501 Main Street, Suite 101 Evansville, IN 47708

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September 2025

The Monthly Newsletter of the Evansville Bar Association

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# Connecting Clients, Strengthening the Profession: The EBA's Lawyer Referral Service

The Evansville Bar Association's Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) is a vital way for the EBA to serve both the public and our membership. This program delivers tremendous value by helping community members find trusted legal representation while creating meaningful opportunities for participating attorneys.



By: Meagan Brien

For the community, the LRS offers a reliable first step in navigating the legal system. Too often, individuals in need of help don't know where to begin—online searches and ads can be overwhelming, and misinformation or "DIY law" is just a click away. Our referral service eliminates this uncertainty by connecting clients directly with qualified, vetted attorneys. From landlord-tenant disputes and consumer matters to family law, probate, employment, and small business issues, the LRS ensures people find the right lawyer at the right time. The results are significant: individuals receive timely, competent advice; small businesses gain the support they need to grow responsibly; and families find guidance during life's most difficult moments. In short, the LRS enhances access to justice and builds trust in the legal profession.

The benefits extend to our members as well. The LRS generates income and new client relationships, and referrals often evolve into ongoing attorney-client partnerships. For solo practitioners and small firms, it can be an especially effective way to expand practice areas, connect with clients who might not otherwise find them, and strengthen their professional presence in the community. One long-time participant describes the LRS as an excellent resource for attorneys starting their practices, citing real success from referrals. We believe you'll find the program to be a cost-effective supplement to the referral networks you're already building.

Beyond individual benefits, the LRS reinforces the reputation of the EBA as a trusted, service-oriented institution. Every successful referral reflects positively on the legal profession and underscores the value of local bar associations in strengthening community ties.

We encourage all members to consider enrolling in or promoting the LRS. By doing so, you support your own practice and contribute to a collective effort that uplifts the entire community. Together, we can ensure that access to quality legal representation remains within reach for everyone—while recognizing and rewarding the essential role our members play. The EBA is proud to offer this important service.

For more info and how to enroll in the LRS please see Page 2 of The Summation.



- 1. What is the EBA Lawyer Referral Service (LRS)? The LRS is a program operated by the EBA that connects members of the public seeking legal help with qualified attorneys in our membership. It provides a trusted point of entry for clients while creating new business opportunities for participating attorneys.
- 2. Why should I join? Enrollment in the LRS offers attorneys: A steady stream of client referrals, opportunities to build long-term client relationships, and a way to support access to justice while growing your practice.
- 3. Who is eligible to participate? Any EBA member in good standing with an active license to practice law in Indiana may apply. Attorneys must carry malpractice insurance and agree to abide by program rules and ethical requirements.
- 4. How does the referral process work? When a potential client contacts the LRS, staff gather information about their legal issue and match them with an attorney. The attorney receives the referral and follows up directly with the client to schedule a consultation.
- 5. Are there fees involved? Yes. Attorneys pay an annual enrollment fee to participate, as well as a percentage (or flat fee, depending on case type) of fees collected from referred cases.
- 6. **Do I have to accept every referral?** No. You may decline a referral if you are unable to take the case. However, consistent participation and responsiveness are expected to ensure the integrity of the program.
- 7. What kinds of cases are referred? Referrals cover legal areas including family law, criminal defense, probate, employment, consumer issues, and business law. You may indicate your practice areas when enrolling.
- 8. Questions or ready to enroll? Contact Ashley at (812) 463-3201 or ashley@evvbar.org.

## **VLP News**

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

In August, we conducted a reentry workshop with the Salvation Army to help individuals with driving issues and other obstacles to employment and stable living. We were able to serve 40 individuals over a long lunch hour.

Outreach events like these often help us provide services that can be more preventative of future issues and better facilitate pathways out of poverty. In addition to our recurring clinics, we try to regularly coordinate with community partners to meet need where it's at. We have upcoming workshops on housing, debt, family stability, safety planning, and other legal areas that commonly impact low-income residents. If you are interested in volunteering at an outreach event let us know. If you are interested in helping with a case or volunteering at one of our clinics, you can find more info at <a href="https://www.vlpswin.org/volunteer-opportunities">https://www.vlpswin.org/volunteer-opportunities</a>, check out the attached case list, or simply contact me.

# **CASE LIST**

Click HERE for a current list of available cases and instructions on how to get involved!
Or, contact Max at max.happe@probonoindiana.org

If you are interested in more information on our legal aid systems or the state of need in our community let EBA staff or me know.



