



Pro bono advocacy for
children and the underserved.

UPDATE ▫ FALL ▫ 2017

Colorado Lawyers Committee

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JULY NONPROFIT LEGAL AUDIT CLINIC

Thank you to all of the participants of the Nonprofit Legal Audit Clinic held on July 26, 2017 at Sherman & Howard L.L.C. In all, 43 volunteer attorneys assisted 17 nonprofits at the event. Teams of volunteer transactional attorneys reviewed checklists with participating nonprofits to evaluate their legal health. Client meetings were preceded by a CLE training for participating lawyers on Colorado nonprofit law. Speakers for the CLE included: Stuart Lark (Sherman & Howard L.L.C.) on Sexual Liberty Rights; Katie Varholak (Sherman & Howard L.L.C.) on Risk Mitigation; Trent Martinet (Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP) on IP; and, Mark Wiletsky (Holland & Hart LLP) on Employment Law.

The event was co-sponsored with Sherman & Howard L.L.C., the Association of Corporate Counsel-CO Chapter, Colorado Nonprofit Association, and Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP. Many thanks to all the volunteers and sponsors for making the event such a wonderful success! We hope to see you at the next clinic on February 28, 2018 at Faegre Baker Daniels LLP.



News from the YLD

- In September, the YLD Board Chair position passed to Lauren Carboni from Dentons. While Lauren is enjoying her maternity leave, Tess Hand-Bender remains as acting Board Chair.
- YLD Board has two seats vacant: Hate Crimes Team and Special Projects Team. Applications were open to all YLD members through October 24th. Selection will take place in the coming weeks.
- Strategic Planning held a YLD Reception in September to brainstorm about new projects for the YLD. Thank you Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP for hosting. Thank you Morrison & Foerster LLP for sponsoring food, and Douglas A. Turner, PC for sponsoring beverages.
- Legal Night Volunteer Reception took place on October 24th at Snell & Wilmer. Thank you Snell & Wilmer for hosting. Volunteers were honored for their tireless dedication to helping individuals who cannot afford an attorney at our legal clinics as volunteer attorneys, interpreters, and coordinators.
- The YLD recently created a new individual giving program for young lawyers and law students (under 40 years old or under 8 years of practice) called "**Club 150**". It is a one-year financial commitment of \$150. Payment can be made on our website and, if necessary, can be spread throughout 2018. YLD Members who join Club 150 will receive free admission and a drink ticket to the 2nd Annual YLD Casino Night on February 9th. If you are interested in joining us, contact Kathleen McCrohan.



Project Homeless Connect #17

The 17th Project Homeless Connect took place on September 19, 2017 at the Colorado Convention Center in downtown Denver. We had fewer homeless clients than in prior years because the city made the decision not to hold a homeless court. We had a great turnout of volunteers. Thank you to the entire Steering Committee, to the Association of Corporate Counsel-Colorado Chapter, and especially to Susan Cole (Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP).

- Total Number of Homeless Served: 168
- Total Number of Legal Volunteers: 58
- Total Issues Handled: 192

CLC is on the Move!

Colorado Lawyers Committee is looking for new office space. If your firm is interested in housing the CLC and can accommodate 2 offices with 2 adjacent work spaces for an office manager and intern, please contact Connie Talmage.

Newly Formed Subcommittees Tackle Children's and Education Issues

Children's Task Force Subcommittees:

Foster Care. This subcommittee will look at a number of issues relating to foster care and determine which one(s) they want to address. Possibilities include: (1) a lawsuit similar to the litigation recently filed in Minnesota; (2) possible Olmstead violations (in 1999, in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, the U.S. Supreme Court held that states must eliminate unnecessary segregation of persons with disabilities and ensure that they receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs); (3) is the state complying with state/federal law to reduce the barriers to permanency (notably for kids in the Division of Youth Services); (4) can we assist the state in making sure that counties apply for Medicaid for kids who are aging out of the foster care system; (5) what are the state's general obligations for children who are aging out of the foster care system (the 1990's Washington State Workman case may be useful); and (6) is the state complying with the Foster Care Bill of Rights?

Immigration. This group will examine several possible issues regarding how recent government practices are impacting children: (1) do undocumented children or children who are here legally have a right to be parented (which would impact the ability of ICE to deport their parents); and (2) whether the government is enforcing the Obama Parental Interest Directive that requires ICE to consider parental interests during court proceedings.

Education Task Force Subcommittees:

Denver Public Schools (DPS) Transportation. The committee believes one of the causes of the re-segregation of DPS is the scarcity of transportation. The Donnell-Kay Foundation has been working with RTD with limited success. This subcommittee will explore whether the CLC can assist in the efforts to expand transportation for DPS students.

