

PIKES PEAK

LAWYER

EPCBA Elections President's Farewell Column From the Courts:
Ward v State







WELCOME

Message From the President EPCBA Elections



SUBMISSIONS

From the Courts

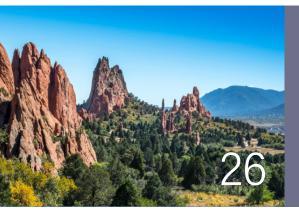
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NEED TO KNOWS

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Cover photo: This photograph was taken in 1998 by John Fielder from Austin Bluffs in Colorado Springs, Colorado. John Fielder captured this moment of a person admiring the beauty of Colorado. This image can be found on History Colorado. The avid American landscape photographer passed away on August 11, 2023.

Message from the President

My time as President of the El Paso County Bar Association comes to an end this month. Please join us for the Bar Luncheon at the historic Harvey House on September 27th when I pass the gavel to our next President, Teresa Drexler, and we announce our new board members and officers. In my first column last year, I explained my primary goal of getting our local members to reengage with the bar as we were finally exiting the era of COVID lockdowns and online meetings. I'm very pleased to report we've made great progress on that front thanks to the efforts of our entire board and our two amazing staff members, Crystal Rayos and Britt Kwan. I truly enjoyed meeting new members and reconnecting with attorneys I've not seen in person for a few years.

We hosted numerous events at our Bar office in the Conover Building, from board meetings to section meeting, CLEs and social events. We greatly improved the AV equipment to allow us to host in person CLEs with a remote option and enhanced the lighting and office for social events. Although I remain a fan of in person events, I understand the convenience of attending our CLEs remotely. We produced and presented a variety of interesting CLEs this past year, including:

- · State Representative Terri Carver's presentation on her work at the legislature to improve the judicial disciplinary process;
 - a local panel on significant changes to Colorado employment law;
 - ethical issues in probate law;
 - a "Hot Wings Challenge" with Colorado Supreme Court Justice William Hood;
 - a panel discussion with the Governor's Office of Legal Counsel and local judges on the judicial nomination and selection process; and
 - an ethics and EDI CLE co-hosted with the local chapter of the Colorado Women's Bar Association featuring a presentation from local Federal Magistrate Judge Maritza Dominguez Braswell on women in the law.

Message from the President

The Bar Association co-hosted a very successful and well attended bench appreciation dinner with the Ben Wendelken Inn of Court last October. We had judges from every level of our State judiciary in attendance, from local magistrates to four members of the Colorado Supreme Court. We're co-hosting this dinner event again this year on September 21 at the Penrose House Garden Pavilion.

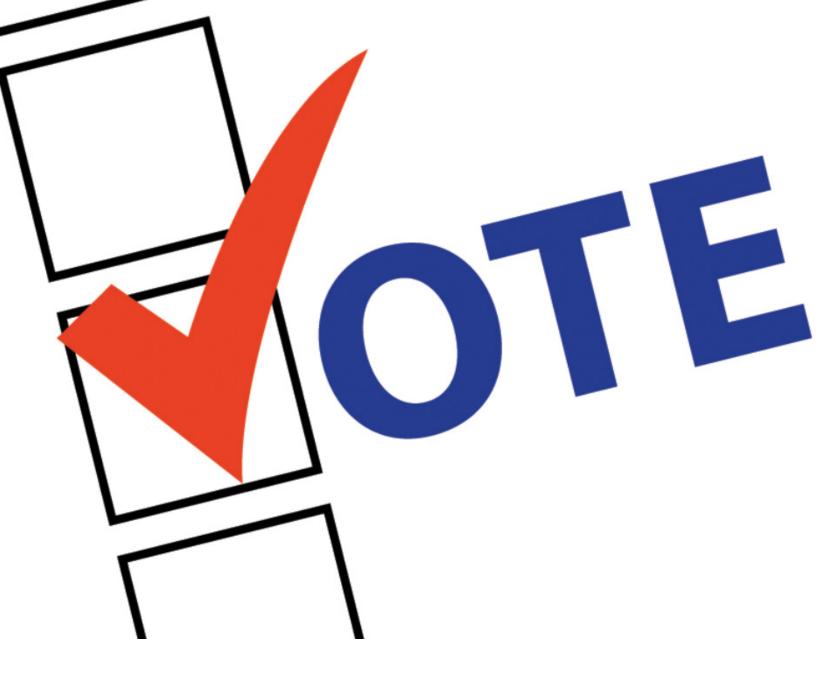
Our sections have been active, especially our Family Law and Probate sections. The Employment Law section and Criminal Law section have new leadership ready to reinvigorate those sections. In addition, the board approved two new local sections this past year – a Hispanic Bar section and an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) section. Keep an eye out for our section events and please support their efforts.

My time as President of the El Paso County Bar Association has been rewarding – both professionally and personally. I've enjoyed working with our board officers, trustees, and our representatives to the CBA Board of Governors. Each of them is committed to improving our profession and to making our local bar association more meaningful for our members. Our staff members, Crystal Rayos and Britt Kwan, are amazing, talented, and dedicated to the bar association. I can't thank them enough for their assistance and work throughout this past year.

Thank you for trusting me to lead the El Paso County Bar Association this past year. My conclusion for this final column is the same as in my first column – I look forward to seeing you at a local Bar event soon!

Paul Hurcomb President





EPCBA ELECTIONS

Learn more about the candidates by scrolling below!

Voting ends on September 27 at 11:30 AM!



I am writing to express my interest in applying for the position of President Elect within our esteemed association. As a devoted member of the legal community and a passionate advocate for justice, I firmly believe that with the right leadership and vision, our Bar Association has the potential to thrive even more than it does today.

My journey from a Deputy District Attorney to the CEO of Right Law Group, a highly successful criminal defense law firm here in the Springs, has given me valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities our legal community faces. While I admire the existing strengths of our Bar Association, such as the sense of camaraderie and support among members, I also recognize that there is room for improvement to make our association an even more valuable resource for every member.

One area where I see significant potential for growth is in harnessing technology to enhance our legal practices. Technology has the power to streamline processes, improve communication, and provide more efficient legal services to our clients. As President Elect, I intend to lead initiatives that promote the adoption of innovative legal technologies within our community. This will include organizing workshops, seminars, and training sessions to educate members about the latest legal tech tools and how they can benefit their practices.

My dedication and drive in utilizing technology in the best interest of clients, as exemplified by the practices implemented at Right Law Group, will be instrumental in revolutionizing our ability as a bar association to serve our members effectively. While there has been significant discussion about various technological tools, such as ChatGPT, and concerns about misuse of this technology by members of our profession, my intention as President Elect is to ensure that our Bar Association provides comprehensive information, training, and resources to help lawyers ethically and responsibly utilize emerging technologies. The goal is not simply to adopt technology for the sake of it but to utilize it purposefully and responsibly to enhance our legal practices and provide exceptional service to our clients and community.

Additionally, I am deeply committed to the professional development of lawyers in our community. Through my experience in mentoring entrepreneurial attorneys, I have seen the transformative power of mentorship. I plan to establish a formal mentoring program within the Bar Association, matching seasoned lawyers with young attorneys to provide guidance and support in their careers.

Another area that I believe warrants focused attention is the issue of access to justice for underserved communities. I am deeply passionate about helping people and believe that our legal expertise can bring about a positive change in the lives of those in need. To address this critical issue, I will advocate for initiatives that not only benefit underserved communities but also offer significant opportunities for the lawyers who participate.

As President Elect, I intend to work close with the Justice Center to implement pro bono events strategically, transforming them into valuable marketing opportunities for our bar members. Rather than merely asking for bar volunteers to help with Justice Center initiatives, we will work together to create well-planned and publicized pro bono events that showcase the participating lawyers' skills and dedication to community service. By leveraging press releases, local news appearances, and other unconventional means of informing the public, we will ensure that these events gain widespread attention and recognition.

