



September 2020

Ingham County Bar Association

BRIEFS



ICBA Leaders – Get to
know your Leaders!

President's Message

Page 4

Contents

President’s Message..... 4

Get to Know Your Leaders.....5-14

ICBA President’s Special Recognition Award 15

ICBA Strategic Plan..... 16

A Brief History of Women 19

Press Releases22-24

Past Presidents of ICBA..... 26



@inghamcountybarassociation



@ICBALawyers



ICBA Logo And Letterhead Policy

The ICBA has adopted a policy regarding the use of the ICBA logo and letterhead. If you are currently using or are planning to use the ICBA logo, we ask that you become familiar with and abide by the revised policy. You can read the full policy [here](#).

About ICBA

Founded in 1895, the Ingham County Bar Association continues its longstanding tradition of service to the legal profession and the greater Lansing community, bringing lawyers together to join in a strong organization that works to achieve objectives that transcend the individual.



INGHAM COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 66
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
www.inghambar.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Sandra J. Lake
Hall Matson, PLC

President-Elect

Charles A. Lawler
Clark Hill, PLC

Vice President

Pamela Amato
Mallory Lapka Scott & Selin, PLLC

Treasurer

Steve Sinas
Sinus Dramis Law Firm

Past President

Charles E. Barbieri
Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC

James L. Dalton
Attorney at Law

Lindsay N. Dangi
Murphy & Spagnuolo, PC

Paul McCord
Fraser Trebilcock

Alexander S. Rusek
White Law, PLLC

Jessica Zimbelman
State Appellate Defender Office

Mary Bowen
City of Lansing

Emily Jefferson
Michigan Dep't of Attorney General

Christopher Wickman
Nichols Law Firm, PLLC

Mark J. DeLuca
Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC

SECTION CHAIRS

Bankruptcy Law

Norman Witte
Witte Law Offices, PLLC

Patricia Scott
Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC

Criminal Defense Law

Mary Chartier
Chartier & Nyamfukudza, PLC

Chris Wickman
Nichols Law Firm, PLLC

Takura Nyamfukudza
Chartier & Nyamfukudza, PLC

Employment & Labor Law

John A. Maise
White Schneider, PC

Family Law

Jennipher Martinez
White Schneider Young & Chiodini, PC

Brooke Elise Van Buren-Hay
Private Practitioner

Erica Terranova
Bailey & Terranova

Probate & Trust Law

Sally D. Babbitt
Babbitt Legal Group, PC

April Alleman
Crenshaw Peterson & Associates, PC

Real Estate Law

William D. Tomblin
William D. Tomblin & Associates

Christopher Patterson
Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes, PLC

Young Lawyers

Theodora Eisenhut
Ingham County Prosecutor's Office

Paralegal/Legal Assistant

Elizabeth Cary
Chartier & Nyamfukudza, PLC

Heidi Pierce
Fraser Trebilcock

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Annual Dinner:

Charles Lawler

Annual Meeting:

Charles Lawler

Ask A Lawyer:

Ray Harris/Brandon Schumacher/Emily Jefferson

Awards:

Jessica Zimbleman/Alex Rusek

Barristers:

Mark DeLuca

BRIEFS:

Angela Wall, Editor; Mary Bowen, Board Liaison

List Serve: Staff

Meet the Judges:

Steve Sinas/Emily Jefferson

Education:

Chris Wickman, James Dalton

Membership:

Lindsay Dangi /Steve Sinas

Monthly Deliberations:

Alex Rusek

Judicial Deliberations/Panels:

Chris Wickman/Emily Jefferson

Judicial Review:

Charlie Lawler/Alex Rusek

Nominating Committee:

Charles Barbieri

Past Presidents:

Charles Barbieri

Section Chair Liaison:

Chris Wickman, Patricia Scott

Shrimp Dinner:

Robert Refior/Elias Kafantaris

Social Media: Steve Sians/Staff

Sponsors:

Pam Amato/Paul McCord

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Madelyne Lawry
517-627-3938

President's Message



Sandra Lake,
ICBA President
slake480@gmail.com

1977 Nobel laureate, Ilya Prigogine, is quoted as saying: "The future is uncertain . . . but this uncertainty is at the very heart of human creativity."

A highly prized chemist, Mr. Prigogine, is known for his work in "dissipative structures and their role in thermodynamic systems far from equilibrium." According to Wikipedia, "Prigogine discovered that importation and dissipation of energy into chemical systems could result in the emergence of new structures." Think of, for example, a tornado.

What does that have to do with the Ingham County Bar Association, you ask? COVID-19, much like the unpredictable and destructive force of a tornado, has caused many of us to embrace human creativity when our systems are far from equilibrium. We have seen countless examples of human creativity in keeping ourselves connected with family, friends, and colleagues. We have also seen this creativity alter, and even expand, the practice of law in ways many never imagined just seven months ago.

I am honored to serve as President during the ICBA's 126th year. I am also honored and humbled to work with our innovative members who have not let distance prevent us from staying together as a legal community and offering valuable benefits to our members and to our community. For the first time ever, we have offered a virtual forum for all local judicial candidates to connect and speak with our members via Zoom. These gatherings have been informative and inspiring. Each of the candidates share a true passion for the betterment of the citizens of Ingham County. Thank you to all the candidates and members who participated.

The ICBA has also purchased a Zoom account so that monthly section meetings can continue virtually. For those who have not previously participated in section meetings, the ICBA offers monthly opportunities for education and, to catch up with your fellow practitioners. The sections offering these learning experiences are in the areas of bankruptcy law, criminal defense law, probate & trust, family law, real estate, employment/labor law, and our recently added paralegal/legal assistant section. Keep reading BRIEFS for any upcoming meeting information. And if you are interested in helping to organize these meetings, your help and ideas are always welcome.

The ICBA Board is also exploring other new ways to bring benefits to our members. We are discussing such things as learning vlogs on our website organized by topic so that you can keep current, or as a refresher, on many of the legal issues we all grapple with on a daily basis. We are also exploring the idea of offering ICBA merchandise so that we can show our ICBA pride around town.

"Every success story is a tale of constant adaption, revision and change."

- Richard Branson

If you have any other suggestions or ideas, or would like to participate in the committees that will be working on these ideas, please contact us.

Some of our annual events are not going to be held in person and may be postponed altogether until a time when we can safely meet in person, shake hands, and break bread together. But until then, the ICBA is dedicated to move forward and keep our legal community in touch with one another. We are going to have a great year and I look forward to seeing as many of you as I can, even if it is just on a computer screen.

Best wishes and stay safe!



ICBA Get to Know Your Leaders

This issue has been dedicated to the leaders and staff of the ICBA. They have given their time throughout this last year, an invaluable commodity, and we wish to thank them and acknowledge their dedication and hard work. Thank you all!



Pam Amato
Vice President

pamato@mclpc.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Several tubes of toothpaste - currently 5.

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? 5 years old when I decided that I would cut my hair for school pictures. The style was free form disaster.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Veterinarian.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Always make a guest in your home feel welcome and never let them leave hungry or thirsty.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? Tough call. Panther: because I love the way they look and move. Whale: because I like to swim and be able to jump out of the water like they do.



Sally Babbitt
Co-Chair Probate & Trust Section
bahrielaw@comcast.net

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? A packet of Wendy's saltine crackers from about 5 years ago, which are now crushed.

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? 7 years old. I had beautiful long hair and my Mom and sister took me to the stylist and had her give me a pixie cut.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? True Crime writer or professor.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Always write a thank you note.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? A baby Giant Panda because they are so stinkin' cute!



Charles Barbieri
Immediate Past President
cbarbieri@fosterswift.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? The book entitled Don't Sweat the Small Stuff for Men.

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? 65, when my wife cut my hair during the Covid stay home order.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Newspaper editor.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Remember your blessings!

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? Dog. They are unquestionably Man's Best Friend!

**Not pictured*

James L. Dalton, Board Member / April J. Alleman, Section Co-chair – Probate & Trust / John A. Maise, Section Co-chair – Labor & Employment / Jennifer R. Martinez, Co-chair – Family Law / Christopher S. Patterson, Co-Chair – Real Estate / Patrica Joan Scott, Section, Co-Chair - Bankruptcy / Brooke Elise Van Buren-Hey, – Section Co-Chair – Family Law / Norman C. Witte, Section Co-Chair – Bankruptcy



Mary Bowen
Board Member

marybowenesq@att.net

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Shhhh, this is a secret! I have an abundance of paper towels and napkins in my desk drawer. I'm always eating during the day. My goal is to keep my clothes clean and not make a mess! I don't want to spill anything on my keyboard. I keep a ton of napkins and paper towels in my desk drawer for this purpose. Unfortunately, I do not allow my stash to dwindle, so I constantly grab more from the kitchen. Go figure! At least I'm prepared for an accidental spill and I can act fast!

