



#### **2** LETTER FROM THE DEAN

- 3 MESSAGE FROM SHERRI DZIK
- 4 SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED

Clinical Experience Gives Students Opportunities to Assist Veterans

- 5 AN IDEA THAT FLOURISHED
- **6** Q&A REGINA SCANNICCHIO
- 7 MESSAGE FROM WILLIAM K. BEACH
- 7 AN OUTSTANDING CAREER

Professor Johnston Leaves the John Marshall Classroom After Nearly 50 Years

- 8 THE FUTURE OF LEGAL EDUCATION IS HERE
- 9 CHANBONPIN SEES THE LAW AS A TOOL OF EMPOWERMENT
- 10 GUIDANCE THROUGH MENTORING
- 11 A LEGAL PREP FOUNDATION

Alumnus Helps Establish High School With a Law Curriculum

- 12 CHICAGO'S FASHIONS IN THE SPOTLIGHT
- 13 ON THE BOARD

Heist's Role as Director Helps Him Repay Milton Hershey School for Life-Long Lessons

**14 CLASS NOTES** 

#### On the cover

Dean John E. Corkery (left); VLSC Executive Director Brian Clauss (center); and VLSC Clinic Director Thomas White Jr.

### **Letter** from the **Dean**

Dear Friends:

As I write this we're well into the beginning of the new school year.

Last year at this time, we had just opened the Arthur J. Goldberg Courtroom, with a visit from Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. This year, we wrapped up the month of September with the official opening of the Veterans Legal Support Center & Clinic (VLSC) in the 19 W. Jackson building. Occasions like this are wonderful events in the life of our law school. They remind us of the important work we do and why we do it.

The building, at 19 W. Jackson, along with our new Student Commons and entrance on State Street, reflect the law school's commitment to our students, our academic programs, our alumni, the city of Chicago and the future of legal education.

We are proud to be Chicago's practice-ready law school and the clinical and academic experience afforded to our students here reflects that commitment.

In addition to restoring an historic building, we are the first law school in the Midwest to design space to accommodate the needs of veterans struggling with PTSD. Our new veterans facility is getting well-deserved national recognition for this innovative design. It is located on the first floor of the 19 W. Jackson building and the Campus Master Plan holds some exciting opportunities for the school with the remaining floors of that building. I'd be happy to share our plans and hopes with you.

Our work in Lawyering Skills as part of our JD program sets us apart from other law schools. John Marshall students take four semesters of Lawyering Skills where most other schools require just two semesters. I think this emphasis is one of the reasons our Legal Writing Program, under the direction of Associate Dean Anthony Niedwiecki, is ranked number two in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

Effective this fall, we are requiring all incoming students to participate in an Experiential Learning component of our program prior to graduation. This three-credit requirement involves our students working as interns, externs or in our Fair Housing or VLSC clinics. This program will help give John Marshall students the experience-based training they need to be practice ready.

By December 31, we will have 15 JD online courses ready for our second- and third-year students. The ABA will likely increase the allowable online JD credits from 12 to 15 hours next year. When this occurs, we will have an entire semester of JD online credit available, which will provide our students the flexibility in scheduling they need to take maximum advantage of our practice-based curriculum.

Also, with these new opportunities for our students, John Marshall will be among the leading law schools in the nation in the number of credits provided for practice-based courses and online learning.

Our work with Chicago's veterans is important, as is the work at our Fair Housing Legal Support Center & Clinic celebrating its 20th anniversary of fighting housing discrimination and serving our community. *U.S. News* also has recognized the work of our Intellectual Property Law Program, ranking it 12th among the nation's law schools.

But it's the student experience at John Marshall as a whole—in preparing our students to succeed in law and in life—that is at the heart of what we do.

Today, employers are demanding new hires who have skills in drafting complaints, assisting in conducting regular and electronic discovery, in submitting documents to the court, and who understand the importance of billable hours. This trend is nothing new at The John Marshall Law School, where hands-on, practiced-based learning has long been, and continues to be, an essential part of our training.



There's a lot going on at our law school these days. The changes to our facilities, our instruction in new technology, the enhanced focus on Lawyering Skills and the redoubling of our efforts to help our students, and recent grads, find jobs all truly set John Marshall apart. So, please come back and visit. See our great new facilities. Mentor a student. Hire a grad. Support our annual fund. There are a lot of ways to stay connected. As an alum, you're a part of the John Marshall story, and it's a good one.

John E. Corkery

Dean, The John Marshall Law School

### Message from Sherri J. Dzik

#### Director of Alumni Relations

Friends,

What a year 2013 has been! Our Reunion Weekend 2013, one of the largest events the Office of Alumni Relations has hosted in recent years, brought back classmates from graduation years 2003, 1988, 1973 and 1963 and before. This special June event was the first organized reunion that we have held in many years and the attendees had a really great time.

The Reunion Gala, the culmination of the three-day event, was at the law school on a Saturday night. It proved to be a fun way for classmates to reconnect, and a TV monitor in the room got us all cheering on the Chicago Blackhawks in their race to the Stanley Cup! Having the event at the law school gave the alumni a chance to see the physical improvements that have been made since they last walked the halls. I was delighted to see that real sense of excitement among the attendees in being back at John Marshall.

At the first Alumni Association Board of Directors meeting of this academic year, the board approved an exciting new program, the Pay It Forward Program. This new initiative is meant to give recent graduates who are unemployed or underemployed the sense of alumni caring for

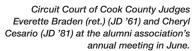
each other as these young alumni attempt to find that important first job. This initiative to assist in one's financial burden is in addition to the alumni association's student scholarships. Initial funding for the Pay It Forward Program will come from monies the association has in reserves and from upcoming CLE programs that it plans to host.

I look forward to working with the board and all of our active alumni as we go into the 2013-14 year. I hope to see you at one of our events. Come out for the Student/Alumni Exchange on Nov. 14 at the Union League Club. Our students love to connect with alumni. Check

> out my monthly e-newsletter for information on this and other upcoming events, or feel free to call me at 312.427.2737 ext. 343.

Shuri J Djik Sherri J. Dzik '99 Director of Alumni Relations

### **Association Annual Meeting**





Mary Ann Ruggio (JD '99) chats with classmate Sherri Dzik (JD '99), director of the Office of Alumni Relations.





Katherine A. O'Dell (JD '00) presents Michael Favia (JD '82), outgoing John Marshall Law School Alumni Association president, with a gift of appreciation.



Connecting at the annual meeting were (seated) Neil Beaulieu (JD '78) and Eileen Sergo (JD '10), and (back row, from left) Kathy Wantuch (JD '07, LLM/RE '09), Lauren Tobiason (JD '08), Joseph Del Campo (JD '73), and Kelly Lopez-Clark (JD '12).



Professor Ardath Hamann (from left) joins the conversation of classmates Will County Circuit Court Judge Dinah Archambuealt (JD '88), David Kupets (JD '88) and Cook County Circuit Court Judge Regina Scannicchio (JD '88), who took the oath as president of the alumni association for 2013-14.

## Serving Those Who Served

Clinical Experience Gives Students Opportunities to Assist Veterans



Students work in the newly remodeled VLSC space at 19 W. Jackson.

When The John Marshall Law School organized its Veterans Legal Support Center & Clinic (VLSC) in 2006, it was one of the first institutional clinics devoted solely to serving veterans. Now it has a national reputation and a specially designed space for its work with both vets and law students, and is inspiring other law schools to follow its lead.

"This really was something the students felt we needed to do and could do," says VLSC Executive Director Brian Clauss (JD '90). "That it's a huge success is a credit to them, and to the administration for backing the idea and working with the students.

"The outcome is that today we are giving our students experience that far surpasses anything other law schools have, and at the same time we're assisting veterans who deserve to have someone behind them when they go before the VA," he added.

The new VLSC office at the corner of Plymouth and Jackson makes a bold statement for the law school. The first floor 5,300-square-foot Clinic gives students a pleasant work environment within the space that is specially designed to accommodate the needs of veterans with physical and mental disabilities.

Since its inception, VLSC students and staff have spoken to more than 3,000 veterans—ranging from World War II through the Afghanistan conflict—who were seeking legal assistance on educational and medical benefits. VLSC has assisted more than 1,000 veterans in appealing previously denied benefits claims. Now these veterans are finally receiving the benefits to which they are entitled.

