

Peoria County Pro Bono Plan



Congratulations to **MARCI SHOFF** for being honored as the **Pro Bono Attorney of the Year** for Peoria County. As an attorney accepting a pro bono case, there is never any guarantee as to how the case will progress. For Marci, that turned out to be a case that demanded 179 hours of her time, including multiple hearings on motions, a 2 day Order of Protection hearing, a 2 day custody trial, and meetings with DCFS investigators. Although the case became extremely contentious and time consuming, she followed through with the case, with the assistance of Julie Galassi and Jeff Rock. The firm spent a total of 269 hours representing this client. Our thanks go to Hasselberg, Rock, Bell & Kuppler for allowing Marci to represent the client.

We would also like to congratulate the law firm of **QUINN, JOHNSTON, HENDERSON & PRETORIUA** who were honored as the **Pro Bono Firm of the Year** for Peoria County. The firm volunteered 153 hours of their time to assist low income and elderly clients. There were nine attorneys who participated. Having received the award in 1994, 1996, 1998, 1999, and 2002, they continue to exemplify the true meaning of dedication to our community as a firm and as individuals through their ongoing commitment. The firm has long been a cornerstone of the pro bono program.

On behalf of our clients, we would like to thank the following attorneys and their staff who recently closed pro bono cases: **Dustin Essig, Katherine Gorman, Sam Harrod, Robert Muir** (4 cases), **Melinda Rowe, James Springer, Karen Stumpe** and **C. Edwin Walker**.

By: *Sandra Crow*

2004/2005 VOLUNTEERS

Below are listed the volunteer attorneys who gave of their time to provide representation to low income and elderly persons in our community or donated their services in other ways to support Prairie State Legal Services. We would like to thank the following attorneys, their respective firms and staff for their dedication in ensuring equal justice for all by donating 1465 hours of their time.

R. Rennie Atterbury, III *	Kenneth R. Eathington	Kim L. Kelley	Boyd O. Roberts, III
Anne D. Bartolo *	Linda S. Ficht	Michael A. Kraft	James M. Rochford
Gregory S. Bell	John P. Fleming	Jeffrey E. Krumpke	Jeffrey B. Rock
Jeremy Bell	Michael A. Fleming	Dorian LaSaine	Melinda M. Rowe
Glenn E. Benckendorf	Julie Galassi	Peter M. LaSorsa	Christopher P. Ryan
Timothy L. Bertschy *	Gay Nell German	James P. Lawson	Kimberly A. Sarff
John Boos, Jr.	Joseph P. Gilfillan	John Lonergan	Kevin D. Schneider
Joseph M. Borsberry	Paul P. Gilfillan	Zane Lucas	Michael R. Seghetti *
Sumner A. Bourne	Steven P. Glancy	Timothy D. McCarthy	Marci M. Shoff
Keith Braskich	Katherine Gorman Hubler*	Thomas McConaughay	David R. Sinn
David A. Brown *	Jay E. Greening	Michele A. Miller	Matthew B. Smith
James H. Bunce	LeAnna Grimsley	Louis P. Milot	James W. Springer
Andrew Cassidy	Michael A. Hall	Clifton J. Mitchell *	Stephanie Straughn
Christopher Cassidy	Theresa Rahe Hardesty	Deborah S. Moore	Karen M. Stumpe
David A. Chambers	Ronald Hasinger	John D. Moses	Dennis R. Triggs *
Patrick T. Chambers	Jeremy Heiple	Robert E. Muir	Steven A. Wakeman
Diana Charlton *	Thomas P. Higgins	Rodney R. Nordstrom	C. Edwin Walker
Robert J. Coletta	William K. Holman	Michael A. Nordwall	Alicia N. Washington
David B. Collins	Roger E. Holzgrafe	Thomas W. O'Neal *	Mandy Watson
Denise E. Conklin	Andrew A. Honegger	S. Linn Perkins	Jami B. Webster
Jennifer N. Connelly	Timothy J. Howard	Laura A. Petersen	David L. Wentworth
Claire E. Craig	Arthur J. Inman	John R. Pusey	Richard Zuckerman *
Spencer Lee Daniels	Matthew P. Jones	James Putnam	
Susan Dawson-Tibbits	James R. Jorgensen	John Redlingshafer	
Maureen De Armond	James F. Kane	Patricia Redman	
John Dundas	Michael A. Keeton *	M. Curt Richardson	

