

# The SUMMATION

March 2023

The Monthly Newsletter of the Evansville Bar Association

501 Main Street, Suite 101  
Evansville, IN 47708

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Joe Langerak

### Julie Rejected My First Topic So You Got This...



I hope you had the chance to join us at the EBA Open House on February 28 to test drive our new digs. We had over 70 folks stop by, and it was a great evening. I heard only positive feedback. As I mentioned that evening and to you in the past, we are continuing to look toward the future of the EBA and how we engage with not only our members, but also the community as a whole. This is spawned by changes in how people choose what events to attend for professional gatherings and how more youthful generations of lawyers view them. Our space is a way the EBA can react to those changes. I was at our EBA office just two weeks ago and saw out of town attorneys using the EBA office for depositions. It is also great to see key professionals we work with permanently sharing our space with us, like court reporters. With the right mindset and direction, we hope the EBA office on Main Street can become a hub for the legal community.

To that end, Board Member Jillian Hanneken and I had a fantastic meeting with our new Vanderburgh County prosecutor, Diana Moers. We talked about how the EBA can engage with Diana's team. It was a meeting years-in-the-making, and I hope we can bring the prosecutors into the fold in a more meaningful way to continue to thrive for a comprehensive EBA member experience. You will see more on that in the very near future.

Similarly, I was in Henderson County last month for motion hour and got to catch up with Curt Hamilton for a bit. It was exciting to hear about the Henderson County Bar Association's happenings. The EBA and the HCBA are planning a joint event at Ellis Park on Friday, August 18. After all – the closest courthouse to the Vanderburgh County Courthouse is the Henderson County Courthouse – only about 11 miles apart. Having a better relationship with our colleagues across the river can benefit you both personally and professionally. Plus, having had the pleasure of working with many of the HCBA members I can attest they are cut from the same cloth as our amazing members.

Finally, we launched a [Capital Campaign](https://rb.gy/wi7inh) - <https://rb.gy/wi7inh> in which I hope you will consider participating. We have already secured thousands of dollars in commitments and are well on our way to achieving our goal. This will ensure we have more than enough funds for what we hope is a long-term residency on Main Street in comfortable space that better serves our mission, and you. If you don't want to participate, I'll pardon your temporary lapse of judgment – and come knocking....

I hope the new year is starting off great for each of you in your respective practices and personal lives. Have a great March and, until next time, my friends....

#### Inside this issue:

EBA News	2
Foundation	3
CLE Offerings	4
Bar Updates	5
We Are the EBA	6
Calendar	7


**EBA**  
 EVANSVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION

The Board of Directors of  
 the Evansville Bar Association  
 and the Evansville Bar Foundation  
 cordially invite you to

## LAW DAY AND THE ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, April 20, 2023  
 Evansville Country Club  
 5:30pm Reception  
 6:15pm Dinner and Program  
 \$60 per person

Respond by April 13 by calling (812) 463-3201  
 or email [Ashley@evvbar.org](mailto:Ashley@evvbar.org)

## NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS!

To nominate, click on  
 the links below:

- ◆ [James Bethel Gresham  
Freedom Award](#)
- ◆ [Doran E. Perdue  
Service Award](#)

**Nomination deadline  
 April 1, 2023**

## VLP News

By: Senior Judge Sheila Corcoran and Susan Vollmer

For over twenty years, VLP has been coordinating the volunteer pro bono work of members of the Evansville Bar Association. We have served over 20,000 residents of the eleven county region since 2001 through programs like Talk to a Lawyer and placement of cases for representation with members. Throughout its existence, VLP has also operated grant-funded judicare programs that reward volunteers with limited payments for their services. As these payments are below 50% of our local prevailing fee, these efforts still count as pro bono services under our ethics rules but can help newer attorneys or solo practitioners gain experience and receive limited compensation. Currently, VLP operates Vanderburgh County's Family Law Mediation Program which allows for limited fee reimbursements. If you are a mediator interested in that work, contact Beverly Corn at [vlpcorn@sigecom.net](mailto:vlpcorn@sigecom.net) for more information. We also have a substantial grant to help provide representation in eviction matters – primarily helping litigants navigate rent and damages hearings in all of our counties. These hearings are a great way for a newer attorney to get court time and VLP can provide guidance and training. This opportunity can provide \$100 an hour for up to 6.5 hours of service on each case.



Use this QR Code to get information on this opportunity.



## PIZZA AT THE BAR



**MARCH 23**

**NOON**

501 MAIN STREET, SUITE 101

ITS TOTALLY CASUAL. A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY  
 FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER. AND GRAB A SLICE OF PIZZA!





