



SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Robert Blinick, 2021-2022 NSBA President

It is my pleasure to provide an update on the various goings-on of the North Suburban Bar Association. We are blessed to have so many vibrant, energetic members who have already offered terrific contributions, but we're just getting started.

MK Gamble has presented terrific seminars, and we just completed our three-part series on cybersecurity. For anyone who practices using a computer (between court filings, Zoom presentations, and everything else attorneys do, that is pretty much everyone), this series presented valuable and practical guides to best practices. In April, we have the CLE "Non-Parents in Parental Roles: Where to File and Why?" planned. I hope to see you at this presentations.

I cannot express enough how much work Kim Pressling put into making Mock Trial such a success, nor how great it was, nor how much we appreciate her dedication. Although in the past we had partnered with others, this year Kim took on the mantle and ran with it, and we ended up with upwards of forty teams from throughout the state competing. It was a Brobdingnagian effort, but well worth it. Due to the hard work of Kim and those who assisted her, we hosted what has become a cornerstone of achievement for the NSBA. In addition, because we are so lucky to have great relationships with so many judges and lawyers, we had actual judges to "hear" each case, and experienced attorneys to both assess the participants and to provide feedback. Kudos also to the high school "lawyers," who showed not only great passion but true eloquence and acumen in their presentations.

I want to express our thanks to all of those who contributed to the Food Pantries in the month before Christmas. We were able to raise \$1,600 to assist local food pantries in providing meals to needy families. We also received some beautiful letters of thanks. On behalf of the NSBA and these pantries, thank you for helping where it helped most.

Finally, I want to invite everyone to our upcoming events: Our Gary Wild Dinner is scheduled for May 24, 2022, and our NSBA Judges Night is scheduled for June 22, 2022. Please be sure to secure your spot early, as seating may be limited due to COVID restrictions. Kilby Macfadden has assembled a terrific team, and you won't want to miss these terrific events. Please reach out to her if you want to join and be a part of our exciting activities.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank Judge Jim Allegretti for putting together this newsletter. You are our conduit to the NSBA world, and this is a largely unthanked endeavor.

There are too many people to thank in this brief note, but thanks to our board, our benefactors, and our members are who make the NSBA so successful I look forward to seeing you and the new members at our upcoming events.

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UPCOMING events



GARY WILD MEMORIAL DINNER

Tuesday May 24, 2022

6:00 pm Reception & 7:00 pm Dinner
Maggiano's Little Italy | Skokie, Illinois

\$75 ticket cost
\$700 Table of 10
Cash Bar

Let's gather to celebrate the power of community and honor NSBA Past President Gary Wild! As a lawyer, Gary was zealous in protecting the rights of the less fortunate. Each year, NSBA presents an award to an organization that exemplifies Gary's character and interests.

We want to congratulate this year's honorees: [The Illinois Justice Project \(ILJP\)](#) and [Friends of Recovery United \(FORU\)](#). We appreciate all of the good works that these two organizations provide our communities.

Register today and join friends of Gary Wild as they pay tribute to him during the celebration.

Supporting Communities & Inspiring Change
CONGRATULATIONS 2022 HONOREES:



REGISTER 



ANNUAL JUDGES' NIGHT

Wednesday, June 22, 2022 • 5:30 pm

North Shore Country Club | Glenview, IL

\$150 ticket cost

Join us as we celebrate and honor members of the judiciary that have made outstanding contributions to the bench and bar. This is an event that has proven to be a memorable experience that both lawyers and judges look forward to attending every year.

Stay tuned as we announce this year's honorees!

REGISTER

EVENT SPONSORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE,
PLEASE CONTACT NSBA OFFICE AT
NORTHSUBURBANBAR@GMAIL.COM.





EARNING CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION WITH NSBA

by: MK Gamble

Over the past six months, The North Suburban Bar Association has held several interesting Continuing Legal Education courses for practitioners, law students, or those needing CLE credits.

On Oct. 14, 2021, Commissioner Michael Cabonargi and NSBA Board Member Daniel G. Pikarski presented An Overview of Cook County's Real Estate Taxation System from Valuation to Appeals. The program demonstrated how to navigate Cook County's property tax system, property valuations, and appealing the assessment.

NSBA kicked off 2022 with the first of a three-part series on Jan. 28, 2022. NSBA Board Member Joel Bruckman (Litigation Partner at Freeborn & Peters), Chad Main (Founder, Percipient), and Eric Stadel (Litigation Support Technology Manager at Freeborn & Peters, LLP) led a CLE addressing Defensible Identification, Collection, and Production of Electronically Stored Data.

On Feb. 25, 2022, Joel Bruckman and his team hosted the second part of the three-part series, Digital Forensics and Investigations for Attorneys, What You MUST Know, and Enough More to Make You Dangerous. This segment identified and addressed absolutes that attorneys "must" be aware of in the realm of digital forensics and investigations to competently handle Electronic Evidence (EE) in their client matters, as well as explored potential litigation-determinative leverage to be found through less-well-known but widely present, EE.

On March 25, 2022, the series concluded with its ESI/Cyber CLE series *Cybersecurity for Practitioners*, examining active actors, best practices and legal obligations which attorneys need to be aware of to protect the client and sensitive data stored on their systems and networks.



Our April. 21, 2022, CLE program, ["Non-Parents in Parental Roles: Where to File and Why?"](#) will be presented by Scott Tzinber, a family law practitioner. This CLE will serve as a tool for family law attorney practitioners representing non-biological parents in parental roles. In addition to Scott, this panel will feature Judge Maureen O. Hannon (County), Judge Erika Orr (Domestic Relations), Judge Stephanie K. Miller (Probate) and NSBA Secretary Judge Jeanne Marie Wrenn (Domestic Violence) as we navigate the challenges of these complex cases.

Our May 2022 CLE will focus on mediation strategies and techniques for young and seasoned attorneys. Judge Thomas Mulroy will lead this interactive CLE.



UPCOMING CLE EVENTS

Attorneys who represent families with children are often contacted by potential clients who are not the biological parent but have been placed in the parental role and need to gain rights or need to protect the minors on an emergency basis. There are often several divisions where relief can be sought. Where should you file if you have multiple options? Is there an advantage to picking one division over the other?

Scott Tzinberg will be joined by **Judge Maureen O. Hannon** (County), **Judge Erika Orr** (Domestic Relations), **Judge Stephanie K. Miller** (Probate) and **Judge Jeanne Marie Wrenn** (Domestic Violence) to discuss these issues.

