

PROCLAMATION First Judicial District Bar Association

**MAY
2025**



MISSION STATEMENT

The purposes of the Association shall be to enhance the practice of law within Gilpin and Jefferson County, to promote professionalism and the administration of justice, to encourage legal education, to uphold the honor and dignity of the bar, to cultivate cordial relations among the legal communities of the 1st JD, to perpetuate the history of the profession and the memory of its members, to facilitate and improve the provision of legal services to the community, and to administer the budget for professional, social and community-oriented purposes.

2024-2025 1ST JD BAR ASSOCIATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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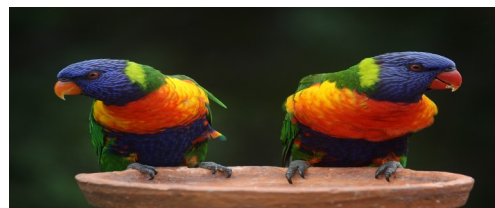
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Presidents Column

Law Firm Updates

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WILL SEARCH-Michael Weinrauch

Member Spotlight—Lauren Hulse

Jeffco Courthouse News

Call for Participation

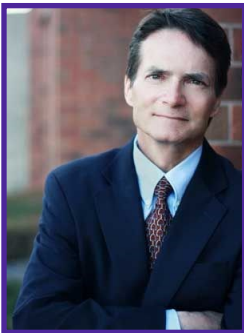
Law Day

Upcoming Events

Golf Event

Judges & Awards Reception

Award Nominations Request



ALAN HENDRIX

PRESIDENTS COLUMN

I thought it might be fun, to see what artificial intelligence would do to my article. So, I ran my words through the following formats, casual, easily readable, friendly and professional. I am using the professional version only so not to impose further. So, one is allegedly professional and the other is A-I (Alan-Intelligence) which could be assessed as Smart Alec-Intelligence. If you have read this far, to let the cat out the bag, as to which is which, the links in the professional version are descriptive, but do not seem to go anywhere.

VERSION ONE

*Sign, sign
Everywhere a sign
Blockin' out the scenery
Breakin' my mind
Do this, don't do that
Can't you read the sign?*

Five Man Electrical Band · 1970

But not much point in putting up a sign that doesn't¹ communicate as effectively as possible.

No one, including litigants, counsel or the bench (or Judge, do you like remands?) likes to be told what to do. We have had some pretty strong examples such as, "you can't make me put a mask on," "you can't make me take my mask off" and "you can't make me get vaccinated."

At a recent neighborhood party, I was talking to a retired United captain, who like many pilots came out of the Air Force. If you've been in the armed services, you know, you get about 12+ shots to get started, covering everything from yellow fever to lockjaw. I asked him about his daughter, who had worked decades as a flight attendant with United. He used profanity to refer to the CEO of the company. The reason for his upset was his daughter was fired because she wouldn't get a Covid shot. Do not tell me what to do.

So, although, it made sense to me when I suggested to some lawyers that they really should get away from Times New Roman, I got back from them a verbal dismissal that they were Times New Roman attorneys. There is back up for that suggestion. It really is pretty old news.

We are in the communication business. On the next summery day, I wouldn't expect to see you in court, as if you were going to the beach. What beach? The impression you want to communicate will not be carried out in a way you would like, if you are wearing cutoff jean shorts, a halter top and flip-flops.

We communicate by our motions, pleadings and orders. Probably best we're not using a crayon, digital or otherwise.

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Take a quick look at most books and you will **find better fonts, right and left side justified and automatic hyphenation**. Don't believe me? For legal pleadings, you can check with the United States Supreme Court, the 7th Circuit, Bryan Garner, Adobe, the ABA, etc., etc., etc. and you will read **"stop using New Times Roman."**ⁱⁱ

i

https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/appellate_advocacy/2024/06/should-we-still-avoid-contractions-in-formal-legal-writing.html

ii

<https://law.marquette.edu/facultyblog/2009/03/why-century-school-book-is-better-for-your-brief-than-times-new-roman/>

<https://legal.thomsonreuters.com/blog/legal-writing-font-matters/>

<https://www.adobe.com/acrobat/business/hub/font-size-and-style-legal-documents.html#:~:text=While%20there's%20no%20one%20%E2%80%9Cofficial,Verdana>

<chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.ca7.uscourts.gov/rules-procedures/Handbook.pdf>

<https://caba.ms/articles/features/font-choice-increasing-the-readability-of-your-briefs>

<https://typographyforlawyers.com/>

VERSION TWO

Effective Communication in Legal Documentation

There is minimal value in creating signage that fails to communicate effectively.

It is widely acknowledged that individuals, including litigants, counsel, and the judiciary, resist prescriptive directives. Recent societal examples demonstrate this resistance, such as the varied responses to mask mandates and vaccination requirements during the pandemic.

