

# The SUMMATION

501 Main Street, Suite 101  
Evansville, IN 47708

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February 2023

The Monthly Newsletter of the Evansville Bar Association

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Joe Langerak

I had a great piece for the Summation written this month about artificial intelligence in the legal industry, but it started to make me question our future utility as lawyers, I could not determine how it really involved your local bar association, and it was a little depressing about the future of the (human) practice. In addition, the opportunity to write to you yet again about pizza presented itself! Thus, I pivoted on topics this month.



In December, I told you about our move to 501 Main Street. Well, let's break it in! We plan to do that in several ways, but I encourage you to simply stop by and pay us a visit. We are still furnishing the space and performing some more build-out and punch list items, but we are in and operating. I hope you will join us for an Open House on **Tuesday, February 28 beginning at 4pm**. For those of you that already stopped by, I hope you are pleased with the space.

So, back to pizza! We plan to start hosting Pizza at the Bar lunches. The first event is **Thursday, March 23 at noon**. Its totally casual, a great opportunity to enjoy fellowship with one another, and grab a slice of pizza. Even if you can only stop by for a few minutes, please do so. I hope to see you there.

Lawyers Lunch Club is back. When this first started, I had the pleasure of getting to know lawyers I had never met and who practice in areas completely foreign to me. It was a treat to spend time with members who were much more senior than me, and those that had just started practicing. Sharing stories and even tips on life as a lawyer, the practice, and getting to know folks on a personal level was easy and welcoming at these lunches. We are so pleased to be able to bring back this program after a bit of a hiatus. We are looking for lawyers that want to lunch and captains to lead the groups. To sign up for the **March to May** session, email [Ashley@evvbar.org](mailto:Ashley@evvbar.org). Deadline is February 3.

Once a quarter, the Bar will host a Wednesday Watering Hole. Our first is **Wednesday, April 19 beginning at 4pm** to celebrate Spring, then in July to wish America a happy birthday, October for a Wicked Wednesday Watering Hole, and in January to celebrate one year in our new space. I hope you will join us for this new event on April 19 so please mark your calendars now.

**April 28** is Law Day to be held at City View by Sterling Square. More details will follow but we look forward to seeing you at our most significant annual event.

In closing, and on a serious note, the Evansville Bar Association was proud to support Magistrate Judge Brookman after he was nominated to serve as U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Indiana. In his opening remarks on January 25, 2023, Senator Young quoted the Bar Association to the Senate Judiciary Committee. Specifically, Senator Young told that Committee that "[s]ince Judge Brookman's nomination was announced, I've received many notes of support from the community, including the Evansville Bar Association, which called him 'prepared, fair, and extremely knowledgeable.'" We look forward to congratulating him on his confirmation in the very near future.



**OPEN HOUSE**

Take a tour of the new office space,  
enjoy food and have a drink!

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28**  
**4-6PM**

**501 Main St. | Suite 101**  
**Evansville, IN 47708**



**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!

## VLP News

By: Senior Judge Sheila Corcoran and Susan Vollmer

Members of the EBA and our Volunteer Lawyer Program have long been admired for our access to justice initiatives but we often do not realize just how their success sets the standard in the state. The EBA's Talk to a Lawyer Program is the oldest such effort in the state and currently answers questions from members of the public twenty-five times per year -- most other areas only provide the service once annually. Our law library is the last staffed, court-based public law library in the state and the only one with full-time staffed legal navigation services. VLP offers a daily help desk and weekly legal clinics in the law library, serving hundreds of self-represented litigants annually and making our courts more efficient and more litigant-friendly. And EBA attorneys continue to take pro bono case referrals across a wide variety of practice areas. Quite frankly, when combined with the efforts of the Legal Aid Society of Evansville and Indiana Legal Services' Evansville Office, Vanderburgh County is the best served county in the entire state when it comes to civil legal aid services and we are being recognized for such. Just last week, our Director Scott Wylie led a discussion on the future of pro bono services at a joint meeting of the ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service and the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation. This national attention on our work in Evansville is the direct result of your volunteerism. Thank you and keep up the good work.

