

Missouri Bar Executive Director to Present at BCBA Lunch



The February meeting of the BCBA will be held on February 14 at the Columbia Country Club and will feature a presentation by Missouri Bar Executive Director Mischa Buford Epps titled "Missouri Bar Update," which has been approved for 1.2 hours of CLE credit. Meal service will begin at 11:30 a.m. with the presentation to begin around noon. The cost is \$16 per person and can be paid at the door. Make checks payable to the "Boone County Bar Association." Please RSVP to attend this meeting by 3:00 p.m. Monday, February 12 by clicking the [RSVP button](#) on the website.

Commissioner Sara Miller to Retire on February 28

After 30 Years working devotedly as Family Court Commissioner for the 13th Judicial Circuit Court, **Sara Miller** is set to retire on February 28, 2024.

"Judges have come and gone in our circuit, but Commissioner Miller has been a source of stability in the family law arena for the past 30 years," says 13th Circuit Presiding Judge Brouck Jacobs. "She was patient and treated people with respect regardless of the difficulty of the case. We're going to miss her."

A farewell event will be held at the Boone County Courthouse on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room. All friends, coworkers, and well-wishers are welcome to attend.

Miller was initially appointed as Family Court Commissioner in 1994. She has served as Division VIII in the 13th Circuit Courts primarily presiding over domestic relations and juvenile cases. Miller is a graduate of the University of Missouri - Columbia School of Law, with an undergraduate degree in Economics. Prior to appointment as Commissioner she was in private practice with Tofle, Oxenhandler & Miller.



Comm. Miller Social Event Following Program at Courthouse



It's time to trade in your briefs for brews and ditch the depositions for discussions at Commissioner Miller's social event following the retirement celebration at the courthouse! Commissioner Miller's family has invited everyone to join in the fun at the Star Room at Logboat Brewing Company on February 28 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. All members of the BCBA are invited and welcome. See you there!

Time to Pay 2024 BCBA Dues

BCBA annual membership dues for 2024 are now due. Please send \$50/lawyer dues (or \$25 per lawyer for government or public interest attorneys) to:

Matt Quetsch, Treasurer
Boone County Bar Association
705 E. Walnut
Columbia, MO 65201



Make checks payable to the "Boone County Bar Association." Dues are waived for members who have reached 75 years of age or for members who have been licensed for 50 years. And, dues are reduced to \$25 per lawyer for government or public interest attorneys. Please provide the 2024 Boone County Bar Association Dues Payment/Waiver Form with your payment or exemption. This is especially important if you would like your areas of practice listed with your name in the Membership Directory. On the form, each attorney may list up to two areas of practice. [The form can be found here.](#)

Planning Ahead? Here are the 2024 BCBA Meeting Dates

January 10; February 14; March 13; April - TBD Bench/Bar gathering; May 8; June 12; July 10; August 14; September - TBD Annual Picnic; October 9 (also, charity golf tournament on October 14); November 13; December - TBD Holiday Party.



Gina Wiswall Celebrates 30 Years of Service with Boone County Circuit Clerk's Office



Boone County Circuit Clerk's Office Associate Civil Clerk, Gina Wiswall, is celebrating her 30th year of service with the Clerk's office. Gina started her court clerk career in 1994 and has worn many different hats over the years. Gina started off as the small claims/order of protection clerk. Shortly thereafter in 1995, she became the Civil Team Manager. Five years later in 2000, Gina decided to go part-time, allowing her to focus on raising her family. Gina would remain part-time for the next eighteen years while working on special projects as needed. Gina returned full time in 2018 and still maintains the associate civil caseload. Gina has shown us what hard work and dedication look like. Gina's work speaks

volumes about her unwavering positivity, integrity, commitment and dedication to the Circuit Clerk's Office. Three decades of service is a rare and remarkable accomplishment! Congratulations, Gina!

Save the Date: Kansas City Estate Planning Symposium set for April 25 & 26

The 43rd Annual Kansas City Estate Planning Symposium is scheduled to be held on April 25 and 26, 2024, at the Overland Park, Kansas Convention Center or virtually at your own location. This continuing education seminar has historically provided an entire year's worth of CLE (16 total hours, including 2 hours of ethics credit AND one hour of elimination of bias). The curriculum, presented by nationally renowned speakers, is geared towards estate planning, business and tax attorneys; CPA's; Trust Officers; Planned Giving Professionals and Financial Planners. Cost for two-day attendance with digital course materials is only \$495, or pick a single day for \$445. For more information, visit www.KCEPS.org, or contact KCEPS Board Member Jason Simmons at (573) 447-3355 or Jason@CrippsandSimmons.com. Registration is now open.