"We won't turn any vet away. If we can't handle the claim, we will refer the caller to another support organization or government agency that can assist them on next steps," Clauss said.

Dealing with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has proven to be a

frustrating experience. Today the VA says the average waiting period after a veteran files a claim is 273 days. About 780,000 claims are pending, and 496,000 are considered backlogged.

Too often, accessibility to the VA proves difficult. Veterans need assistance from someone knowledgeable who can offer them a roadmap through the benefits process. The VLSC students and attorneys are helping these veterans find their way through the existing legal and paperwork mazes.

"The Clinic has a wonderful mission of helping the veteran, but from the law school's perspective we serve another mission and that is giving our students the experience of dealing with a client and then an agency," Clauss added. "They are able to use their law school training in a clinical setting where they are being supervised by attorneys who can help guide them.

"The clinic offers the perfect learning environment," he explained. "The students are speaking with veterans to get the facts and discover how they will appeal the claim that has been denied. They will prepare the necessary paperwork, just as they would in a legal office. They do legal research to find which section of the law applies to this particular claim, and then they will be following up with government agencies either by phone or in writing, so that they know how to appeal the denial of benefits."

Joseph Wagner, a Marine veteran and third-year student, started at the Clinic in his second semester. "I want to help veterans dig down into the legal issues, figure out solutions to those issues and give them the next steps to follow that will increase their chances of being awarded benefits. Law lets me do that. And, working in the Clinic, I do that for a special client."

The volume of inquiries increases every year as word of VLSC spreads through veterans groups, support agencies, the courts and clients. With more work to handle, the number of clinic students increases. This semester VLSC has 22 students enrolled, and the Clinic opened its doors to students from Northwestern University Law School and Chicago–Kent College of Law in the summer semester.

Thomas White (LLM/IBT '08), a retired Army JAG officer and former assistant professor at the United States Military Academy (West Point), supervises the clinical students. White met Clauss when he was teaching an LLM class, and accepted Clauss' invitation to teach a Veterans Law course for the VLSC program.

# The clinic offers the perfect learning environment

In 2012, as White was planning his retirement from the Army, he accepted Clauss' offer to serve as the director of clinical students.

"This was a perfect fit for me. Serving as the Clinic director allows me to use my experience and also continue to grow as an attorney," he said.

John Marshall students rely on its staff attorneys to assist students, but VLSC also has a statewide network of attorneys willing to take cases on a *pro bono* basis. Over the past five years, VLSC has trained more than 350 attorneys in the nuances of VA rules and other regulations that may apply, in conjunction with the Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Professional Responsibility. VLSC representatives have been guest presenters in

California, Minnesota and Georgia, and welcomed law school observers from Stetson University College of Law and Southern Illinois University School of Law. Clauss and Joseph Butler (JD '95) serve as general editors for Military Service & the Law, prepared in partnership with the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education. The latest publication is American Bar Association Legal Guide for Military Families.

Clauss is the general editor of LexisNexis' Servicemember and Veterans Rights and others directly affiliated with VLSC have contributed to the Random House and ABA publication The Legal Guide for Military Families.

The Clinic's reach extends beyond its work with benefits appeals. VLSC does outreach with the Circuit Court of Cook County helping those served by the Veterans Treatment Courts, and the Petty Offense Court Program in cooperation with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois.

Students helped with research for an amicus brief for the United States Supreme Court case Snyder v. Phelps, and joined in petition for certiorari to the Supreme Court in Witt v. United States of America and Cardner v. Continental Airlines, Inc.

"Every one of these programs gave students the opportunity to use their law school knowledge to get information on veterans and their issues into the public arena. We are here to share however we can, and programs, articles, briefs all are vehicles for outreach," Clauss stresses.

The latest VLSC initiative is a free online education course, "Military Service & the Law," taught by Clauss and White with adjunct professors Michael Schrag and Lyndsey Olson. Available on the web, the course gives servicemembers, veterans and their families and friends a comprehensive understanding of military and civilian law.

"We're a young organization, but I'm proud to say we've accomplished great things," Clauss said. "The possibilities are endless, and that's a good thing for vets and our John Marshall students."

#### **An Idea That Flourished**

In 2005, U.S. Marine Reservist Nicholas Henry (JD '08, LLM/IBT '09) enrolled at The John Marshall Law School after serving two tours in Iraq. He was entitled to education benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) but the paperwork was a quagmire and he couldn't get anyone to help.

He shared his VA frustrations with fellow student Michael Barnicle (JD '08) when they attended a meeting on Military Law and Veterans hosted by the Illinois State Bar Association. Someone there introduced them to Brian Clauss (JD '90), an attorney who had expertise on issues related to military service and civilian law. Clauss listened to Henry and Barnicle talk about how veterans would benefit from legal assistance.

"We tossed around a few ideas. They brought along Ryan Coward (JD '07) and those guys kept pushing the idea of helping veterans," Clauss said. "We didn't know if we could get a clinic started, but Dean Corkery liked the idea, so we pursued it."

Clauss shared the vision of a clinic with the general counsel for the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, directed by Tammy Duckworth, a wounded veteran of the Iraq War. She agreed to provide the \$100,000 seed money, and an additional gift from LexisNexis helped get the clinic up and running.

In fall 2007, the Veterans Legal Support Center & Clinic (VLSC) became one of the first institutional clinics devoted solely to serving veterans. Students worked in a small office in the CBA building until fall 2008 when they moved into space on 2M in the Plymouth Building.

"I remember in the beginning there was a call from a servicemember who was fighting for



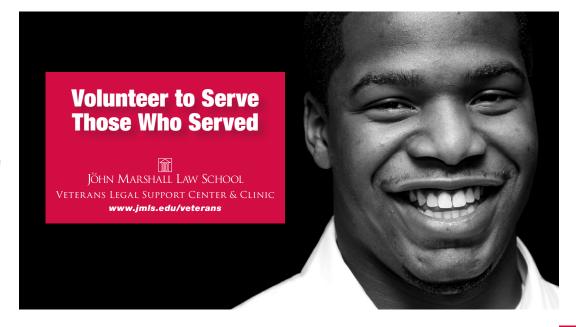
VLSC Founders Ryan Coward, Nicholas Henry and Michael Barnicle.

custody of his daughter and trying to do it on his own," Henry said. "Being able to simply put him in contact with the right people to talk to for legal aid, and letting him know what the process was like gave him the ability to focus on what was important—his daughter. We didn't win a case or file a motion, but knowing how to connect a veteran in need with the resources to succeed can alleviate a massive amount of stress and turn an insurmountable obstacle into a manageable speed bump."

In spring 2013, the new VLSC space in the 19 W. Jackson building officially opened. The first-floor space is designed to accommodate handicapped veterans and the interior of the new office is specially designed to consider the needs of veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

"The new space really allows the Clinic to grow into its potential," said Barnicle. "The sky is the limit and I do not see any signs of John Marshall's veterans advocacy program slowing down. I sincerely believe it can become the nation's premier veterans advocacy initiative."

Today these three VLSC founders are serving as JAG officers.



# Q&A with New Alumni Association President REGINA SCANNICCHIO (JD '88)

### Tell us about your time at John Marshall:

I was part of the Moot Court Board and a member of the criminal procedure team. Professor (Timothy) O'Neill was our coach; it was, I believe, the law school's first or second year in the competition at Temple University in Pennsylvania, and we advanced to finals. I was involved in the student chapter of the Justinian Society, as well as serving as the justice of the Lincoln Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta, and a board member of the Student Bar Association.

### Why did you become active in the Alumni Association?

Simply as a way to give back. I consider what I do every day—even now on the bench in the Circuit Court of Cook County—and everything I do professionally having been formed by my time at John Marshall. There were alumni, professors and judges who gave back, and shaped me as a lawyer and a judge. Being active in the law school is like going back home where I started, and it allows me to do something for the alumni and for the students.

# Do you plan to do anything differently as Alumni Association president?

I intend to keep programs instituted by past presidents and to keep the association moving forward. I want to keep in step with the progress the law school is making. The Alumni Association will be instituting some new programs to bring the law school, the students and alumni together. It is my hope that this

collaboration and some new initiatives will benefit recent grads.

