



LegalEase

March 2022

Newsletter of the Peoria County Bar Association, an Accredited Provider of Continuing Legal Education.

President's Message

Hello Members! We made it through February: over 7 inches of snow, disrupted plans, and a cut fiber optic cable. The shortest month of the year packed a punch for the PCBA, and we are ready for March!

The Lincoln Memorial Banquet and Pillars of the Bar has been rescheduled for March 10, 2022 at 5:30 at the Par-a-Dice Hotel & Casino. The registration is open now until March 4, so I hope that even more of you can join us on this rescheduled date to celebrate President Lincoln, our Distinguished Community Service award winner, and ten Pillars of the Bar.

March also means that it is time for the Brown Bag CLE series. In the olden days, before 2020, these free, one-hour CLEs were held in the PCBA office and attendees were provided a light lunch to enjoy while earning credit. The number of attendees was limited by the space around the conference table. Now, these seminars are held via Zoom and everyone can attend! If you cannot watch live, you can obtain the link to the recording and watch on your own time and still earn credit. These seminars are a PCBA member benefit, so I hope that you can take advantage of them.

Please note that the PCBA office will be closed March 16-18. Our Executive Director, Stephanie Bitner, will be at an ABA conference for bar associations. This kind of development opportunity has not been available for a few years, and I am so excited that Stephanie has this opportunity to network with other associations and absorb "best in class" ideas for our association. Please be patient if you need anything over those few days as Stephanie will have limited access to her email.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Lincoln Memorial Banquet this month!



Court News *By Chief Judge Katherine S. Gorman*



1. In consultation with various justice partners, effective February 28, 2022, a new Circuit-Wide Operational Plan for the Courts, including Courthouse Access, was defined. The amended order states that masks and face coverings are not required of any person, regardless of vaccination status. The amended order is available in full at www.10thcircuitcourtil.org.

March

9 Criminal Law Brown Bag Webinar, 11:55 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. through Zoom

14 Real Property Brown Bag Webinar, 11:55 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. through Zoom

16 – 18 PCBA Office Closed

23 Commercial Law & Litigation Brown Bag Webinar, 11:55 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. through Zoom

30 Federal Practice Brown Bag Webinar, 11:55 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. through Zoom

April

6 Practice Tips for Young Attorneys Brown Bag Webinar, 11:55 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. through Zoom

7 Workers' Compensation Seminar, Lunch at Noon | Seminar 12:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. at Spalding Pastoral Center

15 Good Friday - Courts & Courthouse Closed, PCBA Office Closed

Committee Meetings

March - All meetings are at Noon. A "Z" means the committee is meeting through Zoom. An "O" means the PCBA Office

1	Real Property (Z)	10	YLC (O)
3	Commercial Law & Litigation (Z)	15	Board of Directors (O)
7	Workers' Comp (Z)	21	Pro Bono (Z)
8	Diversity (Z)	22	CLE (Z)

Committee Reports

At-Large Directors

Interested in being involved with the bar at Board level? Consider nomination to an At-Large seat on the Board. The petition can be found [here](#). Please return these to Stephanie at pcbaasst@mtco.com by June 15.

Communications & Technology

The 2022 Attorneys' Directories are in. Please contact Stephanie at pcbaasst@mtco.com to schedule your pickup.

Fitness Health & Wellness



Spring is almost here, which means it's time for softball! Part of the Fitness, Health & Wellness Committee's mission is to encourage all members of the Peoria County Bar Associate to get out and be active to stay healthy. If you are interested in playing on the softball team, please contact Kyle Tompkins (ktompkins@hgsuw.com). Organized sports and activities are an easy and fun way to get involved with the PCBA, socialize with peers and be physically active. We hope that you will join us!

Lincoln Memorial Banquet & Pillars of the Bar

The 113th Lincoln Memorial Banquet & Pillars of the Bar has been rescheduled for Thursday, March 10! Our keynote speaker is University of Illinois Professor, Dr. Graham Peck. Registration is open and will close at Noon on Friday, March 4. Please get your registrations in now by clicking [here](#).

Pillars of the Bar

The Pillars award recognizes lawyers who have throughout their careers significantly distinguished themselves in the practice of law and in their professional and community activities and who have set an example to which others aspire. Every five years PCBA members are chosen for this honor.

Congratulations to the Class of 2020 (being celebrated in 2022)

Michael R. Hasselberg, R. Michael Henderson, Timothy J. Howard, Robert H. Jennetten, Rex K. Linder, Hon. Michael M. Mihm, John P. Nicoara, Kent A. Noble, John R. Pusey and Dennis R. Triggs.*

**Posthumously*



Please note that all attendees must be vaccinated against COVID-19 (boosters not required) **or** have a negative COVID test the day before or the day of the event. Vaccination cards and negative COVID tests will be verified at check-in.

Local Continuing Legal Education

2022 Winter Series

The 2022 Winter Series has wrapped up! Thank you to everyone who attended any or all of the webinars this year. Were you unable to attend any of the live webinars but still want the CLE credit? The entire series is now available on Vimeo! You can purchase any of the recordings by clicking [here](#). In the payment process it will ask you what webinar you would like to purchase.