At a professional gathering, I engaged with a retired airline captain with military background. Military service typically requires multiple immunizations covering a range of diseases. When inquiring about his daughter's career as a flight attendant, he expressed significant dissatisfaction with the airline's leadership. His displeasure stemmed from his daughter's termination due to vaccination non-compliance. This illustrates the strong aversion many have to mandatory directives.

Similarly, when suggesting to legal colleagues that they reconsider their use of Times New Roman font, I encountered immediate resistance. Despite their dismissal, substantial evidence supports this recommendation.

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As legal professionals, our primary function involves communication. We maintain professional appearance standards in court settings; similarly, our written communications should reflect equivalent professionalism. Our motions, pleadings, and orders serve as communication vehicles that warrant appropriate formatting.

Examination of most published works reveals superior typography practices, including appropriate font selection, justified text alignment, and proper hyphenation. Authoritative sources including the United States Supreme Court, the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals, legal writing expert Bryan Garner, Adobe, and the American Bar Association all recommend abandoning Times New Roman in favor of more effective alternatives.

References:

1. [Should We Still Avoid Contractions in Formal Legal Writing?](#)
2. [Why Century Schoolbook Is Better for Your Brief Than Times New Roman](#)
3. [Legal Writing: Font Matters](#)
4. [Font Size and Style in Legal Documents - Adobe](#)
5. [7th Circuit Court of Appeals Handbook](#)
6. [Font Choice: Increasing the Readability of Your Briefs](#)
7. [Typography for Lawyers](#)



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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT LAUREN HULSE

Looking back at my days as a law student at the University of Denver, I never could have imagined having a career as a family law attorney. But really, who can actually say they were passionate about divorces and custody cases as an idealistic, 25 year old, student?

I graduated law school in 2008, in the midst of a recession, and most new lawyers at that time were trying desperately to find a job. I lucked out and ended up getting a fellowship position through the 18th Judicial District. This entailed me researching case law, writing orders, and watching family law hearings in action. I worked with several judges in Arapahoe County, and I also was blessed to work with Judge Arkin in Douglas County. I learned so much by not only researching and writing orders for the judges, but also by watching attorneys in court and hearing commentary from the judge and her clerks after the hearings. By hearing the perspective of the court, I learned much about the importance of being prepared and being professional long before I became a litigator myself.

Given that I now had insight into family law through the court system, it seemed only natural to find a job in the family law field. After my fellowship was over, I moved to Colorado Springs to work for the Marrison Law Firm. I quickly was given a large case-load of divorces, and learned how to practice family law on the fly. In my first year, I was given an appellate case that ended up going to an oral argument. I remember showing up to the Appellate Court so nervous that I was hoping I might get into a small accident before I walked in the building to delay the oral argument. I also remember Opposing Counsel asking me: "why did Ms. Marrison send you alone?" Despite all of this, it all worked out just fine, much like most (though not all) cases inevitably do in family law.

I received experience through many cases in Colorado Springs, and truly enjoyed my time there and working at the firm. Ms. Marrison, despite sending me to the Appellate Court alone as a brand new attorney, was a great boss to work with and I learned so much about the practice of law from her. I also, without realizing it at the time, learned about what kind of boss I wanted to be and what kind of practice I would want to run in the future.

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Lauren Hulse and husband Adam



Jenny & Austin

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT LAUREN HULSE

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In 2011, my husband and I had our first child, Jenny, and decided it was time to move closer to our extended family in the Denver Metro area. I worked for Modern Family Law for the next three years, gaining more experience and more connections in the family law world. The most memorable thing from my time at Modern Family Law was when Dave, the owner, took us on a team building trip without telling us what we were going to do. In the middle of the bus ride to an undisclosed location, he announced that we would be skydiving, something I was petrified to do. My husband, Adam, and my father urged me to do it, and Mom asked me not to, telling me I had a child to live for. Ultimately, I did skydive and it was an incredible experience.

In 2014, I had my son, Austin and shortly thereafter I had developed the desire to start my own business. I reached out to Ms. Marrison for some advice, and with a big leap of faith I started the Hulse Law Firm when my son was only 6 months old. Looking back, that was probably a crazy stupid thing to do, but it has been great for our family and has worked out well. My husband quit his job in construction for a period of time to help me grow the business and ensure that I could balance running a business and practicing law at the same time. He also was so supportive and encouraging, which is much needed when you take the leap of starting a firm.

I continue to take on many divorce and custody cases, and currently have four attorneys and staff working for me. Although it has been hard work, it has also been rewarding and allows me flexibility with my children that I likely wouldn't have working for someone else. My favorite part of my job is not only helping clients, but I also love interacting with everyone at the office each day. Although family law can be stressful, as I tell my children, it is absolutely never boring. My kids are now in their last week of 4th and 7th grade, and we spend most of our free time driving to sports, boating and doing other water activities as a family, traveling, and playing with our dogs, cats, and chickens at home. I hope to continue running and growing my firm, and looking out for whatever new adventure life holds for us.