Hosted by the EBA to benefit Legal Aid Society of Evansville, Indiana Legal Services, and Pro Bono Indiana!

Thursday, October 23

Children's Museum of Evansville

Doors open @ 5:30pm; Trivia @ 6:00pm

Register your team NOW!

https://forms.ale/E8zWPG7bnQhCseY4A





Bob Carithers President

Review of applications and approving grants has been completed by the Evansville Bar Foundation. Fortunately, 83.5 % of the requests by applicants will be funded through the

amount of funds which the Foundation can award! Your record generosity in the prior donation campaign made that outcome possible. Thank you.

Twelve of thirteen applicants will receive grants which will demonstrate the legal community's commitment to a better community for local residents. One applicant was not eligible in 2025 under the Foundation's grant policy because it had received funds in the three prior years and it was not an organization affiliated with the EBF. That charity was encouraged to apply again in 2026.

What are the affiliated organizations under the policy? They are the Evansville Bar Association, the Vanderburgh Law Library Foundation, the local Volunteer Lawyers Program, Youth Resources—Teen Court, the Legal Aid Society, and the local office of Indiana Legal Services. Grants were approved to all of them except ILS, which did not apply.

The remaining grants will go to Albion Fellows Bacon Center, the local Boys and Girls Club, Holly's House, Parenting Time Center, the local Salvation Army, Voices, and the local YMCA. These grants will be used in programs to benefit youth, support abuse victims, and provide legal information to audiences which need it.

The directors and officers of the EBF thank you in advance for adding your name to the list of donors in the current campaign by contributing by October 31, 2025, thus enhancing its ability to support worthy efforts in 2026.

To make a donation to the Foundation mail a check to:

501 Main Street, Suite 101, Evansville, IN 47708

or go to <a href="https://evvbar.org/foundation.aspx">https://evvbar.org/foundation.aspx</a>.

### LIBRARIAN'S CORNER: INDIANALEGALHELP.ORG KIOSKS

The law library kiosk offers full access to the legal information, instructions, and forms available on indianalegalhelp.org. Although it looks like an ATM, the kiosk provides legal help for persons dealing with many civil matters and questions. It has a touch screen where patrons can look up resources available in their area and get legal assistance. As we continue moving further into 2024, more features will become available through the kiosk, such as directly connecting with a legal navigator trained to provide them with guidance. For those attorneys who are asked for legal advice as you move through the court house hallways, please feel free to direct those persons to the Indiana Legal Help Kiosk and the law library (suite 207).

In addition, the Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library (EVPL) has received two kiosks that can be found at two of their branches: EVPL-Central and EVPL-Franklin. These two kiosks now provide full access to the legal information, instructions, and forms available on indianalegalhelp.org.

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 (<a href="https://www.weston.org">www.weston.org</a>).



# Annual Campaign Donors\*

#### **Legacy of Leadership**

Vanderburgh County Prosecutor's Office

#### **Senior Partner**

Hon. Sheila Corcoran
Steve Hoar
David Shaw
Stewart Richardson Deposition Services

#### **Lead Counsel**

Bob Carithers Marc Fine Foster O'Daniel Hambidge & Lynch David Robinson Carrie Roelle Tuley Law Office Barbara & Brian Williams

#### **Court Counsel**

Barber & Bauer Todd Barsumian Bill Bender Tim Born Dan Carwile Jim Casey Nicholas Golding Bill Hussmann Mike Mitchell
Ole Olsen
Mike Schopmeyer
Laura Scott
Stone & Stratman
Steve Thomas
Hon. Wayne Trockman

#### Attorney of Record

George Barnett, Jr. Ted Barron Diane Bender Dennis Brinkmeyer John Brinson Hon. Elaine Brown Michele Bryant Laurie Bumb Bill Bussing Charlie Berger Angela Chapman Allison Comstock Jamie Dameron Kevin Gibson Curt Hamilton Kelly Jackson Kathryn Kornblum David Lamont

Hon. Mary Margaret Lloyd Carrie Lynn Kevin Martin Hon. Tom Massey Nathan Maudlin Elaine Mittleman Hon. Bob Pigman Hon. Randall T. Shepard Siesky Law Firm Brian Smith Charlie Spaetti Gary Taylor Aaron Tuley Susan Vollmer John Whinrey Susan Wilkie Scott Wylie Seth Zirkle

