

# 35 Years

*Legal Advocacy for the Community*

*May 2013*



**Colorado  
Lawyers  
Committee**

# Colorado Lawyers Committee

35 Years of Legal Advocacy for the Community



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Many images in this Report, including several pictures on the inside covers, are courtesy of Hartmannphoto, LLC. Many thanks to Paul Hartmann for generously donating your services at so many Colorado Lawyers Committee events.



## *Letter from the Board Chair: Nancy B. Elkind (Elkind Alterman Harston PC)*



The Colorado Lawyers Committee's 35th anniversary is a wonderful opportunity to reminisce, take stock, and look to the future. This 35th Anniversary Report, through a timeline, photographs and narrative, provides an interesting and inspiring history of the Colorado Lawyers Committee.

The history begins in 1978, with 13 attorneys from 7 law firms establishing the Colorado Lawyers Committee by transforming a clearinghouse for pro bono cases into a small grassroots organization loosely affiliated with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law in Washington, D.C. The founders established a formalized pro bono forum to address systemic injustices in the state.

Since 1978, the Colorado Lawyers Committee has had a considerable impact on our state. In the '70s and '80s, it undertook landmark class action lawsuits involving such issues as inadequate funding in public schools, protection of the mentally ill, and prisoner rights. During the 1990s, the Lawyers Committee took on additional efforts to protect voter rights, the interests of children in foster care, and access to Medicaid benefits. It also started a successful educational program to teach middle and high school students about the Hate/Bias-Motivated Crimes Statute. Since 2000, the Lawyers Committee has continued to support its mission through such successes as the reinstatement of traditional land use rights on the Taylor Ranch, protection of the mentally incompetent in jail, improvement of the Food Stamps system as well as through the creation of legal clinics and a transactional working group that provides legal services to small nonprofits. It also helped assemble a group of 72 volunteers to litigate a hotly contested school finance case.

During these last 35 years, the Lawyers Committee has restructured itself twice: First, in the mid-1990s, the Lawyers Committee established task forces to replace the referral-based system used for taking cases. The task force model created a vehicle for proactive, focused, and comprehensive assessments of societal problems and legal solutions. This system, now 20 task forces strong, is still in use today. Second, recognizing the limitations of litigation in protecting the underprivileged and the underserved, the Colorado Lawyers Committee began integrating nonpartisan advocacy into its work. The combination of litigation and nonpartisan advocacy has had far-reaching—and successful—results in the courtroom as well as in the legislative, administrative and educational arenas.

Despite our successes, the issues that inspired the creation of the Colorado Lawyers Committee 35 years ago are ever-present. Societal problems, discrimination, and inequities have not gone away; widening budget cuts in legal aid and other public services have only exacerbated the problems faced by children, the poor and other disadvantaged communities. Coloradans still need committed advocacy and counseling from lawyers.

Our volunteers have always stood together to meet the challenges we face in our state. The Colorado Lawyers Committee remains a nonpartisan collaboration of pro bono lawyers who make a difference. Without a doubt, the Lawyers Committee represents the very best of our legal community and its commitment to improve our state.

To the founders of the Colorado Lawyers Committee, I extend my sincerest thanks and appreciation. To the 750 attorneys in our 59 contributing law firms and in the community at large, I applaud your efforts and encourage you to get even more involved. A tremendous need for your talents still exists today.

## *Letter from the Executive Director: Constance C. Talmage*

2013 marks the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Colorado Lawyers Committee. Since 1978, this coalition of Colorado law firms has provided pro bono services to create and increase opportunities for children, the poor and other disadvantaged communities through advocacy, negotiation and litigation. It has done so by following its mission of using "all the skills and discipline of the law in the service of others."



The Lawyers Committee is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization which offers lawyers meaningful and fulfilling pro bono work that often results in systemic change in the law and in people's lives. Volunteers use their legal skills to advocate on behalf of the state's most vulnerable populations. In so doing, volunteer lawyers make a difference in our community and also acquire new perspectives about some of our society's most challenging issues.

Today, 59 contributing law firms and 750 attorneys actively participate with the Colorado Lawyers Committee and its 20 task forces. During the past few years, volunteers have worked on landmark cases concerning school finance reform, traditional land use rights, and jail wait times for the mentally ill. Other Lawyers Committee volunteers have taught students and community groups about Colorado's hate crime laws, provided free legal assessments to small nonprofits, and expanded information available to immigrants. Still others have advocated for access to voting rights, worked to assure that individuals receive food stamps, Medicaid and other essential public benefits without unnecessary delay, and provided legal information and referrals to the homeless and other disadvantaged populations.

The Colorado Lawyers Committee is committed to bringing the highest level of skill, energy and dedication to every legal matter and pro bono project it undertakes. We are deeply indebted to the thousands of volunteers who have made a significant difference in our community and to those who have generously supported our work.



# Colorado Lawyers Committee

35 Years of Legal Advocacy for the Community



August 2012. John Walsh, U.S. Attorney for the District of Colorado, speaks to the Board.  
Courtesy of Hartmannphoto, LLC.



July 2010. Governor Bill Ritter speaks to the Board.



June 2011. Chief Justice Michael Bender speaks to the Board.



October 2011. Board Meeting Attendees



November 2012. Becky Kourlis, Executive Director of the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System and former Colorado Supreme Court Justice, speaks to the Board.  
Courtesy of Hartmannphoto, LLC



November 2007. Attorney General John Suthers prepares to address the Board.



March 2008. Speaker of the House Andrew Romanoff speaks to the Board.

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*Zakhem Law, LLC*

\*Executive Committee Members

## *Chair's Roundtable 2013-2017*

The Chair's Roundtable is composed of individuals who generously agreed to contribute \$1,000 per year for a period of five years to the Colorado Lawyers Committee. The Executive Committee and Board of Directors thank the members of the Chair's Roundtable for their support and dedication to our mission.



**Anonymous**



**Catharyn A. Baird**  
*Ethics Game*



**Fred Baumann**  
*Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons LLP*



**Stephen Berman**  
*University of Colorado  
Children's Hospital Colorado*



**Nancy L. Cohen**  
*MiletichCohen PC*



**Sean Connelly**  
*Reilly Pozner LLP*



**Frederic K. "Jerry" Conover**  
*Moye White LLP*



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**Robert F. Hill**  
*Hill & Robbins, P.C.*



**Jennifer H. Hunt**  
*Hill & Robbins, P.C.*



**Patricia M. Jarzobski**  
*The Law Office of Patricia M.  
Jarzobski, P.C.*



**Edwin S. Kahn**  
*Lass Moses & Ramp, LLC*



**Gregory B. Kanan**  
*Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons LLP*



**Kenzo Kawanabe**  
*Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP*



**Geoffrey Klingsporn**  
*Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP*



**Bradley A. Levin**  
*Roberts Levin Rosenberg, PC*



**Scott F. Llewellyn**  
*Morrison & Foerster LLP*



**Timothy R. Macdonald**  
*Arnold & Porter LLP*



**Bobbee J. Musgrave**  
*Bryan Cave HRO*



**Kenneth F. Rossman**  
*Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons LLP*



## *Chair's Roundtable 2013-2017*



**Bruce W. Sattler**



**David W. Stark**  
*Faegre Baker Daniels LLP*



**Craig E. Stewart**  
*Holland & Hart LLP*



**Daniel A. Sweetser**  
*The Sweetser Law Firm, P.C.*



**Constance C. Talmage**  
*Colorado Lawyers Committee*



**John F. Walsh**



**Dee P. Wisor**  
*Sherman & Howard LLC*



**Cole A. Wist**  
*Holland & Hart LLP*



**Maureen Reidy Witt**  
*Holland & Hart LLP*

*Special thanks to previous Chair's Roundtable members, to our many other individual donors and to the organizations that provide financial support and in-kind services to the Colorado Lawyers Committee. We appreciate your generous contributions.*

*Using all the skills and discipline of  
the law in the service of others.*

Founded in 1978, the Colorado Lawyers Committee is a nonpartisan consortium of 59 Colorado law firms dedicated to creating and increasing opportunities for children, the poor and other disadvantaged communities through advocacy, negotiation and litigation. The lawyers who donate their time through the Lawyers Committee focus primarily on major public policy issues and systemic changes rather than representation of individuals. In 2012, 750 volunteers donated more than 12,600 hours to Colorado Lawyers Committee projects. The Colorado Lawyers Committee is affiliated with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law in Washington D.C. and similar organizations in seven other cities throughout the country.

#### **COLORADO LAWYERS COMMITTEE STAFF**

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*Linda Futrell, Connie Talmage, Liza Prado  
Courtesy of Hartmannphoto, LLC*

**Executive Director, Connie Talmage**  
303-894-6363  
ctalmage@coloradolawyerscommittee.org

**Associate Director, Liza Prado**  
303-894-6361  
lprado@coloradolawyerscommittee.org

**Office Administrator, Linda Futrell**  
303-894-6366  
lfutrell@coloradolawyerscommittee.org

*The Colorado  
Lawyers Committee  
Through the Years*



*35 Years of Legal  
Advocacy for the  
Community*

*The Formation of the Colorado Lawyers Committee was inspired by events that began much earlier.*

## 1963

In 1963, the nation was shaken by violent confrontations between police and peaceful demonstrators in Birmingham, Alabama. In early June, Governor George Wallace stood in the door of the University of Alabama, defying a federal court order to admit African-American students.

On June 21, 1963, President John F. Kennedy assembled a group of the most prominent lawyers in the country at the White House to ask for assistance in dealing with the burgeoning civil rights crisis. He called upon the lawyers to lend their special skills to the struggle for racial equality so that injustices long suffered would be ended in legislatures and in courts without resort to violence. He emphasized the unique role and responsibility of lawyers in the operation of our constitutional system and the rule of law.



The bar responded with the formation of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. It began by issuing public statements and making volunteer lawyers from private firms available to civil rights workers in the South. It has since expanded into a major civil rights organization with an expert staff and a vast nationwide referral network that annually draws thousands of volunteer hours from private law firms into important civil rights efforts.

## 1965

Riots, beginning in Watts in 1965 and culminating in uprisings in over 100 cities in the days following Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination in 1968, made it painfully clear that racial discrimination and poverty, and the attendant frustration and hopelessness, were problems not limited to the South. Lawyers were needed all over the country to help racially torn communities resolve their differences and move forward together.

## 1968

Beginning in 1968, the National Lawyers' Committee, under the rubric the Urban Areas Project, began meeting with leaders of the local bars in major cities throughout the country, asking them to establish local committees patterned after the National Committee to address the specific needs in their own communities.

