

The SUMMATION

May 2026

The Monthly Newsletter of the Evansville Bar Association

501 Main Street, Suite 101
Evansville, IN 47708

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: **Meagan Brien**

Advocacy and Influence – A Core Benefit of EBA Membership



When members ask what they receive for their EBA dues, my answer has developed over the past year. There is the CLE, the camaraderie, the referral network, and the Evansville Bar Foundation's good work; each reason enough to belong. But the benefit I return to this month, and the one that becomes more valuable the longer you practice, is advocacy and influence.

The EBA speaks for the Evansville legal community in rooms where individual attorneys may not have a seat. When the Indiana Supreme Court considers rule changes that affect how we practice, when the Indiana State Bar Association weighs in on legislation before the General Assembly, when local courts adjust procedures or judicial vacancies arise, the EBA is at the table. Our 115-year history and engaged membership give us credibility no single firm or practitioner is likely to replicate alone.

That credibility is strengthened by our members. The EBA proudly includes attorneys who serve in leadership roles across the Indiana judiciary, the American Bar Association, the ISBA, and many other organizations shaping the profession. Through its members, Board of Directors, the Evansville Bar Foundation, and its delegates, for more than a century the EBA has built a statewide reputation for civility and responsiveness.

Advocacy at the EBA does not mean taking partisan positions or speaking for members on political questions of the day. Our focus is narrower and more practical: the practice of law itself – rules, procedures, access to justice, and preservation of the profession. These are areas where practitioners' experience is essential and where attorneys across the political spectrum often share common ground.

2025 and 2026 have offered clear examples of what that looks like. The EBA has weighed in with the judiciary on a rule change affecting how members maintain competency and, just as importantly, connection to one another. A regional bar's perspective carries weight because it reflects attorneys who work under these rules every day.

The EBA also helps shape access to justice. Through our lawyer referral service, pro bono efforts, and proximity to rural communities, we can identify gaps and help address them in ways that serve both our members and the public. And we are investing in the future of the profession: supporting the Indiana Bar Foundation's high school mock trial program; maintaining a strong Young Lawyers Section that engages attorneys as early as their 1L year; connecting members to statewide training opportunities like the Leadership Development Academy; launching the inaugural Camp Legal Eagle for rising 7th through 9th graders; and exploring ways to support firms and solo practitioners in recruiting and retaining new talent.

What matters most is this: advocacy is only as strong as the information behind it. When the EBA writes a letter, takes a position, or raises a concern with the bench, we are most effective when we are speaking from our members' real experiences. A rule that reads clearly on paper may function very differently in a Vanderburgh, Warrick, Posey, or Gibson County courtroom or in a rural office or a solo practice.

We need to hear those realities. What procedural change is quietly costing you hours each week? What legislation should be on our radar? Where is access to justice breaking down in ways only a practicing attorney would notice? What challenges are you facing in hiring and training the next generation of lawyers? These observations are the raw material of effective advocacy, and they rarely reach us unless members share them.

So consider this an invitation to treat your membership as a channel, not a subscription. Email me. Reach out to a board member. Raise an issue at a section meeting or CLE. You do not need to draft the policy letter or appear before the court alone because that is what the EBA is here to do. The most effective advocacy we have undertaken this year has almost always begun with a member simply sharing what they are seeing.

Thank you, as always, for the trust you place in this association.



FROM THE BOARDROOM

President's Report

- Camp Legal Eagle—Sponsorships are now available. Please contact julie@evvbar.org to be a part of the inaugural event!

Treasurer's Report

- Income: Law Day and Camp Legal Eagle sponsorships are strong; Income ahead for 2025'
- Expenses: On-track.

Foundation Report

- Slate of Officers and Directors was approved by the board for presentation to the EBA at Law Day and The Annual Meeting.

Unfinished Business

- Second Reading of Proposed Amendments to Bylaws—APPROVED: Dues unpaid as of February 1 will result in termination of membership; number of Directors to be no fewer than 13 or no more than 19; eliminate VP' Nominating Committee 6 members.
- Slate 2026-2027—Approved as presented for presentation at Law Day and The Annual Meeting.
- New database, website, app, and LRS on or before September 1, 2026.
- Camp Legal Eagle—Application deadline May 1; Sponsorship available—contact julie@evvbar.org.
- EBA Appointments to LAS—Yvette LaPlante and Jordan Buechler have been appointed to a second term.