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? I was 12 or 13 years old when I had the worst hair cut of my life. I had these bangs in the front. My hair was short in the top and long in the back. I don't have a name for the style except NEVER AGAIN. *Disclaimer, the haircut was not my idea. I won't mention any names. Thanks Mom. I strongly dislike short bangs because of this hair cut! #TEAMDETTESTBANGS #ONEANDDONE #NEVERAGAIN

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? My alternate career choice was either a travel writer or investigative journalist. Both of these occupations incorporated my love of writing and travel. I wanted to learn about different cultures, locations while submitting stories for large scale publications.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? At a young age, my mother advised me "to always be prepared." Everything from carrying Kleenex in your purse for a runny nose, blotting your lipstick, to carrying a sweater or jacket in case you get cold. Here's a funny story. About five or six years ago, I went to a summer major league baseball game with my family. It was scorching outside. I brought my summer jacket with me because I had gotten my hair done the day before and I was concerned about rain. My family members teased me for bringing my jacket. During the 4th inning, the heavens opened and heavy rain poured from the sky. Everyone ran from their seats and sought shelter from the rain. No one in my family brought an umbrella. But I had my jacket with a hood so my hair didn't get wet and I got the last laugh!

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? I choose a lion. They are bold, fearless, fierce, and strong leaders of their pride. Lions are highly respected in the animal kingdom.



Elizabeth Cary
Co-Chair Paralegal/Legal
Assistant Section
lizzy@cndefenders.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Sheet face masks. Whenever I need a relaxing break, I'll pop one of those on. It always scares my co-workers and bosses when they walk into my office. Ha!

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? 7th grade. I thought getting a perm on my short hair would be a great idea. My friends started calling me Frizzy Lizzy after that.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Something in the medical field. I was the student athletic trainer in high school, so I originally wanted to be an athletic trainer or a nurse. But my path led me to criminal defense litigation instead and I love it.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Stand up for yourself, others, and the things you truly believe in. I was raised by my mother, grandmother, and aunt - 3 very strong, independent, badass women. (I totally get if you have to remove the badass part lol) I work hard and stand up for what I believe in because of them.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? A dog! Specifically one of my dogs because I spoil them beyond belief. Plus, dogs are just the best creatures on Earth - better than a lot of humans!

noun **Leadership** /'līdər,SHīp/
the action of leading a group of people or an organization.



Mary Charler
Co-Chair Criminal Law Section
mary@cndefenders.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? A Pez dispenser. I collect them. I have well over 1000 from all around the world.

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? I've had a lot--different colors, perms--but probably the "big hair" that was common when I was growing up on the east coast.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? I'd love to be a fiction writer or a baker.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? God gave you a brain, use it. And to never rush your meals—relax and enjoy them.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? A dog in our house because that is living the life of luxury. Or a whale--I love them.



Lindsay Dangi
Secretary
ldangl@mbspclaw.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? My grandfather's paperweight.

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? In fifth grade I permed my naturally curly hair. It was disastrous.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Author.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Hard work can surpass natural talent.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? A hawk. I enjoyed the view when skydiving and could do that again.



Mark DeLuca
Presidents Young Lawyers Section
mdeluca@fosterswift.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Campaign bumper sticker from the 1980 Ingham County Prosecutor race.

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? Some people might (incorrectly) say that my current haircut is my all time worst. I have not had a haircut since February 2020.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? PGA Tour Caddie

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Brush your teeth

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? Thoroughbred Racehorse. Legends never die.

noun *Guidance* /'gɪdəns/
advice or information aimed at resolving a problem or difficulty, especially as given by someone in authority.



Emily Jefferson

Board Member

jeffersonel@michigan.gov

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Plant food for my officemates, Nelly the Nerve Plant and Sinclair the Snake Plant.

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? Probably a kid - I'm very particular about my hair now.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Something involving linguistics or travel.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Nothing brings people together like good food.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? A falcon, because flying looks exhilarating.



Sandra Lake

President

slake480@gmail.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? A seashell my daughter found in Aruba.

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? 3rd grade, uneven cut by my mom.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Radiologist

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Work first, play second.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? A cat. My Himalayans have the best life.



Charles Lawler

President Elect

clawler@clarkhill.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? A needle and thread.

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? 10 or 12, had a quarter of an inch long shaved and my head has an odd shape.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Teacher or coach.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Always wear clean underpants.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? A fish, so I can torment my son when he's trying to catch one.

adjective

Fiduciary

/fə'd(y)ooSHē, erē, fə'd(y)ooSH(ə)rē/

is a person who holds a legal or ethical relationship of trust with one or more other parties.

adjective

Generous

/ˈjen(ə)rəs/

showing kindness toward others.



Paul McCord

Board Member

pmccord@fraserlawfirm.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? A piston to a BMW M30 engine.

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? 48. I think the barber may have just rolled out of bed Saturday morning after a rough Friday night. Cut a huge chunk out of my hair.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? A trash collector. That way I could "legally" skitch behind a trash truck.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? My long suffering Irish mother . . . "GET UP NOW! We'll be at the back of mass at this rate." 9am may as well be 3 pm to her.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? A shark - professional courtesy.



Takura Nyamfukudza

Co-Chair Criminal Law Section

takura@cndefenders.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? I still have my wisdom teeth in a drawer at home.

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? Nine. I was supposed to look like MC Hammer - epic fail!

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? I'd be a soldier. Recruiters still reach out. Uncle Sam misses me.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? "Kandiro kanoenda kunobva kamwe." One good deed deserves another.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? Hummingbird. They are small, but their appetites are not.



Heidi Pierce

Co-Chair Paralegal Assistant

hpierce@blhlaw.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? A giant eraser for "giant mistakes," a gift from a former co-worker. Without a steady infusion of coffee, this eraser would be much smaller from wear.

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? It was the 80's. It was a permed mullet. Does any more really need to be said? The lack of social media during my high school years is a blessing.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? I'd love to be selling trinkets on the beaches of the Carribean.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? When I was in 6th grade and heading off to Girl Scout camp, my mom told me that, if I was sad or homesick, to cry in the shower. That way, nobody would see or hear me. To this day, when I'm feeling sad, I will take a long, hot shower. It's cathartic.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? A unimingo - a magical combination between a unicorn and a flamingo. Why? Because why wouldn't anyone want to be a sparkly beach bird?

Role Model /rōl 'mādl/
noun
a person looked to by others as an example to be imitated.



Alex Rusek
Board Member

alexrusek@whitelawpllc.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? A Turkish 1 Lira coin from my trip to Istanbul, Turkey.

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? I was about 18 years old and a freshman in college. It was essentially the same style as it is today, but can only be described as a bit "spikier."

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? It is hard to imagine not being an attorney, but I think I would enjoy working in governmental relations or as a psychologist.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Treat everyone with respect.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? I think it would be fun to take it easy and live the good life as a Golden Retriever.



Steve Sinas
Treasurer

stevesinas@sinasdramis.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Powdered chicken broth. Add warm water = high-protein snack.

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? Age 15 - shaved sides with a long shoulder length hair on top.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Entrepreneur of some sort.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Always try to be empathetic and lead with love.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? Dolphin. They live in the ocean, they are smart, and they excel through team work.



Erica Terranova
Co-Chair Family Law Section

erica@baileyterranova.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? An extra purse.

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? I was 9 years old. I had a short poodle perm. It was gorgeous.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Orthodontist

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? You can't always get what you want-or maybe it was the Rolling Stones

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? A dolphin. I had to take a quiz to figure this one out.

Volunteer *noun* **Helping** *noun* **improve** (a situation or problem); be of benefit to.

/ˌvɒləntɪr/ */'helpɪŋ/*

a person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task.



William Tomblin
Co-Chair Real Estate Section
wdtomblaw@aol.com

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Bolo tie - with a scorpion encased in resin.

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? I will let you know, when I get it.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Troubador of the Human Condition.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? If a problem can be solved with money, it is not a real problem - even if you do not have the money.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? Eagle - Tennyson summed it up pretty well.



Chris Wickman
Board Member
cwickman@nicholslaw.net

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Rice Krispie Treats for late-night energy at the office trying to wrap up before heading home for dinner.

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? My current age. During the pandemic, I did not cut my hair for a while. I was not ready to see that hairline.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Massage Therapist.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Working hard and being good at your job is more important than what your job is or how respected in society it is.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? My cat. She's got a pretty spoiled life especially during the pandemic.