# 1973

A group of prominent Denver attorneys responded to this appeal. They began meeting informally in 1973 as the Clearinghouse for Pro Bono Legal Services "to attempt to guarantee the equal administration of justice under law. . . [by] coordinat[ing] the legal resources of the Denver legal community to resolve complex constitutional and civil rights issues by obtaining counsel on a non-fee basis." At the time, the four large Denver firms had pro bono coordinators who organized pro bono projects and cases for their respective firms. They were: Dick Freese at Davis Graham & Stubbs; Ed Kahn and Bruce Sattler at Holland & Hart; Ed Benton and Don Bain at Holme, Roberts & Owen; and David Pantle and Ray Turner at Dawson, Nagel, Sherman & Howard. The pro bono coordinators formed the Clearinghouse to refer meritorious cases to each other in the event of a conflict of interest.

# 1977

Out of this Clearinghouse evolved the Colorado Lawyers Committee. On March 29, 1977, the following individuals met at Holland & Hart to discuss the creation of the Colorado Lawyers Committee: Don Bain, Ed Benton, Martin Buckley, Michael Cook, James Everson, Robin Freedman, Dick Freese, Ed Kahn, Barbara Kelley, Betty Norwind, Jeff Reiman, Chet Schwartz, Jeremy Shamos, Mike Touff, Pat Westfeldt, and Al Wolf. The Colorado Lawyers Committee was formally incorporated in 1978, and joined local committees in Boston, Chicago, Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and Washington D.C.

# 1978

## Initial Board of Directors



**Dick Freese,  
Board Chair**  
*Davis Graham & Stubbs*



**Steve Brett**  
*Dawson, Nagel,  
Sherman & Howard*



**John Head**  
*Head, Moye, Carver & Ray*



**Ed Kahn**  
*Kelly/Haglund/  
Garnsey+Kahn*



**Hugh McClearn**  
*McClearn & Heppenstall*



**Joe Meyer**  
*Holme, Roberts & Owen*



**David Pantle**  
*Dawson, Nagel,  
Sherman & Howard*



**Monte Pascoe**  
*Ireland, Stapleton & Pryor*



**Bruce Sattler**  
*Holland & Hart*



**Jeremy Shamos**



**Larry Treece**  
*Holme, Roberts & Owen*



**Michael Touff**  
*Shank, Irwin & Holmes*



**Bob Yegge**  
*University of Denver  
College of Law*

### INITIAL CONTRIBUTING FIRMS

- Davis Graham & Stubbs
- Dawson, Nagel, Sherman & Howard
- Head, Moye, Carver & Ray
- Holland & Hart
- Holme, Roberts & Owen
- Ireland, Stapleton & Pryor
- Kelly/Haglund/Garnsey+Kahn

## *The Early Years: 1978-1983*



Mary Ellen Scanlan



James Dean

### **ASSURING TREATMENT FOR THE MENTALLY ILL**

Volunteers successfully argue in *Arevalo v. City and County of Denver* that the U.S. and Colorado Constitutions require ongoing care for the chronically mentally ill. In a landmark decision, Denver Probate Court Judge Benton rules that the chronically mentally ill have a statutory right to adequate treatment, which the defendants failed to provide.

*Lead Attorneys: James Dean (Legal Aid Society of Metro Denver), Kathleen Mullen (Law Office of Kathleen Mullen), Rodney Patula (Pryor, Carney & Johnson) and Mary Ellen Scanlan (Holland & Hart).*

### **CHALLENGING STATE FUNDING FOR LOW WEALTH SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

*Lujan v. State Board of Education* is filed on behalf of children in low-wealth school districts, seeking a declaration that the Colorado School Finance Act is unconstitutional because it allocates state funds to public schools based on the property wealth of each district.

*Lead Attorneys: Joseph Bellipanni and Richard Freese, Jr. (both of Davis Graham & Stubbs).*

### **FIGHTING FOR BILINGUAL EDUCATION**

In *Keyes v. School District No. 1*, Lawyers Committee volunteers serve as co-counsel to MALDEF and represent the Congress of Hispanic Educators when they intervene in the Denver school desegregation case to protect the rights of Denver Public School students with limited English proficiency. The court rules the district's bilingual education program violates the Federal Equal Educational Opportunity Act. The parties enter into a settlement agreement, advancing the rights of children with limited English proficiency.

*Lead Attorneys: Stephane Atencio, Ross Buchanan, Stephanie Buchanan, Richard Gonzales, Ray Hernandez, Kent Lund, Charles Newcom, Ken Salazar, Kenneth Siegel, James Stamper, Karen Zulauf (all of Sherman & Howard).*

### **IMPROVING JAIL CONDITIONS**

Volunteers represent a class of present and former inmates who have challenged the constitutionality of conditions at the Jefferson County Jail (*Baker v. Bray*). Their federal court action was successfully settled by the agreement of the defendants to construct a new and constitutionally adequate facility within three years of the date of the decree. The Lawyers Committee continues to monitor defendants' compliance with other aspects of the settlement decree concerning conditions at the current jail, including the perpetual problem of overcrowding.

*Lead Attorneys: Terrence Kelly (Kelly/Haglund/Garnsey+Kahn) and Tucker Trautman (Ireland, Stapleton & Pryor).*



Terry Kelly



Tucker Trautman



Peter Nagel



Barbara Mueller

## ASSERTING THE RIGHTS OF FORCIBLY RELOCATED HOMEOWNERS

Volunteer lawyers represent WHERE (We'll Have Equitable RElocation) and its sister corporation, South Santa Fe Development Cooperative, grassroots organizations made up largely of low-income mobile home residents in the South Santa Fe Drive corridor, when proposed widening of South Santa Fe forces their relocation. Negotiations with the State Highway Department result in the purchase of nearby parks and vacant land to create an upgraded mobile home community as well as the establishment of a cooperatively-owned mobile home park in Douglas County.



Gregory Hobbs

*Lead Attorneys: Susan Burch (Calkins, Kramer, Grimshaw & Haring), Mary Hammond (Holland & Hart), Peter Nagel (Sherman & Howard), and Martha Ezzard, Gregory Hobbs, Barbara Mueller and Sara Page (all of Davis Graham & Stubbs).*

## SAFEGUARDING PENSION RIGHTS

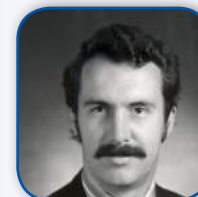
In *Branson v. City & County of Denver*, volunteer lawyers challenge the Fireman's Pension Fund's denial of pension rights to widows of firefighters whose marriages began after retirement. The Colorado Supreme Court declares the policy unconstitutional and the Fund awards pension benefits from the date of the Supreme Court ruling.

*Lead Attorneys: Bruce Jones, Kathryn Miller and Bruce Sattler (all of Holland & Hart).*

## STANDING UP FOR INDIGENT PATIENTS

Volunteers challenge the billing and collection practices of Denver General Hospital in *Bowie v. Denver General Hospital*. The class action lawsuit settles. The agreement includes the reprogramming of the hospital's computer system to incorporate a sliding fee scale for indigent patients and the elimination of abusive collection tactics.

*Lead Attorneys: Joseph Meyer and Stephen Collins (both of Parcel, Talesnick, Meyer & Schwartz) and Kathleen Mullen (Legal Aid Society of Metro Denver).*



Joseph Meyer

## PROTECTING GLENWOOD CANYON

Volunteers represent Citizens for Glenwood Canyon Scenic Corridor in a challenge to plans to expand I-70 through Glenwood Canyon. Through negotiations, a river sport advisory committee is established and environmental mitigation measures proceed concurrently with construction of the highway.

*Lead Attorneys: Luke Danielson (Danielson & Euser), Arthur Ferguson, Wendell Fleming, Paul Frohardt, Brian Hanson, Peter Houtsma, Julian Izbiky, David Palmer, Paul Phillips, Debra Pierquet-Welsh (all of Holland & Hart), and Mary Roudebush (Davis Graham & Stubbs).*

## *The End of the First Decade: 1983-1988*

### **ADVOCATING FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

The Colorado Lawyers Committee joins with several other legal and service organizations to form JAWS (the Coalition for Justice for Abused Women) to advocate for improved treatment of domestic violence victims by police and prosecutors. Court action and subsequent negotiations result in policy changes within the police department, the district and city attorney's offices, and Denver County Court. Project Safeguard is established to monitor these changes and assist the city in responding more effectively to incidents of domestic violence (Lawyers Committee volunteers serve on its initial Board of Directors).

*Lead Attorneys: Robert Hill and Karen Tomb (both of Hill & Robbins).*

### **ESTABLISHING THE HILL & ROBBINS FELLOWSHIP**



*Ron Wilcox and Bob Hill*

Volunteers from Hill & Robbins provide pro bono representation to an individual (in a proceeding before the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) (*O'Bryant v. Mountain Bell*)) whose local phone service was terminated when he failed to pay his long distance bill. While the case is on appeal, the PUC enters into a settlement agreement with the opposing party. The Colorado Supreme Court holds that the PUC has no authority to settle the case during the appeal phase. When O'Bryant requests attorneys' fees, the PUC rules it may award fees not only for proceedings before it but also for appeals. The PUC awards attorneys' fees to Hill & Robbins. The firm donates the fees to establish the Hill & Robbins Fellowship, which provides a stipend for a law student from the University of Denver or the University of Colorado to work each summer on public interest projects at either the Colorado Lawyers Committee or Colorado Legal Services. The fellowship continues today.

*Lead Attorneys: Robert Hill, Karen Tomb, and Ronald Wilcox (all of Hill & Robbins).*

### **PRESERVING RESIDENTIAL QUALITY OF LIFE**

The Lawyers Committee represents DEFEND (Defend Against Expansion of Freeway Exit in North Denver), a group of largely low and moderate income Hispanic residents of Denver's Highland neighborhood, in challenging the City's proposed expansion of the North I-25 corridor. The residents' concerns about increased traffic, noise and air pollution and the potential negative impact on the residential character of their neighborhood are addressed by the City during the planning process.

*Lead Attorney: Richard Linquanti (Ireland, Stapleton, Pryor & Pascoe).*

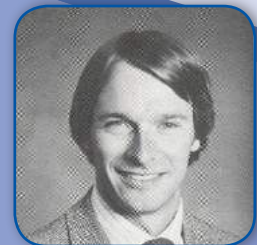
### **PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT**

Lawyers Committee volunteers file a lawsuit (*Romer v. Cheney*) on behalf of the cities of Boulder and Loveland against the Department of Defense (DOD) for its refusal to consider their input on the potential impact of the transportation and storage of nuclear warheads in residential areas. The case is consolidated with a similar lawsuit in Nebraska, and the Eight Circuit holds that private citizens and local governments can challenge the adequacy of the DOD's response to environmental concerns. The parties enter into a consent decree requiring a supplemental environmental impact statement.

