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Judicial Excellence for Colorado Dinner

-Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2015

CJI Executive Committee:

Mark Clouatre—Chair K.C. Groves—Past Chair Randell Bartlett—Chair Elect David A. Hall—Treasurer Thomas R. O'Donnell—Secretary

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CJI Welcomes New CBA Executive Director and Elects New Board Members at Annual Meeting

By Amy Ostheimer, CJI Executive Director

CJI's 2015 Annual Membership meeting and luncheon was once again held in the popular Ralph L. Carr Justice Center on May 6, 2015. Fifty attendees listened to Patrick Flaherty sharing what he learned in the first 100 days as the new executive director for the Colorado/Denver Bar Associations. In preparation of Patrick's presentation, he and I spoke about one month into his new job. I suggested he discuss his vision for the Colorado Bar Association. Patrick was quick to tell the audience it's not his vision that matters, but that of the members.

The Colorado Bar Association (CBA) is 118 years old and is a very healthy organization. CBA is a voluntary bar association where people join because they see the value. CBA can fight for access to justice, lobby and fund measures to oppose bills that would jeopardize Colorado's judiciary. Flaherty referred to 2006's Amendment 40, which would have imposed term limits. CBA took the lead to oppose Amendment 40 and worked closely and effectively with CJI and other vested organizations to campaign against the proponents of Amendment 40. In the end, Amendment 40 lost. One key take away was that a long term public education effort regarding the judicial merit selection/retention system is needed.

The challenges concerning Flaherty:

- Unemployment or the underemployed in the legal system
- Complacency
- CBA programs and the number of personnel to manage them

Following Flaherty's presentation, K.C. Groves, CJI's chair, provided the highlights of CJI's 2014-2015 fiscal year. CJI's annual report can be found on CJI's website <u>www.coloradojudicialinstitute.org</u>.

K.C. Groves recognized two board members leaving CJI. Kyle Velte is relocating to accept a position with Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. Gordon Butz, once CJI's executive director and then an active board member, is also retiring from CJI. They both will be missed.

The tradition of CJI staff selecting a deserving recipient for the DeMuth Volunteer of the Year Award continued. Amy Ostheimer, CJI executive director, presented the 2015 award to K.C. Groves. Groves has chaired CJI's Board of Directors for 2 ¹/₂ years. As past chair, Groves will be available to CJI in an advisory capacity.

The following board members were elected to serve another three-year term:

Randell Bartlett Marilyn S. Chappell George D. Dikeou R. Stanton Dodge Robert Ewegen K.C. Groves John B. Grow James D. Kilroy Andrew R. Laing Olivia Mendoza Thomas R. O'Donnell



CJI Announces 2015 Judicial Excellence Awards Nominees and Honorees

CJI received 32 nominations for this year's Judicial Excellence Awards. These nominations represented 12 counties and 10 judicial districts across Colorado. We offer a big "Thank you" to everyone who submitted a nomination for taking the time to help CJI recognize these exceptional representatives of Colorado's already impressive judiciary.

The 2015 Judicial Excellence Awards Nominees are:

District Court Judges

The Honorable Angela Arkin; 18th Judicial District The Honorable Christopher Cross; 18th Judicial District The Honorable Paul King; 18th Judicial District The Honorable Christopher Munch; 1st Judicial District The Honorable Patrick Murphy; 17th Judicial District The Honorable David Shakes; 4th Judicial District

County Court Judges

The Honorable Edward Casias; Summit County; 5th Judicial District The Honorable Clarisse Gonzales Mangnall; Denver County; 2nd Judicial District The Honorable Peter F. Michaelson; Custer County; 11th Judicial District The Honorable Michael Schingle; Morgan County; 13th Judicial District The Honorable Katie Sullivan; Eagle County; 5th Judicial District

Magistrates

The Honorable Kristina Hansson; 20th Judicial District; Boulder County The Honorable Randall Lococo; 19th Judicial District; Weld County The Honorable Jeffrey Saufley; 4th Judicial District; El Paso County The Honorable Peter Stapp; 17th Judicial District; Adams & Broomfield Counties

Selecting only three honorees from among the outstanding nominees was difficult for the awards committee. Each nominee is an example of the best of Colorado's judiciary. After careful deliberation, the committee selected the following **2015 Judicial Excellence Awards Honorees**.

District Court

Judge Angela Arkin-18th Judicial District

County Court

Judge Clarisse Gonzales Mangnall-Denver County; 2nd Judicial District

Magistrate

Magistrate Kristina Hansson-20th Judicial District; Boulder County

In addition, this year CJI will recognize two additional jurists with Distinguished Leadership Awards.

2015 Distinguished Judicial Leadership Awards

Justice Gregory Hobbs-Colorado Supreme Court Judge James Casebolt-Colorado Court of Appeals

All will be honored at the 2015 Judicial Excellence for Colorado Dinner on Oct. 20, 2015, 6 p.m., at the Denver Marriott City Center, 1701 California St. Seats for this event will go on sale in July.