**Jimmy Gentry**  
President

As an EBA member, the Evansville Bar Foundation ("EBF") is, in fact, your foundation. A foundation for which you can be proud. By granting monies each year to qualified applicants, the EBF financially supports programs, services, and activities that promote a public understanding and awareness of the law, improve the delivery of legal services to the community as a whole and specifically to indigent and vulnerable citizens, enhance the performance of practicing attorneys, and advance the administration of justice. The annual donations made to your foundation each year help fund organizations that satisfy these four primary fields of interest. Organizations that are helping our legal community directly and indirectly each day. I encourage you to be an active member of your foundation and make a financial contribution by clicking the link below or mail a check to the new office at 501 Main Street, Suite 101, 47708. Your donation is tax deductible and is reportable under Revised Rule 6.7(a) (3) of Professional Conduct. Furthermore, if you or your loved one wish to consider incorporating the Evansville Bar Foundation into an estate plan to help fund it for years to come, please contact me to discuss. Whether a one-time donation or through planned giving, the Foundation Board and I appreciate you and your support. And, if you have already given, your generosity and investment in your foundation is greatly appreciated.

To donate to the Foundation, mail a check to 501 Main Street, Suite 101, Evansville, 47708 or go to <https://evvbar.org/foundation.aspx>

**Donate**

## **LIBRARIAN'S CORNER: FAMILY LAW CLINICS, PRO SE CLINIC, AND A HELP DESK**

As you may remember, the law library hosts legal clinics operated by Pro Bono Indiana, Inc./Volunteer Lawyer Program of Southwestern Indiana. The Family Law Clinic meets on the first and third Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Participants must have an appointment in advance to attend the Family Law Clinic. The *Pro Se* Navigation Clinic meets on the second and fourth Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. No appointment or referral is required to participate in this general clinic.

Since the autumn of 2021, the William H. Miller Law Library has also provided space for a daily in-person help desk. Pro Bono attorneys staff this help desk from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. each week day to assist self-represented litigants facing evictions, collection matters, support modifications, or other pandemic-related issues.

As always, I welcome your questions, comments, and suggestions. Please feel free to call me, Kathleen Weston, at (812) 435-5175 or send me an email ([kweston@vanderburghgov.org](mailto:kweston@vanderburghgov.org)).



## **Annual Campaign Donors\***

### **Legacy of Leadership**

Randall K. and Rebecca Craig Family Foundation, Inc.

### **Senior Partner**

Gary and Paula Gerling Foundation

Steve Hoar

David Shaw

Stewart Richardson Deposition Services

### **Lead Counsel**

Marc Fine

The Gentry Law Office

Stone & Stratman

Tuley Law Office

Brian and Barbara Williams

### **Court Counsel**

Bob Carithers

Angela Freel

Hon. Bill Hussmann

Ole Olsen, Jr.

Ryan Parker

Stephen Thomas

### **Attorney of Record**

Steve Barber

Todd Barsumian

Erin Bauer

Diane Bender

Tim Born

John Brinson

Michele Bryant

Laurie Bumb

Bill Bussing

Dan Carwile

Allison Comstock

Hon. Richard D'Amour

Jamie Dameron

Max Fiester

Greg Freyberger

Nicholas Gartner

Kevin Gibson

Hon. Carl Heldt

Kelly Jackson

Kathryn Komblum

John Kreigbaum

David Lamont

Stan Levco

Hon. Mary Margaret Lloyd

Hon. Tom Massey

Teresa McKeethen

Hon. Robert Pigman

Dan Robinson

Laura Scott

Toby Shaw

Randall T. Shepard

Charlie Spaetti

Gary Taylor

Aaron Tuley

Susan Vollmer

Keith Vonderahe

Brent Weil

John Whinrey

Crystal Wildeman

Scott Wylie

### **New Attorney (0-3 Years)**

### **Paralegal**

Melissa Alldredge

Jeana Goebel

Lauren Gore

Michelle Motta

### **Law Student**

### **Friends of the Foundation**

Julie Moore Holtz

Kathleen Weston

\* 2023 Campaign donations received November 1, 2022-February 28, 2023

You can find an up-to-date listing of CLE on the EBA website at [evvbar.org](http://evvbar.org)

Registration and pre-payment are required by phone at (812) 463-3201, email at [Ashley@evvbar.org](mailto:Ashley@evvbar.org) or online at [evvbar.org](http://evvbar.org).

