



# LegalEase

August 2022

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

## **President's Message**

The Peoria County Bar Association has been a strong and effective organization for all the many years I have been a member, but only because of the support and participation of its members. As I step into the position of President of your Association for the next 12 months, I urge each and all of you to be active in the Association.



There are many opportunities, from chairmanships of committees to regular committee members, from working on single events to working year-round on projects or committee work. And most of it takes relatively little time. We need your involvement, no matter how small or large your contribution.

The Association is about helping the members in the practice of law, through strong bench/bar relationships and incredibly good continuing legal education courses; but it is also about getting to know your fellow attorneys and working cooperatively to strengthen the justice system and the rule of law, and to help make the system fair and accessible to everyone.

A great way to help out is to sign up for some pro bono work, through Prairie State Legal Services; there is always a huge need for our assistance with that work, and in most cases it involves only a small time commitment that can be worth everything to a client without the financial ability to hire a lawyer privately. Please let Prairie State know that you would take a client or two (or more) each year, in an area of law with which you are, or can be, familiar.

Warm and sincere thanks go to our Executive Director, Stephanie Bitner, now and every day throughout this coming year, for her hard work and dedication to making the Association machine run smoothly. She is a gem, and you should all thank her as often as possible, throughout this year and beyond. Thanks also to our outgoing president, Emily Wilburn, for her leadership this past year, and to all those who have already volunteered as committee chairs, vice chairs, and section chairs, for 2022-2023.

Lastly, the Association changes and thrives because of new ideas and input from the members. Please contact Stephanie or me, or any Board member, at any time with any requests or suggestions (or complaints) you have, whether it be something relatively minor or a new and potentially major direction for us to consider. And let us know if you have questions about what you can do in the Association, or about particular committees or other positions.

I am honored to be president of the Peoria County Bar Association for this year, especially looking at the distinguished attorneys who have preceded me in this role. I will greatly appreciate your involvement in making this another successful year.

## **Court News** *By Chief Judge Katherine S. Gorman*



1. On July 13, Illinois Supreme Court Justice, Lisa Holder White spent the afternoon visiting the courthouse. She participated in the circuit judge meeting and later was able to join all the judges for dinner. A great time was had by all.

## **Committee Meetings**

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

1	CLE (Z)	11	YLC (O)	20	Fitness, Health & Wellness (Z)
2	Real Property (Z)	15	Civil Practice Section (Z)	24	Diversity (Z)
4	Public Relations (Z)	16	Board of Directors (O)	29	Workers' Comp (Z)
9	Family Law (O)	22	Pro Bono (Z)		

## **Committee Reports**

### **Diversity**

**Save-the-Date!** The Annual Diversity Luncheon will be Wednesday, October 5 at Noon at the Spalding Pastoral Center. Judge Joe Billy McDade will be the keynote speaker. Registration will open soon!

### **Entertainment – Golf Outing**

Registration is open for the PCBA Annual Golf Outing! This year's event is being held on **Friday, October 7** at Mt. Hawley Country Club. The rain date is Friday, October 14. Please reserve both dates on your calendar!

#### **Costs**

Golf & Dinner - \$125 - includes **4 drink tickets**

Golf Only - \$100 - includes **4 drink tickets**

Dinner Only - \$30

#### **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)**



Reservation Deadline: **Friday, September 30, 2022**. Please note - if you will be golfing with a foursome, there is a question before checkout to list the names of ALL golfers in the foursome. Registration can be completed online by clicking [here](#).

### **Fitness Health & Wellness** by Mike Fleming, committee member

#### **Strides for Justice 2022—it's getting to be that time of year!**

Each year since 2008, the Bar Association or Foundation has sponsored Strides for Justice, an event to help promote fitness among our members and their families and staff, and to raise money for Prairie State Legal Services. The event is normally held in late September, usually the last Saturday of the month.

Strides is a competitive 5K (3.1 miles) race, with a lot of slower runners and joggers participating, as well as folks doing intervals (alternating running and walking segments) or just walking the whole way. It also includes a 1-mile walk for those who want to participate but not go the full distance of the 5K. Both routes are out and back on Grandview Drive, from the start at Prospect, so the views are incredible whichever route you choose. The longer 5K route does have a couple of small rises, but does NOT go down the big hill leading to Galena Road, so don't let that thought scare you away!

Almost anyone should be able to walk the 1-mile course (very flat), and most of you can walk or run/walk the 5K course even if you are taking your time (which you may!), so for most of you, the excuse of "I can't do that" is not valid. Even if you haven't been running, jogging, or walking much (or at all) lately, you can do it! And you have time to practice between now and Race Day (this year September 24) if you want to.

Every Sunday morning, typically at 8:00 AM, there is a group run/walk for anyone who wants to join, for all paces including walking, that this time of year is frequently on the Strides course. Check out the "Run309" page on Facebook by late afternoon or early evening on Saturday for the details on next morning's gathering. No reservation needed, and no cost to participate! But the running/walking starts right at 8:00, so be there at least a few minutes early. If doing the Strides course, we meet in Tower Park across the street.

The PCBA Fitness, Health, and Welfare committee oversees the Strides event, and encourages all members of the Association, along with their office personnel and families, to get and/or stay healthy in all respects, including the physical and mental health benefits of regular exercise such as running or walking.

Oh, and at Strides, once the running and walking is over, we move across the block to Oliver's in the Heights for some morning pizza and beverages, to socialize and hand out age group awards, etc. It really is an event you shouldn't miss! Contact Kyle Tompkins or Mike Fleming with any questions.

### **Local Continuing Legal Education**

The CLE committee has been hard at work preparing for the 2022 Fall Professional Responsibility seminar. The committee is still working out the details, but this will be an in-person seminar at the Spalding Pastoral Center and the topic will be Diversity, Inclusion & Implicit

Bias. The seminar will take place during the last week of October from Noon – 2:00 p.m. and lunch will be included. Registration will open soon!

### **Membership**

We received an application for regular membership from Perry Browder, Ean Albers and James Rooney, and an application for student membership from Simone Freaney. Perry is with Simmons Hanly Conroy, Ean is with Hasselberg Grebe Snodgrass Urban Wentworth, James is with Heyl Royster and Simone is with Moehle, Swearingen & Lobacz, Ltd. If there are no objections, their names will be presented to the Board in September for approval.

### **Other News**

The Federal Court is putting on a free CLE program on Monday, August 29 from 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. The program is about how to recognize the signs your client is in an unsafe situation and how to connect them with community resources. A flyer with more information can be found [here](#). To register, click [here](#).

### **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).

### **Directory Changes:**

**Effective August 1, 2022** – Kavanagh, Scully, Sudow, White & Frederick, P.C. joined Heyl Royster. Attorneys Phillip Lenzini, Karen Stumpe, Brian Mooty, Gary Schmidt, Bruce Thiemann, Ann Pieper, and Bob Gates now have the address of 300 Hamilton Blvd., P.O. Box 6199, Peoria, IL 61601. Phone: 309-676-0400. New email addresses will not go live until September 9.

**Placher, Jesse** – Dudley & Lake, LLC - 411 Hamilton Blvd, Suite 1900. Phone: 309.673.0069 Email: [jplacher@dudlelake.com](mailto:jplacher@dudlelake.com)

### **2022-23 Board of Directors**

Michael A. Fleming – President  
Aliasha N. Graves – President-Elect & Budget  
Joshua D. Herman – Second Vice President  
David B. Wiest – Secretary-Treasurer  
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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

TBD – 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  
TBD – Substantive Law  
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