### Paralegal and Legal Staff

Melissa Alldredge Jeana Goebel Lauren Gore Jordan Terrell

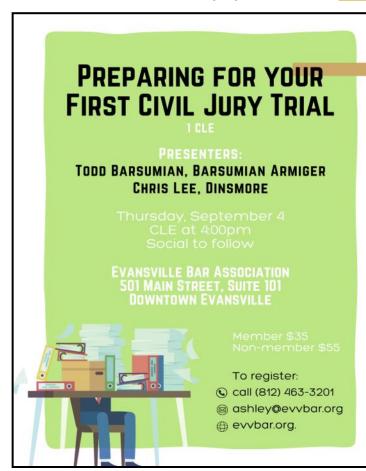
### <u>Friends of the</u> <u>Foundation</u>

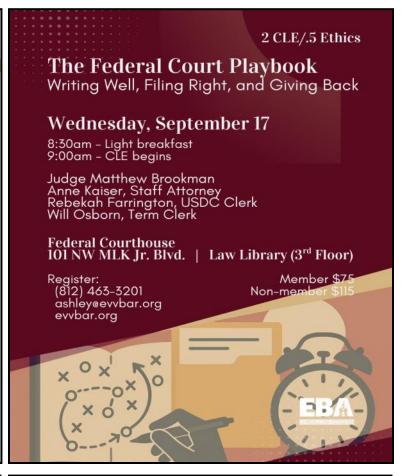
Julie Moore Holtz Tonya Shumaker

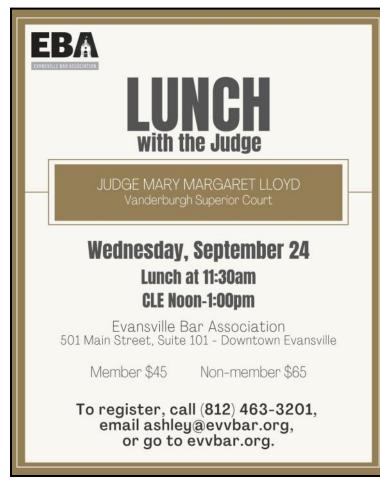
<sup>\* 2025</sup> Campaign donations received November 1, 2024-August 29, 2025

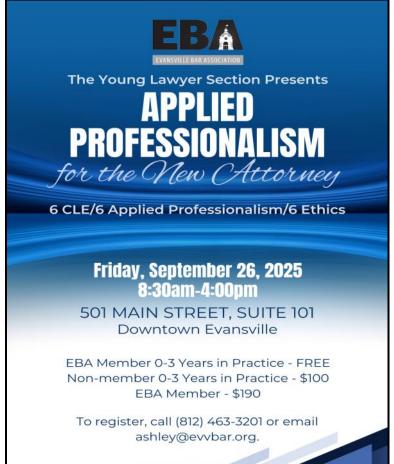
Registration and pre-payment required for all EBA CLE. A virtual option for most EBA CLE is available upon request.

Call (812) 463-3201, email <a href="mailto:Ashley@evvbar.org">Ashley@evvbar.org</a> or go online at <a href="mailto:evvbar.org">evvbar.org</a>.









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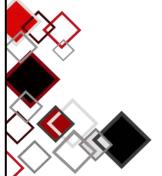
# **ETHICS POTPOURRI**

3 CLE/3 ETHICS

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 8:30 AM-NOON

CHECK-IN AND LIGHT BREAKFAST AT 8:00 AM

EBA OFFICE 501 MAIN STREET, SUITE 101—DOWNTOWN



EBA MEMBER \$100 NON-MEMBER \$160

TO REGISTER, CALL (812) 463-3201, OR EMAIL ASHLEY@EVVBAR.ORG.



# LUNCH with the Judges

WARRICK COUNTY EDITION Greg Granger Judge Krista Weiber

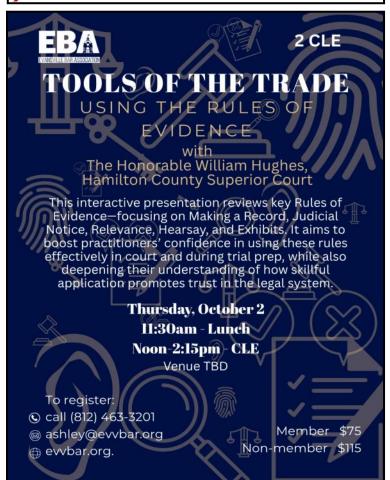
# Wednesday, October 1 Lunch at 11:30am CLE Noon-1:00pm

