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Mary Millsaps is Court Clerk's office employee of the year

February 1, 2007

Mary Millsaps has been named employee of the year for the Blount County Circuit Court Clerk's Office.

Circuit Court Clerk Tom Hatcher named Millsaps, who is senior administrator for the office, as employee of the year during an Employee Service Award and Appreciation Breakfast at the Justice Center on Jan. 24.

"I felt honored to receive it," Millsaps said. "It's a pleasure to come to work each day with great co-workers and a great boss. I felt real humbled and very thankful to be able to work for Tom in the Circuit Court Clerk's office. There's got be many more deserving employees who could have received this."

Millsaps does the budget for the circuit court clerk's office, the General Sessions Court, Juvenile Court and the Law Library, as well as doing pay roll. "I stay pretty busy," she said. "Each day is different."

Millsaps graduated from Porter High School and took classes at Knoxville Business College before she accepted a position in the clerk's office working in 1973 for then Circuit Court Clerk Enoch Simerly. She worked on and off throughout the years in the Circuit Court Clerk's office and worked her way up to her current position.

She praised her co-workers and the team atmosphere. "They're great. I couldn't do my job without everyone else and what they do," she said. "It's definitely team work."

When Hatcher took office in 1994, Millsaps was in bookkeeping, and he got to observe the type of work she did and felt she was a very dedicated employee with the quality and quantity of work she turned out, Hatcher said. "Over time, she has come through ranks and is my right hand person because of her dedication," he said. "Employees have great respect for Mary."

Hatcher said when employees or supervisors have questions, Millsaps is always willing to take time to help. "Nine times out of ten what she comes up with is better than what I would have said," Hatcher said. "She's a tremendous asset to the clerk's office."

Nominations for employee of the year are accepted by an administrative committee from fellow employees. The committee meets and narrows the nominations down to two people, and Hatcher makes the final decision. Millsaps was given a plaque and certificate. Her name was placed on a plaque outside the Circuit Court Clerk's office.

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Tom Hatcher, left, stands with Mary Millsaps, the Circuit Court Clerk's Office employee of the year.