*Lead Attorneys: David Hiller (Law Office of David Hiller) and Zach Miller (Davis Graham & Stubbs).*



*David Hiller*



*Zach Miller*



## DEFENDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIRLS

Volunteers represent Danette Martinez when she is denied admission to the Denver Boys Club (*Martinez v. Denver Boys Club*) after the Denver Girls Club closed. The Denver Boys Club had greater financial support and provided no educational or recreational opportunities for girls. An Administrative Law Judge ruling in favor of Danette is upheld by the Colorado Civil Rights Commission. Pending appeal, the Boys Club's Board of Directors decides to admit girls and renames the club the "Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver."

*Lead Attorneys: William Walters, III and Susan Oran (both Walters & Theis).*

*Photo: Danette Martinez, Plaintiff in Martinez v. Denver Boys Club*

## DEMANDING EQUITABLE BILINGUAL EDUCATION

In *Duran v. Center Consolidated School District*, Lawyers Committee volunteers negotiate a landmark settlement agreement in a civil rights suit against the Center School District for its failure to maintain a bilingual program for its predominantly Spanish-speaking student body. Under the agreement, the district agreed to establish a bilingual education program that maintains native language skills while developing English language skills. Despite being hailed as 'one of the most innovative [bilingual programs] in the state', the spirit of reconciliation is brief. The District reneges on its promises and a motion to enforce the agreement is denied.

*Lead Attorneys: Martha Fitzgerald, Ken Salazar and Kenneth Siegel (all of Sherman & Howard), James Scarboro and Lewis Stevenson (both of Arnold & Porter), Karen Zulauf (Buchanan, Gray, Purvis & Schuetze), and Michael Goldberg.*

## FIGHTING FOR TREATMENT OF THE MENTALLY ILL

Following cutbacks in municipal support for mental health services, Lawyers Committee volunteers file *Goebel v. Colorado Department of Institutions* challenging the inadequacy of services to chronically mentally ill persons in northwest Denver. The Supreme Court rules all chronically mentally ill persons have a right to treatment under the Colorado Act for the Care and Treatment of the Mentally Ill. A settlement worth \$13 million is reached with the State of Colorado and the City of Denver.

*Lead Attorneys: Kathleen Mullen (Law Office of Kathleen Mullen) and Rodney Patula (Pryor, Carney & Johnson).*

## EQUALIZING PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING

Volunteers challenge the constitutionality of Colorado's Public School Finance Act in *Hafer v. Colorado State Board of Education*. The case is dismissed when sweeping school finance reforms are enacted by the Colorado legislature. The new law eliminates local property taxes as the primary source of funding for public schools, increases state aid to schools, and institutes a more equitable method of allocating funds. The act also allocates the first state money for preschool education.

*Lead Attorneys: Richard Freese, Jr. (Davis Graham & Stubbs), Adam Golodner (Moye, Giles, O'Keefe Vermeire & Gorrell), Dorothy Huysman (Pryor, Carney & Johnson), Gregory Kanan (Rothgerber, Appel, Powers & Johnson) Michelle Quackenbush (Davis Graham & Stubbs) Jeffrey Reiman (Holmes & Starr) and David Stephenson, Jr. (Long & Jaudon).*

**Colorado Lawyers Committee**  
35 Years of Legal Advocacy for the Community

*Increasing  
opportunities  
for children, the  
poor and other  
disadvantaged  
communities.*



# 35 Years of Awards

## Historical Awards

For over two decades, the Colorado Lawyers Committee has honored the numerous volunteers whose generosity of time and expertise has made a significant difference in our community.

### Individual/Team of the Year

1990 – Robert F. Hill

1992 – William E. Walters, III

1993 – Stephen S. Dunham

1994 – Michael J. Cook and Catherine A. Lemon

1995 – Gale T. Miller, Richard A. Westfall,  
and Anthony Medeiros

1996 – Edwin S. Kahn

1997 – James E. Scarboro, Kathleen  
Nalty, F. Stephen Collins

1998 – William F. Schoeberlein

1999 – Mary W. Trainor

2000 – Welfare Reform Task Force  
and Litigation Team:  
Christopher P. Beall  
Barbara Z. Blumenthal  
Eric Fisher

Kimberly E. Ghiselli  
Natalie Hanlon-Leh  
Thomas S. Nichols  
T.A. Taylor-Hunt  
Steven D. Zansberg

2001 – Medicaid Litigation Team:  
Teresa L. Ashmore  
Gregory C. Parham  
B. Lawrence Theis  
Lawrence W. Treece  
Lawrence E. Volmert

2002 – Steven M. Kaufmann

2003 – Richard F. Hennessey

2004 – No award given

2005 – Computer Benefits Management  
System Litigation Team:  
D. Elisabeth Arenales  
Michael J. Cook  
Maureen S. Farrell  
Edwin S. Kahn

2006 – Kristen L. Mix and Tarek F.M. Saad

2007 – Sean Connelly



Larry Theis and Greg Parham of the Medicaid Litigation Team, 2001 Team of the Year.



Steve Kaufmann receives the 2002 individual of the year award from Dave Bailey.



Rich Hennessey accepts the 2003 Individual of the Year Award from Steve Dunham.



Computer Benefits Management System Litigation Team receives 2005 Team of the Year Award, with Connie Talmage and Steve Kaufman.



Kris Mix and Tarek Saad, 2006 Team of the Year



Sean Connelly receives the 2007 Individual of the Year Award from Connie Talmage.

**2008** – Project Homeless Connect Team:

- Susan Cole
- Timothy R. Macdonald
- Alice L. Norman
- Peter H. Schwartz
- Leonard Segreti

**2009** – Daniel A. Sweetser

**2010** – Homeless ID Steering Committee:

- James W. Hubbell
- Diego G. Hunt
- James Kilroy
- Timothy R. Macdonald
- Nan Morehead
- Linda J. Olson
- Julie Spence Prine
- Katrin Miller Rothgery
- Thomas W. Snyder
- Lindsay A. Unruh

**2011** – John H. Tatlock

**2012** – *Lobato v. State of Colorado* Litigation Team:

- Katherine P. Bell
- Kathleen Benegar
- Jennifer Weiser Bezoza
- Jennifer Bulmer
- Christopher L. Colclasure
- Jess A. Dance
- Joseph Daniels
- Lisa A. Decker
- Jo Denious
- Rebecca J. Dunaway
- Ryann B. Fogel
- Kathleen J. Gebhardt
- Zane Gilmer
- Alexander Halpern
- Elizabeth Howard
- Kenzo Kawanabe
- Geoffrey Klingsporn
- Ellie Lockwood
- Kyle Loving
- Brooke H. McCarthy
- Terry R. Miller
- Donna Munyer
- Kimberley D. Neilio
- Cristine Pajarillo
- Colin P. Pitet
- Clarissa M. Raney
- Daniel P. Spivey
- Kyle C. Velte
- Natalie West
- Mark B. Wiletsky
- Susan Williams
- Jessica Yates
- Alyssa K. Yatsko



*Project Homeless Connect Steering Committee, 2008 Team of the Year.*



*Dan Sweetser, 2009 Individual of the Year.*



*Homeless ID Task Force, 2010 Team of the Year.*



*John Tatlock, 2011 Individual of the Year.*



*Lobato Litigation Team, 2012 Team of the Year; with the Lobato Family. Courtesy of Hartmannphoto, LLC.*

## Outstanding Sustained Contribution Award



*Attorney General Ken Salazar presents 2003 Outstanding Sustained Contribution Award to Taylor Ranch Litigation Team.*



*Ed Kahn accepts 2004 Outstanding Sustained Contribution Award*



*2012 Outstanding Sustained Contribution Award Recipient Larry Treece. Courtesy of Hartmannphoto, LLC*

1998 – Karen Tomb

1999 – Glen E. Keller, Jr.

2000 – Robert F. Hill

2001 – James E. Scarboro

2002 – F. Stephen Collins

2003 – Taylor Ranch Team:  
 Jeffrey A. Goldstein  
 William F. Schoeberlein  
 D. Elisabeth Arenales  
 Federico Cheever  
 Janene B. Duthie  
 Rebecca Anderson Fischer  
 Watson W. Galleher  
 Richard D. Garcia  
 Jerry P. Gordon  
 Norman D. Haglund  
 Robert M. Maes  
 David A. Martinez  
 Julia T. Waggener

2004 – Edwin S. Kahn

2005 – Gregory B. Kanan

2006 – Gale T. Miller

2007 – Christopher Lane

2008 – Michael J. Cook

2009 – Steven M. Kaufmann

2010 – John F. Walsh

2011 – James W. Hubbell

2012 – Lawrence W. Treece



*Gale Miller receives the 2006 Outstanding Sustained Contribution Award from Glen Keller.*



*Michael Cook, 2008 Outstanding Sustained Contribution Award Recipient.*



*2005 Outstanding Sustained Contribution Award Recipient Greg Kanan, with Steve Kaufmann and Jim Lyons.*

# 35 Years of Awards

## *Historical Awards*

### **Law Firm of the Year**

- 1990 – Holland & Hart LLP
- 1992 – Sherman & Howard L.L.C.
- 1993 – Rothgerber, Appel, Powers & Johnson, LLP
- 1994 – Holland & Hart LLP
- 1995 – Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP
- 1996 – Hill & Robbins, P.C.
- 1997 – Kelly/Haglund/Garnsey + Kahn L.L.C.
- 1998 – Morrison & Foerster LLP
- 1999 – McKenna & Cuneo, L.L.P.
- 2000 – Faegre & Benson LLP
- 2001 – Hillyard, Barnhart, Ekker & McNally, L.L.P.
- 2002 – Stern and Elkind, LLP
- 2003 – Arnold & Porter LLP
- 2004 – No award given
- 2005 – Musgrave & Theis LLP
- 2006 – Kelly/Haglund/Garnsey + Kahn L.L.C.
- 2007 – Arnold & Porter LLP
- 2008 – Arnold & Porter LLP
- 2009 – Arnold & Porter LLP
- 2010 – Morrison & Foerster LLP
- 2011 – Reilly Pozner LLP
- 2012 – Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP



*Hill & Robbins, 1996 Law Firm of the Year.*



*2003 Law Firm of the Year, Arnold & Porter LLP*



*2011 Law Firm of the Year, Reilly Pozner LLP*



*2010 Law Firm of the Year, Morrison & Foerster LLP*



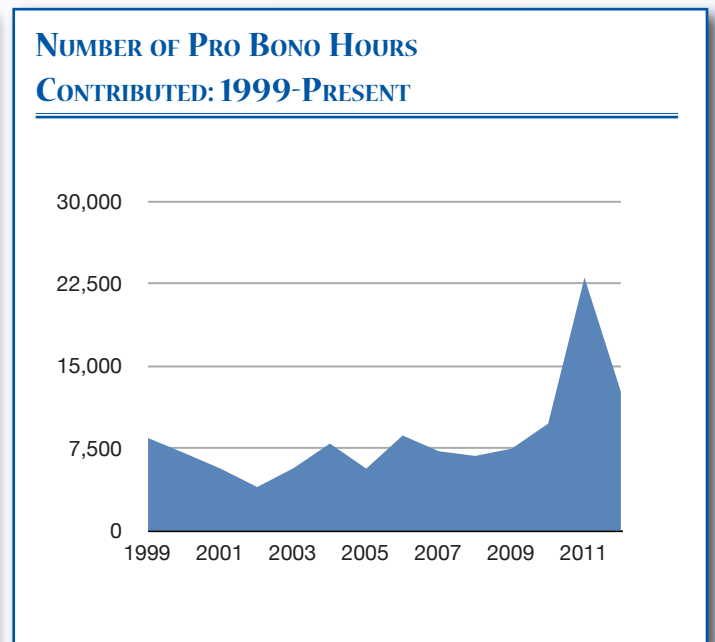
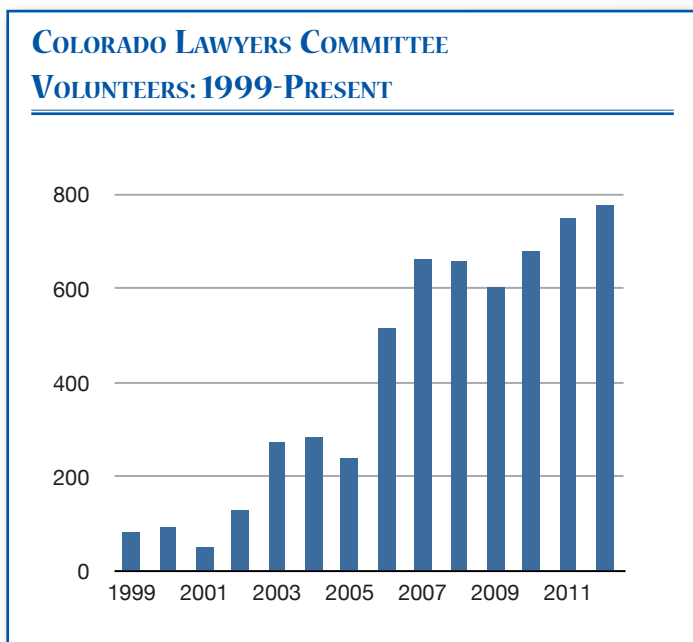
*2012 Law Firm of the Year, Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP  
Courtesy of Hartmannphoto, LLC*

## Historical Pro Bono Contributions: 1999-2013

The Colorado Lawyers Committee could not accomplish its work without the extraordinary lawyers and other volunteers who donate considerable time and resources to make a difference in our community. The volunteer hours and in-kind contributions included below are those reported to the Lawyers Committee.

*Special thanks to the thousands of volunteers who are not listed by name due to the space constraints of this report.*

**In 1999, the Colorado Lawyers Committee was involved in 12 projects. In 2013, there are 20 task forces.**



*1978-2013*



## **Law Firm Contributions**

In 1978, the seven law firms that contributed to the Lawyers Committee paid \$50 per lawyer. Twelve years later, in 1990, this amount was raised to \$75 and in 1992, the contribution was increased again, to \$100. In 1994, the per-lawyer contribution was set at \$115 and was raised 11 years later to \$130 where it has remained since 2005. Currently 59 Colorado law firms contribute annually to the Lawyers Committee.

## **Historical Office Locations**

The Colorado Lawyers Committee was first housed at 1741 High Street near City Park, a location also shared by the American Civil Liberties Union. A year later, the Lawyers Committee moved to Friedman, Hill & Robbins, where the named partners served as Co-Executive Directors. In subsequent years, the Lawyers Committee moved several times: to Head, Moye, Carver & Ray, to 837 Sherman Street, and to The Blake Street Building before moving to Davis Graham & Stubbs in 1987. Two years later, in 1989 the Lawyers Committee moved to office space donated by Sherman & Howard. Since then, the Colorado Lawyers Committee has had several homes, all donated by law firms: Holland & Hart LLP (1992-1994), Morrison & Foerster LLP (1994-1998), Perkins Coie LLP (1998-1999), McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP (fka McKenna & Cuneo L.L.P., 1999-2005), Arnold & Porter LLP (2005-2007), and finally Patton Boggs, LLP (where the Lawyers Committee has been since 2007).

## **Affiliation with National Lawyers' Committee**

The Colorado Lawyers Committee is loosely affiliated with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, founded in 1963 at the suggestion of President Kennedy to provide legal representation for individuals whose civil rights were being violated. The National Lawyers Committee continues to be active in civil rights with a focus on education, employment discrimination, environmental justice, housing and voting rights.

The Colorado Lawyers Committee is one of eight local Lawyers Committees in the country. The others are in Boston, Chicago, Jackson (Mississippi), Los Angeles, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and Washington D.C.



# 35 Years of Volunteers, Leadership, Awards and Administration

## Historical Board Chairs

The Colorado Lawyers Committee is indebted to the individuals who have served as Board Chair during the past 35 years. We thank you for your leadership, guidance and commitment to our mission.

**1978-1979**

**L. Richard Freese, Jr.**

*Davis Graham & Stubbs*

**1979-1981**

**Edwin S. Kahn**

*Kelly/Haglund/Garnsey+Kahn*

**1981-1982**

**Bruce W. Sattler**

*Holland & Hart*

**1982-1983**

**William A. Bianco**

*Davis Graham & Stubbs*

**1983-1985**

**Bruce W. Sattler**

*Holland & Hart*

**1985-1987**

**Robert F. Hill**

*Hill & Robbins*

**1987-1988**

**Mary J. Kelly**

*Sherman & Howard*

**1988-1989**

**Rodney R. Patula**

*Pryor, Carney & Johnson*

**1989-1991**

**Gale T. Miller**

*Davis Graham & Stubbs*

**1991-1993**

**Gregory B. Kanan**

*Rothgerber, Appel, Powers & Johnson*

**1993-1994**

**William E. Walters, III**

*Walters & Joyce*

**1994-1995**

**James E. Scarboro**

*Arnold & Porter*

**1995-1996**

**Catherine A. Lemon**

*Faegre & Benson*

**1996-1997**

**Stephen S. Dunham**

*Morrison & Foerster*

**1997-1998**

**James W. Hubbell**

*Kelly/Haglund/Garnsey+Kahn*

**1998-1999**

**Christopher Lane**

*Sherman & Howard*

**1999-2000**

**Glen E. Keller, Jr.**

*Davis Graham & Stubbs*

**2000-2001**

**W. Randolph Barnhart**

*Branney, Hillyard & Barnhart*

**2001-2003**

**Julie M. Williamson**

*Hoffman Reilly Pozner & Williamson*

**2003-2005**

**Steven M. Kaufmann**

*Morrison & Foerster*

**2005-2007**

**I. Thomas Biegging**

*Biegging Shapiro & Burrus*

**2007-2009**

**Craig E. Stewart**

*Holland & Hart*

**2009-2011**

**Kenzo Kawanabe**

*Davis Graham & Stubbs*

**2011-present**

**Nancy B. Elkind**

*Elkind Alterman Harston*



*Dick Freese*



*Rod Patula*



*Steve Dunham*



*Steve Kaufmann*



*Ed Kahn*



*Gale Miller*



*Jim Hubbell*



*Tom Biegging*



*Bruce Sattler*



*Greg Kanan*



*Chris Lane*



*Craig Stewart*



*Bill Bianco*



*Bill Walters*



*Glen Keller*



*Kenzo Kawanabe*



*Bob Hill*



*Jim Scarboro*



*Randy Barnhart*



*Nancy Elkind*



*Mary Kelly*



*Cathy Lemon*



*Julie Williamson*

# 35 Years of Volunteers, Leadership, Awards and Administration

## Historical Executive Directors

The Colorado Lawyers Committee has also had the benefit of extraordinary leadership from the individuals who have served as Executive Director of the organization during its first 35 years. To each of them, we extend our sincere thanks for your support, your guidance, your vision and your hard work.

- In 1978 Dorothy Davidson became the first Executive Director of the Colorado Lawyers Committee, working part-time for the Lawyers Committee and part time for the ACLU.
- From 1979-1980, the named partners of the law firm of Friedman, Hill & Robbins served as co-directors while managing their law practices: Alan H. Friedman, Robert F. Hill and David W. Robbins.
- Christine L. Murphy joined the Lawyers Committee as Executive Director in 1980 and left in 1982. She returned in 1983 and stayed until 1985. She returned again in 1986 and stayed at the Lawyers Committee until 1988. During Christy's absences, Roxanne Bailin and Peggy M. Ventura served as Executive Director during 1982 and from 1985 to 1986 respectively.
- Diana M. Poole was hired as the Executive Director of the Colorado Lawyers Committee in 1988 and stayed until 1990.
- In 1990, William A. Rosser became the organization's first full-time Executive Director. Under Bill's leadership, the Colorado Lawyers Committee adopted the task force model for approaching community problems.
- In 1996, Mary E. Ricketson was hired as Executive Director and stayed until she was appointed Interim Dean of the University of Denver College of Law in 2000.
- The current Executive Director, Constance C. Talmage, was hired in 2000.



*Dorothy Davidson*



*Alan Friedman and Bob Hill*



*Christy Murphy*



*Diana Poole*



*Bill Rosser*



*Mary Ricketson*



*Connie Talmage*

## Staff Attorney

In 1993, the Colorado Lawyers Committee hires D. Elisabeth Arenales as a staff attorney. Elisabeth focuses on expanding the Lawyers Committee's impact on rural Colorado. Prior to her departure in 1997, her projects include rural education, immigration issues, Indian Policies and Procedures for tribes in Southern Colorado, and the Taylor Ranch litigation.