January BCBA CLE Program Highlights "JD Advantage Careers"

At the BCBA meeting last month, President **Jennifer Rodewald** lead a panel discussion on utilizing a law degree for careers outside of the traditional law firm practice. The panel included Sarah Reesman, Director of Public Interest and JD Advantage Careers for the University of Missouri School of Law, Chris Harris, Assistant Vice President and Wealth Management Advisor for the Central Trust Company, and Brian Waller, Vice President of Government Relations at Shelter Insurance Companies.



Employment Opportunities

General Counsel | Truman State University



Truman State University—Missouri's only public liberal arts and sciences university—seeks an experienced, skilled, collegial, and collaborative attorney to serve as its next General Counsel. The successful candidate must have earned a JD from an ABA-accredited school of law and admission to the Missouri Bar or eligibility for admission via reciprocity and successful admission in the immediate future. The review of candidates will begin February 1, 2024. Application materials should be received by this date to receive full consideration. Applications should include a curriculum vitae, detailed cover letter, and contact information for three references and be sent to: Philip J. Christofferson, Chair, General Counsel Search Committee, Truman State University President's Office, McClain Hall 200, Kirksville, MO, 63501, presoffice@truman.edu.

Assistant City Counselor | City of Columbia

The City of Columbia is hiring an Assistant City Counselor. The purpose of this job is to provide legal services and advice on diverse areas of municipal law to the city, including city management, staff, elected officials, and board and commission members. This position is in the Counselor/Civil Division. A thorough knowledge of legal issues affecting local government is required. Juris Doctorate from accredited program required.



3 years' legal experience is required; experience in local government or public sector law experience preferred. Missouri Bar license required. Hours are generally Monday – Friday, 8am-5pm. Occasional evenings and weekends. Pay is \$88,974/yr - \$109,438/yr, commensurate w/ training and experience. For a complete job description and application go to www.gocomojobs.com. Position is open until filled. The preferred application date is March 1, 2024.

Associate Attorney | Springfield

Rooney, McBride and Smith, LLC, a mentorship-focused and family-oriented law firm based in Springfield, MO, is seeking 1-2 full-time associate attorneys to assist with its domestic, general civil, and/or estate planning practice groups. The firm offers shadowing opportunities, mentorship, training and continuing education, potential for advancement, competitive compensation, and generous benefits packages. Hybrid remote and in-office positions available. 3-5 years of experience practicing law in the State of Missouri preferred but not required. License to practice law in Missouri and J.D. required. Duties will include drafting legal documents, client communication, and making court appearances in southwest Missouri. Submit cover letter and resume to heather@rmsattorneys.com.

Employment Opportunities (Continued)

CLE Attorney | Jefferson City



The Missouri Bar seeks a CLE attorney to develop and coordinate continuing legal education programs and conferences through various delivery methods to improve Missouri lawyers' knowledge of the law and to assist them in fulfilling their minimum continuing legal education requirements. Applicants must be a licensed Missouri lawyer in good standing. Law practice experience is helpful. Experience in CLE or other curriculum development is desirable. This position requires a high degree of communication and collaboration with volunteer lawyers, judges, and staff. The ideal candidate will be highly organized, possess the ability to multitask in a fast-paced environment, and be extremely detail oriented. Position located in Jefferson City. Some travel required. Hybrid remote work schedule (three days per week in office in Jefferson City, two days remote) and excellent benefits. Compensation commensurate with experience. Apply by sending cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to hrdept@mobar.org. Candidate review begins Dec. 18, but the posting will remain active, and applications will continue to be accepted until the position is filled.

Transitions:

Winn Law Firm has the following updated contact information: 3610 Buttonwood, Suite 200, Columbia, MO, 65201. Phone: 844-937-9466, Fax: 573-313-4155.

Kayla Welch has recently joined the Van Matre Law Firm.

New Members:

Russell Boyd, 1032 Lagrange Court, Columbia, MO 65203. Phone: 702-569-2477, rboyd@vegascounsel.com. Russell practices plaintiff's and defendant's civil litigation, intellectual property, and has a general practice.

Kevin Abts, Jones, Powell & Stevens, 414 E. Broadway, Suite 200, Columbia, MO, 65201. Phone: 573-443-8620, Fax: 573-443-8620, kevin@11-7law.com, <https://jonespowellstevens.com>. Kevin practices criminal defense and family law.

Cassidy Colhour, University of Missouri System Office of the General Counsel, 321 University Hall, Columbia, MO, 65211. Phone: 573-882-3769, colhourc@umsystem.edu. Cassidy practices employment and labor.

March Meeting to Feature Ethics CLE

At the March 13 BCBA meeting, Melinda Bentley will present a program titled "Ethics Update from the Missouri Legal Ethics Counsel" which will include a discussion on recent changes to the Rules of Professional Conduct, opinions in disciplinary cases, recently published Informal Advisory Opinions, and more.

