

State Bar Foundation Fellows bestow award, elect officers and members

The Fellows of the Michigan State Bar Foundation elected the following officers at their September 2006 annual meeting: Julian A. Cook Jr., senior judge in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan, Detroit, as chairperson; retired Judge Hilda R. Gage of Bloomfield Hills, as vice-chair; and Charles R. Rutherford, Of Counsel at Dykema Gossett P.L.L.C., in Bloomfield Hills, as secretary.

The Foundation Fellows are a group of attorneys selected for their professional contributions and devotion to the welfare of their community. Fellows membership cannot exceed 5% of the total active membership of the State Bar of Michigan. In 1984, thirty-two leading lawyers founded the Fellows to sustain leadership and financial support for the Foundation and its charitable programs.

Today, more than 1,200 attorneys and judges are Fellows, and their contributions to support the Foundation's charitable work total over \$1.2 million. Without the Fellows leadership and financial support, much of the Foundation's public service would not be possible.

Fellows secretary Charles R. Rutherford was also honored with the Foundation's 2006 Founders Award.

The Founders Award recognizes a lawyer who exemplifies professional excellence and has made significant community contributions.

Foundation President Margaret J. Nichols said, "There isn't a person among the Foundation's past or present leadership who thinks the Foundation could have grown to its present status without [Charlie Rutherford's] leadership." The award recognizes all of Rutherford's professional and community contributions including: Foundation trustee for over 27 years (including past president); a founder

of the Foundation's Fellow Program; State Bar of Michigan Senior Lawyer's Section chair and recipient of the section's inaugural Charles R. Rutherford Award; Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society trustee; American Bar Foundation Fellow; past officer or trustee of the Detroit Chapter of the Society of Professional Engineers, Detroit Rotary, and University of Detroit Mercy Alumni Association; and he is currently Of Counsel at Dykema Gossett, specializing in intellectual law.

Additionally, the following attorneys were elected new Fellows members in 2006:

Deborah G. Adams, Okemos; Harold Kirby Albright, Lansing; Gary K. August, Farmington Hills; James V. Bellanca Jr., Harper Woods; Terrence G. Berg, Detroit; Naldo Buccini, Wixom; Steven E. Chester, Lansing; Lisa Sewell Demoss, Detroit; Sue Ellen Eisenberg, Bloomfield Hills; Kiffi Y. Ford, Lansing; Timothy T. Fryhoff, Bloomfield Hills; Robert C. Gardella, Brighton; Douglas Hamel, Southgate; Kevin S. Hendrick, Detroit; R. Craig Hupp, Detroit; Frank W. Jackson, Detroit; Elizabeth Moehle Johnson, Plymouth; Nicole Y. Lamb-Hale, Detroit; Leslie Anne Logan, Bloomfield Hills; Joan H. Lowenstein, Ann Arbor; Michael A. Macdonald, Grand Rapids; Mona K. Majzoub, Detroit; Margaret A. McCrystal, Allendale; Susan G. Meyers, Grand Rapids; John F. Mills, Birmingham; Judge James Robert Redford, Grand Rapids; Julie H. Reincke, Eaton Rapids; Richard A. Roane, Grand Rapids; Ann L. Rount, Ann Arbor; Margaret F. Schweitzer, Ann Arbor; Richard J. Suhrheinrich, Okemos; Kathryn R. Swedlow, Lansing; Norris J. Thomas Jr., Detroit; Thomas H. Thornhill, Muskegon; Jalae A. Ulicki, East Lansing; Hon. R. Steven Whalen, Detroit; and Avery K. Williams, Detroit.

Wayne State University to host 'War on Terror' Symposium

"Issues in the War on Terror: Investigations, the Media, and Article III Courts" will bring leading names in journalism, the U.S. government, the judiciary, and other fields to the Wayne State University Law School for a day-long symposium on Thursday, November 16.

The symposium will address the delicate balance that must be struck between fighting an effective war on terrorism and respecting civil liberties guaranteed to all citizens by the U.S. Constitution.

Participants will include Washington Post reporter and NBC News analyst Dana Priest; the national legal correspondent from The New York Times, Adam Liptak; Ann Beeson, the associate legal director of the ACLU national office in New York City; John A. Rizzo, the acting general counsel of the office of the director of the Central Intelligence Agency; United States District Court Judges Gerald E. Rosen and George C. Steeh, Eastern District of Michigan; and United States District Court Chief Judge James Carr, Northern District of Ohio.