# What skills or lessons gained from your experience, as a judge or as an attorney, do you hope to apply in your role?

Especially as a judge, I must truly listen. In my role as the president of the association I'm listening to what the law school needs and what the alumni need. I am putting together a plan with the assistance of the board, the executive committee and the officers to keep the association moving forward. Also, a lesson I learned from an early age: Work hard! If you want something done you must work hard.

# How do you plan to reach out to alumni who may not be as active in the association?

I'd like to re-ignite that passion and spirit in alumni, and to ask them to come home and be a part of the John Marshall family again. For the recent grads: I want them to know of the programs we offer and how the association will assist them in the profession. There are also the alums who live and practice all over the United States. I hope to work with the alumni relations office to make connections again with out-of-state alumni.

# What advice do you have for recent John Marshall graduates building their careers?

Attend as many events as possible where you can meet and talk to attorneys and judges. Never be afraid to ask questions. If you want to be a litigator, spend time at the courthouse; sit in on hearings. If you



want to concentrate in a particular area of law, ask an alumnus in that area if you can sit in on a deposition, a proceeding or transaction. This will help you learn what the expectations are for your future career.

### What's something about you or your career not everyone may know?

All through college I competed as a gymnast. I taught and coached gymnastics during college and law school. And, along with some other John Marshall alumni and professors, I was part of the cast of the Chicago Bar Association's legal satire musical "Christmas Spirits." I was able to continue to enjoy dancing and performing for several years.



#### Alumni Association Awards Scholarships

Outstanding students interested in public service were selected as recipients of \$32,500 in scholarship money awarded by The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association. Scholarships were presented at the annual meeting in June. At the event were (seated from left) recipients Magdalena Wilk and Mary Walters; outgoing president Michael Favia (JD '82); and recipient Suhey Ramirez; and (standing from left) recipients Margaret Hillmann and Katherine Gipe; incoming Alumni Association President Judge Regina Scannicchio (JD '88); Donald Rubin (JD '80); scholarship committee co-chair; and recipients Andrew Symns and Sarbani Mukherjee.

### Message from William K. Beach

#### Chief Development Officer & Campaign Director

On Aug. 16, The John Marshall Law School held its first Scholarship Recognition Luncheon to honor scholarship donors and recipients. The event took place at The Standard Club, just across the street from the school. I was thrilled to see more than 60 donors, recipients, alumni and staff celebrate our outstanding students and gracious donors.

At the luncheon, Associate Dean Ralph Ruebner shared how he and his wife, Evie, created a scholarship to aid immigrants in memory of their parents who escaped persecution from the Nazis in Europe. The Ralph and Evelyn Ruebner Scholarship has become an everlasting tribute to their parents and the thousands of families who risked their lives to come to America in search of better opportunity.

We also heard the amazing testimony of the 2012–13 Ruebner Scholar, Ruphene Sidifall, a third-year student, who shared how her family bravely fled war-torn Liberia for America. The perseverance and dedication she displayed in the face of adversity and hardship was truly inspiring to all the luncheon guests.

It was important that we had donors and recipients sit side by side. Connecting these parties has long been a dream of mine and was inspired by my own undergraduate experience. I was admitted to college on academic probation. Yet like so many students who were given a chance I was not about to let anyone down: not my mom who was working, nor my dad who, because of potential tuition costs, was contemplating taking a second job. After a successful first year, I made

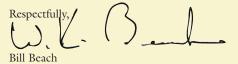
the Dean's List and received a significant scholarship. It was a moment I will never forget; a real game-changer. The scholarship I received was part of a large endowment that was funded by several sources. I never knew who the donors were and I can assure you that they didn't know me. All I knew was that their acts of generosity had a tremendous impact on me and my family.

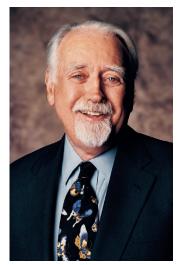
Our luncheon provided an opportunity to create and strengthen student-donor relationships at John Marshall. Donors got to know their recipients and learn, firsthand, of the significant impact their gifts made.

From being a scholarship recipient, to having had the privilege of helping the law school raise millions of dollars to be used for tuition assistance, I can assure you that few gifts are as transformative as a scholarship. Don't underestimate the difference you can make. Think

about how your gift to The John Marshall Law School could benefit a student and create a "game changing" moment in their lives.

Thanks, and I hope to see you at next year's Scholarship Recognition Luncheon.





# An Outstanding career

Professor Johnston Leaves the John Marshall Classroom After Nearly 50 Years

obert Gilbert "Gil" Johnston, a constant at John Marshall for nearly 50 years, has taken emeritus status.

His long and impressive career started in 1963 when he joined the adjunct faculty. Several years later, he took a full-time teaching position and was named director of the Legal Methods Program.

"I will always remember the wonderful time I had teaching students," Johnston said, "especially the 1968 class, which was my first class as a full-time professor. It seemed they all were excellent students, and several went on to notable careers, including Tom Fitzgerald (retired chief justice of the Illinois Supreme Court), Len Amari (president of The John Marshall Board of Trustees and partner at Amari & Locallo) and Tim Evans (chief judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County)."

Between 1970 and 1975, Johnston and his family lived in his native Hawaii. When they returned to Chicago, Johnston rejoined the full-time faculty. Over the years, he taught Civil Procedure I and II, Administrative Procedure, Conflicts of Law, Federal Jurisdiction, Ethics, Litigation Process and Pre-Trial Practice.

He took over the administrative reins of the law school as associate dean for Academic Affairs in 1988, then acting dean in 1994. He served as dean from 1995 until August 2003 when he returned to his professor's desk for another 10 years.

The Fair Housing Legal Clinic, the Czech Program and the SIPO-China Program began under his leadership, although he is quick to point out that he worked closely with Professor Michael Seng and former Associate Dean Dorothy Li to bring those programs to fruition.

It was Johnston who oversaw the law school's purchase of the Chicago Bar Association building's top nine floors in a condominium agreement. He also approved the expansion of the graduate degree programs and the growth of the Centers for Excellence. He worked closely with the board of trustees, the faculty and staff in leading the law school's 100th anniversary celebration in 1999-2000.

Although he is stepping away from the classroom, he will be around the law school and will post updates on his Illinois Civil Procedure blog, and will post outstanding student papers that are worthy of publication. He has already featured a dozen student pieces at http://civpro.jmls.edu.

#### THE FUTURE OF LEGAL EDUCATION IS HERE

#### Two New Programs Make John Marshall a Trailblazer

From the day students walk in the door at The John Marshall Law School, their success is paramount. The new Expert Learning Program (Ex-L pronounced Excel), giving first-year students a foundation for success in law school, is being paired with a required hands-on learning experience mandate for graduation.

"We are acting on the trends we see in the marketplace and stepping forward to give our students the advantage," says Professor Anthony Niedwiecki, newly appointed associate dean of Skills, Experiential Learning and Assessment.

#### **A Strong Foundation**

The revamping of the curriculum started this fall semester when the 1Ls enrolled in Ex L, a program designed to give them the foundation needed for law school success. Topics include the structure and function of the courts, reading and briefing cases, the interplay between case law and statutes, and the function of legal precedent.

Instruction also focuses on reading and understanding cases and other assignments, briefing cases, outlining successfully, and tips on time management, exam taking and how to assess one's own learning style. Because law students come from a variety of educational backgrounds, or may have graduated a few years before law school, this course will help them make a better transition from their previous fields into law.



Professor Sonia Green

"We are at the forefront of a new trend, one of helping law students succeed in law school from the start," says Professor Sonia Green, director of ExL. "Giving students these best practices for a legal education also will advance the value of the education we provide.

"Learning these strategies will help students with their critical thinking, as well as their ability to develop good learning skills," Green added. "These are strategies that all students can employ for a richer law school experience, and I believe will be helpful well beyond law school. We believe with a strong foundation, all of our students will find success. This course is structured around what all our students need."

#### **Learning by Doing**

Employers are demanding new hires who can draft complaints and legal memoranda, who can assist in discovery, who can submit documents to the court and who can use modern legal technology.

John Marshall is leading the way when it comes to experiential learning. As this 1L class matriculates through law school, they will be required to complete a three-credit-hour course during the last half of law school that will put them to work in a clinical setting or an externship.