Participating lawyers and firms will have the chance to demonstrate their expertise, compassion, and commitment to social responsibility. Through these collaborative pro bono events, they can build a positive reputation within the community and attract potential clients who value ethical and socially conscious legal services. In turn, this increased exposure will open new doors for them and contribute to the growth of their legal practices.

By transforming pro bono events into marketing opportunities, we will create a win-win situation for both our bar members and the underserved communities. Lawyers will be motivated to participate actively, knowing that their efforts will not only make a meaningful impact on people's lives but also enhance their professional standing and potentially lead to new business opportunities.

Through collaborative efforts with legal aid organizations and community outreach programs, we can ensure that justice is accessible to all in our region. By strategically aligning these initiatives with marketing benefits for our lawyers, we can inspire greater participation from the entire bar association. As more lawyers recognize the personal and professional rewards of taking part in these events, our efforts to serve the underserved communities will be significantly amplified.

One aspect that our Bar Association faces is a recurring attendance pattern at bar meetings, leading to a limited perspective on certain matters due to insufficient input from the entire membership. Additionally, there seems to be a prevailing perception among lawyers that participating in association events may not yield substantial value. As President Elect, my objective is to demonstrate the potential of the Bar Association as a platform for fostering a collaborative community approach in addressing local challenges and supporting one another. I firmly believe that by nurturing a stronger sense of community and camaraderie, we can overcome any potential negative stereotypes associated with lawyers, promoting a higher level of legal service for our clients and elevating the legal profession within the El Paso County community.

I firmly believe that our Bar Association can become a vibrant community that fosters camaraderie and support while also providing incentives and benefits for every member. By revamping communication channels, enhancing our social media presence, and streamlining outreach strategies, we can facilitate ongoing discussions and resource-sharing among lawyers. Through these efforts, we can encourage active participation within the Bar Association and create an environment where members feel valued, supported, and connected.

Thank you for considering my candidacy for this vital role. I look forward to the opportunity to work with all of you to achieve our collective goals.

Alexís Austín Líttle Right Law Group



SECRETARY CANDIDATE

I am submitting this letter as a formal application for consideration to serve the El Paso County Bar Association as its next Secretary.

I am excited for an opportunity to continue serving my community and getting involved with the programs provided by the Bar Associaton. While I am younger, I believe my passion for the legal community and perspective will be well-served as a member of the Board. Throughout my life, I have been dedicated to giving back to my community, which has resulted in recognition from President Obama and selec; on by Coca-Cola to carry the 2012 Olympic torch in London for my efforts in environmental sustainability.

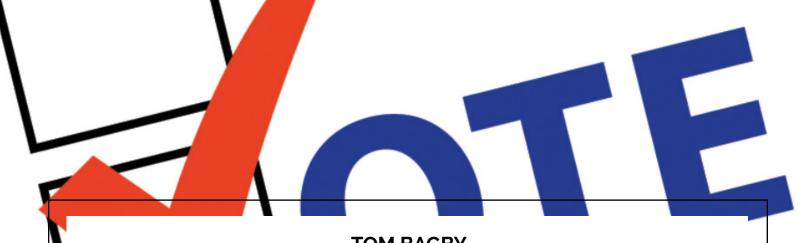
Prior to living in Colorado, I was licensed in Texas and worked as a Personal Injury attorney. However, I felt the best place for me would be in the Rocky Mountains. After moving to Colorado, I was hired as a Deputy District Attorney in January of 2022 and was later promoted to Deputy District Attorney II. While at the DA's office, I received the Fourth Judicial Fighting Spirit Award due to my dedication and service. In March of 2023, I received the opportunity to work at Drexler Law Group as an Associate Attorney and have immensely enjoyed learning about a new area of the law.

During law school, I received the Order of the Barristers Award for my Appellate advocacy on National Moot Court teams. I placed second in the Entertainment Law Moot Court Competiton in Malibu, California and won oral argument in the finals at the oldest Moot Court Competiton in New York City. In addition, I was a member of the Media; on Clinic, a Teaching Fellow for a Legal Writing professor, the Director of Appellate Advocacy for Board of Barristers, and a Law Clerk for the City of Lubbock.

However, my first career was not as an attorney. Before law school, I worked for Southwest Airlines in their Communications Department. My work with Southwest's Legal Counsel inspired me to pursue a career in law. I have always been drawn to the legal profession and look forward to more experiences that strengthen my passion for the law.

I believe I would be an asset in this position and provide a new perspective. I sincerely appreciate your consideration and look forward to hearing from you soon.

> Sarah Jo Lambert Drexler Law Group



TOM BAGBY TRUSTEE CANDIDATE

I am writing to express my strong interest in serving as either a member of the Board of Governors or as a Trustee of the EPCBA. Since relocating to Colorado Springs last August, I have attended several meetings, the Law Day Awards, and most recently the Summer Social. I have enjoyed meeting members of our legal community, and would love the opportunity to become more involved with the EPCBA.

I began my career as a real estate and corporate transaction attorney in San Antonio, Texas. After several years, I transitioned into general civil litigation. I currently focus solely on personal injury law. I am licensed to practice in the States of Colorado, Texas, Louisiana, and Montana. Throughout my career, I have worked on a wide range of cases, representing clients from diverse backgrounds. This has given me valuable insights into the legal needs of people from all walks of life and the importance of access to justice.

In San Antonio, I was elected by my peers as lifetime fellow of the San Antonio Bar Foundation. contributions and providing funding and facilities for programs that relate to ethics in the legal profession, the administration of justice, legal assistance for the indigent, and the legal scholarship and publications. I am a collaborative team player who values input from all stakeholders and believes in fostering a supportive and inclusive environment. I am confident that my background and experience would enable me to effectively contribute to the EPCBA.

If selected to serve on the Board of Governors or as a Trustee, I would bring a proactive and forward-thinking approach to the position. I am particularly interested in working towards:

- 1. Collaborating with local legal organizations and institutions to promote public awareness of legal rights and resources available to individuals in need,
- 2. Enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion within the legal profession by advocating for initatives that promote equal opportunities for all members of our community.
- 3. Advocating for policies and programs that improve access to justice for underrepresented communities and ensure fairness in our legal system.

Whether selected or not, I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the EPCBA and to work alongside the leaders of EPCBA to advance our legal community's interests.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tom Bagby Law





KAYLA WINGARDTRUSTEE CANDIDATE

I would like to formally express my intent to apply for the El Paso County Bar Association Board of Trustees or Board of Governors. It is my understanding both of these positions focus on furthering the development of the EPCBA and ensure the members continue to receive a benefit from their membership. I have previously been involved with the Student Bar Association at my law school and now that I have entered private practice, I am eager to be involved in giving back to the community and providing any assistance I can.

I have expanded my practice and I hope to help bridge the gap between attorneys in the public and private sector. I believe my experience in both the private and public practices, as well as my passion for mentoring, training, and attorney development will be an essential asset to either the Board of Trustees or the Board of Governors.

BIO:

Kayla is a senior associate based in the Colorado Springs office of Burnham Law. Kayla graduated from the University of Denver before attending Creighton University School of Law. While at law school, she interned with the Colorado State Public Defenders and also worked as a clerk at a local family law practice. Kayla was the Vice President of her law school and competed in the National Trial Advocacy Competition where she finished as a semi-finalist. Kayla graduated Cum Laude with a concentration in litigation.

Prior to joining Burnham Law, Kayla worked as a Colorado State Public Defender. During her time there she worked on thousands of criminal cases of all levels including over 75 jury trials. She gained extensive experience in the courtroom and honed her skills to become a zealous advocate for all her clients.

