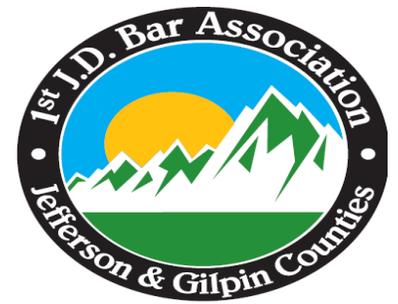


# PROCLAMATION First Judicial District Bar Association

**MARCH  
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

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
Joseph Maher, President Elect  
Magistrate Nic Campbell, President Elect  
Ali Brady, Secretary Treasurer

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Courtney Baldwin  
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PO Box 1733  
Wheat Ridge, CO 80034  
303-279-0753 Message and Fax  
Web Site 1stjd.org

Presidents Column -Joe will be back in April

Bench Bar Committee Session for the  
Criminal Bar

Join the 1st JD Bar Assn. Board of Trustees

**ADVERTISING JAMS  
OFFICE SPACE GENESEE  
UTILIZE THE 1ST JD  
WEBSITE**

Member Profile—Jay Pickard

Registration Opens for Your Honor: Journey to  
the Bench Symposium

Moon Over Mile High Casino for a Cause -MVL

**NEW** For your information: *A Summary of a  
recent CLE -Guardianship Transition from DR to  
PR once children turn 18*

Mock Trial -Post event Thank You

Law Day—May 6 —Please Volunteer

Call for 2026 Bar Foundation Grant Applications

**JOB POSTINGS Smith & Cook  
Pickard Law**



## PRESIDENTS COLUMN

### JOSEPH MAHER

Joe's article will return in April.

## BENCH BAR COMMITTEE SESSION FOR THE CRIMINAL BAR

The Bench/Bar Committee will be hosting a noon meeting in Courtroom 430 on Wednesday, April 15, 2026. Topics provided from the DA & PD offices.

**Cost In Person/Virtual Free -Refreshments provided**

Register here: <https://1stjd.org/events/#!event/2026/4/15/bench-bar-committee-hosting-a-noon-meeting-in-courtroom-430-on-4-15-26-for-the-criminal-bar-topics-from-da-apos-s-pd-apos-s-included>

## ***Join the Board of Directors of the 1st JD Bar Association***

- ◆ ***Expand your networking opportunities***
- ◆ ***Share your experience and expertise with the board***
- ◆ ***Time commitment–1 hour monthly in-person/virtual meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:30 pm***
- ◆ ***Term commitment–2 year term with option to extend***

*We are looking for interested people to get more involved in the organization! Being involved in the bar association is a great way to meet other lawyers along with the judicial bench. The nominating committee meets in April to consider appointments. If you are interested in a position, please send a letter outlining your interest along with a resume to: [admin@1stjd.org](mailto:admin@1stjd.org)*

***Deadline April 1, 2026***

# ADVERTISING

## NEUTRALS YOU KNOW PROFESSIONALS YOU CAN TRUST

Samuel Gordon, Esq.  
Hon. John P. Leopold  
Hon. William F. Downes  
Collie E. Norman, Esq.  
Kenneth R. Bennington, Esq.  
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Jan R. Spies, Esq.

410 17th Street, #2440 • Denver, CO 80202  
JAMSDENVER.COM • 303.534.1254



### GENESEE LAW OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE

*One opening in a space with  
four attorneys*

*602 Park Point Drive #240  
Golden, CO 80401*

*Large office furnished or unfurnished with  
full windows and a west view of front  
range. 15 minute drive to Jeffco. 25  
minute drive to Denver District. Phone  
and Internet provided. \$800 monthly.*

*This office is right next-door to the Chart  
House. Great happy hour.*

*Contact Deborah at 303-273-2923*

### 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

## MEMBER PROFILE JAY PICKARD



Jay Pickard

Hello First Judicial District!

What a joy it is to work with you all. Here is a little bit about me.