REGISTER





CLE WEBINAR
**NON-PARENTS
IN PARENTAL ROLES:**
WHERE TO FILE AND WHY?



© 3:00 - 4:30PM 21 APRIL, 2022

REGISTER

 [ILNSBA.ORG/EDUCATION](https://ilnsba.org/education)

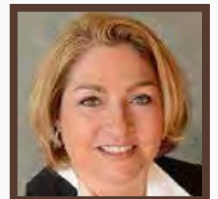
**Scott
Tzinberg**



**Judge Maureen O.
Hannon
(County)**



**Judge Stephanie
K. Miller
(Probate)**



**Judge Erika Orr
(Domestic Relations)**



**Judge Jeanne
Marie Wrenn
(Domestic Violence)**

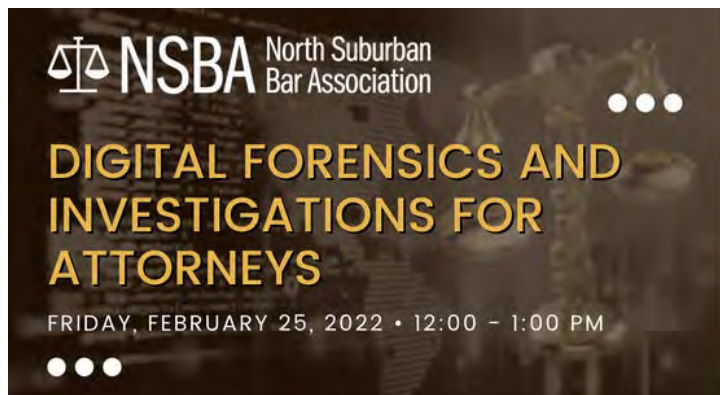




Event Recap

**Part 2 of 3 of NSBA's ESI/Cyber CLE Series:
Digital Forensics & Investigations for Attorneys
What You MUST Know, and Enough More to Make
You Dangerous**

by: Joel Bruckman



On February 25, 2022, via Zoom the North Suburban Bar Association presented the second part of its three-part ESI/Cyber CLE series: "Digital Forensics & Investigations for Attorneys What You MUST Know, and Enough More to Make You Dangerous", presented by: Keith Chval, Esq., Protek International, Inc. The objective of this presentation was to identify and address absolutes that attorneys "must" be aware of in the realm of digital forensics and investigations to competently handle Electronic Evidence ("EE") in their client matters, as well as explore potential litigation-determinative leverage to be found through less-well known, but widely present, EE. Topics in this presentation included: (i) Digital Forensics, What It Is (and isn't); (ii) Ethical Duties: Competency re Technologies/EE; (iii) "Spoliation Avoidance" - Defensible Preservation Strategies; (iv) What EE Might be Available...and Where to Look for It; (v) War Stories - EE as Deployed in the Wild; an (vi) Vetting, Managing, and Collaborating with Vendors. It was an informative and insightful CLE presentation

Presenter, Keith Chval, is a former Assistant State's Attorney and Illinois Assistant Attorney General. At the latter, he formed and led a pioneering high tech crimes vertical bureau that included investigators, civilian forensics examiners in regional labs, and prosecutors. In 2005, he co-founded Protek International, a digital forensics, cyber security, and eDiscovery firm where he presently serves as President and CEO.



The NSBA concluded its ESI/Cyber CLE series on March 25, 2022, 12 pm - 1 pm, via Zoom, with its final installment: Cybersecurity for Practitioners. Our expert panel examined attorney specific obligations, cybersecurity attack vectors, evolution of cyber-attacks and trends, legal notification obligations and safeguards and best practices.

PANEL SPEAKERS:



JOEL B. BRUCKMAN
FREEBORN & PETERS LLP



TOM KIRKHAM
IRONTECH SECURITY



JESSE MILLER
ASCEND TECHNOLOGIES

NSBA HOSTS SUCCESSFUL 9TH ANNUAL MOCK TRIAL INVITATIONAL

by: Kim Pressling, Treasurer & Chair, NSBA Mock Trial Invitational



The North Suburban Bar Association hosted our 9th Annual High School Mock Trial Invitational on Thursday, February 3, 2022. The event was co-sponsored by Board Member Justice Jesse Reyes and The Diversity Scholarship Foundation which allowed us to purchase specialized mock trial software in order to host the tournament virtually. Justice Reyes also opened up the tournament and provided welcoming remarks to this year's Zoom audience and participants. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most high school mock trial tournaments for this school year were cancelled. As a result, the NSBA did not turn any teams or students away from registering. To the contrary, we hosted a record approximately 500 students and 36 teams from all over the state in the competition. We also continued to expand our reach with schools from far down state participating this year.

In keeping with our association's goals of advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and legal education, we hosted an extremely diverse tournament in terms of schools, students, attorneys, and judges competing and volunteering for this wonderful event. We had judges and attorneys volunteer from most courthouses in the county. In addition to awarding the top three team awards, this year, we also continued our trend from last year with awards for the top three attorneys and top three witnesses.

The schools who competed in this year's tournament were: Barrington High School, Chicago Christian High School, De La Salle Institute, Evanston Township High School, Highland Park High School, Hinsdale Central High School, Hinsdale South High School, Homewood-Flossmoor High School, Huntley High School, John Hersey High School, Maine South High School, Maine West High



School, Naperville North High School, Niles West High School, Normal Community High School, Normal West High School, O'Fallon Township High School, Rich Township High School, South Elgin High School, Southland College Prep High School, St. Charles East High School, Stevenson High School, Timothy Christian High School, Unity Christian Academy, Wheeling High School, Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, and York Community High School.

The judges who graciously volunteered their time to preside over the mock trials this year were: Board Members Justice Jesse Reyes, James Allegretti, Frank Andreou, Steven Bernstein, Patrick Henegan, Michael Hood, Matthew Jannusch, Pamela Stratigakis, and Jeanne Wrenn; and Joel Chupack, Jamie Dickler, Patricia Fallon, Anjana Hansen, Lorraine Murphy, Marian Perkins, Geri Pinzur Rosenberg, Jeanne Reynolds, Lori Rosen, Maura Slattery Boyle, Rouhy Shalabi, James Shapiro, Stephanie Soltouros, Ankur Srivastava, Justice Margaret Stanton McBride, Sanjay Tailor, and Andreana Turano.