JEFFCO COURTHOUSE

Call for Participation: Legal Services Directory for Low- and Moderate-Income Pro Se Parties

The 1st JD Bar Association, in collaboration with the 1st Judicial District Access to Justice Committee, is seeking attorneys and licensed legal paraprofessionals (LLPs) who are interested in being included in the *Legal Services Directory for Pro Se Parties with Low or Moderate Income*. This directory features legal professionals who are willing to consider clients' financial circumstances when determining fees and/or offer unbundled legal services. It is available on the [Colorado Judicial Branch 1st JD webpage](#) on the Colorado State Courts website and is also distributed at the Courthouse. If you would like to be included in the directory, please contact Anthony Pereira at apereira@denbar.org and provide the following information:

- Full Name
- Firm Name
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- Firm Website (if applicable)
- Practice Areas
- Whether you consider financial circumstances and/or offer unbundled services (you must offer at least one)
- Colorado Supreme Court Registration Number
- Please indicate if you are an LLP

We appreciate your commitment to increasing access to justice in our community.



JEFFCO COURTHOUSE

LAW DAY MAY 1, 2025

A BIG thank you to all who participated in the Law Day event! Not only are we thankful for you all, but the public loved interacting with the other community tables and we received a lot of positive feedback about everyone. Thank you to the planning committee as well.

We could not do this without you.

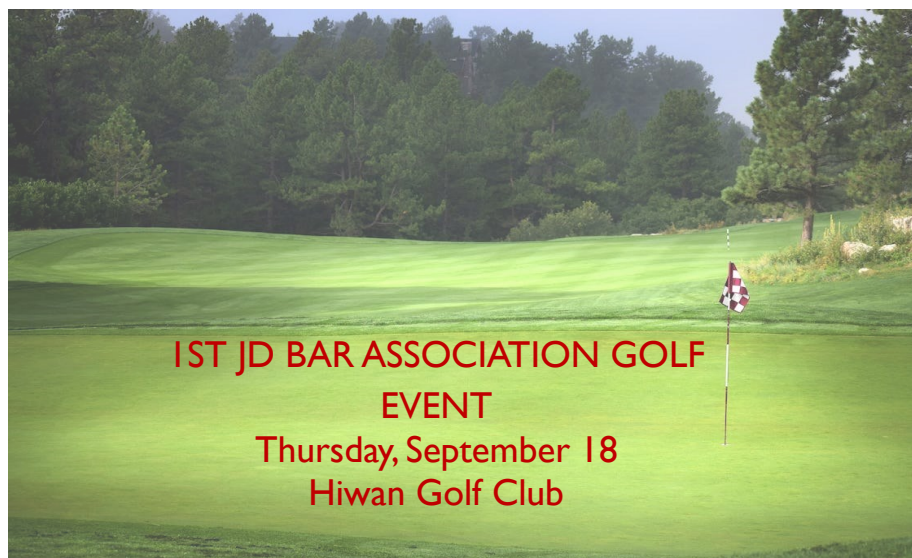
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Sofie Peralta
Anthony Pereira
Chris Radeff
Yolanda Redmond
Andrew Schultz
Brigitte Smith
Katie Smith
Lyndsay Smith
Mirna Smith
Magistrate Marianne Tims

Another successful Law Day on May 1. We almost matched our numbers from October - this year we had **381 contacts!!**

Breakdown:

- Ask a Deputy - 61
- Metro Volunteer Lawyers - 17
- Family Tree - 32
- C3 - 50
- Child Support Enforcement - 10
- Jeffco Library - 57 (plus 7 new library cards)
- General help from CRC - 9
- Traffic/ Criminal attorneys - 22
- Family Law attorneys - 47
- Civil attorneys - 57
- Probate attorneys - 19

UPCOMING EVENTS



JUDGES AND AWARDS RECEPTION

We are looking forward to another great Judges and Awards Reception on Saturday, October 11 at Red Rocks Country Club. Please help us assure that we have nominees for all awards.

Celebrate those special people we see make a difference

MAKE A NOMINATION

Description, qualifications and nominating form for each award at the link below.

<https://1stjd.org/awards/#!event-lis>

AWARD OF MERIT

FREDERICK J. MYERS PROFESSIONALISM AWARD

LINDA T. PALMIERI AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO CHILDREN

LISA HARNESS MEMORIAL AWARD

GEORGE HOLLEY YOUNG LAWYER AWARD

CLAUDIA D. MILLER LIBERTY BELL AWARD