

## **BENCHMARK COLUMN // JANUARY 2010**

### **THOMAS M. COOLEY LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI PUBLICATION**

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## **WELCOME TO THE BENCHMARK COLUMN**

### **– DOING WELL AND DOING GOOD**

**THIS ISSUE OF BENCHMARK COLUMN HIGHLIGHTS JUST A FEW OF THE MANY MEMBERS OF THE COOLEY FAMILY WHO DO A LOT OF GOOD. THESE PEOPLE, AND MANY OTHERS, ARE MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE IN OUR WORLD.**

At first-year Orientation and at Commencement, I always exhort Cooley's students to "do well and do good." The first half of that notion is admittedly selfish. I tell them I want them to "do well" so that later they will become big donors to Cooley Law School. That always gets me a polite laugh. But then I tell them that I want them to "do good" because as lawyers they have a tremendous opportunity to help someone in real need, create positive change in society, and make a genuine difference.

This issue of Benchmark Column highlights just a few of the many members of the Cooley family who do a lot of good. The faculty and students in Cooley's Innocence Project have exonerated people wrongfully convicted of crimes. Professor Joe Kimble made the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Evidence readable. Graduate Brian McKeen has helped clients recover damages following various serious personal injuries. Graduate Toan Chung, who experienced injustice first hand in another nation, is working to prevent injustice here. Graduate Stefan Hughes is putting drug dealers off the streets. Students Mark and Linda Crum established a student organization to assist students who are military veterans. These people, and many others, are making a real difference in our world.

In difficult times, whether it be the economic struggles in the United States, the war in the Middle East, or global disasters like the earthquake in Haiti, lawyers play instrumental roles in helping those in need. Yet, day in and day out, Cooley lawyers can and do make a difference. Thus, we offer this issue of Column to salute all of you who, in your daily work, faithfully and quietly do good.

Sincerely,

James D. Robb Associate Dean of Development and Alumni Relations [robby@cooley.edu](mailto:robby@cooley.edu)

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## **RELATIONSHIP – MSU HEAD BASKETBALL COACH TOM IZZO**

### **SPEAKS AT COOLEY'S HOWARD SOIFER MEMORIAL LECTURE**

"Advisor is a better word to describe the relationship between a sports attorney and a player than agent. Maybe 'friend' should be in front of advisor," said Michigan State University Head Basketball Coach, Tom Izzo, looking out at the judges, lawyers, law students, law professors, and the public who recently packed the Cooley Center Lobby in Lansing to listen to coach Izzo speak at the fourth annual Howard Soifer Memorial Lecture in Sports and Entertainment Law. The event was held on September 30, 2009.

"Relationship with people is what Howard Soifer stood for," Izzo said commenting on Soifer's relationship with his famous client Steve Smith. Howard knew and "I have learned that you have to learn to listen and listen to learn. I think you have to be able to get your points across as an attorney, but what is really important is that you listen to hear what is going on so you understand it better."

“Whenever I see a professional athlete who is successful at the end of his career, I want to know: Who is his agent-advisor-lawyer? Who is his accountant? They were successful. As a potential agent, you are needed. It is not because those players who fail are bad guys; it is because they can’t handle the money and fame.”

“There is a right and a wrong and you know the difference,” Izzo said. “That sounds so trite, but that is what we tell our guys. You know what is right and wrong. I have tried to live that and it’s been more peaceful. In your profession and mine, it is hard to do what is right. It doesn’t matter what venue—law, sports, business—there is a right way and wrong way and I (try to pick) the right way.”

“I like people who aren’t afraid to tell somebody what they believe. Right now if a high school coach tells a kid something he doesn’t like, the kid just transfers schools. People are afraid to tell the truth. But with me what you see is what you get. I think there are a lot of wimpy people in our society right now. It is hard to do what is right and still be productive.”

“It is not the kids that have changed. We have changed. The job may not be how to get people out of trouble. The job might be to let them be in trouble to be accountable. When you get them out of it, they are not accountable. People change only as much as we allow them to. And accountability—when I ask a player how he is doing, he can never say ‘good’ because good to me is average and average is who cares? I don’t think we are a very accountable society. We wonder why our kids are like they are. Now when kids are sent to the office, they just walk by it—they take off. But it is only what we allow.”

“If some of you turn into agents, are you going to be an agent that looks out for the player or one that looks out for your percentage? That’s a big thing, looking out for the longevity. As you move up the ladder to where you’re going, there will be some road kill to get there. The key is to spend the time to know where the kid wants to go and he understands where you want to go.” To be successful, “you have to share things with people,” Izzo concluded.

The annual Soifer Lecture Series is held in honor of the late Cooley graduate Howard Soifer (1949- 2003). Past speakers have included Steve Smith, Michigan State University graduate and National Basketball Association All-Star; Russell Granik, former NBA deputy commissioner; Steve Garvey, Major League Baseball All-Star first baseman; Ross Berlin (Cavanagh Class, 1981), Professional Golf Association Vice President of player affairs; the late Jeffrey Yellen (Sherwood Class, 1986), counsel for boxing trainer Emmanuel Steward, and Kevin Roragen (Adams Class, 1997), Lansing sports law attorney.

“This lecture series in sports and entertainment law established in memory of Howard Soifer is an amazing example of an alumnus’ legacy that benefits all Cooley students,” said Jim Robb, Associate Dean for Alumni Relations. “Through Sandy Soifer’s (Howard’s widow) efforts and other alumni of the school, we have raised \$138,977.85 for this endowed series assuring that the series will continue to honor Howard’s memory forever.”

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## **THE SPIRIT OF SUCCESS – ATTORNEY TOAN CHUNG CREDITS HIS CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCE IN VIETNAM WITH HIS PASSION FOR PRACTICE IN ROSCOMMON, MICH.**

### **FROM THE BEGINNING**

When he isn’t snowmobiling or deer hunting—two of his recently acquired pastimes since moving to northern Michigan just months ago—25-year-old Toan Chung (Riley Class, 2009) is working at his dream job as an associate attorney with Nye & Associates of Roscommon, Michigan.

It’s been a long time coming. Ever since Chung, his parents, and his younger brother fled the injustices of Vietnam for California 15 years ago, he’s had a meaningful understanding of the importance of a sound legal system.

“Vietnam became a place where the rule of law was absolutely meaningless,” he said. “I watched my parents lose everything—their personal freedom, their happiness. It’s the law that makes us free and gives us the opportunity to pursue personal ambitions.”

His parents’ strong belief in the importance of a college education combined with his family’s struggles, served as a foundation for Chung’s desire to study law.

“Education was a luxury in Vietnam, and economic status determined who had the opportunity to go on to an education above high school,” he said.

After settling in Los Angeles at the age of 10, he learned and improved his English throughout grade school and eventually earned a bachelor’s degree in history/law and society from the University of California, Riverside in 2006. During his undergraduate studies, he interned for a Los Angeles attorney, a Cooley alumnus who was, like many Cooley graduates, an enthusiastic ambassador for the school.

Chung’s up-close experience with the big-market attorney coupled with glowing reviews of Cooley’s legal education were all Chung needed to embark on his law school journey. Cooley’s Grand Rapids campus was also just miles away from some of his relatives, so he enrolled in September 2006 and quickly discovered the wealth of opportunities the school had to offer.

### **GETTING INVOLVED**

One of Chung’s very first classes was Torts I with Associate Dean Nelson Miller. Dean Miller saw a committed and bright student, who was eager to get involved in numerous activities and who would undoubtedly overcome any obstacle on his path to success.

Chung made it his personal mission to meet with his professors outside of class at least once a week to review class outlines and discuss career opportunities. “I always appreciated how accessible and helpful Cooley professors were,” he said.

He threw himself into his studies and signed on for every educational and volunteer opportunity he could manage. He began volunteering at the Legal Assistance Center (LAC) in downtown Grand Rapids, which helps economically disadvantaged individuals solve legal problems. The LAC guides people through the selfrepresentation process or refers them to suitable *pro-bono* or low-cost legal representation.