I am originally from Colorado (I almost never use the term “Native”) attending both public and private school through elementary and high school, ultimately graduating from Mullen High School. My undergraduate years took me to the beach to attend Pepperdine University in Malibu, California. I somehow managed to graduate *cum laude* (although just barely, and in fact I was so close I never got the special cords like the other kids) with a degree in International Business and a minor in Sociology. However, I’ve always loved Colorado and returned. Ultimately, I went straight into Law School at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. I am grateful such ended up being the location of my legal training. I made many friends and acquaintances who I still come across regularly. I also learned a lot about the practical aspects of the law, and had great teachers and mentors along the way. Part of the reason I got to know so many people in law school was because I assisted as the academic tutor for the contracts class my second and third year. I feel as though my brain finally developed in law school, and excelled in ways receiving accolades that big firms hiring associates like to see, but don’t warrant mentioning amongst friends here.



Jay & Mr. Joe Pickard

My professional journey began not in a firm, but as corporate counsel. I served as in-house counsel for HealthTrans, a national healthcare IT company. That Company grew from about 70 people when I started, to becoming a part of United Healthcare after I left. It was fun, and I learned a lot. But the most valuable thing by far, was my boss and mentor, Greg Mayers. I learned the most from him, and am forever grateful for the time and energy that he poured into me.

In 2014, I turned a new page by joining Pickard Law, P.C. This transition made sense, because I was going to work for the next greatest mentor I knew, my father. This transition allowed me to blend my corporate back-

ground with a more personal type of advocacy – a point I particularly enjoy to this day. Today, my practice sits at the intersection of complex civil litigation, less complex family owned business issues, family law, real estate, estate planning and probate. I helped with a CLE on partitions, and then wrote an article in the Colorado Lawyer, and that seems to have become a major focus of mine. I find partition cases complex, but discernable, and measurably helpful in people’s day to day lives.

Outside of the office, I have a passion for the game of golf, but don’t get to play it as often as I might like. I don’t lament that though, as my time is usually positively filled with great adventures with my wife and two kids (girls ages 12 and 10). My family is fairly involved in our church, likes to get outdoors (and I do count flying a kite as getting outdoors) or up to the mountains whenever it works out, and we love to host friends or even relatively new strangers we meet along the way at our home for dinner.

I have considered it a great honor to be a lawyer here in Colorado and particularly in Jefferson County. I am grateful for every client who chooses my firm, and every opportunity we have to settle the matter or advocate in front of a judge. If I can ever be of assistance with any issue, I hope someone else feels free to cold call me, just like I have of the many great practitioners here. Thank you.

## Registration Opens for Your Honor: Journey to the Bench Symposium

**DENVER** – Registration is now open for the **Your Honor: Journey to the Bench symposium** to be held on **Friday, May 22, 2026, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the Colorado Bar Association at 1290 N. Broadway, Denver, CO 80203.

The event is hosted by the Judicial Officer Outreach Program and sponsored by the Denver Bar Association. This dynamic, in-person symposium is specifically designed for attorneys and aspiring judges preparing to pursue a judicial appointment within the next 1–3 years, as well as current judges exploring opportunities on a higher court.

There will be seven engaging sessions offered that feature judicial officers from across the state as they share their experiences, practical advice, insights, and proven best practices:

1. Behind the Robe: A Day in the Life of a Judge
2. Building Bridges: Establishing Connections for Judicial Success
3. The Judicial Nomination Process: Getting Your Name in the Room
4. Silencing Self-Doubt: Overcoming Imposter Syndrome
5. Beyond Your Specialty: Learning New Areas of Law
6. Ethics in Action: Upholding Integrity on the Bench
7. The Judicial Family: Balancing Work and Life as a Judge

The event will also include Judges in a Flash: Speed Networking with the Bench, a high-energy session where attendees connect directly with judicial officers, ask questions, exchange ideas, and gain valuable insights in a dynamic, structured setting.

“Judicial leadership begins with intention, preparation, and a deep commitment to serve. Your Honor: Journey to the Bench Symposium provides an honest and practical look at the path to the judiciary,” said Nga Vương-Sandoval, judicial officer outreach program lead.

**Space is limited. Register by 5:00 p.m. on May 12, 2026, to secure your spot at this free, engaging, and interactive event. Registration closes once capacity is reached, which may occur prior to the registration deadline.**

To register, visit: <https://forms.office.com/g/OTC9jMV3CK>

For questions, please contact Nga Vương-Sandoval, judicial officer outreach program lead at [nga.vuongsandoval@judicial.state.co.us](mailto:nga.vuongsandoval@judicial.state.co.us).



