November 2024

Boulder COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL JUDGES DINNER

The Boulder County Bar Association is honored to hold the 2024 Annual Judges' Dinner on Thursday, November 7 at the St. Julien Hotel (900 Walnut St.) at 5:30 pm.

This is a great opportunity to meet with the judges of the 20th Judicial District and socialize with your colleagues. This will be a plated dinner with tableside wine included. Other drinks are available for purchase at the venue.

BCBA October Photos Pages 10-13

We look forward to seeing all of your there! This event will sell out, so please buy your tickets today!

Special thanks to our event sponsors The W Law, Berg Hill Greenleaf Ruscitti, Peek Goldstone LLC, Lyons Gaddis, and Caplan & Earnest.

Please click here to register

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THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 ANNUAL JUDGES' DINNER EVENT SPONSORS

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, November 6
November Visit with Attorney General Phil Weiser
1 General Credit
12:00 - 1:00 PM @ BCBA Zoom Meeting Room
Free for BCBA Members
Please click here to register
Please click here to sponsor

Thursday, November 7
Annual Judges Dinner
Special thanks to our event sponsors The W Law, Berg Hill Greenleaf Ruscitti, Caplan & Earnest, and Peek Goldstone, LLC
5:30 - 9:00 PM @ St. Julien Hotel (900 Walnut St.)
$115 for BCBA members | $90 New/Young Lawyers
Please click here to register

Wednesday, November 13
Family Law Section CLE Webinar
A Primer on Disability Advocacy
Presented by Gavrielle Reyes
1 EDI Credit applied for
12:00 - 1:00 PM @ BCBA Zoom Meeting Room
Free for BCBA Members
Please click here to register
Please click here to sponsor

Thursday, November 14
Probate Section Bench Bar Lunch 2024
Presented by Judge J. Chris Larson
1 General Credit applied for
12:00 - 1:00 PM @ Jury Assembly Room (1777 6th St.)
Please click here for event information
Please click here to sponsor

Tuesday, November 19
Business Law and Tax & Estate Planning Sections Membership Lunch
12:00 - 1:00 PM @ BCBA Office (3269 28th St.)
Free for BCBA Section Members
Please click here to register
Please click here to sponsor

Wednesday, November 20
Civil Litigation Section CLE Webinar
An eDiscovery Update for 2024: Hyperlinked Files, Mobile Devices and Sanctions Oh My!
Presented by Kelly Twigger
1 General Credit applied for
12:00 - 1:00 PM @ BCBA Zoom Meeting Room
Free for BCBA Members
Please click here to register
Please click here to sponsor

Thursday, November 21
Tax & Estate Planning Section CLE Webinar
Fall 2024 Trust & Estate Case Law and Legislative Update
Presented by Scott Challinor
1 General Credit applied for
12:00 - 1:00 PM @ BCBA Zoom Meeting Room
Free for BCBA Members
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

The New Front Line Workers and Creating Your Election Safety Plan

It's the time of year when leaves are falling and our thoughts turn to . . . taxes, constitutional amendments, and County Clerks. Yes, it's election time again. Election day is more exciting to me than the Super Bowl.

This year, we had an awesome family dinner out at Azul Fuego in Louisville *(I recommend the mole)*, where we spent the entire dinner debating ballot initiatives and talking through the Blue Book, explaining pros and cons of direct democracy to our 15-year- -old. Interestingly, the teen was a huge supporter of ranked-choice voting, turned off by both political parties.

A huge part of my career centers around elections, helping run elections, drafting ballot questions, TABOR notices, Blue Book content, and more. Because of my career focus, I have utmost respect for election workers and municipal and County Clerks.

One of the saddest outcomes of the last Presidential election was the hostility, threats and pure vitriol hurled at Clerks and Election Judges. Seriously? You guys, these are regular citizens, in it to benefit their communities, not to make money, and just trying to do their best. Sure, there are exceptions, Tina Peters' conviction among them, but most Clerks and Election Judges are unsung heroes. Regardless of the outcome of the election, we need to support and lift up, our Clerks and Election Judges. Clerks and Election Judges are the new Front Line Workers.

As we march towards November 5th, it would seem irresponsible not to address the elephant in



the room – the Presidential election. Ultimately, the outcome of that one race will have more direct impact on us than most of the ballot measures put together. Especially, as lawyers, with the US Supreme Court setting the law of the land, and a national debate about whether there should be reforms to the Supreme Court.