Chung spent several hours each week in the LAC helping clients navigate their way through complex legal processes and truly loved his work. His extraordinary level of commitment to the center was typical of Chung, said Miller, who also is the president of the LAC’s board. Chung’s commitment earned him an LAC Outstanding Student Volunteer Award.

### **LIVING HIS PASSION**

Chung’s time at the LAC also led him to discover his true passion: family law. He moved on from the LAC to Cooley’s Access to Justice Clinic, which provides general civil law services to clients referred by the LAC, most of whom have family law issues. Both of these hands-on experiences deepened his desire to practice family law and supplemented his studies in the classroom.

“Experiencing family law as a student taught me a lot about how to practice law and taught me a lot about myself, like how to talk to clients and how to relate to people and their challenges,” Chung explained.

At the Access to Justice Clinic, Chung met Assistant Dean Tracey Brame, whom he recalls was a natural mentor who helped him explore his passion for family law and encouraged him to pursue that passion. Chung also fondly remembers mentor Judge Daniel Zemaitis of the Family Division of the Kent County Circuit Court, for whom Chung clerked during his last semester at Cooley. He also participated on Cooley’s national moot court team, which allowed him to experience litigation first-hand before he graduated from law school.

Chung now uses a combination of his classroom knowledge and hands-on experience on a daily basis as an associate at Nye & Associates, a position he says is a perfect fit for him. It was his diverse experience and practical knowledge of family law that made him a shoo-in for the position with the firm, which specializes in family law.

While family law is his first passion, Chung enjoys the diversity of the small, two-attorney firm. He often supports criminal defense and consumer bankruptcy cases in a part of the state that’s been hard-hit by the recession.

And although his home does not offer the balmy temperatures of California, he finds Michigan beautiful year-round and couldn’t be happier with his life and career. Above all, he is grateful for his parents, who now live in Kentwood, Mich., for their never-ending support of all that he has taken on. “I will always be grateful for their support and encouragement through the years,” he said. “I know for a fact that I would not be where I am today without them.”

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## **INNOCENT...GUILTY...EXONERATED – IN 2010, COOLEY’S INNOCENCE PROJECT ANTICIPATES ITS 5,000<sup>th</sup> CASE REVIEW OF WRONGFULLY CONVICTED INDIVIDUALS SEEKING EXONERATION**

It may not be your typical hall of justice, but this specialty clinic located on the sixth floor of Lansing’s Cooley Center symbolizes justice just the same.

Amid a scattering of backpacks, laptops, and iPhones, a small group of third-year Cooley students gathers weekly, some daily, at the “headquarters” of the Cooley Innocence Project. Here they spend countless hours working on cases of Michigan men and women who believe they are imprisoned for crimes they did not commit.

Operating under a 2001 Michigan post-conviction DNA testing law, Cooley’s Innocence Project has a dual purpose. First, the Project works to identify, provide legal assistance to, and secure the release of persons who are wrongfully imprisoned for crimes they did not commit. Secondly, the Project provides Cooley students with an unparalleled, hands-on learning experience by involving them in every aspect of Michigan’s DNA testing statute; MCL770.16.

### **A MICHIGAN “FIRST”**

Cooley’s Innocence Project is the only such program of its kind in Michigan. Since the Project’s founding nearly nine years ago, Cooley students, working under the supervision of Cooley faculty experienced in criminal and post-conviction law, have volunteered hundreds– if not thousands–of hours performing everything from fact-checking to preparing written case evaluations and court pleadings.

Many of the case reviews will not make the cut for legal action.

The statute requires that biological evidence collected during the original investigation of a case must still be available, regardless of whether the evidence was presented at the time of trial. Establishing this proof is extremely difficult because of the age of the cases and the ways evidence is often stored. Preserving biological evidence was not required in Michigan prior to the 2001 passage of Michigan’s DNA testing statute.

Yet the 2003 exoneration of Kenneth Wyniemko, who had been imprisoned since 1994 following the conviction of 15 counts of criminal sexual conduct, armed robbery, and breaking and entering, and the 2008 exoneration of Nathaniel Hatchett through Cooley’s Innocence Project keeps students and faculty motivated and focused on the future. The Project currently has a number of cases being prepared for court and about 300 cases actively under review or investigation.

### **GRANT EXPANDS REACH**

The Project continues to gain momentum; staff anticipates the review and evaluation of its 5,000th case later this year. Additionally, Co-Directors Marla Mitchell-Cichon and Donna McKneelen recently accepted a \$149,600 grant for the program’s growth from the Federal Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. The funds will provide funding for DNA testing and investigators and scientific experts to assist on cases.

“DNA testing is at the heart of the pursuit to help free individuals who have been wrongfully convicted,” said Bill Fleener, a staff attorney with the Project. While most testing is performed at the Michigan State Police Crime Lab, some cases may require private or additional testing not funded by the courts. The grant provides funding for these instances.

Students understand that they may not witness anything close to exoneration during their two-term commitment to the Project, as the process can take months, even years of work. A case in point is the Wyniemko exoneration, a process which spanned five years. Yet the hope of even one exoneration keeps students committed.

Each case review typically begins with a letter from an incarcerated individual. Cooley receives these letters almost daily.

“I’m so grateful for the Project; it actually saved my life,” said Wyniemko. “Without them, (students and faculty) I would not be where I am now.”

## RESTORING LIVES

Critical DNA evidence, never introduced at Wyniemko's trial, was recovered and reanalyzed earlier this year, linking another man's DNA to the crime scene.

Today, Wyniemko, now 57, travels around the state and country, sharing his story and advocating for more Innocence Projects throughout the nation. The work of the Innocence Projects nationally has been credited with the release of nearly 250 wrongfully accused prisoners through the use of DNA testing.

Wyniemko also enjoys returning to Cooley, motivating current students who are involved with the Project.

"I tell them, once you are in the Project, you have to give 110 percent and never give up; you have an opportunity to save someone's life as the project did for me. One student can change the world by having someone freed."

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## SCENES THE MOVIES MISS COOLEY ALUMNUS STEFAN HUGHES DOES HIS PART TO REMOVE DRUG DEALERS AND GANG LEADERS FROM THE STREETS OF KANSAS CITY

We've seen it in the movies; federal agencies go undercover to bring down major drug traffickers and gang leaders. In those films, we'll see undercover agents, judges granting search warrants and informants who provide valuable information to take down the bad guys. But we almost never see the involvement of prosecutors.

It is unfortunate because if the movies mirrored real life, we'd see the involvement of assistant U. S. attorneys like Stefan Hughes (Bacon Class, 1990). We'd see Hughes working with law enforcement to identify the type of evidence needed, how it's collected, and the best process for getting criminals off the streets in a manner that will stand up in court.

"Within the federal system, there is more proactive work (for prosecutors) than at the state level," said Hughes, who has been an Assistant United States Attorney since May 2008. "In state court, prosecutions typically are reactive. Someone commits a crime, the police investigate, and then they send the file to the prosecutor's office for charging decisions.

"Within the federal system, we're involved much earlier in the process, teaming with various agents and agencies to develop multiple defendant conspiracy cases. Because of the nature of the federal system, I now prosecute the most prolific drug traffickers and some of the most dangerous gangs in our area (Kansas City, Missouri). It is an extraordinary honor to be a part of these efforts."

## FATHERLY ADVICE

While attending Cooley, Hughes, 50, never imagined that he would be going head-to-head with drug lords and gang leaders.

"I originally planned to work in my father's law office," said Hughes. "However, he thought it would be best if I first got some courtroom experience by working in the prosecutor's office. I can still remember him admonishing me that, 'son, before you learn how to keep them out of jail, you must first learn how to put them in jail.'" Hughes subsequently joined the Jackson County (Missouri) prosecutor's office, just as his father, the late Honorable Leonard S. Hughes Jr., had years before.

"Because of my father's example, I knew at a very young age that I wanted to become an attorney just like him," said Hughes. "I learned that you could help people with their legal problems and make a living doing it." Hughes ended up working for nearly two decades at the job his father told him he should take as an experience-builder, serving 18 years as an assistant prosecutor in Jackson County.

