

NOVEMBER 2019 | ISSUE 4

IN BRIEF

An update from the Ohio Association for Justice



OHIO
ASSOCIATION *for*
JUSTICE
TRIAL LAWYERS HELPING PEOPLE

UPCOMING EVENTS

Webinars

December 11, 2019
*Trying Your Case at
Deposition*

December 12, 2019
*Litigating Quality
Assurance Privilege in
Nursing Home Litigation*

Board Meeting
January 9, 2020
Supreme Court of Ohio

OAJ Membership Night
February 4, 2020
*Nationwide Arena
Columbus, OH*

Philanthropy Event
March 13, 2020
*Cincinnati, OH
Columbus, OH
Cleveland, OH*



OHIO
ASSOCIATION *for*
JUSTICE
TRIAL LAWYERS HELPING PEOPLE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Ellen McCarthy, Esq.

Next year, OSHA will be 50 years old. Two women, Alice Hamilton and Frances Perkins, were critical to its evolution.

Alice Hamilton, M.D., born in 1869, is considered the founder of industrial medicine in America and a leading pioneer in industrial toxicology. Witnessing health problems faced by factory workers living nearby, she began studying industrial medicine while at the University of Michigan Medical School. After appointment to the Illinois Commission on Occupational Diseases, she focused her research on occupational toxic disorders, examining the effects of mercury, benzene and hydrogen sulfide gases. She was appointed special investigator for the Bureau of Labor and in 1925, testified against the use of

lead in gasoline, warning of the danger it posed to people and the environment. She went on to become the first female faculty member at Harvard Medical School, writing the first textbook on Industrial Poisons in America. Her second textbook, Industrial Toxicology, was written in 1934.

Frances Perkins became the first female Secretary of Labor and first female Cabinet Member. Nominated by FDR in 1933, she served as Labor Secretary for 12 years, longer than any other. She created the Bureau of Labor Standards in 1934, the first federal agency established primarily to promote workplace safety and health. The Bureau also helped state governments improve their workplace safety and raise the level of their protective legislation. She believed that the workplace should be "as safe as science and law can make them." She became America's leading advocate for industrial safety and workers' rights. She was largely responsible for the U.S. adoption of social security, unemployment insurance, federal laws regulating child labor, and adoption of the federal minimum wage. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter renamed the headquarters of the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C. the Frances Perkins Building. Thank you ladies!

-Ellen McCarthy, President

PAST PRESIDENT RECOGNIZED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE ON AAJ BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Rusty Smith from the 2011 Annual Convention.

Rusty Smith, an attorney and Past President of the Ohio Association for Justice, was recognized at the 2019 Winter Convention for his years of service on the Board of Governors for the American Association for Justice. Rusty held the position for over 25 years, a record for such position. During his time, Rusty served on several AAJ committees, helped with political fundraising, and served as a vocal advocate for justice on numerous AAJ projects.

CLEVELAND FIRM VOLUNTEERS WITH LOCAL NONPROFIT



The attorneys and staff from Lowe Eklund Wakefield, a Cleveland personal injury firm, spent a day volunteering with Providence House Cleveland to give back to the community by helping an organization that serves local families. The team helped sort donated items, paint fences, and clean up the campus grounds. Providence House relies on volunteers to support its work of providing emergency shelter, basic needs, clothing and other personal items to local at-risk children and families.

BIKES FOR KIDS GIVEAWAY

Boyk Law just concluded its 9th Bikes for Kids Giveaway. To celebrate children who have a positive impact on others, the firm gave free bicycles to 11 special kids. Each winner was presented with a bike at a local bike shop, and the shop gave each child a helmet. To make it even more special, winners appeared on live television with Boyk Law staff each week to talk about their good deeds and exciting win!

If you or your firm have something you'd like to share with the OAJ community, please email Katie Johnstone (kjohnstone@oajjustice.org) OAJ's Digital Communications Coordinator. Please include a brief statement about the promotion, award, philanthropy, etc. *Please do not exceed 75 words in your statement.*

COOPER & ELLIOTT WELCOMES NEW ATTORNEYS



Melanie Lennon, Esq.



Jeff Kenney, Esq.

Cooper & Elliott proudly welcomes Jeff Kenney and Melanie Lennon to the firm. After many years in Cincinnati, Jeff and Melanie have brought their extensive civil litigation experience to Columbus. Jeff and Melanie represent individuals, families, and small businesses in catastrophic injury, wrongful death, civil rights, and business matters. Cooper & Elliott believes people experiencing life-altering harm deserve to find protection, answers, and meaning. Jeff and Melanie live these values and they're thrilled that they've joined the firm.

PORTSMOUTH ATTORNEY SHINES LIGHT ON COMMUNITY

Jeremy M. Burnside, Principal Attorney of Burnside Law in Portsmouth, Ohio has taken community involvement to a whole new level through his work with Friends of Portsmouth, a grassroots community organization.



Jeremy at the Community Pep Rally held by the Friends of Portsmouth to put a spotlight on the positive things in town. Photo by Carla Bentley.

In one year, Jeremy has led his city in breaking two Guinness Book of World Records ([largest number of people potting plants at the same time](#) and [most persons simultaneously Christmas caroling](#)) and has inspired and reignited hope and optimism into a town with the reputation of being "The Epicenter of the Opioid Crisis". The local Chamber of Commerce recognized Jeremy's efforts and awarded him with The Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award last October.

