



The SUMMATION

501 Main Street, Suite 101
Evansville, IN 47708

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January 2026

The Monthly Newsletter of the Evansville Bar Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Meagan Brien

Making Your Mark: Community Involvement in 2026



As we begin the new year, I encourage each of us to look beyond our offices and courtrooms and consider how we can make a meaningful impact in our community. The legal profession holds a unique position of trust and influence, and with that comes both opportunity and responsibility.

One of the most immediate ways to serve is through the Volunteer Lawyer Program. On **January 19, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**, the VLP will host a "Clear the Queue" event and is seeking attorneys to help resolve pending matters for clients who cannot afford representation. Just a few hours can be life-changing—whether it means finalizing a protective order, clarifying a custody arrangement, or resolving a consumer debt issue. The VLP provides training, mentorship, and malpractice coverage, making participation accessible even outside your usual practice area.

If January does not work, the VLP's *Talk to a Lawyer* programs run throughout the year and offer flexible opportunities for brief consultations. These and other pro bono opportunities are regularly advertised in *The Summation*, with additional information available through the [VLP](#), [Legal Aid Society](#), [Indiana Legal Services](#), and [Pro Bono Indiana, Inc.](#)

Meaningful involvement can also begin within the EBA itself. Serving on a committee, chairing a section, or stepping into leadership through the Board of Directors of the Evansville Bar Association or the Evansville Bar Foundation allows members to help shape our profession locally while strengthening collegiality and leadership within our bar. For more information, contact Julie Moore Holtz at julie@evvbar.org or (812) 463-3201.

Beyond the EBA, our community is filled with nonprofits and civic organizations that need legal insight and thoughtful leadership. Board service not only allows you to give back, but also expands professional networks, offers new perspectives, and develops skills that carry back into your practice.

The common thread is simple: our community needs our skills. Whether you can commit to ongoing pro bono work, periodic meetings, or a single event, your contribution matters. Community involvement reminds us why many of us entered this profession—to solve problems and help people navigate difficult circumstances.

The EBA and our community partners are here to help you find the right fit. Whether through pro bono service, EBA leadership, or nonprofit governance, there is a place for your talents. I encourage each of you to get involved in a way that is meaningful to you and makes a real difference in our community.



INFile to Launch Spring 2026

Are you and your firm ready?

The Evansville Bar Association has been following the development of INfile, the Indiana Supreme Court's new custom e-filing system, and we want to keep our members informed as the transition approaches. You may have seen prior updates from the Supreme Court about the anticipated rollout, and the current timeline reflects a statewide launch in Spring 2026.

We know how critical a reliable e-filing system is to your daily practice, and the EBA is committed to supporting our local legal community through this change. In the coming months, the Association plans to partner with the Indiana Office of Court Technology to offer CLE and informational sessions focused on INfile to help our entire legal community prepare for the transition and understand what to expect before the system goes live.

The existing free e-filing service at efile.incourts.gov will remain available until INfile officially launches.

VLP News

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

VLP is bringing in the new year with a ***Clear the Queue*** event on MLK Day. MLK day is a national day of service and recognizes the pursuit of creating the beloved communities that we all strive for. We encourage you to volunteer with us this MLK day, January 19, from 11am to 1pm at the EBA to help answer legal questions for those in need.

We will be using the Indiana.freelegalanswers.org platform to join the efforts of other volunteers and bar associations to do our part. Attorneys can use Indiana.freelegalanswers.org to answer common legal questions for people at any time throughout the year from almost anywhere. This event is an opportunity to show up and help with other volunteer attorneys. All you need to bring is a laptop and your kindness. It helps us reduce the large backlog of questions and keep up with the needs of our communities.

If you are interested in joining us let me know! You can also use the attached volunteer sign up sheet to sign up for this event, talk to a lawyer events if you haven't done so, and other opportunities. I can help get you signed up and prepared to help. Happy New Year! Let's make this a good one.

Join us to
Clear the Queue
Monday, January 19
11am-1pm
EBA Office

EBA
EVANSVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION

EBA Women In Law Section
Night of Chocolate
Tuesday, February 10, 2026
5:00-6:30
5:30pm - Special Presentation by Scott Wylie

Mo's House
1114 Parrett Street - Downtown Evansville

RSVP at (812) 463-3201
or ashley@evvbar.org

Join us for
Breakfast with the Bench & Bar
All are invited to attend!

