

## Annual Jim Butcher Memorial Picnic Canceled for 2020



The Jim Butcher Memorial Picnic set for September 25 is cancelled due to COVID-19. The BCBA Executive Committee decided to cancel this year's annual event based on many factors, particularly the safety of BCBA members, member's families, and guests during this pandemic. The BCBA looks forward to re-uniting for the 2021 event.

## Virtual CLE set for September 9

In lieu of the BCBA's regular monthly meeting, a virtual CLE will be hosted on Wednesday, September 9 at 12:00 p.m. The presentation will be by Morley Swingle (Boone County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney) and the program will be on Evidentiary Foundation Questions.

The handout for the CLE can be found through [this link](#).

The Zoom meeting can be accessed through the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7774858821?pwd=eDdXTW5wZURLeM1ocGhiYytrYW9zQT09>

## BCBA Member William "Bill" Rotts Passes Away

Longtime Boone County attorney **William "Bill" Rotts** passed away on August 21, 2020. Bill was primarily a plaintiff's trial attorney and was in partnership with fellow BCBA member **Finley Gibbs** for 20 years. More recently, Bill maintained a solo practice. In an online tribute, Finley described Bill as "one of the true warriors for what is right." Outside of the courtroom, Bill was an avid motorcyclist, climber, and outdoorsman. Bill summited peaks such as Denali and Half Dome, among others. The BCBA will pass on additional information as it becomes available.

## Docket Updates Announced and Videoconferencing Protocols

The docket schedule includes the following temporary changes:

- The addition of **Judge Michael Bradley** who will be assisting with certain cases and case types
- New adoption dockets for Commissioner Miller and Judge Gonzalez
- Corrections to Dockets:
  - **Judge Jeff Harris** will not have a Boone criminal docket the Tuesday of his Callaway County week
  - **Judge Josh Devine's** Friday and Monday dockets

Additionally, the Office of State Courts Administrator (OSCA) is reviewing options to implement WebEx as the new standard for video conferencing. It is anticipated that it will be available at the DOC facilities soon, which will replace Scopia. In addition, it is possible that Zoom will not be approved for certain case types. In turn, WebEx will be utilized instead. The court will continue to update attorneys with information as it becomes available. The court will also hold CLEs using WebEx.

In an effort to make sure all attorneys are able to appear on Scopia, IT Supervisor Chris Fishman-Weaver developed [instructions](#) and it is recommended attorneys test Scopia prior to court. The court highly suggests testing and making sure your device is updated, since this has caused some attorneys to not be able to appear for court. There is an app for Scopia as well, which updates automatically on devices. If an attorney is not able to use Scopia, it is expected that he or she will appear at the courthouse for the docket.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court drafted an [order](#) regarding decorum for court held via video. Please note that those not acting with appropriate decorum may be removed with or without notice from the docket. Examples of appropriate decorum include suitable dress (no hats) and speech, professional or appropriate setting for the background, and not smoking on video. Further, the court emphasizes that it can be stressful to appear on video and not know, for example, why you are still on hold or why your case has not been taken up yet. Please continue to treat video court like in-person court, and the judges will take up all cases in time. As a reminder, the courthouse is completely open during phases 2-3. It may be helpful to appear in person. The [Circuit Court](#) and [Associate Circuit Court](#) temporary dockets can be found on their respective links.

Due to the lack of use and the fact that dockets are available on Case.net, the daily dockets/cases scheduled will no longer be online on this page: <https://www.courts.mo.gov/hosted/circuit13/dockets/dockets.htm>).

### **Callaway County remains in Phase 3, while Boone County goes back to Phase 1**

On Friday, August 21, both Boone and Callaway County moved to Supreme Court Operating Directive Phase 3. However, Boone County is moving back to Phase 1 due to a positive COVID-19 test at the Boone County Courthouse. Callaway County remains in Phase 3 at this time. The link to the order for Boone County returning to [Phase 1 is here](#). Of note for Phase 1: courtrooms will be limited to 10 people and some cases and dockets may be continued. The court anticipates moving to Phase 2 in fourteen days.

### **Elwood Thomas Inn of Court Seeking Qualified Attorneys**

The Elwood Thomas Inn of Court is seeking applications from young and seasoned attorneys to participate in the Inn during the 2020-2021 year. The Inn would like to thank the judges and the many attorneys who have participated over the years and looks forward to welcoming new members. The Inn is one of 379 chartered American Inns of Court in the United States. American Inns of Court have a mission of inspiring the legal community to advance the rule of law by achieving the highest level of professionalism through example, education, and mentoring.

Attorneys with ten or less years of practice are accepted for membership for 2 to 3 years so that more attorneys may have the opportunity to participate.

The application can be found [here](#). Please return completed applications electronically to [Elwood.L.Thomas.Inn@gmail.com](mailto:Elwood.L.Thomas.Inn@gmail.com) by September 11.