There has always been a wealth of opportunity for John Marshall students to gain hands-on experience in a variety of clinical and externship options, but this is the first time the law school will require that every student perform legal work with real clients before they graduate.

Niedwiecki is developing a roster of law offices, not-for-profit groups, government agencies and businesses in addition to expanding John Marshall's clinical offerings, that will serve as placements for students earning their Experiential Learning credit. This program will help guarantee John Marshall students have the legal education foundation partnered with the training that makes them practice ready.

"This program will provide students with a thorough and richer professional



Associate Dean Anthony Niedwiecki

experience that more fully integrates all of the skills, knowledge and values they have learned in law school," Niedwiecki said.

The Experiential Learning curriculum is structured around 12 categories of skills, values and work. Students will be expected to meet at least six of these during their experience: interviewing, counseling, negotiation, drafting legal documents, legal research, fact investigation, problem-solving, alternative dispute resolution, managing legal work, advocacy and public education, oral communication and legal analysis.

Niedwiecki sees these curriculum changes as a package that includes the outstanding Lawyering Skills Program that teaches not only writing but research, interviewing, counseling and oral argument. U.S. News & World Report ranks John Marshall's Lawyering Skills Program No. 2 in the nation.

"I constantly hear from employers that our students are always prepared, they're great writers," Niedwiecki said. "They're always able to do things that students from other law schools cannot do and these new requirements will only make them stronger."

## Chanbonpin Sees the LaW as a Tool of Empowerment

Professor Kim D. Chanbonpin's passion for teaching comes from the belief that she is making an impact on someone's life.

"To have made connections with students, it's been exciting for me and gratifying to see students' careers develop. And, to know I had any small part in that is nice."

Chanbonpin had not intended to become a law professor when she started classes at University of Hawai'i-Manoa William S. Richardson School of Law. At first, she'd hoped to be a civil rights litigator, but soon realized there were many things she could do with a law degree.

"I saw a law degree as a tool of empowerment," Chanbonpin explains. "I discovered being a lawyer didn't necessarily mean having to practice law."

She had hopes of becoming a law professor, but had no idea a chance meeting with John Marshall Professor Mark Wojcik and then-Professor Corey

Yung at an Association of American Law Schools meeting in 2007 would lead her to interview at John Marshall.

"It was a lot of serendipity that brought me to Chicago, and I'm pleased about the path my life has taken since then," said Chanbonpin, who is teaching Lawyering Skills I and Criminal Law this semester.

Chanbonpin's teaching career started as a Westerfield Fellow at Loyola University New Orleans from 2006 to 2008 teaching Legal Research & Writing, and National Security Law & Civil Liberties. She taught the first incoming class after Hurricane Katrina hit the coastal city in 2005.

"I showed up about 10 months after Katrina, in June [2006]," Chanbonpin remembers. "The city was not completely empty but it had constricted towards its center; public services like the streetcars were not in operation—it was as if the storm had happened the week prior."

She reminds her students a legal education offers skills such as critical thinking, policy insight and rational argumentation—any of which can enhance a career.

"I try to relay to students that the world opens up for you when you have a law degree," Chanbonpin adds. "You have an intimate knowledge of how the law works. It's not just statutes and cases there's also the public policy behind it."

While teaching many first-year law students, Chanbonpin enjoys the different college majors that come into her classroom, which she finds create a unique dialogue for class discussion.



"To have students who have come from the humanities, 'hard' sciences, business—anything beyond political science—creates a mix of knowledge and methodology that makes the law classes much more interesting. You don't have to close any doors."

This exciting dialogue fuels Chanbonpin's legal writing.

"My scholarship has always benefitted from my time teaching in the classroom," she explains. "When I'm writing I try my best to make sure the writing is something that educates and can be read by my students. I put myself in my students' shoes as I write."

"The world opens up for you when you have a law degree."

Her most recent work, "Legal Writing, the Remix: Plagiarism and Hip Hop Ethics" was published in the Mercer Law Review.

Outside of John Marshall, Chanbonpin

is a board member of the Legal Writing Institute (LWI), and serves on the Society of American Law Teachers (SALT) board of governors.

"SALT has been on the forefront of many issues impacting legal education," Chanbonpin says. "It monitors ABA accreditation standards, it is concerned with diversity in education, and it has developed a lot of different programs around supporting and retaining diverse faculties. It's an organization I'm proud to be a part of and take a leadership role in."

#### **GUIDANCE THROUGH MENTORING**

#### Alumni Volunteer to Give Students a Look at the Real World

No doubt you remember what it was like at the beginning of law school, feeling overwhelmed and excited at the same time but wishing the path to your future came with a guide, or at least a traffic cop to help you avoid dead ends.

The Career Services Office (CSO) at The John Marshall Law School offers the Alumni Mentoring Program that is designed to help students navigate the pathways of law school by connecting them with alumni who can point the way.

The program, operated in conjunction with the Office of Alumni Relations, was started by the CSO in 1998. It has paired well over 1,000 students with alumni mentors over the years. In the 2012–13 school year alone, 154 students participated.

Students should have finished their first semester of law school before getting involved. The relationships can take as little or as much time as both parties like, but the CSO suggests at least three sessions during a semester, beginning with the kick-off when the students and mentors meet for the first time in a group setting at John Marshall.

One current student-alumni pair has gone beyond those bare bones meetings and forged a professional relationship that both have found beneficial. Jordan Levey, a transplanted Illinoisan originally from Ohio, is a 3L who was matched with family lawyer Scott Tzinberg (JD '96) at the beginning of her second semester of law school.

Levey met Tzinberg at the program's kick-off reception and followed up with an email. Eventually, she began accompanying him to court dates and he would provide her with case background



Scott Tzinberg (JD '96) is a mentor to third-year student Jordan Levey.

material enabling her to better understand what was happening in court. Then, when Tzinberg was reorganizing and moving his office, he hired Levey as a law clerk when a position became available.

"It's not the intention of the Alumni Mentoring Program that mentors hire the students, but this is one example of the great kind of outcomes that can come when the circumstances permit and the student has demonstrated preparedness," said Sherri Dzik, director of Alumni Relations, who works with CSO on the program.

Levey said she is continuing to work at Tzinberg's office.

"I've had hands-on learning experience that is just not available through any other means. I've learned more working at Scott's office and shadowing him in the courtroom than I have learned in two years of law school," she said. "And the experience has

reaffirmed for me that this area of law is one I'm passionate about and that this is what I want to do."

For his part, Tzinberg is pleased with Levey's work and happy to be showing her the ropes. When Tzinberg was in law school, a relative served as his mentor, and Tzinberg has been involved in the mentor program for nearly 10 years.

"I think it's a good way of connecting and giving back to the law school," Tzinberg said. "And it's beneficial to me as a way of helping to strengthen the Chicago area legal community and potential colleagues.

"Not to mention the fact that I was able to hire a top-notch law clerk when I needed one without a lot of effort," he said. "That was icing on the cake."

If you're interested in participating in the program, please contact Stacia Goldstein in the Career Services Office at *6goldste@jmls.edu*.

#### Freedom Award and Distinguished Service Awards Luncheon

At the 2013 Freedom Award and Distinguished Service Awards Luncheon, The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association honored those who have given outstanding service either as a member of the United States military or as someone assisting veterans. Honorees are Distinguished Service Award (DSA) recipient Brian Clauss (JD '90) (seated, left) and Freedom Award honoree Urban Miyares; and DSA recipients (standing, from left) Frank Del Barto (JD '07); U.S. Army Col. Eugene E. Baime (JD '91); Donald Rubin (JD '80) and the Honorable Alexander White (JD '76). Miyares is a blinded Vietnam veteran whose efforts have benefitted veterans for more than 40 years. He is a nationally recognized motivational speaker and entrepreneur serving as president of the Disabled Businesspersons Association, a volunteer-driven charity he founded in 1985.





## A Legal Prep Foundation

Alumnus Helps Establish High School With a Law Curriculum

R ather Stanton (JD '07) could have a nice corner office with a list of high profile clients.

Instead, he is a founder of Legal Prep Charter Academies, a charter high school in one of Chicago's toughest neighborhoods that focuses on instilling an interest in law in the city's neediest teenagers.

