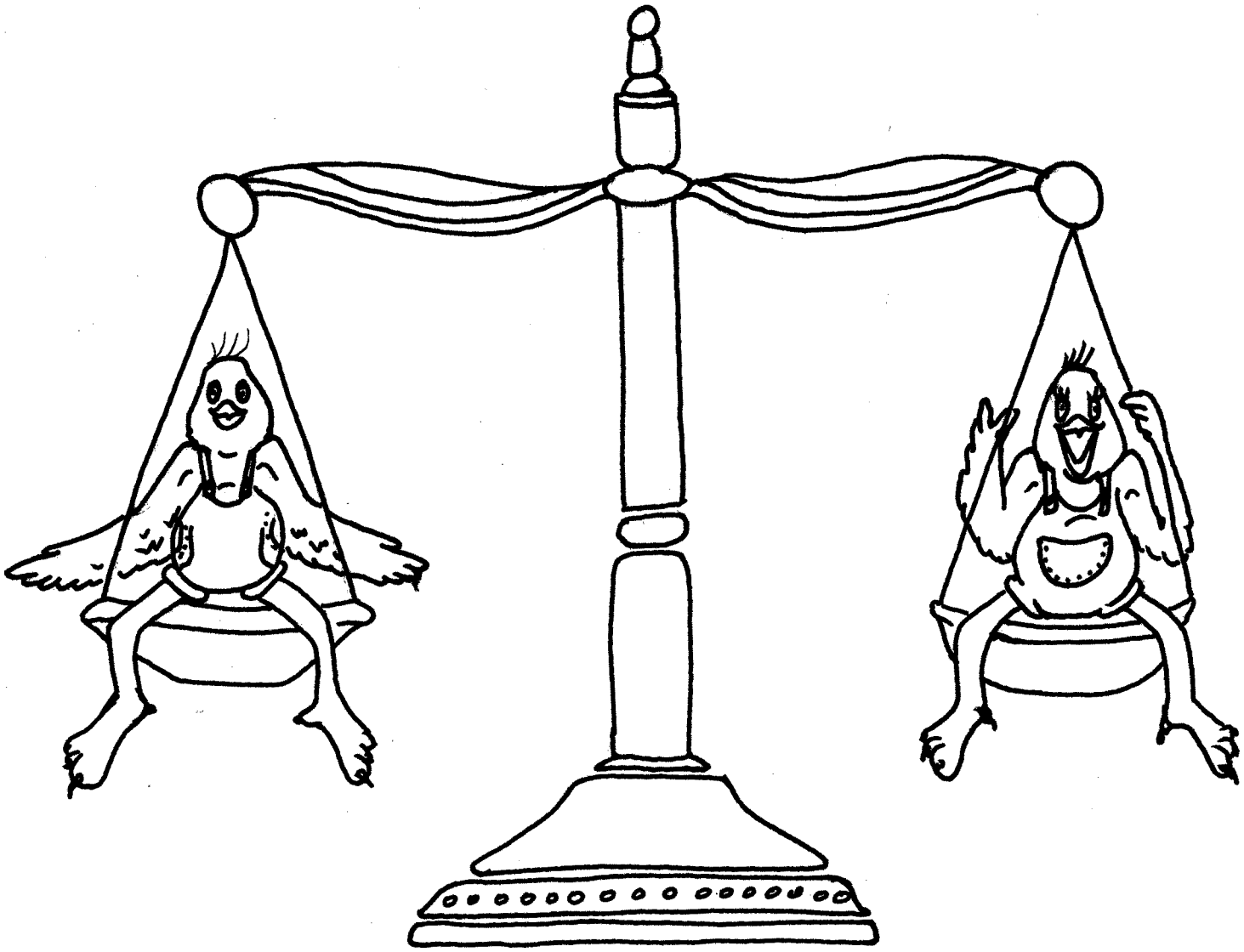
Some symbols of Justice . . .



Justy flies over a Judge's gavel and a law book.

Lady Justice

Lady Justice stands for fair and equal treatment under the law.



The Scales of Justice

Justy and Fledge
stand with
Marshal's Badge.

There are 44 Courthouses in Connecticut. These include:

- Judicial District (JD) Courthouses
- Geographical Area (GA) Courthouses
- Superior Court for Juvenile Matters Courthouses

These 44 Courthouses are in 25 Connecticut cities and towns. Some of these cities or towns have more than one Courthouse.

If your family needs to go to the Courthouse and it is not in your town, they go to one close by.

There are Courthouses in these towns. Is your town here?