The symposium will begin at

8:30 a.m. at the WSU Law School, 471 West Palmer Street, Detroit. There will be two panels during the morning and one in the afternoon.

The first panel will focus on secret evidence gathered by the government through classified and highly controversial investigative methods. Panelists will include James Baker, the director of the Office of Intelligence Policy and Review at the U.S. Department of Justice; John Rizzo of the CIA; and the chief litigator of the ACLU, Ann Beeson.

The second panel will address the responsibility of the media when covering national security issues, particularly when reporting government methods in fighting terrorism. Participants will be Dana Priest of The Washington Post; Adam Liptak of The New York Times; and William Harlow, the former public affairs director of the CIA.

The third panel will discuss the difficulties of prosecuting terrorists in U.S. courts. The panelists will be U.S. District Court Judge George C. Steeh, Eastern District of Michigan; Joshua Dratel, president of the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; and Andrew McCarthy, a former assistant U.S. attorney and senior fellow of the Foundation for the Defense of Democracy.

The panels will be moderated by U.S. District Court Chief Judge James Carr, Northern District of Ohio; U.S. District Court Judge Gerald E. Rosen, Eastern District of Michigan; and Robert A. Sedler, professor of law at WSU Law School.

The symposium is sponsored by the Wayne Law Review, the Law School's primary journal. Portions of the symposium will appear in a future edition of the Wayne Law Review.

The symposium will conclude at 4 p.m. and is free and open to the public. Lunch will be served, and registration is requested. Parking for the Symposium will be available for \$3.50 in parking structure #1, across from the Law School, at the corner of Cass Avenue and Palmer Street.

For more information, or to register for the event, please send an email to lawreviewarticles@wayne.edu or phone (313) 577-8029.



THE MICHIGAN TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (MTLA) hosted a Medical Malpractice Seminar on Friday, October 6, at the Hotel Baronette in Novi. Enjoying the seminar were (left to right) MTLA Vice President Judy Susskind of Thurswell Law Firm in Southfield, moderator; MTLA Executive Board member David Parker of Charfoos & Christensen in Detroit; MTLA President Jesse M. Reiter of Gregory & Reiter Law Center in Bloomfield Hills, moderator; Andrew Muth of Muth & Shapiro in Ypsilanti, speaker; and MTLA Executive Board members Mark Lipton of Lipton Law Center in Southfield and Joey Niskar of Erlich, Rosen & Bartnick in Southfield.

Photo by John Meiu

School district offers ID theft protection to alumni

TROY, Mich. (AP) — More than 4,400 alumni of Troy Athens High School are being offered 14 months of free identity theft protection through the school district after a computer hard drive containing information about them turned up missing.

The hard drive, which contains information including names, addresses and Social Security numbers, turned up missing in August during renovations at the suburban Detroit school. The Troy School District outlined its offer in a letter last

week. "We heard from a number of students who offered different suggestions," district spokesman Tim McAvoy told The Detroit News. "We feel this is a strong package that offers immediate security, and it also provides an option that will protect them from the rest of their lives."

That option would cover alumni after the 14-month period expires. It would cost them \$20 per year for a service that the district said normally costs \$110 per year.

Wayne State hosts statewide moot court competition

Moot Court teams from Wayne State University Law School, Ave Maria School of Law, The University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, and the Thomas M. Cooley Law School will compete in the Michigan Moot Court Competition on Saturday, November 11.

The competition will begin at 9 a.m. in the Spencer M. Partrich Auditorium of the Wayne State University Law School, 471 W. Palmer Street, in Detroit. The competition is free and open to the public.

The final round of competition will take place from 3 to 4:30 p.m. and will be judged by Michigan Supreme Court Justices Maura Corrigan, Stephen J. Markman, Marilyn J. Kelly, and Chief Justice Clifford W. Taylor.

The event is sponsored by the law firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock, and Stone P.L.C. and Westlaw.

For more information, contact Daniel Grano via email at ah8961@wayne.edu.

Government centers to receive self-service stations

Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land recently announced that the convenient Self-Service Stations are expanding to local government buildings as part of her Customer Service Initiative unveiled in August.

