February 2025

Boulder COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

BCBA PICKLEBALL NIGHT

Please join us on Thursday, February 20 from 4:30 - 6:00 pm as we host an evening of pickleball for BCBA members at Boulder Pickleball (3550 Frontier Ave Unit C).

Rich Irvin: In Memoriam Page 8

If you've never played before, this is a great opportunity to learn how! We have reserved a 30-minute training session for those new to pickleball, which will set you up to start playing immediately. A lot of attendees at our first event were first-timers and by the end of our session were making plans to start playing regularly!

We look forward to seeing you at our pickleball event! This event is capped so please register quickly to secure your spot. $10 for BCBA members, $25 for nonmembers. **Please click here to register**.

We are seeking sponsors for this event: please click here to sponsor.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, February 4
Business Law CLE Webinar
A Practical Overview of Colorado's Natural Medicine Health Act
Special thanks to our event sponsor Memoru Center for Visionary Healing Arts
Presented by Adam Foster
12:00 - 1:00 PM @ BCBA Zoom Meeting Room
Free for BCBA Members
Please click here to register

Wednesday, February 12
Bagels with the Bar: Longmont
8:30 - 10:00 AM @ Lyons Gaddis (515 Kimbark St. Suite 200)
Free for BCBA Members
Please click here to RSVP

Tuesday, February 18
Natural Resources CLE Webinar
What Is New in Division 1 and Administrative Challenges
Presented by Corey T. DeAngelis
12:00 - 1:00 PM @ BCBA Zoom Meeting Room
Free for BCBA Members
Please click here to register
Please click here to sponsor



Every Wednesday
Bagels with the Bar
8:30 - 10:00 AM @ BCBA Office (3269 28th St.)
Free for BCBA Members

Thursday, February 20
BCBA Pickleball Night
4:30 - 6:00 PM @ Boulde Pickleball (3550 Frontier Ave Unit C)
$10 for BCBA Members
Please click here to register
Please click here to sponsor

Wednesday, February 26
Pre-Decree Procedural Updates and 20 Family Law Litigation Practice Tips in the 20th
12:00 - 1:00 PM @ Jury Assembly Room (1777 6th Ave.)
Free for BCBA Members: Bring your own lunch
Please click here to register
Please click here to sponsor

MEDIATION

Domestic Landlord/Tenant Personal Injury Business Employment

Morgan O'Brien, MBA
mobrien@fobrienlaw.com
(303) 725-9549

Fern O'Brien, JD
fobrien@fobrienlaw.com
(303) 579-3559

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

CAROLYN STEFFL



How Executive Orders are Affecting the BCBA

In a whirlwind of activity, President Trump signed 45 executive orders in January. Some people have gone on a news diet, as a coping mechanism. Others are scrambling to read, understand and respond to the new orders. For now, let's lean in and look at a few impacts on our local bar and the support that we plan to provide to our members.

Executive Order Names Local Bar Associations

I was absolutely floored that, of all the problems facing the nation, bar associations would be near the top of the list for the new administration, but that seems to be the case. The day after inauguration, the President signed a DEI-focused executive order "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity" (EO 14173), which specifically calls out bar associations as an investigatory focus. The Order provocatively states that influential institutions of American Society have "adopted and actively use dangerous, demeaning, and immoral race- and sex-based preferences under the guise of so-called 'diversity, equity, and inclusion' (DEI)" that may violate civil-rights laws and have the effect of undermining "the traditional American values of hard work, excellence, and individual achievement in favor of an unlawful, corrosive, and pernicious identity-based spoils system. "The Order directs state agencies to investigate certain corporations and organizations, specifically mentioning state and local bar and medical associations.

It has never been my experience that DEI programs demean races or genders, but rather achieve the goals promoted by the Executive Order by creating an even playing field to allow people the opportunity to succeed through merit and hard work. It was just four years ago, in 2021, when the Colorado Supreme Court implemented a requirement that attorneys complete two credits of training in Equity Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) every three years.Regulation 103.1, on the accreditation of CLEs, defines EDI as "an activity or portion of an activity that addresses equal access to the legal system; competent representation of diverse populations; or the recognition, mitigation, or elimination of bias in the legal profession or the legal system." In Colorado, the very definition of EDI training is to provide equal access without bias, in order to minimize discrimination and allow for merit-based advancement. The double-speak of the Executive Order labels programs enacted to minimize discrimination as discriminatory. Down is the new up, is it any wonder people are confused?

