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.

The CBA Sees Victory in Legislation
On May 22, Governor Polis signed into law HB 19-1229, the Colorado Electronic Preservation of Abandoned Estate Planning Documents Act, which contains a procedure for determining whether an original estate planning document that is a will document is abandoned and, if it is, the process for creating an electronic estate planning document of the abandoned original document. The CBA worked with the Trust and Estate Section’s Statutory Revisions Committee and the bill’s drafting subcommittee to achieve passage of this bill. Congratulations to the committees!

Gov. Jared Polis with representatives from the bill’s drafting subcommittee, Rep. Dylan Roberts (the bill’s sponsor), CBA Legislative Director Jeremy Schupbach, and attorney Frank T. Hill.

John Vaught Makes his Final President’s Visit
On May 28, John Vaught finished his presidential term with a visit to the Fremont Custer Bar Association in Cañon City. It was the final of 26 visits for Vaught, who would like to thank every local bar association that graciously hosted him throughout his term.

John Vaught meets with the Fremont Custer Bar Association.

YLD Rafting Trip
Back by popular demand, the Colorado and Denver Bar Associations hosted their third annual YLD rafting trip on Saturday, June 22. This year, the young lawyers donned their wetsuits and helmets to take on Clear Creek.

1 Pre-trip group photo.
2 Katy Ahles, Karen Hen, Jacob Clarke (aka “Cobra”), Alan Schindler, Danaé Woody, and Spencer Rubin.
Melissa Nicoletti Retires after 22 Years with the CBA

The Colorado and Denver Bar Associations hosted a reception to bid farewell to a beloved and familiar face in June. Melissa Nicoletti, who began as a secretary with the CBA in 1997, retired as the director of sections and committees. She will be moving south to Mexico, but don’t worry—she’ll still be able to cheer on the Broncos no matter where she is. The evening was spent celebrating, reminiscing, and laughing. We thank Melissa for her years of dedication, love, compassion, and hard work. She will be missed dearly!

Carolyn Gravit Receives Outstanding Public Service Award

In June, Carolyn Gravit, CBA/DBA director of public legal education (PLE), received the Charles B. Dillon Award from the Arapahoe County Bar Association. For 15 years, Gravit has led law-related educational programs for students and adults in Colorado and improved Denver pro bono efforts for the indigent. As PLE director, Gravit coordinates the Colorado High School Mock Trial Program and the CBA’s leadership training program (COBALT). She also launched the CBA Colorado Lawyers for Colorado Veterans program and Our Courts Colorado.

CWBA Announces 2019–20 Board Leadership

The Colorado Women’s Bar Association welcomes Sarah J. Parady as its 42nd president. Parady is a partner at Lowrey Parady, LLC in Denver, where she practices plaintiff’s-side employment and civil rights law. She succeeds Catherine “Cat” Shea, who remains on the board as immediate past president. Other 2019–20 Executive Committee members are Miranda Hawkins (president-elect), Gina Glockner (vice president), Kathryn Starnella (secretary), Abby O’Connor (treasurer), and Elizabeth Meck (historian).

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, and be sure to select the largest file size when prompted.
DBA Golf Tournament Fundraiser for MVL

On Friday, June 7, the Denver Bar Association hosted its annual golf tournament at the Broken Tee Golf Course in Englewood. The event began with a shotgun-style game, followed by a complimentary happy hour at the clubhouse.

Top prizes went to:
- 1st Low Gross—Jeff Jackson, Chris McClain, Ed Timmons, Jr., and Ed Timmons, Sr.
- 1st Low Net—Darren Hone, Todd Jansen, Derek Serlet, and Richard Strauss.
- 2nd Low Net—Chad Hilyard, Chad King, Ian Saffer, and Daniel Young.
- Closest to the Pin—Rita Booker.
- Longest Putt—Mike Sauer.

The DBA raised approximately $5,600 for Metro Volunteer Lawyers, the most it has raised at any golf tournament to date. The DBA thanks all sponsors, donors, and attendees who helped make this a record-breaking event.