Personally, the Presidential race is overshadowing all else for me and consuming mental and emotional resources of myself and my family. Both sides of the race have used rhetoric posing an existential crisis if their opponent is elected, so regardless of the outcome, there is likely to be anger, sadness and fear for many Americans on November 6th.

Although I want to be home, surrounded by my loving family, I will be attending a planning commission meeting on the night of November 5th and surreptitiously checking my cell phone for updates. But, I'm making a personal plan to help cope if the result is not as I wished. First, I've scheduled myself as "Out of Office" on November 6th, to allow myself to take a mental health day if needed, probably a hike in the mountains. Second, I am planning to work out almost daily leading up to the election to help keep my anxiety under control. Third, I am planning to take comfort from

PRESIDENT'S PAGE CONTINUED

my community, knowing that I can impact state and local policies, even if I can't control national politics.

Finally, I'm planning to be there for my children and help them through anxiety about what the race will mean for them by creating a safe space – which will probably involve a lot of tea and "feel good" TV, like Ted Lasso, romantic comedies, etc.

In the run-up to November 5th, please consider making your own election safety plan to ride through this storm with grace, patience and wisdom. We are leaders in the community and also need to look out for ourselves.



Shout out to our Boulder County Clerk Molly Fitzpatrick! Someone buy that woman a coffee.



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?**

Here's how the clinic works. Our goal is to speak with each person seeking help within 3 business days:

- Clients fill out an intake form at the BCBA website
- We contact an attorney in the appropriate practice area and ask if they are available for a 15-20 minute consultation
- If yes, we pass on the client contact information to the attorney - alternately, we can share your number with the client if you prefer to have them contact you
- You have the brief conversation and send us a quick email that you've helped the person so we can mark them as completed

You are under absolutely no obligation to take on the client. Here is the disclaimer the community receives when they sign up for the clinic:

By participating in the Boulder County Bar Association Free Virtual Legal Clinic, we cannot provide a lawyer to represent you. We can only provide brief legal advice, legal information, and guidance about where you can find further help, if needed. Any attorney-client relationship, to the extent one is established, is limited to the legal advice or information you receive at this clinic.

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 click here to sign up

THANKS TO OUR CLINIC VOLUNTEERS

Ainagul Holland	5 calls last month	Kurt Hofgard	2 calls last month
Dipak Patel	5 calls last month	Jessica Catlin	1 call last month
Julia Morgenthau	4 calls last month	Amanda Peek	1 call last month
Karen Burns	4 calls last month	Alison Gordon	1 call last month
Mike Rafik	4 calls last month	Nicholas Ohmann	1 call last month
TJ Willard	4 calls last month	Bob Cooper	1 call last month
Patricia Riley	3 calls last month	Bruce Weiner	1 call last month
Scott Brenner	2 calls last month	Larry Myers	1 call last month
Monique DuPont	2 calls last month	John Barrett	1 call last month

THANKS TO JUDGE BRUCE LANGER

KEN KUPFNER & CATRINA WEIGEL

The Boulder County Bar Association would like to thank Judge Bruce Langer for his years of dedicated service to the citizens and legal community of Boulder County. On October 11, 2024, Judge Langer retired from the Boulder District Court bench. Judge Langer personified justice in Boulder County during his legal career.

Prior to becoming an attorney, Judge Langer earned a journalism degree from the University of Colorado in 1981 and worked as a reporter and editor for the Boulder Daily Camera. During his time with the Camera, he covered the police and courts and found his passion for the law and the administration of justice. Judge Langer attended the University of Colorado School of Law, graduating in 1994.

After a few months at a small firm, Judge Langer began his long career in public service as a Deputy District Attorney in the Twentieth Judicial District where he worked from 1994 – 2013. During his 18 years as a prosecutor he worked on every kind of case imaginable, from dog at large to sexual assaults to murders. During his time at the District Attorney's Office, you could often find him on the creek path over the lunch hour, out for a walk with his friend and mentor Peter Hofstrom, or on a run with other co-workers despite his asthma. When Bruce left the District Attorney's Office in 2013 to join the bench, he was a Chief Trial Deputy in charge of mentoring younger lawyers and prosecuting some of the county's most serious crimes.