"Somewhere along the way, I fell in love with prosecution," Hughes told the *Kansas City Star* in late 2009. "I decided making a fortune wasn't as important as job fulfillment."

## **PAVING THE WAY**

He never pursued the career that many thought he was destined to hold – judge. His father was a Kansas City Municipal Court judge and a Jackson County magistrate judge. His oldest brother, the Honorable Leonard S. Hughes III, currently is a Kansas City Municipal Court judge who formerly held the position of Jackson County Associate Circuit Court judge.

Hughes says that he has no aspirations to sit behind the bench and that he's honored to do the work that he is doing right now. In fact, the magnitude of his position as one of the few African American attorneys to ever work as an Assistant United States Attorney drives him every day.

"I'm only the eighth black Assistant United States Attorney hired by the Western District of Missouri office since its inception 153 years ago," said Hughes.

"Therefore, it is extremely important to do a good job so that other qualified black attorneys who also aspire to work in this office may do so someday."

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## **NEWS BRIEFS**

### **PROFESSOR JOSEPH KIMBLE HONORED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS**

The Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research recently presented Professor Joseph Kimble, chair of the legal-research-and-writing faculty at Cooley, with the 2010 AALS Section Award. The award is given to someone who has made significant lifetime contributions to the field of legal writing and research. Kimble's awards and contributions to the field are numerous. He played a lead role in redrafting the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Evidence and has held prominent roles with Scribes: The American Society for Legal Writers (editor of *The Scribes Journal of Legal Writing*); Clarity (past president); and the Legal Writing Institute (past member of the Board of Directors). He also is the longtime editor of the Plain Language column in the *Michigan Bar Journal* and the author of *Lifting the Fog of Legalese: Essays on Plain Language*.

### **NEW COOLEY STUDENTS FOR VETERANS ORGANIZATION FORMS AT THE AUBURN HILLS CAMPUS ON VETERANS DAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2009**

Third-year law students Mark and Linda Crum, both of whom are veterans, are sharing their mutual interests in supporting veterans by forming a new student organization; the husband-wife team recently founded Cooley Students for Veterans to support other student veterans, those who are interested in serving in a professional capacity following law school (particularly in the JAG corps), and those who want to support our service members.

### **PROFESSOR CHARLES PATRICK GANNAWAY AWARDED THE GRIFFITH ADJUNCT FACULTY AWARD**

Cooley Law School Adjunct Professor Charles Patrick Gannaway has been awarded the 2009 Frederick J. Griffith Adjunct Faculty Award. Professor Gannaway, who is an attorney with Rapaport Pollok Farrell & Waldron PC of Lansing, teaches trial skills courses in the Practice, Advocacy and Litigation Skills Department at Cooley. He chose to donate his \$500 award to Cooley's trial skills program. Cooley established the Griffith Award in 1997 to recognize the contributions of its adjunct staff and to honor the late Frederick J. Griffith, an adjunct faculty member at Cooley and a Lansing attorney.

### **COOLEY GRADUATE BRIAN J. MCKEEN (WING CLASS, 1982), FOUNDER OF MCKEEN & ASSOCIATES IN DETROIT, HAS BEEN INDUCTED INTO THE INNER CIRCLE OF ADVOCATES.**

The Inner Circle of Advocates is an exclusive, invitation-only assembly of the nation's top 100 plaintiff attorneys from nearly 40 practice areas who demonstrate excellent character and integrity. To qualify, members must have tried at least 50 personal injury jury trials throughout their careers and won at least three verdicts in excess of \$1 million or one verdict in excess of \$10 million. McKeen, a resident of Northville, Mich., currently serves on the executive board of the Michigan Association for Justice and the board of governors of the American Association of Justice.

## **BECOME PART OF THE NEW COOLEY LAW SCHOOL COMMUNITY ON LINKEDIN®**

Network with Cooley alumni, faculty, staff, and students on LinkedIn® by becoming part of the Cooley Law School Community group. The new Cooley Law School Community group is a fast-growing, worldwide network of professionals and is a great way to stay informed about Cooley news and events, connect with other Cooley community members, and learn about career opportunities. Join the Cooley Law School Community group today by creating a profile at [www.Linkedin.com](http://www.Linkedin.com).

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## **SAVE THE DATE – IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS**

### **FEBRUARY 22, 2010**

U.S. Supreme Court Bar Admission and Alumni Reception in Washington D.C.

### **FEBRUARY 25, 2010**

Alumni Lunch in Palm Beach and Alumni Reception in Miami, Florida

### **MARCH 11, 2010**

Alumni Reception in Scottsdale, Arizona

### **JUNE 11, 2010**

Cooley 5K Race for Education

### **JUNE 21, 2010**

Alumni Golf Benefit, Lansing

### **OCTOBER 29, 2010**

Cooley Society Donor Gala, Lansing

### **NOVEMBER 12, 2010**

Alumni WineTasting and Annual Meeting, Lansing

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## **FACULTY BRIEFS**

**Tammy Asher, Assistant Professor Attended**, Central States Regional Legal Writing Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in October 2009.

**David C. Berry, Professor Attended**, the International Trademark Association Leadership Meeting in Miami Beach, Florida, and was appointed to the membership of the INTA Academic Committee for 2010-2011. **Spoke**, as a panelist at a program sponsored by the Federal Bar Association, Eastern District of Michigan Chapter, Intellectual Property Committee entitled "What Every Attorney Needs to Know about the Ever Changing Requirements in Intellectual Property Litigation." **Planning**, INTA's First Annual Trademark Scholarship Symposium, which will be held during the 132nd INTA Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts in May 2010. **Attended**, all-day program entitled "Markets for Patents: Emerging Practices and Directions for Research," presented by the University of Michigan Law School and the Ross School of Business.

**Ron Bretz, Professor Presented**, "Criminal Law Update," with Prof. James Peden at the Wayne County Criminal Advocacy Program, November 2009. **Spoke**, on the Michigan Criminal Justice System at People's Law School, October 2009. **Presented**, "Supreme Court Update," at the Michigan Judges Association Annual Conference, August 2009. **Honored**, by the Cooley Black Law Students Association with the Faculty Appreciation Award, October 2009.

**Evelyn K. Calogero, Associate Professor Named**, Chair, Child Welfare Appeals Track, Michigan Appellate Bench-Bar Foundation planning committee for the 2010 Michigan Appellate Bench-Bar Conference. **Participating**, in several committees with the State Court Administrative Office, Child Welfare Division, Court Improvement Program,

Improving Michigan's Child Welfare System: Improving Representation for Parents and for Children in Child Welfare Cases.

**James L. Carey, Associate Professor Elected**, to a three year term on the Michigan State Bar Business Law Section Council. **Published**, through Lexis/Nexis, Updating Confidentiality and Nondisclosure Agreements in light of SEC v. Cuban (2009 Lexis Emerging Issues 4667, Dec. 2009). **Published**, through Lexis/Nexis, Common Ways Shareholders Lose their Limited Liability – How to Help Your Clients Avoid Being Liable for the Debts of the Company they Own (2009 Lexis Emerging Issues 4668, Dec. 2009). **Published**, through Lexis/Nexis, Shareholder Oppression Actions (2009 Lexis Emerging Issues 4669, Dec. 2009). **Published**, through Lexis/Nexis, Stockbroker Liability (2009 Lexis Emerging Issues 4670, Dec. 2009).

**Patrick Corbett, Professor Appointed**, Member of the State Bar of Michigan District E Character and Fitness Committee. **Awarded**, Co-recipient, National Science Foundation Grant, Course, Curriculum & Laboratory Improvement Program, Information Assurance and Security. **Spoke**, on "Topics in Cyber Security: A Review of Michigan Cyber Crime Laws," Oakland University, Rochester, Mich., and at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich., on Nov. 19, 2009. **Spoke**, on "A Review of Michigan Cyber Crime Laws - Cyber Bullying, Identity Theft, and Other High Tech Crimes," to the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools Fall Conference, Detroit, Mich., on Oct. 30, 2009. **Spoke**, on "High Tech Crimes Involving Teens," Be Excellent! Day, at Okemos High School (9th-12th grades), Okemos, Mich., on Sept. 11, 2009. **Spoke**, on "Cyber Bullying and Other High Tech Crimes Involving Kids," at Crawford AuSable Public Schools (middle school, high school, parents), in Grayling, Mich., on April 20, 2009. **Spoke**, on "Cyber Bullying and Other High Tech Crimes Involving Kids," at Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church (3rd-8th grades), Grosse Pointe, Mich., on April 19, 2009. **Spoke**, on "Overview of Federal Laws on Electronic Evidence Gathering in Criminal Cases," at Oakland University, Rochester, Mich., on March 31, 2009. **Published**, "Cyberbullying and Other High-Tech Crimes Involving Teens," 12 *Journal of Internet Law* 5 (2008).