Letter from Boone County Prosecutor Regarding Policy Changes to Recommendations/Recommendation Approvals



ROGER W. JOHNSON, Prosecutor

Office of the Boone County Prosecuting Attorney
705 E. Walnut Street — Courthouse
Columbia, Missouri 65201-4485
573-886-4100
FAX: 573-886-4148

January 23, 2024

Our office is implementing the following policy regarding recommendations and recommendation approvals:

- When a case is set for bench or jury trial at defense request, any prior recommendations will be withdrawn at that time.
- If the defendant is not present on the date the case is set for trial, the docket attorney will ask for an additional status hearing and request that the defendant be ordered to appear in person or by video.
- Recommendations after pretrial will require approval: after the first pretrial before a jury trial in which the defense announces "ready," no recommendations will be authorized without specific approval by me.

These changes are designed to reduce the practice that has developed in recent years of waiting until the week before trial to seek an agreed-upon resolution. This practice causes excessive expenses in trial preparation and service of subpoenas, and it is difficult for witnesses and victims.

We desire to have adequate time to exchange discovery and discuss possible resolutions, but we hope by these changes to communicate plainly that our focus will change to trial preparation instead of negotiation when the case is set for trial.

Internally, we are also working on consistency in recommendations and ensuring that offers are made and communicated as early as possible with the goal of having recommendations in 80 percent of cases at the time of filing.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "RW Johnson", is placed above the typed name.

Roger W. Johnson
Prosecuting Attorney

Reminder to Use the New Certificate of Decree of Adoption form as of January 31



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES
BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS, 930 WILDWOOD DR., JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65109
CERTIFICATE OF DECREE OF ADOPTION

ANY FAX, PHOTO, OR REPRODUCED COPIES OF THIS FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AND WILL BE RETURNED FOR THE ORIGINAL. WHITEOUT, ERASURES, TYPEOVERS, OR WRITEOVERS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.

INSTRUCTIONS THIS FORM SHOULD BE TYPED OR PRINTED IN BLACK INK	
Parts I, II, and III of this form are to be completed by the petitioner, attorney for the petitioner, or the child-placing agency representative (if applicable) and filed with the petition or decree. When the final order of adoption has been entered, the clerk of court shall complete the certification in Part IV, affix the seal of the court, sign, and mail the form with the required \$15.00 processing fee, and, if a new birth certificate is requested, a signed and notarized application and additional \$15 fee per copy, to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Bureau of Vital Records, 930 Wildwood Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65109 . If the child was born in another state or foreign country, the Bureau of Vital Records will forward the form to the proper office.	
PART I THIS INFORMATION IS USED TO LOCATE AND AMEND THE CHILD'S ORIGINAL BIRTH RECORD.	INFORMATION ABOUT CHILD BEFORE ADOPTION NAME OF CHILD AT BIRTH OR NAME AS SHOWN ON CURRENT BIRTH CERTIFICATE SEX DATE OF BIRTH BIRTH CERTIFICATE NUMBER (IF KNOWN) PLURALITY - SINGLE, TWIN, TRIPLET, ETC. IF NOT SINGLE BIRTH - BORN FIRST, SECOND, THIRD, ETC. PLACE OF BIRTH (HOSPITAL, CITY, COUNTY, STATE, OR COUNTRY IF NOT IN U.S.) NAME PRIOR TO FIRST MARRIAGE (MAIDEN) OF NATURAL MOTHER/CO-PARENT NAME OF NATURAL FATHER/CO-PARENT IF CHILD PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED, PLEASE PROVIDE NAMES OF ADOPTIVE PARENTS
PART II IF STEP-PARENT ADOPTION, INFORMATION FOR BIRTH PARENT MUST ALSO BE COMPLETED.	INFORMATION AFTER ADOPTION - WILL APPEAR ON NEW CERTIFICATE NAME OF CHILD AFTER ADOPTION FIRST MIDDLE LAST SUFFIX FATHER/CO-PARENT (CHECK ONE) <input type="checkbox"/> Adoptive <input type="checkbox"/> Single Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Natural <input type="checkbox"/> Step-Parent STATE OF BIRTH SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER DATE OF BIRTH RACE EDUCATION - SPECIFY HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED ELEMENTARY (1-8): HIGH SCHOOL (1-4): COLLEGE (1-5+): MOTHER/CO-PARENT (CHECK ONE) <input type="checkbox"/> Adoptive <input type="checkbox"/> Single Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Natural <input type="checkbox"/> Step-Parent NAME PRIOR TO FIRST MARRIAGE (MAIDEN) FIRST NAME MIDDLE NAME LAST NAME SUFFIX CURRENT LEGAL NAME FIRST NAME MIDDLE NAME LAST NAME SUFFIX STATE OF BIRTH SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER DATE OF BIRTH RACE EDUCATION - SPECIFY HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED ELEMENTARY (1-8): HIGH SCHOOL (1-4): COLLEGE (1-5+): NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS PRIOR TO BIRTH OF THE ADOPTED CHILD NUMBER OF ADOPTED CHILDREN PRIOR TO BIRTH OF ADOPTED CHILD NUMBER OF FETAL DEATHS (STILLBIRTHS): NO. LIVING <input type="checkbox"/> NONE LIVING NO. DEAD <input type="checkbox"/> NONE DEAD NO. LIVING <input type="checkbox"/> NONE LIVING NO. DEAD <input type="checkbox"/> NONE DEAD <input type="checkbox"/> NONE RESIDENCE OF ADOPTIVE MOTHER OR CO-PARENT AT TIME OF CHILD'S BIRTH NUMBER AND STREET CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION COUNTY STATE ZIP CODE PRESENT ADDRESS OF ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) NUMBER AND STREET CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION COUNTY STATE ZIP CODE TELEPHONE NUMBER NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS OF ATTORNEY NUMBER AND STREET CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION COUNTY STATE ZIP CODE TELEPHONE NUMBER
PART III APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED COPY OF THE NEW BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND FEE MAY BE ATTACHED TO THIS FORM AND FORWARDED TO THE BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS.	PROCESSING ADOPTION AND RECEIVING NEW CERTIFICATE State law requires the submission of a \$15.00 fee to process this Certificate of Decree of Adoption. This fee does not include a new copy of the birth certificate after adoption. If you wish to receive a new copy of the birth certificate after adoption, attach an <u>Application for a Vital Record</u> to this form and an additional \$15.00 fee per each copy requested. For more information on ordering vital records, visit: www.health.mo.gov/vitalrecords or call: 573-751-6387.
PART IV	CERTIFICATION OF CLERK OF COURT I hereby certify that there was a decree of adoption entered by the Circuit Court of this county on _____ day of _____ (month) _____ (year), which adjudged that the child named in Part I is deemed to be for legal intents and purposes the child of the adoptive parents identified above. Dated: _____ (SEAL) CAUSE OR CASE NO. VOLUME PAGE NO. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT DEPUTY CLERK NAME OF COURT FOR CITY OR COUNTY OF