Government centers in Allen Park, Kalamazoo, Three Rivers and Wayne are the first locations to receive self-service stations outside of the branch office environment. The stations allow customers to quickly renew their license plate tabs with the swipe of a major credit or debit card.

"The busy lives of today's customers require flexible access to government services," Land said. "Here we've forged partnerships with local communities to offer customers another way to renew their vehicle tabs without even setting foot inside a branch office."

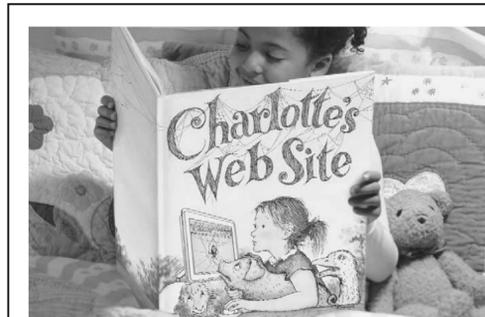
Visitors to Three Rivers City Hall already have a new station, and the Kalamazoo station is expected to be operating on Monday, October 30, at the Kalamazoo County Administration Building. Details for the others are being completed. Self-service stations may be added to other

communities based on customer response.

The 28 self-service stations now operating at SUPER!Centers and PLUS offices have proved popular with Michigan residents. Since their start in April 2005, the stations have logged about 69,000 transactions totaling more than \$6.9 million. Additionally, most stations are in branch vestibules that offer round-the-clock access for added customer convenience.

Other components of Land's Customer Service Initiative include a call for more SUPER!Centers and PLUS offices, which feature expanded hours and services, as well as expanding the services available online so customers can skip the trip to a branch office entirely. Land also recently announced that customers will get the added convenience of being able to use a cash machine at 30 branch offices across the state as part of a pilot program.

Visit www.Michigan.gov/sos for more information about branch office locations and services, as well as other Department of State programs.



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Disciplinary Actions

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION AND RESTITUTION WITH CONDITIONS (By Consent)

Case No. 05-138-GA
Notice Issued: July 28, 2006
 James E. Bliss, P-041577,
 Lansing, Michigan, by Attorney
 Discipline Board Ingham County
 Hearing Panel #2

1. Suspension - 90 Days
 2. Effective July 28, 2006

The respondent and the Grievance Administrator filed a stipulation for a consent order of discipline in accordance with MCR 9.115(F)(5) which was approved by the Attorney Grievance Commission and accepted by the hearing panel.

Respondent pled no contest to the allegations of professional misconduct contained in Counts One and Three of Formal Complaint 05-138-GA, that, in a criminal matter, he neglected a legal matter entrusted to him; failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of his matter and to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information; failed to communicate with his client to the extent reasonably necessary for the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation; failed to seek the lawful objectives of his client; failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing his client; failed to return an advance payment of fee that had not been earned; failed to fully and fairly disclose all the facts and circumstances pertaining to the alleged misconduct and making misrepresentations in his answer to a request for investigation; knowingly made misrepresentations of facts and circumstances surrounding a request for investigation; knowingly made a false statement of material fact in connection with a disciplinary matter; engaged in conduct that exposes the legal profession or the courts to obloquy, contempt, censure, or reproach; engaged in conduct contrary to justice, ethics, honesty, or good morals; engaged in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice; and violated or attempted to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct, in violation of MCR 9.104(A)(1)-(4) and (6); MCR 9.113(A); and Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1(c); 1.2(a); 1.3; 1.4(a) and (b); 1.16(d); 8.1(a)(1); and 8.4(a) and (c).

The parties agreed that respondent should be suspended for 90 days and that respondent shall pay restitution in the amount of \$750.00.

The parties further agreed that respondent shall be subject to conditions relevant to the alleged misconduct. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$872.82.

NOTICE OF REPRIMAND

Case No. 06-05-GA
Notice Issued: July 28, 2006
 Charles A. Haas, P-14486, Redford, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #15.

1. Reprimand
 2. Effective July 28, 2006

The hearing panel found that respondent failed to provide competent representation; neglected a legal matter; failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness; failed to keep a client reasonably informed regarding the status of the matter; and failed to explain a matter to a client to the extent necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation, in violation of MCR 9.104(A)(1) and (4); and Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1(a); 1.1(c); 1.3; 1.4(a) and (b); and 8.4(a) and (c).