**Gerald A. Fisher, Professor Spoke**, on Land Use Planning, at the Michigan Planning Association Seminar, Aug. 27, 2009, in Mt. Pleasant, Mich. **Spoke**, on Land Development and the Zoning Enabling Act: A Primer, for ICLE L and Use and Development 2009, on Sept. 15, 2009, in Plymouth, Mich. **Appeared**, before the Michigan Supreme Court, as counsel for Kasson Township, Mich., in *Kyser v Kasson Township*. Oral argument was presented Nov. 3, 2009. **Appointed**, Immediate Past President of the Oakland County Bar Association for 2009-2010. **Recognized**, as a Michigan Super Lawyer for 2009. **Appointed**, Parliamentarian for the board of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission, for 2010. **Attended**, as a member, meetings of the State Bar Public Corporation Law Section Council; the Board of Directors for the Land Information Access Association, Public Interest Corp.; Michigan Municipal League Professionalism and Education Committee of the Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys, and the Oakland County Bar Foundation Board of Trustees.

**Anthony Flores, Associate Professor Presented**, and trained for the Great Lakes Chapter of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, "De-Mystifying Courtroom Testimony" for about 60 nurses from across the state, on Dec. 7, 2009. **Presented**, for Protective Services and Foster Care Training for the Michigan Child Welfare Institute, on Dec. 17, 2009. **Interviewed**, by the Michigan Messenger on Michigan's Sex Offender Registration Act for an article entitled "Prosecutors weigh reforms to state sex offender registry" by David Garcia. **Interviewed**, by WLNS Channel 6, for story on cell phones in the courtroom.

**Dustin S. Foster, Assistant Professor, Attended**, the 24th Midwest Clinical Law Teachers Conference Oct. 9-11, 2009, at Wayne State University Law School in Detroit, Mich. **Spoke**, on the "Top 10 Things You Absolutely Must know About Medicaid," at the State Bar of Michigan and Institute for Continuing Legal Education Solo & Small Firm Institute in Dearborn, Mich., Sept. 18, 2009. **Acted**, as host school administrator for the Region 6 ABA Negotiation Competition at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School, Nov. 7-8, 2009.

**Judith Frank, Professor, ordained**, as clergy in the Church of Spiritual Humanism, Michigan. **Presented**, for faculty, "Teaching Skills in Large, Doctrinal Classes," July 2009.

**Joseph Kimble, Professor Named**, the winner of the 2010 award from the Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS). The award, given for a lifetime contribution to legal writing, was presented at the AALS annual meeting. **Wrote**, a series of four articles in the *Michigan Bar Journal* on the newly redrafted Federal Rules of Evidence. Professor Kimble was the principal drafter. **Completed**, work on volume 12 of *The Scribes Journal of Legal Writing*. Professor Kimble is the editor in chief. **Spoke**, at the Seventh Biennial Conference of the Plain Language Association International, in Sydney, Australia. While in Sydney, he also spoke to Federal District Judges at the Federal Court of Australia and to three major law firms: Freehills; Corrs Chambers Westgarth; and Gilbert & Tobin. **Featured**, in an article in the New South Wales *Law Society Journal* called "The Persistence of Professor Joe Kimble."

**Dorean Koenig, Professor Made recommendations**, to a new draft comprehensive Convention on Crimes Against Humanity, being prepared by the Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute at Washington University Law School, after being asked by its Director, Professor Leila Sadat, to participate as an expert commentator. Professor Koenig was recommended as someone whose expertise would be important to the further work of the Initiative. Public discussion of the project will occur at a global conference to be convened in Washington, D.C. in March 2010.

**Ashley Lowe, Associate Professor Attended**, the Midwest Clinical Law Teachers Conference at Wayne State University Law School in Detroit, Mich., Oct. 9-11, 2009. **Spoke**, "In Proper Parties in Family Court – an Interactive Session to Answer: "What's a Judge to Do?" for the Institute of Continuing Legal Education's 8th Annual Family Law Institute in Plymouth, Mich., Nov. 12-13, 2009.

**Gerald MacDonald, Professor Co-authored**, with Professor John Scott, *United States v. Jordan Weaver* case file for the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Cat Bennett National Trial Competition. **Served**, as co-director with Prof. John Scott, 19th Annual NACDL Cat Bennett Trial Competition held in Portland, Ore., Nov. 5-7. This is the eighth year Professors Scott and MacDonald have served as co-directors of this invitational trial advocacy competition.

**Jeffrey Martlew, Associate Professor Received**, the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Alumni Association.

**Daniel W. Matthews, Associate Professor Published**, an article, "Trusts and Estates," 55 Wayne Law Review 645 (Spring 2009).

**Nelson P. Miller, Associate Dean and Professor Published as co-author**, "Meeting the Carnegie Report's Challenge to Make Legal Analysis Explicit — Subsidiary Skills to the IRAC Framework," in 59 *J. Legal Education* 192 (2009). **Published**, a review of the book *A Recipe for Balanced Tort Reform: Early Offers with Swift Settlements*, in the spring 2009 edition of the *Journal of Markets & Morality*.

**Marla Mitchell, Professor Served**, as a panelist, for "The Anatomy of an Innocence Case: Karl Vinson," Wayne State University Criminal Justice Department, Oct. 21, 2009. **Presented**, on the topic of Wrongful Convictions to 7th-9th grade students at the "Exploring Careers in the Law" program sponsored by the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center and to Ovid-Elsie High School seniors.

**Monica P. Navarro, Visiting Professor organized and supervised**, the creation of the Hispanic Latino Law Society, Cooley Auburn Hills campus. **Reappointed**, Public Member, State of Michigan Board of Psychology. **Reappointed**, Director, Southwest Counseling Solutions Board. **Elected**, Council Member, State Bar of Michigan Health Law Section. **Attended**, IX Annual Taxpayers Against Fraud Conference, Washington, D.C. **Attended**, annual meeting of the State Bar of Michigan Health Law Section. **Spoke**, on The Future of Women in Qui Tam Litigation, IX Annual Taxpayers Against Fraud Conference, Washington, D.C. **Moderated**, The New Face of Health Care Fraud Enforcement, Recent Amendments to the False Claims Act and Enforcement by the Health Care Strike Force, Federal Bar Association, Eastern District of Michigan. **Ran**, Detroit Free Press/Flagstar Marathon.

**Kim o' Leary, Professor Accepted for publication**, "Yes, Santa Claus, There Is a Virginia: How One Lawyer Realized a Life of Passion for Justice, Commitment to Community, and Empathy for Clients," which will be published in the *Cooley Journal of Clinical and Practical Law* in 2010. **Posted**, on the "Clinicians With Not Enough to Do" blog, "Deconstructing the First Year: How Law School Experiences Lead to Misunderstandings of What Lawyers Do," co-authored with Cooley Professor Assistant Dean/Associate Professor Chris Church. **Co-presented**, in September 2009, with Sandra Simpson, "Using Outcomes Measures and Rubrics to Enhance Professional Learning in an In-House Clinic" at the Legal Education at the Crossroads v. 3: Assessment Conference in Denver, Colo. **Attended**, the AALS Annual Meeting, January 6-10, 2010, in New Orleans, La.

**Norman Plate, Associate Professor Promoted**, in August 2009, from Acting Executive Director to Executive Director of Scribes -- The American Society of Legal Writers.