## LAWYERS LUNCH CLUB

**SIGN UP NOW!**

**Deadline is February 3!**

This session of Lawyers Lunch Club will  
run March through May.\*

**To join the fun, email**  
**ashley@evvbar.org or**  
**call (812)463-3201.**

If you are interested in being a Group Captain, let us  
know when you sign up!

**\*Even if you have participated in the past, please re-sign up  
so we only include those who still want to participate.**



Join us for  
*Breakfast with the  
Bench & Bar*

All are invited to attend!

**Friday, March 10**  
beginning at 7:00am  
Evansville Bar Association  
501 Main Street, Suite 101





**Jimmy Gentry**  
President

**T**hanks to many of you, the Evansville Bar Foundation has surpassed fundraising goals in recent years which directly contributed to the EBF awarding grants totaling \$31,737.42 to 10 community organizations who fulfill the EBF's mission to promote a public understanding and awareness of the law, support an improved delivery of legal services to the community as a whole, promote activities to enhance the performance of attorney professionalism and ethical responsibilities, and advance the administration of justice. The EBF Board plans to exceed the recent successes by "Raising the Bar" again in 2023. You can be a part of that success by donating at least \$100 to the EBF for 2023. 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 EBF into an estate plan to help fund the EBF for years to come, please contact me to discuss. Whether a one-time donation or through planned giving, the EBF Board and I appreciate you and your support.

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**

In addition, you can also be a part of the EBF's success in 2023 by being a board member. The opportunity to serve our profession and community on this board has been most rewarding to me personally. Witnessing the generosity of our peers and then having the opportunity to first hand grant awards derived from those donations to amazing community organizations has been second to none. And, in addition, the time commitment involves one board meeting a month, potentially a semi-annual committee meeting, and, at your option, an event or two usually held in conjunction with the EBA. If you are interested in serving on the EBF Board of Directors, please submit a Letter of Interest on or before March 1, 2023 to

## **LIBRARIAN'S CORNER: THANK YOU!**

Thanks to everyone who has contributed thus far to the William H. Miller Law Library in response to the Law Library Foundation's annual appeal for 2023! You still have plenty of time to become a 2023 member of the Law Library Foundation. Please feel free to use the envelope enclosed in the November mailing or send your contribution to:

Vanderburgh Law Library Foundation  
City County Courts Building  
825 Sycamore Street, Suite 207  
Evansville, Indiana 47708

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)).

**Are you interested in promoting justice and improving lives through the law?**

**WE WANT YOU ON OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS!**



## The John L. Sanders Memorial **EVANSVILLE BAR FOUNDATION**

The mission of the John L. Sanders Memorial—Evansville Bar Foundation is to promote justice and improve lives through the law. This is done by encouraging and supporting programs designed to promote a public understanding and awareness of the law; supporting an improved delivery of legal services; promoting activities to enhance the performance of the practicing lawyers' professional qualifications and ethical responsibilities; and advancing and promoting the administration of justice primarily through grant awards and volunteer time.

If you are interested in serving on the EBF Board of Directors, please submit a Letter of Interest on or before March 1, 2023 to:

Evansville Bar Foundation  
501 Main Street, Suite 101  
Evansville, Indiana 47708  
Or, email [Julie@evvbar.org](mailto:Julie@evvbar.org)

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.

