



COLORADO LAWYERS COMMITTEE

Special Update

July 10, 2008

Colorado Lawyers Committee Annual Luncheon



Michael Cook (Sherman & Howard L.L.C.) received the *Outstanding Sustained Contribution Award*.



Arnold & Porter LLP received the *Law Firm of the Year Award*.



The Project Homeless Connect Leadership (Peter Schwartz, Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP; Alice Norman, Denver Municipal Indigent Defense Counsel; Len Segreti, Qwest Communications Legal Department; Susan Cole and Tim Macdonald, Arnold & Porter LLP) received the *Individual/Team of the Year Award*.

Legal Night Clinics. Volunteers are always needed for the twice monthly Legal Night Clinics. Upcoming clinic dates are **Tuesday, July 15, 2008** at Mi Casa Resource Center for Women (360 Acoma Street) and **Wednesday, August 6, 2008** at Centro San Juan Diego (2830 Lawrence Street), both from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Volunteers address many legal issues, including family law, immigration, bankruptcy, housing, and many others. New volunteers are welcome! Please RSVP to Susan Cole at susan_cole@aporter.com

The **29th Annual Award Luncheon** was held on May 20, 2008. More than 480 people attended the event. Congratulations to all of this year's nominees and award recipients. To see more pictures and information on the event, visit our website at www.coloradolawyerscommittee.org

Hate Violence Task Force. The Hate Violence Teaching Tolerance Task Force recently concluded another very successful year of conducting mock trials. The program utilizes volunteer lawyers, paralegals and law students to present a fictional trial based on Colorado's Hate/Bias Crimes Statute. The students serve as juries and obtain a greater understanding of the legal system, as well as the importance of diversity. During the 2007-2008 school year, twenty mock trials were presented at middle schools and high schools throughout Colorado. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers for making the Hate Violence Task Force such a success! If you are interested in volunteering during the next school year or if you'd like to recommend a school to the task force, please contact Tarek Saad (Holland & Hart LLP).

The Colorado Lawyers Committee Welcomes Summer Intern

We'd like to introduce the Colorado Lawyers Committee Summer Intern, Ben Schler. A native of Colorado, Ben is entering his second year of law school at the University of Colorado. Before law school, Ben was the Legislative Aide to Representative Bernie Buescher, Chair of the Joint Budget Committee at the Colorado Legislature.



Volunteer lawyers from Lexis-Nexis, Kelly Salling-Davies, Kathleen Cook, Michael Leyba and Rick Huffman, attend the 6th Project Homeless Connect at the University of Denver.



Legal Volunteers Carol Muck and Susan Curtis meet with clients at the 6th Project Homeless Connect at the University of Denver.

Project Homeless Connect. The 6th Project Homeless Connect, held on May 9, 2008 at the University of Denver, was a great success. Project Homeless Connect links hundreds of homeless individuals in Denver to legal services, housing, employment, medical services, public benefits, and many other valuable services. 69 volunteer lawyers, paralegals and law students generously donated their time to provide legal information and referrals to 225 homeless individuals.

Additionally, the highly successful **Homeless Court** was again offered to the Project Homeless Connect participants. Homeless individuals were represented by our legal volunteers and appeared before Denver County Judge Breese. Judge Breese spent over 5 hours resolving the outstanding warrants that often prohibit the homeless from obtaining housing and employment.

Participants were very appreciative for the valuable legal information from the legal volunteers and thanks in part to Homeless Court, many were ready to take affirmative steps to end their homelessness. **Thank you to all our wonderful and dedicated volunteers for making Project Homeless Connect another success!**

The next Project Homeless Connect event will be this Fall. If you're interested in volunteering or would like additional information, please contact Susan Cole at susan_cole@aporter.com

Volunteers Needed for Homeless ID Task Force. The Colorado Lawyers Committee has learned that homeless individuals continue to experience problems in obtaining a state-issued identification card. Without a proper ID, the homeless can not secure housing, employment or other services. The Homeless ID Task Force is looking for volunteer attorneys willing to assist homeless individuals with the administrative process to obtain an ID card. The goals of this project are (1) to assure that individuals who need IDs obtain them and (2) to identify the systemic barriers to obtaining an ID.

A training has been scheduled for **August 27, 2008 from 9:00-12:00** and volunteers will be asked to attend monthly meetings with Task Force Chairs, Jim Hubbell (Kelly Garnsey Hubbell + Lass LLC), Tom Snyder (Stoel Rives LLP) and Tim Macdonald (Arnold & Porter LLP). If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Lindsay Unruh (Reilly Pozner & Connelly LLP) at lunruh@litigationcolorado.com.

Food Stamps Task Force. A newly formed task force is examining the delay in processing food stamps applications in certain Colorado counties. According to federal regulations, a general application for food stamps must be processed within 30 days of receipt of the application. In certain Colorado counties, individuals and families experience lengthy delays that far exceed the 30 day requirement. Due to these long delays, many people living in Colorado are struggling to feed themselves. Eric Elliff (Morrison & Foerster LLP) is leading the effort of the Food Stamps Task Force, with assistance from John Phillips and Mike Murphy (both from Shughart Thomson & Kilroy P.C.), Aaron Bradford (Pryor Johnson Carney Karr Nixon PC), the Colorado Center on Law and Policy and the National Center on Law and Economic Justice.

WELCOME!

The Colorado Lawyers Committee is pleased to welcome **Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP** as a new contributing law firm.



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