*Elisabeth Arenales*

**Colorado Lawyers Committee**  
35 Years of Legal Advocacy for the Community

*The Colorado Lawyers  
Committee takes on  
the big issues and  
crafts solutions for  
entire communities by  
changing bad law and  
developing sound policy.*



## *The Beginning of the Second Decade: 1988-1993*



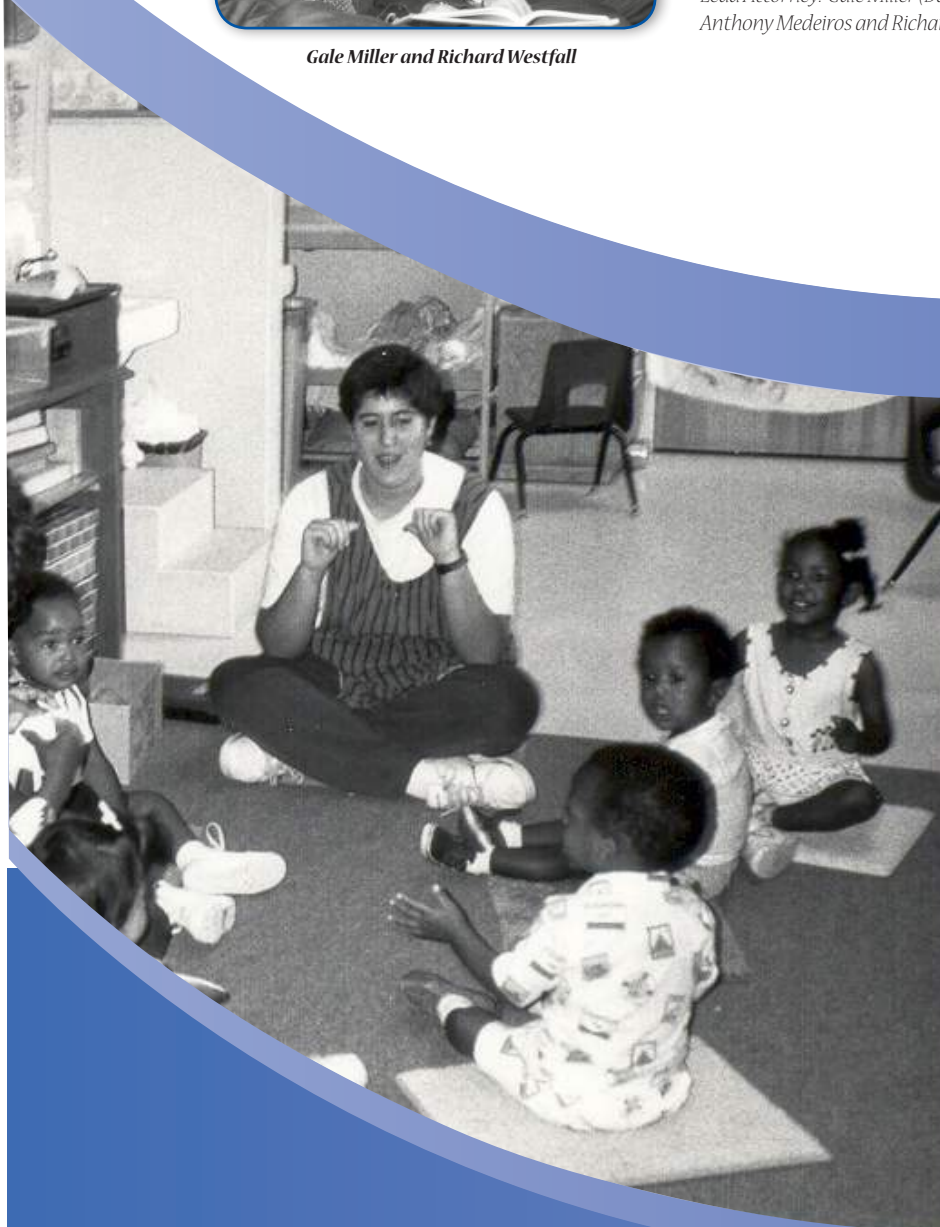
*Gale Miller and Richard Westfall*

### **SAFEGUARDING THE RIGHT TO VOTE**

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Volunteers successfully represent Hispanic residents of southern Colorado in the Voting Rights Act case, *Sanchez v. State of Colorado*. The lawsuit sought to require the state to redraw the boundaries of District 60 to include a majority of Hispanic voting age population. No Hispanic from the San Luis Valley had been elected to the Legislature since the 1930s. The federal ruling requires the redistricting of Southern Colorado to prevent the continued dilution of Hispanic representation.

*Lead Attorney: Gale Miller (Davis Graham & Stubbs). Trial Attorneys: Anthony Medeiros and Richard Westfall (both of Davis Graham).*



### **HELPING INDIGENT FAMILIES BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT**

---

The Family Futures Task Force, in partnership with the Legal Aid Society of Metro Denver and 19 other community organizations, helps single-parent families in Northeast Denver get off welfare and become self-sufficient. One hundred families participate in the project; Lawyers Committee volunteers work with families to help resolve their civil legal matters and address serious legal problems to enable participating families to stay together.

*Co-Chairs: Elizabeth Carver, (Yu Stromberg & Cleveland), Jeffrey Hall (Hill & Robbins) and Zach Miller (Davis Graham & Stubbs).*

*Photo (left): Children and Staff at the Clayton Child Care Center, some of the families enrolled at this center are assisted by the Family Futures Task Force.*

## IMPROVING THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM

The Foster Care Task Force spends a year researching Colorado's foster care system and concludes the state and counties are violating the rights of abused and neglected children, with deficient staffing and inadequate services. After two years of negotiations (to resolve a lawsuit the task force is ready to file), the parties reach an agreement that includes a 39% increase in child welfare case workers, millions of dollars invested statewide for substance abuse and mental health treatment, and improved accountability.

*Co-Chairs: Michael Cook and Cathy Lemon (both of Faegre & Benson) and Stephen Dunham (Morrison & Foerster).*



*Members of the Foster Care Task Force*



*Education Task Force Members.*

## EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SAN LUIS VALLEY AND FOUR CORNERS

The Education Task Force is established to improve educational opportunities and initially focuses its efforts on the primarily Latino and Native American populations in the San Luis Valley and the Four Corners area. Members of the task force represent individuals and groups and teach parents about the legal and educational systems and their rights and responsibilities. The Task Force begins monitoring school finance matters and assists parents in collaborative decision-making processes.

*Co-Chairs: Gregory Kanan (Rothgerber, Appel, Powers & Johnson) and Hugh McClearn (Sherman & Howard).*

## LOANED ATTORNEY PROGRAM PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO LAWYERS COMMITTEE PROJECTS

The Loaned Attorney Program is established. Contributing firms donate one-third of a lawyer's time during the year to a specific issue identified by the Lawyers Committee.

*Loaned Attorneys: JoAnn Vogt (Rothgerber, Appel, Powers & Johnson), Barbara Fort Jones (Sherman & Howard), Jeanette Wotkyns (Morrison & Foerster).*



*JoAnn Vogt (Rothgerber, Appel, Powers & Johnson) was the first participant in the Loaned Attorney Program.*



## ADVOCATING ON BEHALF OF COLORADO CHILDREN

The Children's Legislative Task Force is formed. This nonpartisan Task Force, in cooperation with other groups, successfully advocates for the passage of several new Colorado laws: a childhood immunization bill, a child support enforcement statute, and a bill that requires Colorado hospitals to ask unwed fathers to acknowledge their parenthood at the time of their child's birth.

*Co-Chairs: Robert Hill (Hill & Robbins) and Gale Norton (Colorado Attorney General).*

*Photo (Left): Robert Hill, Gale Norton and Ray Slaughter of the Children's Legislative Task Force.*

## *The End of the Second Decade: 1993-1998*

### **ASSISTING IMMIGRANT POPULATIONS IN THE SAN LUIS VALLEY**

---

The Immigration Task Force creates a program to provide immigration assistance to a growing population of immigrants in the San Luis Valley. The Task Force offers guidance and training to the Christian Community Center in Alamosa for its critical immigrant assistance program, the only one in the area.

*Chair: Nancy Elkind (Stern & Elkind).*

### **EMPOWERING MINORITY STUDENTS AND PARENTS IN RURAL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

---

The Rural Education Task Force is created to assist students and parents in all rural school districts. Task force members assist Hispanic students in the Fort Morgan school district to address issues arising out of perceived discrimination against Hispanics in the district and establish a grievance procedure to resolve issues of ethnic and racial discrimination. Volunteers also work on behalf of the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute Tribes to oppose legislation that would reduce state funds to their schools.

*Co-Chairs: Edwin Kahn (Kelly/Haglund/Garnsey+Kahn), John Parks (LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae), and Edward Timmins (Otten, Johnson, Robinson, Neff+ Ragonetti).*



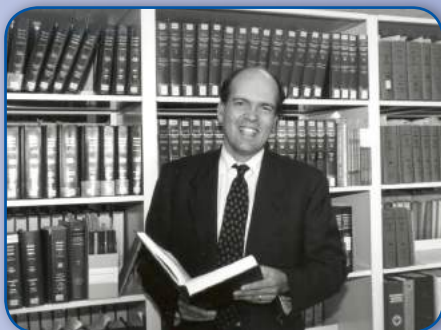
*Members of the School Discipline Task Force. Front row from L to R: Dr. Andy Bardwell, Elizabeth Silva, Elisabeth Arenales, Norm Aaronson, back row Marquitta Starkey, Stephanie Dunn, Joe Bronesky, Asa Belton, Glen Keller.*

### **ENSURING DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOOL DISCIPLINE**

---

The School Discipline Task Force forms to address concerns about the unequal and apparent selective application and enforcement of the Colorado School Discipline Act. The Task Force proposes legislation, enacted in 1996, that amends the Act and ensures due process for all students facing school discipline.

*Co-Chairs: William Bianco and Glenn Keller, Jr. (both Davis Graham & Stubbs).*



*Bill Callison*

### **PROVIDING LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO NONPROFITS**

---

The Nonprofit Task Force provides numerous Colorado nonprofit organizations with transactional, corporate governance, tax, real estate and other legal advice necessary to help them better serve their communities.

*Co-Chairs: William Callison (Moye, Giles, O'Keefe Vermeire & Gorrell) and Had Beatty (Holland & Hart).*

## PROTECTING STUDENT RIGHTS AT PROPRIETARY SCHOOLS

The Proprietary Schools Task Force is formed to focus on legislative reform to protect students at proprietary schools. Issues include improving access to information and records as well as challenging debts owed to schools that fail to provide advertised services. Task Force volunteers also represent individual students with legal issues arising from loan defaults.

*Co-Chairs: Randolph Barnhart (Brannery, Hillyard, Portman & Barnhart) and JoAnn Vogt (Rothgerber, Appel, Powers & Johnson).*



Members of the Proprietary School Task Force.



Bill McCleam, member of Welfare Reform Task Force



Jon Asher, member of Welfare Reform Task Force



Gary Greer, member of Welfare Reform Task Force

## ENSURING RESPONSIBLE WELFARE REFORM

The Welfare Reform Task Force is formed in anticipation of the passage of federal welfare reform. The task force conducts fact finding to assess the impact of the legislation on existing welfare agencies and programs and monitors the enactment of the Colorado Works Program, including providing legislators with neutral principles to guide the implementation of welfare reform in Colorado.