Jessica Zimbelman
Board Member
jzimbelman@sado.org

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Fingerless gloves that heat up when plugged into my computer's USB ports for cold winter days in the office

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? I had a bowl cut for almost all of elementary school (aka mushroom cut)

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Teacher, like my parents and siblings.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Voting is essential.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? Lion. Because lions are awesome.

Foresight /'fôr,sīt/
noun

the ability to predict or the action of predicting what will happen or be needed in the future.

ICBA Staff



Kyle Bently
Sr. Tech. Supervisor Staff
support2@sharedresources.us

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Well, my desk at home doesn't have a drawer but sitting on the shelf above it is a giant candy jawbreaker I got in California when I was 6.

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it?

I was probably around 7 or 8 but it was more like a refusal to get a haircut and my hair got really long. My excuse was that all the "cool surfer dudes" had long hair.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Well, I would probably be running right now because that's basically what I do in my free time.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? "Be nice to your sister." although sometimes it can be very difficult, I still try to be nice to her.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? I would be a panda because all they do is eat all day and that sounds pretty fantastic to me!



Cooper Evans
Sr. Staff Tech. Support
support5@sharedresources.us

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Probably a little foam Dalmatian that I found in my car one day. I've never had a Dalmatian and I don't know where it came from.

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it?

I was in 8th grade and I got it buzzed a little too short. It didn't look very good and a few people told me so.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? I would most likely be doing something with fishing, like working at a sporting goods store.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? "See a need, fill a need." It's from the movie Robots and I think about it often.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? I would want to be some sort of bird because I think flying is pretty cool.



Richard Hawkins
Sr. Staff Moral Support
jr112181@comcast.net

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? I keep a small stash of treats in my desk, I can never get enough of them!

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it?

When I was 5, my groomer gave me a mullet. I told Madelyne it was what all the cool dogs at the park had, and I absolutely had to have one too.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? I'd be a guard dog, my bark scares everyone!

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? "Don't steal other people's sandwiches."

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? I would be a panda! They're as fluffy as me, but eat a lot more.

adjective *Responsible* /rəˈspänsəb(ə)l/

having an obligation to do something, or having control over or care for someone, as part of one's job or role.



Matthew Hinkle
Sr. Staff Tech. Support
support4@sharedresources.us

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? The most unusual thing in my desk small drawer is a receipt from Walmart. It's found a new home in my drawer where it now happily resides.

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? I was 12 and my mom took me to a hair stylist for the first time. Since the stylist wasn't very good, I got a messed-up fade. My hair on top was way too long, and the hair on the sides was too short.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? I'd be a security guard.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? "Roll them eyes at me, and I'll roll that head of yours along the floor!" was my mom's way of telling me to always be respectful, and that not doing so could carry consequences.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? I'd be a sea bear, so I could be in a Spongebob episode. I also have a fear of circles.



Madelyne Lawry
Executive Director
info@inghambar.org

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Essential oil – Joy... I spray it when I need to feel joy "attitude adjustment".

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? I was six. My mother was a cosmetologist and tried out every new cut she learned on me and my sisters. This time, it was called a sassoon. It was very short. Google it, I did not make it up.

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Financial Advisor

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? Respect your elders.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? Cow. I love their eyes. I find them very peaceful just to watch and be with.



Valerie Sowulewski
Sr. Staff Administrator Assistant
valeries@inghambar.org

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? A printers eye glass – for checking dot patterns in printed letterhead.

How old where you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? Five years old, had to walk to my uncles barber shop for a picky hair cut, not happy!

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Printing.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? A clean house and bed made every morning.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? A dog, so I could play outside and come in to take afternoon nap.

noun *Mentor* /ˈmen.tôr,ˈmen.tər/
an experienced and trusted adviser.



Angela Wall
Editor of BRIEFS

briefs@inghambar.org

What's the most unusual thing in your desk drawer? Fossilized shark teeth I found in a river in Florida.

How old were you when you had the worst hair cut ever what style was it? 7th grade-ish. Cut off all of my long hair very short. The evening after it was cut, I had a dentist appointment so was late to school, remember walking into class with new haircut and people literally gaped. Won't be doing that again!

If you weren't doing what you do today, what other job would you have? Love writing and can't imagine not doing it, but archaeology or even being an architect would be cool.

What "lesson from mom" do you still live by today? From mom & dad both – always try to do your best. You may stumble, you may fail, but by giving it your best effort, you haven't failed yourself.

If you could be any animal what would it be and why? Hmmmm...my cats are spoiled rotten, so living the life of a sassy house cat wouldn't be all bad. A dolphin would be fun though, smart, get to play in the ocean all day!

ICBA BRIEFS July 2020- June 2021

Committee appoints Associate Editors for the new fiscal year

November



Deadline: October 15th
Theme: Veterans
Associate Editor:
Takura Nyamfukudza
Phone: 517.885.3305
Fax: 517.885.3363
Email: takura@cndefenders.com

January



Deadline: December 15th
Theme: State Appellate Defenders Offices
Associate Editors:
Tina Olson
Phone: 517.334.6069
Email: tolson@sado.org



Jessica Zimbleman
Email: jzimbelman@sado.org

May



Deadline: April 15th
Theme: Prosecutors
Associate Editor:
Mike Nichols
Phone: 517.432.9000
Fax: 517.203-4448
Email: mnichols@nicholslaw.net

July



Deadline: June 15th
Theme: Power Couples
Associate Editors:
Dakota Larson
Phone: 623.210.2232
Email: dakota.a.larson@gmail.com



Fred Baker
Phone: 517.318.6190
Email: fmbjrpllc@outlook.com

September



Deadline: August 15th
Theme: County Judicial Clerks
Associate Editor:
Larisa Zubac
Phone: 517.483.6500
Email: lzubac@ingham.org



In the Spotlight

Attorney Mary Bowen named as one of the MiLW Women in the Law 2020 Honorees

Michigan Lawyers Weekly selected Mary Bowen, Assistant City Attorney for the City of Lansing, as one of 30 women lawyers to be recognized in the 2020 Women in the Law Class. Honorees were selected based on their contributions to the practice of law and their demonstrated leadership. Michigan Lawyers Weekly will celebrate the Women in the Law 2020 Class on Thursday, October 8, 2020, at 6:00pm.

ICBA Presidents Special Recognition Award

In recognition of their tireless and extraordinary contributions to the mission and goals of ICBA.

History of Prior Presidents/Recipients:

Presidents

2016 - President, **Jason Hanselman**

2017 - President, **Mark Kellogg**

2018 - President, **Jessica Fox**

2019 - President, **Mary Chartier**

2020 - President, **Chuck Barbieri**

Recipients

Jessica S. Fox, *Nolan Thomsen & Villas, PC*

James L. Dalton, *Willingham & Coté, PC*

Sandra J. Lake, *Hall Matson PLC*

Madelyne C. Lawry, *Shared Resources*

Pamela Amato, *Mallory, Lapka, Scott & Selin, PLLC*



Pam Amato
Vice President
pamato@mclpc.com

Folks, I am advising you that I selected **Pam Amato** today to receive the President's Award. This award is given each year by the outgoing president (I still have another month though) to recognize an individual for his or her outstanding service on behalf of the board. Pam has been extremely helpful this year in serving as our treasurer, working on the financial strategic planning committee and working on our executive committee. She made my job easier by taking on some of the tough issues like amending our dues structure. She has exhibited good cheer, offered keen insight, and served without complaint. Please congratulate Pam if you get a chance! We will do so more formally in the fall when we have our Past Presidents' Reception, which will be scheduled for September, Covid-19 willing.