Bantam
Bridgeport
Bristol
Danbury
Danielson
Derby
Enfield
Hartford
Litchfield
Manchester
Meriden
Middletown
Milford
New Britain
New Haven
New London
Norwalk
Norwich
Putnam
Rockville
Stamford
Torrington
Waterbury
Waterford
Willimantic

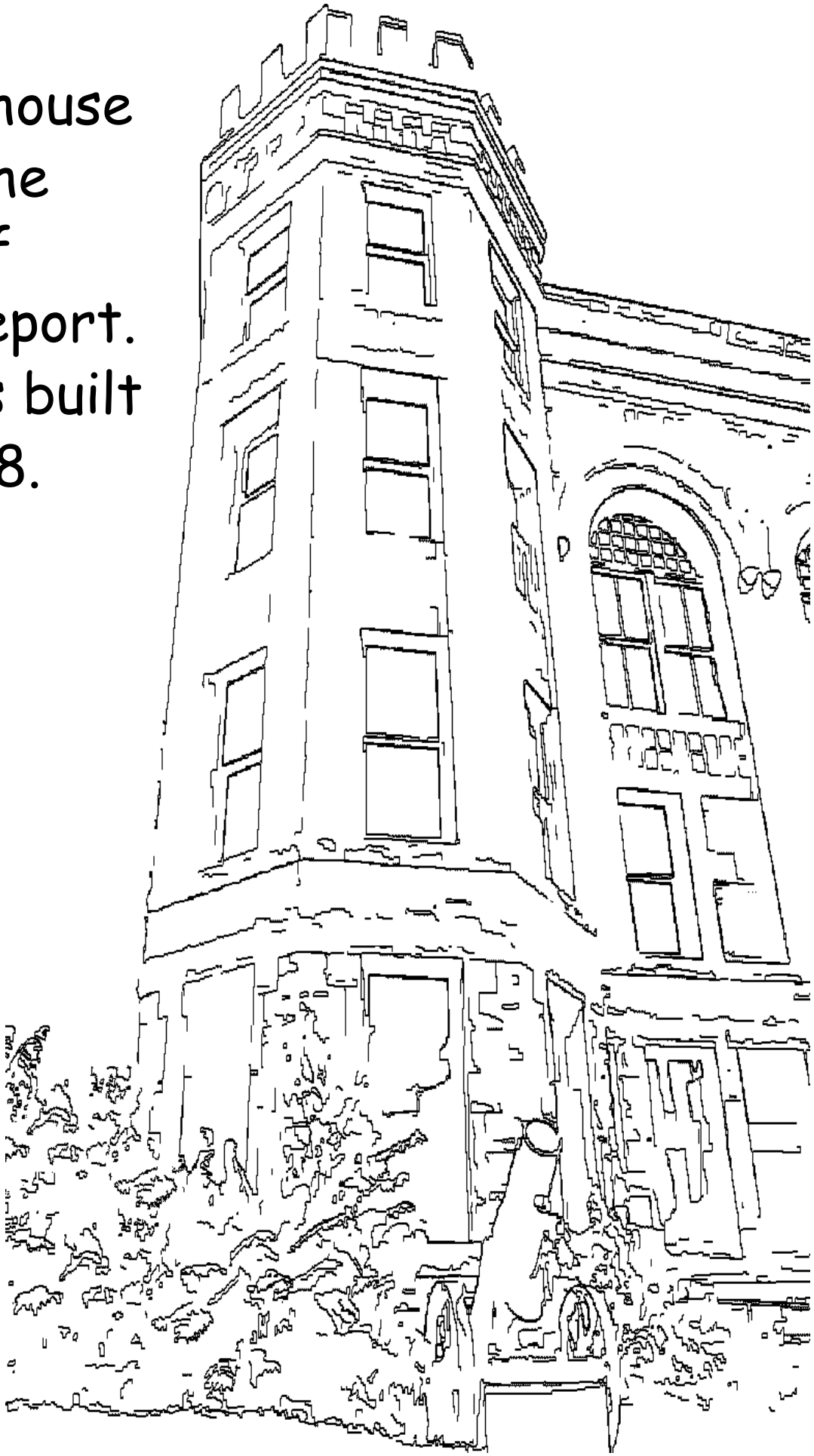
On the next pages are some of our Courthouses...

This is the Connecticut State Library and Supreme Court Building. The Supreme Court is the highest court in Connecticut.

This is the New London Courthouse. It is the oldest courthouse in Connecticut. It was built in 1784.

This Courthouse is in Litchfield. It was built in 1888.

This Courthouse is in the city of Bridgeport. It was built in 1888.