During my 5-year tenure on the Board of the

PRESIDENT'S PAGE CONTINUED

BCBA, we have striven to reduce discrimination in legal and judiciary venues and to support all members of our bar association. One method was to expand our Board of Directors from 9 members to up to 12, to make room for more voices at the table. I strongly believe that diversity makes our bar association and community stronger – diversity of opinions, places of residence, practice areas, race, ethnicity, gender, gender identify, sexual-orientation, ability, religion, age, backgrounds and skills. All members will continue to have a place in our bar association.

Keeping up with the Changes

With so many new executive orders coming out, some of which are unclear or may be legally challenged or enjoined, it is hard to keep up with them all. Still, many affect our clients: family law and immigration law clients, clients receiving federal grants or contracts, corporations with DEI policies, schools, medical providers and insurance companies, just to name a few. We're planning to prepare a series of webinars to address specific executive orders and their legal impact, building on our library of FREE CLEs available to all members. Please reach out to Laura Ruth, Kyle Mares, or any Director if you have suggestions for needed CLEs or suggested speakers.

Supporting our Non-profit Partners

We are already busy planning for the Justice For All Ball, which will have some re-vamps this year to keep it current and to make sure that we maximize the money raised for Legal Aid of Colorado. Stay tuned for some exciting announcements about this year's event. For now, please save the date for



"I like working for legal aid because we give people hope. I often hear that clients believe no one cares. I love being a listening ear and offering kindness and understanding when it sometimes feels like there is none left."

Britney Moreno, Intake Specialist
Colorado Legal Services
Fort Collins, Colorado

LEGAL AID FOUNDATION
OF COLORADO

www.legalaidfoundation.org/donate
Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado
1120 Lincoln St, Ste 701 Denver, CO 80203

PRESIDENT'S PAGE CONTINUED

April 5, 2025. Please encourage your firms to generously sponsor the event and donate your time and talent (and vacation homes) to the silent auction, as we expect the demand for legal aid will be greater than ever. Let's rise to that challenge and make this a record fundraising year.

Supporting Each Other

The last two weeks have been darn hard for many people in our community, myself included, who feel personally impacted by certain orders. You are NOT alone. I am finding comfort in my community, and I encourage you to do the same.

On January 22nd, I attended a Unity Town Hall, put on by the diversity bars of Colorado to discuss upcoming legal challenges and ways to work together. It was wonderful to bring together lawyers from many backgrounds to share knowledge, support and encouragement. You could reach out to the diversity bars to connect into that network of attorneys. On the flip side, I attended the BCBA bowling event at the CU, and enjoyed the time not talking about politics, just enjoying each other's company.

Come out to one of our upcoming events – for yourself and to support of others in the legal community. Here are some feel-good events coming up (& see the BCBA Events Calendar to register):

- February 5 and every Wednesday – Bagels with the Bar, drop in for free bagels and coffee – 8:30-10 AM
- February 7 and 8– High School Mock Trial competition, judges are urgently needed. You can give back while spending time with some fabulous people.
- February 20- Pickle Ball, need I say more.
- March 11 - Free Lunch – Employment Law section
- April 5 – Bar Fundraiser in Support of Legal Aid Colorado
- April 15 – Free Lunch – Family Law section

Please reach out to us to let us know other ways that we can support you.



How many dragons slayed?

$30 Million
VERDICT FOR
Oilfield Injury
2024

$16 Million
VERDICT FOR
Electrocution
2018

$8.4 Million
VERDICT FOR
Electrocution
2021

$4.3 Million
VERDICT FOR
Trucking Crash
2018



Kurt Zaner
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SUPER LAWYERS COLORADO 2025 X

RICH IRVIN: IN MEMORIAM

RUTH & MARGO IRVIN



RICHARD IRVIN (1946-2024)

Richard Drury Irvin passed away on December 9, 2024. He will be sorely missed. An active member of the Boulder legal community for many years, Rich will be remembered for his integrity and sense of humor. He was a Past President of the Boulder County Bar Association (2010-2011) and remained active in BCBA and the wider legal community until Multiple Sclerosis forced him to retire in 2016. He received the BCBA's Ron Porter Award of Merit in 2019. Even in retirement, Rich was always ready to get together with the many colleagues who had become friends over the years.

