

The SUMMATION

501 Main Street, Suite 101
Evansville, IN 47708

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April 2025

The Monthly Newsletter of the Evansville Bar Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: **Greg Freyberger**

SEPARATION OF POWERS: A CALL TO PUBLIC DISCOURSE



Our American system of government is founded on the principle of separation of powers, which ensures that no single branch—executive, legislative, or judicial—can dominate the others. This principle is critical to maintaining a fair and impartial judiciary, safeguarding the rule of law, and upholding constitutional rights. For lawyers, understanding and defending the concept of separation of powers is not just a theoretical exercise but a practical necessity in preserving judicial independence and preventing overreach from the other branches of government.

The judiciary is responsible for interpreting and applying the law, resolving disputes, and protecting legal rights. However, without a clear separation of powers, the judiciary and the decisions it makes, risk being influenced by the executive or legislative branches. If judges were subject to political pressure from lawmakers or the president, we would risk decisions based on expediency or partisanship rather than established legal principles.

The separation of powers doctrine ensures that judges can decide cases based on the law and facts, free from political coercion. This independence is crucial in cases that challenge government actions or laws that may infringe upon individual rights. For example, landmark Supreme Court decisions such as *Marbury v. Madison* (1803), which established judicial review, and *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), which ended segregation in public schools, were made possible because of an independent judiciary that could rule without fear of retaliation.

While judicial independence is essential, the judiciary itself is not immune from checks. The separation of powers ensures that courts remain accountable while preventing judicial overreach. The executive branch, through the power of appointment, and the legislative branch, through the power of confirmation and impeachment, both play roles in shaping and checking the judiciary.

Additionally, Congress has the authority to establish courts, set jurisdictional boundaries, and, in certain cases, propose constitutional amendments that override judicial decisions. These mechanisms help balance judicial authority while respecting the courts' role in upholding the Constitution.

In recent years, debates over judicial appointments, court-packing proposals, and politically charged rulings have raised concerns about the judiciary's ability to remain neutral. Even recently, there have been calls on the State and Federal level to remove judges as a result of disagreeable decisions. As lawyers, we should stand up for the rule of law and speak up against such reactionary commentary. If the public perceives the judiciary as merely an extension of political power, it will lose its credibility, hurting us all. Lawyers, as officers of the court, have a duty to advocate for a judiciary that is free from political influence. We must support the principles of separation of powers in our legal arguments, defend judicial independence in public discourse, and resist efforts that threaten the balance between the branches of government.

The American separation of powers is not merely an abstract theory—it is an established safeguard that protects the integrity of the judiciary and the ever important rule of law. Lawyers, as judicial officers, must remain vigilant in preserving this system, ensuring that courts can operate independently and without political influence. Only by upholding this balance can the judiciary continue to serve as the impartial arbiter of law that our democracy requires.



EMPOWER YOUR LEGAL TEAM:

3 KEY REASONS

Why Your Paraprofessionals Should Join the EBA

A strong legal team thrives on knowledge, collaboration, and growth—including the dedicated professionals who support attorneys daily. The EBA's Paralegal and Legal Staff Section empowers your firm's paraprofessionals with continuing education, networking, and development opportunities that enhance your practice.

1.

Expanded Knowledge Base

Members gain insights into evolving legal trends, procedural changes, and best practices.

2.

Increased Engagement and Retention

Investing in professional development fosters loyalty, motivation, and job satisfaction.

3.

Greater Networking and Resources

Access to a community of legal professionals for knowledge exchange and mentorship.

Encouraging your team to join isn't just an investment in their careers—it's an investment in the overall success of your practice.

For more details on membership, reach out to Jordan Terrell, chair, at jordan.terrell@probonoindiana.org, or Savannah Stauth, vice chair, at ssauth@zsws.com.

VLP News

By: Max Happe (max.happe@probonoindiana.org)

This month hosts one of Evansville's coolest events, **Homeless Connect**. Homeless Connect is a service fair in which agencies can provide same day services and resources to people in need. Services can range from housing assistance to haircuts to legal assistance.

Last year, Homeless Connect served nearly **700 individuals** in need. A big obstacle to getting assistance is time scarcity and access to travel. Homeless Connect helps address these issues by bringing services under one roof and allowing service providers to collaborate to address issues that would otherwise take days of travel and communication which is something many individuals cannot afford due to potentially lost wages or lack of access to resources to begin with.

Homeless Connect is **April 3rd from 9am – 2pm at the Old National Events Plaza**. If you are interested in this event, or helping with other events that VLP assists, please let VLP staff know. These events offer opportunities for people to get the assistance toward stability which could allow them to one day give back and continue to make our community one in which we enjoy. There is a lot of need and several good opportunities to help with it.



