

# PROCLAMATION

## First Judicial District Bar Association



### 2023-2024 1ST JD BAR ASSOCIATION

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Joseph Maher, Secretary Treasurer

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Judge Russell Klein  
Andrew McLetchie  
Joshua Raaz  
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PO Box 1733 Wheat Ridge, CO 80034  
303-279-0753 Message and Fax  
Web Site [1stjd.org](http://1stjd.org)

## MAY 2024

Advertising  
JAMS

Free Ads for 1st JD members

Member Spotlight Catherine Tieman

CLE June 11, CFI Best Practices

Golf Event September 26

information available soon

Judges & Awards Reception October 26

Information soon

Membership Renewal Notices

Open House June 19 Brick Room

Award Nominations

Job Postings

Law Day Stats

Mock Trial Art

MVL June Volunteer Opportunities

News From The Court

## ADVERTISING

### 1ST JD BAR ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

Free adds in the  
Proclamation  
for all members.

Questions  
[admin@1st.org](mailto:admin@1st.org)

# NEUTRALS YOU KNOW PROFESSIONALS YOU CAN TRUST

Samuel Gordon, Esq.

Elaine A. Wohlner, Esq.

Hon. John P. Leopold

Hon. William F. Downes

Collie E. Norman, Esq.

Kenneth R. Bennington, Esq.

Hon. Christopher C. Cross

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Jon F. Sands, Esq.

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410 17TH STREET, #2440 • DENVER, CO 80202  
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Dispute  
Resolution  
Systems

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT CATHERINE TIEMAN

I have lived a very mobile life, having lived in no less than 17 cities and towns in 5 different states and one other country by the time I graduated law school. I decided to become a lawyer my senior year of high school when I met classmates who were responsible for the financial support of their families because their parents were disabled by drug and alcohol abuse. I recognized that these kids had limited opportunities in life as a result of circumstances beyond their control and I decided that as a lawyer I could help make a meaningful difference for families in a positive way.

After high school I graduated from Michigan State University, never forgetting the plan to eventually attend law school. Upon graduation from MSU I moved to New York City and became a paralegal and manager of a law firm while researching law schools to attend. Since I financed my law school education, I sought out law schools based on affordability. I enrolled in the New England School of Law in Boston, MA., which was an independent school not affiliated with a major university. This resulted in the tuition being significantly less than almost every other law school that I was interested in applying to or attending.

Upon graduation from NESL I obtained employment as an associate at a law firm in Boston, MA representing corporations in insurance defense/product liability litigation. While this did not accomplish my goal of assisting with families, it did expose me to appearing in court frequently, so that I gained confidence in a courtroom. I subsequently obtained employment in New Hampshire representing clients in plaintiff's personal injury litigation. I then started a family law division within that firm, finally fulfilling my goal of providing legal assistance to families. I operated the family law division in the New Hampshire firm for several years, after which time I opened my own family law practice in Massachusetts.

Once I opened my family law practice, I also began to receive requests for representation from military veterans for assistance obtaining various military benefits as well as social security disability benefits. As a result, my family law practice also blossomed into a large Social Security



Disability practice. At the time, I also owned and rode horses and developed many contacts in the equine community. Eventually, horse owners, trainers, equine organizations, and owners of horse barns began to request that I assist them with equine related legal issues. I thus became one of 300 equine attorneys at that time in the United States.

In 2005 my husband and I decided to leave Massachusetts to fulfill a dream of living in the mountains where we had so often vacationed. Since arriving in Colorado, I have continued to dedicate my legal practice to domestic relations, specifically in the First Judicial District. I have been a member of the 1<sup>st</sup> JD Board for two separate terms and I particularly enjoy the camaraderie of the attorneys within the 1<sup>st</sup> J.D.

When I am not representing clients in legal matters, I am a dog trainer, having been the trainer for the Rocky Mountain Cocker Rescue for over 10 years. I also travel internationally, including various countries in Africa where I am engaged in wildlife conservation, participate with an elephant rescue and orphanage, and to work with a wildlife biologist regarding research of African Wild Dogs.