# NEW LAWYER BOOTCAMP

**3 CLE**

**VANDERBURGH COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
COURTROOM 101**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2023**

**1:00pm-4:45pm**

**5:00pm—Rooftop for refreshments**

**FREE for all EBA members 0-3 years in practice**

**EBA members \$90 (more than 3 years)**

**Non-members \$150**

**To register call (812) 463-3201 or email**

**[ashley@evvbar.org](mailto:ashley@evvbar.org).**

Holly's House Perspective:  
Laws Impacting Child Welfare  
and Current Trends  
1 CLE

**Wednesday, March 1  
11:30am-1:00pm**

Lunch provided

**EBA Office  
501 Main Street, Suite 101**

Member \$35

Non-member \$55

**Call (812) 463-3201, email  
[ashley@evvbar.org](mailto:ashley@evvbar.org) or go to  
[evvbar.org](http://evvbar.org) to register.**

*Save-the-Date*

**Thursday, April 13, 2023**

*Friedman Park Event Center*

2700 Park Blvd., Newburgh

**It Starts with You:  
Practical Strategies for  
Healthier Legal Professionals  
(CLE Credits Pending)**

**Special Guest Speaker: Sam Ardery**

**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?



Fine & Hatfield is pleased to announce that **John H. Goth** has been named a partner-shareholder of the firm.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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

NEW PROPERTY LISTING  
DOWNTOWN EVANSVILLE

## FORMER ROBERT JOHN &amp; ASSOCIATES LAW FIRM

Front space offers 4000 sq ft with 7 offices, 3 baths, kitchenette, 4 large cubicle spaces, conference room, and spacious library.

900 Sq ft Unfinished Storage Area

2nd Office in Back offers 1000 sq ft with large entry, 2 offices, kitchenette & bath.

Easy Access with ample parking.

Property extends from MLKing to 8th Street.

2 Electric Signs facing the Expressway.

**319 NW Martin Luther King Jr Blvd**

If interested, Call 812.204.3333 for more details.

**Bar Updates:**

Welcome new attorney members **Magistrate Emily Hall** and **Andrew Wurdeman**. Please make the following additions and updates to your contacts:

**Magistrate Emily S. Hall**  
**Vanderburgh Superior Court**  
 825 Sycamore Street  
 Evansville, Indiana 47708  
 (812) 435-5469  
[eshall@vanderburghgov.org](mailto:eshall@vanderburghgov.org)

**Andrew Wurdeman**  
**The Law Offices of Steven K. Deig**  
 5615 East Virginia Street  
 Evansville, Indiana 47715  
 (812) 477-5577  
[awurdeman@deiglaw.com](mailto:awurdeman@deiglaw.com)

**Scates Law**

108 NW MLK Jr. Blvd  
 Evansville, Indiana 47708  
 O: (812) 470-2685  
**Alex Scates**



[scateslaw1@gmail.com](mailto:scateslaw1@gmail.com)

**Gonterman & Meyer Law**

25 NW Riverside Drive, Suite 310  
 Evansville, Indiana 47708



O: (812) 213-4039

**Rhett Gonterman**

[rhett@evvlegal.com](mailto:rhett@evvlegal.com)

**Greg Meyer**

[greg@evvlegal.com](mailto:greg@evvlegal.com)

**Amy Rees, Paralegal**

[Amy@evvlegal.com](mailto:Amy@evvlegal.com)

**David Shaw**

[david@evvlegal.com](mailto:david@evvlegal.com)

**Kelsey Stroud, Paralegal**

[kelsey@evvlegal.com](mailto:kelsey@evvlegal.com)

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF EVANSVILLE  
**Ignite It!**  
 CREATIVITY FORUM

**Tuesday, March 14, 2023**

Professional Development Workshop & Luncheon

Featuring

**Genein Letford**

Award-winning speaker, best-selling author  
and corporate trainer

Register by March 1st at  
[www.cmoekids.org](http://www.cmoekids.org)

Presented by



Benefiting the Children's Museum of Evansville



# WE ARE THE EBA



## Shellie Kyle, Kimball International

In practice since 1997, practicing at then Bamberger Foreman Oswald and Hahn in Evansville and Princeton offices. In 2005 I joined the in-house Legal Department at Kimball International. Now Deputy General Counsel, Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer and Asst. Corporate Secretary.

**Why did you become an attorney?** When I got tired of being asked, "You are such a good student, what do you want to be when you grow up?" in 8<sup>th</sup> grade I took career quizzes on strengths and weaknesses, likes and dislikes and recommended career paths. I decided then I wanted to be a lawyer, probably a corporate lawyer.