Registrations received two hours prior to start of course will be charged an additional \$5. Printed materials are available by request for \$5 per credit hour, not to exceed \$25. Credit will not be reported to the Indiana Supreme Court Commission on Continuing Legal Education (CLE Commission) until payment for the course has been received in full.

## A Day at the Park?

Another CLE? You could probably always use case updates and tips on preparing a will. Perhaps you could even benefit from many power point slides on mastering the art of cross-examination. Substantive legal education has its place. But consider 6 CLEs (3 ethics) on topics shared by other lawyers and professionals that could improve not only your life as a lawyer, but also your life as a colleague, a friend, spouse, and a parent.

Give yourself the gift of one day. The cynics might say how can I spend a day in the park while I have so much to do at work, hours to bill, pleadings to file? How can I possibly spend an entire day listening to a bunch of people rattling on about feel good, self-improvement mumbo jumbo when I could be making money and solving important client dilemmas?

The answer is: How can you not? Fellow lawyers, it is confirmed that what we have been doing for a long time is not working very well for a significant portion of the lawyer population. Each of us can be better—our clients demand it, our families and friends deserve it, and our colleagues who lead the profession are pressing for it through renewed focus on lawyer wellbeing. So, the EBA is bringing it to you in a focused, practical way on **April 13, 2023** where you can spend a short day at beautiful Friedman Park in the event center.

Leading off the day will be Sam Ardery. If you only have 90 minutes open on April 13, you will not want to miss this portion of the program beginning at 9 a.m. Some of you know Sam as one of the most accomplished mediators in Indiana, as he has mediated over 4,000 disputes during the last 25 years. Sam will tell you that conflict is unavoidable, both in the law and in life. Sam will share some of his observations on navigating conflict more effectively, using examples from some of the mediations he has handled. He will also discuss the challenges of conflict from a personal perspective, sharing some of the lessons he learned as a law school dropout. You see, Sam actually followed through on the thought which crossed many of our minds during law school—he got in his car one morning near the end of a semester and started driving, leaving Bloomington in the rear-view mirror. How and why he eventually returned to school and the subsequent twists and turns he experienced as he built his law practice are topics he will discuss. Sam has presented on some of these topics to other organizations and to ISBA groups and has drawn rave reviews.

As Sam and others will share, it all starts with you. We can all be healthier and happier, individually and collectively. You are invited to spend a short day at **Friedman Park on April 13** to learn about experiences and strategies that could meaningfully impact how you practice law.

## It Starts with You: Practical Strategies for Healthier Legal Professionals (6 CLE/3 Ethics)

Special Guest Speaker: Sam Ardery

Thursday, April 13, 2023

*Friedman Park Event Center*

2700 Park Blvd., Newburgh

EBA Member \$200

Non-member \$320

To sponsor this event, contact [Julie@evvbar.org](mailto:Julie@evvbar.org)

To register call (812) 463-3201 or email  
[ashley@evvbar.org](mailto:ashley@evvbar.org).

## APPLIED PROFESSIONALISM FOR THE NEW ATTORNEY

6 CLE/6 Applied Professionalism/ 6 Ethics

Friday, September 22

8:30am-4:00pm

Check-in and light breakfast at 8:00am

Evansville Bar Association

501 Main Street, Suite 101

To register call (812) 463-3201 or email  
[ashley@evvbar.org](mailto:ashley@evvbar.org).

Presented by the  
EBA Young  
Lawyers Section

FREE for EBA Member  
0-3 Years in Practice

\$100 for Non-member  
0-3 Years Practice

\$190 for EBA Member  
4+ Years in Practice



## WHO'S DOING WHAT?



Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC is pleased to announce **Hannah Dill** has been promoted to Member of the firm. Congratulations, Hannah.

**In case you missed it:**

Indiana Lawyer Podcast: A conversation with **Joe Langerak**, president of the Evansville Bar Association

**LISTEN NOW**

Starting at 10'45"

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

For more information or how to apply, go to [evvbar.org](http://evvbar.org), click the MEMBERS tab.

**Bar Updates:**

Welcome new attorney member **Parker Trulock**. Please make the following additions and updates to your contacts:

**Michele Bryant  
Stoll Keenon Ogden**

One Main Street, Suite 201  
Evansville, Indiana 47708  
(812) 425-1591

[michele.bryant@skofirm.com](mailto:michele.bryant@skofirm.com)

**Amy Rees, Paralegal  
Siesky Law Firm**

4424 Vogel Road, Suite 405  
Evansville, Indiana 47715  
(812) 402-7700

[amy@sieskylaw.com](mailto:amy@sieskylaw.com)

**Parker Trulock  
Warrick Co. Prosecutor's Ofc.**

1 County Square, Suite 180  
Boonville, Indiana 47601  
(812) 897-6199

[parkertrulock@hotmail.com](mailto:parkertrulock@hotmail.com)



**Brian Oberst  
Oberst Law Office**

200 NW 9th Street  
Evansville, Indiana 47708  
O: (812) 434-4947

[oberstlawoffice@gmail.com](mailto:oberstlawoffice@gmail.com)



Personal  
Financial  
Management

Maximize your return on life.  
Minimize financial stress.

