

News from the CBA, Local Bars, and More

BY BRENDAN BAKER

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.

Colorado Lawyers Committee 2018 Awards Luncheon

More than 480 attorneys and community members attended the Colorado Lawyers Committee's 2018 Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, May 22, at the Hilton Denver City Center. The event celebrated the organization's 40th Anniversary and featured a video highlighting the organization's work over the past 40 years. It also honored the women and men who have volunteered their time to serve as board chair since the organization's creation.

Another highlight of the luncheon was the presentation of awards to honor individuals and organizations that have contributed significantly to the Colorado Lawyers Committee in the past year: Husch Blackwell LLP was honored as the Colorado Lawyers Committee Law Firm of the Year; Christine Snider of Ballard Spahr LLP received the Individual of the Year Award; and Iris Eytan of Eytan Nielsen LLC was honored with the Past Chair Award for her leadership as board chair during the last two years.



1



2



3

1 Husch Blackwell team.
2 Christine Snider, Individual of the Year.
3 Julie Sullivan, Husch Blackwell's partner in charge of pro bono work in the Denver office.

Critical Issues for Cannabis Businesses Presentation at ABA Taxation Section Meeting

Jennifer Benda, partner at Fox Rothschild LLP and executive council member of the CBA Taxation Law Section, moderated a panel on "Critical Issues for Cannabis Businesses" during the ABA Taxation Section's May meeting of the Civil and Criminal Penalties Committee, held in Washington D.C. The event served as a primer on critical issues facing cannabis businesses, providing valuable information from industry experts, including a banking expert, an in-house counsel, and an IRS attorney. Panelists discussed the CSA and Federal Preemption, DOJ Enforcement, FinCEN Guidance and banking issues, RICO litigation, IRS summons enforcement cases, unresolved legal issues, and other industry issues addressed or being addressed in Tax Court litigation.



Panelists discuss industry issues.

2018 Barristers Benefit Ball

The 2018 Barristers Benefit Ball took place on Saturday, April 21 at the EXDO Event Center. This year's theme was Casino Royale. Several hundred local attorneys gathered to network, enjoy casino-themed games and activities, and support the important work of Metro Volunteer Lawyers.



1



2



3



4



5



6

1 Attendees try their luck. | 2 Bar staff and volunteers. | 3 Bidding for charity.
4 DBA President Franz Hardy introduces DBA President-Elect Maureen "Mo" Watson, who presided over the BBB.
5 Taking to the dance floor. | 6 The stage.

Colorado Bar Association CLE Welcomes Bridgett Shephard



Shepard

Bridgett Shephard has joined the staff of Colorado Bar Association CLE (CBA-CLE) as a program attorney. Shephard brings experience and an interest in education that matches well with her legal background. Before joining CBA-CLE, she worked as a prosecutor for more than three years, first for the 5th Judicial District Attorney's Office, and then for the 18th Judicial District Attorney's Office, where she managed a docket of felony cases. During law school, she was a research assistant for the Classroom Law Project, an Oregon nonprofit that focuses on preparing youth to become active, engaged, and informed participants in democratic society. In that role, she developed educational resources and coordinated legal conferences and educational events. Shephard received her bachelor's degree from Colorado College and her law degree from Lewis & Clark Law School. A native of Colorado, she grew up in Evergreen and enjoys skiing, fly fishing, and traveling.

Gina Rodriguez Recognized as Top Latino Lawyer



Rodriguez

On March 1, *Latino Leaders* magazine named Regina "Gina" Rodriguez, a litigation partner at Hogan Lovells, as a 2018 Top Latino Lawyer. In addition, the American College of Trial Lawyers recently admitted her as a Fellow into one of the premier legal associations in North America.

27th Annual COBAR CLE Advising Nonprofit Institute

The 27th Annual COBAR CLE Advising Nonprofit Institute was held on May 3 and 4. Co-sponsored by the CBA Business and Taxation Law Sections, the Colorado Nonprofit Association, and the Colorado Society of Association Executives, this two-day event took a deep dive into a variety of nonprofit legal issues.



CLE Advising Nonprofit Institute Planning Committee: John Valentine, Cara Lawrence, and Peter Nagel.

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 Brendan Baker at bbaker@cobar.org, and be sure to select the largest file size when prompted.

Boulder County Legal Services

Boulder County Legal Services (BCLS) celebrated the outstanding tradition of pro bono service in Boulder County at its Annual Pro Bono Luncheon, held April 30 at the Boulder Marriott. BCLS honored local attorneys, mediators, law students, and paralegals who volunteered 4,032 hours in 2017 to provide legal services to low-income residents of Boulder County.

The Boulder County Bar Association (BCBA) honored Judson Hite with the John Robert Marshall Award for his dedication in providing legal services to the poor. BCBA President Renée Ezer presented the award, which is bestowed annually in honor of John Robert Marshall, a local attorney who tirelessly advocated for the poor. Judson Hite was recognized for his exemplary commitment to pro bono service and his passion in advocating for access to justice. Colleagues noted him for his willingness to take the challenging client and the unusual case.

In addition, the law students of the CU Legal Aid and Defender Program, under the direction of Professor Norman Aaronson, were recognized for their outstanding contribution of 454 pro bono hours serving BCLS family law clients during 2017.

Justice William Hood III and Justice Melissa Hart and judges and magistrates of the 20th Judicial District presented awards for pro bono service. Colorado Legal Services (CLS) Executive Director Jonathan Asher gave the opening address. Chief Judge Ingrid Bakke gave the keynote talk, recognizing the important role of pro bono service in the justice system.