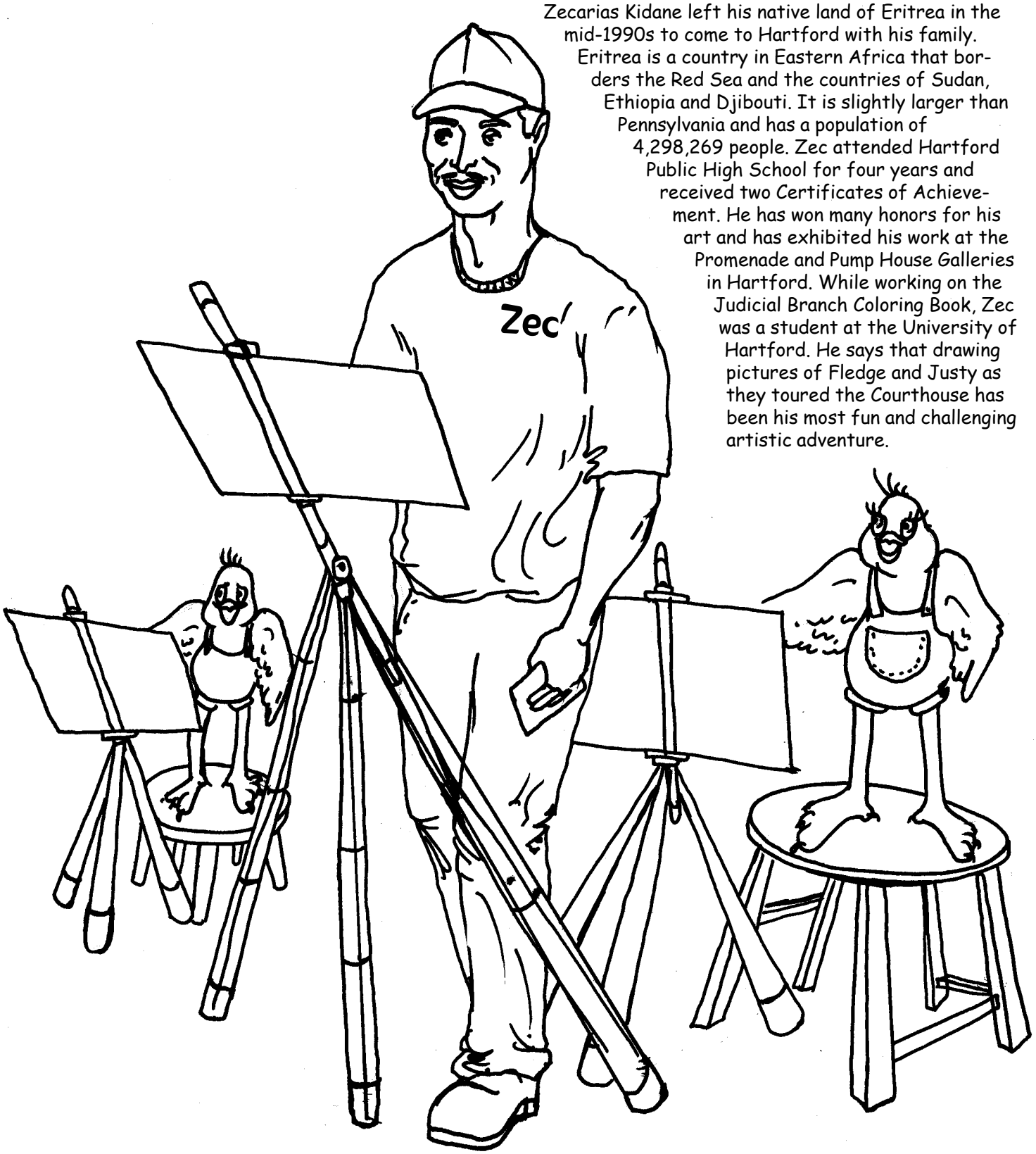


This is the New Haven County Courthouse.
It was built in 1913.

This Courthouse is in New Britain. It was built in 1998 and is one of our newer Courthouses.

Illustrations by artist Zecarias Kidane.

Zecarias Kidane left his native land of Eritrea in the mid-1990s to come to Hartford with his family. Eritrea is a country in Eastern Africa that borders the Red Sea and the countries of Sudan, Ethiopia and Djibouti. It is slightly larger than Pennsylvania and has a population of 4,298,269 people. Zec attended Hartford Public High School for four years and received two Certificates of Achievement. He has won many honors for his art and has exhibited his work at the Promenade and Pump House Galleries in Hartford. While working on the Judicial Branch Coloring Book, Zec was a student at the University of Hartford. He says that drawing pictures of Fledge and Justy as they toured the Courthouse has been his most fun and challenging artistic adventure.



Creative concept and content by Ginny Apple. Graphic design by Jen Ensign.

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