FOUR COMPANIES JOIN THE FRIENDS OF OAJ PROGRAM

Cleveland Wealth, Ray Forensics, Level Insurance, and Crash Tech Reconstruction Services recently joined the Friends of OAJ program as Silver Sponsors. We would like to thank these companies for their support and ask that you keep them in mind as opportunities arise. Please visit the company websites to learn more about their services.

Cleveland Wealth
www.clevelandwealth.com

Ray Forensic Consultants LLC
www.RayFC.com

Level Insurance
www.levelinsurance.com

Crash Tech Reconstruction Services
www.crashtechreconstruction.com

If you have a valued vendor you'd like to recommend, please contact Katie Johnstone at OAJ (kjohnstone@oajjustice.org), or (614) 341-6800.

OAJ GIVES BACK: VOLUNTEER WITH US ON MARCH 13, 2020

For the past several years, OAJ has organized teams of members who have volunteered at local foodbanks in their community. This is not just a great way for members to give back to their local community- it is also a powerful team-building exercise for participants.

OAJ's next day of service will be held on March 13, 2020. If you are able to volunteer, please contact Katie Johnstone at OAJ (kjohnstone@oajjustice.org). Below you will find information about location, times, and number of volunteers needed.

Freestore Foodbank - Cincinnati
9:00am—11:30am
Need 15 volunteers

Mid-Ohio Foodbank - Columbus
9:00am—12:00pm
Need 25 volunteers

Greater Cleveland Food Bank - Cleveland
10:00am - 12:00pm and 12:00—2:00pm
Morning Shift: Need 10 volunteers
Afternoon Shift: Need 15 volunteers

**Family members welcome to volunteer at any location.*



ATTORNEY'S WITH A-L LAST NAMES: EARN CLE CREDIT THROUGH OAJ SELF-STUDIES

Attorneys whose last names start with A-L must have all 24 hours of continuing legal education submitted to the Ohio Supreme Court by December 31, 2019. If you still need General Hours or Professional Conduct Hours, visit our self-study library at www.oajjustice.org/CLESelfStudy.

FRIENDS OF OAJ

DIAMOND

Preferred Capital Funding
Findlaw
NFP

PLATINUM

Physician Life Care Planning
Ringler Associates
Robson Forensic
TriMed
IWP

GOLD

Beacon Rehabilitation
Services
Key Evidence

SILVER

Weinstein & Associates, Inc.
Crash Tech Reconstruction
BalaCare Solutions
Cleveland Wealth
Level Insurance
Ray Forensics

SAVE THE DATE!

2019 ANNUAL CONVENTION

May 6-8, 2020
Hilton at Easton
Columbus, OH

CIVILLY SPEAKING HITS 50 EPISODES

Last month, we celebrated our 50th episode of Civilly Speaking with a discussion with Dr. David Ball. You can listen online at www.civillyspeaking.com. If you are interested in doing a podcast interview, please contact Katie Johnstone at OAJ (kjohnstone@oajjustice.org).

AMICUS INFORMATION

If you would like to request an OAJ Amicus Curiae brief, please email Mike Coughlin at OAJ. Please include the Ohio Supreme Court case number, the parties' names, the underlying appellate decision, the issues accepted for review on the merits, and a brief statement as to why this decision is of significance to OAJ members.

Recently submitted briefs:

- *Davis v. Hollins*, S.Ct. Case No. 2019-0850

Please send Amicus requests to Mike Coughlin - mcoughlin@OAJjustice.org

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Robson Forensic is a national leader in expert witness consulting. They provide technical expertise across many fields within engineering, architecture, science, and a broad range of specialty disciplines. At Robson Forensic you will find highly respected experts from both industry and academia. It is likely that one of their forensic experts has done the work central to the issues of your matter, and can testify accordingly. Robson Forensic provides their experts' CVs and contact information on their website and encourages you to contact them directly to discuss your case and how they can assist you.

Robson Forensic | (800) 813-6736 | www.robsonforensic.com | Jeremy Conley- jconley@robsonforensic.com

THE EXPERTS **Robson Forensic**

ADVOCATES CIRCLE

Barkan Meizlish, LLP

Brian G. Miller Co., L.P.A.

Bordas & Bordas

Christian R. Patno

Crandall & Pera Law

Eadie Hill Trial Lawyers

Elk & Elk Co., LPA

Garson Johnson LLC

Geiser, Bowman & McLafferty, LLC

The Gervelis Law Firm

Grieco Law, LLC

Kisling, Nestico & Redick

Kitrick, Lewis, & Harris Co., LPA

Lamkin, Van Eman, Trimble & Dougherty, LLC

Leeseberg & Valentine

Leizerman & Associates

Meyer Wilson Co., LPA

Nager, Romaine & Schneiberg, CO., LPA

Nurenberg, Paris, Heller & McCarthy Co., LPA

O'Connor Acciani & Levy, LPA

Rittgers & Rittgers

Robert J. Wagoner Co., LLC

Rourke & Blumenthal

Slater & Zurz

Spangenberg, Shibley & Liber, LLP

Tittle & Perlmutter

Tzangas Plakas Mannos Ltd

Young & McCarthy