*Co-Chairs: Robert Hill (Hill & Robbins) and Gary Greer (Sherman & Howard).*



Greg Kanan

## DEFENDING THE PROCESS TO ESTABLISH CHARTER SCHOOLS

Lawyers Committee volunteers assist Thurgood Marshall Charter Middle School in suing Denver Public Schools to force DPS to comply with a State Board of Education's decision granting charter status to Thurgood Marshall. The Colorado Supreme Court upholds the State Board's authority to order a school district to grant a charter and holds the Charter Schools Act constitutional.

*Lead Attorney: Gregory Kanan (Rothgerber, Appel, Powers & Johnson).*

## TEACHING OUR COMMUNITY ABOUT HATE CRIMES

The Hate Violence Task Force is created to educate the community about the prevalence of crimes based on race, ethnicity, gender, religious practice, and sexual orientation. Volunteers present fictional trials at Denver metro high schools with students serving as jurors. The presentations continue today, though the Task Force's work has expanded throughout Colorado and includes middle schools, law students and community groups.

*Co-Chairs: Bruce Montoya (Pryor, Carney & Johnson), David Powell, Jr. (Holland & Hart), Stephen Collins (Pendleton, Friedberg, Wilson, Hennessey & Meyer), Kathleen Nalty, Mary Trainor (Morrison & Foerster).*



Members of the Hate Violence Task Force: Craig Shaffer, Bruce Montoya, David Powell, Todd Kastetter and Adrienne Benavidez.

# Charter schools get legal win

By Janet Bingham  
Denver Post Education Writer

In a victory for charter schools, the Colorado Supreme Court on Monday ruled that the state board of education can order a local school board to accept a charter school application.

The state board's authority, provided in the 1993 Charter Schools Act, "does not in-

## Court upholds appeals provision

for charter schools in Colorado," said Assistant Attorney General Tony Dyl, who is handling the case for the state board.

Jim Griffin, director of the Colorado League of Charter Schools, called the opin-

The Charter Schools Act gives parents, teachers, and others the right to set up semi-autonomous schools under contract with a local school board using tax dollars. If an application is turned down by the lo-

application, the state board ordered it approved. The Denver board challenged the constitutionality of the Charter Schools Act, arguing that the state constitution gives local boards "control of instruction."

The state board argued that the state constitution gives it "general supervisory powers" over public schools. The court said the constitution requires "balancing"

## *The Beginning of the Third Decade: 1998-2003*



**Randy Barnhart**

### **FUNDING SCHOOL BUILDINGS**

Education Task Force volunteers file a lawsuit, *Giardino v. Colorado*, on behalf of 23,000 students in six Colorado school districts with unsafe, deteriorating school buildings, challenging Colorado's public education funding which denies students appropriate and safe educational facilities. After several days of trial, the Lawyers Committee is instrumental in working with the legislature for passage of a \$190 million bill (to be implemented over 10 years) that commits the State to improve deteriorating public school facilities.

*Co-Chairs: Randolph Barnhart (Branney, Hillyard & Barnhart), Steven Kaufmann (Morrison & Foerster), Glen Keller, Jr. (Davis Graham & Stubbs), Kathleen Gebhardt (Kathleen J. Gebhardt).*

### **RESTORING MEDICAID BENEFITS**

Volunteer lawyers negotiate a \$172 million settlement on behalf of 44,000 families who were inadvertently denied Medicaid benefits from 1997 to 2000. The settlement results from a computer-generated problem that left many children, including underweight newborns who were entitled to Medicaid, without medical care. The agreement ensures the reinstatement of benefits and reimbursement for medical expenses to eligible recipients. The state also reprograms its computers to assure that Medicaid benefits are not automatically cut when welfare benefits expire.

*Lead Attorneys: Lawrence Theis and Tracy Ashmore (both of Perkins Coie), Lawrence Treece (Sherman & Howard) and Lawrence Volmert (Holland & Hart).*



**Larry Theis, Larry Volmert and Greg Parham, members of the Medicaid Computer Litigation team.**

### **MAXIMIZING PUBLIC BENEFIT IN BLUE CROSS CONVERSION**

Volunteers are involved with the conversion of Colorado Blue Cross and Blue Shield from a nonprofit to a for-profit corporation, with the establishment of a foundation with proceeds from the sale and conversion of the nonprofit. Volunteers lobby for changes in the conversion statute and participate in administrative hearings and appeals to maximize the benefit to the public.

*Lead Attorneys: David Fine, Edwin Kahn, Christine Murphy, Valissa Tsoucaris (all of Kelly/Haglund/Garnsey+Kahn) and Mary Catherine Rabbitt (Colorado Center on Law and Policy).*

Subsequent proceedings in this case establish that the Colorado Insurance Commissioner may award attorneys' fees to pro bono counsel who create or increase a fund for the common good (*Hawes v. Colorado Division of Insurance*).

*Lead Attorneys: Jean E. Dubofsky (Jean E. Dubofsky), Edwin S. Kahn (Kelly/Haglund/Garnsey+Kahn), Christine L. Murphy, Elisabeth D. Arenales (Colorado Center on Law & Policy), Edward T. Ramey (Isaacson, Rosenbaum, Woods & Levy).*



## PROTECTING THE DUE PROCESS RIGHTS OF WELFARE RECIPIENTS

Volunteers represent welfare recipients whose benefits were terminated or reduced without proper notice (*Weston v. Hammons*). The plaintiffs are mothers and grandmothers caring for young children, including two clients who (with their children) had become homeless as a result of improper denial of benefits. On appeal, in a case of first impression (after the implementation of the new federal welfare reform statute) the court upholds the trial court ruling that Adams County deprived the plaintiffs of due process rights because notices reducing or terminating benefits did not include full or accurate information about the sanctions or the appeal process. \$2.1 million was restored to 1,600 families.

Chair: Thomas Nichols (Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP).



The Welfare Litigation Team: Chris Beall, Tom Nichols, Kim Ghiselli, and Barbara Blumenthal.



Taylor Ranch Lawyers

## DEFENDING LANDOWNER ACCESS TO THE TAYLOR RANCH

In a historic opinion, the Colorado Supreme Court upholds the rights of plaintiff property owners in the San Luis Valley to exercise traditional use rights to graze livestock and collect wood and timber on a 77,500 acre area known as "Taylor Ranch" (*Lobato v. Taylor*). The case was originally filed in 1981 and Lawyers Committee volunteers have worked on the case since 1996. The dispute around access to the 77,500 acre parcel originated with promises made in the mid 1800's that Mexican settlers on the Sangre de Cristo Land Grant would have access to the mountainous regions near their homes for uses necessary for their survival. In 1960, Jack Taylor purchased and began to fence off land which had been used for grazing, timber, and wood gathering for more than 100 years, causing enormous disruption to the economic and social fabric of the local communities. The Colorado Supreme Court remands the case to the trial court for a determination of which landowners are entitled to access the property, a process that continues today.

Co-Chairs: Jeffrey Goldstein (Brauer, Buescher, Goldhammer & Kelman) and William Schoeberlein (Littler Mendelson).

Many lawyers work on this case in subsequent years and Norman Haglund (Kelly, Haglund, Garnsey+Kahn), Thomas Stoever (Arnold & Porter) and Jerome DeHerrera (Davis Graham & Stubbs) all assume leadership roles.

“Although these rights were necessary to the settlers' very existence, and although Taylor had ample notice of these rights, Taylor fenced his land over forty years ago. It is an understatement to say that this is an injustice.”

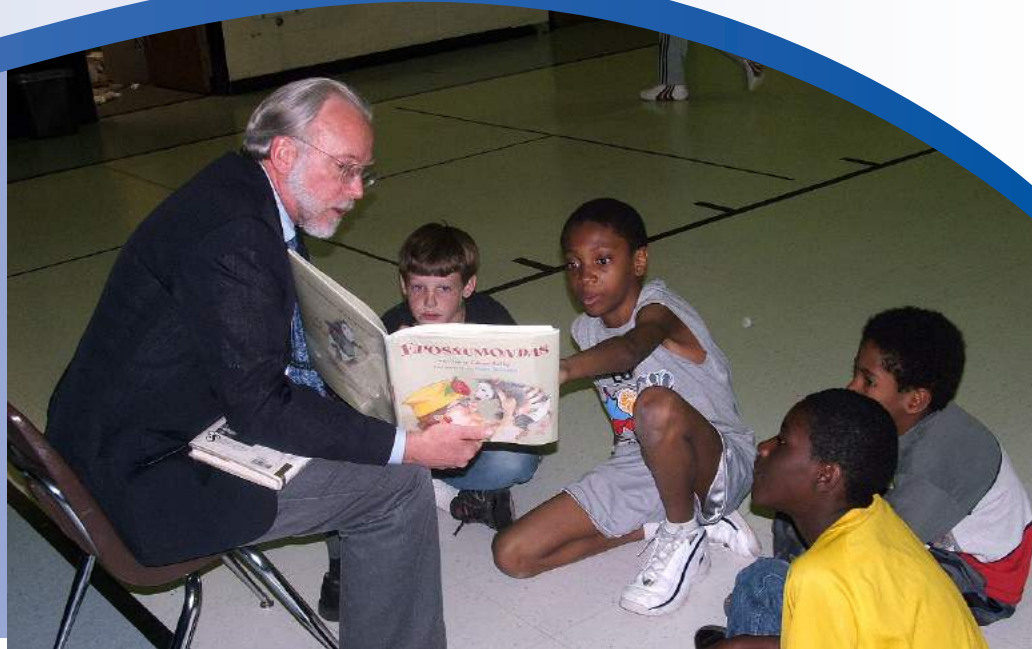
Colorado Supreme Court Chief Justice Mary Mullarkey

## SUPPORTING EDUCATION THROUGH READING

For many years, Wyman Elementary School Task Force volunteers support the low and moderate income students in this school through a book drive and reading day visits.

Co-Chairs: Kelly Elefant and Julie Rosen (both Gorsuch Kirgis).

Bill Walters reading to Wyman Elementary students.



## *The End of the Third Decade: 2003-2008*

### **ADVOCATING FOR CHILDREN**

The Children's Task Force is created to focus the efforts of Colorado Lawyers Committee volunteers on issues relating to children. During the next ten years, the Task Force explores litigation and other approaches to increase the availability of preschool in Colorado for disadvantaged children, examines possible improvements to the child welfare system, and works to expand access to Medicaid benefits for children with autism.