Rich was born September 19, 1946 in Dayton, Ohio, the oldest of four children born to Dr. Robert and Margo (Drury) Irvin. He grew up in Painesville, Ohio, and spent summers lifeguarding at Headlands State Park on Lake Erie. Rich graduated with honors in history from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio and worked for several years as a social worker. It was while working a summer job during his college years, gathering data for the EEOC (Head Start eligibility for low income families) in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, that Rich realized he wanted to become a public defender/criminal defense attorney: he had been falsely charged with a major traffic offense, and the police tried to force a confession. Rich presented substantial evidence that he could not have been involved in the matter at hand. The judge ultimately dismissed the case, but Rich realized that if this could happen to him, it could happen to anyone.

After graduation from Ohio University, Rich worked in the Lake County Department of Social Services by day while attending Cleveland State University College of Law at night until 1971, when he transferred to the University of Colorado School of Law, where he received his JD in 1973.

During his time at CU, Rich was involved with its clinical program, and credited his law school experiences with leading him into a career that he dearly loved. Upon his admittance to the Bar in 1974, Rich joined the Office of the Colorado State Public Defender, serving in Denver and Boulder. He loved to tell the story of having a jury trial on his second day on the job. And as those who knew him could attest, he had many other stories he would often recount as a public defender and later in private practice (1980-2016). During his tenure as BCBA President, Rich was tasked with writing a monthly column for the Bar's newsletter. Rich's love for movies shone out in these columns as he linked a film (or two) with a legal topic (or two). Take for example, *Miracle on 34th Street* which he linked to the election of judges versus Colorado's retention system. Or *Body Heat,* in which the Rule Against Perpetuities became pivotal. Those who worked alongside Rich (defense attorneys, DA's, judges, court personnel) will recall Rich's colorful and passionate style in the courtroom and his dedication to providing a zealous defense to clients from all walks of life. As his daughter commented at an early age to a friend, Rich went to court "to make things fair."

Rich was a true extrovert who lived life to the fullest and thrived on good conversation, novel experiences, and an appreciative audience for his stories and (bad) jokes. He was passionate about history, movies, music, travel, and the CU Buffs. You might find him atop a Mayan pyramid in Guatemala or walking on the Great Wall of China; or maybe he would be hiking to the Sun Gate at Machu Picchu or wandering through the ruins of Ephesus, camera in hand. It was important to Rich to stay active: he ran the first Bolder Boulder and as many as he could thereafter, skied Steamboat, Eldora, Breckenridge and elsewhere with friends and later his daughter, and enjoyed biking, snowshoeing, and hiking in the Rockies. He loved to swim, from open water swimming in Lake Erie to the YMCA, Scott Carpenter Pool, and the Meadows Club in Boulder, and always got a lot of good thinking done while grinding out those laps. Even when MS began to limit Rich's mobility, he continued to push himself. He was a Past President of the CU Director's Club (now Forever Gold) and the Meadows Swim and Tennis Club, and was involved with Boulder Rotary Club and the Boulder Philharmonic.

Rich married Ruth Kromminga (now Irvin) in 1987 after meeting at a Colorado Trial Lawyers Association conference in 1985, and for many years they practiced law together as Irvin & Irvin. Their daughter, Margo, is married to Scott Baez (he's a lawyer, too), and they live in California.

Gifts in Rich's name may be made to the Clinical Education Program Fund at the University of Colorado Law School (you may donate online or make your check out to CU Foundation, write fund #D-0024359 on the check, and mail it to University of Colorado Foundation, P.O. Box 17126 Denver, CO 80217-9155) or the Boulder Philharmonic (1600 Range St., #200, Boulder, CO 80301).