Some may see irony there but for Stanton it makes perfect sense. "I don't regret going to law school," he says. "It gave me the

ability to think things through and be strategic with planning. I'm still interacting with attorneys, but building an organization and creating something from scratch is what really excites me. That fits my personality better than sitting behind a desk."

For Stanton, the way to empowerment is through education with a twist on all things legal, including studying Latin. Legal Prep students are expected to: 1) Be good citizens and appreciate the law; 2) Learn legal concepts and themes through a curriculum with a legal emphasis; and 3) Be academically prepared, after four years, to enroll in college and later have the ability to pursue careers in the law.

"We believe education will give them the ability to improve their world whether that means coming back to the neighborhood after college or going on to do other things," he said.

After graduating from Lake Forest College, Stanton spent three years as a legal assistant at Sidley Austin working on products liability cases. From there he came to The John Marshall Law School with "a goal to start something. I wasn't sure whether that would be a business or an organization."

His first attempt was to sell BBQ from his home state of Tennessee, an idea that nearly became a reality.

As a second-year law student, Stanton started a volunteer tutoring program with a college buddy working with five students at Chicago's Lincoln Park High School. The program grew "until I ran out of friends who would volunteer for a promise of cold beers."

Stanton set up Griffith Tutoring as a not-for-profit business and expanded the program to 10 Chicago high schools. That enabled him to solicit funding and volunteers from law firms and other businesses. He served as executive director and ran the six-week program designed to help students improve their ACT test scores.

After graduation, Stanton continued clerking for Circuit Court of Cook County Judge Brigid McGrath and running the tutoring

business. In early 2009, Stanton met a headhunter impressed with his work with Griffith Tutoring who invited him to interview with the Just the Beginning Foundation (JTBF), a not-for-profit offering free programming for middle school through law school students. Its mission is to inspire those from under-represented, under-served and at-risk groups by improving their educational and professional excellence, with the goal of nurturing an interest in the law.

Based in Chicago, JTBF is led by U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Ann Williams, a champion of diversity in the bar and one of the

For Stanton, the way to empowerment is through education with a twist on all things legal

people Stanton interviewed with. He became the director of development and for the next two years he did outreach to law schools, corporate legal departments, and law firms across the country, expanding JTBF into a national program with branches in Seattle, Minneapolis, Jackson, Miss., and Washington, D.C.

During his time at JTBF, Stanton was working with fellow attorney Sam Finkelstein. Together they developed their high school concept.

"What we told ourselves was that we would take this brilliant idea that Judge Williams implanted in us, and build on it. She was really the inspiration for Legal Prep," Stanton explained. "Sam took the academic side, and I took the development side."

Although neither knew quite what they were in for-between certifications, locating a building, staff hires, developing a board of directors, etc.—they managed to open Legal Prep in fall 2012 with 160 students in the freshman class.

"The concepts of educating through a legal curriculum have been embraced by our faculty and students," he said, "and supported by our board and donors. Founding Legal Prep has been a struggle and a delight. I can't wait for us to graduate our first class."

#### **CHICAGO'S FASHIONS IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

Alumnae and Fashion Law Society Work to Make Chicago More than a 'Fly-Over' City

John Marshall Law School graduate Michon Stuttley (JD '13) and third-year student Natalie Laczek, who formed the new Fashion Law Society student organization in 2012, knew the fashion and design industry intersects with many different areas of law.

"There is a need for lawyers in the industry," and in Chicago, Laczek explained. The city has its own bustling fashion industry, but often gets overlooked for fashion houses in New York and Los Angeles.

While intellectual property (IP) comes immediately to mind when thinking about fashion and the law, in practice IP only scratches the legal surface of the industry.

To help students and those in the fashion world understand how law intersects with fashion, the Fashion Law Society hosted its first Fashion and Design Law Symposium in April 2013—the first of its kind in the Chicago area—welcoming fashion law experts and advocates from throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico as presenters. Guests included alumnae Shara Harris (JD '02) of WFML PC in Chicago; Aleksandra M.S. Vold (JD '10) of Siprut PC in Chicago; and Frances Hadfield (JD '01) of Grunfeld, Desiderio, Lebowitz, Silverman & Klestadt LLP in New York City.

"There are IP issues such as counterfeiting, but that's a minimal—although highly publicized—part of it," said Hadfield, whose practice focuses on customs litigation, intellectual property and regulatory matters that relate to import and export law.

"Most apparel sold in the United States is manufactured and imported from abroad nowadays and there are strict compliance laws for importing goods into



Attorney Michael Hodes joined Natalie Laczek (center) and Frances Hadfield (JD '01) (right) at the Fashion Law Symposium.



Fashion Law Society co-founders Michon Stuttley (left) and Natalie Laczek (center) chat with LaTonya Williams, lead designer at Elizabeth Smith Fashions, while models show off the latest designs during the Fashion Law Symposium reception on April 12, 2013.

the United States," explains Hadfield, a litigator who is frequently in court on apparel cases. "Importing goods into the United States is a privilege, not a right."

She listed as other areas of law that correlate with fashion: commercial operations and expansion, retail leasing, buying and selling agreements, agency issues, employment issues, human rights, marketing, advertising and promotion, consumer product safety and flammability standards, although the list can be much longer and more product-specific.

"There are so many different commercial areas where fashion and legal intersect," Hadfield added.

Laczek and Stuttley saw a need to discuss fashion's place in the law at a place like John Marshall.

"Chicago has a great fashion scene, and this attention to fashion in the law is important," explains Hadfield. "Moreover, as one of the nation's largest port towns, many businesses are importing apparel into Chicago."

Laczek recognizes that in the field of fashion Chicago is typically a "fly-over" city between the two coasts, but it doesn't need to be.

Laczek said each of the 12 speakers was enthusiastic about the program because "they all see the need to have this discussion."

Hadfield adds, "It was interesting talking to the designers about what they were doing to develop and produce their lines locally and what IP protections they were using—or not using—to protect their brands."

Symposium topics included: "Legal Issues in the Fashion Industry: Creating and Protecting Your Intellectual Property;" "North American Comparative Fashion Law: Policies and Perspectives;" "Advertising Fashion Focus: Designers and Lawyers Perspective;" "Tariffs, Thimbles and Thread: Customs Law for the Fashion Industry;" and "Walking the Walk: Labor and Employment Law Issues Related to Fashion Models."

Laczek is hoping the Fashion Law Society's continued work will help raise Chicago's stature as a leading city in the fashion world.

And Hadfield agrees. The Fashion Law Society was "long overdue: It's great that John Marshall students decided to jump in with it and take the lead."

### On the Board

Heist's Role as Director Helps Him Repay Milton Hershey School for Life-Long Lessons

espite the death of his mother when he was an infant, moving from place to place with a military father and finally being left with his grandmother in Philadelphia, Robert Heist says life has been good to him because of the special environment he grew up in at the Milton Hershey School.

The happiness, support and opportunities the 1989 alumnus experienced from second grade on at the residential prekindergarten through 12th-grade school made all the difference in his life. Today Heist proudly serves as a director on the Board of Managers for the Milton Hershev School, and is on the Board of Directors of the Hershey Trust Co.

"I don't know how my grandmother knew of the school, but it offered me the best education, nurturing and direction I could

have ever received," Heist said. "The school continues to be that special place for children in need from across the country. Obviously, I'm a big supporter, and I want others to know about the school."

Everyone knows Hershey's Kisses, Hershey's Milk Chocolate, Hershey's "I had a great experience through mock trials, and the trial advocacy program was everything I needed."

Cocoa and syrup toppings, and even specialty treats like the Hershey's Chocolate Easter bunnies. Maybe you've enjoyed the Hersheypark and its 11 roller coasters. But did you know about the school that is on the grounds of the company's headquarters in Hershey, Pa.?

"Usually when I say Milton Hershey School, no one immediately associates it with the candy. It's just not spoken of in the same sentence. Yet the school and the trust are doing wonderful things," Heist said.

As a director of the trust, Heist and the eight other board members watch over the major investments that keep the school operating and providing all living expenses, education and special opportunities to Milton Hershey School's 1,900 students. Heist brings his law degree, MBA, business acumen and institutional knowledge to the table.

"Because of the Milton Hershey School, when I got here to attend the University of Illinois at Chicago, I was relatively prepared to take care of myself. After I got my degree in criminal justice, I was certain I was going to be a police officer, and I took the Chicago police exam," he remembers.