*Original Chair: David W. Stark (Faegre Baker Daniels LLP) is joined in 2009 by Co-Chair Jennifer H. Hunt (Hill & Robbins, P.C.).*



*Julie Williamson*

### **PRESERVING THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS INCARCERATED AT THE STATE MENTAL HOSPITAL**

A task force is formed to examine the rights of mental health patients who plead not-guilty by reason of insanity and are sentenced to an indefinite stay at the state hospital. The task force discovers individuals charged with non-violent crimes remain at the hospital for many years (often longer than the sentence they would have received if they had plead guilty) without a release hearing. Volunteers agree to represent patients at the hospital and are successful in obtaining hearings to determine if release is appropriate.

*Chair: Julie M. Williamson (Hoffman Pozner & Williamson LLP).  
Lead Attorney: Iris E. Bell (Hoffman Pozner & Williamson LLP).*



*Peter Krumholz*



*Bill Callison*

### **TAX OUTREACH TO UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES**

Lawyers Committee volunteers travel to Center, Colorado to make a presentation on the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to community members. This outreach is in response to an IRS raid on the office of a solo accountant in the San Luis Valley and the seizure of 190 tax returns where the EITC was claimed. The presentation is designed to counter the chilling effect on the community of the raid.

*Lead Attorneys: J. William Callison (Faegre & Benson LLP), Peter Krumholz and Gale T. Miller (both of Davis Graham & Stubbs) and Shelley Wittevrongel.*

### **REFORMING CRIMINAL SENTENCING IN COLORADO**

The Lawyers Committee forms a task force to examine criminal sentencing in Colorado and to investigate possible reforms that will positively impact the state budget. After more than a year of research and information gathering, the Sentencing Reform Task Force publishes its "Report on the Sentencing System in Colorado: Serious Fiscal Problem on the Horizon." The report recommends the establishment of a Sentencing Commission to address the negative fiscal impact of current sentencing practices. Early the following year, with encouragement from the task force, Governor Bill Ritter signs HB 1358 establishing the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Commission in Colorado.

*Chair: James E. Scarboro (Arnold & Porter LLP).*

## PROVIDING LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES IN DENVER

Volunteers establish a clinic in Denver to provide legal information, advice and referrals to underserved individuals. At the first Legal Night at Mi Casa Resource Center, volunteers assist 40 participants on topics including family law, housing, immigration and employment. The following year, Denver Legal Night expands to a second location at Centro San Juan Diego. Co-sponsors include the CBA, DBA Young Lawyers Division, and DBA Legal Services Committee. The twice monthly clinics continue in subsequent years and by the end of 2012 almost 1,200 volunteers serve 14,693 individuals.

*Steering Committee as of 2013: Timothy R. Macdonald and Susan Cole (both of Arnold & Porter LLP), Ilene Bloom (Ilene Lin Bloom, P.C.) and Angela Reyes (Colorado Legal Services).*



Denver Legal Night volunteers meet with clients at Mi Casa Resource Center.



Legal Night Steering Committee  
Courtesy of Hartmannphoto, LLC

## INCREASING HEALTH CARE ACCESS FOR CHILDREN ON MEDICAID

Federal law requires states to provide access to medical care for children on Medicaid that is comparable to care available to children with private insurance. In recent years Colorado Medicaid payments to pediatricians dropped so dramatically that many private physicians no longer accepted children on Medicaid; these children must go to clinics or emergency rooms for health care. Lawyers Committee volunteers work with legislators and the State to increase Medicaid payments so children once again have access to a primary care physician and a "medical home".

*Co-Chairs: Gregory B. Kanan (Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons LLP) and Bobbee J. Musgrave (Perkins Coie LLP).*



Greg Kanan



Bobbee Musgrave

## HEALTH CARE FOR THE UNINSURED

The availability of non-emergency medical services for the uninsured in Colorado decreased significantly in recent years, while the number of uninsured is rising. This problem is particularly acute for individuals who reside outside of Denver (Denver Health provides medical services for uninsured Denver residents). The Medical Services for Indigents Task Force is created to examine the complicated system of financing of health care for low income individuals in Colorado. The Task Force investigates indigent health care and explores strategies for addressing the issue.

*Chair: Richard F. Hennessey (Pendleton Friedberg Wilson & Hennessey P.C.).*



Rich Hennessey

## *The End of the Third Decade: 2003-2008*



**Michael Cook**

### **ASSURING ACCESS TO PUBLIC BENEFITS**

The CBMS Task Force is formed when the State's newly implemented Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS) improperly denies or delays essential public benefits (food stamps, Medicaid, etc.) to tens of thousands of individuals and families. When volunteers file a lawsuit (*Hawthorne-Bey v. Reinertson*), the Court orders the State to eliminate the backlog of benefits applications, substantially reduce processing delays, and take steps to respond quickly to emergency applications. The parties eventually settle the lawsuit. In later years, volunteers successfully enforce the settlement agreements and continue to monitor the State's progress into 2013.

*Original Lead Attorneys: Michael J. Cook (Sherman & Howard L.L.C.), Edwin S. Kahn and D. Elisabeth Arenales (both of Colorado Center on Law and Policy).*

*Current Lead Attorneys: Jerome H. Sturhahn and Sana Q. Hamelin (both of Sherman & Howard L.L.C.).*



*Members of the Homeless ID Task Force receiving the Community Contribution Award in 2007.*

### **MAKING SURE ELIGIBLE COLORADO RESIDENTS CAN OBTAIN AN ID**

Lawyers Committee volunteers begin their efforts to assure access to Colorado IDs. The ID Task Force sues the Department of Motor Vehicles (*Hill v. Cooke*) for failing to provide ID applicants with due process and clear standards for issuing IDs. After the DMV implements court-ordered regulations, serious access problems remain; 25 volunteer lawyers agree to represent individuals who experience barriers in obtaining state-issued IDs. The task force then successfully supports a bill that permits felons to change their names to get IDs (felons had been unable to get jobs and housing since the DMV refused to issue IDs without name changes, which were then illegal). By 2013, tens of thousands of individuals still can't access housing, employment, medication, public benefits and other essential services because they can't get IDs. Volunteers approach legislators and other State officials seeking a bipartisan solution; a Joint Task Force is created with the Lawyers Committee, the Department of Revenue and the DMV to remove barriers to getting IDs.

*Lead Attorneys on the litigation: Sean Connelly (Reilly Pozner & Connelly LLP), James Hubbell (Kelly/Haglund/Garnsey+Kahn LLC), and Timothy R. Macdonald (Arnold & Porter LLP). 2013 Chair: T.A. Taylor-Hunt (Law Offices of T.A. Taylor-Hunt).*

## PROVIDING LEGAL RESOURCES TO HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS

At the request of the City of Denver, the Lawyers Committee agrees to run the legal area at Project Homeless Connect, a one day event sponsored by Denver to help 500-1,000 homeless individuals access a variety of benefits and services. Volunteers provide legal information, advice and referrals on topics including family law, housing and employment. In subsequent years, the Colorado Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel joins as a co-sponsor and the program expands to include a Homeless Court where individuals resolve outstanding Denver warrants. By the end of 2012, more than 550 Lawyers Committee volunteers participate in 12 Project Homeless Connect events, serving more than 1875 homeless individuals and helping resolve more than 630 arrest warrants.

*Steering Committee as of 2013: Timothy R. Macdonald, Susan Cole and Sonia Siewert (all of Arnold & Porter LLP), Carmel Gill (Colorado Chapter of the ACC), Marcela Mendoza (Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.), Alice L. Norman (Denver Municipal Indigent Defense Counsel), and Peter H. Schwartz (Davis Graham & Stubbs).*

**Photo (Right): Project Homeless Connect volunteers work with clients.**



## SAFEGUARDING THE RIGHTS OF THE INNOCENT

The Colorado Innocence Project is created, inspired by similar projects around the country designed to provide legal representation for prisoners whose innocence can be established by scientific or other evidence. The project is a coalition of Lawyers Committee attorneys, defense attorneys, and law school representatives. Legal volunteers review inmate requests for assistance to determine whether innocence might be established by scientific or other exonerating evidence. In 2010, leadership of the project transitions from the Colorado Lawyers Committee to the University of Colorado School of Law.

*Chair: James E. Scarboro (Arnold & Porter LLP).*



**Jim Scarboro**

## ADVOCATING FOR QUALITY EDUCATION

Lawyers Committee volunteers continue to work on a range of issues impacting the education of Colorado's children. Early in the decade, volunteers challenge Colorado's funding for special education students (*Haley v. Colorado Department of Education*). Other volunteers form a subcommittee to assure transparency in the closure of several Denver Public Schools, mostly high minority population and underperforming elementary schools.

*Co-Chairs: Steven M. Kaufmann (Morrison & Foerster LLP), John F. Walsh (Hill & Robbins, P.C.), Kenzo S. Kawanabe (Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP) and Craig E. Stewart (Holland & Hart LLP).*

*Lead Attorneys: John H. Tatlock (The Harris Law Firm P.C.), Daniel A. Sweetser (The Sweetser Law Firm, P.C.), Kathleen J. Gebhardt (Kathleen J. Gebhardt, L.L.C.), and Cole Wist (Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.).*



**Tom Biegling**

## LEGAL HELP FOR MICRO ENTREPRENEURS

The Business Task Force is formed to provide legal support for community development efforts. The task force offers legal assistance to neighborhoods with high minority populations and collaborates with the Colorado Alliance for Microenterprise Initiatives to present seminars to help micro entrepreneurs identify and resolve their legal needs.

*Chair: I. Thomas Biegling (Biegling Shapiro & Burrus LLP).*

## *The End of the Third Decade: 2003-2008*



*Gale Miller*



*Jessica Yates*



*Iris Eytan*

### **ENSURING ACCESS TO THE POLLS**

The Colorado Lawyers Committee creates an Election Task Force (including specialty bar association members) to provide nonpartisan advocacy to maximize the right of all Colorado citizens to vote, without regard to race, physical disability or income. In its first year, the task force enlists individuals to serve as election judges and provides comments to the Colorado Secretary of State on proposed election rules. Soon thereafter, the task force expands to include representatives from other organizations (including the League of Women Voters, Colorado Common Cause and the Legal Center for People with Disabilities and Older People). In subsequent years, task force members participate in public policy meetings, work closely with the Secretary of State, serve as a resource to state officials and other interested groups on election-related matters, and provide testimony on election best practices. The task force also actively recruits Election Day volunteers, including several hundred election judges and, beginning in 2008, almost 200 volunteers answer more than 2,000 calls from voters at Nonpartisan Call Centers.

