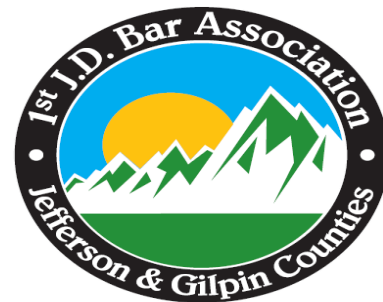


PROCLAMATION First Judicial District Bar Association

**JANUARY
2026**



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.

2025-2026 1ST JD BAR ASSOCIATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Presidents Column

Member Update Travis Whitson

Member Profile **Becky Clark**

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CLE'S

February 19, 2026

**THE ART OF THE ASK:
DIRECT AND CROSS FOR THE MODERN
LITIGATOR**

&

March 10, 2026

**GUARDIANSHIP TRANSITION FROM DR TO PR
ONCE CHILDREN TURN 18**

Website– Did you know?

Mock Trial **Friday, February 20, 2026**

&

Friday, February 27, 2026

Member Get Together Pictures



PRESIDENTS COLUMN

JOSEPH MAHER

Happy New Year from the 1st JD Bar Association!

The 1st JD hit the ground running in 2026 with a great event in January at New Terrain Brewery. There were new faces, judicial officers, members of the board, and other members, along with donations collected for the Golden community. We are looking forward to February's gathering on February 17, 2026 at 6:00 at Great Divide Brewery, 7260 West Alaska Drive, Lakewood, CO 80226, along with March's event in Arvada.

Personally, I'm not saying I'm bad at resolutions, but I've already achieved my goal of not having any. That said, my goal for the coming year is to continue expanding the 1st JD Bar Association's efforts to engage bar members, grow membership, and involve the community. If you have any ideas or are interested in being involved (or more involved), please do not hesitate to reach out.

Here's to seeing you in February.

Member Update

Travis Whitson of Whitson Law Firm and a 1st JD Bar member and Co-Chair of the Awards and Judges Reception, recently lost his home, spouse and child to a fire. A Gofundme account has been created for Travis to help him in the short term while working his way through the insurance process. If you would like to contribute, the following is the link to Gofundme. <https://link.edgepilot.com/s/1a23e2e9/NKvlfTayWUej1cLmq9P5WQ?u=https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-travis-rebuild-after-the-whitson-family-house-fire>

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www.mrcco.org

Located in Conifer Colorado, Mountain Resource Center is the only agency along the Highway 285 corridor that provides multiple, related services for low-income Western Jefferson and Eastern Park County residents.



ADVERTISING

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know you can utilize the 1st JD Bar Association website to:

- ♦ Create a business profile
- ♦ Advertise your firm
- ♦ Find and register for upcoming events
- ♦ Post career opportunities

While you are here take a look around the site.

FREE ADS for 1st JD Bar Association members

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GENESEE LAW OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE

*One opening in a space with
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*602 Park Point Drive #240
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*Large office furnished or unfurnished with
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*This office is right next-door to the Chart
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Contact Deborah at 303-273-2923

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT BECKY CLARK

When asked to reflect on my history, I find that I, like so many attorneys, have quite a few chapters.

I am originally from Nashville, Tennessee. I spent my adolescent years debating with adults on various topics. I attended a high school with strict dress code requirements. I tested, argued, and won against the school shoe code, which had a typo. This was the first time anyone ever asked if I wanted to be an attorney. The rest was history.

At 18, I left Nashville and headed off to Southern California for my undergrad years at the University of Redlands. During my years in Redlands, I did two semesters abroad, one in Salzburg, Austria, with a focus on the Holocaust, and the second in Washington, DC, where I studied criminal justice. I proceeded to attend law school at American University's Washington College of Law.

After law school, I was licensed in both D.C. and Virginia, and began my career in civil litigation. I then began my family. My daughter was born in Virginia, and when she was one year old, we moved to Colorado. My son soon followed, being born here in Colorado. When my children were young, I worked in the school system, as many mothers do. I have been a front desk assistant, school nurse, and special educational assistant. I also volunteered as a CASA, wanting to keep some touchstone in the legal system, and have some level of advocacy during the time I was raising my children.

When my children were older, I began to look for a return to the law and a potential legal practice. Given my work in the school system and as a CASA, family law seemed like a natural fit. I began working for Peter Ely, Esq., a sole practitioner who was headed towards retirement here in Colorado. Once licensed, I grew in confidence, experience, base knowledge and practice in family law, while shadowing until Peter's retirement.

I was subsequently hired by Travis Whitson and joined Whitson Family Law. With a full heart and caseload, I have been working and advocating for my clients in this practice. My love of finding that perfect case, statute, or rule continues to be my favorite part of advocacy.

My now grown children refer to me as Mom, Esq. My daughter just graduated from CU Boulder, where she studied astronomy. My son is a Sophomore at San Diego State University, where he is in the business school. I spend my weekends visiting my kids, practicing yoga, and playing with my two dogs, Lili and Rico.