- Chuck Barbieri

ICBA 2019-2022

Strategic Plan Strategies

Goals	Strategies	Actions
Goal 1: The ICBA endeavors to attract and retain membership through educational, social, and network opportunities.	Strategy 1: Utilize Section events to engage members	Promotion of other ICBA events; collaborate with other bar organizations; advertise other events in the community
	Strategy 2: Review and revise current incentivized membership structure	Discount for other organizations; dues scale that includes a benefit for the mid-range practice lawyers; general updating of membership dues structure
	Strategy 3: Identify strengths and weaknesses of the organization's diversity, build relationships and encourage inclusion of all law practitioners	Communication/partnership with Davis-Dunnings Bar Association; WLAM; Asian-Pacific Bar Association; events with mutual interest, discount of ICBA membership if member of the other organizations
	Strategy 4: Develop programs that include area law schools (students & faculty) into ICBA offerings	Educational events featuring faculty; swearing-in ceremonies attendance/offerings
	Strategy 5: Develop mentor program	
Goal 2: The ICBA seeks to maintain and increase income to assure stability of the organization and to better achieve its educational and service goals.	Strategy 1: Maintain and grow membership with intention of adding to revenue base	
	Strategy 2: Review and consider dues adjustments commensurate with services, and improvements to those services while considering age, practice area, job, and financial position of diverse membership	Develop strategy to retain new and older lawyers, include law students and their mentors, include school faculty members, include legal vendors and suppliers; develop new programs for legal assistants and paralegals
	Strategy 3: Review and recommend sponsorships for increasing number of sponsors, amount of sponsorships, event sponsors, other sponsorship opportunities	Review sponsorship categories; reach out to vendors, legal suppliers; consider sponsorship benefits and incentives.
	Strategy 4: Identify advertising and marketing options that would provide return over their costs	Offer Briefs, website, program listings opportunities; review efforts of State Bar and other organizations, etc.
	Strategy 5: Review and consider ICBA marketing structure changes	Davis-Dunnings, WLAM, other county bars and look for opportunities for joint events and participation
	Strategy 6: Build relationships with other bar groups to increase or retain members	
Goal 3: The ICBA will provide broad access to justice to the public, create confidence in the legal system, and promote professionalism among its members, through educational programs.	Strategy 1: Provide access to the legal system through various programs offered by the ICBA	Ask a Lawyer event, judicial forum
	Strategy 2: Support the various ICBA sections which, in turn, support practitioners	
	Strategy 3: Provide meaningful educational opportunities for ICBA members	

"How can I best support you?"

By Danielle L. Moore, LCSW



2020 has been a conundrum of a year that has left many of us grasping for some sense of normalcy as we knew it. Living amid a global pandemic with seemingly no end in sight has wreaked havoc on our mental & emotional health, social activities and economy at large. We have become acutely aware of the value and importance of our relationships with our friends and family, as we've had to minimize our gatherings due to social distancing mandates and have lost far too many loved ones due to COVID-19.

We are living in a time where we need each other the most and it is hard to be there for each other in the ways that we are most accustomed to. Our need for safety to manage our physical health and our need for human connection to manage our mental health are literally at odds with each other and many of us are wondering how we can adequately support each other during such difficult times.

The social, emotional and physical effects of quarantine and social distancing are far reaching in ways that we have yet to realize. Considering the current restrictions limiting our access to resources, it is imperative now more

than ever to practice self-care. The ways in which some of us are coping are less than great as indicated by the increased need for mental health crisis services all over the country.

Our capacity to do anything for ourselves or others depends on our current level of functioning. It is hard for us to consistently show up for others when we are in crisis and deficient in areas that impact our level of functioning, as supporting others starts with supporting yourself first. Have you been practicing self-care? Take a moment and think about your current mental and physical state. Do you routinely set aside time to engage in activities to take care of your physical, spiritual, emotional, and mental health needs? If not, I want you to look in the mirror and say to yourself "How are you doing? How can I best support you?"

When we aren't getting adequate sleep, nutrition and hydration our capacity to do anything becomes greatly diminished. The following are suggestions for establishing and maintaining a healthy baseline level of functioning:

Sleep: If you are constantly fatigued and lack energy, chances are you are not getting enough sleep. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that 1 in 3 Americans sleep less than 7 hours nightly. Lack of rest negatively impacts our cognitive & physical functioning, and productivity. Most adults need a minimum of 7 hours of sleep for an optimal level of functioning and women tend to need more sleep than men. Setting a bedtime and keeping a routine schedule will help to ensure that you get adequate rest.

Eliminating screens (phones, tv etc.) two hours prior to bedtime will also help with falling and staying asleep.

Nutrition: It's no secret that food and hydration are primary energy sources. Learning exactly what food, vitamins and supplements that our bodies need is a dance that takes time and effort to master. Even when we have mastered it, sometimes we eat what is most convenient and what tastes good, instead of what makes us feel good. Far too many studies indicate that most Americans eat more food than we should in a single setting and that we still aren't eating enough raw fruits and vegetables despite overeating. Organic plant-based diets have proven to be most beneficial for optimal health and for prevention of sickness and disease. Increasing our intake of raw fruit and vegetables and minimizing our intake of meat products will help to maintain good digestion and good levels of energy throughout the day.

Hydration: The human body is approximately 53% water and needs water consistently to survive and thrive. Lack of hydration can disrupt digestion and elimination which contributes to headaches, fatigue, sickness and kidney disease and other illnesses. Drinking 8 to 10 glasses of water or half of your body weight in ounces of water daily are both good guidelines to follow for proper hydration. Be sure to drink water that has an alkaline pH of 7.5 or higher as water with lower pH levels aren't as beneficial to the body.

Medications: Life-sustaining and mental health medications should always be taken as prescribed along with

proper diet, hydration, and adequate rest as the effectiveness of medication is significantly impacted by those factors. It is important to maintain a stable baseline level of functioning with eating, sleep, and hydration prior to starting medications so that it is easy to identify if medication has impacted appetite and/or sleep patterns.

Movement: Don't be a couch potato. Lack of movement decreases our quality of life and makes the body more susceptible to injury. If you can't get to a gym to do a full body workout, get up and stretch, go for a walk and do a set of jumping jacks at least once a day for 30 minutes. If you are working at home, set a timer on your computer to take screen breaks to stretch and do jumping jacks throughout the day.

Now that we have covered the basics let's focus on our psycho, social and

emotional health. Prayer and meditation helps with grounding, emotion regulation, mental distress and being fully present in the moment. Expressing gratitude and keeping a gratitude journal helps to bring your focus and awareness to privilege and what is going well for you despite whatever else that may not be happening the way that you had in mind. If you are not a spiritual person practicing gratitude is a great way to manage mindset, triggers, and habits.

Once you have done your due diligence with the self-care activities, then and only then should you consider extending yourself to help others. We all need support from time to time and it's important to ask for the support that we need. When we take good care of ourselves, it increases our capacity to support others without overextending ourselves. It also decreases burnout and compassion fatigue.

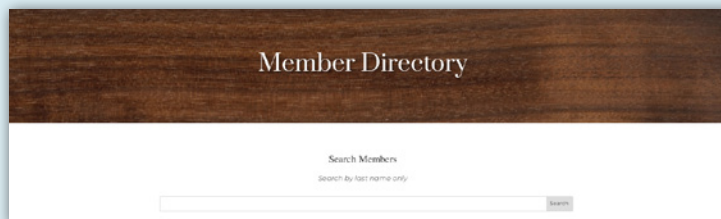
Supporting each other during difficult times is the only way for all of us to make it through. "How can I best support you?" is the best question to get someone to specify exactly what they need from you. Inviting people to articulate what their needs are and how they want to be supported by you fosters connection and empathy. Ask for permission before giving unsolicited support and always give support with grace and kindness as an act of service.

Danielle L. Moore, LCSW
CEO & Mental Health Therapist
Refresh Wellness Center
Farmers Branch, TX
972-638-9179

www.refreshwellnesscenter.com
Make your mental health a priority!

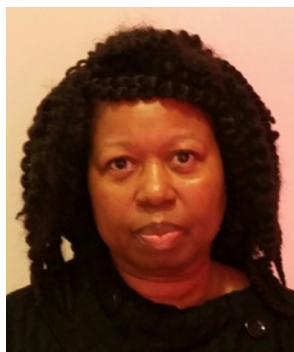
ICBA MEMBER DIRECTORY

Are you listed in the
[online member directory?](#)



A Brief History of Women Throughout the Ages

By Veller Morris
morrisv@cooley.edu



THE ANCIENT WOMAN

The first woman when she came from the creator's hand was special. When the first man Adam saw her he said, she

shall be called woman because she was taken from man and he called her Eve (Genesis 2:22). The first woman was made as a helpmate to her husband and so for hundreds of years women were considered with respect and dignity and they learned to be obedient wives.

In the Jewish culture, before a woman was to be married, the husband would pay a dowry for her. They were not allowed to see the bride until the day after the wedding because the bride was covered up with a veil and the man had to accept by faith that the woman under the veil was the woman that he would love. To illustrate this ancient practice, a man named Jacob, after he ran away from home, after he stole the birthright of his brother Esau, fled for fear. He later would be killed by his brother, went to stay with his uncle Laban. Laban had two daughters, one named Rachel and the other named Leah. Jacob loved Rachel and he expressed his love to the father and the father told him if he wanted to marry his daughter he had to work seven years for her and so he

gladly accepted the challenge (Genesis 29:18). Jacob said "I will serve you seven years for Rachael your younger daughter," and the seven years seemed just a few days because of his love.