Tuesday, February 24, 2026
Drop by anytime 7:00-8:30am
This event is casual with no agenda, no CLE
just breakfast with judges and lawyers!

Evansville Bar Association
501 Main Street, Suite 101



Bob Carithers
President

Happy New Year to all of you from the Evansville Bar Foundation board members, who wish all of you a healthy, happy, and rewarding year in 2026. We also say a hearty "thank you" to all of you whose donations enabled the EBF to exceed it's 2025 goal by mid-December.

Since this is a new year, may I offer a suggested resolution? Don't we all have too much stuff, really? One of our supporters sells their unnecessary items for which there is some demand via eBay; and part of the sale proceeds—through the PayPal Giving Fund—is donated directly to the Foundation. Could this be a win-win idea for you by making someone in your home happy while making more funds available for our profession to support worthwhile efforts in our community?

Again, may 2026 be great year for everyone.

**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: THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone contributing in response to the Law Library Foundation's annual appeal! Your generous donations and ongoing commitment to the Foundation and the William H. Miller Law Library ensure that the people in this community have "...a quality law library readily accessible to all...at a substantial economic savings to everyone." In addition to this mission, the goals of the Foundation are to preserve, maintain, and enhance the 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. You also make it possible for this library to remain one of only two county law libraries in the entire state.

To become a 2026 member of the Law Library Foundation, you may use the envelope enclosed in the November mailing or send your contribution to:

Vanderburgh Law Library Foundation
City County Courts Building
825 Sycamore Street, Suite 207
Evansville, Indiana 47708

As always, I welcome your questions, comments, and suggestions. Please feel free to call me, Kathleen Weston, at (812) 435.5175 or send me an email (kweston@vanderburghgov.org).



Annual Campaign Donors*

Legacy of Leadership

Senior Partner

Hon. Sheila Corcoran
Steve Hoar
David Shaw

Stewart Richardson Deposition Services

Lead Counsel

Bob Carithers
Hon. Rich D'Amour
Foster O'Daniel Hambidge & Lynch
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Tuley Law Office
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D. Tim Born	Kevin Kinkade
M. Beth Burger	Kristin T. M. McLaughlin
Ron Christian	Steve Thomas
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Attorney of Record

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Hon. Tom Massey	

Paralegal and Legal Staff

Jeana Goebel
Jana Kemper
Jennifer Savage
Jordan Terrell

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.

Talk to a Lawyer Today!

ISBA Replay 2025
5 CLE/1 Ethics



Friday, January 9, 2026
8:30am-2:00pm
EBA Office or Zoom*

FREE to registrants who agree to volunteer in the first half of 2026 for two Talk To A Lawyer sessions or take one Volunteer Lawyer Program case.

MUST REGISTER and pay in full, OR, sign up for TTAL or a VLP case prior to replay. To sign up for TTAL or VLP case, contact max.happe@probonoindiana.org

Member \$200
Non-member \$300

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

*Please indicate at time of registration.



1 CLE

The Intersection of Technology, Domestic Violence and Family Law

with  OurFamilyWizard®

This interactive workshop will explore the implications of technology in Domestic Violence and Family Court cases. Professionals will learn how batterers use phone technology, social networking and GPS to circumvent injunctions for protection, supervised visitation, and child custody. Legal and Mental Health Practitioners will explore how victims of domestic violence can overcome communication issues using mobile and online communication tools, such as the OurFamilyWizard website, designed specifically for high conflict parents.

Tuesday, January 13, 2026
11:30am - Lunch provided by OFW
Noon-1:00pm - CLE

Evansville Bar Association
501 Main Street, Suite 101
Downtown Evansville

Register at (812) 463-3201, ashley@evvbar.org, or evvbar.org.



1 CLE

Preventing Return Trips to Court Through Smarter Communication

WITH  OurFamilyWizard®

The OurFamilyWizard app (OFW) is frequently included in parenting agreements as a way to reduce litigation and improve family outcomes. Learn how OFW can simplify co-parenting communication, prevent coercive control, and streamline the work of practitioners. This training will also include our newest updates and information regarding our new **ToneMeter AI**, **Recorded Calls**, streamlined **Fee Waiver**, and partnership with **Keepr** for alcohol-monitoring.

GUISEPPE FRICANO
Our Family Wizard



Wed., January 14, 2026
11:30am - Lunch provided by OFW
Noon-1:00pm - CLE

Evansville Bar Association
501 Main Street, Suite 101
Downtown Evansville

Register at (812) 463-3201, ashley@evvbar.org, or evvbar.org.