As she does every year, Judge Shelley Sutker-Dermer presided over our closing ceremony with words of inspiration for the students. This competition could not have happened this year without our generous sponsors including Gold Sponsors: Diversity Scholarship Foundation; Stern, Perkoski, Mendez; and Guaranteed Rate; Silver Sponsors: Howard Ankin & Ankin Law Office; Hon. Megan Goldish & Mr. Matthew Savage; GP Italiano, and Freeborn & Peters; and Bronze Sponsors: Dan Pikarski, Debjani Desai, Cristin Duffy, Scott Tzinberg, Alon Stein, and The Law Offices of Dan Calandriello.

A huge thank you to our wonderful Mock Trial Committee comprised of board members Joel Bruckman, MK Gamble, Jeff Moskowitz, Khalid Hasan, and new NSBA member, Tess Baker, as well as Angela McLaughlin for all their assistance in putting together this outstanding event.



CONGRATS TO OUR WINNERS!



TIED FOR 1ST



TEAM A
STEVENSON



TIMOTHY
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS



YORK COMMUNITY
HIGH SCHOOL: TEAM 1

Every year, we are amazed at the skill and talent all the students bring to the tournament!



Thank You We extend our gratitude to those that financially supported the 2022 Tournament.



HE CAN HIT A CURVE BALL.... AND HE KNOWS ABOUT TORTS!

by: Hon. Megan E. Goldish

Most sports require athletes to play by the rules, and to abide by the official decisions of referees or umpires. Athletes undergo rigorous training to become professionals. Similarly, attorneys endure years of schooling and training to become licensed attorneys. Likewise, attorneys are required to follow the law, and to abide by judicial decisions. Certainly, it is not surprising that many professional athletes have earned law degrees. As baseball season approaches, let's focus on former Major League Baseball ("MLB") players who have earned law degrees:

Tony LaRussa, Donn Clendenon, Joe Hietpas, and, William "Bill" Bray.

The baseball careers of these four players, must have prepared them for a career in law, as there are numerous similarities between baseball and the practice of law. To illustrate, baseball players must know the rules, or laws, of the game, and the rulebook is considered the bylaws that must be followed. Many of the rules of baseball were organically created from situations that arose during the game (for example, the infield fly rule), similar to the way cases establish common law. Baseball and the law both often require a judge or umpire to exercise discretion and issue a ruling; for instance, in baseball, making a call as to whether a player is out or safe, and in the law, rendering a ruling as to the admissibility of evidence, or ruling on an objection.

Historian Paul Finkleman even compares baseball to a civics lesson, categorizing the umpires as judges who each have their own jurisdiction: *"As with the American legal system.... The home-plate umpire calls a hit ball fair or foul before it reaches a base; the first- and third-base umpires make the call after the ball is beyond their bag. In the World Series, extra umpires are on the field, creating a mini Supreme Court...to scrutinize plays in the outfield."*¹ Perhaps MLB should hire bailiffs to block an angry coach from screaming their disagreement into the face of the umpire who "ruled" against their team. Instead, the umpire holds the coach "in contempt," effectively, removing them from the playing court, I mean, field.

Further, in the law, effective advocates must constantly review and prepare case files. Such efforts sometimes impinge on one's social life. 1929 Supreme Court Justice Joseph Story described it best when he stated, *"The law is a jealous mistress and requires long and constant courtship..."* Baseball, too, is a jealous mistress. After all, to be an avid baseball fan, or a professional player, for at least half a year, you eat, drink and sleep baseball to the exclusion of all else. Although **extremely outdated**, the song, "Six Months," from the musical, *Damn Yankees*,² jokingly describes the plight of the wife who is ignored during baseball season:


“

As with the American legal system.... The home-plate umpire calls a hit ball fair or foul before it reaches a base; the first- and third-base umpires make the call after the ball is beyond their bag. In the World Series, extra umpires are on the field, creating a mini Supreme Court...to scrutinize plays in the outfield.¹

”

¹ *Baseball is a Civics Education... Striking Symmetry Between the Worlds of American Law and American Baseball*, Paul Finkleman, theatlantic.com, 10-23-19

² *Damn Yankees* is a 1955 Musical Comedy. Music and Lyrics by Richard Adler and Jerry Ross.



In *Damn Yankees*, Joe, an avid Senators Fan, sold his soul to the devil to allow him to play baseball for the Senators, and for the Senators to be in first place for the season. He clearly did not have a law degree, or he could have negotiated a better deal. Or, he could have hired one of the four MLB players with law degrees.

Anthony “Tony” LaRussa, Esq. is a graduate of the University of South Florida and the Florida State University College of Law (Juris Doctor, 1978). LaRussa never practiced law, and has stated, “I’d rather ride the buses in the minor leagues than practice law for a living.”³ LaRussa played in MLB, and subsequently became one of the most successful managers of all time.⁴



He started out playing for the Kansas City Athletics in 1963, and retired as an active player in 1977.⁵ During the 1973 offseason, LaRussa enrolled in law school, with the plan of practicing law after retirement. That plan never came to fruition, as he entered the world of MLB management.⁶ At the age of 35, LaRussa became the youngest manager in MLB, when he was hired to manage the White Sox, a position he held from 1979–1986. “His intelligence was the thing that first attracted me.....And his dedication. I think we’re going to find that he is one of the really outstanding managers before he’s through.” said White Sox owner Bill Veeck, in 1991⁷. LaRussa had a successful run with the White Sox, winning a title in 1983, and being named AL’s Manager of the Year, an award he would win four times throughout his career.⁸

La Russa eventually managed the Oakland A’s, then the St. Louis Cardinals before retiring in 2011. La Russa’s teams finished first in their division 12 times, winning six pennants and three World Series. He is the first skipper to win all-star games in both leagues, and the second to win the world series in both circuits.⁹ La Russa was elected to the Hall of Fame in 2014.¹⁰

In 2020, after a nine-year retirement, La Russa, aged 76, returned to manage the White Sox. The last time La Russa managed the Sox (1979–86), most of the players on the 2020 team had not yet been born.¹¹ In his first season back with the Sox, Chicago finished first in the Central Division, and La Russa won his 2,764th game, the second most career wins by a general manager.

Donn Clendenon played for MLB as a first baseman from 1961 to 1972. During the 1969 World Series he won the World Series Most Valuable Player Award by hitting three home runs to help lead the team known as the “Miracle Mets” to an upset victory over the Baltimore Orioles. He was also the first ever Mets player to win a World Series Most Valuable Player Award.

³ Baseball.fandom.com

⁴ Britannica.com; baseballhall.org

⁵ Id.; See Also: Wikipedia.com; 10 Things I didn’t know about Tony La Russa, by Chris Jaffe, tht.fangraphs.com, Nov. 7, 2011;

⁶ *One Last Strike: 50 Years in Baseball....* (La Russa and Rick Hummel) (2012)

⁷ Baseballhall.org

⁸ “AL Manager of the Year” three times (1983, 1988, and 1992) and La Russa won the NL’s version of the award in 2002.