LAW DAY

and the
Annual Meeting

APRIL 24, 2025 | 5:30 PM
EVANSVILLE COUNTRY CLUB



2025 ANNUAL AWARDS

NOMINATE
NOW!

- James Bethel Gresham Freedom Award
- Doran E. Perdue Service Award
- Florence Britzius Award
- Outstanding Paralegal Award

DEADLINE
01 APR

For more info or to
nominate, go to
evvbar.org/members



Barbara Coyle Williams
President

This month, I want to highlight how the Evansville Bar Foundation's grants support our community. The Parenting Time Center uses these funds to offer the Cooperative Parenting Time Class, an eight-week program that helps parents communicate effectively and reduce conflict for their children's well-being. Director Kathryn Kornblum emphasizes that co-parenting education helps prevent "Children Caught in the Middle Syndrome," leading to better outcomes for kids. Children have fewer problems coping with divorce when the parents can co-parent properly. Thank you, Parenting Time Center.

On March 11, 2025, the Foundation co-hosted *Fearless Lawyers, Unpopular Clients, and the Concept of Justice*, a CLE program based on *Lawyers Without Rights*, at the Evansville War Museum. The event included the Shepard Leadership & Law Academy, where presenter Michael H. Rubin engaged 35 high school students in a thought-provoking discussion on justice. Retired Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard was also in attendance.

Looking ahead, the Foundation will grant nearly \$31,000 to deserving organization in 2025. With that said, in 2024 we awarded \$24,500 but received over \$71,000 in requests, forcing difficult funding decisions. While we appreciate our donors, more than 400 EBA members have yet to contribute. If each gave just \$50, we could significantly increase our impact, supporting nonprofits that use the law to improve lives.

Mail a check to:

**501 Main Street, Suite 101, Evansville, IN 47708 or
go to <https://evvbar.org/foundation.aspx>.**

LIBRARIAN'S CORNER: INDIANA LEGAL HELP KIOSK

For the past two years, an indianalegalhelp.org kiosk has been available for patrons to use in the law library. It may look like an ATM, but the kiosk provides legal information for persons needing information or forms for a variety of civil legal issues. The kiosk has a touch screen where patrons can look up resources available in their area and get legal assistance. Over time, more features will become available through the kiosk, such as directly connecting with a legal navigator trained to provide them with guidance. For those attorneys asked for legal advice as you move through the court house hallways, please feel free to direct those persons to the Indiana Legal Help kiosk and the law library (suite 207).

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).



Annual Campaign Donors*

Legacy of Leadership

Vanderburgh County Prosecutor's Office

Senior Partner

Hon. Sheila Corcoran

Steve Hoar

David Shaw

Stewart Richardson Deposition Services

Lead Counsel

Bob Carithers

Marc Fine

Foster O'Daniel Hambidge & Lynch

David Robinson

Carrie Roelle

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Paralegal and Legal Staff

Melissa Aldredge

Jeana Goebel

Lauren Gore

Jordan Terrell

Friends of the Foundation

Julie Moore Holtz

Tonya Shumaker

* 2025 Campaign donations received November 1, 2024-February 28, 2025


In Memory Of...

Members and friends of the Evansville Bar Association who have passed away are remembered by friends and colleagues with contributions to the John L. Sanders Memorial—Evansville Bar Foundation.

Thank you for your contributions in memory of...

Burley Scales

Registration and pre-payment required for all EBA CLE. A virtual option for most EBA CLE is available upon request.
Call (812) 463-3201, email Ashley@evvbar.org or go online at evvbar.org.



LUNCH

with

JUDGE LES SHIVELY
Chief Judge
Vanderburgh Superior Court

Wednesday, April 9
Lunch at 11:30am
CLE Noon-1:00pm

Evansville Bar Association
501 Main Street, Suite 101 - Downtown Evansville

Member \$45 Non-member \$65

To register, call (812) 463-3201,
email ashley@evvbar.org,
or go to evvbar.org.



You're invited...

First and Foremost:

Conversations with
Women Leaders in
Our Legal and Business
Communities
IN Attorneys - 3 CLE/1 Ethics

Wednesday, April 23
City View - Sunset Ballroom
210 North Fulton Avenue
Evansville, Indiana 47710

11:30am - Doors Open
12:00pm - Lunch with Keynote Speaker
Chief Justice Loretta Rush, Indiana Supreme Court
1:15pm - Program
4:30pm - Cocktail Social

Lunch Only \$50
Lunch and Full Program \$125

RSVP on or before April 7
at (812) 463-3201,
or ashley@evvbar.org



IMMIGRATION LAW: What Every Attorney Should Know in 2025

2 CLE

Mallory Deckard Javier Lugo
David Guerrettaz Erem Syed

TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025
11:00AM-1:00PM
LUNCH PROVIDED