CLE COURSES AVAILABLE ON DEMAND!

We've got more than 20 hours of CLE programming for you to enjoy whenever or wherever it's convenient for you!

EBA MEMBERS use
coupon code: **eba20mem**
for member pricing!

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.

WHO'S DOING WHAT?

Shoulders Receives Award



Patrick A. Shoulders was presented with the 2025 Indiana Civility and Ethics Award by the Indiana Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates on December 5. Congratulations, Pat!

Jackson Kelly Promotes Two to Member



Jackson Kelly's Evansville office has announced the promotion of **Justin Johnson** and **Lucero Tennis Kieffer** to Member. Congratulations, Justin and Lu!

**Bar Updates:**

Please take a moment to update your contacts!

Join us in welcoming our newest members: **Lulu Faulk**, **Ali Munden**, and **Lauren Wheatley**.

Lulu Faulk

U.S. Court So. District of IN

101 NW MLK Jr. Blvd.

Evansville, Indiana 47708

lulu_faulk@insd.uscourts.gov

Ali Munden

U.S. Court So. District of IN

101 NW MLK Jr. Blvd.

Evansville, Indiana 47708

alison_munden@insd.uscourts.gov

**Connie Wambach, Paralegal
Law Offices of Steven K. Deig**

5615 E. Virginia Street

Evansville, Indiana 47715

(812) 477-5577

connie@deiglaw.com

**Lauren Wheatley
U.S. Attorney's Office**

101 NW MLK Jr. Blvd.

Evansville, Indiana 47708

lauren.wheatley@usdoj.gov

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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

Department of Child Services is currently hiring attorneys. **Dorsey, Gray, Norment & Hunter** in Henderson seeks criminal defense and family law attorney.

Kinkade & Associates has entry level to advanced positions available.

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

Vanderburgh County Public Defender Agency has openings for full-time attorneys and a part-time attorney.

Ziemer Stayman Weitzel & Shoulders is seeking

- an attorney for an Employment and Labor Law position.
- a Legal Administrative Assistant.
- an experienced Civil Litigation Paralegal with strong eDiscovery skills.



**WE'D LIKE TO
HEAR FROM YOU!**

CLE Programming Attorney/Judge Survey

At the EBA, we are committed to providing CLE programming that is timely, practical, and truly valuable to our members. To do that well, we need your input.

TAKE THE SURVEY

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5QNTWV6>

**Indiana Bar Foundation – We the People State Championship**

Congratulations to **Castle South Middle School**, which earned **second place** at the Indiana Bar Foundation's We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution Middle School State Championship, held in Indianapolis. Students demonstrated exceptional knowledge of constitutional principles, civic engagement, and critical thinking in a highly competitive statewide event. We commend the students, teachers, and coaches for their hard work and commitment to civic education.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE EBA

JANUARY 2026

- 12/31/2025-01/01/26 **EBA OFFICE CLOSED**—HAPPY NEW YEAR!
- 01/08 **EBA Board of Directors Meeting**—Lunch at 11:45am, Meeting at Noon, EBA Office
- 01/09 **CLE—Talk to a Lawyer Today 2025** (5 CLE/1 Ethics) - 8:30am-3:00pm, EBA Office or Zoom—[REGISTER](#)
FREE to attendees who agree to volunteer in the first half (1/2) of 2026 for two (2) Talk To A Lawyer sessions or take one (1) Volunteer Lawyer Program case.
- 01/13 **CLE—The Intersection of Technology, Domestic Violence and Family Law** (1 CLE) - Lunch sponsored by Our Family Wizard at 11:30am, CLE at Noon, EBA Office or Zoom—[REGISTER](#)
- 01/14 **CLE - Preventing Return Trips to Court Through Smarter Family Communication** (1 CLE) - Lunch sponsored by Our Family Wizard at 11:30am, CLE at Noon, EBA Office or Zoom—[REGISTER](#)
- 01/15 **EBF Board of Directors Meeting**—Lunch at 11:45am, Meeting at Noon, EBA/EBF Office
- 01/19 **EBA Office Closed**—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Clear the Queue—11:00am-1:00pm, EBA Office or ONLINE!
- 01/20 **Talk to a Lawyer**—11:30am-1:00pm, EBA Office—Contact max.happe@probonoindiana.org to volunteer!