⁹ Baseballhall.org; “One-time lawyer La Russa elected to baseball’s Hall of Fame, Molawyers.media, Dec. 09, 2013.

¹⁰ “One-time lawyer La Russa elected to baseball’s Hall of Fame, Molawyers.media, Dec. 09, 2013.

¹¹ 15 Wild Facts About Sox Rehiring LaRussa, Sarah Langs and Andrew Simon, mlb.com, Oct. 29, 2020.



HE CAN HIT A CURVE BALL.... AND HE KNOWS ABOUT TORTS!

continued ...

Clendenon attended Morehouse College in Atlanta, where, as a freshman, he was assigned a "Big Brother," Martin Luther King, Jr. Clendenon was a tre-mendous athlete at Morehouse, becoming a twelve-time letterman in football, basketball and baseball, and he received contract offers from the Cleveland Browns and the Harlem Globetrotters. Clendenon eventually signed with the Pittsburgh Pirates, in 1957. In 1962, he was the runner up for Rookie of the Year (second to Cubs player Ken Hubbs). He played for the Pirates for six years until he was traded first to the Montreal Expos, then to the New York Mets in 1969. It is while he played for the Mets, that he earned the MVP of the World Series, and hit three home runs, which is the most home runs ever in a five-game series. Clendenon eventually played for the St. Louis Cardinals until his retirement.¹²

After retiring, Clendenon earned a JD from Duquesne University in 1978, then practiced law in Dayton, Ohio, and in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Clendenon died of leukemia in 2005 at age 70. Shortly before his death, he was inducted into the Georgia Sports Hall of fame.¹³



Tony LaRussa



Donn Clendenon



Joe Hietpas



William "Bill" Bray.

Joe Hietpas is a graduate of Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. After college, he played in the minor leagues. In 2004, he was called up to the New York Mets, but was injured during batting practice. As such, throughout his entire career, Hietpas only ever played in one MLB game. In 2004, in game 162 of the season, he came into the game as a ninth inning substitute. Hietpas was the catcher, and was credited with a pair of putouts¹⁴ thanks to the two strikeouts by Fortunato.¹⁵ The Mets won the game, 8-1, so the bottom half of the final inning was never played, and Hietpas did not receive an at-bat. After the 2006 season, he became a pitcher in the minors. In 2007, he appeared in 27 games and had a 2.47 ERA for the Double-A Binghamton Mets in 2008. He later became a real estate lawyer based in St. Louis, Missouri.

William "Bill" Bray, was a left-handed MLB pitcher for the Washington Nationals and Cincinnati Reds. He received his undergraduate degree from the College of William and Mary ("W & M"). He was drafted in 2004 as the 13th overall selection,




by the Montreal Expos (later, the Washington Nationals). Bray pitched in his first major league game in 2006, against the Milwaukee Brewers, earning a 1-pitch win. Bray, was soon traded to the Cincinnati Reds. In 2009, Bray mostly played in the minor leagues, and missed most of the season because he needed surgery on his elbow. Bray was called up from the minors to the Reds in 2010. He played six seasons with the Reds, and in 2012, Bray returned to minors, playing under the Nationals. Bray was actively involved in the Major League Baseball Players Association, serving as an elected team representative for the Cincinnati Reds players. He also served on player licensing and executive subcommittees. He retired from baseball in 2014 and is a member of the MLB Alumni Association. After baseball, Bray returned to W & M Law School and received his JD. He was inducted into the W & M Athletics Hall of Fame in 2015. He currently practices as a lawyer in the areas of estate planning, real estate and contracts.

¹² Baseball-almanac.com; Wikipedia.com;

¹³ Metzmerizedonlines.com; deadballera.com

¹⁴ A fielder receives credit when he is the fielder who physically completes an out. Glossary, mlb.com.

¹⁵ Bartolome Araujo Fortunato is a former MLB pitcher.



Being prepared for mediation program is as important as being prepared for trial.

LAWYER'S GUIDE TO MEDIATING ATTORNEY FEES IN DIVORCE CASES AT THE CENTER FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION

by: Dimitrie B. Umbrurescu

Introduction

When I had the opportunity to become a volunteer mediator at the Center for Conflict Resolution, I thought that I would mediate only small claims in court. However, I found out that mediating attorney fees in divorce cases was also a significant part of this mediation program. In divorce cases, if either the attorneys or their clients request mediation of the dispute, the judges send the case to the mediation program. This is how most of the attorney fees cases end up at the Center for Conflict Resolution.

I am writing this article to help lawyers become more prepared for the mediation process. Being prepared for mediation program is as important as being prepared for trial. However, while the focus in trials is on defending your position, the focus in mediations is on trying to accommodate the other party. I usually advise the parties to think about both their own needs and interests and the needs and interests of the other parties.

In my experience, the mediation program is a good alternative to the court process provided that the parties understand what they should focus on in order to move the process along. This is especially true for lawyers because they are more familiar with the mediation process than their clients.

Mediator's role

At the Center for Conflict Resolution, a mediator is a neutral party who facilitates a discussion between the parties to the dispute. The mediator does not evaluate the case. The mediator's role is to ask questions to help the

parties develop options that may be good for both. The process is voluntary. The parties do not have to agree to anything. However, they do have to participate in the mediation process.

The mediator must identify the parties' needs and interests and help the parties address them in the conversation. Basically, the mediator must help the parties listen to each other. The mediator should also understand that there are some things that may prevent the parties from listening to each other. This is what I call impediments to the mediation process. The parties have some concerns, beliefs, or emotional issues that may block the discussion.

After mediating many similar cases, a mediator may develop an understanding of the most usual impediments in such cases. Based on my experience, I am going to describe the usual impediments that occur in attorney fees cases.

Impediments to lawyers' participation in the mediation program

I noticed early on that some divorce attorneys were reluctant to go through mediation for attorney fees. The party who asked for the mediation of the dispute was usually their client.

There are several reasons for the lawyers' lack of interest in the mediation program. The most significant reason is the value of time. Divorce lawyers are very concerned with time. As one lawyer told me in caucus, time was the only asset he had. According to some lawyers, the mediation process took time that could



have been used for other cases. I mediated cases where lawyers tried to reduce the time spent in mediation process as much as possible. A lawyer said: "Dimitrie, there is such a nice weather outside. Why don't you stop this mediation process and go outside to enjoy the weather?"

