

# News from the CBA, Local Bars, and More

BY SHELBY KNAFEL

*Bar News is a monthly compilation of news from the CBA, including sections and committees, administration, and local and specialty bar associations. It also includes notices of activities—past, present, and future—from local and national law-related organizations and groups.*

## CBA-CLE Annual Author and Faculty Reception

Colorado Bar Association CLE hosted its annual reception in February to honor and thank the dedicated authors and faculty who generously provide their expertise and time to help produce legal resources for Colorado attorneys and legal professionals. The event featured the presentation of the Richard N. Doyle CLE Award of Excellence to Herrick Lidstone, Jr. and Judy Mares-Dixon, in recognition of their outstanding contributions to CBA-CLE programs and publications. Lidstone is a shareholder in Burns Figa & Will PC, where he practices in the areas of business transactions. He is the author of two CBA-CLE publications, *The Securities Law Deskbook* and *Limited Liability Companies and Partnerships in Colorado*. Mares-Dixon is the owner of Mares-Dixon & Associates and a former partner with CDR Associates. She has worked in the conflict resolution field since 1986 and is the longtime presenter of CBA-CLE’s flagstone ADR program, 40-Hour Mediation Training.



**1** Judy Mares-Dixon accepts the Award of Excellence from CBA-CLE Executive Director Vince O’Brien.



**2** Herrick Lidstone, Jr. accepts his award.

## HNBA Names Meshach Rhoades “Top Lawyer Under 40”



Rhoades

Meshach Rhoades is among recipients of the Hispanic National Bar Association’s 2019 “Top Lawyers Under 40” award. The award honors accomplished lawyers who have demonstrated professional excellence, integrity, leadership, commitment to the Hispanic community, and dedication to improving the legal profession. Only 36 attorneys from across the country were selected for the prestigious award.

Rhoades is an equity partner in Armstrong Teasdale’s Litigation practice group in Denver, where she co-chairs the Food, Beverage, and Agriculture practice group and the Inclusion Committee. Her involvement with local and national organizations, including the Center for Legal Inclusiveness and the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, demonstrate her commitment to diversity. She also co-founded the Latinas First Foundation through which she has awarded over 50 scholarships to Latinas and recognized Latina trailblazers and unsung heroines for their commitment to the community. She is a past president of the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association, a past chair of the CBA/DBA Diversity in the Legal Profession Committee, and has served on HNBA’s Board of Governors.

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## DBA Past Presidents' Dinner

The Denver Bar Association hosted its annual past presidents' dinner to celebrate and honor the leading lawyers who were presidents of the DBA and to thank Immediate Past President Franz Hardy. The event was held at the Denver Aquarium in February.



- 1** Guests enjoy dinner in the Nautilus Ballroom.
- 2** Nancy Cohen hugs Franz Hardy.
- 3** DBA President Mo Watson greets guests.
- 4** The DBA and CBA executive council with past presidents.
- 5** Nancy Cohen, Chris Little, and Franz Hardy.
- 6** Past Presidents Dan McCune, Mark Fogg, and Ben Aisenberg.

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## 1290 Broadway Open House

The CBA, DBA, and CBA-CLE held three open houses in January and February to acquaint members with their new location, which features state-of-the-art technology, modern meeting rooms, and notable views of the Rocky Mountains. Along with a tour of the facility, guests were treated to drinks and hors d'oeuvres and had the opportunity to participate in a scavenger hunt/raffle.



- 1** Guests turn in their scavenger hunt answers to be entered into a raffle.
- 2** Members check out the new space.

### Colorado Defense Lawyers Association Trial Academy

The CDLA hosted its annual Trial Academy in February. The intensive program blended small group faculty instruction and demonstration with individual student implementation drills. The three days were devoted to lectures by experienced CDLA trial attorneys, followed by mentored practicum exercises. The CDLA Board of Directors thanks each of the volunteers who mentored the 18 students: Judge Ross Buchanan, June Laird, Dylan Lewis, Natalie Lien, Jane Lucero, Judge Jim Miller (ret.), Tiffany Norton, CDLA president Tom Rice, Gregg Rich, Jon Sands, Leslie Schluter, Judge Laura Tighe, Ben Tracy, Teri Vasquez, David Werber, Bernard Woessner, and Jason Young. Special thanks also go to Trial Academy Chair Ellis Mayer.