Kayla's experience in both a family law and criminal setting has given her a unique skillset and ability to advocate zealously for her clients. Whether your case ultimately culminates in settlement, mediation, or trial Kayla has the proven experience to work for you. She knows that cases are extremely emotional and uses her past experience to help her clients navigate these hard times while also working tirelessly to get the best possible outcome. Kayla was recognized as one of Colorado Springs Magazine's Top Attorneys in 2023.

Kayla Wingard
Burnham Law





I write to formally request consideration for serving the El Paso County Bar Association as a member of the Board of Governors.

I am eager and excited for the opportunity to serve as a member on the Board of Governors for the El Paso County Bar Association and look forward to promoting the stature and ensuring the quality of attorneys in El Paso County.

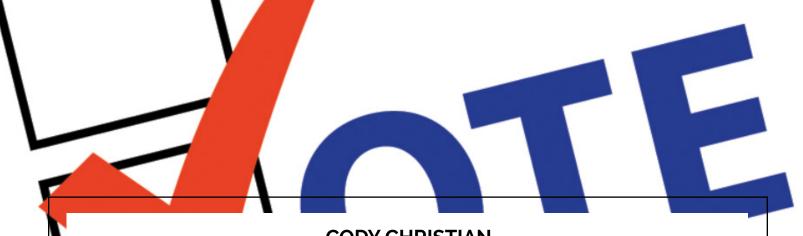
I am a Senior Associate Attorney with Drexler Law. Being in my ninth year as a practicing attorney and third year with Drexler Law, I have had the privilege of working alongside and learning from some of the best attorneys in the field. My extensive experience has allowed me to witness firsthand how the law affects the lives of everyday individuals. Prior to relocating to Colorado Springs, I was the Lead State's Attorney for Child Support Services in Oklahoma where I supervised two junior attorneys and approximately thirty caseworkers while balancing a caseload consisting of approximately 3,000 cases. After relocating to Colorado and transitioning to private practice, I quickly established a positive rapport with other attorneys and the judiciary, earning praise from clients and opposing counsel alike. My work in the public sector in Oklahoma, supervising both attorneys and caseworkers, and in representing clients in private practice in Colorado makes me uniquely qualified to be a member of the Board of Governors.

In college, I earned a scholarship with the President's Leadership Class, holding numerous leadership positions within student organizations on campus. In law school, I worked in the Office of the Public Guardian, responsible for maintaining accountability for court-ordered criminal wards deemed incompetent to stand trial. Following law school, I began work as a State's Attorney for Child Support Services where I was promoted to Lead State's Attorney.

During my three years in El Paso County, I have quickly established myself as an impactful and reputable attorney. I regularly utilize the skills developed over the last sixteen years from my leadership programs in college, through work in law school, supervision of junior attorneys, and including representation of clients in private practice.

Thank you for the opportunity to be considered as a member of the Board of Governors.

Amanda Hayworth
Drexler Law Group



CODY CHRISTIANBOARD OF GOVERNORS CANDIDATE

I have been a member of the EPCBA for about 8 years and this is one of my favorite associations. I have found that our bar association is very collegial, willing to brainstorm ideas to problem solve cases which makes the practice of law more fulfilling. I would be extremely interested in being a servant leader as a Board of Governors and giving back to this wonderful organization that has given so much support to me!

• Board of Governors (3) | Three-year term

Attend meetings of the CBA Board of Governors twice a year, serve as liaison between CBA Board of Governors and EPCBA; ensure Board of Trustees is sufficiently apprised of actions taken by the Colorado Bar Association relevant to the Bar Association and its members.

Should you have any questions please let me know!

BIO:

I began my practice of law in Denver as an attorney in the field of elder law, probate, and estate planning and I have been practicing in that area of law for 11 years. I understand the challenges that everyone encounters as they get older, and I am compassionate, able to relate and empathize with my clients, which enables me to present their concerns persuasively to the court. I volunteered and have taught at the Wills Lab at the University of Denver, and prepared estate planning documents for low income clients. I also taught at the University of Denver in the Wills Lab during the summer. I have worked in the areas of Family Law and Criminal Law and was a Deputy District Attorney in Colorado Springs for a little over 2 years.

If you have a problem – I have a solution and may have encountered a similar situation throughout my career and I provide you the legal advise to help you navigate all the complicated rules and hardships. I am thrilled to be working with clients to help guide them through the complicated aspects of family law, probate, estate planning, truancy and criminal law cases. I also have a contract with the office of the child representative and represent children as Guardian ad Litem or Counsel for Youth in various cases. I am also court appointed as Guardian ad Litem for adults with diminished capacity in Probate and Family Law cases.

Cody Christian Law Office of Cody Christian





JESSE FEINSODBOARD OF GOVERNORS CANDIDATE

This is an important time for the Bar Association and serving on the board of governors will only allow me to continue serving and contributing to the greater legal community of El Paso County. I am passionate about maintaining the forward momentum of the Bar. I am excited for the opportunities ahead particularly through the various events and outreach programs initiated and championed by the Bar. I am certain my qualifications, experience, leadership and reputation within El Paso County as well as the other state judicial districts provide me with a unique opportunity to serve and lead the El Paso County Bar Association.

As you may already know, I am an attorney with Graham Law. Prior to working at Graham Law, I practiced with Sanders Law Firm, where my practice encompassed civil litigation, family law, animal law, and domestic-violence centered protection orders. I have spent my time during my practice to establish a good reputation and relationship among my attorney colleagues of the Bar as well as the dedicated members of the Bench.

I have practiced both in Wyoming and Colorado, which has allowed me a unique and helpful insight into the practice of law in two different, but close states. I have also served on the campaign team for a state representative which also gave me unique insight into both political leadership as well as establishing a relationship within the community and constituents. However, it is Colorado Springs where I feel most at home and engrained within the community. As a native of Colorado Springs, I bring a unique perspective to both the roots of Colorado as well as the progress Colorado has made.

During my practice in Colorado Springs I have been able to work closely with organizations which are established to help members of the community who find themselves in difficult times of life. I have spent extensive time working with and representing clients through TESSA. This has allowed me to work with and help many victims of domestic violence and give those a voice who may not have otherwise had one, as well as helping them navigate the complexities of the legal system. I have also represented clients pro bono who have faced very difficult situations, including running and fighting for their lives after life-threatening attacks from a domestic partner. Additionally I have helped recovered addicts re-establish relationships with children, which is the ultimate incentive for leading a clean and productive life.

I have enjoyed and hope to continue participating in the various pro bono and community service programs offered by the El Paso County Bar. I sincerely thank the Committee for its consideration and welcome any conversations, interviews, or requests for additional information.

Jesse Feinsod Graham Law

KAYLA BANZALIBOARD OF GOVERNORS CANDIDATE

I appreciate the consideration for a position as a CBA Board of Governors Representative on the El Paso County Bar Association. I have enjoyed serving in this position the last 3 years and would like to continue to represent El Paso County Bar Association in this role. In my practice, I focus predominately on civil litigation and have represented clients in a variety of legal disputes, with a focus on real estate and business-related issues. I constantly strive to adapt to the various eccentricities in each of my cases and know how to prioritize tasks to ensure that each of my clients receives the best representation possible. I strongly believe that the skills I have developed in my practice will translate well into serving in this position. Additionally, as someone who grew up in Colorado Springs, I have a love of this community and want to see the El Paso County Bar Association grow and continue to support the community at large. I strongly believe that growing the El Paso County Bar Association means developing and maintaining good relationships with members of other bar associations throughout the State of Colorado. I wish to serve as a CBA Board of Governors Representative on the El Paso County Bar Association Board to build those connections for our Association and to ensure that we continue to thrive and grow.

Kayla Banzaloí Robinson & Henry, P.C.