Connect with a financial advisor at Goldman Sachs Personal Financial Management, and see what truly personal finance can mean for you.

**Evansville Office**

601 N. Cross Pointe Blvd. Evansville, IN 47715  
[goldmanpfm.com/evansville-in](http://goldmanpfm.com/evansville-in)

**812.477.6221**

United Capital Financial Advisers, LLC d/b/a Goldman Sachs Personal Financial Management is a registered investment adviser and an affiliate of Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC ("GS&Co.") and subsidiary of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., a worldwide, full-service investment banking, broker-dealer, asset management, and financial services organization. Services are offered through United Capital Financial Advisers, LLC and/or GS& Co., member FINRA/SIPC. The information contained herein is intended for informational purposes only, is not a recommendation to buy or sell any securities, and should not be considered investment advice. GS PFM does not provide legal, tax, or accounting advice. Clients should obtain their own independent legal, tax, or accounting advice based on their particular circumstances. © 2022 United Capital Financial Advisers, LLC d/b/a Goldman Sachs Personal Financial Management. All Rights Reserved.

# WE ARE THE EBA



## Magistrate Emily S. Hall, Vanderburgh Superior Court

I joined the Vanderburgh County Prosecutor's Office in 2013 and transitioned to Magistrate in Vanderburgh Superior Court in December 2022.

**Why did you become an attorney?** Pharmacy School required too much math.

**What is the most valuable asset the EBA has to offer? Why?** Comradery. We're all in this together.

**What are three (3) fun or interesting facts about you that people may not know?** 1) I speak some German. 2) I like to cross stitch. 3) I love 80s/90s murder mystery TV shows, like Matlock.

**What's the best advice you've ever been given?** People will always remember how you made them feel.

**What song would you sing at Karaoke night?** Renegade by Styx

**What was your first job?** Clerk at Don's Cleaners in Lawndale.

**Tell me a bit about your immediate family.** My fiancé is also an attorney. We met in the Prosecutor's Office in 2019 and started dating the following year. We're getting married on April Fool's Day!

**What's your favorite family tradition?** Playing bingo with the family at Christmas.

**How many pairs for shoes do you own?** More than I should.

**What celebrity would you like most to meet for a cup of coffee?** Lucille Ball. She was a pioneer for her time.

**What's your favorite item in your office and why?** A banker's lamp that I took from Jim Ethridge's office after he retired. I don't know why, but I've always liked the look of banker's lamps.

**If you could brush up on a skill or work on a new one, what would it be?** Learning a musical instrument.

**If you could not work for 1 year, what would you do?** Travel and see as much of the world as I possibly could.



## Chris Lenn, Christian M. Lenn Law Office

Sole practitioner 37 years in practice Criminal defense

**Why did you become an attorney?** I held a self-limiting belief that it was either obtain a PhD and teach history/political science or go to law school.

**Why is it important to be a member of the EBA?** The EBA promotes a sense of camaraderie in the legal community that is the envy of other cities in Indiana.

**What are three (3) fun or interesting facts about you that people may not know?** I have abandoned any hope or desire for enlightenment; I have rock climbed in eleven states; I have skippered and crewed sailboats in the Windward Islands and Florida.

**What's the best advice you've ever been given?** Question authority

**How would your friends describe you?** I asked them: Passionate, loyal, obstinate, empathetic, tenacious.

**What always makes you laugh?** When colleagues create new words. For example: expurlicate

**What was your first job?** Paperboy, SE side Evansville

**How many pairs for shoes do you own?** Work: 2; Climbing: 5; Whitewater: 1; Hiking: 5; Sandals: 3; Cycling: 2

**What is your favorite movie?** Dersu Uzala, The Hunter by Akira Kurosawa

**If you could live anywhere, where would that be?** In a van.

**If you could share a meal with four individuals, living or dead, who would they be?** Jesus Christ and Buddha (I would like to see what core teachings have survived human interference), Lee Harvey Oswald (Why? Who else was involved?)