Lawyers may also believe that some clients do not have anything relevant to say because they do not understand how the legal system works and have unreasonable expectations. Lawyers do not believe that they can have a meaningful conversation with such clients.

Another reason for the lawyers' attitude is the lawyers' overconfidence in their ability to get the judge to grant their request for attorney fees. They may feel that they are on their own turf. Some lawyers claimed that they expected to get 100% of their attorney fees.

I have noticed three impediments to lawyers' participation in the mediation program:

- the value of time
- the lawyers' belief that the clients' expectations are unreasonable
- overconfidence

Impediments to clients' participation in the mediation program

Clients are more willing than their lawyers to go through the mediation process for the attorney fees. However, they may do that for the wrong reasons. Many clients may not understand the mediation process very well. Some of them have never been in mediations. Others have been exposed to only a brief mediation session in their divorce case.

The biggest issue for them is understanding the mediator's role. Some clients come to the mediation program thinking that the mediator has either the power to make some decisions in their cases or at least the power to force the parties to reach agreements. Some clients try to get the mediator on their side by blaming their lawyers.

Another issue for clients is anger. This may be caused by lawyers' withdrawal from the cases. I mediated cases where clients claimed that they felt overwhelmed when their lawyers withdrew from the case, and they did not know what to do at that time. They felt that their lawyers had never been on their side, and their lawyers were interested only in collecting their attorney fees. This feeling was reinforced by the filing of the petition for attorney fees.

Lack of communication between lawyers and their clients may also lead to anger. I mediated cases where clients claimed that their lawyers never found the time to explain them properly what happened in their cases.

There are two impediments to a meaningful participation of the clients to the mediation program:

- Lack of understanding of the mediator's role
- Anger, which is usually triggered by the motion to withdraw and lack of communication

[READ MORE](#)





AN UPDATE ON THE COMMON FUND DOCTRINE, TENNEY, ITS DEFINITION AND APPLICATION

by: Robert Blinick

Those who practice in the area of personal injury law know that attorneys who obtain a recovery from the tortfeasor (usually their insurance company) will claim a fee on the entire amount recovered, including amounts paid by the injured party's medical or subrogation insurer, whether or not the subrogating carrier wanted that attorney to prosecute that recovery. As such, the injured party's insurer, which may have paid substantial amounts for medical bills or property damages, ends up being an unwilling "client" to the attorney, paying an attorney's fee even though that insurer never engaged the attorney's services. This concept is known as The Common Fund Doctrine, and was discussed and cited under the nomenclature "Tenney."

Five cases in Illinois discuss this case, and the comments in those cases should provide a basis for what steps an insurer should take should it wish to protect its rights (and not pay the attorney), or contrarily, what a personal injury attorney may argue to protect his or her right to a fee for funds recovered.

In *Tenney vs. American Family Mutual Insurance Company*, 128 Ill.App.3d 121 (4th Dist. 1984), an attorney (Tenney) brought suit to recover fees he felt he was entitled to in recovery of medical expenses that American Family had paid to his injured client (Moore), where the tortfeasor's insurer, State Farm, had paid him in settlement of his injury claim. This was a rear-end collision, where American Family had paid its insured (Moore) \$2,042.50 under its medical benefits coverage. The timing of events appears to be important, for reasons stated in each case:

May 13, 1981	Collision, Moore sustains injuries
October 29, 1981	American Family sends Moore a letter that it had a subrogated claim with State Farm to collect its medical payments, that American Family would deal directly with State Farm to collect its medical payments by way of subrogation, and that it was determined to collect them.
January 14, 1982	Moore retains Tenney to represent him in his BI claim.
February 25, 1982	American Family sends a letter to Tenney not to collect its subrogation claim.'

Tenney replied by letter (date unknown) stating that he was aware of the subrogation rights, but wanted American Family to pay Moore's bills, and that he acknowledged that American Family was denying responsibility at this time.

November 24, 1982 Moore filed suit, by Tenney, in court **for recovery for his injuries.**

Shortly thereafter, State Farm settled this lawsuit, and made a check payable to Moore, Tenney, and American Family. This payment included \$2,625.00 for bodily injuries and \$517.36 for property damage. Tenney sought recovery of his attorney's fees, and American Family refused.





AN UPDATE ON THE COMMON FUND DOCTRINE, TENNEY, ITS DEFINITION AND APPLICATION *continued ...*

Tenney's position was that the common fund doctrine applied, and as such he was entitled to a fee.

The common fund doctrine is based on the concept that an attorney who performs services in creating a fund should in equity and good conscience be allowed compensation out of the whole fund from those who seek to benefit from it. In Illinois, the accepted law regarding this doctrine states as follows:

In order to recover under the doctrine it is necessary for a plaintiff seeking recovery from a subrogee to show (1) that the fund was created as a result of legal services performed by an attorney, (2) that the subrogee did not participate in the creation of the fund, and (3) that the subrogee benefited out of the fund that was created.

American Family countered by arguing that the fund doctrine did not apply because (1) plaintiff was informed that he was not representing the defendant, (2) yet plaintiff forced his services on the defendant, and (3) defendant assisted in creation of the fund.

The court in *Tenney* found that American Family did not assist in the creation of the fund. However, the court determined that American Family was not liable to pay Tenney. Their rationale was that "one is not entitled to recovery for services when the services have been knowingly rendered for an unwilling recipient." In *Tenney*, the plaintiff's lawyer knew nine months prior to filing suit that his services were not wanted, but he filed suit anyway.

The holding in *Tenney* has created a rash of letters by insurers, having

paid the medical expenses of their insureds, declining the representation of BI attorneys. However, cases since *Tenney* have narrowed the issue, not to the insurers' benefit.

In *Perez vs. Kujawa*, 234 Ill.App.3d 957 (1st Dist. 1992), the court found that an attorney who claimed to be entitled to a fee for recovery under the common fund doctrine was not entitled to that fee, where the insurer who paid the medical expenses had informed the attorney promptly and unequivocally of its sub-rogation lien, and disclaimed any intention to employ the plaintiff's lawyer to collect those medical expenses.



In *Perez*, the timing of events were as follows:

February, 1987 Collision occurs, Perez injured

March 10, 1987 Letter from ICI to attorney (insurer paying for Perez' medicals) to BI attorney: ICI will represent its own sub-rogation interests as to medical payments advanced or to be advanced to the insureds. This Company, therefore, neither solicits your services to represent it in this regard nor will it recognize any lien upon the subrogation amount claimed under the "Fund Doctrine" for services gratuitously given."