There are many chapters to the story of how I arrived here in the 1st JD at this point in my career. Those chapters and that experience are what shapes my practice and focus on representing my clients. It is a privilege to work in this system and as an advocate. I do not take that role lightly and look forward to the next chapter here in Colorado.





1ST JD BAR ASSOCIATION CLE

THE ART OF THE ASK: DIRECT AND CROSS FOR THE MODERN LITIGATOR

Presented by
Jefferson County Court Magistrate Cara Sweet

Thursday, February 19, 2026

**Jefferson County Courthouse
Faye Griffith Meeting Room
12:00-1:00 pm**

1st JD Bar Association members In Person/Virtual FREE
Non 1st JD Bar Association members In Person/Virtual \$10
[Register here](#)

<https://1stjd.org/events/#!event/2026/2/19/cle-presented-by-magistrate-sweet-the-art-of-the-ask-direct-and-cross-for-the-modern-litigator>

1ST JD BAR ASSOCIATION CLE



GUARDIANSHIP TRANSITION FROM DR TO PR ONCE CHILDREN TURN 18

Presented by
Lisa Blattner, Lisa Blattner Law Firm
Josh Murphy, Glatstein & O'Brien LLP

Analysis of the intersection of domestic relations cases addressing the allocation of parental responsibilities and guardianship proceedings involving children who were previously the subject of domestic cases but who have aged out and require care beyond the age of 18. Tips for family law practitioners in advising their clients regarding how to best prepare for a probate/guardianship proceeding when the client's child(ren) require ongoing care.

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

**Jefferson County Courthouse
Faye Griffith Meeting Room
12:00-1:00 pm**

1st JD Bar Association members In Person/Virtual FREE
Non 1st JD Bar Association members In Person/Virtual \$10
[Register here](#)

<https://1stjd.org/events/#!event/2026/3/10/guardianship-transition-from-dr-to-pr-once-children-turn-18-presented-by-lisa-blattner-lisa-blattner-law-firm-josh-murphy-glatstein-o-8217-brien-llp>

MOCK TRIAL

Mock trial will be held on **Friday 2/20/26** and **Friday 2/27/26**. Two rounds each day. Rounds start at 9am and 1pm.

Check in is in Courtroom 130 at 8:30am and 12:30 respectively. It is important to check in Courtroom 130 thirty minutes before the rounds start. Volunteers will receive materials and courtroom assignments at check-in.

Refreshments and lunch provided. Please indicate which round(s) you will volunteer for and whether you want to be a presiding judge or a scoring panelist

Please reply to 1stJDMockTrialVolunteers@judicial.state.co.us



The Board Meeting/Meet & Greet was a success. More than 25 people attended at the New Terrain Brewery.

The 1st JD Bar Association is coming to you. Come and mingle with the attorney bar & bench members of the board for a meet and greet. To make events more accessible and bring them to your backyard, we will be hosting social gatherings throughout the 1st Judicial District in the new year. We hope that you will join us at all or one of the social gatherings and will bring other members of your office or other colleagues.

Tuesday, February 17
Board meeting 5:30 to 6:00
Open Get Together at 6:00
Location will be posted soon.



JOB POSTINGS

Attorney Position at Pickard Law

Pickard Law is seeking a dedicated and motivated Attorney to join our growing firm. This is an excellent opportunity for an attorney with a passion for client service and a desire to build a thriving legal career within a supportive community environment. We are looking for a professional who is committed to providing exceptional representation and upholding the firm's reputation for excellence.

Responsibilities:

- Represent clients in various legal matters from inception to resolution in the areas of domestic, partition, and general civil litigation.
- Communicate effectively with clients, opposing counsel, and court personnel.
- Manage a caseload efficiently and meet deadlines.
- Act as a positive and professional representative of Pickard Law in the community.

Qualifications:

- Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from an accredited law school.
- Active and in good standing with the Colorado Bar.
- **A minimum of one year of experience as a practicing attorney.**
- Strong legal research, writing, and analytical skills.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- A strong work ethic and a desire for professional growth.

Compensation & Benefits:

- **Salary Range:** The base salary for this position is **\$84,000 annually**, with the potential for additional compensation through performance-based bonuses.
- **Bonuses:** Bonuses are designed to reward hard work and are directly tied to your contributions and the firm's success.
- **Growth and Flexibility:** The compensation and position are structured to provide significant flexibility and opportunity for an attorney who is motivated to grow their practice and build a strong professional reputation.
- **Benefits:** Additional compensation will include eligibility for the firm's health insurance plan (your portion paid 100% by Pickard Law), CLE (Continuing Legal Education) reimbursement, Short term and long term disability, life insurance, etc.

How to Apply:

Interested candidates should submit a resume, and cover letter on a **physically signed letter** to our office manager, Isobel Tutchton at Isobel@lawpickard.com. This firm is a great place to grow your practice, learn new skills, and significantly advance your practice while still receiving a high level of compensation through the incentive bonus structure. We would love to have a new addition that really wants to learn and grow professionally, and we equally have a desire to help you do that.