Federal Election Commissioner Weintraub Addresses Judicial Campaign Spending at 2015 Judicial Excellence Dinner

By Cynthia Ophaug-Johansen, CJI Staff

The Colorado Judicial Institute has announced Commissioner Ellen L. Weintraub will be the keynote speaker for the 2015 Judicial Excellence for Colorado Dinner.

Ms. Weintraub is a member of the United States Federal Election Commission, twice serving as the commission chair. She will address judicial campaign spending and its impact on judicial elections.

"I'm delighted to speak to the Colorado Judicial Institute at its Judicial Excellence Dinner. Americans have grown increasingly concerned about the amounts of money being poured into our elections. It is an issue that needs to be addressed in all of our elections, including judicial elections," said Weintraub.

Prior to her appointment, Ms. Weintraub was Of Counsel to Perkins Coie LLP and a member of its Political Law Group. There, she counseled clients on federal and state campaign finance and election laws, political ethics, nonprofit law, recounts, and lobbying regulation. Before joining Perkins Coie, Ms. Weintraub was Counsel to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct for the U.S. House of Representatives (the House Ethics Committee).

Ms. Weintraub received her B.A., cum laude, from Yale College and her J.D. from Harvard Law School. A native New Yorker, she is a member of the New York and District of Columbia bars and the Supreme Court bar.



Federal Election Commissioner Ellen L. Weintraub

The Judicial Excellence for

Colorado Dinner will be Oct. 20, 2015 at the Denver Marriott City Center. Seats for the event will go on sale in July.

CJI Awarded \$20,000 Grant to Support Judicial Education

By Cynthia Ophaug-Johansen, CJI Staff

CJI received a \$20,000 grant from the Marcia Brady Tucker Foundation. One hundred percent of the grant will be put toward judicial education grants in Colorado.

The fund will help cover the matching funds CJI used to receive for judicial classes through the National Judicial College (NJC).

"The Bureau of Justice Assistance lost some of its federal funding when congress didn't approve the previously earmarked funds this year. The senators had granted the money with very few strings and we were using our BJA grant for scholarships," said National Judicial College President Chad Schmucker. "NJC will now be relying more on the State Justice Institute (SJI). SJI will provide \$1,000 to most judges to attend NJC courses. To be eligible, the judges need to handle some criminal justice cases and most state judges do."

In response to the funding cuts at NJC the CJI Development Committee, spearheaded by CJI Board Member Randell Bartlett of Randell Bartlett & Benu, pursued the Marcia Brady Tucker Foundation grant.

"CJI started the Development Committee just a year ago to diversify CJI's funding sources," said Bartlett. "Situations like the funding cuts at NJC are, in part, what our committee was proposed to address. CJI must be able to provide educational grants and support programs even when external situations change. This grant will be used as a launch pad for additional grant proposals so our coffers remain full."

The grant has been deposited in the CJI Judicial Education Fund managed by the Denver Foundation. Judges and judicial employees can apply for educational grants through Jennifer Mendoza at the State Court Administrator's Office.

The Popular Straight Talk with Judges

By Amy Ostheimer, CJI Executive Director

Straight Talk with Judges sounds "stiffer" than it really is. It's actually a fun and informal CLE that takes place in a casual setting. The Third Annual Straight Talk with Judges, April 9, 2015, was a great success, with more than 100 registrants in attendance at Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell LLP. The program is designed to promote education and interaction among some of Colorado's top judges and attorneys. After the one hour networking reception, registrants separated into small groups and rotated through their choice of eight topics, gaining insight and making inquiries of established judges and attorneys. The program was approved for three CLEs, two general and one ethics credit.

CJI would like to thank the following individuals for donating their time and expertise:

Stop Talking and Start Listening

for Effective Jury Selection Honorable Brian D. Boatright, Colorado Supreme Court Mark A. Fogg, COPIC Companies

What Every Litigator Needs to Know About Expert Witnesses

Honorable Marcia S. Krieger, Chief Judge, U. S. District Court for the District of Colorado Lino S. Lipinsky de Orlov, McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Effective Use of Financial Analysis Including

Business Valuations in Civil and Family Law Cases Honorable Angela R. Arkin, District Court Judge, 18th Judicial District Yvonne Zuber, CPA, Lutz Zuber & Associates, LLC Diana Powell, Gutterman Griffiths PC Margot Alicks, Gutterman Griffiths PC

Effective Advocacy in Civil Cases

Honorable C. Scott Crabtree, District Court Judge, 17th Judicial District David Hersh, Burg Simpson Eldredge Hersh & Jardine, P.C.

When and How to Make Effective Trial Objections

Honorable John W. Madden, IV, District Court Judge, 2nd Judicial District Mark T. Clouatre, Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell LLP

Ethics and Professionalism: How Are They Different and How Are They The Same?

Honorable Judge Robert L. McGahey, District Court Judge, 2nd Judicial District, Denver John P. Streelman, Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell LLP



Colorado Supreme Court Justice Brian D. Boatright shares his thoughts on jury selection at the CJI Straight Talk with Judges CLE.

Proposed Changes to the Colorado Rules of Civil Procedure

Honorable Jeffrey R. Pilkington, District Court Judge, 1st Judicial District Marilyn S. Chappell, Wells, Anderson & Race, LLC

Three Keys for Successfully Trying Your Case-Simplify, Simplify!