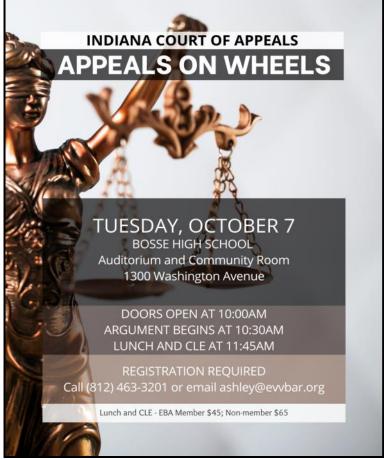
Tin Fish, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor 707 State Street, Newburgh 47630

Member \$45

Non-member \$65

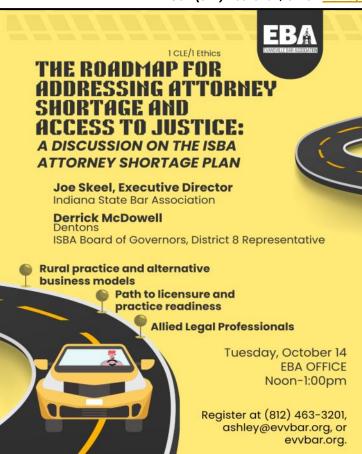
To register, call (812) 463-3201, email ashley@evvbar.org, or go to evvbar.org.





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## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 EBA OFFICE OR ZOOM

- 9:00am-Noon (3 CLE/3 CME)
   Mediation Tips: You Can't Always Get
   What You Want...
- 1:00-2:00pm (1 CLE/1 CME)

  Probate and Trust Mediation and
  Litigation
- 2:05-3:05 pm (1 CLE/1 CME)
   Family Law: Mediating in High Conflict Cases
- 3:10-4:10pm (1 CLE/1 CME)

  Mental Health and Mediation

Member \$30/hour Non-member \$50/hour

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





# LUNCH with the

VANDERBURGH COUNTY
PROSECUTORS OFFICE
Prosecutor Diana Moers and Chief Deputy Winston Lin

## Wednesday, October 22 Lunch at 11:30am CLE Noon-1:00pm

Evansville Bar Association 501 Main Street, Suite 101 - Downtown Evansville

Member \$45

Non-member \$65

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

# WHO'S DOING WHAT?

On August 7, 2025, at the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, 42 individuals from 23 countries proudly became U.S. citizens—and the Evansville Bar Association was honored to celebrate with them. The Honorable Matthew P. Brookman administered the Oath of Citizenship and offered closing remarks reminding new citizens to: 1) Vote; 2) Serve community; 3) Learn; and, 4) Share their stories, time, talent, and treasure. Assistant U.S. Attorney **Jeremy Kemper** moved for the oath, and EBA President Meagan Brien offered heartfelt congratulations. EBA Vice President Jamie **Dameron**, board member **Mark Abell**, and Executive Director Julie Moore Holtz were also in attendance to honor the occasion. Each new citizen received a U.S. flag lapel pin and a card with legal resources, gifts from the EBA to mark this milestone.



# Best Lawyers

Congratulations to EBA Members recognized as Best Lawyers 2026

Jeff Ahlers, Bob Becker, KAB Brasseale, Beth Burger, John Broadhead, Michele Bryant, Maria Bulkley, Will Cartwright, Jim Casey, Nick Cirignano, Allison Comstock, Jamie Dameron, Marco DeLucio, J. Beau Dial, Michael DiRienzo, Herb Davis, Raymond Dudlo, Monica Edwards, Terry Farmer, Shannon Frank, Jake Fulcher, Jeff Helfrich, Elizabeth Hennessy-Spencer, Jeff Henning, Steve Hoar, Ashley Hollen, Steve Lavallo, Krista Lockyear, Kelly Lonnberg, Mark McAnulty, Whitney Mosby, Andy Nestrick, Andy Ozete, Dan Robinson, Carrie Roelle, Mark Samila, Lindsay Schmitt, Mike Schopmeyer, Ryan Schulz, Laura Scott, Pat Shoulders, Dirck Stahl, Steve Theising, John Thomason, Chris Wischer, Ted Ziemer IV, and Seth Zirkle.

ONES TO WATCH

Brandon Curl, Hannah Dill, Nicholas Golding, Kristen Hahn, Joseph Harrison III, Derrick McDowell, Alyssa Ricker, Jordan Saner, Joshua Trockman, and Conner Voegel.