### **Associate City Attorney Position for the City of Jefferson**

The City of Jefferson is currently accepting applications for Associate City Attorney for their Law Department. The position works under the general direction of the City Attorney and performs a variety of legal duties including providing legal services and advice to the city elected officials; staff and citizen committees; reviews contracts, ordinances, intergovernmental agreements and other legal documents; represents the city in various legal administrative actions; researches issues on various topics and recommends course of action; and attends meetings for boards and commissions.

The position involves various duties including handling claims of property damage, personal injury, and workers' compensation; meets and confers with city staff to discuss legal issues; handles litigation of all types; corresponds with outside counsel, insurance representatives, and citizens; performs legal research; drafts and reviews ordinances and other

legal documents; staffs various boards and commissions; represents the city in administrative hearings and state and federal court; and gathers relevant legal information and other duties.

Qualified candidates are able to sit, read, write, and work on a computer for extended periods; retain a high degree of detail and accuracy in both written and oral presentations; communicate effectively; and establish and maintain effective working relationships with others. Candidates must have a Juris Doctor degree from an accredited school and Missouri law license is required within three months of employment, three years of progressively responsible legal work experience in representing local governments, torts, contracts, real estate, workers' compensation law, and knowledge of appellate practices and procedures. Experience and/or academic emphasis in public sector law is preferred.

The annual salary for this position is between \$59,479.76 to \$89,219.64. The application opened on August 18 and will close September 8 at 11:59 p.m. The job application may be filed online at <http://www.jeffersoncitymo.gov>. Please attach a cover letter and an up-to-date resume with job application.

## Around the bar . . .



### Transitions

Lear Werts LLP is proud to announce that **Anthony J. Meyer** has joined the firm as a litigation attorney. Prior to entering law school, Tony completed a master's degree in English literature and worked as an English and writing instructor. Tony graduated with honors at the University of Missouri Law School. His practice areas include consumer protection, mass torts, complex litigation, and employment law. Tony's contact information is: 103 Ripley Street, Columbia, MO 65201, 573-234-4332, [meyer@learwerts.com](mailto:meyer@learwerts.com).

Rogers, Ehrhardt, Weber & Howard is pleased to announce that **David R. Wallis** has joined the firm as a Principal. David is a 2006 University of Missouri Law graduate. Before joining Rogers | Ehrhardt, David practiced personal injury law and criminal defense at Carson & Coil in Jefferson City, having previously served as District Defender with the Public Defender here in Boone County. David's contact information is 302 Campusview Drive, Suite 204, Columbia, MO 65201, (573) 442-0131, [dwallis@rogersehrhardt.com](mailto:dwallis@rogersehrhardt.com).



**Barry Gilbert** has moved his practice to Harper, Evans, Wade & Netemeyer. His contact information is as follows: 401 Locust, Suite 401, Columbia, Missouri 65201, 573-442-1660, [bgilbert@lawmissouri.com](mailto:bgilbert@lawmissouri.com).

### New Members

There are no new members to report this month.

### August 2020 Treasurer's Report

Account balance of as of July 31, 2020	\$16,931.46
Receipts 6/30/20 to 7/31/20	
Bar Dues	\$203.00
Interest	\$1.53
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$204.53</b>
Expenses 6/30/20 to 7/31/20	
Rhodes College - Grant Slucher Scholarship	-\$1,250.00
University of Missouri - Bailey Stover Scholarship	-\$1,250.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>-\$2,500.00</b>
<b>Account Balance as of August, 31, 2020</b>	<b>\$14,635.99</b>

### September 2020 Treasurer's Report

Account balance of as of August 30, 2020	\$14,635.99
Receipts 7/31/20 to 8/30/20	
Bar Dues	\$150.00
Taylor & Assoc. Reporting (Young Lawyers – Happy Hour)	\$250.00
Interest	\$0.15
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$316.35</b>
Expenses 7/31/20 to 8/30/20	
The Broadway (invoice from July)	-\$336.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>-\$336.00</b>
<b>Account Balance as of August 31, 2020</b>	<b>\$14,700.14</b>

The Boone County Bar Association Newsletter is published monthly by the Boone County Bar Association, Inc. Send items for publication to the Editor/Webmaster, Lear Werts LLP, 103 Ripley Street, Columbia, MO 65201, telephone 573-875-1991, fax 573-279-0024, email [bcbanews@learwerts.com](mailto:bcbanews@learwerts.com). Annual dues are \$50 and may be sent to the Treasurer, **Dan Beckett**, BCBA, 705 E. Walnut, Columbia, MO 65201. 2020 BCBA officers are: President, **Randall Johnston**, 2800 Forum Blvd, Suite 3B, Columbia, MO 65203-5468, phone 573-442-8879; Vice President; **Gretchen Yancey**, Carson & Coil, P.C., 200 N. 9<sup>th</sup> St., Ste. A, Columbia, MO 65205-0584, phone 573-636-2177; Secretary, **Kirsten Dunham**, Mid-Missouri Legal Services, 1201 W. Broadway, Columbia, MO 65203, phone 573-442-0116; and Treasurer, **Dan Beckett**, address above. Executive Committee members are the officers and **Jill Jackson**, **Jeff Basinger**, and **Katie Johnson**. The BCBA website is at [www.bocomobar.org](http://www.bocomobar.org).