

ARTICLE III.

The purpose of the Association shall be to advance the science of jurisprudence, promote the administration of justice, uphold the honor of the profession of law, to encourage cordial discourse and interaction among members of the bar and between the bench and bar of St. Joseph County and of the state of Indiana, and to correlate the various activities of the Association in the interest of the legal profession and the public which it serves.

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St. Joseph County Bar Association

January 2014 Newsletter

The Annual Winter Bar Gathering

Thursday, February 20, 2014

Sponsored by the St. Joseph County Bar Association

5:30 p.m. -- 7:30 p.m.

LaSalle Grille, 115 West Colfax, South Bend



***\$30 per Member until Friday, February 14**

(\$40 per Member 2/19 and after)

*** Beer, Wine and Heavy Hors D'Oeuvres Included**

****Only Members in good standing will be admitted.****

News from the St. Joseph County Bar Foundation

The St. Joseph County Bar Foundation, Inc. Board will consider requests to support civics education and undertakings, pro bono services, and other causes of public importance related to the legal community. Support from attorneys makes this possible, and the Foundation thanks all attorneys and law firms who have donated to date. Based on contributions received through December 19, 2013, the Foundation thanks the following Sustaining Members:

Life Patron Fellow (\$2,500) Hon. Robert L. Miller, Sr. & Malcolm J. "Mick" Tuesley

Life Fellow (\$1,500) **Timothy J. Abeska**

Fellow (\$750) **Hon. Jenny Pitts Manier**

Checks for contributions should be made payable to the Foundation and sent to: Tim Abeska, 700 1st Source Bank Center, 100 North Michigan Street, South Bend, IN 46601. Thank you for your support!

Calendar of Upcoming Events

JANUARY 2014

- 1/1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** — Courthouse, County and SJCBA Offices are CLOSED
1/10 **Family Law Committee Meeting**, Le Peep, South Bend, 12 Noon
1/20 **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**—Courthouse, County and SJCBA Offices are CLOSED
1/20 **ASK A LAWYER** — St. Joseph Co. Public Library, South Bend, Basement—1:00 — 4:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2014

- 2/17 **President's Day** — Courthouse, County and SJCBA Offices are CLOSED
2/20 **Annual Winter Bar Gathering**, LaSalle Grille, 115 W. Colfax, South Bend, IN 46601, 5:30 p.m.

MARCH 2014

- 3/14 **Family Law Committee Meeting**, Le Peep, South Bend, 12 Noon

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Cheryl Greene

Happy New Year! Thank you to everyone who has paid their 2014 dues. If you haven't paid your dues yet (\$175 this year) please do so soon so that you can join us at our many upcoming events! On Thursday, February 20th we are hosting Annual Winter Bar Gathering at LaSalle Grille from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity to meet some of our newest members or re-acquaint yourself with someone you haven't seen for awhile! This is always a very well-attended event, so please register soon. Hope to see you there!!



From the Bench

Submitted by The Honorable Jenny Pitts Manier

Since its inception as a pilot program in the spring of 2010, the St. Joseph Superior Court has been operating a mortgage foreclosure settlement program designed to afford homeowners a chance to reinstate defaulted mortgages and avoid foreclosure. The program is available to homeowners whose primary residential mortgages have been the subject of a foreclosure action initiated in either the St. Joseph Superior or Circuit courts. Eligible participants engage in a series of facilitated telephonic and in-person settlement conferences at which various options for avoiding foreclosure are discussed and pursued. Resolutions have included loan modifications in which interest rates or principal balances have been reduced, the application towards past due and future mortgage payment obligations of funds from settlements with large mortgage lenders, and, in cases where the home cannot be saved, *in rem* resolutions, deeds in lieu of foreclosure and negotiated short sales. The conferences have been facilitated expertly and effectively by Judith Fox, William Wilson, James Millstone and Joseph Forte.

- 1224 homeowners have availed themselves of this program with good success. As to those 930 cases in which the process has been completed:
 - Approximately 55 percent (359) of those homeowners eligible to participate and who remained in the program (652), reached agreements.
 - Approximately 31.5 percent (293) of those homeowners eligible to participate and who remained in the program were unable to reach a workout.
 - Settlement was not reached nor the settlement process concluded to a point where it was concluded that no workout was possible in 278 cases. These cases included situations where the settlement conference process was terminated due to program ineligibility, bankruptcy, the failure to participate or voluntary withdrawal from the program.
 - 294 cases remain in the program.

The settlement conference program will remain in effect through 2014. Its success would not have been possible without the commitment of the facilitators and the support of the St. Joseph County Clerk, Indiana General Assembly and the Supreme Court's Division of State Court Administration.