But an uncle in Philadelphia suggested Heist consider law school.

"He got me a summer job doing construction roofing work, and agreed to lend me money for my first tuition payments," Heist said. "John Marshall had a January admission. I found I fit right in to this 'working man's school'."



He takes pride in the education he received at John Marshall, and can still name the professors who made a difference in his life, especially Professor Claude Carr who gave him a research assistant position, Professor Joel Cornwell who proved to be an excellent legal writing instructor, and Professor Ralph Ruebner who taught him evidence and ran the Moot Court Program.

"Professor Carr assured me that if I worked hard John Marshall would give me the skills to succeed. Because of the Socratic method, I learned to present a sound argument. I had a great experience through mock trials, and the trial advocacy program was everything I needed," he recalled.

Heist got a summer associate position at Hinshaw & Culbertson after his second year, and went on to work there after graduation. He moved up at the firm, then helped organize two other firms, becoming a partner at both, before going back to school for an MBA. Several of the business students needed legal expertise, so Heist started working with them. As he took on more business, he started his own boutique firm, R. Connor & Associates in 2001, focusing on litigation and problem solving.

Heist loves what he does. Law has been a great profession, and he is headed back to Hershey to share his insights with the students at the Milton Hershey School.

"Who knows, maybe John Marshall will have another graduate from Milton Hershey School become an alum."

# classnotes

#### 1964

**Hon. Nicholas T. Pomaro** (*Ret.*) was honored with the Jacob Bolotin Award for Lifetime Achievement by the Harris Family Foundation.



#### 1965

Robin M. Demouth was named one of the 20 Leading General Counsel in the State of California. Demouth is the vice president, general counsel, secretary and treasurer at Valent USA Corp. in Walnut Creek, California.

#### 1968

Warren Lupel received the Board of Governors Award on June 21, 2013, at the Illinois State Bar Association luncheon. Lupel is a partner at Much Shelist in Chicago, Illinois.



#### 1969

Hon. Timothy C. Evans was honored with the Public Service Award by the Northwest Suburban Bar Association. Evans serves as the chief judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

William J. Hallinan served as the keynote speaker for the MBA Leadership Perspectives Dinner in spring 2013. Hallinan is a co-owner, president and CFO of Cryogenic Industries, a privately owned multinational group of affiliated industrial and service entities headquartered in Murrieta, California.

#### 1970

Jay S. Judge received the Northwest Suburban Bar Association's Distinguished Public Service Award. Judge is a partner at the Law Offices of Judge, James & Kujawa located in Park Ridge, Illinois.

#### 1974

Hon. Fred Foreman, chief judge of the Circuit Court of Lake County, is serving on the Illinois Judges Association Board of Directors.

Kenneth D. Peters has been elected chairman of the National Equipment Finance Association's Legal Committee. Peters is a partner at Cronin, Peters & Cook, P.C. in Chicago, Illinois, and concentrates his practice in workers compensation.

#### 1975

Hon. Russell W. Hartigan was honored by the Illinois High School Association Officials Conference for 40 years of dedicated service officiating high school and college sports. Hartigan is a judge with the Circuit Court of Cook County.



#### 1976

William L. Barr Jr. received the William J. Harte Amicus Volunteer Award from the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association. His practice is The Law Offices of William L. Barr in Chicago, Illinois.



Hon. Michael E. Brandt, chief judge in the 10th judicial circuit, was honored by the Illinois Family Violence Coordinating Council for his commitment to addressing family violence issues. Brandt also received the 1st Annual Public Servant Award from the Peoria County Bar Association.

#### 1978

James R. Carroll has been sworn in as vice president of the Illinois State Bar Association. Carroll is a principal in the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice Group at Much Shelist in Chicago, Illinois.



#### 1979

Paula Holderman has been sworn in as president of the Illinois State Bar Association. Holderman also was named one of the 100 Women of Influence of 2013 by *Today's Chicago Woman*. Holderman is the chief attorney development officer at Winston & Strawn in Chicago, Illinois.

#### 1980

Jerry Blakemore has been elected to a three-year term as secretary of the National Association of College and University Attorneys. Blakemore will serve through May 2016. He is the vice president and general counsel for Northern Illinois University in Dekalb, Illinois.



Jeffrey H. Bunn joined Latimer LeVay Fyock, LLC in Chicago, Illinois, as a partner. His areas of concentration are general business litigation, intellectual property litigation and general negligence. **Hon. Margaret J. Mullen** of the Circuit Court of Lake County was elected to serve on the Illinois Judges Association Board of Directors. She will serve a three-year term.

#### 1981

Hon. Cheryl D. Cesario received the Francis D. Morrissey Legal Achievement Award from the Corporate Law Association of The John Marshall Law School. Cesario, a judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County, has been appointed as a delegate to the American Bar Association's National Conference of State Trial Judges.

Umberto Davi has been installed as second vice president of the Illinois State Bar Association. Davi is principal at Davi Law Office in Western Springs, Illinois, where he specializes in family law and real estate.



Michael J. Haubner was appointed an administrative law judge for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

#### 1982

**Hon. Jesse G. Reyes** of the Illinois Appellate Court received the Mary Heftel Hooton Award from the Women's Bar Association of Illinois.

#### 1984

Hon. David P. Sterba retired from the Illinois Appellate Court in July and became a partner in the new firm Walsh, Fewkes, Sterba Law Offices in Chicago and Palos Heights, Illinois. The firm will handle criminal defense, civil litigation, wrongful death, workers compensation, personal injury, civil rights, administrative law and appellate matters.

#### 1985

Cynthia A. Bergmann was inducted as president of the Association of Transportation Law Professionals at the group's 84th Annual Meeting in Atlantic Beach, Florida. Bergmann is a partner at Freeborn & Peters, LLP in Chicago, Illinois.



**Peter Brust** was promoted to director of fleet security at Holland America Line.

Howard Stevens was named a 2013 Pennsylvania Super Lawyer by Thompson Reuters. Stevens was selected for achievements in medical malpractice defense.

#### **REUNION WEEKEND 2013**

Alumni enjoyed their time coming back to John Marshall in June 2013 after many years of being away. It was great to show off the new facilities and to hear reminiscences of their days in these hallowed halls. The Office of Alumni Relations is planning its next reunion spectacular for Sept. 19 and 20, 2014, honoring the classes of 2004, 1989, 1974 and 1964. Mark your calendars for a fun weekend.



Enjoying the evening at the 2013 reunion gala were (from left) Dave Americus (JD '88), Susan Americus (JD '89), Lisa Iverson (LLM '98) and Circuit Court of Cook County Judge Regina Scannicchio (JD '88).



Class of 2003 graduates (from left) Tania Harvey, Anita Oak and Rachel Chernoff met up with Professor Tim O'Neill at the June reunion event. The reunion weekend celebration recognized graduates from 2003, 1988, 1973, 1963 and before.



Class of 1988 alumni (from left) Lori Prokes, Marty Delano, Cathy Shattuck Delano and Will County Circuit Court Judge Dinah Archambeault had a great time at the reunion gala.



It was a great June 8, 2013, reunion party that brought together (seated, from left) Canella Henrichs (JD '73); Dean John E. Corkery; and James Tatooles (JD '63); and (back row) Milton Babirak (JD '73); Joseph Vosicky (JD '81); Marilyn Marton (JD '73); William Beach, chief development officer; and Lauren Prihoda (JD '10), director, Annual Giving.

#### 1986

Gordon E.R. Troy has been named one of New England's best defenders of intellectual property in Charlotte, Vermont, by Super Lawyers Magazine. Troy concentrates his practice in trademark and copyright prosecution.

#### 1988

Robert D. Kuzas was appointed a member of the State of Illinois Committee on Character and Fitness for the First District in Chicago, Illinois. Kuzas practices criminal and civil law at his firm, The Law Office of Robert Kuzas Ltd. in Chicago, Illinois.



James F. McCluskey (LLM/TAX) was installed as secretary of the Illinois State Bar Association. McCluskey is a founding member of Momkus McCluskey, LLC in Lisle, Illinois.

#### 1989

Thomas W. Goedert joined Crane, Heyman, Simon, Welch & Clar in Chicago, Illinois, as of counsel. Goedert concentrates his practice in eminent domain and condemnation.

