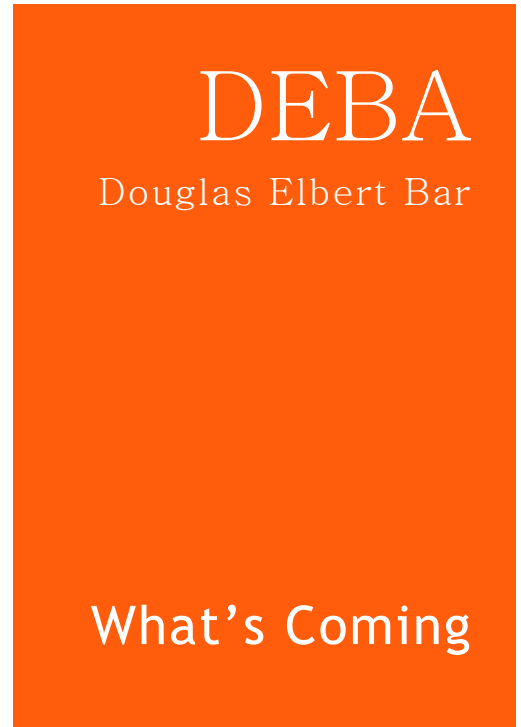




WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.....



HOLIDAY PARTY AT FLEMINGS STEAK HOUSE

November 2015

Upcoming Meeting

December brings our Annual Holiday Meeting. We will be returning to Flemings



Steak House, December 10, 2015. Social Hour with wine and appetizers begins at 5:30 pm. Dinner is anticipated to be served around 6:30 pm.

Please join us and enjoy

holiday cheer!

We encourage our members to RSVP so we can let our restaurant know how many members are attending. However, if you forget to RSVP, please come anyway! The more the merrier and bring a friend.

The January Meeting will be January 13, 2016 at Gabriel's in Sedalia. Judge Bill Lucero will be presenting: "The Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge: ensuring public protection and guaranteeing due process; an independent disciplinary tribunal."



Your Officers are as follows:

- Mary Baker: President
- Helen Hoopes: Vice President
- Darius Dugas: Secretary
- Aaron Suazo: Treasurer

RSVP with Aaron Suazo our Treasurer (ceaton@familylawcolorado.com)

Watch our Website for the NEW RSVP feature for Dinner Meetings!!!

From the CBA-

A few Notes from the Board of Governors' Meeting

The Semi Annual Board of Governor's Meeting was held at the Broadmoor on October 24, 2015. Helen and I were in attendance along with all of the other delegates.

Our CBA leadership is amazing! President Loren Brown, president elect Patricia Jarzobski are dedicated to the Strategic Planning and retained a consultant to facilitate the creation of a viable plan. Forward thinking and transparent, they included the delegates in a series of small group discussions to obtain our input on what we see as the CBA's core mission as well as critical areas to improve. The plan is to collect and distribute the information gathered for the leadership's review and consideration. We are lucky to have such dedication at the top as well as a newly energized Executive Director at the helm to provide continuity as our Presidents change each year.

CBA President: Loren Brown

Lorenbrown@colo-law.com 303 451-0300

Pres Elect: Patricia Jarzobski

zobski@me.com 303 322-3344

NOTES FROM VIRGINIA ROBBINS-

Our Judiciary- Professionalism Matters



On October 29, 2015, the Douglas Elbert Bar Association, Aurora Bar Association, and the 18th Judicial District Court Judges co-hosted a Professionalism Matters dinner addressing diversity from the prospective of the bench. District Court Judge Chris Cross moderated a group of panelists that included Colorado Supreme Court Justice Marquez, Colorado District Court Chief Judge Samour, Colorado County Court Judge Rowles-Stokes, Governor Hickenlooper's Chief Legal Counsel, Ms. Cooper Melmed, and a current member of the 18th Judicial District Nominating Commission Ms. Fay Matsukage.

While the panelist fielded questions from the audience regarding the Judges' perspective of diversity on the bench, the panelists offered their individual perspective on why there is a need for diversity on the bench and how diversity leads to judicial fairness

Justice Marquez, Judge Samour and Judge Rowles-Stokes each discussed their views on diversity and all agreed that diversity is needed in order to represent society's diverse population. The Judges discussed the lack of diversity on the bench is a result of the low percentage of minorities applying for positions on the bench. Without a higher number of minority applicants applying for judge positions, the bench will not achieve

the diversity society needs. Ms. Melmed and Ms. Matsukage discussed the process of screening applicants for judicial positions and stated the number of minority applicants is extremely low. Although the committee does look at the applicant's minority status, the committee fills judicial positions based on the most qualified candidate.

The panelists all agreed that an increase of diversity on the bench must begin with an increase of minority applicants. Discussion among the panelists indicated the need for an increase in mentors to encourage minorities to apply for judicial positions and the need for an increase of minorities to seek law clerk positions, government positions within the district attorney's office, public defender's office and the attorney general's office.