Anti-Bullying. House Bill 11-1254 requires school districts to modify their anti-bullying policies to prohibit bullying on the basis of a student's actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. After six years of work by the Gill Foundation, 17% of Colorado schools have not complied; 11% of children in this state are impacted as a result. This committee will explore whether they can assist schools to comply with this law.

Joint Education/Children's Task Force Subcommittees:

School Discipline Subcommittee. This subcommittee will explore: (1) racial discrepancies in enforcement of school discipline policies; (2) the Claire Davis bill (which makes schools liable for violence and has forced major disastrous changes in discipline policies) and (3) Department of Youth Services inadequate education services.

Special Education Subcommittee. This subcommittee will look at: (1) charter school practices of not providing services to special needs kids (keeping kids through "count day" and then telling them they have no services), (2) implementation of the recent US Supreme Court decision in the Douglas County case (which requires the state to offer an "individualized education program" [IEP] reasonably calculated to enable a child to make progress that is appropriate in light of the child's circumstances); and (3) possible litigation regarding the state's failure to fund special education.

CLC Legal Resource Directory

Over the summer, our Sattler Fellow, Megan Barkdull, updated our Legal Resource Directory to reflect all current resources for our three Legal Clinics: Denver Legal Night, Greeley Legal Night, and Project Homeless Connect. The CLC recently decided to make the updated directory available to other organizations who want to use the directory.

Chair's Roundtable

The Chair's Roundtable is a group of individuals who agree to contribute \$1,000 per year for five years to the CLC. The support of these individuals is critical to the success of the CLC. The current Chair's Roundtable, which has been led by Nancy Elkind, has 38 members who contributed over \$140,000 to the CLC. Thank you Nancy for an amazing job as the Chair! Thank you also to Iris Eytan and Peter Schwartz who have agreed to be chairs for the 2018-2022 Chair's Roundtable. If you are interested in joining the Chair's Roundtable, please contact Connie Talmage.

Colorado Gives Day is December 5th!

Please remember the Colorado Lawyers Committee in your annual giving. Visit our website to donate: www.coloradolawyerscommittee.org



A program of Community First Foundation

Volunteer with Hate Crimes



With the new school year under way, the CLC Hate Crimes Education Task Force is busy presenting a fictional trial on Colorado's Hate Crimes/Bias Statute at

local middle and high schools. We are looking for more volunteers to help with these presentations.

To learn more about the Hate Crimes Education Task Force and how you can get involved, visit our website: www.coloradolawyerscommittee.org/hatecrimeseducation

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!



Marnie Adams
Recht Kornfeld PC



Julie E. Anderson
Anderson Hemmat, LLC



Mark F. Bell
Hall Estill



Arnulfo D. Hernandez
Hernandez & Associates, P.C.



Sarah E. Killeen
Cozen O'Connor



Chalyse Robinson
Hogan Lovells US LLP



Shawna Ruetz
Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman &
Dicker LLP



Kimberly A.S. Utesch
Utesch Law, LLC

Welcome New Colorado Lawyers Committee Contributing Law Firms!

Anderson
Hemmat, LLC

Hall Estill

Hernandez &
Associates, P.C.

Recht Kornfeld PC Utesch Law, LLC

Wilson Elser Moskowitz
Edelman & Dicker LLP

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

Visit our website to
sign up!

Nonprofit Legal Audit Clinic

Wed., February 28, 2018 from 8am-1pm at Faegre Baker Daniels LLP

Denver Legal Nights

Wed., Nov 1, 2017 at Centro San Juan Diego from 5:15 to 7:30 p.m.
Wed., Nov 15, 2017 at Centro San Juan Diego from 5:15 to 7:30 p.m.

YLD Casino Night

February 9, 2018
at Rathod Mohamedbhai LLC

YLD Happy Hour

November 9, 2017
Our Mutual Friend Brewery
5:30 to 7pm



Welcome Dardoh Skinner, CLC 2017 Fall Legal Extern

The Colorado Lawyers Committee is pleased to welcome Dardoh Skinner as our new legal extern. Dardoh came to the CLC through the Fall 2017 Magistrate Judge Mix Public Interest Diversity Internship/Externship Program. Dardoh is in her third year at the University of Colorado Law School, where she is Outreach Editor for Volume 16 of the *Colorado Technology Law Journal*. During her second year at CU Law, she was the treasurer of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) and a student fellow at the Byron White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law. Dardoh is also a mentor for the CU Law School Si Se Puede program. After graduation, Dardoh will be joining Holland & Hart as an associate with the Intellectual Property group.

Dardoh was born and raised in Ithaca, NY and graduated from Amherst College with a B.A. in Political Science. She is very excited to be working with the Colorado Lawyers Committee! Welcome, Dardoh!

COLORADO LAWYERS COMMITTEE

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