Southern Colorado Mediation Judges



G. David Miller, Retired District Judge, Fourth Judicial District, 2002-2022

davemiller.miller@gmail.com 719-650-9162

- Settlement Conferences
 - Mediation
 - Mediation/Arbitration
 - Special Master
 - Case Evaluations



Ronald G. Crowder, Retired District Judge, Fourth Judicial District, 2006-2017

ronald.crowder47@gmail.com 719-538-0033

See Southern Colorado Mediation Judges website for biography, appointments, and fee schedule: http://socomediation.com/



I provide this correspondence to express my interest in serving as a member of the Board of Governors. Based on my experience as a dedicated member of our legal community and long-term, yet well-traveled, resident of El Paso County, I am situated to appreciate, harmonize, and advance the interests and goals of the Bar Association.

My unique path to the practice of law began as a legal investigator in Colorado Springs (during my summer breaks from the University of Colorado-Boulder) and as a private investigator while living in South Carolina. I then took a five-year hiatus from all things law to administer a National Science Foundation research program in the fields of chemical and environmental engineering. I dedicated myself to identifying exceptional undergraduate minds and launching those students to success in both doctoral research programs and challenging STEM careers.

While I will always carry an appreciation for the level of detail commanded by the engineering disciplines, I understand the critical importance of organizing details in a way that makes sense in the overall picture. Becoming an attorney would allow me to translate the rigorous and exacting details found in the practice of law in a way that helps others achieve a resolution to their specific ordeals. I earned admission and a scholarship to a private law school in Massachusetts where I served as Treasurer of the Student Bar Association and earned a coveted private law clerk position in a civil litigation firm. My focus on legal research and writing led to a position as a Law Review Editor and publishing an article in the school's peer-reviewed Health Law Symposium.

I recognized early my fortune to have experienced the unique opportunities afforded by a private law school education, and I made a commitment to public service prior to focusing on my career as a private attorney. Out of law school, I served as a Deputy State Public Defender in the Appellate Division located in Denver where I pursued felony appeals. I later accepted a competitive associate attorney position at a civil litigation firm on 17th Street in downtown Denver. Together with my colleagues scattered throughout the skyline of high-rise office buildings, I honed my skills as a litigator, focusing my efforts on persuasive writing, deposition practice, trial preparation, arbitration, appeals, and, of course, mastering the billable hour requirement expected of successful associate attorneys.

Wanting more of a challenge and to work closer to home, I took advantage of a unique opportunity in Colorado Springs to build a family law practice alongside my wife, Teresa. We successfully expanded the family law practice focusing on a higher standard of legal practice. Teresa and I were excited to embark on establishing The Drexler Law Group, LLC, where I focus on domestic, civil, probate, and appellate work while also serving

as a mediator and arbiter in both domestic and civil litigation matters.

I enjoyed earlier this year the challenge and pride of assembling a joint CLE presentation exploring the "fatal" intersection of Domestic Relations and Probate law. I also assisted with developing a presentation for our local chapter of the Inn of Court that focused on implicit bias in the practice of law and as experienced in the courtroom. I also took advantage of a unique opportunity to present various ethical dilemmas crystalized in selected episodes of Breaking Bad and its spinoff Better Call Saul while also exploring the questionable lawyering driving The Lincoln Lawyer. While each of these were rewarding experiences to be sure, delivering a presentation addressing the use technology in the legal field at a conference in the U.S. Virgin Islands was more my style.

It is undeniable that our legal community benefits from the presence of so many exceptional members – diverse in practice, personalities, and life experience. From swinging hammers on a local Habitat for Humanity project with colleagues to sponsoring bar events and collaborating as co-counsel with member of the bar, my efforts are genuinely focused on facilitating both professional and personal relationships among the members of our prestigious bar.

When not practicing law, I take advantage of opportunities to be with my family. My son, Tyler, an incoming high school junior, has more college credits than I had after my first semester at CU-Boulder. To add insult to injury, Tyler's golf game, which he picked up only two summers ago, has surpassed my game, in both distance and score. With any spare time outside the office, and assuming we are not transporting Tyler to golf tournaments throughout the state, Teresa and I typically travel the country by RV to visit our other children and four grandchildren on the east coast. Locally, we take excursions in our boat that I am told (by Teresa) is not actually evidence of my ability to persuade but rather evidence of an "impulse" purchase.

All this to say that my breadth of experience, along with my vision to facilitate collaboration among colleagues, makes me to be an excellent fit to serve the El Paso County Bar Association as a member of the Board of Governors. In full disclosure, I do not believe my upcoming role as First Gentleman of the El Paso County Bar Association will interfere with my duties or responsibilities as a member of the Board; to be sure, it is rare that Teresa implements my suggested course of action without independent verification and analysis.

I recognize that this letter has surpassed my intent to keep this brief. As any experienced writer understands, I would have certainly written less if I had more time. I appreciate your consideration and look forward to serving as a member of the Board of Governors.

Matt Drexler Drexler Law Group





COLORADO SUPREME COURT PUSHES BACK ON JUDICIAL SUPREMACY

On August 21, 2023, the Colorado Supreme Court decided *Ward v. State*, 2023 CO 45, a case ostensibly about a property tax law and ballot measure. But the case fundamentally addresses the separation of powers in Colorado.

At issue is Senate Bill 23-303, which seeks to provide tax relief to Colorado citizens affected by property tax increases. It does so primarily by referring to the voters a proposition, known as Proposition HH, that would modify refund calculations under Colorado's Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR).

The Colorado Constitution requires that such laws address only a single subject and, further, that such laws clearly express their effect. An interest group sued the state after the bill became law, and a trial court heard the claims and adjudicated them. The Colorado Supreme Court then heard the appeal.



COLORADO SUPREME COURT PUSHES BACK ON JUDICIAL SUPREMACY

The Supreme Court determined that state courts lack jurisdiction to resolve a "single subject" dispute until the measure is actually passed by Colorado voters. As in other contexts, courts do not adjudicate hypothetical laws; they only adjudicate live disputes about enacted laws (i.e., "cases and controversies"). Accordingly, only if the voters pass Proposition HH will a court have jurisdiction to hear a constitutional challenge to the law.

Moreover, while the Supreme Court agreed that state courts have some jurisdiction to hear the "clear expression" challenge, it rejected that challenge on the merits.

The opinion is complex and delves into the oh-so-accessible areas of law like subject matter jurisdiction and the interplay between the legislature and the voters in areas of tax reform under TABOR. It also contains several paragraphs analyzing what can and must go in a ballot measure title. Thrilling stuff.

But the opinion does send a signal regarding the separation of powers. Indeed, any opinion from a state court of last resort that limits subject matter jurisdiction can be understood in separation of powers terms. It is a "do not enter" sign on the courthouse door. It represents deference to the voters, the General Assembly, and the Governor. In other words, in this opinion, the court says: "Let the process work, and we'll police the margins if we need to."

Opponents of this approach may point to the potential waste. Elections are expensive, and resources will go toward supporting and opposing Proposition HH. And if the petitioners in this case are ultimately right as a matter of constitutional law, all of that time and money will be for naught because the Court will strike the law.

But that is all hypothetical. Courts do not see themselves as policymakers. They do not always determine the most efficient outcomes or processes. Instead, the Constitution and laws dictate the Court's approach to adjudicating individual disputes, not the other way around. And opinions like this where courts self-police and limit their own power encourage the partisan political branches to work out policies before judicial review.

This case certainly previews the litigation to come over Proposition HH. And it indicates the Supreme Court's interest in policing the limits of its own authority to address laws prospectively.



Joel litigates appeals in all substantive areas and tries family, juvenile, and probate cases. To the extent this article expresses any opinion, such opinion does not advocate for any political or partisan outcome. This article expresses the analysis of the author as a private citizen and does not represent the opinion of any organization with which the author is affiliated. Joel can be reached at 719-473-0884 or joel@daileyprattlaw.com.