FIRST JD BAR ASSOCIATION

In Person /Virtual CLE

**Tuesday, June 11, 2024**

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Jefferson County Courthouse

Faye Griffith Meeting Room

1<sup>st</sup> Floor Administration Side

## **CFI BEST PRACTICES**

**Presented by**

**Judge Andrew Poland, Jefferson County District Judge**

**Magistrate Nic Campbell, Jefferson County Court**

**Stephanie Suzanne, Attorney, Child and Family  
Investigator, Mediator, Arbiter**

**Maria Kecala, Attorney and Child & Family Investigator**

**In Person attendance includes boxed lunch \$25**

**Virtual attendance \$10**

REGISTER AT:

<https://1stjd.org/events/#!event/2024/6/11/cfi-best-practices-presented-by-judge-andrew-poland-jefferson-county-district-judge-magistrate-nic-campbell-jefferson-county-court-stephanie-suzanne-attorney-child-and-family-investigator-mediator-arbiter-maria-kecala-attorney-and-child-family-investigator>



Watch for upcoming dates and events and mark your calendars

## 1st JD Bar Events

\***Golf Event** –Information will be available soon

\***Judges & Awards Reception**  
Saturday, October 26, 2024 at Red Rocks Country Club

The CBA is now sending membership dues renewal notices to you by email. Please watch for those reminders as they may be included with other advertising notices. We are looking forward to working with you this year.

If you have any questions about your membership, contact us at:  
**1ST JD BAR ASSOCIATION**  
[admin@1stjd.org](mailto:admin@1stjd.org)

OR

**CBA**  
[membership@coabar.org](mailto:membership@coabar.org)  
303-860-1115

## We are back! OPEN HOUSE

**Come out and enjoy another great Open House.  
Can't wait to see everyone.**

**Courtesy of James (Jamie) Sheridan, Sheridan Law LLC**  
**JUNE 19, 2024 5:00 TO 7:00**  
**Brick Room**

**1112 Washington Ave., Golden, CO 80401.**

**Register at:**

<https://1stjd.org/events/#!event/2024/6/19/open-house-courtesy-of-james-jamie-sheridan-sheridan-law-llc-june-19-2024-5-00-to-7-00-brick-room-1112-washington-ave-golden>



## The Judges and Awards Reception is working on bringing you a great event Saturday, October 26, 2024 at Red Rocks Country Club

**We need your nominations to make it successful.** Please take a moment to nominate one of your deserving colleagues. Check the qualifications below to assure your nominee meets the qualifications. Questions? Email to [admin@1st.org](mailto:admin@1st.org).

**TO NOMINATE GO TO:** <https://1stjd.org/awards/#levent-list>

### AWARD OF MERIT

Awarded to the **attorney member of the First Judicial District Bar Association** who primarily practices in this District, and has provided distinguished service to the Bar and the community deserving of our Association's highest recognition.

### FREDERICK J. MYERS PROFESSIONALISM AWARD

This award is to be bestowed upon a **member of the First JD Bar Association** to honor that attorney who is a model of civility and respect in the legal profession. This is an award to an attorney who demonstrates outstanding professionalism, which is defined as dedication to service to clients in a civil, respectful manner. This award is intended to honor lawyers who demonstrate exemplary ethical conduct, civility and respect, toward all Parties, Counsel, and the Court. Professionalism and civility foster respect and trust between lawyers, the judiciary, and the public. Professionalism serves the best interests of clients, promotes the efficient resolution of disputes, and improves the administration of justice. **The attorney honored with this award does not need to be a litigator and his/her area of practice is irrelevant.**

**LINDA T. PALMIERI AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO CHILDREN** – This is given in recognition of an individual's demonstration of a superior degree of professionalism and commitment to children, and who has worked actively to advance the welfare of children. **The individual need not be an attorney, but shall have made significant contribution to the children of the First Judicial District, and the legal system as a whole.**

**LISA HARNESS MEMORIAL AWARD**- This person demonstrates a superior degree of professionalism, knowledge and dedication to the **position of a Clerk of the Court and has worked in the judicial system for a least one year.** Persons who have consistently demonstrated their commitment to going above and beyond to assure that the judicial system and the public are served with an exceptional degree of service are appropriate nominees.

**GEORGE HOLLEY YOUNG LAWYER AWARD**- This is given to an **attorney under the age of 37 or in practice for less than 5 years who is a member of the First J.D. Bar** and is deserving of recognition for her or his activities with the Bar, the community and in the practice of law. The recipient should be someone who reflects a strong commitment to the legal profession and to community service.

**CLAUDIA D. MILLER LIBERTY BELL AWARD** This award is given to an individual who has furthered the interaction of the community and the legal system and provided an uncommon contribution to the system or government as a whole.

# JOB POSTINGS

## Colorado Court of Appeals Judge Anthony J. Navarro Not Standing for Re-Election *Nominating Commission to meet in August to select nominees*

The Supreme Court Nominating Commission invites qualified attorneys to apply for a Colorado Court of Appeals vacancy created by the decision of the Hon. Anthony J. Navarro not to stand for retention in 2024. The vacancy will occur on January 14, 2025. The Commission will meet on August 8, 2024, to interview and select nominees for appointment by the governor.