The evening offered a great perspective from the bench regarding diversity, along with why and how to achieve diversity and judicial fairness in the community.

Many thanks to Virginia for her dedication to the Bar and profession for attending and reporting to all of us!!!

Announcements ...

DEBA is once again hosting the annual **Douglas County High School Mock Trial competition**. Courtrooms will be available on Friday afternoon, February 19, 2016 and Saturday, February 20, 2016 for this competition. Please consider volunteering to assist in this worthwhile endeavor!



-NEW FEATURE- NEW FEATURE-

We are adding a **premium listing** feature to the website so that when searching for a lawyer by subject matter, the link will take the searcher directly to that attorney's website or email. The Premium listing will be available for \$25 per year, renewable

The website will be adding a search feature to allow the public to "find a lawyer" by subject matter such as "domestic", "criminal defense", "civil", "business", "wills and probate", etc.

???DID YOU KNOW???

The **Virtual Pro Se Clinic (VPC)** is a pilot program in Colorado developed to address the growing trend of pro se litigants in our courts.

The VPC concept uses video conferencing and screen sharing technologies to help self-represented litigants better understand court procedures and processes in a number of areas or types of law. For more information regarding the areas of law we support, please visit www.checkerboard.co

(Visit the website for more information and downloads!!! Or call Ric Morgan!)

Interested in being on the Judicial Selection Committee? Contact Romaine.pacheco@state.co.us

5 Fun Facts about the CBA you may not already know!

- 1. The Family Law Section page**, can be found under Quick Links, Sections, Family Law. It has lots of helpful fun info like "Guide to Judicial Nominating Commission and Judicial Selection Process". The Chair is **Todd Stahly**. The Chair Elect is **Laura Page**. The CBA Staff Liaison is Melissa Nicoletti.
- 2. The Solo and Small Firm Section** has a page, found under Quick Links, Sections. Its purpose is to provide practical information for solos and small firms, such as the nuts and bolts of owning and operating your own firm. They have monthly networking meetings all over the city and state which are posted on this page. The Chair is **Karen Kishbaugh**. The CBA Staff Liaison is **Reba Nance**.
- 3. Employment / Classified Ads**: This is on the left side of the home page in the upper left hand corner. There is an extensive job board. Who knew!!! Maybe it can help you.
- 4. CBA Find a Lawyer**: For help claiming your spot in the directory for an online search through CBA, contact Heather Folker at 303 860-1115, ext 1151.
- 5. Stratum**: Click on the box named "Stratum" on the left side of the home page. It describes Stratum, a members-only, co-working space for lawyers at the Denver Bar Association. Stratum will give members a stronger sense of community and collegiality, while providing them with the business amenities they need to enhance their 21st century practices.

VETERANS DAY 2015-

The United States of America is, in my opinion, the greatest country in the world because of the freedoms we as citizens enjoy. We are the home of the “free”, because of the brave. That is, the “brave” are the men and women willing to make the ultimate sacrifice and guard our freedom with their lives if necessary.

The Douglas Elbert Bar Association is lucky to have amongst its members several attorneys who have also worn our country’s uniform. To **Aaron Suazo, Former Judge White and Aaron Barrick**, thank you for your service to us in uniform and in the courtrooms!

For all other members whose names are as of yet unknown to us, please also accept our profound gratitude for your service and sacrifice to keep America the shining example to the rest of the world.



November 11, 2015 - “For the Kids”

We were honored to have Dr. Bruce Rumsey with us at the November 11, 2015 DEBA Meeting at The Ridge. Dr. Rumsey’s presentation and dedication was inspiring from the feedback I received afterwards. His presentation is an in-depth look at who is the high-conflict co-parent in Colorado, what does s/he do that qualifies as 'high-conflict,' why do these parents co-parent in this manner, what is the impact to themselves, their co-parent, and most importantly, their children, and what is successfully being done to interrupt and redirect this toxic pattern?

There was a lot of laughter, humor and constructive discussion about relationships and communication that was enhanced by our members’ participation.

Also in attendance were the five law students from CU Law School and DU Law School who accepted our invitation to attend as part of our “Adopt a Law Student” initiative to involve and inspire the next generation of attorneys to be active members of their local bar. Our students were excited to be there and intrigued by the presentation. Several of our members took me up on my request to provide business cards to our guests. We are hopeful that if in need, or just interested, they will call one or several of our members for follow up questions, or contact. They were an interesting and fun group; several were from out of state and were pursuing second careers after training horses, practicing as a CPA, an engineer, disc jockey and title records investigator. We were lucky to have them join us.

Thanks to all who came to the meeting; your company, comments and camaraderie made it a fun night! See you all at the holiday party on December 10, 2015 at Flemings Steak House.

Mary C. Baker
DEBA President 2015-2016