**Philip Prygoski, Professor Presented**, along with Professor William Weiner, the duo's fall annual presentation to the Ingham County Bar Association, a review of U.S. Supreme Court cases known as the "Phil and Bill Show."

**John Rooney, Professor Emeritus Republished**, his article, "Polish Legal Theory," in India as part of a book titled *Random Thoughts on Sociological Jurisprudence and Legal Philosophy*.

**Marjorie Russell, Professor Taught**, at the July (Trial Skills) and September (Psychodramatic Methods and Discovering the Story) classes of the Trial Lawyers College in Wyoming. **Taught**, the course for the first annual

Advanced Track of the CDAM/Cooley Criminal Defense Trial College, Aug. 28-Sept. 2, 2009. **Presented**, on Voir Dire methods at the Sixth Annual CDAM/Cooley Criminal Defense Trial College. **Presented**, on Voir Dire skills to the California Association of Criminal Justice, Sept. 26, 2009. **Moderated**, for the Advanced Criminal Practice seminar of the NORML Legal Committee, Dec. 3-5, 2009.

**Devin Schindler, Associate Professor Published**, "Pay for Performance, Quality of Care and the Revitalization of the False Claims Act," in 19 *Health Matrix: Journal of Law Medicine* 387 (2009). **Lectured**, to senior citizens at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Aquinas College, on the constitution, Oct. 14-21, 2009.

**John Scott, Professor Co-authored**, along with Professor Gerald MacDonald, *United States v. Jordan Weaver* case file for the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Cat Bennett National Trial Competition. **Served**, as co-director with Prof. Gerald McDonald, 19th Annual NACDL Cat Bennett Trial Competition held in Portland, Ore., Nov. 5-7. This is the eighth year Professors Scott and MacDonald have served as co-directors of this invitational trial advocacy competition.

**Kevin Scott, Associate Professor Participated**, Oct. 27, 2009, in the Wolverine Bar Association's and Legal Aid and Defender Association's Expungement Clinic as part of the ABA's National Pro Bono Week. Professor Scott and three Cooley students from the Auburn Hills campus helped eligible southeast Michigan residents to expunge offenses that carried less than a life-imprisonment sentence from their criminal records.

**Jane Siegel, Associate Professor Published**, an article, in fall issue of the University of Virginia's *Journal of Social Policy & the Law*, titled "Thank You, Sarah Palin, for Reminding Us: It's Not About the Clothes," about women and appearance discrimination. **Promoted**, from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor at Cooley Law School. **Serving**, (six years) as editor of *The Scrivener*, the quarterly newsletter of Scribes, the American Association of Legal Writers.

**Otto Stockmeyer, Emeritus Professor Published**, an article, "Scribes After More Than 50 Years – A History," in *Scribes Journal of Legal Writing*. **Published**, an article, "Using Multiple-choice Quizzes to Assess Academic Progress and Enhance Student Success," in the AALS Teaching Methods Section newsletter, in December 2009. **Spoke**, on "Road Trip! A Look at the Paces and Personalities Made Famous by *Sherwood v. Walker*," for the Kalamazoo Trial Lawyers Association, Aug. 14, 2009. **Appointed**, to the ABA Communication Skills Committee by Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar Chair Jerome C. Hafter.

**Amy Timmer, Associate Dean and Professor Selected**, one of 25 fellows from around the nation to participate in the National Institute for Teaching Ethics and Professionalism teaching workshop, a program cosponsored by the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Professionalism and the Georgia Chief Justices' Commission on Professionalism. Dean Timmer was also selected to offer a teaching presentation.

**Christopher Trudeau, Associate Professor Presented**, "Using Research Walk throughs to Teach Legal Research," at the Central States Legal Writing Conference in Milwaukee, Wisc., Oct. 9-10, 2009. **Promoted**, to Associate Professor at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

**Victoria Vuletic, Assistant Professor Presented**, two topics at the Convention of the Young Lawyers Division of the South Carolina Bar Association, "On Blizzard Lines, Atticus Finch and Not Getting Lost: What It Means to be a Lawyer in These Times," and "Dealing With the Three F's - Fear, Failure & Frustration," in Myrtle Beach, S.C. **Co-presented**, "How To Deal With Difficult Opposing Counsel" at the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL in August of 2009. **Published**, an article, "Effective Attorney Advertising: Why It Will Improve Your Life," in the December 2009 edition of the *Michigan Bar Journal*.

**William Wagner, Professor Accepted for Publication**, "How Suicide Killing Of Human Life Became a Human Right in the United Kingdom," white paper (co-author) (CCFON - 2009). **Published**, *European Union: Free Speech on the Line*, Evan. Now – World News (Nov 2009) **Served**, on the executive governing boards of a number of international and national human rights organizations (2009). **Presented**, "How Government Persecution of Christians Leads to the Deterioration of Good Governance under the Rule of Law," to members of Parliament and others at the Parliament of the United Kingdom (U.K. 2009). **Presented**, "Interpreting the Establishment Clause – World Views Collide," at the United States Capitol, before the International Legal Conference on Freedom of Speech and Religion (Washington D.C., 2009). **Presented**, "Challenges to Freedom of Speech and the Press - A Strategy for Confronting Giants," as the keynote presentation at the CBC's annual international conference of broadcasters (Chesham, Bucks, 2009). **Authored**, a series of written submissions presented to the Government of the United Kingdom on a variety of human rights issues affecting freedom of expression. (U.K. 2009). **Intervened**, *On Behalf of Persecuted Christians in Western Nations*, at a meeting of International Diplomats of participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) (Vienna, Austria - July 9-10, 2009). **Presented**, "Fixing

the Inequality in the Equality Bill,” to the Human Rights Commission of the United Kingdom (U.K. 2009). **Presented**, “Legal Ethics/Professional Responsibility – and the Higher Standard Required of Christian Lawyers,” to the Canadian Christian Legal Institute (Canada, 2009). **Presented**, “The Power of Critical Thinking: Demonstrating Why the Inalienable Right of Life Justifies Government Protection Against Euthanasia,” at a meeting of international human rights delegates (2009). **Presented**, “Good Governance and the American Constitution,” to the Political Leadership Academy (2009). **Presented**, “Critical Moves – Lawyers Defending the Faith,” at the CLF National Christian Law Student Conference (Canada, 2009). **Presented**, “Lessons on Liberty from a 17th Century English Church Builder,” at the Inner Temple. (U.K., 2009). **Presented**, “Law – the Great Calling,” at Oxford University (U.K. 2009).

**Cynthia Ward, Assistant Dean and Professor Promoted**, to full professor with tenure at Cooley Law School. **Reappointed**, to the State Bar of Michigan’s Character and Fitness Committee for District E. This is her third term. **Spoke**, about civil rights claims, at the Michigan Society of Association Executives’ Law Symposium, on Nov. 18, 2009.

**William Weiner, Professor Presented**, along with Professor Phil Prygoski, the duo’s fall annual presentation to the Ingham County Bar Association, a review of U.S. Supreme Court cases known as the “Phil and Bill Show.”

**Derek Witte, Assistant Professor Served**, as official panelist, at the Federal Trade Commission public forum regarding Project No. R411001; 16 CFR Part 310: Temperament Sales Rule; panel regarding the proposed “advanced fee ban” in Washington, D.C., November 4, 2009. **Presented**, at IQPC 8th E-Discovery Conference, regarding Facebook & E-Discovery, December 9, 2009, in New York, N.Y. **Accepted**, to present paper regarding e-discovery and Facebook at the William Campbell Law Review E-Discovery Symposium in February 2010.

**Nancy A. Wonch, Professor Awarded**, a Rotary International Peace Fellowships to study conflict resolution in Thailand for three months in summer 2010. **Published**, an article, on the ICLE website, “Top Ten Tips for Handling Client Conflicts of Interest.”

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## CLASS NOTES

### 1976 Cooley Class

**Sutton, Jerry**, and Linda Sutton (Dethmers Class, 1981) – their firm, SuttonAdvisors, PLC, was recognized with the Business Arts Award, presented by the Arts Council of Greater Lansing.

