

## Nominating Committee proposes slate of BCBA Officers for 2021

Earlier this year, BCBA President **Randall Johnston** appointed a nominating committee comprised of **Tana Benner**, **Tom Schneider**, and **Andrew Poppewell** to propose officers and executive committee members for next year. The nominating committee's report included the following:

President: **Gretchen Yancey**  
Vice President: **Glen Ehrhardt**  
Secretary: **Kirsten Dunham**  
Treasurer: **Daniel Beckett**  
Executive Committee at-Large Members:  
**Curt Branson and Jessica Caldera**  
Immediate Past President: **Randall Johnston**



Traditionally, the officers are voted on at the annual picnic. Since the annual picnic was canceled due to COVID-19, the voting process will occur electronically this year. To make a nomination “from the floor,” please [submit your nominations online](#) by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, October 5.

Electronic voting for the 2021 officers will occur as follows:

Online voting will be open for one week starting Monday, October 5 and will close Monday, October 12 at 5:00 p.m. A reminder email will be sent out about when the election opens and the day that it ends. The results of the election will be announced following the election.

An email with the online ballot will be circulated to all members on Monday, October 5.

## Boone County Court returned to Phase 3 effective September 28

The Court transitioned several times between phases in September with respect to COVID-19 precautions. As of 5 p.m. on September 28, 2020, the Boone County Court moved to Phase 3. The Court transitioned to Phase 1 on August 31 based on a positive case in the courthouse. Following the Supreme Court's order, a positive means moving back to Phase 0 or 1. By performing immediate contact tracing, deep cleaning, and continuing to abide by mask requirements and social distancing restrictions, the Court is doing what it can to continue its responsibility of providing access to justice. You can find the September 28 order [here](#).

## Callaway County Court moved to Phase 1 effective September 24

Due to a positive COVID test of a court employee, the Callaway County Court moved back to Phase 1. The court has been in communication with the individual and has taken immediate action and ensured anyone with close contact was notified to quarantine at home, and all areas in which the individual worked have been deep cleaned. A change to Phase 1 means limiting the number of people who can be in a courtroom at a time and/or moving cases to a later date.

It should be noted this change in phases is limited to the court, the courthouse as a whole will continue to function as normal. If individuals come to the court and their case is to be by video or has been continued, they will be given guidance on what to do. You can find the September 24 order [here](#).

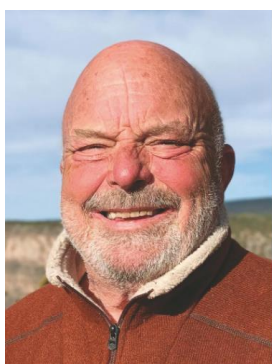
## BCBA Member T. Drew Schaffler Passes Away

Columbia attorney **T. Drew Schaffler** passed away unexpectedly on September 5, 2020. He graduated from the University of Missouri School of Law School in 2003. Drew was primarily a plaintiff's trial attorney with the A.W. Smith Law Firm. According to A.W., "Drew was a loyal friend, tenacious lawyer, and wonderful person. He was literally one of the nicest guys you'll ever meet. We loved Drew dearly and will miss him greatly." Drew had previously worked at Ford, Parshall & Baker.

Drew enjoyed spending time with his family, playing golf, and listening to the Rat Pack. Drew's obituary can be found [here](#).



## Memorial set for October 17 for William "Bill" Rotts



As mentioned in the previous newsletter, Columbia Attorney **William "Bill" Rotts** passed away on August 21, 2020. Bill was 68 and passed away of natural causes at his Hartsburg home. He graduated from the University of Missouri School of Law in 1982 and was named the Smith N. Crowe scholar for international law. Bill worked as an assistant prosecutor in Boone County and then went into private practice representing clients in nearly all facets of the law. Bill liked big personal injury cases and enjoyed the complexities of business litigation, but he also felt a strong urge to fight for civil rights. Bill was fiercely loyal to his family, and his true treasures in life were his wife, Sylvia, and three children, Maggie, Nick, and Dalilah. A celebration of life and memorial service is planned for the afternoon of October 17 beginning at 12:00 noon in the town of Hartsburg, and Bill's family would enjoy celebrating with his professional colleagues and friends.

Memorial donations are encouraged to the Missouri Organic Association, Missouri River Relief and Natural Resources Defense Council. Bill's obituary can be found [here](#).

## Update from Judge Crane and the Boone County Jail

The multipurpose room can be used by attorneys and they no longer need to use the term "trial prep" or "jury trial." Attorneys will still utilize the same time frames as before, which is evenings and weekends. Attorneys must call APOD to schedule a time to come out. Attorneys will be escorted to and from the multipurpose room.

The court will continue to allow attorneys to sign up and use 1East to have a virtual meeting with clients.