On the same date, ICI notified State Farm (tortfeasor's insurance company) that ICI would collect its own subrogation claim, that ICI represented itself, and that it did not retain the BI attorney, stating: *This Company expressly disavows any authority, apparent or otherwise, for such counsel to conduct negotiations on its behalf. Counsel representing the insured has similarly been advised of our position in this matter.*

April 23, 1987 Plaintiff's BI counsel files a complaint for recovery, including a claim for medical expenses.

May 11, 1987 Plaintiff's BI counsel requested payment of \$2,353.00 from ICI of medical payments, and claimed an attorney's lien on these funds.

June 8, 1987 ICI sent similar letter to one of March 10, 1987 (see above), as the plaintiff's BI counsel was different from one from earlier letter.

July, 1987 ICI pays \$2,353.00 to plaintiffs for medical expenses.

January, 1991 Plaintiff settles with State Farm, for \$6,500 and \$4,500, and offers ICI 2/3 of its medical payments amount, claiming a fee of one-third based upon the Common Fund Doctrine. ICI demands payment of 100%

[READ MORE](#)



PET “CUSTODY”

by: Scott Tzinberg

We love our pets and often they are treated as an equal member of the family. In 2020, after the world shut down due to the pandemic, animal shelters saw a surge in adoptions of dogs and cats as families looked to add some fun while they sheltered at home. It is estimated that in Illinois, almost 50% of house-holds include a pet. So, what happens when a couple is going through a divorce and each spouse wants to keep the pet?

There is a popular story from years ago of how one Cook County judge handled the issue of who received the family dog in a divorce. He ordered the dog to be brought to his courtroom at the Daley Center. Husband and Wife stood equal distance from the dog while a neutral party held the dog on its leash. On the count of three, the dog was let go and whomever the dog ran to was to be awarded the family pet. This was because the Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act (IMDMA) did not provide any guidance about pets.

Before January 2018, as it related to divorces, pets were considered general personal property and were awarded to divorcing couples no differently than a car, set of dishes or big screen TV. However, that all changed in 2018 with the implementation of 750 ILCS 5/503(n) which provides as follows:

“If the court finds that a companion animal of the parties is a marital asset, it shall allocate the sole or joint ownership of and responsibility for a companion animal of the parties. In issuing an order under this subsection, the court shall take into consideration the well-being of the companion animal. As used in this Section, “companion animal” does not include a service animal as defined in Section 2.01c of the Humane Care for Animals Act”

To break down 503(n), “marital asset” refers to a pet that was purchased during the marriage and “companion animal” is essentially any animal that is part of a household and is not “service animal” (an animal trained in obedience and skills to meet the needs of a person with a disability). If the animal meets these two categories, then the Court must award the animal to one party or jointly to both parties based on the “well-being” of the animal. While there is not a lot of caselaw on what facts would support the “well-being” of a pet, some common factors that Courts look to are:

- Who is the person that primarily takes the pet to its vet appointments?
- Whose name is on the adoption or purchase documents.
- What parent has a majority of time with the children as the Court often takes the position that the pet is the children’s companion.
- Generally, who has cared for the animal the most during the marriage (taken the dog for a walk, changed the litter pan, etc.).

Most couples do not have the funds for a pet “custody” case and often work out a reasonable arrangement for their pets. However, those who do not think settlement will be possible, should keep all registration /adoption records and maintain a log and evidence of the care they provide to their dog, cat or other companion animal.

Finally, if you are confronted with a Judge who asks for the family dog to be brought to the courthouse, advise your client to fill their pockets with plenty of dog treats.



ILLINOIS JUDGES ASSOCIATION READING PROJECT

by: Judge Joel Chupack

In conjunction with the February celebration of the life and legacy of Abraham Lincoln, NSBA Member Judge Joel Chupack was among the many Illinois judges to deliver a program to grade school students based on the popular children's book by Martha Brenner, *Abe Lincoln's Hat*. He delivered the program at Greenbrier Elementary School on February 24, 2022.

A project of the [Illinois Judges Association](#), the reading program is aimed at children in grades K-4 to encourage the appreciation, value, and enjoyment of reading. Judges dressed in their black robes make classroom appearances and read the book and discuss its intersection with history and the law. The books are donated to the school library.

Abe Lincoln's Hat, an illustrated account of the adventures of our nation's 16th President, reveals the secrets he stored in his tall, black hat. The book portrays Lincoln as an absent-minded frontier lawyer who nudged his memory by sticking letters, court notes, contracts, and even his checkbook inside his trademark top hat.

The project is the latest in a series of community programs undertaken by the Illinois Judges Association that include the IJA's Page It Forward reading and tutoring program. Other IJA programs are "Courtroom in the Classroom," a presentation that celebrates the U.S. Constitution; "7 Reasons to Leave the Party," covering the legal and personal consequences of drinking and driving, taking drugs, and engaging in other unhealthy behaviors; "Worries of the World Wide Web", a program created to address the increasing problem of cyber bullying, electronic harassment, and sexting/pornography and "Your Future, Your Choice", educate the students about the justice system, how a case goes



through the system, what is the difference between the juvenile and the adult system and what are the crimes associated with the internet and social media. Information on these programs can be found on the IJA website [here](#).

The Illinois Judges Association is a membership organization of 1,250 active and retired judges whose purpose is to foster public confidence in the independence of the judiciary, provide services and education to its members, and information about court operations to the public. Funding for the books was made possible by a grant from the [Illinois Judges Foundation](#).





NEW ELECTRONIC MONITORING STATUTE

Update from the Office of the Chief Justice

730 ILCS 5/5-8A-4

Statutes current with legislation through P.A. 102-557 and P.A. 102-662 of the 2021 Session of the 102nd Legislature.

Illinois Compiled Statutes Annotated > Chapter 730 CORRECTIONS (§§ 5/1-1-1 – 3-5) > Unified Code of Corrections (Chs. I – VIII) > Chapter V. Sentencing (Arts. 1 – 9) > Article 8A. **ELECTRONIC MONITORING AND HOME DETENTION (§§ 5/5-8A-1 – 5/5-8A-9)**

730 ILCS 5/5-8A-4 Program description.

The supervising authority may promulgate rules that prescribe reasonable guidelines under which an **electronic monitoring** and home detention program shall operate. When using **electronic monitoring** for home detention these rules may include but not be limited to the following:

- (A) The participant may be instructed to remain within the interior premises or within the property boundaries of his or her residence at all times during the hours designated by the supervising authority. Such instances of approved absences from the home shall include but are not limited to the following:
1. working or employment approved by the court or traveling to or from approved employment;
 2. unemployed and seeking employment approved for the participant by the court;
 3. undergoing medical, psychiatric, mental health treatment, counseling, or other treatment programs approved for the participant by the court;
 4. attending an educational institution or a program approved for the participant by the court;
 5. attending a regularly scheduled religious service at a place of worship;
 6. participating in community work release or community service programs approved for the participant by the supervising authority; or
 7. for another compelling reason consistent with the public interest, as approved by the supervising authority.
 8. purchasing groceries, food, or other basic necessities.