A celebration of Rich's life will be held on May 4 at the Byron White Club lounge at CU's Folsom Field.

LEGAL CLINIC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Did you know the BCBA sponsors a Free Virtual Legal Clinic for Boulder County? This started during the pandemic and was so successful we have continued it to help further our commitment to access to justice. To date, we have helped over 1700 community members!

We have a small group of incredibly dedicated volunteers who give 15-20 minutes of their time approximately once every few weeks. We would like to get that number to once a month, but we need more volunteers! **Can you help with 20 minutes once a month in service to your community?**

Please let us know that you are available to help once per month (or more!) along with your practice areas. We could not provide this service without all of our amazing volunteer attorneys! Please contact Kyle for more information about participating as a volunteer attorney.

Please click here to sign up

THANKS TO OUR CLINIC VOLUNTEERS

Ainagul Holland	4 calls last month	Patricia Riley	1 calls last month
TJ Willard	3 calls last month	Scott Brenner	1 calls last month
Karen Burns	3 calls last month	Monique DuPont	1 calls last month
Dipak Patel	2 calls last month	Jessica Catlin	1 call last month
Mike Rafik	2 calls last month	Michael Travers	1 call last month
Laurel Herndon	2 calls last month	Bruce Weiner	1 call last month
Kurt Hofgard	2 calls last month	Jennifer Arnett	1 call last month
Georgiana Scott	2 calls last month	Kevin Miller	1 call last month
Brittany Frisbie	2 calls last month	John Barrett	1 call last month



BCBA HOME STUDY WEBINARS

A benefit of BCBA CLE offerings moving to webinars is that we are able to record the programs and make them available to view after the live presentation. We also submit the majority of our recordings for home study CLE credit, which allows our members to view them as needed to fulfill the credits needed for their reporting periods. Please see a list of our current home study offerings below, and if there is a program you're interested that you don't see here, the full list of our video recordings is available for BCBA Members only on our Webinars page. If there is a program that is not currently accredited for home study that you're interested, please contact Kyle and we can work to get a recording re-accredited.

Ethics Courses

Creating Effective and Ethical Environments for Colleagues and Clients with Intellectual Disabilities
Presented by April McMurrey, Zoey Tanner, and Judge Chris Larson
Video recording here
Course ID# 850525

Moving from Ignorance to Terror: Engagement Letters for Estate Planners
Presented by Connie Eyster
Video recording here
Course ID# 853868

Getting Your Firm's Affairs in Order: Part 2
Presented by Jodi Martin
Video recording here
Course ID# 838332

EDI Courses

Introduction to Racial Equity: A Lawyer's Responsibility
Presented by Judge Dea Lindsey
Video recording here
Course ID# 847136

A Primer on Disability Advocacy
Presented by Franklin Erickson
Video recording here
Course ID# 853822

A Focus on RMIAN
Presented by Mekela Goehring
Video recording here
Course ID# 853866

The Importance of Pro Bono Service
Presented by Gregor MacGregor
Video recording here
Course ID# 853867

Lessons for Mediators from the EDI Roundtable
Presented by Melora Bentz and Wesley Parks
Video recording here
Course ID# 853869

Advocacy Requires Allyship: Conscious Representation of LGBTQ+ Clients
Presented by Kevin Miller
Video recording here
Course ID# 836005

General Credit Courses

Drafting and Using Arbitration Clauses: Tips from a Litigator & Arbitrator
Presented by Paul Schwartz
Video recording here
Course ID# 847138

An eDiscovery Update for 2024
Presented by Kelly Twigger
Video recording here
Course ID# 853823

Fall 2024 Tax & Estate Legislative Update
Presented by Scott Challinor
Video recording here
Course ID# 853824

Tips on Having a Successful Mediation
Presented by Hon. Patrick Butler
Video recording here
Course ID# 853870

Law of the Colorado River
Presented by Gregor MacGregor
Video recording here
Course ID# 812690

Business Valuation: A Guide to Understanding How It Works
Presented by Tamara Rigberg
Video recording here
Course ID# 853871

BCBA JANUARY PHOTOS



Thank you to everyone who attended our first event of 2025: BCBA Bowling Night at CU Bowling