## Information from the Circuit Clerk regarding Focus on Kids class

The Boone County Circuit Court has been receiving calls regarding registration for the online Focus on Kids class. Please note that the Clerk's office does not take that information over the phone. If a party is represented, an attorney needs efile the registration and pay the appropriate fee if it has not been paid. If a party is pro se, the Court still requires that the information be filed in writing.

The Clerk's office can take payments over the phone for the class; however, it cannot take registration information over the phone. If you have any questions, please contact the family court division.

## **Truman State University seeking General Counsel**

Truman State University, located in Kirksville, MO, seeks an experienced, skilled, collegial, and collaborative attorney to serve as its next General Counsel.

The primary function of the General Counsel is to provide legal advice to and representation for Truman's Board of Governors, administrators, faculty, and staff acting in their organizational capacity on behalf of the university. A General Counsel provides effective legal advice, representation, and training in a complex operational context. Subject areas are numerous and varied, and include constitutional law, particularly speech and due process, accreditation, employment, benefits, student issues (including discipline, privacy, and welfare), utilities, facilities, procurement, real and intellectual property, construction, finance, insurance, tort liability, privacy of information systems, electronic discovery, export controls, labor relations, contracts, grants, personal injury, and increasingly complex compliance issues, particularly Title IX. The General Counsel is appointed by the Board of Governors to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

The ideal candidate will have: a minimum of 7 years relevant experience in the general practice of law, higher education law, contract law, state government law, or litigation and employment law; experience providing legal services and advice to state or local governmental entities, boards or commissions; excellent written and oral communication skills; sound judgment and demonstrated ability to serve as a collegial and collaborative member of a leadership team; high ethical and professional standards of conduct; experience in managing a broad range of legal challenges; demonstrated ability to foster sound decision making in all areas of University operation; the ability to identify and mitigate legal risks within the University operation; the ability to support the University's functions through the delivery of legal support and guidance to senior management; the ability to communicate and interact with University officials at all levels; negotiating skills in land acquisitions; and knowledge of current and developing legal issues and trends in educational law and related areas.

For more information or to apply, [click here](#).

## **Supreme Court of Missouri seeking Contracted Executive Director for Commission on Racial and Ethnic Fairness**

The Supreme Court of Missouri's Commission on Racial and Ethnic Fairness ("CREF") is seeking an independent contractor to serve as the part-time Executive Director. CREF is responsible for promoting racial and ethnic fairness in the Missouri judicial and legal systems. The Executive Director will coordinate, plan, implement, and lead the successful completion of activities in accordance with the charge of CREF. The Executive Director also will exercise considerable judgment and discretion in the development of policies, programs, and materials. Eligible persons will have considerable knowledge regarding judicial and legal practices, diversity and inclusion, community involvement, and experience managing projects to successful completion.

The work of the Executive Director will be guided by the charge of CREF in conjunction with its tri-chairs. The Executive Director will dedicate necessary time to serve the needs of CREF. Successful performance will be evaluated through personal consultations, observation, and results obtained. Periodic presence in Jefferson City some over-night travel will be required.

For the complete job listing, [click here](#).

## **A.T. Still University of Health Sciences considering Title IX Hearing Officers**

The A.T. Still University of Health Sciences has campuses in Kirksville, Missouri; Mesa, Arizona; and St. Louis, Missouri. It is considering the use of external hearing officers. If any BCBA members who regularly do this type of work would be interested, please contact John Gardner, PhD, Director of Title IX and Training at the university. He can be reached at 660-626-2113 or [johngardner@atsu.edu](mailto:johngardner@atsu.edu).

## Around the bar . . .

### Transitions

**Mark Langworthy** will be leaving University of Missouri on October 3, 2020. His new contact information is as follows: Mark Langworthy, L.L.C., 4412 Shoram Court, Columbia, MO 65203. MarkLangworthy@Live.com, (573) 446-2880.

The law firm of Ford, Parshall & Baker is pleased to announce that **Tyler Dunn** has been named a partner. Additionally, Ryan Mayes and Sydney Dowell have joined the firm as associates.

### New Members

**Penny J. Umstatted-Cope** has joined the Stange Law Firm, P.C. Her office address is 1506 Chapel Road, Suite H, Columbia, Missouri 65203. Contact information is as follows: phone: 573-303-0595; fax: 573-825-6552; email: pennyc@stangelawfirm.com

### October 2020 Treasurer's Report

Account balance of as of August 31, 2020	<b>\$14,635.99</b>
Receipts 8/31/20 to 9/30/20	
Interest (8/31)	\$1.32
Interest (9/3)	\$0.13
Refund of Bar Picnic shelter house deposit	\$55.00
Total Receipts	\$56.45
Expenses 8/31/20 to 9/30/20	
Total Expenses	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Account Balance as of September 30, 2020</b>	<b>\$14,692.44</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).