METRO VOLUNTEER  
LAWYERS

# MOON OVER MILE HIGH

*Casino for a Cause*

April 25, 2026



## It's Not Too Late to Sponsor!

The 2026 MVL Spring Soirée is ready to return on **April 25, 2026**, at the **DaVita Event Space & Outdoor Patio**

Just in case you missed it, sponsorship opportunities are available for this year's MVL Spring Soirée event: Moon over Mile High (with the Casino for a Cause after event as well)! Beyond the recognition and prominent presentation of your branding throughout the event, you'll also be **supporting access to justice throughout the Denver Metro area.**

Check out the remaining sponsorship opportunities by clicking the link below:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/0199e877321e7489bbc43241543c277c>





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

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

◀ For your information: *A Summary of a recent CLE's.  
Article by Courtney Baldwin, Esq.*

On March 10, Lisa Blatner and Josh Murphy presented a CLE for the First J.D. Bar Association which analyzed when guardianship appointments are appropriate and discussed the steps necessary for guardianship proceedings. This was an informative and engaging CLE regarding the basics of guardianship appointments in probate proceedings.

This CLE discussed that guardianship appointments can be utilized for children who were previously the subject of allocation of parental rights or dissolution of marriage proceedings but who have reached the age of eighteen such that the domestic relations action can no longer issue orders governing parenting time or decision-making responsibilities. In some cases, these adult children require ongoing care as they are unable to manage their own affairs due to mental capacity limitations. It may be appropriate for family law practitioners to advise their clients of their right to petition for guardianship appointment over their incapacitated adult children through the probate court.

That said, guardianship appointments are not appropriate in all cases as these appointments are highly restrictive in nature. It may be that an alternate option, such as establishing medical and financial powers of attorney, is appropriate if the prospective respondent/ward is not incapacitated in a manner which warrants the appointment of a guardian. In other cases, attorneys might advise their clients of the benefits of entering into a supportive decision-making agreement as discussed in C.R.S. § 15-14-801 *et seq.*

In the event that guardianship appointment is appropriate, the proposed guardian must be over the age of twenty-one and must submit a background check to the court, along with other documents. Any interested person as defined by C.R.S. § 15-10-201 can petition for a guardianship appointment, and guardianship can be limited in nature so as to minimize the restrictions placed upon the Respondent/Ward. Parties who will be petitioning for appointment as the guardian should be prepared to set forth a brief statement regarding the alleged incapacity of the Respondent and to submit medical documentation, such as medical records or a written statement from a licensed physician, evidencing the existence, nature, and severity of the incapacity.

In a guardianship proceeding, a court visitor will be appointed to interview the Respondent as well as other interested parties. The court visitor will issue a report with recommendations concerning the requested guardianship appointment to the court, and the petitioner must then demonstrate the need for the proposed guardianship by clear and convincing evidence. Court visitors are in high demand and are not required to be a licensed attorney. If interested, you are encouraged to contact the court in your county to determine the steps to apply to be a court visitor in these cases.

## MOCK TRIAL 2026

1. Lakewood A
2. D'Evelyn A
3. Lakewood B

Professionalism award: D'Evelyn A



The Mock Trial Committee is grateful to all who contributed to the Mock Trial on February 20 and 27, 2026.

	Rebecca	Adams		Judge	Russell	Klein
	Cassandra	Baird			Veronica	Mabry-James
	Sara	Bridges			Katherine	Mackey
Magistrate	Nic	Campbell			Joe	Maher
	Allison	Clark			Kevin	Massaro
	Emily	Cobb			April	Murtha
	Katherine	Decker			Ian	Myers
	Meghan	Dill-Meinzer			Tracy	Naviaux
	Roseanne	Elkins			Diane	Nichols
	Steve	Elkins			Toni-Anne	Nunez
	Michelle	Foust			Angelina	Page
	Abby	French			Nicholas	Page
	Bob	Frie			Zak	Phillips
	Debbie	Gabriel			Michael	Pisney
Magistrate	Sara	Garrido		Judge	Andrew	Poland
	Melissa	Garscin			Daniel	Pomerantz
	William	Groh			Ellie	Rogers
	Jennifer	Haun			Cara	Rogers
	Michael	Hegarty			Meggín	Rutherford
	AJ	Henley			Louisa	Schlieben
	Donette	Hickson			Melinda	Schlinsog
	Guy	Humphries			Kelly	Schulten
Judge	Sueanna	Johnson			Maddie	Scudder
	Julia	Johnson		Magistrate	Cara	Sweet
	Aaron	Jones			Henry	Trembath
	Sarah	Jones			Tom	Walsh
	Greg	Kass			Joe	Ward
	Matt	Kellond		Judge	Christopher	Zenisek