Always looking for new opportunities to learn and grow, Judge Langer was persistent in seeking a position on the bench. After his appointment in 2013, he quickly built a reputation as a fair and even keeled judge who cared about the litigants and the parties in his courtroom. He had a down to earth presence in court and in his written orders and rulings. He was a reliable friend, colleague,



confidant, and legal scholar who always endeavored to do the right thing and taught others to do the same.

In one form or another, Judge Langer has been hanging out in the Boulder County Justice Center for 40 years. First as a reporter, then a lawyer, and finally a judge. His presence in the hallways and courtrooms will be missed! He can now be seen on sunny beaches in Hawaii and Mexico or a European river cruise with his dedicated wife Jill.

Judge Langer, thank you for the many years of selfless public service. You truly made the Justice Center a better place for everyone for four decades. We wish you the very best on your retirement.

Ken Kupfner is the Assistant District Attorney for the 20th Judicial District. As the Assistant he currently oversees the Boulder County Critical Incident Team, District Court Division, Cold Case Unit, and day to day operations of the office. Catrina Weigel is the Chief Trial Deputy District Attorney for the 20th Judicial District.

THE MEDIATION

A POEM BY HUGH YOUNG

While attending CBA-CLE's annual Alternative Dispute Resolution Conference, I had the pleasure of attending a breakout session taught by Hugh Young, a mediator based out of Salida. His highly-interactive presentation focused on setting a safe environment to build trust and encourage collaborative problem solving. Hugh also writes and enjoys poetry, and he closed the session with one of his own. In the spirit of mediation providing the opportunity for creative and outside-the-box solutions, I thought it fitting that we change things up this month. So, rather than publishing the standard legal article, here is Hugh's poem. I hope that you enjoy it.
- Andrew Shoemaker, Chair of the ADR Section of the Boulder Bar Association

The Mediation

She invites me aboard her speeding thought train

Laden with stories carefully crafted and well rehearsed

Tales of injustice, cruelty, scandal, shame...

I decline each invitation,

For peace cannot be found

on the circular tracks of her tragic stories

Listening with empathy and compassion

I search for calm and open my heart

Seeking to deeply see, hear, and know her

For somewhere beyond the speeding train

Obscured by iron wheels and acrid fumes

Lies the hidden opening to her authentic self

While the train is still moving

I only catch glimpses of the verdant land of her feelings



Revealed in the periodic openings between the cars

Feelings of pain, fear, anger...

Feelings of despair, frustration, helplessness...

Feelings of loss, loneliness, sadness...

Feelings that cry out to be treated with respect

Feelings that long for dignity in a difficult situation

Feelings searching for empathy and reverence

She slowly reveals her pain, disappointment and sorrow

Her mourning over the death of the marriage

Her fear in the face of an uncertain future

I listen intently with both heart and head

Waiting patiently for insight to arise

Trusting that she will let me know how best to help

With time, her true self appears

And she disembarks from the speeding train

To join me in the quiet shade of an old tree

Open in heart and rooted to the sacred,

Solutions arise from an unseen reservoir

And the hard work of rebuilding her life can begin

Hugh Young has provided thousands of individuals with the guidance they needed to reach fair and wise solutions to the issues that divided them. He has been a full-time professional mediator since 2003.

BCBA OCTOBER PHOTOS



BCBA 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off



BCBA OCTOBER PHOTOS



BCBA 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off



BCBA 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off



BCBA 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off



BCBA 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off

BCBA OCTOBER PHOTOS



Brittany Frisbie
Winner of 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off



BCBA 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off

BCBA 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off Winning Recipe

Vanilll Chili

Prep Time:15-20 min.

Cook time: 40+ minutes (preference)

Serving size: around 6 people

Ingredients:

·1 tablespoon olive oil

·2 large boneless skinless chicken breasts (chopped into bite-sized pieces) can add more to liking

·1 yellow or white onion finely diced

·1 diced green bell pepper

·1 teaspoon salt (add more to liking)

·2 teaspoon garlic (add more to liking)

·1 can (15 oz) low sodium chicken broth

·2 cans (15 oz) great northern beans (drained and rinsed)

·1 can (4 oz) chopped green chilies (add more to liking)

·1 teaspoon cumin (add more to liking)

·1 teaspoon dried oregano (add more to liking)

·¼ teaspoon ground black pepper (add more to liking)

·1 teaspoon chili powder (add more to liking)

·1 cup sour cream

·½ cup heavy cream

Toppings:

·Shredded cheese

·Tortilla strip salad toppers

·Sour cream

·Sliced or diced jalapenos

Instructions:

1. In crockpot, over medium-high heat, add the oil, chicken chunks, diced onions, diced green bell peppers, salt and garlic powder. Cook and stir until meat is no longer pink and looks cooked. Shred chicken from chunks to shreds, if preferred.