VLP News

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

We are working hard to create new tools to make your volunteer leadership easier. This month we plan to release a new website tailored to helping us all volunteer and find ways to use our legal skills to help our community. Keep an eye out for updates or follow along on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndianaProBonoNetwork>

After the website is live I hope we can find time to expand our legal mentor/mentee opportunities. If this is something you may be interested in, let us know!

In addition to taking a case, or helping at a clinic, we also welcome you to contact us if you are interested in simply learning more about volunteering, needs in our community, or ways we can help each other.

Thanks for your continued efforts to make our community better.

Follow
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work](https://www.facebook.com/IndianaProBonoNetwork)



Camp Legal Eagle is HERE!

Know a student who's curious about law, leadership, or how our justice system works?

Get ready for three exciting days of discovery, learning, and real-world insight into the legal profession—July 20–22, 2026.

Hosted by the Evansville Bar Association, Camp Legal Eagle is a hands-on experience for students entering 7th, 8th, and 9th grades. From interactive activities and courtroom experiences to connecting with local attorneys and judges, campers get an inside look at how the justice system works—straight from the professionals who live it every day.



APPLICATIONS DEADLINE: May 1, 2026
<https://forms.gle/4cFbubYhn8ymfxZY6>

Interested in getting involved with or sponsoring
Camp Legal Eagle—or learning more?
Contact Julie Moore Holtz at julie@evvbar.org.



Bob Carithers
President

This final article on behalf of the Evansville Bar Foundation is a "Thank You" note. A huge "Thank You" goes to all of you for your support of the EBF. Because of you far more than we in leadership, the Foundation has exceeded its previous benchmarks during the current term.

My thanks go to our courageous Vice-President, Carrie Lynn, and to the other officers during the current term: Laura Scott and Aaron Allen. Joining with such talented folks on the Executive Committee has been a blessing. Thanks also for the dedication and wisdom of the Directors during this term: Jamie Dameron, Aaron Tuley, Jeremy Kemper, Nick Golding, Angela Freel, Jillian Hanneken, Bill Hussmann, and Mike Mitchell.

Anyone who has been chair of anything involving the Evansville Bar Association will acknowledge that the person who does not receive enough credit and thanks is Julie Moore Holtz, our Executive Director. Thank you, Julie, for your assistance to me in this term and for all you do for all of us in the EBA/EBF.

Behind the scenes, the Foundation Board has benefited from consultations with George, Cullen, and Walter Stanley of Morgan Stanley, who oversee the financial success of the EBF investments. Our thanks go to them and Portfolio Associate Chelsea Rexing for their talents and cooperation.

In closing, I ask that all of you fully support Carrie during her term as Foundation President, as well Laura, Aaron, and Nick, the other incoming officers. I know that they and the Directors for next term will make an excellent leadership team for the EBF. (NOTE: for the first time in a long time there will not be a Tuley on the team; thanks to them for their long-term commitment.)

**To make a donation to the Foundation
mail a check to:**

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

LIBRARIAN'S CORNER: MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

As you may remember, the goals of the Foundation are to preserve, maintain, and enhance the William H. Miller Law Library of Vanderburgh County as a resource center for legal information that serves the courts, bar, and people of Evansville and the surrounding tristate area. These goals are ongoing as is the opportunity to support the Foundation through additional contributions. The Foundation can accept donations that recognize someone special, commemorate a milestone, or honor a lost loved one through a special gift made in their name. This additional donation celebrates the important people in your life and makes a lasting impact on the law library.

You can still join or renew your membership by contacting Kathleen Weston at the law library via phone (812) 435-5175 or email (kweston@vanderburghgov.org).



Annual Campaign Donors*

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Melissa Alldredge	Jana Kemper
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Friends of the Foundation

Julie Moore Holtz

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 the Clerk of the Courts


DOTTIE THOMAS
Clerk of the Courts, Vanderburgh County

Wednesday, May 13, 2026
Lunch at 11:30am
CLE Noon-1:00pm

Evansville Bar Association
501 Main Street, Suite 101
Downtown Evansville

Member \$55 Non-member \$75

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



I CLE

**THE CRIMINAL RULE 4 PLAYBOOK:
TIMING, STRATEGY, AND SUCCESS**

Scott Danks, Danks & Danks

June **12** @ Noon

EVANSVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION
501 MAIN STREET, SUITE 101
DOWNTOWN EVANSVILLE

Member \$40
Non-member \$60

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




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EBA MEMBERS use
coupon code: **eba20mem**
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Go to the EBA website at
evvbar.org and
click the **CLE** button!