**What is the most valuable asset the EBA has to offer? Why?** Practical resources, including CLE with local practitioners. I love when I can attend virtually or in-person a valuable, on-point local CLE.

**What always makes you laugh?** The sharp wit of my kids, particularly my two oldest.

**What song would you sing at Karaoke night?** The Gambler.

**What was your first job?** Besides babysitting in middle school, first job with a W-2 was "Salad Girl" at The Log Inn at age 14.

**Tell us about your immediate family.** My husband Greg and I have dated since middle school. We now have 3 children, one pre-med dual degree-seeking senior at The University Alabama and one pre-med, neuroscience major sophomore at Notre Dame. Also an 8<sup>th</sup> grade, competitive dancer, travel volleyball player, cheerleader, actor/model signed with an agency in Chicago, who is deciding between Signature School where her siblings went and Gibson Southern.

**How many pairs for shoes do you own?** Probably 30, but only wear like 10 regularly.

**What's your favorite item in your office and why?** Not technically one, but the 3 extended monitors that allow me with my laptop to have at least 7 screens going at one time!



## Mike Macer, Biesecker, Dutkanych & Macer

Practicing general civil litigation for 25 years.

**Why did you become an attorney?** Sort of just happened. I took a Business Law class at UE, which led to taking a Legal Research class from Steve Barber, which led to me taking a job for Lockyear and Kornblum while I was in college. That led to going to law school and eventually becoming a partner in that firm.

**Why is it important to be a member of the EBA?** It is an important part of establishing needed connections and of course the fabulous CLE's. I have developed many good friendships from playing EBA softball and basketball over the years.

**What is the most valuable asset the EBA has to offer? Why?** Julie. Who else would be willing to deal with all of us attorneys?

**What are three (3) fun or interesting facts about you?** I once held a world record in bench rest shooting for 100/300 yards; My first car was a 1967 Camaro, and I wish I had never sold it; I went to Cuba with Bender and Meyer.

**What song would you sing at Karaoke night?** I would not ever try that again, but I did once attempt to sing Funky Cold Medina on Spring Break in College. It did not turn out well.

**What is something you will never do again?** I once built kitchen cabinets for our house...It was a Covid thing. It took about 12 months when it was supposed to take a month. Meanwhile our kitchen was torn apart. I will never do that again because my Wife would divorce me.

**Tell us about your immediate family.** My Wife, Shawn, is a manager at CenterPoint. We live in Newburgh. My step-daughter, Savannah, is a first-year law student at McKinney school of law despite my warnings. We also have a dog, Izzy, an 8 pound furball.

**Who inspires you?** My Grandmother and my Mother. They are the two kindest people that I have ever met.



## Keith Vonderahe, Ziemer Stayman Weitzel & Shoulders, LLP

Closing in on 24 years. Litigation and appellate advocacy, including commercial disputes, utility law and municipal law; will also handle select criminal cases, personal injury claims, family law matters and Title IX proceedings in an educational setting.

**Why did you become an attorney?** We had a very good business law professor at UE, Dr. Deborah Howard. took that class as a business major and within a few weeks changed my major to legal studies and set out to be lawyer. What I did not know was that law school meant more years of school after college. True story.

**Why is it important to be a member of the EBA?** It's provides an opportunity to effect, hopefully in a positive manner, how law is practiced in the Evansville area.

**What are your hobbies?** I enjoy cutting my grass – riding a zero turn mower is a lot of fun.

**What always makes you laugh?** Any episode of Chappelle Show.

**Tell us about your immediate family.** Wife Anne, works in management at St. Vincent's oncology and hematology center. Son Collin, 28, works at IU. Daughter Audrey, 20, goes to IU. Son Aidan, 18, will go to IU (is currently a senior at SIG). Daughter Lucy, 10, 5<sup>th</sup> grade at St. Ben's.

**What's your favorite family tradition?** Buying matching Christmas pajamas for the family and making sure they are worn. Land's End always loses my pair in the post.