# *Celebrate Law Day*

*Wednesday,  
May 6, 2026*

*9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.*

*in the atrium*

*100 Jefferson County  
Pkwy in Golden*

**FREE and open  
to the public on  
a first come,  
first served  
basis**

Contact the First Judicial  
District Court Resource

Center for more  
information at

720-772-2501

or by email

[01selfhelp@judicial.state.co.us](mailto:01selfhelp@judicial.state.co.us)



**MEET WITH AN ATTORNEY  
ABOUT YOUR LEGAL ISSUE**



**NATIONAL LAW DAY**

***IN THE ATRIUM OF THE  
JEFFERSON COMBINED COURTS  
AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING***

**Talk with an attorney for 15 minutes  
about your legal issue.**

Attorneys will be available in the following areas:

- Divorce/Custody
- Child Support
- Tenant/Landlord
- Criminal/Traffic/Juvenile
- Eviction
- Small Claims
- Cases about Money
- Probate

Also featuring: Jeffco Library, Metro Volunteer Lawyers, Ask-a-Sheriff Deputy,  
Public Trustee, Fatherhood Program and PorchLight

Sponsored by First Judicial District Bar Association in conjunction with the First Judicial District

**NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED**



## CALL FOR 2026 BAR FOUNDATION GRANT APPLICATIONS!

Are you aware of a vital local program or project suffering from funding gaps?

Are there important programs or projects near you in need of additional funding?

**Refer them to The Colorado Bar Foundation Grants Program!**

The CBF awarded \$461,622 in 2025 with an average grant size of \$5,700!

### Grant Applications Accepted through June 18, 2026

The Colorado Bar Foundation grants support statewide, regional, or local projects with demonstrated community needs. The grants program specifically seeks to support nonprofit applicants who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- **Assistance with the provision or improved delivery of legal services**, particularly to individuals in marginalized communities, by supporting the representation of individuals in court proceedings, furnishing advice to pro se litigants, and disseminating general information about various legal matters (including, but not limited to, domestic relations proceedings, probate and trust administration, estate planning, immigration, evictions, and bankruptcy)
- **Promotion of law-related education** to the public by supporting organizations that provide information and education about the American legal/justice system to community organizations and school children of all ages
- **Improvement of the administration of justice** by supporting courts and judicial officers, delivering accessible information about the Colorado court system, providing child care for litigants and jurors, and assisting law enforcement and the judiciary in performing their functions

We recommend that prospective applicants review the current [Annual Report](#) for detailed information on average grant award size, funding priorities, and previous grantees. See more information on [program eligibility](#).

Questions? Don't hesitate to contact Colorado Bar Foundation Manager [Elizabeth Akalin](#).

Apply <https://www.coloradobarfoundation.org/Grants>

# JOB POSTINGS

## **Legal Assistant/Paralegal Position at Smith & Cook, LLC Private practice emphasizing litigation in family law, criminal defense, general civil litigation, including personal injury, and estate planning**

### **Role Description**

This is a full-time, on-site Legal Assistant role located in Littleton, CO. The Legal Assistant will be responsible for supporting attorneys through legal document preparation, organizing and maintaining legal files, conducting research, managing correspondence, and facilitating effective communication with clients and stakeholders. Additional responsibilities include performing general administrative tasks and ensuring the smooth operations of the legal office.

### **Qualifications**

- Proficiency in Legal Document Preparation and familiarity with legal terminology and processes preferred
  - Comprehensive knowledge of legal practices and principles preferred
  - Strong Communication skills with the ability to communicate effectively with clients, legal teams, and other professionals
  - Experience in Administrative Assistance and office organization
  - Prior experience or training as a Legal Assistant preferred
- Strong attention to detail, organizational, and time-management skills

### **Compensation and Benefits**

Base pay for this position will vary depending on experience between \$50,000 to \$65,000. Additional compensation includes:

- participation in the firm's health insurance plan (monthly premium 100% paid by employer)
- participation in 401(k) with maximum employer matching and immediate vesting

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Qualified candidates should submit a resume and cover letter to Steve Cook at [steve@smithandcook.com](mailto:steve@smithandcook.com).

# 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 Tutchtton at [Isobel@lawpickard.com](mailto: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.