MEMBER OF THE MONTH: SABRA JANKO



1. Your name, firm and position

Sabra Janko, Janko Family Law, Owner and Managing Attorney

2. Education (JD)

JD University of Maryland School of Law, LLM in Military Law from The Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School

3. How long have you been in practice?

more than 20 years

4. What inspired you to become a lawyer?

I read the book "To Kill a Mockingbird" and wanted to be like Atticus Finch - doing the right thing in the face of adversity

5. How has your practice evolved or changed as you've grown in the profession?

I have learned that reaching agreement is usually the best solution for families, if possible as opposed to conflict and an adversarial approach.

6. Who is your professional role model or hero? Atticus Finch

7. What's one thing you love about practicing in Colorado Springs or El Paso County?

I love the beauty of Colorado Springs and feel at home in the military community.

8. Where are you from originally and what brought you here? (Or, if you're a native, what kept you here?)

I retired from the military and joined when I was 18. I grew up in the military and spent much of my adulthood travelling the United States and the world.

9. What are your hobbies?

Cooking, walking with my dog, travel.

10. What's one thing other members would be surprised to learn about you?

I jumped out of perfectly good airplanes while in flight 20 times.

19

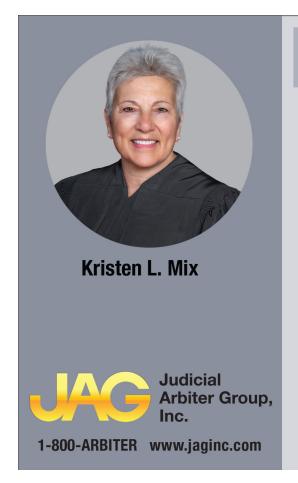


BUILDING IN EXERCISE TO (QUITE LITERALLY) STAY YOUNG

We say that youth is wasted on the young. Interestingly, in contrast, overall life expectancy continues to rise, approaching 80 years of age in several developed countries. Unfortunately, *healthy* life expectancy lags far behind, which has contributed to increasing costs in healthcare. Luckily, there is literally a fountain of youth that can improve health, attenuate the socio-economic impact of an aging population – physical fitness and activity.

A recent study titled Physical Activity on Telomere Length

as a Biomarker for Aging: A Systemic Review was published in September 2022 in *Sports Medicine* - Open by authors who surveyed a total of 43 studies focused on whether exercise influences health and aging through the study of telomere biology. Telomeres are long repeated nucleotide sequences whose primary function is to protect the integrity of genomic DNA from degradation, thereby maintaining genomic stability throughout the cell cycle. A good analogy for a telomere is a shoelace aglet – without the protection of the aglet on the end, the lace would become frayed and



Judge Kristen L. Mix (ret.) has joined the distinguished arbiters at JAG

Magistrate Judge Kristen L. Mix was appointed to the federal bench in 2007 and retired in August 2023. Prior to her appointment Judge Mix's expertise was in labor and employment law. In 2006 and 2007, Judge Mix was recognized as a top employment lawyer by Chambers U.S.A. and named one of the top twenty-five women lawyers in Colorado by 5280 Magazine. Judge Mix also served as a member of the Federal Magistrate Judges Association's Executive Committee from 2017 to 2021 and as President of the FMJA in 2021-2022.

As a member of the Sedona Conference and the Sedona Advisory Board, Judge Mix assisted in drafting the Commentary on Possession, Custody and Control of documents under Fed. R. Civ. P. 34 and the Social Media Primer. In 2023, Judge Mix was appointed to the Global Advisory Council of the Electronic Discovery Research Module.

In 2006, Judge Mix was appointed by Governor Bill Owens to serve on the Colorado Commission on Family Medicine. She served as Chair of the Commission from 2013-2017, and also served as a member and Chair of the Board of Directors of the Colorado Institute of Family Medicine from 2013 to 2018.

Magistrate Judge Mix has served as an adjunct professor at the Colorado School of Law and University of Denver College of Law. Judge Mix is a frequent writer and speaker on the law.

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BUILDING IN EXERCISE TO (QUITE LITERALLY) STAY YOUNG

would degrade and shorten over time, becoming dirty and somewhat unrecognizable as the lace it once was. With each cell division during your lifetime, the length of the telomere around your DNA strands progressively shortens (by approximately 50-100 base pairs per replication). As telomere length decreases over time, telomeres become too short for the cell to divide any further, leading to cellular senescence.

In other words, telomere shortening is a molecular sign of aging. The shorter your telomeres, the older you likely are. The longer your telomeres, the more accurately your DNA is able to replicate, leading to less genetic deviations and lower risks of disease. And the best part is, those 43 studies surveyed in Sports Medicine concluded that physical activity combined with regular aerobic training or moderate to vigorous intensity appears to help preserve telomere length.

With respect to type of exercise, one of the studies surveyed focused on the comparison of different physical activities of various metabolic demands (e.g., weight lifting, basketball, bicycling, running) and showed that only running could be positively correlated with preserving telomere length. This association of telomere length preservation with running might also help to explain the protective effects of aerobic exercise on the incidence of cardiovascular disease and all-cause mortality and that several chronic diseases are associated with telomere attrition.

Inactivity and sedentary behavior are reported to influence telomere biology, with strong association with worse health outcomes and higher cardiovascular and other chronic disease risk. Sedentary behavior is also linked to decreased muscle mass and low muscle strength. Furthermore, prolonged sitting is discussed to elevate inflammation and oxidative stress levels, subsequently contributing to telomere attrition.

In surveying the studies, you may conclude that it is time to give up, that your shoe laces are frayed beyond repair, and you may as well settle into that high-backed chair to become one with the squishy leather. Admittedly, those studies do indicate that telomere length is best preserved

by ultra-endurance athletes, particularly evident in "elderly" athletes who had been training on a regular basis over many years. However, in contrast to an athlete population, a combined exercise intervention of strength and aerobic training showed significant telomere lengthening as early as eight weeks in a population of obese, premenopausal women. And while you may not fit squarely in that category, the results suggest that perhaps a history of physical activity plays less of an influential role than an individual's health status and physical fitness level at baseline. Therefore, it appears that it is never too late to start exercising and benefit from its positive effects on health and telomeres.

So, as always, what have you done to get outside today? We sit at our desks and work for our clients and on our cases, and we cultivate our minds and keep our knowledge-base sharp. However, on a molecular level, we can keep that up for longer by building in exercise as a regular habit. With this column, we have continued to focus on wellness in the legal profession, and there can be no better wellness retreat than a good workout or run. We are lucky enough to live in Colorado, where keeping our strength up is fun and exciting, and we can tap into that fountain of youth simply by stepping outside. Just lace those shoes up tight and get out there to enjoy the day!

Elízabeth Vanatta Travis Law Group.





WHAT; ME WORRY?

Even though each of you is a skilled legal practitioner, it is still true that one is never too experienced to presume that you have command of even the most basic legal terminology. Let's take a quick quiz about a couple of concepts that you were told in law school are important to master before you bring a client's disputes into court.

Let's start by having you select the correct definition for each of these terms. (No looking on the paper of the lawyer sitting next to you; that wouldn't be ethical, I don't think.)

The words are case, controversy, standing, injury-in-fact and to sue.

Case – a. A civil or criminal proceeding at law or in equity. b. A grouping of beer bottles that is a lot less expensive than buying the beer one bottle at a time.

Controversy – a. An actual dispute requiring court involvement to seek a remedy.

b. What you have after you gave the clerk at the liquor store a twenty when buying the case of beer, but he says that you only gave him a ten.

Standing – a. The right of a party to challenge the conduct of another party in court.

b. What you can't do if you consumed all of the beer in the case you bought at the liquor store where you couldn't remember which bill you gave the clerk.

Injury-in-fact – a. A legally protected interest which is (a) concrete and particularized and (b) actual or imminent, with a causal connection between the injury and the conduct brought before the court.

b. How badly you feel after consuming the case of beer.

Sue – a. To institute legal proceedings against; to file a suit or litigate.

b. The name of a girl from high school you wanted to date, but didn't, but now that you finished the case of beer, you're wondering if you can still get ahold of her decades later.