The CLE Commission will not approve online CLE credit if you previously received credit for the same live course. It is your responsibility to monitor your credits.



DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA?

Do you have an idea for a CLE course? Is there a topic you would like to learn more about and/or speak about?

Contact Julie Moore Holtz at (812) 463-3201 or julie@evvbar.org.

EBA

A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!

Law Day and the Annual Meeting were held Wednesday, April 22 at City View. It was a beautiful evening commemorating the Evansville Bar Association's 115th anniversary of incorporation, electing the Board of Directors for the EBA and EBF, and celebrating our 50-Year Honorees in attendance: Bob Carithers, Hon. Bill Hussmann, David Jones, and Hon. Anne Pritchett.

Thank you to everyone who attended the sold-out event—more photos to come!



Thank you to our sponsors...

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EBA
EVANSVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION

GAME NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27 | 5:30PM

EBA OFFICE
501 MAIN STREET, STE 101
DOWNTOWN EVANSVILLE

Join us for another evening of laughs, snacks, and seriously fun games (no Monopoly meltdowns here). We'll have favorites like Werewolf, Ticket to Ride, and more—plus, if you've got a game you love, bring it and show us how it's done! Whether you're a board game pro or just in it for the snacks and good company, you're welcome.

PIZZA AND SNACKS PROVIDED!
BYOB

RSVP on or before May 25
to ashley@evvbar.org

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

For more information, go to evvbar.org,
click the MEMBERS tab.

Department of Child Services is currently hiring attorneys.

Pro Bono Indiana is seeking a full-time Attorney Coordinator for the Evansville office.

Salmon & Hewins, LLC has an immediate opening for a Paralegal/Legal Assistant.

Vanderburgh County Prosecutor's Office is looking for a Deputy Prosecutor to join the team!

Vanderburgh County Public Defender Agency has an opening for a full-time attorney.

Ziemer Stayman Weitzel & Shoulders is seeking

- an experienced Civil Litigation Paralegal with strong eDiscovery skills.
- an experienced and detail-oriented Real Estate Paralegal.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE EBA

MAY 2026

- 05/01 **Clear the Queue with Pro Bono Indiana**—11:00am-1:00pm, EBA Office or ONLINE! Contact max.happe@probonoindiana.org to volunteer!
- 05/06 **Spring Memorial Service honoring Ron Warrum**—Noon, Randall T. Shepard Courtroom, 2nd Floor, Old Courthouse
- 05/07 **Talk to a Lawyer**—4:30-6:00pm, EBA Office—Contact max.happe@probonoindiana.org to volunteer!
- 05/12 **EBA Paralegal and Legal Staff Section Meeting**—Noon-1:00pm, EBA Office (Zoom by request!)
- 05/13 **CLE—Lunch with the Clerks: Vanderburgh County** (1 CLE)—Lunch at 11:30, CLE at Noon, EBA office—[REGISTER](#)
- 05/14 **EBA Board of Directors Meeting**—Noon, Angelo's
- 05/19 **Talk to a Lawyer**—11:30am-1:00pm, EBA Office—Contact max.happe@probonoindiana.org to volunteer!
- 05/21 **EBF Board of Directors Meeting**—Noon, EBA/EBF Office
- 05/25 **EBA Office Closed**—Memorial Day
- 05/27 **EBA Game Night**—5:30-8:00pm, EBA Office—RSVP to ashley@evvbar.org

LAW DAY

CLEAR THE QUEUE

FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026 11AM to 1PM Evansville Bar Association

INDIANA.FREELEGALANSWERS.ORG

RSVP
REQUESTED
BEFORE THE
EVENT:



Lunch
Provided By:



CREATE AN ACCOUNT BEFORE THE EVENT!

- Click on "Attorney Registration" located at the top of the page.
- Review the attorney agreement, and if you agree, click "Agree" at the bottom of the page.
- On the following page, fill in the required information as prompted.
- After entering your details, click the "Next" button to proceed with your registration.
- Feel free to review Frequently Asked Questions and other Attorney Resources.
- Reach out to us by calling 812-402-6303 for assistance.

ATTORNEY VOLUNTEERS ONLY | THIS EVENT IS NOT FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC