# Boulder county BAR ASSOCIATION

## BCBA VIRTUAL FREE LEGAL CLINIC UPDATE

#### **KYLE MARES**

In response to the coronavirus pandemic closing the venues used for the monthly free Boulder County legal clinics, the Boulder County Bar Association has begun a Virtual Free Legal Clinic.

Using a slate of volunteer attorneys, people sending in their legal issues have been promptly contacted with free legal advice. Thanks to technology like Zoom and Google Voice, even those with limited capabilities can still benefit from interactions similar to the face-to-face

BCBA
Annual
Meeting
Page 2

meetings offered at the once-monthly legal clinics held in Boulder, Lafayette, and Longmont. Nearly 50 individuals seeking legal help have already been assisted.

Fern O'Brien said "I have received a few calls from people seeking legal advice through the BCBA Virtual Legal Clinic and it has turned out to be a great model. It allows me and the person calling greater flexibility in terms of both when to call and how much time to spend with a caller. Now, we can set a mutually convenient time for people to call me when we each have the time and energy to discuss their problem."

Access to legal resources is difficult in the best of times for those unable to afford their own lawyer. It was determined that transitioning temporarily to a virtual legal clinic would offer those in desperate need of legal help a valuable tool even while sheltering in their homes. Thanks to organizational outreach and an article in The Daily Camera, the residents of Boulder County are aware of this important legal resource that is available to them thanks to the assistance of the Boulder Bar membership.

## IN THIS ISSUE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 3
PRESIDENTS PAGE 4
PROFESSIONALISM & PRO BONO 5
CLASSIFIEDS 6



## **BCBA ANNUAL MEETING THURSDAY, JUNE 4**

The BCBA Annual Meeting will be held virtually this year for the first time in our 113 year history. While we are so disappointed that we will be unable to see you all in person, it is important to keep all of our members updated during an unprecedented time.

This year, we will feature a State of the Bar Association address given by our outgoing President, Jennifer Lorenz, and President Elect Jeff Rose. We will also hold a virtual passing of the gavel and approval of the slate of nominees for board positions.

Please join us on Thursday, June 4 at 4 pm. We are entering an era unparalled in our history, and want to keep you all as up to date as possible.

Click here to register

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Wednesday, May 6
FAMILY LAW VIRTUAL PRESENTATION
Practice-Pointer Tips for Family Law Attorneys
In Light of COVID-19
Presented by Jennifer Walker, Evan Branigan, &
Bruce Wiener
12:00 - 1:00 PM @ BCBA Zoom Meeting Room
\$25 CLE | \$15 New/Young Attorney

Please click here to register

Thursday, May 21
NATURAL RESOURCES VIRTUAL PRESENTATION
Electric Vehicles: Speeing Up in Colorado
Presented by Gabriella Stockmayer & K.C. Cunilio
12:00 - 1:00 PM @ BCBA Zoom Meeting Room
\$25 CLE | \$15 New/Young Attorney
Please click here to register

#### **DAVID J. DRISCOLL**

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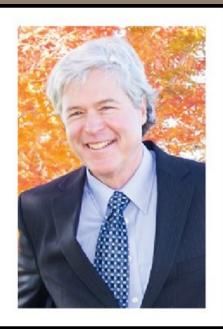
## HutchinsonBlackandCook LLC

Attorneys at Law

303.442.6514

921 Walnut Street, Ste 200 Boulder, CO 80302 ONLINE AT:

www.hbcboulder.com



## **WELCOME NEW BCBA MEMBERS**

Maureen S Espinoza Michael M Lane Dominick M Saia William R VanDusen Jr. Brooke W Brestel Jeffrey P List

Sean I McGhie Todd M Olinger Sara E Bucar Dianne A Van Voorhees Amelia M Tanttila Bennett Brayerman

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Invest in justice.
Invest in the future.
Invest in the community.



The Boulder County Bar Foundation is a 501(c)(3) that invests donations from its Fellows in an endowment fund, the proceeds of which are awarded to legally-related 501(c)(3) organizations in Boulder County. Grants have regularly been awarded to help fund legal services for low income, immigrant and displaced members of the community; high school mock trial teams and court-ordered co-parenting classes as well as court access for victims of domestic violence. The Foundation always has grant applications for more than it can give. Become a Fellow and help grow the endowment - it's good for justice, it's good for the future, it's good for the community and it's good for you.