The hearing panel ordered that respondent be reprimanded and assessed costs in the amount of \$1,768.67.

NOTICE OF REVOCATION

Case No. 06-41-JC
Notice Issued: July 28, 2006
 Gregory G. Schultz, P-25322, Clearwater, Florida, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #17.

1. Revocation
 2. Effective December 15, 2005

On December 15, 2005, respondent was convicted of the following felonies in the U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Tampa Division: 12 counts of Mail Fraud, in violation of 18 USC 1341; eight counts of Illegal Monetary Transactions, in violation of 18 USC 1957; seven counts of Money Laundering, in violation of 18 USC 1956(a)(1)(A)(i); four counts of Securities Fraud, in violation of 15 USC 78j(b); three counts of Sale of Unregistered Securities, in violation of 15 USC 77e(a); one count of Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering, in violation of 18 USC 1956(h); and one count of Conspiracy to Commit Securities Fraud, Wire Fraud and Mail Fraud, in violation of 18 USC 371.

In accordance with MCR 9.120(B)(1), respondent's license to practice law in Michigan was automatically suspended on the date of his felony conviction.

Based on respondent's convictions, the hearing panel ordered that respondent's license to practice law in Michigan be revoked, effective December 15, 2005, the date of his felony convictions. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,754.00.

Respondent has been continuously suspended from the practice of law in Michigan since December 15, 2005. See Notice of Automatic Interim Suspension issued April 11, 2006.

Man who killed at 11 says he's motivated by others' expectations

By SARAH KARUSH
 Associated Press Writer

PONTIAC (AP) — Nathaniel Abraham, who was 11 when he shot and killed a man nearly a decade ago, is working at a store and has a girlfriend, officials supervising him at a halfway house reported to a judge Monday. They said those developments are signs of increased maturity and show he is prepared to live on his own.

Abraham, who is scheduled to be freed from all state supervision when he turns 21 on Jan. 19, told Oakland County Probate Judge Eugene Arthur Moore that people's low expectations of him have helped him stay motivated since he left a juvenile detention facility in July.

"Since I've been out, what kept me focused and motivated is that people predicted me to make a mistake," Abraham said. "Every day I woke up I just had that in front of me and I just used that as my motivation."

Officials from the Bay City halfway house where Abraham is living praised his progress at Monday's hearing. His court-appointed guardian and a psychologist also said they were impressed by his maturity.

Moore set a final review hearing for Jan. 18.

Abraham was convicted of second-degree murder in the 1997 shooting death of Ronnie Lee Greene, 18, outside a convenience store in Pontiac. Though convicted as an adult, he was sentenced as a juvenile.

The case sparked debate on the treatment of juveniles accused of violent crimes. He was the first young person charged with first-degree murder to be prosecuted under a 1997 Michigan law that allowed adult prosecutions of children of any age in serious

felony cases.

Abraham spent years at the W.J. Maxey Training School near Whitmore Lake before being transferred to a medium-security camp this year and then to the halfway house.

Chris Tetloff, a reintegration specialist at Parmenter House, said Abraham had worked at different jobs since arriving in Bay City and currently is employed at a store. Abraham is also taking a business course at a community college and has passed the written exam to get his driver's license, Tetloff said.

Abraham has a girlfriend, his court-appointed guardian, Elaine Rosati, said. "Socially, he's just come so far," she said.

Staff at the halfway house had been talking to Abraham about getting an apartment in Bay City after he leaves, Tetloff said.

Oakland County Chief Deputy Prosecutor Deborah Carley told Moore she believes Abraham should stay in Bay City, rather than return to Pontiac.

"I think it's better for him to be away from some of his past influences," she said.

Carley said Abraham should be prepared to deal with media scrutiny for the rest of his life.

"These cameras are going to follow him not just the day he walks out of this courtroom," she said. "If he gets so much as a ticket for jaywalking, they're going to know about it."

Abraham hopes to make a career in music, attorney Daniel Bagdade told reporters after the hearing. He said Abraham has been writing poetry and song lyrics since he was about 13. Abraham stood next to him and nodded.

Bagdade allowed Abraham to talk briefly to the media, and he said he was grateful to his family for sticking by him. "I love them for that," he said.

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