Wives had to be purchased in the East, and as Jacob had brought no rich presents, he had only his personal services to offer. As the sale was usually veiled in true oriental fashion under specious form of freewill gifts, we see both daughters being offended because they were bartered for openly. At the end of the first seven years Jacob was excited to be united with his wife Rachel, but when he woke up in the morning, the woman he was given was not Rachel but Leah. That deception infuriated Jacob but the father told him if he wanted Rachel he had to work another seven years for her and do know what happened? Because Jacob loved Rachel he agreed to work another seven years for her and once again he tirelessly worked, knowing at the end of seven more years he will get his bride. He did get his bride and so now he had two wives. Back in the ancient world, having more than one wife was a common practice but that tradition was frowned upon by the traditional woman.

In an article by Mark Cartwright, *Women in the ancient world*, published on November 26, 2018, stated that in many cultures of antiquity, women had to battle the disadvantage of rules and conventions made by men. Nevertheless, many ancient religions had powerful female goddesses like Isis in Egypt.

Myths told of strong women like the Amazons, and, of course, women were all-important in the home and family. Many women did break convention and rise to the very top of their societies to rule alone vast empires such as Hatshepsut in Egypt, Wu Zetian in China and Queen Seondeok in Korea.

In the article by Joshua J. Mark *Women in ancient Egypt*, published on November 4, 2016 said "One of central value of ancient Egyptian civilization, arguably the central value, was *ma'at* – the concept of harmony and balance in all aspect of one's life. This ideal was one of the most important duties observed by the pharaoh who, as mediator between the Gods and the people, was supposed to be a role model for how one lived a balance life. Egyptian art, architecture, religious practices, even governmental agencies all exhibit a perfect symmetry of balance and can be seen in gender roles throughout the history of ancient Egyptian civilization."

In an article by Emma Groenvild, *Women in the Viking age*, published on July 11, 2018, said "Although women in the Viking age (c. 790-1100 CE) lived in a male dominant society, far from being powerless, they ran farms and households, were responsible for textile production, moved away from Scandinavia to help settle Viking territories abroad stretching from Greenland, Iceland and the sparse urban Centre. Some were part of a rich upper class, such as the lady- perhaps a queen-

who was buried in ostentatious oseberg ship buried in 834 CE, while on the other end of the spectrum, slaves, among them, many women, were taken from conquered territories during the Viking expansion and integrated into the Viking age society.

THE GILDED AGE

The women in the gilded age, were women who stayed home and waited for gentlemen callers to come to the home to ask for their hand in marriage. From the time a girl was born, she was being prepared for the day when she will be a wife, but at the turn of the late 19th century there were changes in the role of women from being in the home to outside the home. A study by the Radford University in the article *The gilded age and the beginning of the new woman*, <http://www.radford.edu> found “One of the biggest changes in the late 19th century in America and one which would have the most significant impact on women lives was the growth of cities. Urban life created new problems as well as new opportunities for both men and women. Women had already been trying to find ways to expand their lives with urbanization, at the very least, the female sphere began to include evenings out with their husbands. And, as the woman became more visible in the social world, her behavior was more scrutinized for transgression and therefore she had to find a balance between displaying “class” and “status” and demonstrating etiquette and propriety” in order to be accepted by society.

TRADITIONAL WOMAN

The traditional woman come out of the ancient era where the role of the woman was believed to be in the home. She was responsible for maintenance, the rearing and care of the children. She was the nurturer of the home. Her place was

considered to be in the home. She too, like the ancient woman, was to be seen and not heard.

In an article by Women International Center *Women's history in America*, <http://ww.wic.org> said that throughout most of history, women had fewer legal rights and career opportunities than men. Wifehood and motherhood were regarded as women's most significant professions. The 20th century, however, women in most nations won the right to vote and increased their educational and job opportunities. Perhaps most important, they fought for, and to a large degree, accomplished a re-evaluation of traditional views of their role in society.

The article continues to say that some early-times women have been uniquely viewed as a creative source of human life, they have been considered not only intellectually inferior to men but also a major source of temptation and evil. Women were long considered naturally weaker than men, squeamish, and unable to perform work requiring muscular or intellectual development. In most prehistorical societies for example, domestic chores were relegated to women, leaving “heavier” labor such as hunting and plowing to men.

The article continues to say that maternity, the natural biological role of women, has traditionally been regarded as the major social role as well. Traditionally, a middle-class girl, in Western culture tended to learn from her mother's example that cooking, cleaning and caring for children was the behavior expected of her when she grew up.

In an article by Tim Lambert *Life for women in 19th Century*, <http://www.localhistories.org> said that during the 19th Century the industrial revolution, life transformed in Britain and in other countries in Europe and North America.

By the end of the century, life was becoming more and more comfortable for women.

Lambert said that in the 19th Century at least 80% of the population was working class. However, Lambert said, some reforms were made in the 19th Century which banned women from working underground. Then in 1847, a Factory Act said that women and children could work 10 hours a day in textile factories and 1867 the law was extended to all factories. Despite the hardship, Lambert said, women rights increased in the 19th Century. In 1849 Elizabeth Blackwell became the first woman in the USA to gain a medical degree.

In an article by History.com Editors *Women's history milestone: A timeline*, updated February 5, 2020, originally written (August 18, 1920) said from the plea to a founding father, to Suffrage in Title IX, to the first female political figure, women have blazed a steady trail toward equality in the United States.

MODERN WOMAN

Today, women play a major role in our society, from Hilary Clinton being the first female nominee for the Democratic party in 2016 to Kamala Harris, historically, the first Black Woman of Indian descent to be nominated to the role of vice president in August of 2020, the second highest office in the land, should their party succeed the presidency for 2020 General Election on November 3, 2020. Women are a rising star and are at the forefront, fighting for justice and equality, a struggle which has been trailing the American Society for more than 400 years since the inception of slavery in the land.

Today, women are still fighting for equality in pay. Nevertheless, women have come a long way from being bought and sold as property to be strong

contenders for political office in a world that is seen as a man's world and despite the challenges, women have risen to take prominent position in society from women as managers of Fortune 500 companies to legislatures in congress, to doctors, lawyers, engineers to the first African American female, Brenda E. Robinson, a naval aviator to earn her wings of Gold on June 6, 1980 and was the 42nd woman to be designated a Naval Aviator on August 1, 2020 (NBC12.com 2020/08/01).

In an article by Astead Herndon, *Presumptive Democratic Running Mate* The New York Times, updated August 12, 2020 said "Ms. Harris is Joe Biden's running mate and the first woman of color on a major party ticket, has said she can "prosecute the case" against President Trump. And so, here we are today, standing on the pinnacle of our greatest achievement as women, but we will not stop until we see a woman ascend into the highest office in the land and truly break all barriers and boundaries that has kept women back for centuries. The chain is broken and there is no stopping now! The rest is left up to your imagination as to what a woman can accomplish in our society today. The sky is the limit!

2021 *Lawyer of the Year* Jim Graves



LANSING, MI – Personal injury attorney Jim Graves has been named the 2021 Lansing "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers in Plaintiffs' Personal Injury Litigation.

The "Lawyer of the Year" recognition is granted to one individual lawyer with the highest peer-feedback within a practice area and geographic region each year. Best Lawyers has recognized Graves every year since 2006 and twice previously as "Lawyer of the Year" in Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs. Graves has enjoyed an exceptional career representing many notable and unique personal injury cases. These include complex aviation wrongful death claims and representing victims of the largest campus sexual assault case in history, to name a few. He has extensive litigation experience handling accident cases involving cars, semi-trucks and motorcycles

"Jim is a lawyer's lawyer. His decades of work in our field has led to a well-deserved reputation as a consummate professional," says Bryan Waldman, President and partner at Sinas Dramis Law Firm, *"Jim is smart, hard-working, and treats everyone with respect. As a result, the legal community trusts him with their most difficult cases and issues."*

Outside of his practice, Graves is involved in many organizations and takes on multiple leadership roles. He is a past president of the Ingham County Bar Association and the Ingham County Bar Foundation. He is also a longtime board member of the non-profit John D. Voelker Foundation. He is a member of many professional organizations including Michigan Association of Justice, the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, the American Board of Trial Advocates and former member of the Michigan State Bar Judicial Qualification Committee. Graves has been recognized by many organizations for his excellence in client representation. In 2004, the Ingham County Bar Association awarded him with the Leo A. Farhat Outstanding Attorney Award for *"exemplary character, integrity, judgment and legal scholarship while adhering to and advancing the highest principles and traditions of the legal profession."* Michigan Super Lawyers has also recognized Graves every year since 2006 and Leading Lawyers since 2013. The National Trial Lawyers listed Graves in their Top 100 Trial Lawyers every year since 2013, and Michigan Lawyers Weekly named him a "Leader in the Law" in 2017. Best Lawyers has recognized Graves in the area of *Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs* every year since 2006 and awarded him as "Lawyer of the Year" in 2011 and 2012, and now for 2021.