Frank J. Vondrak has been promoted to chief of the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division in Chicago, Illinois.

#### 1990

Laura Fese is serving as general counsel of International Business Systems. Fese previously served as chief legal officer and executive vice president of RedPrairie Holding, Inc. since 2002.



Hon. Iain Johnston has been appointed U.S. Magistrate Judge of the Northern District of Illinois. Johnston presides in Rockford, Illinois.



Alfred T. Whiters received the Presidential Award from the Cook County Bar Association. Whiters' law firm specializes in criminal law and personal injury in Chicago, Illinois.

#### classnotes... continued

#### 1991

Michele F. Hendrickson has been sworn in as the new president of the Advocates Society, the association of Polish-American Lawyers in Chicago, Illinois. Hendrickson is an attorney for the Cook County Public Defender's Office.

Evan Janowitz joined Anchor HR Solutions as a senior client partner in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Thomas D. Laue was named partner at Udall Law Firm, LLP in Tucson, Arizona. Laue concentrates his practice in business and commercial litigation, products liability and transactional law.



#### 1992

Karen A. Enright was reappointed to the Board of Governors of the Illinois State Bar Association. Enright concentrates her practice in personal injury with McNabola Law Group in Chicago, Illinois.



#### 1993

Keith E. Fruehling was appointed to the Board of Governors of the Illinois State Bar Association. Fruehling, a partner at Heyl Royster law firm in Urbana, Illinois, concentrates his practice in civil litigation.



Patrick G. King has joined Ulmer & Berne, LLP in Chicago, Illinois, as a partner. King's area of focus is with the Financial Services and Securities Litigation practice group.



#### 1994

Antonio DeBlasio has formed DeBlasio & Donnell with offices in Chicago and Oak Brook, Illinois.

Hon. Celia G. Gamrath was installed as treasurer of the Illinois State Bar Association. Gamrath is a judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

#### 1995

Daniel A. Cotter is vice president, general counsel and secretary at Fidelity Life Association. Cotter concentrates his practice in general counsel services and structuring and negotiating complex business transactions. Cotter also serves as 1st vice president of the Chicago Bar Association.



#### 1996

Sonia Galindo Cudd has been appointed secretary, in addition to her roles as vice president and associate general counselcorporate for Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, Inc., a leader in specialty coffee and coffee makers based in Waterbury, Vermont.

Kevin M. Phillips has joined Scopelitis, Garvin, Light, Hanson & Feary, PC in Chicago, Illinois, as a partner. Phillips concentrates his practice on warehousing and logistics.



Karie Valentino joined Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith LLP in Chicago, Illinois, as partner. Valentino concentrates her practice on medical malpractice litigation, commercial litigation, general tort liability and product liability. She is serving as treasurer of the Women's Bar



#### 1997

Association of Illinois.

Damian Ortiz (LLM/RE '04) was honored with the Community Service Award by the Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois. Ortiz is a clinical professor at the Fair Housing Legal Clinic at The John Marshall Law School.



Jason G. Wehrle has joined the firm Grogan & Graffam, PC in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Wehrle concentrates his practice in commercial litigation, consumer litigation defense and professional liability defense.



John E. Zummo has joined Howard & Howard in Chicago, Illinois. He concentrates his practice on representing financial institutions in litigation, bankruptcy and receivership proceedings.

#### 1998

Hon. Jessica Arong O'Brien (LLM/ Tax '98, LLM/EB '02) is serving as vice president of the Women's Bar Association of Illinois.

A. Mark O'Danovich of Bullaro & Carton, P.C. in Chicago, Illinois, has been selected one of the "40 Under Forty to Watch" honorees by Law Bulletin Publishing Co.

#### 1999

Sherri Berendt married Matthew Dzik in Fort Sheridan, Illinois, in June. Berendt serves as the director of Alumni Relations at John Marshall.



Margaret Donnell has formed DeBlasio & Donnell with offices in

Chicago and Oak Brook, Illinois. Donnell focuses her practice on construction, product liability and personal injury litigation.

Seth David Lamden of Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg in Chicago, Illinois, has been selected one of the "40 Under Forty to Watch" honorees by Law Bulletin Publishing Co.

Christoper Mickus, a partner at Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg in Chicago, Illinois, was selected for inclusion in the National Law Journal's "40 Under 40" list of top Chicago attorneys.

Joshua Singewald has joined Rinella & Rinella in Chicago, Illinois, as an associate. Singewald's areas of practice are family law and domestic relations.



#### 2000

Heather A. Boice has joined Perkins Coie LLP as senior counsel in Chicago, Illinois. Boice concentrates her practice in patent litigation.

Heather Hurst of Davis Friedman, LLP in Chicago, Illinois, has been selected one of the "40 Under Forty to Watch" honorees by Law Bulletin Publishing Co.

#### 2001

Lucille A. Blackburn received the Meritorious Award from the Cook County Bar Association. Blackburn works for Chicago Public Schools.

Paige Manley Canepari joined @properties as a broker in its Winnetka, Illinois, office. Canepari is focusing her business in the residential real estate markets of the North Shore and Chicago, Illinois.



Edward Jarot Jr. (LLM/TAX) was admitted to the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court in a June 3, 2013, ceremony in Washington. He is a partner with Dystrup, Hoster & Jarot in Joliet, Illinois.

Michael J. Linneman has become a shareholder at Johnson & Bell, Ltd. in Chicago, Illinois. Linneman focuses his practice in trucking and transportation law, premises liability and general negligence.



Michael S. Krauch has joined Michigan State University Extension Program to educate the Michigan community about financial literacy, home ownership and foreclosure. Krauch Law Office is located in Joliet, Illinois.

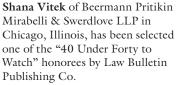
#### 2002

Adam Kelly, a partner at Loeb & Loeb LLP in Chicago, Illinois, was selected for inclusion in the National Law Journal's "40 Under 40" list of top Chicago attorneys.

Derek S. Witte had his article "Bleeding Data in a Pool of Sharks: The Anathema of Privacy in a World of Digital Sharing & Electronic Discovery" published in the University of South Carolina Law Review. Witte is counsel at Talcott Franklin P.S. in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

#### 2003

Sarah R. Breitlander has joined Krain Corp. in Costa Rica as senior in-house counsel. Breitlander oversees the real estate investment group division.



Michael J. Zalewski joined the firm Krieg, DeVault LLP in Chicago, Illinois, as of counsel. Zalewski concentrates his practice in regulatory compliance.



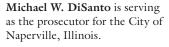




#### 2004

Marc Bangser has joined Bennett Law Firm, LLC in Oak Brook, Illinois. Bangser will focus on family law.

Bridget C. Duignan serves on the Board of Governors of the Illinois State Bar Association. Duignan is an associate attorney at Latherow Law Office in Chicago, Illinois. She concentrates her practice in plaintiff's medical malpractice, construction negligence and personal injury.



Jennifer Irmen is serving as corresponding secretary for the Women's Bar Association of Illinois

Leanne W. Moore has been promoted to partner at Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP in Chicago, Illinois. Moore focuses her practice on medical negligence and healthcare, and general trial practice.

Scott E. Llovd joined Brooks Kushman P.C. in Southfield, Michigan, as an associate attorney. Lloyd concentrates his practice in patent prosecution.

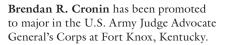
Dana Wilson, with the Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana, was selected for inclusion in the National Law Journal's "40 Under 40" list of top Chicago area attorneys.

Scott E. Llovd

#### 2005

Brian C. Bassett has been promoted to partner with Traub, Lieberman, Straus & Shrewsberry, LLP in Chicago, Illinois. Bassett concentrates his practice in insurance coverage, excess monitoring and general liability.

Camille A. Cribaro-Mello (LLM/EB) is practicing with Sanchez, Daniels & Hoffman LLP in Chicago, Illinois. Cribaro-Mello concentrates her practice in labor and employment law.



Gregory C. Maksimuk was elected secretary/treasurer of the Kane County Bar Association. Maksimuk is an associate attorney at Schiller, DuCanto & Fleck, LLP in Wheaton, Illinois. Maksimuk concentrates his practice in family law.