*Campaign for Legal Services Committee

Schedule of Events

May	11	New Members Luncheon – PCBA office – Noon – 1:00
	19	New Members Reception – Sullivan’s – 4:30 – ??
	25	Memorial Service – Peoria County Courthouse – Courtroom 210 – 10:30 a.m.
	30	Memorial Day (Observed) - Courts & Courthouse Closed
June		No holidays; no events scheduled.
July	4	Independence Day – Courts & Courthouse Closed
	11	Annual Meeting of the Membership – Hotel Pere Marquette – Noon
	13	IBF/PCBF Joint Golf Outing – WeaverRidge Golf Club
	18-29	PCBA Office Closed for Vacation
Aug.		No holidays; no events scheduled
Sept.	5	Labor Day – Courts & Courthouse Closed

- Thomas W. O'Neal**
President
- Rex K. Linder**
President-Elect and
Budget Chair
- Dennis R. Triggs**
Second Vice President and
Professional Standards Chair
- Karen L. Kendall**
Secretary-Treasurer
- Robert H. Jennetten**
Past President and
Nominating Chair
- Karen M. Stumpe**
By-Laws
- Michael R. Lied**
Courts & Procedures
- Timothy L. Bertschy**
Diversity
- Tracy C. Litzinger**
Entertainment
- Michele A. Miller**
Law Library
- Stephen J. Thomas**
Lawyer Referral Service
- James R. Carter**
Lincoln Memorial Banquet
- Brian D. Mooty**
Local Continuing Legal Ed
- James F. Kane**
Membership & Memorials
- Matthew B. Smith**
Pro Bono
- John P. Vespa**
Public Relations
- Michael D. Gifford**
Publications
- Sandra A. Birdsall**
Real Property
- Jennifer N. Connelly**
Young Lawyers and Law Day
Directors at Large:
- Linda S. Ficht**
- Susan Dawson-Tibbits**
- John P. Nicoara**
- Justice Mary W. McDade**

May

- 3 8:00 a.m. Pro Bono Committee
- 9 Noon Publications
- 12 11:00 a.m. IBF/PCBF Golf Committee
- 16 Noon Real Property Committee
- 17 8:00 a.m. Board of Directors
- 17 Noon Diversity Committee and Young Lawyers

June

- 7 8:00 a.m. Pro Bono Committee
- 20 Noon Real Property Committee
- 21 8:00 a.m. Board of Directors

Several members of the **Diversity Committee** met on April 5 with the Director of Youth Services at South Side Mission. The organization has a college club for non-traditional college-bound students from Manual High School. The club is interested in mentoring from attorneys and the project ties in closely with one of the goals of the Diversity Committee. The club also has volunteers assisting in grant writing and financial aid package requests for the students, but in an effort to cover other college expenses, law firms are encouraged to hire the college club students as runners. The students will be directed to send their resumes to the PCBA to be kept on file. Contact the PCBA the next time you need runner assistance.

The **Lawyer Referral Service** received the following communication: "I would like to thank the Bar Association for referring [name omitted] to my office. I was able to help her resolve a suit she had in Tazewell County against the person who built her house. The fees were (much) less than \$1,000.00, so no fees will be paid to the Bar Association." It is always good to hear that referral clients are being helped. If you have similar experiences, please contact the Bar. There are 58 PCBA members currently enrolled in the Lawyer Referral Service. The dues to participate are only \$50 per year, which helps offset the cost of the professional liability insurance that the PCBA must maintain for operating the service. Pursuant to the agreement that the attorney signs when joining LRS, 10% of any attorneys' fees over

\$1,000.00 is to be remitted to the PCBA. All the attorney has to do is note in their file that the client originated from the PCBA LRS and then for any fees exceeding \$1,000, simply remit 10% of the amount. A very simple, on-your-honor arrangement. We appreciate the work of our participating attorneys and their integrity in this regard.

The **Membership & Memorials Committee** has three events this month. The first event is the **New Members' Luncheon** on **Wednesday, May 11**. Members who have joined (or applied for membership) since November should have already received their invitation. The **New Members' Party** on **Thursday, May 19**, at 4:30 p.m. at Sullivan's is open to all members, as we give an official "Welcome!" to all the new members this year. (Please post the enclosed flyer in your office and bring your associates!)

Finally, the annual **Memorial Service** will be held on **Wednesday, May 25, at 10:30** in Courtroom 210 of the Peoria County Courthouse. This is a heartwarming service as we honor those members who have passed away in the last year. (See enclosed flyer.) We hope you will mark your calendar now to attend.

The **2005-06 Attorneys' Directory** will be heading for the printer in just a few weeks. The May 1 deadline has been extended to May 13. It will be necessary to strictly adhere to the deadline, since additional changes sent to the printer cause production costs to rise considerably. Although we've always tried to accommodate last minute changes, that will no longer be possible, and thank everyone for their consideration in meeting the deadline.

To date, only 47 members have submitted their **Committee Preferences** for the 2005-06 fiscal year. Please take a minute to mark the committees that interest you and return the form to the PCBA. E-mails are also acceptable.