Honorable Ross B.H. Buchanan, District Court Judge, 2nd Judicial District Peter Koclanes, Sherman & Howard L.L.C.

CJI would also like to thank Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell LLP for hosting the reception and donating its conference space and the CJI CLE Committee, co-chaired by Mark Clouatre and Nick Fogel.

Mark your calendars for the 4th Annual Straight *Talk with Judges* at Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell, Feb. 25, 2016.

Spotlight on

Judicial Excellence Dinner Committee

> By Amy Ostheimer, CJI Executive Director

One may think that taste testing gourmet food for CJI's annual fundraising event, the Judicial Excellence for Colorado Dinner, is a pretty glamorous job. However, accompanying the need to insure that 700-plus attendees indulge in something other than the typical banquet dinner of "rubber" chicken, comes details such as which venue provides CJI and its guests the best value and excellent service; who can present a subject matter that aligns with CJI's mission while holding the audience's attention and, last but not least, inspecting every place setting and helping guests to their assigned tables. Led by co-chairs Mike Gallagher and Tom O'Donnell for four consecutive years, the committee's dedication and hard work is the backbone of funding CJI's Judicial Education Fund and Our Courts. This one-night gala, which takes no more than three hours, is the compilation of 11 months of planning.

The committee's function isn't just about planning a dinner or finding a keynote speaker, it's about honoring three outstanding jurists (and occasionally more) and explaining in words and with the aid of videos why the recipients were selected to be recognized and receive CJI's prestigious Judicial Excellence Award. It's also about the constant communication from CJI's board of directors to CJI supporters asking for their sponsorship so that CJI can continue funding these very special programs. When you are invited to be a sponsor or to attend the dinner and awards presentation, please understand the significance of your contribution. Your support truly encompasses CJI's mission: preserving and enhancing the fairness, impartiality and excellence of Colorado's Courts, furthering public understanding of the Colorado judicial system, and ensuring that the courts meet the needs of the people. If you would like to volunteer to serve on this committee, please contact Amy Ostheimer at <u>amy@coloradojudicialinstitute.org</u>.

Can you say "The Fund for the Enrichment of the Colorado Legal System?"

By Amy Ostheimer, CJI Executive Director

Nicknamed CJI's "endowment trust," The Fund for the Enrichment of the Colorado Legal System is now in place and managed by the Denver Foundation. The endowment trust allows donors to have the opportunity to leave a lasting legacy. A percentage of the income earned from the endowment trust will be used to further judicial education and to educate the public regarding Colorado's court system. If you would like to donate to The Fund for the Enrichment of the Colorado Legal System, please contact Amy Ostheimer at 303-909-5944.

Continued from CJI Annual Meeting on Page 1

Donald L. Samuels The following board members were elected to ex-officio status: Tom I. Romero, II Laurie A. McKager The general membership was dismissed and the May 2015 Barbara A. Thompson board meeting was convened. The following officers were Peter D. Willis elected: Chair, Board of Directors: Mark T. Clouatre Chair-Elect: Randell Bartlett Tom O'Donnell, co-chair of CJI's Board Development Treasurer: David A. Hall Committee, ran the election of the new board members. The Secretary: Thomas R. O'Donnell following were elected to the CJI Board of Directors: Past-Chair: K.C. Groves Edward A. Gleason Kimberley S. Koy



The 13th Annual Judicial Excellence for Colorado Dinner

Presented by the Colorado Judicial Institute Tuesday, October 20, 2015

> Denver Marriott City Center 1701 California St.

6 p.m. Cocktail Reception 7 p.m. Dinner

Please plan to join us in honoring and thanking five of Colorado's outstanding judges.

2015 Judicial Excellence Awards

District Court Judge Angela Arkin—18th Judicial District County Court Judge Clarisse Gonzales Mangnall—Denver County; 2nd Judicial District Magistrate Kristina Hansson—20th Judicial District; Boulder County

2015 Distinguished Judicial Leadership Awards

Justice Gregory Hobbs—Colorado Supreme Court Judge James Casebolt—Colorado Court of Appeals

2015 Keynote Speaker

CJI is honored to welcome Commissioner Ellen L. Weintraub as the keynote speaker for the Judicial Excellence for Colorado Dinner. Ms. Weintraub is a member of the United States Federal Election Commission, twice serving as the commission chair. She will address judicial campaign spending and its impact on judicial elections.

Sponsorship Opportunities Now Available

For more information, contact Cynthia Ophaug-Johansen at 303-766-7501 or Cynthia@ColoradoJudicialInstitute.org.

Reserve Your Seats Starting in July

Seats are \$200 per person or \$110 per person for judges, judicial department employees and young professionals (practicing less than 5 years). Reservations can be made on the CJI website starting in July. Contact Cynthia at 303-766-7501 or Cynthia@ColoradoJudicialInstitute.org with questions.

Proceeds from this event will again benefit the CJI Judicial Education Fund, Our Courts Colorado, and the programs of the Colorado Judicial Institute.