The award recognizes businesses and organizations for leadership and commitment to the arts.

### 1978 Ransom Class

**Bruinsma, Dirk**, became a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates in October 2009. He operates the Law Offices of Dirk Bruinsma in San Clemente, Calif. Phone: (949) 443-9030.

**Rasdale, Thomas J.**, of DeWitt, Mich., died Aug. 17, 2009 after a long battle with cancer. He was an attorney with the state Court of Appeals.

### 1978 Kelly Class

**Harrison, Frank Reynolds**, of Foster, Swift, Collins, and Smith, in Lansing, Mich., was appointed to the Judicial Qualifications Committee of the Michigan State Bar. He previously served on the committee for six years.

**Taylor, Frederick J.**, was elected vice president of the St. Joseph County (Michigan) Bar Association. He practices law with his oldest son, Frederick J. Taylor III (Flannigan Class, 1999).

### 1979 Butzel Class

**Pasioneck, Robert A.**, has joined Howard & Howard Attorneys, PLLC, in the firm’s Las Vegas, Nev., office. He focuses his transactional practice in the areas of securities law, mergers, acquisitions and restructurings, with an emphasis on raising capital for alternative energy projects, technology, and real estate transactions.

### 1979 Wiest Class

**Cole, Kevin**, was named Boss of the Year by NALS. He is director of Risk Management at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing, Mich.

#### 1980 **Potter Class**

**Mack, The Hon. Michael G.**, was awarded the 2009 Distinguished Graduate Award at the 56th Alpena (Michigan) Community College commencement ceremonies. He is judge for the 26th Circuit Court for Alpena and Montmorency counties. Before taking the bench in 2009, he practiced law for 28 years.

**Platt, David**, of Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A., in Ft. Myers, Fla., was selected for Best Lawyers in America 2010 in Trusts & Estates. He concentrates his practice in elder law, estate planning, estate and trust administration, business entity formation, and commercial transactions. He has been listed in *Best Lawyers in America* since 2006.

#### 1980 **Bushnell Class**

**DeFors, Michael**, was promoted to vice president of information services for the Michigan Credit Union League. He was directory of regulatory affairs for five years. He also served as vice president of governmental and public affairs for the Michigan Bankers Association for 16 years.

#### 1981 **Dethmers Class**

**Hemker, Joseph**, was presented with the 2009 Bill Brown Award for Exemplary Service and Leadership by Western Michigan University for exceptional volunteer service to the university. Mr. Hemker recently completed his term as president of the WMU Foundation Board of Directors. He is an attorney with Howard & Howard, and was recently named a Michigan Super Lawyer for 2009 in Mergers & Acquisitions. In the wake of the Chicago-based firm of Defrees & Fiske joining Howard & Howard, Mr. Hemker has relocated from Kalamazoo, Mich., to the firm's Chicago office. He focuses his practice in mergers and acquisitions and securities law, with an emphasis on financial institutions.

**Sutton, Linda**, and Jerry Sutton (Cooley Class, 1976) – their firm, Sutton Advisors, PLC, was recognized with the Business Arts Award, presented by the Arts Council of Greater Lansing. The award recognizes businesses and organizations for leadership and commitment to the arts.

**Toy, Charles**, was elected president of the State Bar of Michigan for 2009-1010. He is the Associate Dean of Career and Professional Development at Cooley Law School.

#### 1982 **Wing Class**

**McKeen, Brian J.**, was inducted into the Inner Circle of Advocates, an invitation-only assembly of the top 100 plaintiff attorneys representing clients throughout the United States. To qualify, members must have tried at least 50 personal injury trials and won at least three verdicts in excess of \$1 million, or one verdict in excess of \$10 million. He is founder of McKeen & Associates, P.C., a Detroit-based law firm specializing in medical malpractice litigation. McKeen focuses primarily on birthing injuries, traumatic birth, and wrongful death cases. The firm has won verdict awards of \$55 million, \$22 million, \$2.5 million, and \$1.7 million.

#### 1982 **Goodwin Class**

**Nanian, Marjorie**, is president of the Armenian American Bar Association for the second time. She was the founding president of the organization in 1985. She has a law practice in the Detroit, Mich., area and serves as an adjunct professor in political science at Schoolcraft College.

#### 1983 **O'Hara Class**

**Gillman, Michael J.**, was elected Traverse City, Mich., city commissioner in November 2009. In 2007, he retired from the Traverse City office of Conklin Benham, P.C. that he established in 1983.

**Miller, Robert C.**, president of Shinnars & Cook in Kochville Township, Mich., was certified as an accredited estate planner by the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils.

#### 1983 **Chandler Class**

**Anselmo, Danilo**, is now Reporter of Decisions for the Washington Supreme Court in Olympia, Wash. He was previously Reporter of Decisions for the Michigan Supreme Court, 2003-2009. Phone: (360) 357-2090; e-mail: danilo.anselmo@courts.wa.gov.

**O'Sullivan, The Hon. Pamela Gilbert**, Macomb County Probate Court Judge, has been reappointed to the Governor's Tax Force on Children's Justice to represent judicial and legal officers. The task force is responsible for the review and evaluation of the handling of child abuse cases in Michigan and makes recommendations to the governor on potential courses of action for the system.

#### 1983 Blair Class

**Mansion, Michael P.**, was hired as the St. Lawrence County (New York) Conflict Defender. He represents low-income defendants in criminal and family courts when the assigned public defender has a conflict of interest. He was previously in private practice, and has worked as an Assistant Public Defender in Albany County and as an Assistant Counsel for the state's Division of Parole.

#### 1984 McAlvay Class

**Rushing, The Hon. Derwin**, was elected to a six-year term as district judge in Pittsburgh, Penn., on Nov. 3, 2008, and was sworn in on Dec. 29, 2009.

#### 1984 Carr Class

**Ferrentino, Robert C.**, was named the president of Montcalm Community College in Sidney, Mich. He previously served Muskegon Community College for 13 years, most recently as its vice president for academic affairs.

#### 1985 T. Smith Class

**Stevens, Clair**, has been hired as a full-time faculty member at Olivet College in Olivet, Mich. He is an associate professor of insurance and risk management.

#### 1985 Morell Class

**Swan, Dennis**, president and CEO of Sparrow Hospital & Healthy System in Lansing, was elected to the board of directors for Cooley Law School.

#### 1986 Mundy Class

**Vandervelde-Stoltz, Jane A.**, 57, of Holland, Mich., died Nov. 13, 2009. She was instrumental in establishing the Holland Teen Court.

#### 1986 Miles Class

**Carolan, James A.**, vice president, Trust and Estate Advisor for Comerica Bank, was the guest speaker for the October meeting of the Sarasota, Fla., area Board Certified Estate Planning Attorneys, and that same day for the invited guests for a Comerica Bank lunch. His topic was "Supercharging the Credit Shelter Trust."

#### 1986 Sherwood Class

**Zucker, Craig E.**, partner in the Southfield, Mich.-based firm of Erman, Teicher, Miller, Zucker & Freedman, PC, was selected for inclusion in the 15th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America 2010* in Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor rights law. He focuses his practice on insolvency-related matters, representation of debtors, and secured and unsecured creditors, as well as non-bankruptcy matters involving commercial litigation in state and federal courts.

#### 1987 Champlin Class

**Davis, Mark**, of Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC, was named a Michigan Super Lawyer by *Law & Politics Magazine*.

#### 1988 Green Class

**Ittner, Lori**, was named vice president for The Michigan Defense Trial Counsel for 2009- 2010. She is a shareholder with Garan, Lucow, Miller PC, in the firm's Grand Rapids, Mich., office. She focuses her practice in the area of insurance defense work, including automobile negligence, Michigan first-party benefits, balance billing issues, and ERISA litigation and coverage litigation.

#### 1988 Martin Class

**May, Berton**, joined the Bleakley Law Firm in Muskegon as a litigation attorney in the areas of personal injury, malpractice, and business litigation. Phone: (231) 722-3733; e-mail: bert@bleakleylaw.com.