2. Drain excess liquid/water from cooking the chicken

3. Add the chicken broth, rained & rinsed beans, green chilis, cumin, oregano, pepper to the pot. Bring to a boil. Once boiling, reduce heat to medium-low. Cover with lid and let simmer for at least 30 minutes.

4. When done simmering, add the sour cream and heavy cream. Stir to mix and let sour cream mix into chili. Heat for 10-15 more minutes.

5. Serve with optional toppings & enjoy!

BCBA OCTOBER PHOTOS



Bagels with the Bar: Longmont
Thanks to Lyons Gaddis for hosting us



Retirement Party for Judge Langer



Alternative Disupte Resolution Membership Lunch

Welcome New Members

Kathy Hix
Nevene Hullender
Geoffrey Gardner
Ryan Ehlinger
Jana Jacobs
Andrew Hanger
Andressa Gonzales de Souza
Sean Collyer O'Malley

Kyle Rolle
Thomas Anderson
Carl Williams
Nikki Nelson
Zoe Verhoeven
Robert Draper
Camilia Boezio De La Torre
Anna Chadwick
Elizabeth Armstrong

Alexander Tucker
Charlotte Pardo
Sidney Lawless
Holly Chavet
Jake Jenkins
Joseph Bucciarelli
Kelly Crosby
James Paris

CLASSIFIED ADS

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*.

Private Office Available. Spacious Longmont private office with mountain view in professional office suite. Multi-use, Class A building in southwest Longmont's industrial, retail, and restaurant district. Shared reception area, conference room, and kitchenette. Great access to Denver, Boulder, Louisville, Lafayette, and southwest Weld County. Private parking available in basement garage. One or two offices available. Please contact *karen@merteslaw.com*.

Legal Assistant Position. Lyons Gaddis is seeking a full-time Legal Assistant for its Litigation group. Work on a variety of exciting cases in a collaborative team-based work environment with professional and congenial colleagues. A great benefits package with a generous 401(k) match. The ideal candidate will have a strong interest in the legal profession, exceptional attention to detail, a great work ethic, and a desire to learn new things every day. *Please click here for more information*. Professional references are required after the initial interview. Background check required. Please email your resume, references, and salary requirements to *careers@lyonsgaddis.com*. The salary range is $22 - $24 an hour.

Paralegal Position. Great Paralegal Sought: Lyons Gaddis is seeking a full-time Paralegal for its Litigation group. Work on a variety of exciting cases and projects in a collaborative team-based work environment with professional and congenial colleagues. A great benefits package with a generous 401(k) match. The ideal candidate will have a strong interest in the legal profession, exceptional attention to detail, an outstanding work ethic, and an unremitting desire to learn new things every day. *Please click here for more information*. Professional references are required after the initial interview. Background check required. Please email your resume, references, and salary requirements to *careers@lyonsgaddis.com*. The salary range is $25 - $35 an hour based on experience.

Part-time Legal Secretary Position. Part-time in-office legal secretary with great typing skills approx. 24 hours/wk, M-Th 10-4, flexible. Projects involve transcribing audio dictation or integrating dictation into existing forms. Must be detail oriented, proofread documents, and navigate forms in WordPerfect and Word. Two-attorney office in Lafayette specializing in estate planning, probate, real estate, and business transactions. Cheery work environment, good parking, easy access to Boulder and Denver-metro area. Contact *gail@oshlaw.com*.

PROFESSIONALISM ON CALL

November 4	Mike Rafik	303.444.9292
November 11	Gwyn Whalen	303.443.8010
November 18	Lee Strickler	303.443.6690
November 25	Connie Eyster	303.442.6514

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

More than 2 cases were referred in the month of October. Thank you to the following attorneys:

Jennifer Terry
Jodie Gilbert

PRO SE VOLUNTEERS

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

Shana Beggan

Ricki Palmisano

WILLS CLINICS

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

Jodie Gilbert

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

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