Thank you! Special thanks to the following firms and individuals for assistance with delivery of the April *Legal-Ease*:

- Dane Pudik and Quinn, Johnston, Henderson & Pretorius, Chtd., and
 - Andrew Havran and Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen.
- Also, thanks go to:
- John Vespa for delivery of the Local Rules books to the courthouse; and
 - Claire Craig for her keen eye and editorial skills on several PCBA projects.

Immediate Openings

Real Estate Law Instructor needed for the ABA approved Paralegal Programs at Illinois Central College. Lawyers or Bachelor Degreed Paralegals. Desired Adjunct Faculty member would have practice experience in Real Estate Law, and present a four-week portion of our Real Estate Law course, presenting practice-based learning experiences to Paralegal students and working in conjunction with the lead instructor for this course. This course is offered both Fall and Spring semesters on Thursday evenings and this commitment would be for the final four Thursdays of each semester. Qualified individuals should send resumes with letter of introduction to Tom Higgins: thiggins@icc.edu

City Attorney: The City of Urbana is seeking a City Attorney. The City Attorney serves as chief legal advisor and is responsible for the legal affairs of the City including litigation, prosecution, and a wide variety of municipal issues. Strong knowledge of municipal law is highly desired. To obtain an application packet go to www.city.urbana.il.us/jobs or call (217) 384-2458.

Attorney: Looking for attorney with minimum 5 years experience. Growing trial practice handling complex defense litigation, as well as Plaintiff's medical malpractice and products litigation, needs assis-

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Courthouse News



Chief Judge John A. Barra has been keeping the PCBA Board of Directors apprised of the status of several matters at the courthouse:

- Implementation of Electronic Recordation (ER) in Peoria County Courtrooms. As most of you know, the system has been in place in Tazewell County for some time, and the Illinois Supreme Court had wanted it in place in Peoria County, as well. Wiring has now been completed, which is only the first step. The system will probably not be operational until the end of the year. Training sessions will be conducted after equipment is installed.
- The Children's Waiting Room. The County Board will vote in May on the ordinance required to establish the necessary \$5.00 filing fee.
- A \$60,000 Law Enforcement Technology grant was awarded and there is now a wide screen television and DVD player in the felony courtrooms.

IBF / PCBF JOINT GOLF OUTING SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

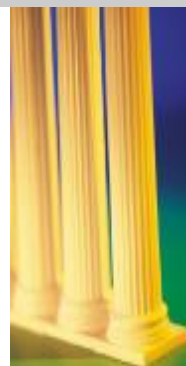


The IBF/PCBF Joint Golf Outing Committee continues its plans for this summer's fundraising outing, to be held at WeaverRidge Golf Club on **Wednesday, July 13, 2005**. A registration flyer is enclosed with this newsletter.

An added feature to this year's outing is a silent auction to be held prior to dinner. Silent auction items can be anything from art work to cruises. Your imagination is the limit. If you would like to donate items to be auctioned for the benefit of the Illinois Bar and Peoria County Bar Foundations, contact Beth Jensen at 309.671.7659 or bjensen@court.state.il.us.

Also, if you or your firm/office would like to be a hole sponsor or an event sponsor, contact the PCBA office at 309.674.6049.

As was mentioned in the April newsletter, nominations for "Pillars of the Bar" are being accepted through June 15, 2005, and should be sent to Peoria County Bar Association, ATTN: Pillar Nominations, 411 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1618, Peoria, IL 61602-1104, or attached to an e-mail (in Word format, please) and sent to pcba@mtco.com.



News from Iraq



In an e-mail dated April 5, 2005:

From: **Straughn Stephanie E. 1LT 1CC SJA Admin Law Attorney**

"Thanks again for the news! Of course you can put the picture in!!! I would love it. It's already in a bar newsletter in Florida somewhere :) I think I might be around on May 19th, and if I am I'll definitely come by, I love those parties!!! [New Members Reception - see enclosed flyer] Jami told me all about the Law Day events. I wish I was speaking, kids are so darn cute. That's one of the things I miss most here, there are no children on Anaconda, well, I guess we are a military installation in a war zone :) But it's so strange to not see a child in months. I'm giving a presentation at the Commander's Conference today and am tres nervous, hope I do OK! Take care, Steph" You can write to Stephanie at: stephanie.straughn@us.army.mil

National Mock Trial Tournament

THE AMERICAN MOCK TRIAL ASSOCIATION (AMTA) held its 21st national tournament in Des Moines, Iowa, April 8 -10. A team from Illinois State University coached by Mick Hall placed 12th in the tournament of the top 64 teams in the nation, after losing the final round against



Justice Kent Slater



Justice Dan Schmidt



Mick Hall

Harvard. Over 580 teams compete annually in collegiate mock trial. Championship round judges included our very own Kent Slater and Dan Schmidt of the Third District Court of Appeals.

