



COLORADO LAWYERS COMMITTEE

Special Update

July 16, 2009

Thank you for making the Colorado Lawyers Committee 30th Annual Awards Luncheon a huge success. For more information about the awards luncheon, please visit our website at www.coloradolawyerscommittee.org.



Steve Kaufmann (Morrison & Foerster LLP) accepted the Outstanding Sustained Contribution Award from John Walsh (Hill & Robbins, P.C.).



Dan Sweetser (The Sweetser Law Firm, LLP), left, was the recipient of the 2008 Individual of the Year Award. Jim Scarboro, right, accepted the 2008 Law Firm of the Year Award of behalf of Arnold & Porter LLP.



On May 19, 2009, the Colorado Lawyers Committee held its **30th Annual Awards Luncheon** at the Denver Marriott City Center. Thank you to our generous sponsors for their support of this important event. Congratulations to this year's award recipients and thank you to our 650 volunteers who gave of their time and energy to Colorado Lawyers Committee projects in 2008. It is the strength of our volunteers that makes us successful. Thank you!

Legal Night Clinics. Volunteers are always needed for the twice monthly Legal Night Clinics. Upcoming clinic dates are **Tuesday, July 21, 2009** at Mi Casa Resource Center for Women (360 Acoma Street) and **Wednesday, August 5, 2009** at Centro San Juan Diego (2830 Lawrence Street), both from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Volunteers address many legal issues, including family law, immigration, bankruptcy, housing, and many others. New volunteers are welcome! Please RSVP to Susan Cole at susan_cole@aporter.com.

Nonprofit Working Group. The Nonprofit Working Group is excited to announce a new collaboration with the Colorado Nonprofit Association. Please review the flyer located at your table for ways to get involved.

Hate Violence Task Force. The Hate Violence Teaching Tolerance Task Force recently concluded another very successful year. The program utilizes volunteer lawyers, paralegals and law students to present a fictional trial based on Colorado's Hate/Bias Crimes Statute. The students serve as jurors and obtain a greater understanding of the legal system, as well as an appreciation for standing up against hate crimes. During the 2008-2009 school year, fourteen mock trials were presented at ten middle schools and high schools throughout Colorado. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers for making the Hate Violence Task Force such a success! If you are interested in volunteering during the next school year or if you'd like to recommend a school to the task force, please contact Tarek Saad (Jin, Schauer & Saad LLC) at tsaad@jinslaw.com.

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Colorado Lawyers Committee is pleased to welcome **Tim Odil** from **McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP** and **Tarek Saad** from **Jin, Schauer & Saad LLC** to the Board of Directors.
Welcome!



Legal Volunteer Peter Komlos-Hrobsky (Colorado Legal Services) meets with a client at the 7th Project Homeless Connect at the University of Denver.



Legal Volunteers Aida Guerry (Colorado Legal Services), Jacob Smiles (Faegre & Benson LLP) and Leanne DeVos (Sherman & Howard LLP) at the 7th Project Homeless Connect at the University of Denver.

Project Homeless Connect. Project Homeless Connect continues to be a project that inspires and motivates our legal volunteers. The 7th Project Homeless Connect, held on April 24, 2009 at the University of Denver, was another great success. Thanks to Project Homeless Connect, hundreds of homeless individuals in Denver were connected with valuable services including legal information, housing, employment, medical services, and public benefits. 66 volunteer lawyers, paralegals and law students generously donated their time to provide legal information and referrals to 175 homeless individuals.

Additionally, the highly successful **Homeless Court** was again offered to the Project Homeless Connect participants. Homeless individuals were represented by our legal volunteers and appeared before Denver County Court Judge James Breese. Judge Breese spent over 5 hours resolving the outstanding warrants that often prohibit the homeless from obtaining housing and employment.

Participants were very appreciative for the valuable legal information from the legal volunteers and thanks in part to Homeless Court, many were ready to take affirmative steps to end their homelessness. **Thank you to all our wonderful and dedicated volunteers for making Project Homeless Connect another success!**

If you're interested in volunteering for the next Project Homeless Connect, please contact Susan Cole at susan_cole@aporter.com.

Election Task Force. The Election Task Force monitors issues that may impact the election process in Colorado and continues to provide input to the Secretary of State and his staff. Recently, Secretary of State Bernie Buescher created a "Best Practices/Vision Committee," similar to the Election Reform Commission (which concluded their work and submitted their recommendations to the State). The Committee will examine national best practices in elections and will provide input and guidance on elections in Colorado. Key stakeholders, county clerks, and representatives of voting rights groups applied to be on the Committee. Additionally, the state is seeking a new Director of Elections. The Election Task Force has identified important issues to discuss with the Secretary of State and the incoming Director of Elections (such as compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Voting Rights Act). If you are interested in joining the Election Task Force, please contact Task Force Co-Chairs, Martha Tierney (Kelly Garnsey Hubbell + Lass LLC) or Richard Westfall (Hale Friesen, LLP).

WELCOME NEW LAW FIRM
We are pleased to welcome the law firm of **Jin, Schauer & Saad LLC** to the Colorado Lawyers Committee. Welcome!

The Colorado Lawyers Committee offers a number of volunteer opportunities ranging in topic, duration, and scope.
Please visit our website at www.coloradolawyerscommittee.org to learn how you can get involved in these exciting efforts.