(A-1) At a minimum, any person ordered to pretrial home confinement with or without **electronic monitoring** must be provided with movement spread out over no fewer than two days per week, to participate in basic activities such as those listed in paragraph (A).

(B) The participant shall admit any person or agent designated by the supervising authority into his or her residence at any time for purposes of verifying the participant's compliance with the conditions of his or her detention.

(C) The participant shall make the necessary arrangements to allow for any person or agent designated by the supervising authority to visit the participant's place of education or employment at any time, based upon the approval of the educational institution employer or both, for the purpose of verifying the participant's compliance with the conditions of his or her detention.



NEW ELECTRONIC MONITORING STATUTE

continued ...

(D) The participant shall acknowledge and participate with the approved **electronic monitoring** device as designated by the supervising authority at any time for the purpose of verifying the participant's compliance with the conditions of his or her detention.

(E) The participant shall maintain the following:

- (1) access to a working telephone;
- (2) a monitoring device in the participant's home, or on the participant's person, or both; and
- (3) a monitoring device in the participant's home and on the participant's person in the absence of a telephone.

(F) The participant shall obtain approval from the supervising authority before the participant changes residence or the schedule described in subsection (A) of this Section. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(G) The participant shall not commit another crime during the period of home detention ordered by the Court.

(H) Notice to the participant that violation of the order for home detention may subject the participant to prosecution for the crime of escape as described in Section 5-8A-4.1 [730 ILCS 5/5-8A-4.1].

(I) The participant shall abide by other conditions as set by the supervising authority. (J) This Section takes effect January 1, **2022**.

HISTORY

[P.A. 86-1281](#); [89-647](#), § 5; 91-357, § 247; [99-797](#), § 10; 2020 [P.A. 101-652](#), § 10-281, effective July 1, 2021; 2021 P.A. 102-28, § 65, effective January 1, **2022**.

Annotations

NOTES

Editor's Notes

This section was Ill.Rev.Stat., Ch. 38, ¶ 1005-8A-4.

Amendment Notes

The 1996 amendment by P.A. 89-647, effective January 1, 1997, in subsection (H) added "as described in Section 5-8A-4.1" at the end.

The 1999 amendment by P.A. 91-357, effective July 29, 1999, substituted "this section" for "Section 5-8A-4" in subdivision (F).

The 2016 amendment by P.A. 99-797, effective August 12, 2016, in the introductory language, inserted "monitoring and" in the first sentence and added "When using **electronic monitoring** for home detention" to the beginning of the second sentence; and made a related change.



CASE NOTES

Committed Person

Escape

Federal Sentencing Guidelines

Penal Institution



Committed Person

Having made persons on electronic detention subject to the offense of escape, it logically follows that the legislature intended such persons to fall within the classification of "committed persons." [People v. Moss](#), 274 Ill. App. 3d 77, 210 Ill. Dec. 949, 654 N.E.2d 248, 1995 Ill. App. LEXIS 615 (Ill. App. Ct. 5th Dist. 1995).

Escape

Under 730 ILCS 5/5-8A-4, a supervising authority could develop reasonable guidelines for the operation of its electronic home detention program. However, nothing in that law dictated that the failure to report to the Day Reporting program violated a condition of the **Electronic Monitoring** program and, thus, defendant who failed to report to the Day Reporting program could not be found guilty of the offense of escape under the Electronic Home Detention Law for not reporting to the Day Reporting program. [People v. Rogers](#), 2012 IL App. (1st) 363 Ill. Dec. 409, 975 N.E.2d 211, 2012 Ill. App. LEXIS 557 (Ill. App. Ct. 1st Dist. 2012).



NEW ELECTRONIC MONITORING STATUTE

continued ...

Because persons on electronic home detention are subject to the offense of escape and because an escapee is by definition a person committed to the Department of Corrections, the legislature intended the term “committed to the Department of Corrections” under 730 ILCS 5/5-8-4(f) to include persons on electronic home detention, as a condition of parole. [People v. Moncrief](#), 276 Ill. App. 3d 533, 213 Ill. Dec. 476, 659 N.E.2d 106, 1995 Ill. App. LEXIS 936 (Ill. App. Ct. 2d Dist. 1995).

Federal Sentencing Guidelines

Electronic home detention is not a form of “imprisonment” for purposes of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines. [United States v. Compton](#), 82 F.3d 179, 1996 U.S. App. LEXIS 9935 (7th Cir. Ill. 1996).

Penal Institution

Where defendant was in the custody of the department, serving a sentence for burglary on electronic home detention at his mother’s house even though the offense was not committed in his residence but in a neighbor’s driveway, defendant was in a penal institution. [People v. Moss](#), 274 Ill. App. 3d 77, 210 Ill. Dec. 949, 654 N.E.2d 248, 1995 Ill. App. LEXIS 615 (Ill. App. Ct. 5th Dist. 1995).

OPINION NOTES

OPINIONS OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

Authority of Sheriff

By granting the courts and the Prisoner Review Board the express statutory authority to order electronic detention, it must be assumed that the General Assembly did not intend by implication to grant that authority to sheriffs; moreover, since electronic home detention clearly did not exist at common law, sheriffs cannot rely upon their common law powers in this regard. 1997 Op. Atty. Gen. (97-006).

The court, and not the sheriff, is the ultimate arbiter of whether electronic home detention is appropriate for county jail inmates. 1997 Op. Atty. Gen. (97-006).

A sheriff does not possess the unilateral authority to commit an inmate to electronic home detention. 1997 Op. Atty. Gen. (97-006).



LOOKING FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

by: Judge James Allegratti

I am the editor of our bar newsletter and want to add information about our members to every newsletter. That includes anything you think is important: court victories, births, weddings, office events, birthdays, anniversaries, new hires, new jobs, new accomplishments, or anything else you want to tell us. Big event or little, it doesn't matter.

Please include pictures whenever you can along with the phone number that I can call if I need additional information.

Don't worry about the format. We will adjust it to fit into the newsletter.

Please send your information to me:

Judge James Allegratti

We want to hear from you!

Have a great story or news item to share?