OK; time's up! Exchange papers and let's grade them.

How are you doing so far? If you picked each "a" answer, you are 100% correct; you must have paid attention in law school courses because you know that you can't sue without standing, a case or controversy, and an injury-in-fact.

If you chose all the "b" answers, you might actually be just as correct, now that the U.S. Supreme Court has decided that you don't need any of those pesky prerequisites listed as the "a" answers above. Instead, anyone can now file a lawsuit if he just wants to see if the courts will solve a concern that has been bugging you, even a little bit.

Courtesy of our own State of Colorado, the case of 303 Creative LLC et al. v. Elenis et al, somehow wound its way through the 10th Circuit up to the United State Supreme Court without fussing with any of those notions. It seems that one Lorie Smith "sued" the state, claiming that she wanted to expand her graphic design business to include services for couples seeking wedding websites. The problem? Ms. Smith argued that she had an "injury in fact" because she "worries that Colorado will use the Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act to compel her—in violation of the First Amendment—to create websites celebrating marriages she does not endorse."

It didn't matter that no one had ever asked her to design any website, let alone make a request for a same sex site; and

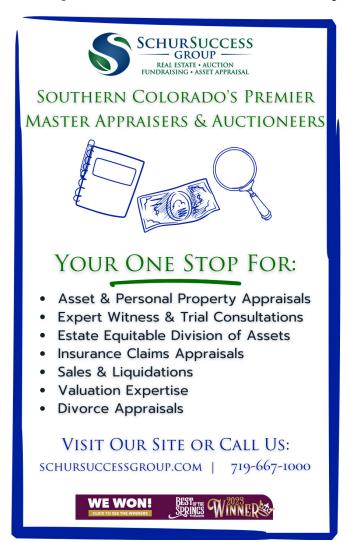
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WHAT; ME WORRY?

in fact, the person Smith claimed to be the source of this "worry" was a person – now get this – who never heard of Ms. Smith, never requested her to design a wedding cake for same sex partners, and in fact, is, in response to a reporter's inquiry, "married, I have a child—I'm not really sure where that came from? But somebody's using false information in a Supreme Court filing document."

This absence of any of the terms in my quiz didn't matter to the 10th circuit, which decided that Smith had standing for her fake case: "[W]e conclude that Appellants have shown an injury in fact, because there was a credible threat that Colorado will prosecute under that statute [prohibiting discrimination against whatever it was Smith sort of thinks she was worried about]".

The subsequent appeal to The Bigs was red meat for our U. S. Supreme Court, which never met the trashing of



Constitutional protection that it didn't like. Sure as shooting (a problem for another column), the Supremes didn't blink over the absence of any of those irritating first-year law student concepts about standing, controversy, or injury in fact, but plowed ahead, taking the case on cert, and eviscerating public discrimination laws prohibiting things we were formerly not supposed to do, like establishing "white only" water fountains or segregated Woolworth lunch counters.

Well, O.K; If the courts are taking speculative and hypothetical cases when it is a slow day at the certiorari bar, then I've got a few anxieties I want resolved:

I worry that I'll have angina whenever someone speeds past me on the highway. Can the courts tell people in general to slow down whenever I'm on the Interstate?

I worry that every time I get home from going out socially, sure enough, one of those nasty nose hairs is there in plain view, which is embarrassing. I'd like to sue razor manufacturers to mandate the creation of a good nose hair trimmer (I think this one is suitable for class action relief, incidentally).

I worry that if I join one of those on-line dating sites, I'll get stuck with someone I don't like. Yes; I'm married so I won't be using one, but what if I were to, huh? Can't a get declaratory relief that dating sites have to find a perfect person for me, just in case?

I worry that some lame rock and roll group like Boston will be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, while the more deserving Shangri-Las will be left out (despite the musical perfection of the song "Leader of the Pack"). Can I file for injunctive relief, especially to keeping Boston out?

I'm particularly worried that Colorado is still admitting attorneys who pose a threat to those already practicing because the new ones might be better than some of us. Among all worries, this one certainly qualifies as a case with controversy and injury-in-fact, even more than, oh, a mythical homophobic web designing business.

Sure as I'm standing here.

Dan Rector Author Extraordinaire



THE PARALEGAL CORNER

PIKES PEAK PARALEGALS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Available positions open for nominations: Secretary, Treasurer, Program Director, Communications Director, Nominations Chair

SECRETARY: Attend all board meetings and prepare minutes of the meetings to be distributed to the board members for final approval prior to the next monthly board meeting. Forward approved minutes to Webmaster for inclusion in the webpage.

TREASURER: Deposit all funds and make all disbursements in payment of Association expenses. Any extraordinary expenses shall be approved by the Board of Directors before obligation to pay; If requested by the Board of Directors, prepare a budget for the ensuing fiscal year, which shall be adopted by the membership at the annual meeting. The budget shall be submitted to the members of the Board of Directors at least ten days prior to presentation at the annual meeting. Submit a written financial report at each regular meeting to be attached to the minutes of that meeting as a part of the permanent record; Coordinate with the membership director to keep a current roster of membership and report the membership annually to NALA with the renewal fee for continued affiliation with NALA; Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Program Director solicits ideas for speakers from the board or other members and reaches out to the community to find speakers for either two-hour

dinner meetings or 1-hour brown bag lunch meetings. This takes planning and follow through with the speakers to determine what their needs might be i.e., materials copied or any computer/screen available for presentation. Program Director coordinates the location and food for each dinner meeting, verifies registration and check-in of attendees, and collects the money to be given to the treasurer after the meeting. Send thank you notes to each speaker. Plan and coordinate the location, food and speakers for the annual meeting to be held in October and the summer social event usually held in July.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR: The Communications Chairman's responsibilities shall be to disseminate information and announcements to members, make sure that the goals and objectives set for the Communications Committee are achieved, and perform all other duties assigned by the President.

NOMINATIONS CHAIR

Attend all meetings and assist other board members as needed. Recruit members for the board as terms expire. Send out a Call for Nominations prior to the annual meeting and include the slate of candidates with the Notice of the Annual Meeting. Assist with the voting process during the annual meeting for new board positions. Prepare ballots if necessary for voting.

Please contact **Cindi Gregory** (<u>cgregory@graham.law</u>) if you are interested in any of above positions or would just like more information. If you wish to be added to the ballot please let me know as soon as possible and for which position. Step up and take a turn on the board to let your voice be heard. **WE WANT YOU!!!**

THE PARALEGAL CORNER

PIKES PEAK PARALEGALS MEET OUR PROGRAM CHAIR

Stephanie Marrero Family Law Paralegal Gasper Law Group

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A PARALEGAL/LEGAL ASSISTANT?

8 years

WHAT PRACTICE AREAS HAVE YOU WORKED IN?

Family Law, Criminal Defense, Probate and Estate Planning



Rewarding, Challenging, Detailed

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN YOUR CAREER?

Advancing from a paralegal to senior paralegal to managing paralegal

WHAT IS A VALUABLE LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED IN THIS CAREER FIELD?

To be patient, objective and don't stress about situation out of your control

WHAT ARE THE BEST SKILLS TO BRING TO THIS CAREER FIELD?

Being adaptable

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE PARALEGAL/LEGAL ASSISTANT CAREER FIELD?

To become a Licensed Legal Paraprofessional

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO A NEW PARALEGAL/LEGAL ASSISTANT?

Know your learning style, ask questions and take notes!

WHO IS SOMEONE YOU ADMIRE, AND WHY?

My children, despite being raised by teen parents. They have grown to be independent, responsible, strong minded young adults.

ARE YOU A SPORTS FAN?

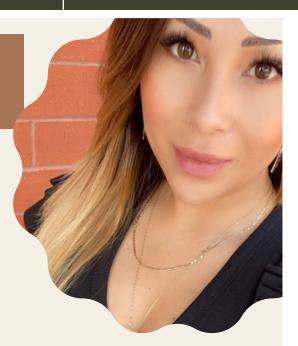
I like most sports, but football is my favorite.

