



LegalEase

July 2023

Newsletter of the Peoria County Bar Association, an Accredited Provider of Continuing Legal Education.

President's Message

It is not the president who makes the association, but rather the members themselves, particularly those who serve in special capacities, such as committee chairmen. It has been my distinct honor to serve as your president for the past 12 months; but what I think was a very successful year for the PCBA was because of (1) many active committee chairs, and (2) the glue that holds us together and runs the day-to-day show—Stephanie, our Executive Director. Unlimited thanks to her and to all of my Board members, and everyone else who took on a responsibility for us this year. The Association is alive and well, and with your help and participation, will continue to grow and change to meet our members' needs, even as those needs change over time.



The best news is that you are in extremely good hands for at least the next few years, with several dedicated members serving as your officers. My immediate successor, Aliasha Graves, is sharp, extremely motivated, and has shown she knows how to get things done; please give her your full support. Following her as president will be Josh Herman, Dave Wiest, and Kate Swise, and I am confident they will all be excellent leaders for the PCBA.

Stay a member, get your colleagues to join who are not already members, and participate in at least some of the many activities and excellent CLE seminars that we offer throughout the year. You can start by coming to the Annual Meeting and New Members Reception at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 27—free drinks and hors d'oeuvres!

Always be active, be well, practice well, and be a credit to our profession and to yourselves.

Court News *By Chief Judge Katherine S. Gorman*



1. Chief Judge Katherine Gorman is pleased to announce that Peoria County will again operate a problem-solving court focusing on DUIs. Attorneys may contact Judge Suzanne Patton for further information. Peoria County Participant Handbooks are also available for further explanation regarding this program.
2. Judge Alicia Washington was featured in Michigan State University College of Law news regarding her time as Commissioner for the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism. Check out the article by going here: [Judge Alicia Washington, '01, Featured on Illinois Supreme Court Commission Spotlight : Michigan State University College of Law \(msu.edu\)](https://www.law.msu.edu/news/judge-alicia-washington-01-featured-on-illinois-supreme-court-commission-spotlight-michigan-state-university-college-of-law-msu.edu).

Annual Membership Dues

Dues notices were emailed on Friday, June 30. Contact Stephanie at pcbaasst@mtco.com if you need assistance in renewing.

2023 Annual Business Meeting & New Members' Reception



Left to right: Michael Fleming, Aliasha Graves, Joshua Herman, David Wiest and Katherine Swise

The **Annual Meeting & New Members' Reception** will take place on **Thursday, July 27th at Obed & Isaac's**. We will honor Michael Fleming for his year of service as President, and welcome Aliasha Graves as incoming President, along with Joshua Herman and David Wiest as President-Elect and Second Vice President, respectively. We will also vote on the Nominating Committee's motion to approve Katherine Swise as incoming Secretary-Treasurer. This will be a **FREE** event, open to all attorneys and

judges and will include food and drinks. Registration can be done online by clicking on the event calendar, or by clicking [here](#). **Registration closes at Noon on Thursday, July 20.**

July Calendar

- 4 Courts & Courthouse Closed/PCBA Office Closed
27 Annual meeting & New Members' Reception at Obed & Isaac's.

Committee Meetings

July - All meetings are at Noon. A "Z" means the committee is meeting through Zoom. An "O" means the PCBA Office

- 13 Family Law Section (O&Z) 25 FH&W (Z)
18 Holiday Party (Z)

Committee Reports

Entertainment – Annual Golf Outing

Registration for the Annual PCBA Golf Outing is open! This year's Golf Outing will be **Friday, September 29**, at **Mt. Hawley Country Club**. Event information is outlined below. Registration can be completed online by clicking [here](#).



Costs:

Golf & Dinner - \$125 - includes 4 drink tickets | Golf Only - \$100 - includes 4 drink tickets | Dinner Only - \$35

Timeline:

Check-in begins - 12:00 p.m. | Shotgun tee-off - 1:00 p.m. | Dinner - 5:30 p.m. (Awards & Door Prizes to follow)

Fitness, Health & Wellness Committee

Strides for Justice

Registration is open for the 2023 Strides for Justice 5k Race/1 Mile Walk! The event is on Saturday, September 23 at 8:00 a.m. on beautiful Grandview Dr. Register now for only \$25 by clicking [here](#)! Price will increase on September 1.

Treamont Triathlon

Four of our members participated in the Treamont Triathlon in June! See the picture at right with Gabrielle Cunningham, Kelly Giraudo, Mike Fleming (PCBA President!) and Jon Giraudo. You all did great!



Membership

We have received applications for membership from Sarah Billington and Casey Parker. Sarah is an attorney with Howard & Howard and Casey is Director of Career Services at Southern Illinois University. If there are no objections, their names will be presented to the Board in August for approval.

Job Openings | Office Space Available | Misc.

Job openings and office space available can be found on the homepage of our website or by clicking the following links: [Job Openings](#) and [Office Space](#) (office space section includes property for sale).

2022-23 Board of Directors

Michael A. Fleming – President
Aliesha N. Graves – President-Elect & Budget
Joshua D. Herman – Second Vice President
David B. Wiest – Secretary-Treasurer
Emily H. Wilburn – Past President & Nominating Chair
Heather J. Russo – By-Laws
Katherine G. Legge – Communications & Technology
Melodi D. Green -- Diversity
Jason B. Boucher – Entertainment (Golf)
Dennis E. Merkley – Entertainment (Holiday Party)
Kyle M. Tompkins – Fitness, Health & Wellness
Mitchell J. Kavanagh – Government & Public Interest Law
Robert J. Hanauer – Lawyer Referral Service

James M. Rochford – Lincoln Memorial Banquet
Katherine L. Swise – Local Continuing Legal Education
Thomas A McConnaughay & David B. Mueller –
Membership & Memorials
Kerriane L. Waters – Pro Bono
Carol J. Perkins – Public Relations
Teresa M. Dickinson – Real Property
John G. Dundas – Substantive Law
Bradley S. Barber – Young Lawyers
Norman L. McGill – Director at Large
J. Kevin Wolfe – Director at Large
Christopher A. Nichols – Director at Large
G. Edward Murphy – Director at Large