Evansville Bar Association
501 Main Street, Suite 101
Downtown Evansville


Member \$75 | Non-member \$115

To register, call (812) 463-3201,
email ashley@evvbar.org, or go to evvbar.org

*Generously
underwritten by:*



HEARTLAND
INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION SERVICES, LLC



LUNCH

with

JUDGE ROBERT PIGMAN
Vanderburgh Superior Court

Wednesday, May 7
Lunch at 11:30am
CLE Noon-1:00pm

Evansville Bar Association
501 Main Street, Suite 101 - Downtown Evansville

Member \$45 Non-member \$65

To register, call (812) 463-3201,
email ashley@evvbar.org,
or go to evvbar.org.

Registration and pre-payment required for all EBA CLE. A virtual option for most EBA CLE is available upon request.
Call (812) 463-3201, email Ashley@evvbar.org or go online at evvbar.org.



Breakfast with the Judge

Hon. Andrea K. McCord
US Bankruptcy Court
Southern District of Indiana
1 CLE

Wednesday, May 14
Check-in and Light Breakfast - 8:00am
CLE Presentation - 8:30am

Evansville Bar Association
501 Main Street, Suite 101—Downtown Evansville

Member \$45
Non-member \$65

To register call (812) 463-3201, email
ashley@evvbar.org or go to evvbar.org.

The Many Faces of Law:

WHAT NON-ATTORNEYS
WANT YOU TO KNOW

2 CLE

Friday, May 16
11am-1pm
Lunch Provided

EVANSVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION
501 Main Street, Suite 101
Downtown Evansville

MEMBER \$75 | NON-MEMBER \$115

To register, call (812) 463-3201, email
ashley@evvbar.org, or go to evvbar.org.



BASES ARE LOADED
and You're Up to Bat!

CUBS

VS

CARDS

THURSDAY

26
JUNE

BUSCH STADIUM

GAME

1:15PM
TIME

ALL-INCLUSIVE • MEMBER \$350* • 2 CLE/1 ETHICS

Transportation is included!
Depart EBA Office at 8:30am

Register at (812) 463-3201 or email
ashley@evvbar.org

*Payment Deadline: Payment is required on or before May 1.
Minimum: There is a minimum number of registrants necessary to proceed with the event. If this minimum is not reached, refunds will be issued.



The Young Lawyer Section Presents

APPLIED PROFESSIONALISM *for the New Attorney*

6 CLE/6 Applied Professionalism/6 Ethics

Friday, September 26, 2025
8:30am-4:00pm

501 MAIN STREET, SUITE 101
Downtown Evansville

EBA Member 0-3 Years in Practice - FREE
Non-member 0-3 Years in Practice - \$100
EBA Member - \$190

To register, call (812) 463-3201 or email
ashley@evvbar.org.

WHO'S DOING WHAT?



The Boys and Girls Club of Evansville presented **Carrie Roelle** with the Extraordinary Service Award and **Mark Samila** with the Man/Woman & Youth Award. Congratulations!



Congratulations to **Scott Wylie** on having been named a Paul Harris Fellow in 2025 by Evansville Rotary.

Super Lawyers®

Congratulations to all EBA Members who have been recognized as a 2025 Super Lawyer!*

Steve Barber, Todd Barsumian, Erin Bauer, Charlie Berger, Kyle Biesecker, Tim Born, Michele Bryant, Laurie Bumb, Beth Burger, Brian Carroll, Neil Chapman, Allison Comstock, Randall Craig, Jamie Dameron, Mike DiRienzo, Terry Farmer, Max Fiester, Shannon Frank, Greg Freyberger, Mark Foster, Jake Fulcher, Jimmy Gentry, Josh Gessling, Danny Glass, David Hatfield, Rich Hawley, Jeff Helfrich, Ashley Hollen, Edward Johnson, Joe Langerak, Nathan Maudlin, Mark McAnulty, Whitney Mosby, Andy Ozete, Carrie Roelle, Ross Rudolph, Mark Samila, Lindsay Schmitt, Laura Scott, Mike Schopmeyer, Ryan Schulz, Pat Shoulders, Dirck Stahl, Patrick Thomas, Steve Thomas and Brian Williams.

And, our Rising Stars*...

Mark Abell, Will Cartwright, Brandon Curl, Mallory Deckard, Hannah Dill, Trisha Dudlo-McCracken, Nicholas Golding, Elizabeth Hennessy-Spencer, Derrick McDowell, Buddy Lobermann, Heather Lobermann, Jordan Saner, Joshua Trockman, and Aaron Tuley.