Kahn, Dees, Donovan & Kahn, LLP

Wednesday, January 14th
 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Conference Center
 501 Main St, Evansville

Come to give Jan. 1-25 for chance to win trip for 2 to Super Bowl LX in Cali!
rcblood.org/SuperBowl

Schedule your appointment today!
 1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org
 Blood Donor App | Sponsor Code: KDDK



redcrossblood.org | 1-800 RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767



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.



2026 ANNUAL AWARDS

**NOMINATE
NOW!**

- James Bethel Gresham Freedom Award
- Doran E. Perdue Service Award
- Florence Britzius Award
- Outstanding Paralegal Award

DEADLINE
01 APR

For more info or to
 nominate, go to
evvbar.org/members



THIS IS HOW YOU CAN HELP Volunteer with VLP



- Only legal professionals can provide this kind of help. Your skills can change lives.
- Create fair outcomes, facilitate community health, and protect the vulnerable.
- Supports the Legal System: Helping those without lawyers eases court backlogs and improves efficiency for everyone.
- Professional Growth: Network, gain experience in new areas of law, and expand your practice.
- Easy to get involved: VLP/PBI provides training, resources, malpractice insurance, and support to help you assist low-income litigants.

What is VLP/PBI?

VLP is a member of Pro Bono Indiana, the organization charged by the Indiana Supreme Court with promoting and organizing pro bono legal services around Indiana. We provide for the access to quality pro bono civil services by persons of limited means. We attempt to address many of the most vital unmet legal needs to foster community health and wellness.

How it Works

- VLP is referred cases from legal aid partners, often cases they do not have the resources to help.
- VLP screens matters for financial eligibility and case priorities to serve vulnerable Hoosiers.
- Volunteers indicate if they are willing to work the case pro bono. Your time is volunteered; the client is asked to pay unwaivable fees.
- Volunteers work the pro bono case like any other case.

VLP Provides Volunteers:

- Curated volunteer opportunities to serve the needs of our community and volunteers
- Malpractice insurance for volunteers
- Navigation and wrap-around services for people in need
- Resources and support

Check what you are interested in and send this back to us via mail or email to evansvilleinfo@probonoindiana.org

VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY/PARALEGAL NAME: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Take a Case!

List any specific types of cases you would be interested in taking:

A Few Common Needs:

Family Law
Guardianship
Housing/ Eviction Law
Consumer/Debt Issues
Estate Planning
Reentry Issues / Expungement
Administrative Law Issues

Sign Up for Talk to a Lawyer!

Afternoon

Third Tuesday

11:30 AM-1:00 PM:

- ☐ February 5, 2026
- ☐ March 5, 2026
- ☐ April 2, 2026
- ☐ May 7, 2026
- ☐ June 4, 2026
- ☐ July 2, 2026
- ☐ August 6, 2026
- ☐ Sept. 3, 2026
- ☐ October 1, 2026
- ☐ November 5, 2026
- ☐ December 3, 2026

Evening

First Thursday

4:30 PM-6:00 PM:

- ☐ January 20, 2026
- ☐ February 17, 2026
- ☐ March 17, 2026
- ☐ April 21, 2026
- ☐ May 19, 2026
- ☐ June 16, 2026
- ☐ July 21, 2026
- ☐ August 18, 2026
- ☐ September 15, 2026
- ☐ October 20, 2026
- ☐ November 17, 2026

JOIN US AT A CLINIC:

- ☐ Help Desk
 - Monday through Friday
 - 8 AM to 9 AM
- ☐ Family Law Clinic
 - 1st and 3rd Thursday
 - 11 AM to 1 PM
- ☐ Second Chance/Housing Clinic
 - 2nd and 4th Thursday
 - 11 AM to 1 PM

*Closed on Court Holidays

CLEAR THE QUEUE AND EVENTS

- ☐ MLK Day Clear the Queue
 - January 19th, 2026
 - 11 AM to 1 PM
 - EBA
- ☐ Law Day Clear the Queue
 - May 1, 2026
 - 11 AM to 1 PM
 - EBA
- ☐ Homeless Connect
 - Sometime in March
 - More info to those interested closer to the event.

HELP OUT IN OTHER WAYS!

- ☐ Be a mentor to a legal professional
- ☐ Public Education and Outreach
- ☐ Resources and Training for Volunteers
- ☐ Protective Order Program (Reduced Rate)
- ☐ Alternative Dispute Resolution (Reduced Rate)
- ☐ Answer questions anytime on indiana.freelegalanswers.org