AROUND THE BAR

**Please Welcome our Newest Member,
Brian Kelly!!**

New Members:

Brian Patrick Kelly

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PO BOX 2644
1951 E Fox Street
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Paul Singleton

Singleton LLP
115 N. William Street
South Bend, IN 46601
Email: peslawfirm@gmail.com

New Lawyer Committee

Thanks the Donors for

“The Adopt A Family for the Holidays”

A huge thank you to all of the firms and individuals who donated money to the family we adopted this year. We truly appreciate your donations and this family had a fantastic Christmas thanks to your generosity!!

Diversity Committee

Submitted by Paul Singleton

Faegre Baker Daniels was recently recognized as a “Best Place to Work for LGBT Equality” with a perfect score of 100 percent in the 2014 Corporate Equality Index (CEI) administered by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation (HRC).

“Faegre Baker Daniels is pleased to be recognized as a Best Place to Work by the Human Rights Campaign,” Managing Partner Andrew Humphrey said. “This honor reflects our culture of diversity and inclusion as well as our commitment to industry-leading policies and benefits. We are truly honored that the HRC – a leader among LGBT civil rights – has recognized our efforts.”

The perfect score acknowledges FaegreBD’s inclusive equal employment opportunity policies, equal employment benefits, organizational LGBT competency, and commitment to equality and responsible citizenship.

According to the Human Rights Campaign, “The policies, benefits and practices businesses must implement to earn a perfect score are best-in-class demonstrations of corporate commitments to LGBT workers.”

CLERK’S CORNER

By Terri Rethlake

Notice of Extension of Policy Governing the Filing of Mortgage Foreclosure Actions in St Joseph Circuit & Superior Courts

Effective January 1, 2014, Plaintiffs filing a new mortgage foreclosure action will be required to provide:

- * One (1) additional, stamped, addressed envelope with not return address information, for each individual defendant (not including any corporation/entity) named as a defendant.
- * A service list, including name, address and telephone number if available for each defendant.
- * This is an extension of the policy adopted April 15, 2010 by the St Joseph Circuit and Superior Courts.

The service list and additional envelopes must be together. Failure to comply with this policy will delay the processing of the case by the Clerk until compliance is achieved.

Indiana Appellate Rule 9(A)

The two-year “location filing grace period” for filing Notices of Appeal **ends at midnight on December 31, 2013**. Beginning January 1, 2014, Notices of Appeal may only be filed with the Clerk of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Tax Court. Notices of Appeal **will not be accepted** in the St. Joseph County Clerk’s Office.

My staff and I would like to extend warm wishes for a Happy Holiday season!

The Supreme Court has asked us to remind you about an important rule change.

Starting **January 1, 2014**, Notices of Appeal may only be filed with the Clerk of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Tax Court.

Indiana Appellate Rule 9(A) was amended effective January 1, 2012. The amendment provided that Notices of Appeal may no longer be filed with the clerk of the trial court or administrative agency from which the appeal is taken. A two-year grace period has been in effect for attorneys to have time to get adjusted to this important procedural change. The grace period ends at midnight on December 31, 2013.

The failure to file a Notice of Appeal with the Clerk of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Tax Court by the applicable deadline forfeits the right to appeal. Given what is at stake if Appellants attempt to file Notices of Appeal in the wrong place, the Court is asking bar associations to encourage members to read the following rule: http://www.in.gov/judiciary/rules/appellate/index.html#_Toc344995669

Volunteer Lawyer Network

Submitted by Mark Torma

Our next Ask-A-Lawyer will be held on January 20, on Martin Luther King Day, in South Bend and at two locations in LaPorte County. To volunteer at those events, please contact our office at volunteerinc@att.net or at [574-277-0075](tel:574-277-0075),

St. Joseph County Bar Association

ICLEF Video Replays in South Bend

JANUARY 2014

- 1/14 Revealing the Mysteries of Administrative Law (6 CLE)
- 1/16 Recent Developments in Employment Law (6 CLE)
- 1/21 Family Law Essentials (6 CLE)
- 1/22 & 23 Annual Bankruptcy Institute (2 day seminar — 12 CLE)
- 1/28 120 Hot Tips in Estate and Trust Planning (6 CLE)
- 1/30 Traffic Law (6 CLE)

Please call ICLEF at 317-637-9102 or go to www.ICLEF.org to register.

*** Indicates a moderator is needed.*

Please note: Printed books are no longer included with seminar cost.

Most books are available for an additional \$25 or online at <http://community.iclef.org>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
St. Joseph County Bar Association
Law Library
101 S. Main Street
South Bend, IN 46601