* If you have been recognized as a Super Lawyer or Rising Star, but not listed above, please send an email to Julie@evvbar.org



Bar Updates:

Join us in welcoming our newest members!

Attorney Members: John Bober, Anne Butsch, and Scott Lu.

Non-Attorney Members: Shaila Dalrymple, Samantha Myers, and Kendall Smith.

Please take a moment to update your contacts!

Jean Blanton Magnera

(812) 483-7583

JeanBlanton@magnera.com

Anne Butsch Attorney

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annebutsch@yahoo.com

Shaila Dalrymple Jackson Kelly

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Evansville, Indiana 47708

(812) 422-9444

shaila.dalrymple@jacksonkelly.com

Steve Krohn

New email address:

stevnkro@gmail.com

Scott Lu

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Samantha Myers Jackson Kelly

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Evansville, Indiana 47708
(812) 422-9444

samantha.myers@jacksonkelly.com

GROW YOUR BUSINESS!

The EBA receives calls daily from people seeking an attorney—your potential clients!

Contact Ashley@evvbar.org to learn more!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Go to evvbar.org,
click the MEMBERS tab.

The **Department of Child Services** is currently hiring attorneys to represent the State in civil cases regarding child abuse and neglect.

Kahn Dees Donovan & Kahn seeks to hire an associate attorney to its litigation practice group.

Kahn Dees Donovan & Kahn is seeking qualified applicants to fill a Legal Assistant position within their Business Law practice.

Kinkade & Associates, a debt relief law firm serving Southern Indiana and Western Kentucky, is seeking a Receptionist.

The Law Offices of Steven K. Deig is seeking a qualified applicant to fill the position of Legal Assistant/Paralegal.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE EBA

APRIL 2025

- 04/03 **Memorial Service celebrating Jim Flynn, Susie Hartig, Phil Hayes, Phil Siegel, and Fred White**—Noon, Old Courthouse in the Randall T. Shepard Courtroom, 2nd Floor; Use the Vine Street Entrance
Talk to a Lawyer—4:30-6:00pm, EBA Office
- 04/09 **CLE—Lunch with the Judge: Judge Les Shively** (1 CLE) - Lunch at 11:30am with CLE at Noon, EBA Office—[REGISTER](#)
- 04/10 **EBA Board of Directors Meeting**—Lunch at 11:45am, Meeting at Noon, EBA Office
- 04/15 **Talk to a Lawyer**—11:30am-1:00pm, EBA Office
- 04/17 **EBF Board of Directors Meeting**—Lunch at 11:45am, Meeting at Noon, EBA/EBF Office
- 04/18 **EBA OFFICE CLOSED**—Good Friday
- 04/22 **Young Lawyer Financial Wellness Series Session III: What to Know When Taking on and Managing Debt**—Noon-1:00pm, EBA Office—RSVP REQUESTED at julie@evvbar.org
- 04/23 **CLE—First & Foremost: Conversation with Women Leaders in Our Legal and Business Communities** (3 CLE/1 Ethics) - Doors open: 11:30am, Lunch: Noon with keynote Chief Justice Loretta Rush, Indiana Supreme Court, CLE begins: 1:15pm, Cocktail Social: 4:30pm, City View—Register by calling (812) 463-3201 or email ashley@evvbar.org. OPEN TO MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS!
- 04/24 **EBA Bench and Bar Committee Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office
Law Day and The Annual Meeting—5:30pm, Evansville Country Club—Register by calling (812) 463-3201 or email ashley@evvbar.org. RSVP by April 14.

Join us for the first session of the
Financial Wellness Series
hosted by and for the EBA Young Lawyer Section



Session III What to Know When Taking on and Managing Debts

Tuesday, April 22

Session IV Student Loans and Protecting Your Future Income

Tuesday, June 24

Session V Building Your Credit Score

Tuesday, July 29

Session VI Investing Tips You Need to Know Now

Tuesday, September 23

NOON-1pm

Lunch provided

RSVP requested to
julie@evvbar.org

EBA Office
501 Main Street, Suite 101
Downtown Evansville

INDIANA
Members Credit Union
Keeping It Simple

LFG
LIFETIME FINANCIAL GROWTH
LLC
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

EBA
EVANSVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION

YOU'RE INVITED TO GATHER FOR A TIME OF
CELEBRATION, REMINISCING, AND STORYTELLING AT THE

LEGACY LAWYER Social

WITH GOOD FOOD AND DRINK

09
SEPTEMBER
4-6 PM

EVANSVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION
501 MAIN STREET, SUITE 101
DOWNTOWN EVANSVILLE

RSVP ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 2
AT (812) 463-3201 OR ASHLEY@EVVBAR.ORG