NALA The Paralegal Association Honors National Award Winners at Virtual Conference *LaGrave, of Michigan, given 'President's Award'*

TULSA, Okla. (August 19, 2020) – NALA – The Paralegal Association proudly honored three national award winners at the Annual Membership Meeting during the 2020 NALA Conference @ Home, the organization's first virtual conference.

Former NALA President Kelly A. LaGrave, ACP, of Michigan, received the President's Award. This honor is awarded to a NALA member for their contribution to the future of the paralegal field, as well as a celebration of significant achievement through leadership activities within NALA and NALA Affiliated Associations.

"I can't tell you how surprised I was when I was told that I was the 2020 recipient of the NALA President's Award," she said. "Over the years I have watched some truly amazing women receive this award and I count myself very blessed to be a recipient of this award and to be among this group of outstanding women. This recognition from my peers really does mean the world to me. Service to NALA and other paralegals is an essential and core value of my life. I truly believe our lives are far more enriched and enhanced by providing service to others, no matter how much time it takes. I want

to emphasize my service to NALA and my profession has truly been a blessing in my life."

Former NALA President and longtime NALA member Vicki J. Kunz, ACP Retired, of North Dakota, received the prestigious Founders' Award. This honor is given to someone who goes above and beyond in contributing to the growth and future of the paralegal profession, impacting it in a positive manner for a significant period of time.

"There is nothing more humbling than being recognized by your peers. When I learned I was this year's recipient, I was blown away by the honor," Kunz said. "So, when I heard myself being described as a pioneer, reality hit me. I have been with NALA for a very long time – time that I am proud of, grateful for, and even more thankful to be able to have served many years in making sure that we were always at the front of the game, meeting the profession's needs of today. My career was a great ride and it took many wonderful turns. That I owe great credit to my NALA experience."

Kara D. White of Oklahoma received NALA's first Student of the Year Award, given to outstanding achievement by

full-time students in good standing at any college, junior college, or other school pursuing a course of study as a paralegal.

White addressed her peers and fellow students during her acceptance speech.

"Wonderful job to everybody who applied," White said. "You all are so inspiring to even put yourselves out there. Keep going. Keep studying. To all the students out there, keep going through the tears, the sweat, and the scream, and the yell. You will get there. I promise. I look forward to seeing you all next year."

NALA – The Paralegal Association is the nation's leading professional association for paralegals. As a non-profit organization, NALA provides continuing education, professional certification, and professional development programs for paralegals - from novice to experienced professionals. NALA members are located throughout the United States. The association, founded in 1975, represents over 18,000 paralegals through its individual membership and NALA affiliated associations. More information about NALA can be found on nala.org.

Press Release

Outstanding Achievement Award

The Negligence Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan presented Webb "Tony" Smith with the award



FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE—July 21, 2020

LANSING, Mich. — Foster Swift Collins & Smith litigator and name partner, Webb "Tony" Smith, will be awarded the

Outstanding Achievement Award by the Negligence Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan (SBM) in a virtual ceremony on August 13.

The Outstanding Achievement Award is given annually to an attorney who has exhibited the highest standards of practice and commitment for the benefit of the SBM section.

A native of Lansing, Tony completed his undergraduate studies at Michigan State University and received his

juris doctorate from the University of Michigan Law School in 1963. Tony's name was officially added to the firm letterhead in 1989. He continues to practice in the firm's Lansing office in the areas of commercial litigation, energy law and first amendment law.

Among the matters he has represented include:

- Lead counsel for Shell Oil Co. in a landmark Pigeon River litigation (State of Michigan Legal Milestone).
- Lead counsel for oil and gas industry (including Shell Oil Co.) in public hearings before Michigan Department of Natural Resources (now the Department of Environmental Quality) in establishing rules for handling Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials ("NORM") forming on underground pipes.

Tony is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, Litigation Counsel of America and Ingham County Bar Foundation. He is also a recipient of the Ingham County Bar Association's Leo Farhat Outstanding Attorney award and the Thomas E. Brennan Lifetime Achievement award.

In 2019, Tony was inducted into the Inaugural Hall of Fame Class by Michigan Lawyers Weekly. Inductees are recognized for their significant success and demonstration of strong leadership both within the legal field and in the community.

In addition to his practice, Tony still takes the time to act as both an ambassador and mentor to the firm's young attorneys as they start their journey into the legal field.

Press Release

Dykema elects Leonard C. Wolfe

New Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Wolfe pledges continued emphasis on innovative solutions for clients struggling with COVID-19's fallout while reaffirming the firm's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion

Detroit – August 13, 2020 — Dykema, a leading national law firm, announced today that Len Wolfe will become chairman and chief executive officer for a three-year term commencing January 1, 2021. Wolfe succeeds Peter M. Kellett, who has served as chairman and chief executive officer since 2012. Although Wolfe will work from each of Dykema's 13 offices, he will move his principal office from Lansing, Mich., to Chicago.

For more than 25 years, Wolfe has practiced government policy and regulatory law, helping clients implement significant public policy initiatives. He first joined Dykema as a summer associate before quickly ascending into leadership roles within the firm. For the last six years, Wolfe has served as a twice-elected member of Dykema's Executive Board, acting as board Liaison to the firm's Diversity & Inclusion Committee for the past four years.

Prior to his board membership, Wolfe was Director of Dykema's Regulated Industries Department and Leader of the firm's Government Policy and Practice Group for nine years. His various leadership positions provided Wolfe with extensive knowledge of Dykema's business operations and the complex process of running the daily operations of a multi-office law firm with a national footprint.

"Len takes this position at an incredibly challenging moment—and he is more than up to the challenge," said Kellett. "His record as an outstanding lawyer and as an invaluable contributor to Dykema's success has more than prepared him to lead our continued efforts to provide innovative solutions for our clients, particularly as they now face legal problems unheard of in a pre-COVID-19 world.

"Based on his deep understanding of both the firm and the continuing challenges for the legal industry—notably regarding diversity, equity and inclusion—Len has a robust vision for Dykema going forward. I have no doubt that under his leadership, Dykema will continue its ascent as a leading law national firm and be well-positioned for a bright, promising future. I am proud to support Len through this transition and eager to see him lead the firm in the coming years."

"I am truly honored and thankful that my fellow members have put their confidence in me to serve as chairman and CEO," said Wolfe. "Additionally, and on behalf of the entire firm, I would like to thank Peter for exceptional stewardship over the past nine years. Under his leadership, Dykema has grown its national footprint and deepened its core competencies while enhancing other practice and industry groups.

"As I take on my new role with the firm, I plan to continue emphasizing the firm's dedication to providing clients with exceptional service through our practice groups, industry groups and

client service teams. In addition, I will reaffirm Dykema's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. This includes continuing our efforts to listen and engage all of our colleagues—particularly in light of the events of the past few months. This also includes working collaboratively to maintain the strong culture and collegial workplace we have built at Dykema."

Wolfe's practice has covered several areas of law, including education, gaming, state procurement, government restructuring and the creation and development of new local and state governmental bodies. He is known nationally for his work with charter schools and has been recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America*® each year since 2007—including being named "Lawyer of the Year" in Lansing for Gaming Law in 2019.

Wolfe earned a J.D. from the Indiana University McKinney School of Law and a B.A. from the James Madison College at Michigan State University. Before joining Dykema, he worked in the Michigan Legislature, United States Senate and the Michigan Governor's office.

About Dykema

Dykema serves business entities worldwide on a wide range of complex legal issues. Dykema lawyers and other professionals in 13 U.S. offices work in close partnership with clients – from start-ups to Fortune 100 companies – to deliver outstanding results, unparalleled service and exceptional value in every engagement.