1



2



3



4



5



6

- 1 Judson Hite receives the John Robert Marshall Award for outstanding pro bono service, presented by BCBA President Renée Ezer.
- 2 Lauren Groth receives the award for 300-400 Pro Bono Hours from Magistrate Monica Haenselman.
- 3 CLS Executive Director Jon Asher opens the 2018 BCLS Pro Bono Awards presentation.
- 4 Justice William Hood (far left) and Justice Melissa Hart (far right) present awards for 100% Firm Participation. Accepting the awards are: Leonard Tanis, Cooper Tanis & Armas PC; Josh Anderson, Dietze and Davis PC; Amber Reed, Howard O. Bernstein PC; David Driscoll, Hutchinson Black and Cook LLC; Ronald Jung, Jung Associates PC; Richard Vincent, Vincent Romeo & Rodriguez LLC; and Bruce Warren, Warren Carlson & Moore LLP.
- 5 Bruce Wiener (far right) presents the “Coveted Special Award”—the Triumphant Triviriate Award for contributing a combined total of 538 pro bono hours—to Richard Nehls, Lauren Groth, and William Meyer.
- 6 Chief Judge Ingrid Bakke gives the keynote address, praising the remarkable pro bono contributions made in Boulder County and stressing the vital role of pro bono attorneys in providing access to justice for the indigent and vulnerable.

Colorado Trial Lawyers Association Annual Spring Dinner

The Colorado Trial Lawyers Association (CTLA) hosted its 21st Annual Spring Dinner on May 10 at the Hilton Denver City Center. During the dinner, CTLA honored Christina Habas of Keating Wagner Polidori Free, P.C. with the Kenneth Norman Kripke Lifetime Achievement Award. Habas, a former Denver District Court judge, focuses her practice on products liability, serious personal injury, and wrongful death cases. Over the course of her career, she has tried more than 100 trials as an attorney and presided over more than 200 trials in her time on the bench. As a CTLA member, she has been an incredible asset to the association by sharing her time and talents.

The association also recognized Sarah Parady of Lowrey Parady, LLC with the New Trial Lawyer of the Year Award; Bachus & Schanker, LLC with the Outstanding Service to CTLA Award; Gary Blum, Steven Kelly, and the plaintiffs' attorney team in *Cook, et al. v. Rockwell International Corp., et al.* (Rocky Flats) with the Access to Justice Award; and Jonathan Harris, president of Build Our Homes Right, with the Consumer Protection Award.

In addition, the prestigious Case of the Year Award, which acknowledges the positive impact that a single case can have on correcting injustices, advancing fairness under the law, changing attitudes, or providing economic incentives to protect public safety, was presented to Paul Maxon, Sarah Parady, and Amy Trenary for their work on *Hayes v. SkyWest Airlines*. In *Hayes*, a jury ruled against SkyWest for discrimination, retaliation, and failure to accommodate, as well as retaliation in violation of the FMLA, sending a powerful deterrent signal to other would-be violators of a disabled person's civil rights.

1 CTLA President Michael Keating (center) presents Gary Blum (left) and Steven Kelly (right) with the Access to Justice Award in recognition of their unwavering commitment to their clients in the Rocky Flats case.

2 Kyle Bachus thanks CTLA on behalf of Bachus & Schanker, LLC for recognizing his firm with the Outstanding Service to CTLA Award.

3 CTLA President Michael Keating takes a picture with the New Trial Lawyer of the Year Award recipient Sarah Parady.

4 Paul Maxon and Sarah Parady accept the Case of the Year Award for their work on *Hayes v. SkyWest Airlines*.

5 Christina Habas accepts her Lifetime Achievement Award from Michael Keating.

6 Christina Habas (right) celebrates her achievement with her father and sister.



Cybersecurity CLE Conference



Crothers



Lanterman

In April, CBA-CLE hosted a cybersecurity conference led by Justice Daniel Crothers of the North Dakota Supreme Court and attorney Mark Lanterman with ComputerForensic Services in Minnesota.

One of the sessions took a dive into the dark web that enlightened (and shocked) the audience: Lanterman, who was a sworn law enforcement investigator with both state and federal law enforcement agencies, including the U.S. Secret Service Electronic Crimes Task Force, provided a live demonstration of the dark web. During his presentation, he showed attendees the website of a credit card fraud ring. With thousands of options, buyers can choose the type of card (VISA, Mastercard, etc.), card country of origin, and the bank that issues the card. There is even a money-back guarantee if the stolen card doesn't work.

Showing how easy it is to purchase stolen credit cards led to a thorough discussion on the responsibilities that attorneys have when it comes to cloud computing, email, social media, and database management.

Another session examined electronically stored information (ESI) through the lens of the civil discovery rules. Topics included metadata, timelines, and the discovery and admission of ESI.

Despite the number of risks involved with client information, the speakers were able to share the steps and provide guidelines to minimize risk for attorneys and their clients.

Denver Estate Planning Council

On May 2, the Denver Estate Planning Council hosted former Attorney General John Ashcroft at its annual meeting. Attorney General Ashcroft spoke on protecting individual liberties while enhancing national security.



Doug Hoak, Lisa Davis, Attorney General John Ashcroft, Kim Eilber, and Jeff Barker.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can take and submit photos for Bar News using your smartphone's camera. Simply take and email the picture as you normally would. When you send the email, many phones will ask if you want to reduce the size of the message by scaling down images. Don't do this! It makes the pictures too low-resolution to print. Instead, select "Actual Size" (or whatever the largest image size is). That's it! If possible, please include the names of the photo subjects in the email—we love to print pictures of our members, but we are not always able to independently ID everyone! **Email photos and captions to Brendan Baker at bbaker@cobar.org.**