SEND IT OUR WAY



It is my plan to include regular updates on the goings-on in the second district, as well. I am also looking for any articles that you have written on any legal issues important to you or your practice.

Do not send any documents relating to cases you may have pending before me to this email address. Please use the appropriate email address for room 204.

Thank you for helping to make the North Suburban Bar Association one of the best and fastest growing bar associations in the area.

continuing education

The NSBA is proud to have as part of our activities an excellent Continuing Legal Education (CLE) program. In the past, we have been fortunate to have experts in many fields make presentations. We are considering new and relevant topics, including the changing law regarding cannabis in Illinois, Covid-19 and its effects on the law, social and racial justice issues and the law, the new procedures (Zoom, distancing, etc.) implemented by area courts and how they will be handled going forward. We would like to hear feedback from our members both as to what topics we should present, and if there are members with particular interests and expertise that you would like to share and would be beneficial to NSBA members. Please contact MK Gamble (mail@mkgamble.com) with ideas, suggestions, and interests so we may have productive and entertaining CLEs going forward.



Member NEWS

Adler Law Offices, Ltd. has expanded its suburban Arlington Heights office by moving to larger offices at 121 S. Wilke Rd., Ste 501, Arlington Heights 60005.

The main office remains at 180 N. LaSalle St., Ste. 3700, Chicago 60601. We also have a Skokie location to meet with clients. We continue to do Zoom meetings.

Charles (Chuck) Adler
Adler Law Offices, Ltd.

NSBA member

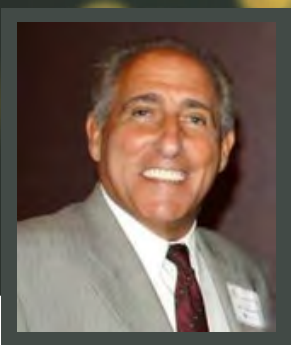
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IN MEMORIAM

Hon. Earl B. Hoffenberg (Ret.)

by: Sharon Kanter

On February 24, 2022, Cook County lost Judge Earl B. Hoffenberg. Judge Hoffenberg honorably served his community as an Assistant State's Attorney, an Assistant Attorney for the Chicago Board of Education, and as an Associate Judge. At the time of his retirement, he was the longest tenured Associate Judge in Cook County. Judge Hoffenberg was appointed to the bench in 1983 and retired in 2020.

Judge Hoffenberg grew up in Lincolnwood and was an alumnus of the Niles Township High Schools. Judge Hoffenberg attended the University of Illinois where he represented the Fighting Illini on the wrestling mat and the baseball diamond. It was at the University of Illinois that he met his lovely wife, Helen.

Judge Hoffenberg attended DePaul University College of Law. He taught in the Chicago Public Schools while pursuing his law degree. Judge Hoffenberg's legal career included practicing as an Assistant State's Attorney and an Assistant Attorney for the Chicago Board of Education. In 1977, as an attorney for the Chicago Board of Education, Judge Hoffenberg argued the case of Carey v. Phipus, 435 U.S. 247 (1978) before the United States Supreme Court. Carey v. Phipus stands for the propositions that school officials can be financially liable for deprivation of student protected rights under due process, and those violations may entitle those students damages if the student can prove actual injury, or the school action was unlawful or unjustified. After leaving the Chicago Board of Education, Judge Hoffenberg cultivated a very successful private practice before accepting appointment to the bench.

Judge Hoffenberg worked enthusiastically and tirelessly. He was assigned to the First and Third Municipal Districts before he began his service in the Second Municipal District. He was an exceptional colleague and Jurist who was granted the responsibility of Acting Presiding Judge by Judge Sutker-Dermer in her absence. In the Second District, he handled every court call in the courthouse, from traffic to felonies, as well as any civil cases that needed to be covered.

He had been known to cover all of those calls in one day. He loved to preside over juries and always volunteered to hear any cases that were answering ready for trial. He loved to discuss legal issues with attorneys and young law clerks alike.

Presiding Judge of the Second Municipal District Judge Shelley Sutker-Dermer shared that the Cook County Judges School has a carefully planned agenda for instructing the newly elected and appointed Judges about the multitude of cases and procedures they will encounter. A wide variety of topics cover everything the new Judges need to know before getting on the bench. The culmination of the course is what is fondly referred to as the "Rah! Rah! Speech" now referred to as the "Good Judge," given of course, by the Honorable Earl Hoffenberg. Judge Hoffenberg was selected by Chief Judge Evans to speak to the newly sworn Judges because he was a natural story-teller, and it was obvious how much he loved being a Judge from the moment he was sworn in to the day he retired.

Judge Hoffenberg was a keen arbiter of the truth. He firmly and unwaveringly believed in the Constitution and its protections for all. Every person who appeared before him or worked in his courtroom was not only treated with the utmost respect, but also with recognition of their humanity. Sometimes that recognition came in the form of his quick wit, and sometimes it came in the form of the unique twinkle in his eye. At all times, his recognition was that each person had value. To him, there were no cases on his well-managed call, there were people. While Judge Hoffenberg shepherded his call with fairness and efficiency, he evaluated each person's matter on its own merits. He listened carefully, evaluated character, and bestowed his trust on those whom he believed deserved it. It was not uncommon for those he gave one last chance to visit him long after their matter was completed to give their thanks for his faith in them.

Judge Hoffenberg also took his responsibility to protect the People of the State of Illinois from those he found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt with solemnity and deep consideration.

Judge Hoffenberg was recognized for his distinguished career with the Jewish Judge's Association Lifetime Achievement Award, and over 100 participants from all aspects of his life and all branches of the legal profession joined Judge Sutker-Dermer to honor Judge Hoffenberg on Zoom for his retirement celebration. He was a staunch supporter of court personnel especially the diligent court reporters. Judge Hoffenberg was also famous for his generosity which was exemplified by his delicious and generous weekly Bagel brunch for court personnel complete with 5 dozen bagels, challah rolls, bialys, a basket of bagel chips, 3 pounds of cream cheese (plain and chive), not to mention a dozen chocolate donuts and the best coffee cake.



Judge Hoffenberg adored his wife, siblings, children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. Not only did he love his family deeply with his heart and soul, but he was a treasured loyal friend to many. If you met Judge Hoffenberg once, the next time you were fortunate to see him again, it was as if he knew you for life.

Judge Hoffenberg's tan was impeccable, his smile was dazzling, his jokes were endless, but his boundless capacity for supporting any person in need at any moment was the hallmark of his true character. He lived by the mantra that he did not believe in going backward in life. May his memory be for a blessing as we try to move forward without him.



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