2022 Brown Bag Series

This year's Brown Bag Series will take place through Zoom. These webinars are held from 11:55 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. every Wednesday starting March 9 (except for the week of March 14th). Registration is now open and you can register by clicking the links below. As always, these webinars are FREE for all members! Topics include:

[Wednesday, March 9 – Criminal Law](#)

[Monday, March 14 – Real Property](#)

[Wednesday, March 23 – Commercial Law & Litigation](#)

[Wednesday, March 30 – Federal Practice](#)

[Wednesday, April 6 – Practice Tips for Young Attorneys](#)

2022 Workers' Compensation Seminar

This seminar will take place in-person on **Thursday, April 7** at the Spalding Pastoral Center, 419 NE Madison in Peoria. Check-in and lunch will begin at 12:00 p.m. and the seminar will be from 12:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Cost is \$65 for PCBA Members, \$80 for McLean County Bar Members and \$95 for non-members. Registration can be completed online by clicking [here](#).

Topics include: Commissioner Procedure Update; Arbitrator Panel Q&A; Ethics, Civility & Procedures; Case Law Update; Talk with the Doctor and Fight Over Section 12 vs. Independent Medical Exam – Petition and Respondent.

Membership

We have received an application for membership from Adam Crutchley. Adam is an attorney at Hasselberg Grebe Snodgrass Urban & Wentworth. If there are no objections, his name will be presented to the Board in April for approval.

Memorials



On February 19, 2022 a member of the Peoria County Bar Association, Frederick D. Johnson, passed away. Fred attended the University of Michigan Law School and was admitted to practice in the state of Illinois in 1953. He was a partner of Swain, Johnson & Gard. Contributions to the Peoria County Bar Association Foundation may be made online by clicking [here](#) or by sending a check to the Peoria County Bar Association Foundation in memory of Frederick D. Johnson

The PCBA has made a \$100 contribution to the Foundation in memory of Frederick.

Young Lawyers Committee

The YLC has started preparing for the 2022 Law Day Luncheon! This year's theme is "Toward a More Perfect Union". Our keynote speaker is U.S. Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, Gregory K. Harris. We will also be honoring our 50-year members and announcing the winners of our Law Day Essay Contest. **Please keep an eye out for more details!**



Other News

As membership in the American Bar Association has fallen, so have some resources for its staff and updates to some of its processes in its approval process for Paralegal programs.

This has caused some immediate hardships on programs like the Legal Studies (formerly Paralegal Studies) program at Illinois Central College. This has been especially true as we experience our own budget and personnel challenges. In addition to these challenges, some of the ABA standards for Paralegal programs have not kept pace with the expectations and opportunities of employers or our ability to prepare students as efficiently and as well as we would like.

We are assessing whether we should continue to participate in the ABA process or whether we should devote the time and resources required by the ABA process elsewhere. Either way, our intent is to continue to do what we have always done with this program at Illinois Central College, strive for constant improvement in our courses in order to provide graduates who reflect the needs of employers.

We will always provide course experiences that assist students in moving towards graduation and employment in the most efficient, effective and supportive manner.

To help us with this task, we would very much appreciate your responses to the following questions found in this survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JTGJY78>

Job Openings | Office Space Available | Misc.

Job openings and office space available can be found on the homepage of our website or by clicking the following links:

[Job Openings](#) and [Office Space](#) (office space section includes property for sale).

Directory Changes:

Hunziker & Heck, LLC is now Hunziker Law Group, LLC. Mailing address is PO Box 3880, Peoria, IL 61614. All other information is the same.

Katherine Thornton – Suite number has changed to 200. All other information is the same.

Bell, Andrew – Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen, P.C. – 300 Hamilton Blvd., Peoria, IL 61601 309-677-9542 abell@heyloyroyster.com

2021-22 Board of Directors

Emily H. Wilburn – President
Michael A. Fleming – President-Elect & Budget
Aliesha N. Graves – Second Vice President
Joshua D. Herman – Secretary-Treasurer

Ambrose V. McCall – Past President & Nominating Chair
Heather J. Russo – By-Laws
Katherine G. Legge – Communications & Technology
Yolanda J. Riley -- Diversity

Nathan R. Bach – Entertainment (Golf)
Dennis E. Merkley – Entertainment (Holiday Party)
James D. Van Rheeden – Fitness, Health & Wellness
Ann R. Pieper – Government & Public Interest Law
Carol J. Perkins – Lawyer Referral Service
Mitch M. Gilfillan – Lincoln Memorial Banquet
Katherine L. Swise – Local Continuing Legal Education
Thomas A McConnaughay & David B. Mueller –
Membership & Memorials

Kerrienne L. Waters – Pro Bono
Seth A. TeBeest – Public Relations
Kyle M. Tompkins – Real Property
John G. Dundas – Substantive Law
Kevin O. Sheahan – Young Lawyers
William B. Loeffel – Director at Large
Norman L. McGill – Director at Large
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