WHAT CAUSES ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?

Helping the less fortunate, donating and volunteering when my schedule allows it

WHAT IS AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT YOU?

I love crafting, I can sew, design and recreate almost anything!



bar justice center calendar

SEPTEMBER



12

HISPANIC SECTION MEETING | BROWN BAG LUNCH

Join us for lunch at the Bar Office to learn more about the newly formed Hispanic Section. Section Leader: Anthony Zapata

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM | EPCBA Office | Register



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PROBATE SECTION | PROSECUTION OF FINANCIAL CRIMES

Please join us to hear Colorado Springs Police Department Sergeant Robert Ferri and Detective Rob Campbell present on financial crimes in probate cases. | 1 General CLE

7:00 AM - 9:00 AM | EPCBA Offices | Register



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2023 BENCH APPRECIATION DINNER

Our second annual bench appreciation dinner is here! Join us for an evening of merriment and appreciation. The evening will include entertainment, a presentation of appreciation for our local bench, and opportunities to mingle with your colleagues from the Bar, Inns of Court, and on the Bench!

5:00 PM - 8:30 PM | Penrose House Garden Pavilion | Register



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PASSING OF THE GAVEL

President Hurcomb will be concluding his term as president of the El Paso County Bar and passing the torch to our incoming President, Teresa Drexler.

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM | Catalyst Campus | Register



CLEAR YOUR ACTIVE WARRANT

Without Being Arrested

ELIGIBLE

Open to anyone with an active warrant or warrant for probation violation in El Paso County for class 5 or 6 telony, class 4 drug felony, misdemeanor or traffic offense.

NOT ELIGIBLE

Any Victim Rights Act Case Assault Domestic Violence Unlawful Sexual Contact Child Abuse Careless Driving involving Death

Sept. 15,2023

El Paso County Combined Courts

270 S Tejon St, Colorado Springs, CO 80903

9:00AM - 3:00PM

- No Arrest Will Be Made -

Defense Attorneys Will Be Present

Get Back On Track for Completing Probation

Resolve Your Case OR Set a New Court Date

If you have questions, contact the Public Defender's Office at

(719) 475-1235

Springs. Pubdef@coloradodefenders.us

Organized By

4th Judicial District Court

Colorado Springs Municipal Court

4th Judicial District Attorney's Office

Colorado Public Defender's Office

4th Judicial District Probation Department

TI Probation Services

El Paso County Bar Association

4th Judicial District Access to Justice Committee

Local Criminal Defense Attorneys

Segunda Oportunidad

ÓRDEN ACTIVA Siw ser Arrestado

ELIGIBLE

Todos los que tengan una order de arresto activa o orden por violación probatoria en el Condado de El Paso por: Delitos de clase 5 o 6 Delitos por droga clase 4 Delitos de Menor Cuantía Faltas de Tráfico

NO ELIGIBLE

Casos que involucran el "Victim Rights Act" Agresión Violéncia Doméstica Contact Sexual Ilegal Abuso Infantíl Muerte causada por Negligencia Vehicular



Tome pasos firmes para completar su proceso probatorio

Resuelva su caso Obtenga nueva fecha de Audiencia

Sept. 15, 2023

Cortes Combinadas del Condado de El Paso

270 S Tejon St, Colorado Springs, CO 80903

9:00AM - 3:00PM

- No Se Realizarán Arrestos -

Si tiene preguntas, llame a las oficinas de la Defensa Pública:

(719) 475-1235

Springs.Pubdefecoloradodefenders.us

Organizado Por

4th Judicial District Court

Colorado Springs Municipal Court

4th Judicial District Attorney's Office

Colorado Public Defender's Office

4th Judicial District Probation Department

TI Probation Services

El Paso County Bar Association

4th Judicial District Access to Justice Committee

Local Criminal Defense Attorneys



EL PASO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION THE JUSTICE CENTER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Use your legal skills to help our Pikes Peak community!

The Justice Center is growing and experiencing a high volume of people living through vulnerable situations requiring legal representation. If you'd like to volunteer to take a case we will gladly work to find you a match! In return you can receive up to 9 CLE credits for pro bono or discounts to our CLEs for a reduced fee case.

How does our Find-a-Lawyer program work? The Pro Bono Publico project

- 1. Clients apply for legal representation;
- 2. Our verifications consultant verifies if the clients are qualify to receive free legal representation based on the Federal Poverty Line;
- 3. Client join our waitlist;
- 4. We send you our waitlist once a month;
- 5. If you select one, we send you their contact information for you to connect;
- 6. The Justice Center pays for all court costs and fees;
- 7. If you require paralegal services for your case, Casey Freeman will help you for free based on availability;
- 8. You report the hours you've worked each month;
- 9. Receive up to 9 CLE Credits for your volunteer hours!

The Modest Means project

- 1. Clients apply for legal representation;
- 2. Our verifications consultant verifies if the clients are qualify to receive free legal representation based on the Federal Poverty Line;
- 3. Client join our waitlist;
- 4. We send you our waitlist once a month;
- 5. If you select one, we send you their contact information for you to connect;
- 6. You bill the client a reduced fee for your legal services;
- 7. You will receive payment from the client.

To learn more about these and other opportunities, please contact our Deputy Director of Operations **Debra Romano** at <u>Debra@JusticeCenterCOS.org</u> or by calling her at (719) 505.2602.



EL PASO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BAR FOUNDATION NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The El Paso County Bar Association Bar Foundation is the charitable arm of the El Paso County Bar Association and for many years has sponsored scholarships for local law students and has contributed to local non-profit organizations. The Bar Foundation Board of Directors is engaged in short term and long term planning and needs to know what our members think is the best way for the Bar Foundation to pursue its goals.

Those goals are: promote education, knowledge and awareness of the law; improve the administration of justice and delivery of legal services; assist in providing legal services to those who cannot afford them; provide scholarships and grants consistent with these purposes; and serve similar charitable and community needs in El Paso and Teller Counties.

Soon you will receive an email from the Bar Association with a survey asking you to tell how which goals you strongly support and those you do not support. This will help the Board of Directors focus on the goals that matter most to our members. Please respond to the survey and feel free to make suggestions of your own.

Thank you for your help!!

The Bar Foundation Board of Directors



Commercial Litigation Attorney, Sparks Willson, P.C.

Sparks Willson, P.C. is seeking a commercial litigation associate attorney with 3 or more years of experience for our established business law firm in Colorado Springs. Applicants must demonstrate an interest in litigation, strong research and writing skills, outstanding interpersonal skills, and be licensed to practice in Colorado. Experience in commercial litigation practice preferred. The firm offers a competitive salary, excellent benefits, and a collegial working environment. Annual salary including bonus range is \$120,000 - \$160,000, depending on experience. Generous benefits include medical, dental, vision, and retirement. Please send a cover letter, resume, list of references, and writing sample to Lindsey Caines, Office Administrator, at lrc@sparkswillson.com.

PATRICIA GERMER-COOLIDGE, ESQ.

REAGYN A. GERMER, ESQ.





COST

MEMBERS: FREE NON-MEMBERS: \$10 **Brown Bag Lunch**



RSVP

RSVP to Stephanie Marrero at smarrero@gasperlaw.com



Presented by

Patricia Germer-Coolidge, Esq. and Reagyn Germer, Esq.

PATRICIA OPENED THE LAW FIRM IN 1986. FOR OVER THREE DECADES, SHE HAS SERVED CLIENTS IN ALL AREAS OF FAMILY LAW FROM UNCONTESTED TO COMPLEX CASES THROUGH INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTATION AND AS A TRAINED MEDIATOR AND ARBITER AND SPECIAL MASTER.