Daniel R. Whiston serves as a board member of the Kane County Bar Association. Whiston is a partner at SmithAmundsen in St. Charles, Illinois. Whiston's practice areas are retail litigation, professional liability, education



law, insurance litigation, commercial and banking litigation and construction litigation.

#### 2006

Namit Bammi joined Robinson, Shapiro & Schwartz in Chicago, Illinois, as a founding partner of the firm's real estate and corporate practice groups. Bammi concentrates his practice in commercial and residential real estate, land use and zoning, property tax appeals and corporate law.

Mark W. Bina received the Award of Excellence in Pro Bono and Public Interest Service from the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois and the Chicago Chapter of the



Federal Bar Association. Bina is an attorney at Krieg DeVault, LLP in Chicago, Illinois.

Bradley M. Cosgrove joined the firm Clifford Law Offices in Chicago, Illinois, as a partner. Cosgrove concentrates his practice in medical malpractice, personal injury and wrongful death.



Brian T. McGinnis joined Stellato & Schwartz, Ltd. as an associate in Chicago, Illinois, where he concentrates on civil litigation.

Joshua B. Rosenzweig is general counsel of the Kane County Bar Association. Rosenzweig is an attorney at Dickson & Hasenbalg in Aurora, Illinois. His areas of practice are general civil and business litigation, landlord-tenant disputes, foreclosures and collections.

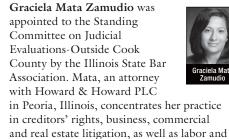


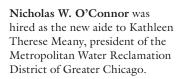
Anthony M. Sciara joined Robinson, Shapiro & Schwartz, LLC in Chicago, Illinois. Sciara concentrates his practice in commercial litigation and civil appeals.

#### classnotes... continued

#### 2007

John C. Johnsen (LLM/IP) received the "Pro Bono Advocate of the Month Award" from Illinois Legal Aid Online. Johnsen participates in the Chicago Bar Association Summary Suspension Volunteer Program, which provides legal aid to people facing suspension of their driver's licenses because of DUI charges.





employment law.

Nathan Quaglia joined Swanson, Martin & Bell in Chicago, Illinois, as an associate attorney. Quaglia concentrates his practice on toxic tort, particularly asbestos litigation and environmental law.





#### 2008

Dane A. Bolinger has joined Hawley Troxell in Boise, Idaho, as an associate attorney in the litigation, insurance and real estate groups.

David W. Eckhardt (LLM/ TAX '12) has joined the Human Resources Law Practice Group for Whyte Hirschboeck Dudek, S.C. in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Eckhardt concentrates his practice on compensation, ownership of business and taxation.



Rachel N. Farrington has joined Michael Best & Friedrich as an attorney in Chicago, Illinois. Farrington concentrates her practice in intellectual property litigation.



#### 2009

Scott D. Barnett married Laura Walker on June 22, 2013, at Frog Pond Village in Interlochen, Michigan. Barnett is an attorney at Troutman Sanders, LLP in Chicago, Illinois, and concentrates his practice in intellectual property.

Zachary Martel founded the law firm, Roscich & Martel Law Firm LLC in Naperville, Illinois. He concentrates his practice in family law, real estate, estate planning and business law matters.



Alexis O. Nisbet married Adam David Reid on June 1, 2013, at Christ Episcopal Church in Little Rock, Arkansas. Nisbet is a senior tax accountant at The Stephens Group LLC in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Jessica Oldani (LLM/IBT '12) had an article, "Rehabilitating the U.S. Corporate Income Tax System in Light of Current Realities and 26 U.S.C. & 965," published in International Lawyer, a quarterly publication of the American Bar Association's Section of International Law.

#### 2010

Gina C. Adduci joined the law firm Krieg, DeVault LLP in Chicago, Illinois, as a new associate. Adduci concentrates her practice in business, governmental affairs and public advocacy.



John A. Blatt has joined Freedman, Anselmo, Lindberg LLC in Naperville, Illinois. Blatt concentrates his practice in mortgage foreclosure.



Barisa Meckler in a ceremony at Spiaggia in Chicago on July 20, 2013. He is an assistant state's attorney with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office.







Tiffany E. Elking is vice president of Government Navigation Group, a consulting company in Chicago and Springfield, Illinois.

Tyler Philippi (LLM/EB '11) has joined Jackson Lewis in Omaha, Nebraska, as an associate. Philippi concentrates his practice in the areas of ERISA and employee benefits.

Eric T. Saar married Rachel Michelle Bordenstein on April 13, 2013, at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota, Florida. Saar is an associate at the law firm Silva Thomas in New York, New York.

Eileen Sergo has joined Rieff Schramm Kanter & Guttman, LLC in Chicago, Illinois. Sergo concentrates her practice in real estate assessment and tax law.

#### 2011

Tiffany Kay was honored by the Cook County Bar Association with the Junior Counselor Award. Kay is a staff attorney in the Office of Legal Affairs-Labor Relations at the Illinois Department of Financial & Professional Regulations.



Brandon Nemec has accepted a position as an assistant state's attorney with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office.

Anthony M. Sam has joined Cray, Huber, Horstman, Heil & Van Ausdal LLC in Chicago, Illinois, as an associate. He is focusing his practice on catastrophic injury and loss litigation and commercial transportation litigation.

#### 2012

Jeffrey A. Arnold (LLM/EB '13) is an associate at Seyfarth Shaw in Chicago, Illinois.

Colin Quinn Commito (LLM/IBT '12) is of counsel at Luther Franklin Spence & Associates in Chicago, Illinois.

Rebecca E. Erde has started her own firm, the Law Firm of Rebecca E. Erde, in Los Angeles, California. The firm's area of practice is elder law.



Craig K. Kaplin has joined Stellato & Schwartz, Ltd. as an associate in Chicago, Illinois. Kaplin concentrates his practice in civil litigation.

Margaret Knell was appointed chair of the Women's Industry Network for I-CAR (Inter-Industry Conference on Auto Collision Repair). Knell is the director of Corporate Administration for I-CAR.

Jinsun Koh has joined Freedman, Anselmo, Lindberg, LLC in Naperville, Illinois. Koh concentrates her practice in mortgage foreclosure.

Ryan P. Linsner has joined Cavanagh Law Group as an associate in Chicago, Illinois. Linsner concentrates his practice in complex personal injury, wrongful death and product liability.



Mark G. Malbrough married Kimberly J. Wilson, on Sept. 15, 2012, in Taylor Ridge. Malbrough is an associate at The Girard Law Group in Chicago, Illinois.

Alexandros Stamatoglou has joined Ungaretti & Harris LLP in Chicago, Illinois, as an associate in the litigation department.

Victoria Thanoukos (MS/IP) opened Kensington Floral and Events, a boutique event planning and floral company in Skokie, Illinois.

#### 2013

Gregory J. Guest is clerking for Judge Lee M. Jackwig in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Iowa.

Shayla A. King was honored with the Contemporary Professional's Award by the Cleveland Branch of the NAACP at its 54th Annual Freedom Dinner in June. She was recognized for her service on the Cleveland Branch's Youth Council.

Karli Mays is an assistant state's attorney with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office.

Alissa Neuman joined the Law Office of Timothy J. Fiscella in Chicago, Illinois, as an associate attorney. Neuman is concentrating her practice on criminal defense.





#### **In Memoriam**

Ray J. Cohen, JD '65 George F. Dvorak, JD '53 F. Alice Gould, JD '55 Walter H. Hamilton, JD '75 Michael Hawkins, JD '69 Barbara Kalobratsos, JD '91 Nels A. Kompier, JD '83 Evelyn B. Levite, JD '33 Darline Petersen, JD '70 Richard E. Pixler, JD '63 Harold D. Pletcher, JD '62 Elliot B. Pollock, JD '87 John S. Rybka, JD '73 James S. Smith III, JD '90 Carl L. Steiner, JD '38 Julianna Summers, JD '97/LLM '03 Sharon B. Wells, JD '81



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Sherri J. Dzik (JD '99)

Director of Alumni Relations

Matthew Steward (JD '07)

Assistant Director of Alumni Relations

Francine Williams

Project Coordinator

Marilyn Thomas, Ciara Shook and Terri Colby

BriefCase Editors

Maria Villegas and Michael Cabonce

BriefCase Design/Production

Ralf-Finn Hestoft, Mike Kelly and Colin Thomas

Principal Photography

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