ICBA Award Nominations

Nomination
Deadline - extended
**Wednesday,
September 30, 2020**

Prior Award Recipients

Camille S. Abood Distinguished Volunteer Award

1985 Camille S. Abood
1986 Lynwood E. Beekman
1987 James R. Davis
1988 Robert A. Fisher
1989 Theodore W. Swift
1990 Donald A. Hines
1991 Jack C. Davis
1992 Judson M. Werbelow
1993 Michael G. Harrison
1994 Nile L. Vermillion
1995 Rose A. Houk
1996 Carolyn Stell
1997 Jonathan E. Maire
1998 Richard B. Foster, Jr.
1999 Raymond R. Behan
2000 Frederick M. Baker, Jr.
2001 Beverley Nettles-Nickerson
2002 Peter S. Sheldon
2003 Charles F. Filice
2004 Karl L. Gotting
2005 Pamela R. Tripp
2006 Charles A. Janssen
2007 Catherine Groll
2008 David M. Lick
2009 David E.S. Marvin
2010 Janice K. Cunningham
2011 Michael B. Farrell
2012 Honorable David L. Jordon
2013 Jeffrey C. Hicks
2014 Kenneth W. Beall
2015 Nan Elizabeth Casey
2016 Honorable Joyce Draganchuk
2017 Michael C. McDaniel
2018 Susan LeDuc
2019 Nancy A. Wonch

Leo A. Farhat Outstanding Attorney Award

1988 Leo A. Farhat
1989 Donald L. Reisig
1990 Stuart J. Dunning, Jr.
1991 John L. Collins
1992 William N. Kritselis
1993 John L. Côté
1994 Cassius E. Street, Jr.
1995 David C. Coey
1996 William E. Rheume
1997 Webb A. (Tony) Smith
1998 George W. Loomis
1999 Theodore W. Swift
2000 James A. Timmer
2001 Frank Harrison Reynolds
2002 Nancy A. Wonch
2003 George T. Sinas
2004 James F. Graves
2005 Peter L. Dunlap
2006 James A. White
2007 Allan J. Claypool
2008 Michael E. Cavanaugh
2009 Lawrence P. Nolan
2010 Max R. Hoffman, Jr.
2011 Karen Bush Schneider
2012 Ted W. Stroud
2013 David E. S. Marvin
2014 Jack C. Davis
2015 Charles E. Barbieri
2016 Marla Mitchell-Cichon
2017 Peter H. Ellsworth
2018 Michael J. Nichols
2019 Michael W. Stephenson

Theodore W. Swift Civility Award

2000 Theodore W. Swift*
2001 Susan L. Mallory
2002 Maurice E. Schoenberger
2003 Everett R. Zack
2004 Thomas H. Hay
2005 James L. Dalton
2006 M. Dale McKay*
2007 Charles D. Hackney
2008 Thomas A. Bengtson
2009 Scott L. Mandel
2010 R. Bruce Carruthers
2011 Shauna L. Dunning
2012 Richard C. Kraus
2013 Karl L. Gotting
2014 Alecia M. Ruswinckel
2015 George Zulakis
2016 William F. Young
2017 Stuart R. Shafer
2018 Michael D. Sanders
2019 Stephen A. Milks
* Awarded posthumously

Thomas E. Brennan Lifetime Achievement Award

2009 Honorable Thomas E. Brennan
2010 Joe Foster
2011 Justice Michael F. Cavanagh
2012 Honorable James R. Giddings
2013 Webb A. Smith
2015 Honorable David W. McKeague
2018 George T. Sinas
2019 Frank H. Reynolds

Liberty Bell Award

2011 Sgt. Major David Duncel
2011 Heather Spielmaker
2012 Holly Rosen, LMSW
2013 Resolution Services Center
2018 Barb Byrum
2019 Tim Skubick

The ICBA is now accepting applications for:

[Camille S. Abood Distinguished Volunteer Award](#)

[Theodore W. Swift Civility Award](#)

[Leo A. Farhat Outstanding Attorney Award](#)

[Thomas E. Brennan Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

[The Liberty Bell Award](#)



Past Presidents of the Ingham County Bar Association

1909	Unknown	1946	S. DeWitt Rathbunn*	1983	Judson M. Werbelow*
1910	S.L. Kilbourne*	1947	Benjamin F. Watson*	1984	Thomas R. Roberts*
1911	Edward Cahill*	1948	Lewis J. Gregg*	1985	Jules I. Hanslovsky*
1912	Rollin H. Person*	1949	Barnard Pierce*	1986	David E.S. Marvin
1913	Charles F. Hammond*	1950	Claude J. Marshall*	1987	Webb A. Smith
1914	Jason Nichols*	1951	Louis Coash*	1988	Peter S. Sheldon
1915	Unknown	1952	William H. Wise*	1989	Elaine H. Charney
1916	Frank Dodge*	1953	Harold W. Glassen*	1990	Allan J. Claypool
1917	Alva Cummins*	1954	Richard B. Foster*	1991	Rose A. Houk
1918	Unknown	1955	Sam Street Hughes*	1992	Stuart J. Dunning, Jr.
1919	Unknown	1956	Clayton F. Jennings*	1993	Pamela J. McCabe
1920	Seymour H. Person*	1957	Roy T. Conley*	1994	Michael E. Cavanaugh
1921	D.G.F. Warner*	1958	Marvin J. Salmon*	1995	Nancy A. Wonch
1922	Charles W. Foster*	1959	H. Clay Campbell*	1996	Max R. Hoffman, Jr.
1923	Charles H. Hayden*	1960	William J. Sessions*	1997	Beverley Nettles-Nickerson
1924	Seymour H. Person*	1961	Fred C. Newman*	1998	Frank A. Fleischmann
1925	Joseph E. Dunnebacke*	1962	H.H. Warner*	1999	Susan L. LeDuc
1926	Dean W. Kelley*	1963	Charles R. MacLean*	2000	David L. Jordon
1927	Harry A. Silsbee*	1964	Archie C. Fraser*	2001	James F. Graves
1928	John Brooks*	1965	Leo A. Farhat*	2002	Lee B. Reimann
1929	William C. Brown*	1966	Raymond R. Campbell*	2003	Shauna L. Dunning
1930	Edmund C. Shields*	1967	Allison K. Thomas*	2004	Lawrence P. Nolan
1931	Eugene F. Hammond*	1968	George J. Hutter*	2005	George Zulakis
1932	Spencer D. Kelly*	1969	Roland R. Rhead*	2006	Deborah G. Adams
1933	Walter S. Foster*	1970	Thomas G. Sinas*	2007	David R. Brake
1934	Ernest C. Smith*	1971	C. Bruce Kelley*	2008	Richard D. Ball
1935	Carl H. McLean*	1972	John N. Seaman*	2009	Patrick D. Hanes
1936	Charles Collingwood*	1973	Jack W. Warren*	2010	David M. Lick
1937	Charles E. Ecker*	1974	John L. Coté*	2011	Byron P. Gallagher
1938	Joseph W. Planck*	1975	Peter J. Treleaven*	2012	Scott L. Mandel
1939	Leland W. Carr*	1976	William L. Mackey*	2013	Stacia J. Buchanan
1940	Paul G. Eger*	1977	James A. Timmer*	2014	W. Josh Ard
1941	Wilbur M. Seelye*	1978	James E. Burns*	2015	Liisa R. Speaker
1942	William S. Cameron*	1979	Joseph Lavey*	2016	Jason Hanselman
1943	Byron L. Ballard*	1980	Jack D. Born*	2017	Mark E. Kellogg
1944	Harry Hubbard*	1981	Theodore W. Swift*	2018	Jessica Fox
1945	Charles P. Van Note*	1982	James Burren Brown	2019	Mary Chartier
				2020	Charles E. Barbieri

*Deceased

Excellent Office Space - Downtown East Lansing! 301 M.A.C.

\$250-\$500/mo. Furnished/unfurnished. Avail Sept 1.

Across from Marriott. Street-level business signage display.

Perfect for lawyer, professionals. John 517-701-2000



ICBA Membership Scholarship Application

The Ingham County Bar Association may offer scholarships to prospective members who are experiencing a hardship and cannot pay the standard rates to be an active member of the bar.

Scholarship recipients remain anonymous. It is the discretion of the ICBA President to grant any scholarships. Scholarships can only be approved on an annual basis (i.e., the scholarship does not automatically renew year-to-year).

The scholarship application can be accessed [here](#).



Criminal Defense Law Section

The Criminal Defense Law Section is comprised of criminal defense attorneys who defend people accused of committing crimes. The Section is dedicated to sharing knowledge related to emerging and important topics specific to criminal defense. The Section is also committed to offering opportunities for attorneys to hone critical skills needed to defend those accused by the government.

If you are looking for a way to learn about the latest in forensics or practice your evidentiary knowledge, they you'll want to join this section. The Section meets at the State Bar of Michigan, 306

Townsend St., Rooms 1 and 2, in Lansing.

