



LegalEase

April 2020

Newsletter of the Peoria County Bar Association, an Accredited Provider of Continuing Legal Education.

President's Page

I hope this finds you all happy, healthy, and becoming accustomed to working from home. Most of us have two weeks of working from the den, bedroom or dining room table and, if you are like, me, you are amazed at how we've been able to keep working and how productive we've been. It's hard to say "something good coming from Covid" but if you can find your way to that concept, the discoveries made this week about remote working probably fall in that category.

I wrote earlier that all PCBA in-person events through April 1 were either cancelled or should be conducted remotely. The Governor's order extends through April 7th, and it is quite likely to be extended. Therefore, we're now extending our event cancellation to Monday, April 20th. All PCBA events prior to that date should either be conducted electronically, or cancelled. Stephanie also is working remote, so please e-mail her if you need the PCBA office.

I have every belief that we will get through this, but it is going to be quite a pain for a while!

Be safe, stay healthy.



Court News *By Chief Judge Paul P. Gilfillan*



1. The patience of all attorneys/staff/litigants/public in this time of Covid-19 is appreciated by the 10th Circuit courts.
2. There have been numerous Illinois Supreme Court and local Administrative Orders entered reflecting the rapidly changing times. Please review all at: www.10thcircuitcourtil.org and check back for developments.
3. All such Orders are important, but a few of significance, include: a) postponement of all civil and criminal trials in the 10th through April; b) speedy trial requirements have been adjusted; c) access to our courthouses is severely restricted, especially during the 'stay at home' declaration through April 30th; d) Petit jury duty service for April is excused. Grand jury service for April is deferred until May. For May 2020 Peoria jury service of either type, call number on your summons after April 23rd.; e) Phone and video conference hearings are up to the particular judge, but know judges attendance has been reduced; e) Domestic Relations judges have published further guidance in custody/parenting time cases. See 10th circuit website.
4. For updates and information on the health pandemic, please visit: www.pcchd.org

Schedule of Events & Court Holidays

APRIL

10 Good Friday, Courts & Courthouse Closed

Committee Meetings

Meetings are at noon at the PCBA office unless otherwise noted

April

8 Fitness Health & Wellness (via zoom)

21 Board

Important Information Regarding Remote Notarization- *Thank you to John Brady for helping write this!*

On March 26, Governor JB Pritzker entered Executive Order No. 12 in response to the COVID-19 virus. This Executive Order contains temporary changes regarding the witnessing and notarization of documents by allowing Illinois notaries to perform remote notarizations during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as provisions regarding recognition of documents signed "in counterparts". Remote notarizations will be allowed until the Gubernational Disaster Proclamation is rescinded. There are numerous, detailed requirements to do remote notarizations, including that both the signatory and the notary must be physically present in the State of Illinois, the process being done by two-way, real time audio-video communication that allows for the notary and signatory to have direct interaction, and various other requirements to establish the authenticity of the document being signed. Secretary of State Jesse White has provided additional guidance regarding the process, as required by the Executive Order. For a complete list of requirements and other information, click [here](https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/index/notary/electronicnotary0320.pdf) or visit: <https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/index/notary/electronicnotary0320.pdf>

Committee Reports

Entertainment – Part I: Golf Outing

Save-the-Date! The PCBA Annual Golf Outing will be **Friday, August 28!** At the request of many of our golfers, we are heading back to Mt. Hawley Country Club this year! Mark your calendars now. Rain date is Friday, September 18.

Fitness, Health & Wellness: by Robert Everett

How do we stay physically and mentally healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Many experts believe the primary way the virus that causes COVID-19 spreads is through respiratory droplets expelled by a sick person. Therefore, it is important to keep a safe distance from other people – ideally about six feet. Other tips to avoid the virus include washing your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or using a hand sanitizer with more than 60 percent alcohol. You should also avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth because touching the mucous membranes on your face allows germs to enter your body. It may also be helpful to use an approved disinfectant on the doorknobs, handles, faucets, etc. in your house.

It is also important to stay mentally fit during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important to eat healthy (don't skip your fruits and vegetables) and get enough sleep during stressful times. Your local gym is probably closed, but you can still get some exercise by walking, running, or biking outside. You can also find a variety of exercise programs online.

For further information on COVID-19 visit the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Local Continuing Legal Education

2020 Winter Series CLE

The entire 2020 Winter Series is now available on DVD & Vimeo! Each seminar is \$100 for members or \$125 for non-members. For a complete list of all our seminars available, click here, or visit www.peoriabar.org and click on "Recorded Seminars" under the CLE tab.

2020 Brown Bag Seminars

The March 18 & March 25 Brown Bag Seminars had to be postponed. Once they are rescheduled, an email will be sent to everyone registered.