December 2023 Treasurer's Report

Submitted by:	Matthew R. Quetsch
For Period Ending:	12/31/23
Account Balance as of 12/01/2023	\$5,928.15
Receipts 12/01/2023 to 12/31/2023	
Dues	\$100.00
Holiday Party	\$2,130.00
Misc. Luncheon	\$3.00
Total Receipts	\$2,233.00
Expenses 12/01/2023 to 12/31/2023	
CCC for Bar Luncheon 11/08/2023	\$-752.00
11/2023 Service Charge	\$-5.60
Executive Comm. Mtg.	\$-240.69
Total Expenses	\$-998.29
Ending Balance as of 12/31/2023	\$7,162.86

January 2024 Treasurer's Report

Submitted by:	Matthew R. Quetsch
For Period Ending:	01/31/2024
Account Balance as of 01/01/2024	\$7,162.86
Receipts 01/01/2024 to 01/31/2024	
Dues	\$3,550.00
Luncheon	\$368.00
Total Receipts	\$3,918.00
Expenses 01/01/2024 to 01/31/2024	
BCBA Awards	\$-468.69
Holiday Party	\$-5,035.52
Total Expenses	\$-5,504.21
Ending Balance as of 01/31/2024	\$5,576.65

The Boone County Bar Association Newsletter is published monthly by the Boone County Bar Association, Inc. Send items for publication to the Web Administrator/Newsletter Editor, Lear Werts LLP, 103 Ripley Street, Columbia, MO 65201, telephone 573-875-1991, fax 573-279-0024, email bcbaneews@learwerts.com. Annual dues are \$50 and may be sent to the Treasurer, **Matt Quetsch**, BCBA, 705 E. Walnut, Columbia, MO 65201, matt.quetsch@gmail.com. 2024 BCBA officers are: President, **Jennifer Rodewald**, Shelter Insurance, 1817 W. Broadway, Columbia, MO 65218, phone 573-214-6775; Vice President, **Emily Little**, Office of General Counsel, 227 University Hall, Columbia, MO, 65211, phone 573-882-3211; Secretary, **Jordan Hudspith**, Harper, Evans, Hilbrenner & Netemeyer, 401 Locust Street, Suite 401, Columbia, MO 65201, phone 573-442-1660; Treasurer, **Matt Quetsch**, address above; Immediate Past President, **Becky Thompson**, City of Columbia Legal Department, P.O. Box 6015, Columbia, MO 65205, phone 573-874-7229. Executive Committee members are the officers along with at-large members **Myia McKenna** and **Skip Walther**. The BCBA website is at <https://boonecountybar.org>.