**How many pairs for shoes do you own?** Way too many to count. I'm a huge sneakerhead.

**Who inspires you?** My children.

**If you could not work for 1 year, what would you do?** Get a ventricular assist device implanted and then undergo a heart transplant. Wait...



# FEBRUARY 2023 CALENDAR

**The Evansville Bar Association and Evansville Bar Foundation have moved to:**

**501 Main Street, Suite 101, Downtown Evansville**

- 02/02 **Talk to a Lawyer Hotline**—4:30-6:00pm, EBA Office
- 02/03 **Meeting for April 13 Event**—Noon, EBA Office
- 02/07 **EBA Family Law Section Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office
- 02/08 **CLE—New Lawyer Bootcamp**—1:00pm, Civic Center Courthouse Complex, Courtroom 101; Adjourn at 4:30pm to The Rooftop for HAPPY HOUR sponsored by Julie Weyer, Lifetime Financial Growth
- 02/09 **EBA Board of Directors Meeting**—lunch at 11:45am, meeting at Noon, EBA Office
- 02/13 **EBA Access to Justice Committee Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office  
**EBA Commercial Law Section Meeting and Happy Hour**—4:30pm, EBA Office; Adjourn to Happy Hour
- 02/16 **EBF Board of Directors Meeting**—lunch at 11:45am, meeting at Noon, EBF Office
- 02/18 **Regional High School Mock Trial**—Evansville—JUDGES NEEDED—[VOLUNTEER FORM](https://form.jotform.com/222145490260145) —  
<https://form.jotform.com/222145490260145>
- 02/21 **Talk to a Lawyer Hotline**—11:30am-1:00pm, EBA Office
- 02/22 **EBA CLE Committee Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office
- 02/28 **Open House**—beginning at 4:00pm, Evansville Bar Association and Evansville Bar Foundation Office—  
501 Main Street, Suite 101

## SAVE-THE-DATE

**EBA Young Lawyer Section March Madness**—Thursday, March 16, come by any time after 5pm, Tiki on Main

**Pizza at the Bar**—Thursday, March 23 at Noon, EBA Office—501 Main Street, Suite 101 (It's totally casual, a great opportunity to enjoy fellowship with one another, and grab a slice of pizza!)

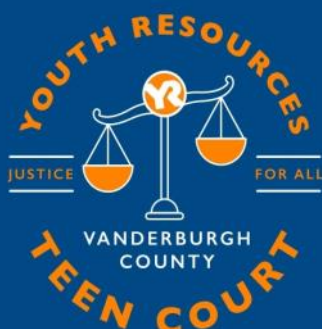
**CLE—It's Starts with You: Practical Strategies for Healthier Legal Professionals**—Thursday, April 13, 8:30am-3:30pm, Friedman Park Event Center

**Wednesday Watering Hole**—Wednesday, April 19 beginning at 4:30pm, EBA Office

**Law Day Celebration**—Friday, April 28 at 5:30pm, City View by Sterling Square

**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

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN ATTORNEY INFO SESSION



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023 • 5:30-6:30PM

YOUTH RESOURCES

4451 N. FIRST AVENUE • EVANSVILLE, IN 47710

Lower level of First Federal Savings Bank. Use the south side entrance.



### Regional Mock Trial **JUDGES NEEDED**

Saturday, February 18, 2023  
Civic Center Courts Building

In order to host the competition, we must secure volunteers to serve as presiding judges (one per court room) and scoring judges (three per court room). **Ideally our local judges and magistrates will serve as presiding judges with lawyers and other volunteers serving as scoring judges.** For more information or to volunteer on February 18 as a Mock Trial judge, please [VOLUNTEER FORM](https://form.jotform.com/222145490260145) —<https://form.jotform.com/222145490260145> prior to February 3, 2023.

Please contact Mark Abell ([mark.abell@jacksonkelly.com](mailto:mark.abell@jacksonkelly.com)) if you have any questions about the competition.