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- 1 Jason Young lectures on practice organization.
- 2 Teri Vasquez and Ellis Mayer.
- 3 Judge Ross Buchanan served as a Trial Academy mentor.
- 4 Tom Rice and Ellis Mayer.

### CONTRIBUTE

Bar News is always looking for pictures and descriptions of legal events happening throughout Colorado. Snapshots taken with a phone camera work great! To contribute pictures, simply email them to Shelby Knafel at [sknafel@cobar.org](mailto:sknafel@cobar.org), and be sure to select the largest file size when prompted.

### MCBA Ski Day

The Mesa County Bar Association hosted a CLE event at Powderhorn Ski Resort on February 15. The event began with a CLE lunch, followed by a half day of skiing. The CLE program was led by Ryann Peyton, director of the Colorado Attorney Mentoring Program, who discussed the concept of “inclusive professionalism” in law firms.



MCBA members Annie Murphy and Lauren O'Dell hit the slopes.

### Play Ball with Lawyers' League Softball



Lawyers' League Softball returns June 2 and runs through August 4. Games are Sunday mornings at Crestmoor Park (which has real dirt

infields and foul lines and everything!). The league is co-ed, with at least three women and no more than seven adult men on the field at a time. This is a very relaxed league; there are no umpires, and balls and strikes are not called. The point is to get out of the office and enjoy the beautiful Colorado summers. Spouses, kids, significant others, clients, friends, passing acquaintances, and total strangers are welcome. Preferred sign-up is by entire teams. Have your team manager contact Jack Tanner at [jtanner@fwlaw.com](mailto:jtanner@fwlaw.com).

## ACC Colorado Ski & CLE

The Colorado Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel hosted its annual Ski & CLE on February 6. Over 50 ACC members and event sponsors participated in this popular event. During the motor coach ride up to Vail, Davis Graham & Stubbs attorneys Brett Painter and Richard Lee led a CLE on hot ethics topics for in-house counsel. Upon arrival at the Vail Arrabelle, participants were given the option of skiing/snowboarding in groups and later enjoyed a private lunch at Sarge's Shelter. An après ski party featured excellent food, beverages, games, and prizes. ACC Colorado thanks the sponsors of this year's Ski & CLE: HUB International, Quaero Group, and Davis Graham & Stubbs.



1 Skiers and snowboarders unite for a group photo.



2 ACC Colorado members enjoy a snowy CLE in Vail.

## APABA Colorado Networking Mixer

The Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Colorado hosted its attorney/law student networking mixer on February 20. The CLE event was hosted by the Denver Law Offices of Snell & Wilmer.



Law students enjoyed the opportunity to meet and speak with practicing lawyers involved in APABA Colorado.

## CBA International Law CLE

The CBA International Law Section hosted a CLE presentation on doing business in Peru on February 15. The program was led by Roland Denegri, the Consulate General of Peru in Denver. The event attracted a wide range of professionals, including international attorneys, transactional attorneys, cannabis industry attorneys, and educators.



1 Karen Sherman, Peruvian Legal Counsel for the Consulate; Judge Paul Maricle, German Honorary Consul in Colorado; Roland Denegri, the Consulate General of Peru in Denver; Judge Edwin Felter, Jr., co-chair of the CBA International Law Section; and Antonio Anduaga Bocanegra, External Legal Advisor for the Consulate.

2 Roland Denegri and Judge Edwin Felter, Jr. address attendees.

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*Continue exploring CBA Community the newest member benefit!*

***Collaborate*** Post discussions, upload documents/ links to resource libraries, strike up side bar conversations with members and staff, and share best practices.

***Learn*** Upcoming CBA and CLE event posts, documents, discussions, teasers and a member driven glossary.

***Discuss*** Discussion threads with questions, referrals, and tips. Comment on documents, videos and more! Recommendations of Community materials.

***Network*** Member directories, vcards, adding contacts, searches to find member expertise and messaging.

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Questions? Email [community@cobar.org](mailto:community@cobar.org).