*Initial Co-Chairs: Gale T. Miller and Glen E. Keller  
(both of Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP).*

*Current Co-Chairs: Martha M. Tierney (Heizer Paul Grueskin LLP) and Richard A. Westfall (Hale-Westfall LLP).*

### **ASSURING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND THE UNDERPRIVILEGED**

The Mental Health Task Force is formed to examine the delivery of mental health services for children and the underprivileged in Colorado and explore ways to increase access to these important services. The initial focus is on Medicaid services for children; after an exhaustive study and outreach to public officials, the task force concludes changes in federal law are required and works with national organizations to initiate needed reforms. Subsequently, volunteers learn that individuals enrolled in Colorado community corrections programs are unable to access federal and state medical benefits, including needed medications. The task force delivers a policy paper to Governor Ritter and urges state officials to advocate for these benefits. In late 2012, Colorado's Attorney General seeks authorization from the federal government to provide benefits to these individuals.

*Previous Co-Chairs: Daphne O'Connor (Arnold & Porter LLP) and John Voorhees (Patton Boggs LLP).*

*Current Co-Chairs: Iris Eytan (Reilly Pozner LLP) and Jessica Yates (Snell & Wilmer LLP).*



*State Finance Task Force meeting.*

### **ADDRESSING THE STATE BUDGET**

The State Finance Task Force is created in 2003 to examine the intricacies of state funding, including the 1992 Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR), and explore collaborative strategies for maximizing available funds and overcoming funding obstacles for services to children and the underprivileged. After extensive study, the Task Force recommends that the Lawyers Committee endorse two 2006 state ballot issues it believes are necessary to avert a fiscal crisis in Colorado (Referenda C and D). The Board of Directors accepts the recommendation and votes to support the measures.

*Co-Chairs: Stephen H. Kaplan (Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell LLP) and Edward P. Timmins (Timmins & Associates, L.L.C.).*

# The Beginning of the Fourth Decade: 2008-2013

## EXPEDITING TREATMENT AND EVALUATIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

Volunteers from the Mental Health Task Force successfully settle the Jail Wait Litigation (*Center for Legal Advocacy v. Bicha*), which challenges the failure of the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Pueblo to provide timely evaluations and treatment for presumptively incompetent individuals in jail. Individuals charged with a crime and awaiting competency evaluations had remained incarcerated, often without restorative treatment, for periods of time that often exceeded the possible sentences for their crimes. The settlement ensures individuals with mental illnesses receive treatment and competency evaluations within 28 days of a court order. It is the strictest and most comprehensive agreement of its kind in the country.

*Chair: Iris Eytan, Reilly Pozner LLP.*



*Members of the Jail Wait Litigation Team.*

## PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS

The Sixth Amendment Task Force forms to address the constitutionality of a Colorado statute that requires individuals charged with a misdemeanor to meet with a prosecutor before counsel is appointed. After failed negotiations with the State, the Task Force files a lawsuit (*Colorado Criminal Defense Bar v. Suthers*) alleging the statute violates the Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The case is pending.

*Co-Chairs: Steven M. Kaufmann and Scott Llewellyn (both of Morrison & Foerster LLP), and Laurence W. (Trip) DeMuth (Faegre Baker Daniels LLP).*



*Scott Llewellyn*

## ADDRESSING LEGAL NEEDS OF SMALL NONPROFITS

The Nonprofit Working Group is formed to provide legal support for the nonprofit community, primarily through legal audits and arranging representation for small nonprofits. The group co-sponsors a legal audit clinic for nonprofits (in partnership with the Colorado Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel, the Pro Bono Institute at Georgetown University Law Center, the Colorado Association of Nonprofits and the Community Resource Center). Through early 2013, four legal audit clinics (aka 'Clinic in a Box') match 99 volunteer lawyers who assess the legal health of 47 nonprofits. In 2009, the group partners with the Colorado Nonprofit Association to provide transactional type legal assistance to small nonprofits. Over the next three years, the program expands considerably and 159 volunteers represent 189 nonprofits.

*Chair: Peter H. Schwartz (Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP).*



*Peter Schwartz*

## *The Beginning of the Fourth Decade: 2008-2013*



*Plaintiffs in Lobato v. State of Colorado: Denise, Alexa, Anthony and Taylor Lobato.  
Courtesy of Hartmannphoto, LLC*

### **VICTORY IN SCHOOL FINANCE CHALLENGE**

Volunteers challenge Colorado's method of financing schools: In a five-week trial in August 2011 (*Lobato v. State of Colorado*), volunteers successfully argue that Colorado's school finance system does not meet the 'thorough and uniform' requirement of the State constitution. More than 70 volunteers from 12 law firms participate in the case. The Court's 183-page opinion concludes that Colorado's "public school finance system is irrational, arbitrary, and severely underfunded." The State has appealed the ruling.

*Lead Attorneys: Kenzo Kawanabe and Terry Miller (both of Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP), Kathleen J. Gebhardt (Kathleen J. Gebhardt, L.L.C.), Jennifer Weiser Bezoza (Children's Voices) and Marcy G. Glenn (Holland & Hart LLP).*



*Kenzo Kawanabe and Kathy Gebhardt.*

### **ADVOCATING FOR MEDICAID BENEFITS FOR DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED ADULTS**

Colorado Lawyers Committee volunteers challenge the State's reduction of Medicaid benefits for more than 1,000 developmentally disabled individuals. These reductions were made with inadequate notice and limited appeal rights to the benefit recipients. The State agrees to clarify the criteria for determining benefit levels and creates a process for assuring community input into future decisions to safeguard benefit recipients' rights.

*Chair: Cole A. Wist (Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.)*



*Cole Wist*

### **ASSURING ACCESS TO PUBLIC BENEFITS**

Although the progress represented by the CBMS settlement agreements is significant (see page 34), there remain numerous problems with the State's processing of public benefits which were not addressed in the CBMS litigation. During 2011, the Lawyers Committee, working closely with Colorado Legal Services, the Colorado Center on Law and Policy and several other lawyers, identify a number of issues related to access to public benefits. The task force writes Governor Hickenlooper detailing 14 violations of federal and state law created by CBMS and urges immediate remedial action. Members of the Task Force meet with State representatives and monitor the State's progress. As implementation of the Affordable Care Act approaches, volunteers suggest legal fixes which will reduce disruption to benefit recipients.





Colorado Lawyers Committee  
1801 California Street, Suite 4900  
Denver, CO 80202  
[www.ColoradoLawyersCommittee.org](http://www.ColoradoLawyersCommittee.org)

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## PROVIDING LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO THE UNDERSERVED IN GREELEY

In partnership with the Colorado Bar Association's Spanish Language Lawyering Committee, the Colorado Lawyers Committee establishes Greeley Legal Night to provide legal information, advice and referrals to underserved individuals in Weld County. Clinics are held every other month and by the end of 2012, over 120 volunteers serve more than 1,200 clients on a range of topics, including family law, consumer fraud, housing, immigration and employment.

*Chair: Michelle Berge (Reilly Pozner LLP).*



*Michelle Berge*



*Volunteer attorneys assist a client at Greeley Legal Night*

## PROTECTING LAND USE RIGHTS IN THE SAN LUIS VALLEY

After 15 years of involvement in the "Taylor Ranch" case (*Lobato v. Taylor*), lawyers continue to assist landowners in their efforts to identify which property owners in the San Luis Valley are entitled to exercise traditional use rights to graze livestock and collect wood and timber on a 77,500 acre area known as known as "La Sierra" or the "Taylor Ranch." Volunteers also address a range of related issues. During 2011, a team of volunteer lawyers successfully settles a lawsuit to remove boulders blocking access to the Taylor Ranch through the Torcido Creek Road. Defendants agree to remove boulders and re-grade, permitting easy access to the entrance of La Sierra.

*Chair: Jerome A. DeHerrera (Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP). Lead Attorney: Lawrence W. Treece (Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP).*



*Jerome DeHerrera  
Courtesy of Hartmannphoto, LLC*

## REFORMING HEALTH CARE

The Health Care Task Force is formed to monitor the health care reform recommendations of the State's "2008 Commission". The task force researches similar reform efforts in other states, as well as issues related to health care reform. Legal volunteers also distribute to the Colorado legislature a comprehensive memo that explains the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA") and offer to review all proposed Colorado health care bills to assure their compliance with ERISA.

*Chair: Richard F. Hennessey (Pendleton Friedberg Wilson & Hennessey P.C.).*



*Byeongsook Seo and Blain Myhre*

## ASSURING TIMELY ACCESS TO FOOD STAMPS

Originally created in 2006 to investigate reports that Colorado counties failed to provide thousands of Colorado families with food stamp benefits within federally mandated timelines, this task force works closely for several years with Denver County (whose noncompliance rate initially exceeds 40%). As a result, the County overhauls its Food Stamp processing procedures and, by 2012, applications for 98% of individuals and families seeking food stamps are processed within the 30-day federal deadline.

*Previous Chairs: J. Eric Elliff (Husch Blackwell, LLP) and Byeongsook Seo (Gordon & Rees LLP).*

*Current Chair: Blain D. Myhre (Blain D. Myhre LLC).*

*Lead Attorney: Adela Flores-Brennan (Colorado Center on Law and Policy).*

### **ASSISTANCE TO IMMIGRANTS**

For more than fifteen years, the Immigration Task Force supports the efforts of the Immigrant Resource Center (IRC), a small nonprofit in the San Luis Valley, one of the poorest areas of the state. The IRC provides legal information and assistance for the sizeable number of immigrants in the area. Task force volunteers oversee services provided by IRC, train IRC's staff of non-attorneys and provide referrals to pro bono attorneys for indigent clients. During 2012, task force volunteers expand their efforts and provide training and other assistance to support individuals submitting DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) applications, a program that permits individuals who arrived in the U.S. as children to request deferred action for two years, and thereby become eligible for work authorization.

*Previous Chair: Emily J. Curray, Stern & Curray LLC.*

*Current Co-Chairs: Jocelyn C. Campanaro (Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.) and Atim Miriam Otii (Otii Law Firm, L.L.C.).*



*Emily Curray*

### **CONTINUING TO TEACH OUR STATE ABOUT HATE CRIMES**

Originally created in 1992 to educate the community about the prevalence of crimes based on race, ethnicity, gender, religious practice and sexual orientation, the renamed Hate Crimes Education Task Force continues to present fictional trials where students serve as jurors. The program expands its audience (volunteers make presentations to middle and high school schools, law students and community groups) and travels throughout Colorado. In 2012, the task force unveils a new script, which incorporates discrimination against members of the Muslim and GLBT communities as well as the use of Facebook threats.

*Previous Co-Chairs: Kristen L. Mix (Snell & Wilmer LLP) and F. Stephen Collins (Ducker Montgomery Lewis & Bess P.C.).*

*Current Co-Chairs: Tarek F.M. Saad (Jin, Schauer & Saad LLC), Lucia Padilla (Sawaya & Miller) and Phyllis V. Wan (Hogan Lovells US LLP).*



*Kris Mix and Tarek Saad*



*Photo (Left): Phyllis Wan and Reid Neureter lead a Hate Crimes Education training at CU Law School*