PATRICIA RECEIVED HER LAW DEGREE FROM UNIVERSITY OF DENVER STURM SCHOOL OF LAW. SHE GRADUATED FROM ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY IN ALAMOSA, COLORADO (CUM LAUDE).

PATRICIA HAS SERVED AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE EL PASO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION, A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CBA BOARD OF GOVERNORS, TRUSTEE TO THE EL PASO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE EL PASO COUNTY WOMEN'S LAWYER ASSOCIATION.

SHE IS ADMITTED TO PRACTICE IN COLORADO AND IS A MEMBER OF THE COLORADO BAR ASSOCIATION, THE EL PASO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION, THE EL PASO COUNTY WOMEN'S LAWYER ASSOCIATION, THE COLORADO WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION, AND THE BEN S. WENDELKEN INNS OF COURT.

REAGYN GRADUATED FROM UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, A.B., IN 1999 WITH HONORS AND RECEIVED HER LAW DEGREE FROM UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO SCHOOL OF LAW IN 2003.

SHE JOINED THE LAW FIRM OF PATRICIA GERMER-COOLIDGE, P.C. IN NOVEMBER 2012. PRIOR TO JOINING THE FIRM, REAGYN WAS A STAFF ATTORNEY FOR THE NATIVE AMERICAN DISABILITY LAW CENTER PROVIDING LEGAL SERVICES TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NAVAJO NATION AND HOPI TRIBE AND WAS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE IN NORTHERN NEW MEXICO. IN BETWEEN PRIVATE PRACTICE, REAGYN WORKED AS A DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR THE 6TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY IN DURANGO, COLORADO.



LOCATION

El Paso County Bar Association 24 S. Weber Street, Suite 135 Colorado Springs, CO 80903



12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M. **SEPTEMBER 28, 2023**





PIKES PEAK PARALEGALS PRESENTS: CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION AND ANNUAL MEETING



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2023



ALAMO CORPORATE CENTER, 102 S. TEJON STREET, COLORADO SPRINGS, co



8:30 A.M. – 8:50 A.M. – REGISTRATION – BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED AT THE BEGINNING OF OUR SEMINARS

9:00 A.M. - 10:15 A.M.

PARENTING ISSUES WITH MARLENE BIZUB, PSY.D.

Marlene Bizub, Psy.D. is a psychotherapist in private practice, focusing primarily on PC/DM and reunification appointments by the court in domestic relations cases. Dr. Bizub has dedicated her practice to working with children and families going through divorce or other life transitions.

10:30 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

ETHICS WITH JUSTIN WALKER, ESQ.

Mr. Walker was admitted to practice in Colorado, New Jersey, New York, and Virginia; in the United States District Court for Colorado, New Jersey and Southern and Eastern Districts of New York; and in the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. His practice involves a full range of representing individuals and companies in civil litigation, including general liability, professional malpractice, construction defect claims, employment law, transportation claims, insurance defense and disputes regarding all areas of civil law. Join us and hear Mr. Walker's perspective on Ethics!

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Annual Meeting of Pikes Peak Paralegals

TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT STEPHANIE MARRERO AT SMARRERO@GASPERLAW.COM BY WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023



Online payments can be made

using this QR Code:







Waldo Canyon Annual Tree Planting Project









Twelve volunteers participated in the eleventh annual Waldo Canyon Fire tree planting on June 10, 2023. The event was sponsored by the Justice Center and the Coalition for the Upper South Platte. The group was able to plant 400 seedlings before a fast moving thunderstorm moved in to curtail the effort.

This popular annual project has organized the planting of more than 10,000 seedlings since the Waldo Canyon fire in 2012.

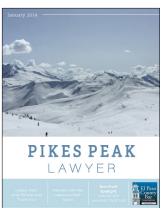
PIKES PEAK LAWYER

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES • 2023

CONTENT

he Pikes Peak Lawyer is published digitally 12 times per year, and has an audience of over 1000 attorneys and business professionals.

By submitting content or advertisements your message can reach a targeted and influential section of El Paso County.





ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Contact Lisa Dailey at 473-0884 or lisa@daileyprattlawcom

ADVERTISING & DEADLINE QUESTIONS:

960-4263 or britt@elpasocountybar.org

PLEASE EMAIL ALL SUBMISSIONS TO:

<u>Lisa Dailey</u>, Editor <u>Riley Gould</u>, Design & Publication

SECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS | RELATING TO:

- Practice area news such as case announcements, statutory changes, judicial appointments, etc.
- Section event reviews and pictures
- Leadership opportunities
- Other community news

ARTICLES | TOPICS OF INTEREST INCLUDE:

- · Volunteer recognition for lawyer or nonprofit
- Law Practice Management
- Historical Information
- Book Reviews
- Technology Updates

ADVERTISEMENTS | spread throughout publication

- Law Practice or Business Ads
- · Save the Dates
- CLE Opportunities
- General Business Services
- Job Openings

ANNOUNCEMENTS | listed in announcement section

- New Attorneys or Paralegals
- Retirements
- Location Changes or Space Available
- Congratulations

GENERAL GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS:

- Articles must be in Microsoft Word
- Photos must be high resolution in .jpeg, .png, or .gif format (occasionally will accept .pdf)
- Maximum Article Length: 1500 words
- Maximum Section Update Length: 450 words
- Submissions must be received by the 15th of the month preceding the issue



PIKES PEAK LAWYER

PUBLISHING AND EDITORIAL POLICY

Statements and opinions expressed in editorials and articles are not necessarily those of the El Paso County Bar Association (EPCBA) and publication does not constitute an endorsement of views expressed.

Publication of advertising does not imply endorsement or recommendation of goods, products, and services offered. All advertising is subject to the approval of the EPCBA which reserves the right to reject editorial and article copy.

The statements and opinions expressed in opinion pieces on the law, the legal profession, and the administration of justice are those of the authors, and no endorsement of these views by the EPCBA should be inferred.

Editorial guidelines:

- · Analysis, opinion, and criticism of the present state of the law should be supported by sufficient legal authority to enable the reader to assess the validity of the opinion.
- · Citations should be provided where appropriate. Authors are responsible for the accuracy of all citations. Citations must be adequate to annotate the material and provide practical information for attorneys.

The policy of the EPCBA in publishing The Pikes Peak Lawyer is to promote civility and professionalism. EPCBA reserves the right to accept or reject any article.

This policy is modeled on The Colorado Lawyer policies. https://cl.cobar.org/write-for-us/



Committee Chairs		
Alternative Dispute Resolution	Dave Johnson	471-4034
Bench/Bar	<u>Joel Pratt</u>	473-0884
Fee Arbitration	Steve Pelican	473-8282
Medical/Legal	Richard Ranson	593-2121
Membership	Ed McCord	590-9983
Military Relations	Melissa Guggisberg	302-8680
Publication	<u>Lisa Dailey</u>	473-0884
0 01 .		
Section Chairs	Ъ	
Criminal Law	Dan Kay	
Employment Law	Ian Kalmanowitz/	
Paratha I and	Glenn Schlabs	
Family Law	Elizabeth Vanatta	
New Lawyers	Raquel Hernandez	471-8000
Solo/Small Firm	David Margrave	227-7500
Probate	Sarah Stein	219-0772
Real Estate	Steve Barr	264-6955
D-1-4-10		
Related Organization	Camala I india	471-0380 x132
Colorado Legal Services Court Care	Sarah Lipka Diane Price	471-0380 x132 632-1754 x21
		632-1734 XZ1
EPC Chapter of the CO Women's	<u>Kacılael Powell</u>	
Bar Association	Ть Т	885-748-4201
EPC Christian Legal Society	Theresa Lynn	005-740-4201
EPC Bar Foundation	Sidebotham Stophania Province	447-9794
Inn of Court	Stephanie Brewer Hon. Steven Katzman	
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Our mission: to provide legal information and services to our members and to promote respect for the law and the legal profession.

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