1 Jesse Rodgers, Robert Hadlow, Thomas Gerwick, and John Parks.
2 Collie Norman, William O’Rourke, Randee Stapp, John Sadwith, John Vaught, and Chuck Turner.
3 Justice William Hood, Bill Leone, Justice Brian Boatright, and Will Myer.
4 Amy Braddy, Karen Spaulding, Rita Booker, and Katherine Lee.
**DBA Senior Spring Banquet**


**Networking Happy Hour in Colorado Springs**

On June 12, the CBA Government Counsel Section co-hosted an after work happy hour with the El Paso County Bar Association YLD at Local Relic in Colorado Springs. Special guest Marc Smith, corporate division chief and legislative counsel for the Colorado Springs City Attorney’s Office, discussed career paths and opportunities in government with attendees.

**Family Picnic at Cheesman Park**

The Colorado and Denver Bar Associations, along with the DBA Young Lawyers Division, hosted an afternoon picnic for members and their families on June 23. The group gathered on the south meadow of Cheesman Park.

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1. DBA Senior Spring Banquet 2. Networking Happy Hour 3. Family Picnic

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1. DBA Seniors Committee Chair Leonard Plank.
2. DBA YLD council member Matthew Broderick addresses the honorees and their guests.
3. The 50-year honorees.
BOG Welcomes New President Kathleen Hearn Croshal

The CBA Board of Governors convened on June 14 at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort in Colorado Springs. During the meeting, outgoing CBA President John Vaught passed the commemorative gavel to incoming CBA President Kathleen Hearn Croshal. The BOG also voted affirmatively to allow the Cannabis Committee to become an official CBA section.

ACBA Golf Tournament and Annual Meeting

On Friday, June 14 at The Ridge in Castle Pines North, 57 golfers participated in the Arapahoe County Bar Association’s annual Robert B. Lee Memorial Golf Tournament. The competition was followed by the ACBA’s annual meeting and awards presentation honoring those who have made a significant impact on the community. In addition, the Arapahoe County Bar Foundation presented laptops to 17 college-bound students who were in attendance. A total of 20 laptops were donated this year, two of which were funded by the Aurora Bar Association. The ACBA thanks everyone who donated to the Foundation.
Inaugural Solo–Small Firm Institute

In mid-June, the CBA Solo and Small Firm Section, the El Paso County Bar Association, and the CBA Young Lawyers Division co-sponsored a three-day institute for solo and small firm practitioners at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort in Colorado Springs. The institute featured innovative and leading keynote speakers, the CBA President’s Reception and awards, fun social opportunities for families and individuals, and interactive learning.

1 The Colorado Solo–Small Firm Institute featured six plenary sessions and numerous networking opportunities.
2 Bonnie Schriner and CBA President Kathleen Hearn Croshal.
3 CBA YLD chair Danaé Woody greets attendees.

CTLA Annual Spring Dinner

The Colorado Trial Lawyers Association hosted its 22nd annual Spring Dinner on May 9 at the Ritz-Carlton Denver. During the event, CTLA honored Larry Lee with the Kenneth Norman Kripke Lifetime Achievement Award; Kurt Zaner with the New Trial Lawyer of the Year Award; Burg Simpson Eldredge Hersh & Jardine, P.C. with the Outstanding Service to CTLA Award; and Pamela Maass with the Access to Justice Award. In addition, the prestigious Case of the Year Award was presented to Hollynd Hoskins, Dru Nielsen, Ashley Ratliff, and Sean Connelly (People v. Brooks), who spent more than 24 years fighting for Curtis Brooks and other juveniles serving unconstitutional life without parole sentences.

1 CTLA President Sommer Luther (center) with Case of the Year honorees Ashley Ratliff, Sean Connelly, Hollynd Hoskins, and Dru Nielsen.
2 Kurt Zaner accepts the New Trial Lawyer of the Year Award.
3 Access to Justice honoree Pamela Maass and Sommer Luther.