#### 1989 Copeland Class

**Henne, Mark**, has joined Parsons Brinckerhoff as an environmental manager. Phone: (517) 886-7419; e-mail: henne@pbworld.com.

#### 1990 Bacon Class

**Davies, Victoria L. (Vanden Heuvel)**, was recognized in the New York Law Journal for her work in a landlord/tenant law case, *Rich v. Poole*, *Hult* 318-09. Victoria and her husband, Timothy R. Davies (D. Johnson Class, 1989), have a new law office at 565 Route 25A, Suite LL4, Miller Place, NY 11764. Phone: (631) 209-1111.

**Hughes, Stefan**, is an assistant U.S. attorney assigned to narcotics and gang-related cases in Kansas City, Mo.

**Menezes, Marco S.**, was appointed Dec. 21, 2009 as Probate Judge for the 18th Probate District of Michigan, serving Mecosta and Osceola counties. His term begins Jan. 29, 2010.

#### 1991 Turner Class

**Kearns, Philip**, has opened Kearns Legal Solutions, an attorney placement and consultation firm serving clients nationally. He can be reached at [www.kearnslegalsolutions.com](http://www.kearnslegalsolutions.com).

#### 1991 Lawrence Class

**Makiyama, Hiroe Ruby (otomi)**, was appointed to be a member of the board of directors of the Budget Committee in Japan. The Budget Committee is the main committee and the only one aired on Japanese national television. She is also a member of the Environmental, Aging Population and Declining Birthrate, and Judge Indictment committees.

#### 1991 Krinock Class

**Williams, Lt. Col. Rodney**, was selected as the Director of the Michigan National Guard Human Resource Office. His previous assignment was serving as commander of the 127th Wing Mission Support Group at Selfridge Air Force Base.

#### 1992 Montgomery Class

**Posthuma, Richard A.**, was promoted to Professor of Management in the College of Business Administration at the University of Texas-El Paso. He is editor of the *International Journal of Conflict Management*. Posthuma and coauthor Michael Campion recently published an article, "Age Stereotypes in the Workplace: Common Stereotypes, Moderators, and Future Research Directions," in the *Journal of Management*.

#### 1993 J.B. Moore Class

**Keilitz, Kirsten**, has been selected by judges to serve as the new family court referee for Antrim, Leelanau, and Grand Traverse counties in Michigan. She was a partner at Lewis, Schuknecht & Keilitz, PC, has 16 years experience as a family law attorney, and volunteers with several legal clinics.

#### 1993 Carpenter Class

**Mansion, Michael P.**, was named as the St. Lawrence County (New York) conflict defender. He represents low-income defendants in criminal and family courts when the assigned public defender has a conflict of interest.

#### 1994 Williams Class

**Katz, Edythe C.**, vice president and assistant general counsel of Alpha Natural Resources, Inc., announces that her company, Foundation Coal Holdings, Inc., merged with Alpha Natural Resources, Inc., in July 2009. She was promoted to vice president and assistant general counsel, SEC and governance. Phone: (410) 689- 7604; e-mail: [ekatz@alphanr.com](mailto:ekatz@alphanr.com).

#### 1995 Bird Class

**Goldberg, Scot D.**, has been elected to the board of directors of Southwest Florida Addiction Services. He is the founding partner of the law firm of Goldberg, Racila, D'Alessandro & Noone, LLC, in Ft. Myers, Fla. He practices personal injury, wrongful death, medical malpractice, and criminal law.

#### 1996 Stone Class

**Fisher, Mark**, has joined United Law Group, a Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., firm providing legal foreclosure prevention and debt resolution services. Mark will concentrate on protecting Florida homeowners from predatory loan modification companies, work with individuals and families in foreclosure prevention, and aggressively pursue banks that have violated state and federal laws with improper lending practices.

#### 1996 Moody Jr. Class

**Beloff, The Hon. Adam M.**, was sworn in as a judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia County).

**Lyons, George**, served as the keynote speaker at the 18th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Community Dinner celebration Jan. 16, 2010 at Jackson Community College in Jackson, Mich. He is a founding partner of Brandy & Lyons, and is a well-known defense lawyer in Jackson.

**Reed, Lt. Col. Carl**, a member of the U.S. Air Force reserves, recently returned from a six-month tour in Southwest Asia. He serves as the only Air Forces Central Staff Judge Advocate in Kuwait and southern Iraq, where he advised 23 Air Force commanders on a myriad of legal issues. On his return, he resumed his duties as a reserve

Military Judge. Since 2005, Col. Reed has been serving as a reserve Military Judge on appointment by the Judge Advocate General of the Air Force.

**Steele, Jill Humphreys**, was promoted to Deputy Attorney for the city of Battle Creek, Mich., on Oct. 12, 2009. She most recently served as Assistant City Attorney for Battle Creek since April 6, 2009. Previously she was in private practice.

#### 1996 Black Class

**Cantor, Neil**, is the new director of Jewish Student Life at Hillel of Metro Detroit (HMD). He oversees the organization's programs on the six college campuses served by HMD. He also supervises the program staff and student interns.

**Josephs III, William Vincent**, was elected to the Loris Community Advisory Board for the National Bank of South Carolina. He is president of the Josephs Law Firm.

**Poster, Rick**, opened a new office in central Phoenix, Ariz. He has been practicing law for over 15 years and is board-certified as a specialist in criminal law by the Arizona Board of Legal Specialization. He previously spent three years in prosecution at the Ingham County (Michigan) Prosecutor's Office, and five years at the Maricopa County (Arizona) Attorney's Office. Phone: (602) 449-9806; e-mail: rick.poster@azbar.org.

#### 1997 Voelker Class

**Berry, Chad**, as joined the law firm of Adams, Lynch & Loftin, PC, in Grapevine, Texas. He continues to practice commercial litigation throughout the state of Texas. Phone: (817) 552-7742; e-mail: cberry@all-lawfirm.com.

#### 1997 Fellows Class

**Young, Gary**, an attorney at Robert K. Young & Associates, and Stacey Young announce the birth of a daughter, Nora Natalie Young, born on Oct. 27, 2009. Phone: (516) 826-8938; e-mail: gyoung31@optonline.net.

#### 1998 McDonald Class

**Winters, J. Kevin**, was elected Vice President of Foster Zack, PC. He focuses on employment law and litigation, and intellectual property law and litigation.

#### 1999 Flannigan Class

**Foreman, Randy**, a librarian for Cooley Law School, coordinated the July 2009 issue of the Michigan Bar Journal. He also published a column in that issue. He chairs the State Bar Committee on Libraries, Legal Research, and Legal Publications.

**Nichols, Mike**, authored a book, Michigan Criminal Law and Procedure: OWI Handbook," part of the Gillespie series published by West Publishing. Nichols practices law in East Lansing, Mich., specializing in OWI and criminal defense. He was recently rated a 10 out of 10 from AVVO, the online legal directory for consumers. The ratings are based on experience, industry recognition, and client endorsements. Phone: (517) 432-9000; e-mail: mnichols@nicholslaw.net.

#### 2000 Jay Class

**Redick, Ronald M.**, a member of the law firm of Mika Meyers Beckett & Jones, PLC, in Grand Rapids, Mich., was selected as a member of the *Michigan Lawyers Weekly* 2009 Up & Coming Lawyers program. He practices primarily in the areas of municipal, appellate and administrative law, with a focus on zoning litigation, land use and riparian rights litigation, and also general civil litigation. Before entering the practice of law, he worked 10 years as a project manager for an engineering and environmental consulting firm.

#### 2000 Rutledge Class

**Brigman, Constance L.**, published three articles in the *Michigan Probate and Estate Planning Journal*: "The Accidental Patient Advocate" in Summer 2009, "Get the Inventory Right" in Spring 2008, and "Lifetime Lawsuit: Intentional Interference with a Gift or Inheritance" in Summer 2007. She was also named chairperson of the Guardianship and Conservatorship Committee for the Probate Section of the State Bar of Michigan in 2008, and appointed to the State Bar of Michigan Law Related Education and Public Outreach committees in 2009.