March 18 – Cannabis & FOID Cards - **Postponed**

March 25 – Our Family Wizard – **Postponed**

Workers' Compensation Lunch & Learn

The Workers' Compensation Lunch & Learn scheduled for April 131 has been postponed.

Spring Professional Responsibility Seminar

The May 15 Professional Responsibility seminar has been postponed until late June 2020. We will notify everyone once a new date has been confirmed.

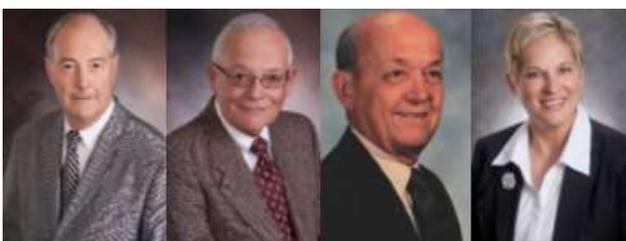
Memorials



On February 29, 2020, a member of the Association, Debra L. Stegall, passed away. Debra received her law degree from Southern Illinois University School of Law Carbondale in 1991 and started her law career at Roadmaster in Olney. She ended her law career as a partner with Heyl Royster Voelker and Allen. Contributions to the Peoria County Bar Association Foundation may be made online by clicking [here](#) or by sending a check to the Peoria County Bar Association Foundation in memory of Debra L. Stegall.

The PCBA has made a \$100 contribution to the Foundation in memory of Debra.

Memorial Service



Gerald W.
Brady, Jr.

David M.
Lynch

Henry D.
Noetzel

Debra L.
Stegall

The Annual Memorial Service will be Thursday, May 21, at 3:00 p.m. in Courtroom 210 of the Peoria County Courthouse. A reception will immediately follow at the Heyl Royster Learning Center. This annual event is yet another unique long-standing initiative of the PCBA, for the purpose of remembering and honoring our members. The Memorial Resolutions are filed in the Circuit Clerk's office and become a part of the public record for all time. Several years ago, the Foundation felt it was important to have time set aside after the formal courtroom presentations, for members to reminisce with heartwarming memories of their colleagues being remembered. We hope you will mark your calendar for May 21.

Young Lawyers

The YLC Law Day Luncheon scheduled for Thursday, April 30 has been postponed. We will let you know once it has been rescheduled.

PRAIRIE STATE LEGAL SERVICES by: Lydia Wagenbach



RECENTLY CLOSED PRO BONO CASES

Prairie State Legal Services would like to thank the following attorneys who have provided free legal assistance to low income persons through our Pro Bono Program and recently closed their pro bono cases: Justin Dillon of Caterpillar, Inc.; Betsy Wirth of Quinn, Johnston, Henderson, Pretorius, and Cerulo; Anne Mergen of Riffle & Associates LLC; William Anderson IV of Anderson Law Offices; and Christopher Nelson of Murphy & Dunn, Inc.

FEBRUARY 2020 SEALING AND EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC

We would like to give a very special thank you to Elizabeth Jensen, Stacy Crabtree of Caterpillar, Inc., and Scott Ostericher of RLI Insurance Company for providing our clients with free legal advice at our most recent sealing and expungement clinic. Our clients were very appreciative of your help and the feedback we received from them was extremely positive. By helping our clients at the clinic, you are helping them obtain employment, professional licenses and facilitate many other areas in their lives. Congratulations on truly making a difference. Prairie State Legal Services would also like to thank your firms for supporting the community by encouraging attorneys to donate their time to pro bono work.

OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER

We are in need of volunteers for our 2020 Sealing and Expungement Clinics. Please call or email me if you are interested in donating some of your time to assist our clients or sign up using the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040c48aaab22a7f94-2020>. Prairie State Legal Services reviews the cases before the date of the clinic and prepares the petitions and other paperwork ahead of time. Our volunteer attorneys review the documentation with the clients, answer any questions the clients have, and obtain the clients' signature. Our Managing Attorney, Denise Conklin, is available during the clinic to answer any questions the clients or attorneys may have.

If you would like to volunteer services, receive additional training in other areas of law or are willing to give a 30 minute phone consultations in your area of expertise, please call me at (309) 621-4015 or email me at lwagenbach@pslegal.org. You will receive a Google Form, which you can use to send us your information. Your pro bono service will help PSLs provide legal assistance to individuals within our community who may not otherwise be able to afford legal representation.

Job Openings | Office Space Available | Misc.

Job openings and office space available can be found on the homepage of our website or by clicking the following links:

[Job Openings](#) and [Office Space](#) (office space section includes property for sale).

For sale: 6 four and five drawer file cabinets @ \$20 each and a 7' bookcase for \$50. Call Art Inman at 678-1173.

2019-20 Board of Directors

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