*Mick Hall
The Hall Law Group, Ltd.*

(Continued from page 2)

tance. Top salary and benefits being offered for the right candidate. All inquiries will be kept confidential. Please contact James Carter at 673-3517 or e-mail resume to jcarter@jcarterlaw.com.

Associate Attorney: Immediate opening for a business attorney with 1 to 4 years experience. Strong academic credentials essential. Send resumes in confidence to John S. Elias, Elias, Meginnis, Riffle & Seghetti, P.C., 416 Main St., Suite 1400, Peoria, IL 61602.

Paralegal: Respected small town law firm seeks four year degree paralegal.

Competitive benefits available. Salary \$25,000-\$35,000 depending on experience. Send resume, reference list, letters of recommendation, cover letter, salary requirements and writing sample to Gary Barnhart, Bruce Beal or Chris Walters at Claudon, Kost, Barnhart, Beal & Walters, Ltd., 121 W. Elm St., P. O. Box 400, Canton, IL 61520; e-mail: walters@ckbbw.com

Paralegal: One or two positions, full time for solo practitioner. Also one Clerical position for general office duties, filing, reception. Send resumes to PCBA, 411 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1618, ATTN: Newsletter Editor, Peoria, IL 61602-1104



LegalEase

PEORIA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
411 Hamilton Boulevard, Suite 1618
Peoria, Illinois 61602-1104

May 2005

Address Changes

Parkhurst, John C., c/o Vance C. Parkhurst, 405 W. Wolf Rd., Peoria, IL 61614-2052
Reynolds Reporting/Grace Cafaro, 415 Hamilton Blvd., Peoria, IL 61602; Phone: 673-9474

Firm Name Change & Relocation

(Effective May, 2005)

Becker & Litterst, n/k/a
The Hall Law Group, Ltd.
411 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1806
Peoria, IL 61602

Telephone: 309.673.3807
Facsimile: 309.673-7319

Michael A. Hall

E-mail: Mick@AttorneyHall.com

Firm Relocations

(Effective May 2, 2005)

Sutkowski & Rhoads, Ltd.
416 Main St., Suite 400
Peoria, IL 61602

Telephone: 309.680.8000
Facsimile: 309.680.8050

Edward F. Sutkowski
Dean B. Rhoads
Robert H. Rhode
Sean M. Anderson

(Effective May 2, 2005)
Addy, Bush & Associates
257 E. Washington St.
P. O. Box 2512

East Peoria, IL 61611
Telephone: 309.699.4040
Fax: 309.699.4070
Stephen W. Bush
Jami B. Webster

(Pekin office remains the same.)

For Sale

Office moving May 1. For Sale: transcribers, dictation machines, small book shelf, multiple line telephones, coffee table, tables, Brother portable typewriters ML100, office chairs, Bindertec two-hole binders (various colors, 2" and 3"), chairs (various colors), table lamp, and other office furniture. Contact Loretta or Kristin, 309.680.8000, fax 309.680.8050 or llg@sutkowskiandrhoads.com for detailed listing.

Space Available

- Large private attorney office for rent in friendly office suite. Reception services, print library and conference room access included, additional services and online Lexis negotiable. Available immediately. Call John T. Brady or Mike Gifford, 671.3831 or e-mail jtb@brady-gifford.com.
- Single office for rent in Commerce Bank Building. Excellent space. Secretary, reception, use of equipment and/

or file storage available. Contact Joel Brown 309-673-4357 or je-brownlaw@sbcglobal.net.

- Newly carpeted office and luxury finish throughout; never rented; 1,536 square feet, 12 outside picture windows, view of Courthouse and Twin Towers; \$3,500.00 monthly – utilities paid; no extra charges. Janssen Building – 676-2341.

- Two-office suite available in new construction located off of Glen Avenue near the Metro Center. Shared break room and conference room available. Possibilities for receptionist service if needed. Call Mike Nordwall 691-9985.

- Office space available immediately. Attorney office and plenty of secretarial and file cabinet space outside of it. Use of kitchen and refrigerator included. Call Robert Strodel, 676-4500.

- Legal space for rent. New construction, spacious offices on second floor with scenic view, private facilities, large conference room, secretarial staff available if needed, located at 1009 Illini Dr., East Peoria, behind Proctor First Care. For further information or to see office space, contact Clay Mou-

2005-06
ATTORNEYS' DIRECTORY

CHANGES DUE MAY 13
e-mail pcba@mtco.com

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2005-06
Committee Preferences
DUE May 13, 2005.
e-mail preferences to
pcba@mtco.com