#### 2001 Blair Jr. Class

**McVicker, Nicole (Helfrich)**, and her husband, Jason McVicker, announce the birth of a son, Austin Carl McVicker, born on Friday, Oct. 30, 2009. He weighed 6.9 pounds and was 19 1/4 inches long. Austin shares his birthday with his sister, Addison Dean McVicker, born on Oct. 30, 2008. The family lives in Marion, Ind.

**Peake, Troy**, has opened the Peake Law Office, 150 S. 3rd St., Louisville, Ky. 40202. He focuses on Workers' Compensation, real estate, and taxation. He earned his LL.M. in Tax from the University of Denver in 2003. Prior to opening his own office, Troy worked for an insurance defense firm. Phone: (502) 562-1978; e-mail: troypeake@gmail.com.

#### 2001 Iredell Class

**Coodin, Steven M.**, of Coodin & Overson, PLLP, in Woodbury, Minn., was named a 2010 Minnesota Rising Star by *Minnesota Law & Politics* magazine. His practice areas include criminal defense, family law, DUI/DWI, and personal injury plaintiff: general. Phone: (651) 209-1155; e-mail: steven@coodinoverson.com.

#### 2002 Paterson Class

**DeBoer, Cheryl**, is CEO of First Community Bank, Parchment, Mich.

**Willis, Shaun P.**, of Willis & Willis, PLC Attorneys and Counselors at Law, was recognized for the second year in a row as a Rising Star by the 2009 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars listing for the Business Litigation practice. The firm was honored in September 2009 by Michigan Lawyers' Weekly with the newspaper's 21st Century Innovator Award. Willis & Willis, PLC, is a full-service business law firm in Kalamazoo, Mich.

#### 2002 Chase Class

**Klockow, Dawn**, and her husband adopted Emma, 5, and Karmyne, 22 months, on April 21, 2009. Dawn has been appointed the Corporation Counsel in Calumet County, Wisc. Previously she was an Assistant Corporation Counsel for Dodge County, Wisc. Phone: (920) 849-1443; e-mail: klockow.dawn@co.calumet.wi.us.

#### 2003 Swainson Class

**Roggenbuck, Amanda**, Tuscola County Commissioner, participated in the National Association of Counties' Annual Conference and Exposition in Nashville, Tenn.

#### 2003 O. Smith Class

**Altenhof, Mark**, is a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for Elkhart County, Ind. He prosecutes all felony domestic violence cases and is a member of the major felony trial division. Mr. Altenhof is a frequent speaker on domestic violence. He is active in fundraising for the local Woman's Shelter and was the keynote speaker for the shelter's annual fundraiser. He was recently named Prosecutor of the Year by the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Phone: (574) 296-1888.

**Lawrence, Marc**, published an article in the October 2009 Michigan Bar Journal titled "To Arrange or Not to Arrange: Intent is the Question," about the implications of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the Burlington Northern case. He is an attorney with Foley, Baron & Metzger, PLLC in Livonia, Mich. Phone: (734) 742-1845; e-mail: mlawrence@fbmlaw.com.

#### 2003 Toy Class

**Maitland, Maurice David**, was named to the Connecticut Bar Association's 2007 and 2008 Pro Bono Honor Roll. As part of his *pro bono* activities, he advocates for indigent claimants seeking federal disability, immigration, and railroad workers benefits. He participated in the 2008-2009 National Appellate Advocacy Competition as a chief judge in federal court in Brooklyn, N.Y.

#### 2004 Needham Class

**Wesley, Warren**, an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice; Police/Corrections at Broome Community College in Binghamton, N.Y., presented "Police Ethics, What Principles Guide or Should Guide the Behavior of Police Officers" to members of the campus community and the public. He also recently spoke on "Hate Crimes as It Relates to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Population Across College Campuses, sponsored by the Unity in Pride Club, open to the college community. Phone: (607) 778-5005; e-mail: warren\_w@sunybroome.edu.

#### 2005 McAllister Class

**Engelhardt, Chad**, has joined the firm of Moran, Raimi, Goethel and Karnani, P.C., in Washtenaw County, Mich., as an associate. He concentrates his practice in the fields of personal injury, automobile accidents, and medical malpractice with a focus on catastrophic injury and wrongful death cases. He previously served as counsel to police labor unions. Before entering the practice of law, he served as a law enforcement officer.

#### 2006 Edwards Class

**Wagner, Beau**, has joined the Chicago, Ill., law firm of Arnstein & Lehr, LLP, as an associate in the Real Estate and Condominium, and Community Associations practice groups. Previously, he was a commercial litigation attorney with

Marty J. Schwartz & Associates, PC. Phone: (312) 252-4112. **White, William Bryan**, of Taylorsville, N.C., married Joy Noel Reese on Aug. 8, 2009. He is an associate attorney with Todd, Vanderbloemen & Brady, PA., in Lenoir, N.C.

#### 2007 **Brickley Class**

**Gramenos, Diana L.**, has opened Diana L. Gramenos, PLC, in East Lansing, Mich. She practices in the areas of criminal defense, family law, and Social Security disability, with some focuses on IRS taxation issues. Phone: (517) 333-3465; e-mail: attorneygramenos@gmail.com.

#### 2008 **E. Sharpe Class**

**Gruber, Kimberly A.**, has opened a law office with Keith Kleinhans (Kavanagh Class, 2008) at 701 Brazos St., Ste. 500, Austin, Texas 78701. Phone (512) 961-8512; e-mail: k.gruber@lawofficesofkg.com

**Katz, Erin R.**, has joined Schneiderman & Sherman, P.C., in Farmington Hills, Mich., as an associate in the firm's litigation department. She focuses her practice in the area of real estate litigation. She also announces her marriage to Harry G. Dutton Jr., on Sept. 6, 2008. Phone: (248) 539-7400; e-mail: ekatz@sspcllegal.com.

#### 2008 **C.J. Adams Class**

**Castleberry Jr., R. Burke**, operates his own law practice at 126 E. Church St., Adrian, Mich. He focuses his practice on civil law, including family law, trusts and estates, civil litigation, adoptions, child custody and divorce. He also serves as one of Lenawee County's assistant prosecuting attorneys. Phone: (517) 263-6432; e-mail: brukecastleberry@yahoo.com.

**Hoffman, Terence M.**, has joined the Wigger Law Firm in North Charleston, S.C.

**Kleinhans, Keith**, has opened a law office with Kimberly A. Gruber (Sharpe Class, 2008) at 701 Brazos St., Ste. 500, Austin, Texas 78701. Phone (512) 961-8512.

**Mullen, Victoria**, had her artwork featured on the cover of On-the-Town, an arts and entertainment magazine in west Michigan. Her work was also displayed in the 2009 Regional Arts Exhibition, a juried show in which four paintings were accepted and one won a juror award.

**Veilleux, Ryan J.**, joined the firm of Ryan Ryan Deluca LLP in July 2009, focusing on medical malpractice.

#### 2008 **T.G. Kavanagh Class**

**Davila, Marianna**, of Short Hills, N.J., married Christopher Perrella on July 11, 2009.

**Hoy, Michael**, engages in the general practice of law at 117 W. Oliver Street, Owosso, Mich.

#### 2009 **Coleman Class**

**Conwill, David**, has joined the firm of Smith, Martin, Powers & Knier, P.C., in Bay City, Mich. He practices business law with an emphasis in creditors' rights and bankruptcy. He is also working to build a practice in historic preservation, transportation, and land use. Phone: (989) 892-3924; e-mail: dconwill@smpklaw.com.

**Kapp, Julie**, has joined the firm of Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC and its Intellectual Property Group in the firm's Royal Oak, Mich., office. She concentrates her practice in patent, trademark, and copyright law with an emphasis on patent preparation/prosecution and opinion work in the mechanical technologies.

**McDonough, Emily A.**, has joined the firm of Plunkett Cooney in Birmingham, Mich. She practices in the area of insurance law, representing companies in complex insurance coverage matters, with particular emphasis on the defense of environmental contamination and product liability claims.

#### 2009 **Riley Class**

**Harmon, Jason**, has joined the law office of attorney Robert Thomas Speed in Watauga County, N.C.

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