**Who inspires you?** Recovering Alcoholics/Addicts

**If you could not work for 1 year, what would you do?** I would sail a Catamaran in the Caribbean with my wife.



## Diana Moers, Vanderburgh County Prosecutor

I have been practicing for over 15 years; I am currently the Vanderburgh County Prosecutor. I have a background in, and currently practice, criminal law but have also practiced civil rights defense where I defended the State and its agencies—including Judges, Prosecutors and law enforcement—in State and Federal Courts.

**Why did you become an attorney?** I fell in love with public speaking and research in high school debate and wanted a career that mimicked the competition. I focused on a legal career that allowed me to do trial work.

**What are your hobbies?** Lately I've enjoyed working on becoming proficient at target shooting.

**What's the best advice you've ever been given?** I had an amazing former boss, Patricia Orloff

Erdmann; for effective leadership, she would remind me to ask myself the question "what's the highest and best use of your time" and delegate the rest accordingly.

**What was your first job?** Making Carmel apples at Engelbrecht's Orchard off of Christ Road in Evansville.

**What's your favorite item in your office and why?** My previous staff framed and signed a Federal Court order where we were successful in a big case and gave it to me when I left the office. That means a lot to me.

**What is something on your bucket list you've completed? What do you still want to do?** Becoming Vanderburgh County Prosecutor. I want to be the best Prosecutor we've ever had which will be measured by results in the courtroom, significant crime reduction and positive community involvement.

**Who inspires you?** The attorneys and staff at the Prosecutor's Office. I work with such a great team of true public servants- its an honor to lead this team and I am confident we will be making positive headlines for years to come; I am here to get them the tools they need to soar and they inspire me to give it my all every day.

# MARCH 2023 CALENDAR

*The Evansville Bar Association and Evansville Bar Foundation have moved to:  
501 Main Street, Suite 101, Downtown Evansville*

- 03/01 **CLE—Holly's House Perspective: Laws Impacting Child Welfare and Current Trends** (1 CLE)  
**Talk to a Lawyer Hotline**—4:30-6:00pm, EBA Office
- 03/07 **Family Law Section Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office
- 03/09 **EBA Board of Directors Meeting**—lunch served at 11:45am with meeting at Noon, EBA Office
- 03/10 **Breakfast with the Bench & Bar**—7:00am, EBA Office; No agenda, no CLE, no speeches, just open conversation with judges and lawyers! (No ex parte!) Breakfast will be provided!
- 03/14 **Paralegal Section Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office
- 03/21 **Talk to a Lawyer**—11:30am-1:00pm, EBA Office
- 03/22 **CLE Committee Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office
- 03/23 **PIZZA AT THE BAR!** - Noon-1pm, EBA Office; It's totally casual, a great way to enjoy fellowship, and grab a slice of pizza!

## SAVE-THE-DATE

**Meet the Prosecutors from Vanderburgh County**—Tuesday, April 11, 4:00-5:30pm, EBA Office

**CLE—It's Starts with You: Practical Strategies for Healthier Legal Professionals**—Thursday, April 13, 8:30am-3:30pm, Friedman Park Event Center—[REGISTER](#)

**Law Day Celebration**—Thursday, April 20 at 5:30pm, Evansville Country Club—[RSVP](#)

**Barristers and Bets**—Friday, August 18 at Ellis Park—in collaboration with the Henderson County Bar Association

**CLE—Applied Professionalism for the New Attorney** (6 CLE/6 Applied Professionalism/6 Ethics Pending) - Friday, September 22, 8:30am-4:00pm, EBA Office, Check-in and light breakfast at 8:00am—[REGISTER](#)

**CLE—Hot Topics for In-House Corporate Counsel**—Friday, October 20, 8:30am-4:00pm

**CLE— Family Law Update**—Friday, October 27, 8:30am-4:00pm at EBA Office

**CLE—34th Annual Estate & Business Planning Institute**—Friday, November 10, 8:30am-4:00pm at The DoubleTree

JOIN US TO

**MEET THE PROSECUTORS**  
from Vanderburgh County

**Tuesday, April 11**  
**4:00-5:30pm**

**EBA**  
EVANSVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION  
501 Main Street | Suite 101

### NOTICE OF CLOSING OFFICE AND SEMI-RETIREMENT

Mark E. Neff announces the closing of his law office, effective March 1, 2023. Mark will semi-retire from the practice of law but will continue to practice law. Inquiries can be made by leaving a message on Mark's cell phone at 812-455-3332 or by email to [markneffatty@gmail.com](mailto:markneffatty@gmail.com).

I appreciate the professionalism and courtesy that each of you has shown to me.

Mark E. Neff