To be eligible for appointment to fill a vacancy, the applicant must be a qualified elector of the State of Colorado and must have been admitted to the practice of law in Colorado for five years. The annual salary for a court of appeals judge is currently \$201,312. A Court of Appeals judge's initial term of office is a provisional term of two years. Thereafter, the incumbent judge, if retained by the voters, has a term of eight years.

Application forms are available from the office of the ex-officio chair of the nominating commission, Justice Monica Márquez, 2 E. 14th Ave., Denver, CO 80203, and the Office of the Court Executive of any of the 22 judicial districts. Applications are also available on the court's home page at [courts.state.co.us/Careers/Judge.cfm](https://courts.state.co.us/Careers/Judge.cfm).

The completed application must be e-mailed to the address listed in the instructions below no later than 4 p.m. on July 15, 2024. Late applications will not be considered. Any person wishing to suggest a candidate to fill the vacancy may do so by letter to be submitted to any member of the nominating commission, with a copy to the ex-officio chair, no later than **4 p.m. on July 8, 2024**.

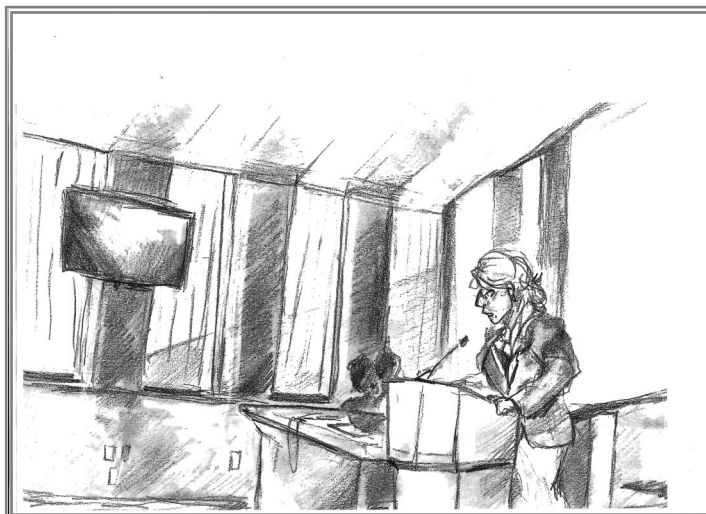
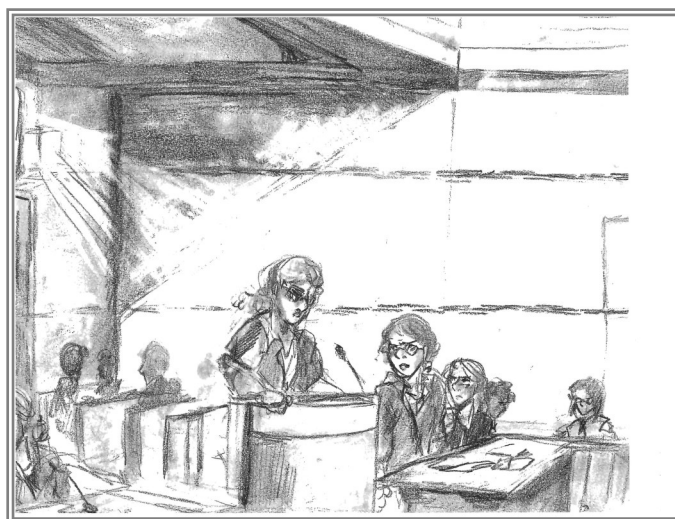
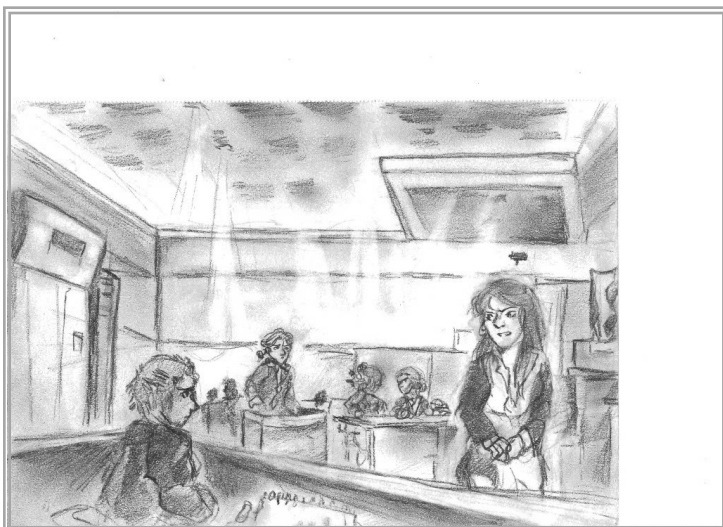
The members of the nominating commission for the Supreme Court are Katina Banks and Ageno Otii of Denver; Peter Gould of Boulder; Lisa Kaufmann of Lyons; Linda Garcia of Pueblo; J. Martelle Daniels of Grand Junction; Deborah Suniga of Greeley; Paul Wiggins of Peyton; John Suthers of Colorado Springs; Marco Chayet of Centennial; C. Omar Montgomery of Aurora; Alejandra Major of Lakewood; Edwin Perlmutter of Arvada; Kevin Mullin of Greeley; Jerome DeHerrera of Westminster; and Danielle Radovich Piper of Golden.