Invest in yourself. Become a Foundation Fellow today.

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

#### JENNIFER LORENZ

On March 27, 2020 the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act") was signed into law. Among its many components, the CARES Act established the Paycheck Protection Program ("PPP"), a loan program that made \$349 billion available to small businesses using the Small Business Administration ("SBA").

The PPP loan was designed to incentivize small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll. According to the SBA, it will forgive loans if all employees are kept on the payroll for eight weeks and the money is used for payroll, rent, mortgage interest, or utilities. Click here for citation.

However, Bank of America, Wells Fargo, JP Morgan Chase and US Bank have been sued in a series of lawsuits for allegedly failing to process PPP loans on a first-come first-served basis and prioritizing PPP loan applications for their own benefit.

In the Southern District of Texas, a Complaint against Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. was filed on April 11, 2020 by business owner Edward Scherer. The Complaint alleges that "At an unprecedented time of severe national need, Wells Fargo chooses privileged discriminatory policies driven by corporate greed over the recognized and urgent needs of America's small businesses." The Complaint further alleges that "Nothing in the CARES Act authorizes or permits the Defendant to pick and choose who would gain access to, or benefit from, the federally backed lending program. And, the priority of access to these limited funds is material - the demand is overwhelming as America responds to the economic tsunami of COVID-19 upon small businesses. There is no justification for requiring small businesses who did not have a Wells Fargo business checking account as of February 15, 2020, to go to the end of the line and suffer the inevitable consequences of the first-come-first served system that has been implemented under the CARES Act. It is no secret that the overwhelming and immediate demand for assistance under the CARES Act will cause the allocated \$349 billion to quickly run out." Click here for citation.



Similar Complaints have been filed against Bank of America, JP Morgan Chase and U.S. Bancorp., each by different Plaintiffs, but with similar allegations.

A Complaint against Bank of America Corporation, Bank of America N.A. specifically alleges that "BofA has, once again, prioritized corporate greed at the expense of its small business customers." Click here for citation.

A Complaint against <u>IPMorgan Chase</u>& Co., JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., alleges, "As a result of Chase's dishonest and deplorable behavior, however, thousands of small businesses that were entitled to loans under the PPP were left with nothing because Chase chose to maximize its loan origination fees rather than comply with the rules of the program and serve the needs of its small business customers." Click here for citation.

A Complaint against <u>U.S. Bancorp.</u>, U.S. Bank, N.A., alleges that "Rather than processing Paycheck Protection Program ("PPP") applications on a first-come, first-served basis as required by the rules governing that program, U.S. Bank prioritized loan applications seeking higher loan amounts because processing those applications first generated larger loan origination fees for the banks." Click here for citation.

After just 14 days the PPP loan program's initial \$349 billion was exhausted. On April 21, 2020 Senate passed a new \$470 billion package allotting \$370 billion more for SBA loans. The new package adds \$310 billion to the PPP loan program that is still run directly through the lenders to help small businesses fund payroll costs. The new round of funding for these PPP loans is supposed to be offered on a first come first serve basis.

### PROFESSIONALISM ON CALL

 May 4
 Trip DeMuth
 303.447.7775

 May 11
 Peggy Goodbody
 303.440.5736

 May 18
 Anton Dworak
 303.776.9900

 May 25
 Steve Clymer
 303.530.2137

The Professionalism Committee assists lawyers, clients, and other members of the community with questions or complaints about behavior by lawyers that fails to meet generally accepted standards of professionalism and courtesy, or that is contrary to the BCBA Principles of Professionalism.

The Professionalism Committee does not address allegations of criminal or ethical violations by lawyers, as regulated by the Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct, and any such violations should be addressed to the Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel.

#### **BOULDER COUNTY FREE LEGAL CLINIC**

The dates have been set for the 2020 Free Legal Clinics at the BCBA Office (3269 28th Street, 2nd Floor), the Lafayette Senior Center (103 lowa Avenue), and the Longmont Senior Center (910 Longs Peak Ave) from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Volunteers are always needed. Please contact Laura at laura@boulder-bar.org if you can help in Boulder or Lafayette, or susan.spaulding@longmontcolorado.gov if you can help in Longmont.

Lafayette: July 14 Longmont: August 25

**Boulder: September 17, December 17** 

#### THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

The BCBA Virtual Legal Clinic remains ongoing and has served over 30 people to date. Thank you to the attorneys who serve as volunteers:

Dan Droege **Amy Stengel** Beth Kelley Jennifer Huston Laura Herndon Dipak Patel Sherri Murgallis Maki latridis Lindsey Killion K.C. Cunilio Craig Small Karen Burns Scott Hamerslough Fern O'Brien Susan Spaulding Starla Doyal George Farmer Chris Lane Jeff Skovron TJ Willard Connie Eyester **David Harrison** Lila Sol Beth Montague Georgiana Scott Ann England Kurt Hofgard

### PRO BONO REFERRALS

Eight cases were referred in the month of March. Thank you to the following attorneys:

Susan Bryant
Lila Sol (x2)
Heather Kurland
Jeff Skovron
Brad Hall (x2)
Judson Hite (x2)
Gary Merenstein
Bruce Wiener

## PRO SE VOLUNTEERS

The Pro Se Clinic was cancelled due to COVID-19, so no volunteers were utilized this month.

#### PRO BONO CORNER

Interested in a Pro Bono case? Please call Kellie at 303-449-2197. CLE credits available for pro bono service.



## **CLASSIFIED ADS**

#### OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE IN PROFESSIONAL SHARED

SUITE. Perfect for attorneys, CPA's, IT or other interested professionals. Great location on 30th Street next to the 29th Street mall. Two conference rooms, kitchen, waiting area and free parking. \$625 per month. Contact Scott at (720) 415-0322 or by

emailscotth@scotthlaw.comif you are interested.

FIDUCIARY SERVICES. Carol Johnson, J.D.Client seeking a competent Trustee or Personal Representative to execute their estate less expensively than a law firm or bank? Please visitCarollohnsonFiduciary.com

BEAUTIFUL OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE. Two room office with kitchenette, reception area, deck, and amazing views. Conveniently located next to Boulder Creek and CU across from Folsom Field with dedicated parking spots. 799 sq. ft. Monthly rent: \$1950. Contact BTZHChris@gmail.com. 303.449.0428.

JD-PARALEGAL NEEDED. A Prestigious law firm in the Denver Metro area is looking for 'cre'me de la cre'me' Paralegal to join theirenergetic, productive legal team. Be a part of a law firm that has served for over 50yrs. yet has remained very current with their culture of diversity and inclusion as well as staying relevant and still considered to be among the best, boasting new technology and a fresh and hip environment within their national law firms. We are looking for a Paralegal that has at least 6 yrs. of Paralegal experience and has a

good verifiable work history. Click here for more information.

PARALEGAL - REAL ESTATE. Position Overview: Under the direction of Real Estate lawyers, this position will assist attorneys in rendering legal services in the area of commercial real estate and acquisitions, real estate finance, leasing, and real estate development. Please click here to apply.

TRANSACTIONAL POSITION AVAILABLE. Stinson LLP seeks a highly motivated transactional attorney with 3-5 years of experience for our Denver office. Excellent academic credentials, strong writing, analytical, organizational, research and communication skills required. Cover letter, resume, transcript and writing sample required. Apply on-line at https://bit.ly/2qMWGzA. For more information, visit www.stinson.comor contact Eleanor McCall at recruiting@stinson.com.

OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE. Boulder: 2400 Broadway. Beautiful brand-new downtown office spaces in building owned by on-site immigrant rights attorney. Construction to be complete February 2020. Conference room, kitchen, shower, bike storage, basement storage and parking available. Walk to Pearl, Sanitas, Ideal Market. \$1100-\$1500. Brandt Milstein brandt@milsteinlawoffice.com

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Randy Barnhart



Ross Pulkrabek



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Aaron Goldhamer



Melissa Sullivan



Christina Habas



**Bradley Unkeless** 



Melissa Hailey





Michael Keating



**Daniel Wartell** 



Deirdre Ostrowski



Zachary Warzel

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