Special thanks to our event sponsor [Berg Hill Greenleaf Ruscitti]



BCBA Bowling Night at CU Bowling



Criminal Law Section Membership Lunch

Welcome New Members

Jennifer Hume	Samuel Jeter	Emiliano Salazar
Alexandra Schauer	Kelly Marinelli	Maira Schaible
Michaela Levi	Madison Winker	Kristina Abdalla
Colin McIver	Lorin Subar	Noah Simcoff
Adam Vorhis	Maggy Mulhern	Tara White

CLASSIFIED ADS

Water Team Associate Position. Lyons Gaddis has an opportunity for an attorney with a proven interest in Colorado water law to join its water team as an associate. An applicant must have experience in Colorado water-related matters, including water court proceedings and water rights transactions, and have 4-8 years of legal experience. Depending on experience and qualifications, the salary range is $110,000 to $150,000, exclusive of production bonus and benefits. Lyons Gaddis is a dynamic, growing Colorado law firm offering health insurance, life insurance, 401K match, and more. If you want to join our team, please submit a cover letter and a resume to careers@lyonsgaddis.com.

Senior Probate Paralegal Supervisor Position. Are you a strategic leader with a meticulous eye for detail, an impressive command of probate law, and a knack for managing intricate legal processes? Your new role awaits! Lauth Investigations has spent over 30 years delivering unmatched investigative and legal expertise, and we're growing! We're looking for a Senior Probate Paralegal Supervisor to join our Return Assets Division and make us even better. Family-owned and proudly based in Indianapolis, our firm is built on a legacy of integrity, diligence, and client-centric solutions. In this vital hands-on role, you'll lead a team of talented probate paralegals, untangle complex case files, and ensure smooth operations that result in real, meaningful outcomes for our clients. *Please click here for full job responsibilities and requirements*.

Senior Trust and Estate Attorney Position. Berg Hill Greenleaf Ruscitti LLP, a prominent law firm in Colorado, is seeking a senior-level Trust and Estate Attorney to join our team. This position is ideal for an experienced attorney with a partial book of business looking to advance their career in a dynamic and challenging environment. This is a full-time exempt level position. *Please click here for full job responsibilities and requirements*.

Attorney Positions Available. Clark Hill is seeking high-performing, motivated attorneys to help us grow our Denver and Boulder offices. We would also be interested in a group of lawyers or boutique practice looking to join a larger firm. The ideal candidate(s) will have a minimum of five years of private practice experience, preferably in one or more of these practice areas: corporate transactional (M&A, lending), construction, real estate, labor & employment, litigation, and estate planning / probate litigation. A portable book of business is required, in addition to the desire and ability to collaborate with other attorneys across the firm to serve clients nationally and globally. Please submit a resume and cover letter to Margaret Myers, Legal Recruitment Coordinator, at mmyers@clarkhill.com.

PROFESSIONALISM ON CALL

February 3	Tom Rodriguez	720.931.3231
February 10	Karl Kumli	303.447.1375
February 17	Trip DeMuth	303.447.7775
February 24	Peggy Goodbody	303.440.5736

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 Boulder County Free Legal Clinics have been replaced with our Virtual Legal Clinic until further notice. We are always seeking new volunteers to assist the public: please email Kyle if you are interested in participating.

PRO BONO REFERRALS

Thank you to the following attorneys:

David Sipiora

PRO SE VOLUNTEERS

There were multiple Pro Se Clinics held thanks to the help of the following attorneys:

Shana Beggan

Kathleen Franco

Patricia Riley

Vickie Vetter-Holmes

Kim Peterson

WILLS CLINICS

There were multiple Wills Clinics held thanks to the help of the following attorneys:

Jodie Gilbert x3
David Sipiora x2

PRO BONO CORNER

Interested in a Pro Bono case? Please call Alisiana Medina at 970-499-1003. CLE credits available for pro bono service.

c

Boulder COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

THE BCBA NEWSLETTER IS A MONTHLY ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION BY THE BOULDER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION. ARTICLES BY GUEST LAWYERS MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE BOULDER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION OR THE AUTHORS.

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OR THE BAR'S WEBSITE

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