Contact: Suzanne Karrer, Chief Communications Officer  
303-500-8939

[Suzanne.Karrer@judicial.state.co.us](mailto:Suzanne.Karrer@judicial.state.co.us)

Original drawings from the 2024 Jeffco Mock Trial

*By Riley/Sylvie Martin*



## LAW DAY STATS

**271 PEOPLE ASSISTED and 36 LAWYERS VOLUNTEERED**

Civil – 62

Family – 43

Traffic/Crim – 14

Probate – 22

Child Support – 7

Sheriff – 43

Library – 52 (including 15 new library cards)

MVL – 26

Trustee – 2 (this might actually be higher but this is what we knew, as they left early) Next year we are going to add Clerk and Recorder to the roster, and they will share a table with the Trustee.

**Totals since we started in 2013: 3341 people and 990 hours of attorney time donated (if you figure at a minimum of \$350/hour that's \$346,500)**



# PRO BONO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## MVL June Volunteer Opportunities

Do you have a few hours of time to assist an individual or family in need of legal assistance? Volunteer with MVL to help bridge the gap in access to justice for those who could not otherwise afford legal services for their civil legal issues.

### Family Law Court Program

Assist pro se parties with uncomplicated divorce or parental responsibilities cases. No experience necessary. Contact [Patrick Marzolino](#) to volunteer.

#### Friday, June 14

1:00–4:00 p.m. (Client Meetings) | Jefferson County Courthouse

#### Thursday, June 20

8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. (Permanent Orders) | Adams County District Court

1:30–4:30 p.m. (Client Meetings) | Adams County District Court

#### Friday, June 21

9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. (Client Meetings) | Douglas County Courthouse

#### Tuesday, June 25

8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. (Permanent Orders) | Denver City and County Building

1:00–4:00 p.m. (Client Meetings) | Denver City and County Building

#### Friday, June 28

8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. (Permanent Orders) | Arapahoe County District Court

1:00–4:00 p.m. (Client Meetings) | Arapahoe County District Court

### Family Law Advice & Guidance

Family law practitioners needed to provide a single consultation to pro se parties with pre- or post- decree divorce or parental responsibilities cases by focusing on early resolution and problem-solving. Only a 1-hour commitment. Contact [Liz Jones](#) or [Joe O'Leary](#) to volunteer.

#### Thursday, June 6

1:00–4:00 p.m. | Arapahoe County District Court – Staffed by Volunteers from the Department of Law

#### Tuesday, June 11

9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Denver Courthouse

#### Thursday, June 13

9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Adams County District Court

# PRO BONO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## MVL June Volunteer Opportunities

Continued from page 9

### Monday, June 17

9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Virtual

### Friday, June 21

9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Douglas County Courthouse

### Wednesday, June 26

9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Virtual

### Friday, June 28

9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Jefferson County Courthouse—Staffed by Volunteers from [Smith and Cook](#)

## Wills Clinic

Powered by [InterActive Legal](#). Assist seniors in completing various advance planning documents, including a last will and testament, medical and financial powers of attorney and advance health care directives in the Denver Metro Area. No experience is necessary. Contact [Liz Jones](#) to volunteer.

### Wednesday, June 12

1:00–4:00 p.m. | Higgins Plaza | Denver, CO

### Tuesday, June 18

1:00–4:00 p.m. | Aurora Center for Active Adults | Aurora, CO

## Legal Clinic at the Denver Indian Center

Provide legal resources and information to the local Native American community at MVL's monthly walk-in clinic. Contact [Patrick Marzolino](#) to volunteer.

### Wednesday, June 5

6:00–8:00 p.m. | Denver Indian Center | Denver, CO

## Referral Program

Provide full pro bono representation for a variety of civil legal matters, including family law, probate, consumer/financial, and public benefits. Contact [Ivonne Esparza](#) to volunteer.

## Mediation Program

Provide pro-bono mediation to applicants in one of MVL's other programs. Contact [Ivonne Esparza](#) to volunteer.