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.

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News from the CBA, Local Bars, and More

By Brendan Baker

Adams Broomfield Bar Association Bench Bar Banquet

Guests enjoyed an evening of socializing and dinner at Riverdale Golf Course during the Adams Broomfield Bar Association’s annual Bench Bar Banquet. The event featured the presentation of the following awards:

- Young Lawyer of the Year Award—Joshua Nowak, Office of the Colorado State Public Defender;
- Civility in Practice Award—Jeff Ruff, Ruff & Tartar P.C.; and

ABBA thanks everyone who attended the Bench Bar Banquet to help honor this year’s award winners.

Colorado Supreme Court Pro Bono Service Ceremony

On April 19, the Colorado Supreme Court held its annual Pro Bono Service Ceremony to honor those firms, government offices, and in-house counsel groups that have successfully committed to the Colorado Rule of Professional Conduct 6.1(a) goal of performing 50 hours of annual pro bono legal service, per attorney.

1 Attendees gather in the atrium of the Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center.
2 Justice William Hood recognizes pro bono attorneys.

2018 award recipients Joshua Nowak, Jessica Meza, and Jeff Ruff at the Adams Broomfield Bar Association’s annual Bench Bar Banquet.
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.

Thomas Quinn Becomes ACTL Fellow
Thomas B. Quinn, a senior partner at Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, has been inducted into the Fellowship of the American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL). The induction ceremony took place before an audience of 700 during the ACTL’s 2018 Spring Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona.

Quinn has been practicing law in Denver for 30 years. His trial and litigation experience includes healthcare matters, fraud and abuse, government claims, regulatory disputes, product defect, deceptive trade, defamation, professional negligence, and energy disputes. He has served as a speaker to members of the bench and bar on trial strategies, jury selection, government investigation response, and ethics. He has also addressed trade groups on entity organization concepts, governmental compliance, and litigation response and management. He is an alumnus of the University of Wyoming Law School.

Founded in 1950, the ACTL is one of the premier legal associations in North America. Fellowship is extended by invitation only to experienced trial lawyers of diverse backgrounds who have mastered the art of advocacy and whose professional careers have been marked by the highest standards of ethical conduct, professionalism, civility, and collegiality. Lawyers must have a minimum of 15 years’ trial experience before they can be considered for Fellowship.

CWBA at Lawline 9
On April 5, Colorado Women’s Bar Association volunteers Kristina Bergsten, Rachel Catt, Marie Drake, Ashley Emerson, Saira Malik, and Erica Rogers staffed Lawline 9 at KUSA-9News. For 25 years, Lawline 9 has partnered with the Denver Bar Association for this call-in program. In 2018, the DBA has expanded the collaboration to include the Colorado Women’s Bar Association, Asian Pacific American Bar Association, Colorado Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Bar Association, Colorado Hispanic Bar Association, Colorado Children Support Services, American Immigration Lawyers Association, Criminal Defense Bar Association, and Plaintiff Employment Lawyer’s Association. For more information on this monthly volunteer opportunity, email Yazzmine Chrisp at ychrisp@cobar.org.

DBA YLD Ski CLE
On March 24, the Denver Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division held its annual Ski CLE on the slopes of A-Basin. The event featured a CLE presentation on the bus ride up to the mountain, followed by a day of skiing, networking, and fun.

Joseph Mark of White and Steele; KC Harpring of Dormer Harpring and Gray; Jerry Bowman of Bowman & Chamberlain; Brian Weiss of Weiss Law; and Jason Krueger of Stuart D. Morse & Associates.

CWBA members Kristina Bergsten, Erica Rogers, Ashley Emerson, Marie Drake, and Rachel Catt staff Lawline 9.
New Colorado Attorney Regulation Counsel

The Colorado Supreme Court has announced the appointment of Jessica Yates as the state’s new attorney regulation counsel. Yates is currently a partner at Snell & Wilmer, LLP, with a practice focusing on litigation and appeals in federal and state courts, as well as business issues and negotiations. Yates will replace James C. Coyle, who is scheduled to retire on June 30 after 28 years with the Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel.

ABA Day on the Hill

Representatives from the CBA traveled to Washington, DC in April to attend ABA Day on the Hill, a three-day conference that brings together leaders from the ABA and state and local bars from around the country. Attendees met with members of Congress to discuss issues of national importance to attorneys and other legal professionals, and to honor ABA attorneys and members of Congress for their commitment to justice.

ALA–Mile High Chapter Launches Strategic Relations Committee

On April 18, the Mile High Chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators started its 2018–19 Board year with the launch of its new Strategic Relations Committee. The purpose of this initiative is to form strategic alliances with other Colorado legal associations to tackle shared issues affecting the legal industry’s management professionals.

Building on its strategic relationship with the Colorado and Denver Bar Associations, the Mile High Chapter is planning an outreach campaign on various fronts to better help law firms and corporate and governmental legal departments find constructive solutions to an ever-changing legal marketplace. The goals of this committee include:

- working toward building a pipeline of highly qualified legal support staff from various institutions of higher learning;
- promoting beneficial relationships with closely aligned associations to identify and attempt to solve shared issues;
- encouraging and facilitating a climate of diversity and inclusion in the Colorado legal community;
- continuing outreach programs across Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Region to promote professionalism and competency in managing legal services; and
- developing the next generation of law firm and legal department leaders.

For more information about the Mile High Chapter of the ALA, visit milehighala.com.
Legal Aid Foundation 2018 Associates Campaign

The success of the Legal Aid Foundation’s 2018 Associates Campaign was celebrated at a reception hosted by Hogan Lovells on April 4. The Associates Campaign raised a record $192,000 for legal aid during the month of March, with 61 firms participating and over 1,300 individuals from the legal community donating. Colorado Supreme Court Justices Brian Boetright, Richard Gabriel, Melissa Hart, and William Hood, along with U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge Kimberley Tyson, presented the awards to firm representatives.

CBA YLD Coffee Connect

The CBA Young Lawyers Division, in conjunction with the University of Colorado and University of Denver, sponsored a special law school edition of Coffee Connect on April 18. During this “micro-networking” event, young lawyers met up with law students at coffee shops in Denver and Boulder to chat about what it’s like to be a lawyer and forge new relationships over a cup of coffee.

MVL CLE on Custodial Rights of Non-Parents

Metro Volunteer Lawyers sponsored a CLE on the custodial rights of non-parents in domestic relations on April 25. Speakers were Andy Hart and Rebecca Brown from Pelegrin & Radeff, PC. Over 60 people attended this popular event.