If you have been recognized but not listed above, please let us know at <a href="mailto:membership@evvbar.org">membership@evvbar.org</a>.



<u>Bar Updates:</u> Please take a moment to update your contacts! Join us in welcoming our newest member, **Attorney Member:** *Nina Clark*.

#### Nina Clark

The Law Offices of Steven K. Deig

5615 E. Virginia Street Evansville, Indiana 47715 (812) 477-5577

nina@deiglaw.com

#### Anna Finnerty Indiana DCS

100 East Sycamore Street Evansville, Indiana 47708 Anna.Finnerty@dcs.in.gov

#### Lauren Gore, Paralegal Reckitt

Evansville, Indiana Lauren.Gore@reckitt.com

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

For more information, go to <u>evvbar.org</u>, click the MEMBERS tab.

**Department of Child Services** is currently hiring attorneys.

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

**Ziemer Stayman Weitzel & Shoulders** is seeking an attorney for an Employment and Labor Law position.



WED., SEPT 17 | 5:30PM

EBA OFFICE

Join fellow bar members for a night of laughs, friendly competition, and games that aren't Monopoly (sorry, top hat fans). We're talking fun favorites like **Werewolf**, **Ticket to Ride**, **King of Tokyo** and more—easy to learn, hard to stop playing!

Whether you're a seasoned board game champ or a total newbie, you're welcome.

Got a favorite game? Bring it and teach us!

Pizza and snacks provided!

RSVP ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15 TO ASHLEYPREVVBAR.ORG



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE EBA

# SEPTEMBER 2025

- 09/01 **EBA Office Closed**—Happy Labor Day!
- 09/04 CLE—Preparing for Your First Civil Jury Trial (1 CLE) CLE at 4:00pm with Social to immediately follow, EBA Office—REGISTER
  - Talk to a Lawyer—4:30-6:00pm, EBA Office—Contact max.happe@probonoindiana.org to volunteer!
- 09/09 **Legacy Lawyer Social** (Attorneys practicing 35+ years and/or 65 or older) 4:00-6:00pm, EBA Office—RSVP to ashley@evvbar.org
- 09/11 EBA Board of Directors Meeting—Lunch at 11:45am, Meeting at Noon, EBA Office
- 09/16 **Talk to a Lawyer**—11:30am-1:00pm, EBA Office—Contact <u>max.happe@probonoindiana.org</u> to volunteer!
- 09/17 CLE—The Federal Court Playbook: Writing Well, Filing Right, and Giving Back (2 CLE/.5 Ethics) Breakfast at 8:30am, CLE at 9:00-11:15am, Federal Court Law Library, 3rd Floor—REGISTER
  - EBA Inaugural Game Night—5:30-8:00pm at the EBA Office with pizza and snacks!

Join fellow EBA members for a night of laughs, friendly competition, and games that aren't Monopoly! For more info, see page 7 of The Summation or contact <a href="mailto:beau.dial@dentons.com">beau.dial@dentons.com</a> or <a href="mailto:max.happe@probonoindiana.org">max.happe@probonoindiana.org</a>—RSVP to julie@evvbar.org

- 09/18 EBF Board of Directors Meeting—Lunch at 11:45am, Meeting at Noon, EBA/EBF Office
- 09/23 **EBA Young Lawyers Financial Wellness Series: Investing Basics—What You Need to Know Now**—Noon, EBA Office—RSVP to julie@evvbar.org
- 09/24 CLE—Lunch with the Judge: Judge Mary Margaret Lloyd (1 CLE) Lunch at 11:30am, CLE at Noon, EBA Office—REGISTER
- 09/26 **CLE—Ethics Potpourri** (3 CLE/3 Ethics) Light breakfast at 8:00am, CLE 8:30am-Noon, EBA Office—<u>REGISTER</u>
  - CLE—Applied Professionalism\* (6 CLE/6 Ethics/6 AP) Light breakfast at 8:00am, CLE 8:30am-4:00pm, EBA Office—REGISTER
    - \*Attorneys admitted after passing the Indiana Bar Exam are required to complete a 6-hour applied professionalism course **during their first three-year educational period**. Whether you are admitted by exam in spring or fall, you must complete the 6-hour applied professionalism course after January 1 of the next calendar year and by December 31 of the third year thereafter.
- 09/30 **EBA Memorial Service celebrating Timothy Klingler**—Noon, Old Courthouse in the Randall T. Shepard Courtroom, 2nd Floor; Use the Vine Street Entrance