If you have suggestions for future topics, please contact Section Co-Chairs Mary Chartier, Takura Nyamfukudza or Christopher Wickman.

Upcoming Meetings: TBA

There is no cost to attend meetings. Speakers and topics will be announced. To RSVP for the Criminal Defense Law Section meetings, email Chris Wickman at cwickman@nicholslaw.net.

Employment and Labor Law Section

The Employment and Labor Law Section holds its meetings from noon to 1 p.m. each month at WMU-Cooley Law School, 300 S. Capitol Ave., Room 911, in downtown Lansing.

Section Co-Chair is John Maise. Contact John if you have ideas for topics and speakers.

Stay tuned for an updated schedule of events.

Upcoming Meetings: TBA

If you have questions about Section meetings, please email John at jmaise@whiteschneider.com.

Family Law Section

The Family Law Section meets on the second Wednesday of the month from noon to 1 p.m. in Rooms 1 and 2 of the State Bar of Michigan Building, 306 Townsend St., in Lansing. Lunch is provided.

Section Co-Chairs are Brooke VanBuren-Hay, Jennipher Martinez and Erica Terranova.

Upcoming Meetings:

- TBA

If you have suggestions for meeting topics, want to sponsor a lunch or just have general questions, please email erica@baileyterranova.com.

Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section

The Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section offers free networking and educational events for legal staff in Ingham County. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at the State Bar of Michigan Building, 306 Townsend St., in Lansing.

Section Co-Chairs are Elizabeth Cary, a Paralegal at Chartier & Nyamfukudza, PLC, and Heidi Pierce, a Paralegal at Fraser Trebilcock.

Upcoming Meetings:

- TBA

If you have questions or would like to learn more about the Section, contact Elizabeth at lizzy@cndefenders.com.



Probate and Trust Section

The Probate and Trust Section holds its meetings the third Tuesday of each month from noon to 1 p.m. at WMU-Cooley Law School, Room 911, 300 S. Capitol Ave. in Lansing.

Section Co-Chairs are Sally Babbitt and April Alleman. If you plan to attend a meeting, please RSVP to April Alleman at april@crenshawpeterson.com.

Upcoming Meetings:

- TBA

Join The Section's Facebook Page

The Probate and Trust Section has a group Facebook page: [ICBA Probate & Trust Law Section](#). The Section encourages members to join the group. As a way to streamline RSVPs and minimize emails, you can RSVP for the Section meetings via this Facebook page. (Please let us know if you are not on Facebook.)

Lunch Sponsors

The sponsored lunches have been a very popular replacement for the brown bag lunches of old. The Section would like to continue the sponsored lunches. If you are interested in sponsoring a ¼ (\$100), a ½ (\$200) or full (\$400) lunch, please call Sally Babbitt at 517-507-3306 or email sally@sallybabbittlaw.com.

Real Estate Section

The Real Estate Section holds its meetings at WMU-Cooley Law School, Room 911, 300 S. Capitol Ave. in downtown Lansing.

Section Co-Chairs are Bill Tomblin and Christopher Patterson.

Upcoming Meetings:

- TBA

Lunch is served at meetings. Upcoming speakers and topics will be announced. Member input is always appreciated. If you plan to attend a meeting, please RSVP to Bill Tomblin at Wdtomblaw@aol.com.

Bankruptcy Law Section

The Bankruptcy Law Section meets at noon on the fourth Thursday of each month at WMU-Cooley Law School, 300 S. Capitol Ave., Room 911, in downtown Lansing.

Upcoming Meetings:

- TBA

Please feel free to join the Bankruptcy Section for its monthly meetings. Contact Section Co-Chairs Patricia Scott or Norm Witte for details.

To RSVP for meetings, contact Patricia Scott at pscott@fosterswift.com.

BRIEFS Author Guidelines & Policies

IN GENERAL

Publication Schedule

BRIEFS is published by the Ingham County Bar Association six times a year (September, November, January, February, April and July).

Copy Deadline

Content submissions are due the 15th of the month for the following month's issue (e.g., deadline is March 15th for the April issue). Late submissions are accepted at the discretion of the editor.

BRIEFS Committee Meetings

A minimum of four committee meetings are held each fiscal year. Additional meetings are held, as necessary. To be added to the mailing list for meeting notices, email the editor at briefs@inghambar.org.

Author and Article Pictures

The preferred picture format is full-color .jpg (JPEG) files, 72 dpi or better. For head shots, the resolution should be high enough to be viewed clearly when approximating a 2" x 3" photo online. Please do not send thumbnail photos, as they will not be published.

Article Length and Format

Article length varies, so the following is only a guideline. Articles may be edited to fit a specific amount of space.

Raising the Bar

announcements: 100-200 words

Local legal events notices: 100-150 words

Columns: 300-500 words

Articles: 700-1,000 words

Submit articles in a Word .doc/.docx

Article Ideas

Writing an article for BRIEFS is an excellent way to publicize your expertise, and we encourage your submissions. Please send ideas for articles or completed articles to the editor, at briefs@inghambar.org. Within 24 hours, you will receive an email confirmation that your article was received.

Opinion Articles

Opinion articles selected for publication will be printed with a disclaimer noting that the viewpoints are that of the author and not of the Ingham County Bar Association. BRIEFS reserves the right to reject, edit or modify content submitted for publication.

Author Information

Along with your article, please include your full name, e-mail address and a short biography (2-3 sentences). Please also send a photo of yourself, preferably in .jpg (JPEG) format and in color, if possible.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

News of career moves, presentations, honors, recognitions, etc. is published in the "Raising the Bar" section. We accept and publish announcements only for ICBA members.

BRIEFS does not accept or publish announcements based on peer recognition and review sites, such as Super Lawyers, Best Lawyers, Best Law Firms, etc.

BRIEFS does publish honors and awards given by legal publications such as Michigan Lawyers Weekly (i.e., Leaders in the Law) under the following conditions:

1. BRIEFS will only publish such announcements for ICBA members.
2. Announcements will appear only in Raising the Bar and are limited to 50-75 words.
3. Announcements must comply with any applicable copyright/trademark requirements of the publication.
4. ICBA takes no responsibility for the published announcement.

ADVERTISING

Details on display and classified advertising can be found [here](#).

ARCHIVED ISSUES

Past issues of BRIEFS can be found [here](#).

BRIEFS Advertising Contract, Rates & Policies

Dickie McCamey expands attorney Presence in Detroit Office

The firm recently added Gregory I. Thomas and Michelle A. Thomas as Principals, and Kevin G. Thomas as an Associate.

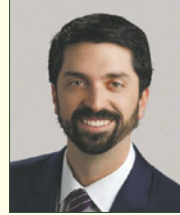
"We are excited to have Greg, Michelle, and Kevin join the Michigan office of Dickie McCamey. With their unqualified expertise, and with the diversification of practice areas the Thomas' bring, Dickie McCamey Detroit is now better positioned than ever solve our client's problems," said Timothy S. Groustra, Shareholder and Managing Attorney of the office in Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan.



Gregory I. Thomas concentrates his practice in the areas of architect and engineer malpractice, errors and omissions, insurance defense, and legal malpractice, with a particular emphasis in construction law.



Michelle A. Thomas is an appellate specialist concentrating her practice in the areas of civil rights, professional malpractice, and other areas of tort defense.



Kevin G. Thomas' practice is concentrated in insurance litigation, including architect and engineer malpractice, errors and omissions, admiralty and maritime law, and premises liability, and with a particular emphasis in automobile accident litigation.

Established in 2019, Dickie McCamey's Michigan office is located in Grosse Pointe Farms. The Detroit suburb, located on the shores of Lake St. Clair, was established in 1892. Dickie McCamey's office is located on "The Hill" business district, in close proximity to most metro Detroit courthouses. A national, full-service law firm currently employs 194 attorneys in 20 locations throughout 11 states.

Lawyer Referral Application

Please take note that the Ingham County Bar Association does not do Lawyer Referrals. If you need to use this service provided by the State Bar of Michigan, please call them at [\(800\) 968-0738](tel:800-968-0738) between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, to speak with a lawyer referral representative or you can use the links below.

- [Lawyer Referral and Information Service Registration Form](#)
- [LRIS Quick Reference Guide](#)
- [Become a Lawyer Referral Service Panel Member](#)



Thanks
for reading Briefs



BRIEFS

Feedback? briefs@inghambar.org

Next issue:
November 2020
featuring our ICBA Veterans

Have a great Fall!



[@inghamcountybarassociation](https://www.facebook.com/inghamcountybarassociation)



[@ICBALawyers](https://twitter.com/ICBALawyers)