

Colorado Lawyers Committee

Pro bono legal advocacy for children and the underserved

2020 Awards Luncheon



* Peter H. Schwartz

Mark your calendars for the 2020 Annual Awards Luncheon on **May 12, 2020** at the Hyatt Regency Denver Convention Center.

We are delighted this year to honor **Peter H. Schwartz**, a partner with Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP, with the **2020 Outstanding Sustained Contribution Award** for his longstanding support and extensive contributions to the work of the Lawyers Committee. Through his decades-long involvement with the Colorado Lawyers Committee, Peter has made a huge impact in the nonprofit and business community through his work on the Business

Advisory Committee, the Nonprofit Legal Audit Clinic, the Nonprofit Working Group and Project Homeless Connect. Peter also served as CLC Board Chair, Chair's Roundtable Co-Chair and on the CLC Executive Committee.

SIGN UP NOW
for the CLC Awards Lunch

May 12, 2020
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Hyatt Regency Denver Convention Center

Tickets and Sponsorships Available at
www.coloradolawyerscommittee.org



Lee Gelernt

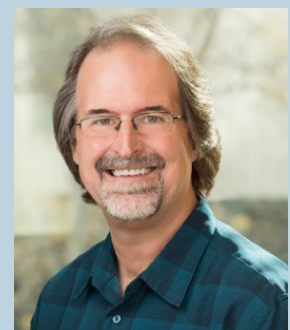
Another highlight of the Luncheon will be our **Keynote Speaker, Lee Gelernt**, Deputy Director of the ACLU's Immigrants' Rights Project and Director of the Access to the Courts Program. Over the past two years, Mr. Gelernt has argued several groundbreaking challenges to current administration policies, and successfully argued the first case challenging the President's travel ban on individuals from certain Muslim-majority nations.



Michelle Berge

The Lawyers Committee also announced two recipients of the **2020 Special Recognition Award: Michelle Berge**, General Counsel at Denver Public Schools, and **Paul Hartmann**, owner of Hartmannphoto, LLC. Michelle served as Chair of CLC's Greeley Legal Night Clinic for almost ten years. Paul has generously provided expert pro bono photographic service to the CLC since 2011. His beautiful photos are displayed in our Annual Report and on our website.

The awards will be presented at the CLC's Annual Luncheon on **May 12, 2020**, at the Hyatt Regency Denver Convention Center. Nominees for the CLC **Law Firm of the Year** and **Individual/Team of the Year** will be announced in March.



Paul Hartmann

YLD CLE Series

The Young Lawyers Division is offering a series of NITA-like trial skills CLE's. Session Three on Cross Examination will take place on **February 20, 2020** from 8am to 1pm at Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP. Thank you to Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP for hosting. The panelists are U.S. District Court Judge Christine Arguello, Assistant US Attorney Valeria Spencer, Kenzo Kawanabe (Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP), and Tim Macdonald (Arnold & Porter). Coaches will be Fred Baumann (Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP) and Suneeta Hazra (Arnold & Porter).

The CLE will begin with our distinguished panelists discussing best practices for cross examination. Participants will then receive their assignments and prepare for their small group presentations: each participant will have the opportunity to conduct a cross examination and be critiqued by our experienced attorneys. Breakfast and lunch are provided. Four CLE credits. Deadline to register on the CLC website is February 18, 2020.

YLD Grant Program

The CLC YLD Grant Program funds YLD members to assist in their efforts to further the CLC mission by making a difference for children and the underserved through education, advocacy, and systemic change. Members can apply for grants to help defray costs in pro bono representation, fund materials or space for clinics or other direct services, or provide scholarships for trainings that assist lawyers in providing pro bono services. Grants are awarded on a rolling basis, based on need and availability of funding. Grants are generally limited to \$1,000 per lawyer/project. Apply on our website.

YLD Hosts Fourth Annual Casino Night Fundraiser Sign Up Now

Our Fourth Annual YLD Casino Night will be on **February 28, 2020** at Rathod Mohamedbhai LLC. Thank you to Rathod Mohamedbhai LLC for hosting. Attendees will enjoy drinks, a Scotch Tasting sponsored by Break Thru Beverage, great food from Serendipity Catering, and friendly gambling managed by Casino Party USA. With the help of a Silent Auction filled with 30+ exciting items, the event is sure to be a successful fundraiser for the YLD Grant Program. Tickets are available for purchase on our website. Thank you to the YLD Fundraising & Events Co-Chairs **Alexis Hailpern** and **Alyssa Levy** and their amazing committee for planning another successful event!



Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities

Denver Legal Night

Centro San Juan Diego
Wednesday, February 19th
Wednesday, March 4th
Wednesday, March 18th
Wednesday, April 8th
5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

YLD Casino Night

Friday, February 28, 6-9 PM

YLD CLE on Cross Examination

Thursday, February 20, 8AM to 1PM

Task Force Updates

JAIL WAIT LITIGATION FEES PAY FOR HOUSING

As a result of the 2019 Jail Wait Litigation Consent Decree, \$3.5 million in fines paid by the Department of Human Services were donated directly to Colorado Coalition for the Homeless who used the funds to purchase a former Northeast Park Hill hotel property. Now called Fusion Studios, the property has been converted into 139 much-needed affordable studio apartments, targeted to house individuals transitioning out of homelessness. Twenty-Four studio apartments will be reserved for mental health clients from Colorado Mental Health Institute at Pueblo who need housing over the next five years. Clients will also be offered vouchers to use in other HUD housing, if necessary.



Iris Eytan (Jail Wait Litigation)

HOUSING TASK FORCE

The CLC is supporting two housing bills sponsored by the Colorado Center on Law and Policy (CCLP) in this year's Colorado Legislature: (1) A bill to prohibit housing discrimination based on source of income (we supported a similar bill in 2019); and, (2) HB 20-1009 (Fairness in Access to Eviction Court Records) which would suppress eviction filings while the eviction is in process; the filing would remain suppressed unless the court ordered the eviction.

IMMIGRATION TASK FORCE: ICE IN THE COURTHOUSE

The Immigration Task Force formed a subcommittee to address possible approaches to stopping ICE from making warrantless arrests at Colorado courthouses. When Senator Gonzales decided to sponsor a bill that would prohibit warrantless arrests at Colorado courthouses, the Subcommittee decided to support SB20-083. CLC is a major signer on the legal letter of support that was presented to the legislature. The Bill recently passed out of the Senate without a fiscal note.

IMMIGRATION TASK FORCE: PASS PROGRAM IS A SUCCESS

CLC collaborated with Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network (RMIAN) and the Immigrant Justice Campaign (IJC) to create a 6-month pilot program to train 20 lawyers (5 lawyers from 4 firms) to prepare detainees for Credible Fear Interviews at the Detention Center in Aurora. Four firms participated in the PASS (Preparing Asylum Seekers for Success) Pilot Program: Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP and Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP. The Pilot Program was a huge success. Due to recent changes in federal law, the need for Credible Fear Interview preparation has recently reduced dramatically. The group will meet soon to discuss other ways they can assist RMIAN while using the same model as the PASS Program.

MEDICAID PEDIATRIC HOME HEALTH CARE

The CLC was recently asked by CCLP to look at drastic cuts in desperately needed services for severely disabled children on Medicaid. Notices sent over the last six months to Medicaid recipients have been defective in several significant ways (in some instances they did not include information about the right to appeal) and many recipients have had their benefits slashed or eliminated without explanation (no change in law; no change in condition). Thank you to Polsinelli PC for taking the lead in challenging the state's treatment of these vulnerable children. The team met several times with representatives from the State: The State agreed to reinstate benefits until they could issue new notices to comply with statutes and due process for those whose benefits had been denied or reduced since June 1, 2019. The team is now working with the State to create new notices that meet due process and other requirements.



* Sharena Smith, Michelle Thom, Trey Douglass

NONPROFIT LEGAL AUDIT CLINIC FEBRUARY 19TH

The next Nonprofit Legal Audit Clinic will take place on February 19th at Holland & Hart LLP. Thank you to Holland & Hart LLP for hosting. There are 22 nonprofits and 46 volunteers signed up with 5 law students. Speakers for the CLE will be Margaret Funk-Ethics (CO Attorney Regulation), Mark Wiletsky-Employee Handbook & Policies (Holland & Hart LLP) and Joe Ramirez-Insurance (Holland & Hart LLP).

Welcome New Board Members



Adam Mueller
Haddon Morgan and Foreman P.C.



Tim Mohan
Foley & Lardner LLP

Welcome New CLC Law Firms



BERG HILL
GREENLEAF RUSCITTI, LLP

VOLUNTEER FOR A HATE CRIMES EDUCATION TASK FORCE PRESENTATION

With the end of the school year approaching, the CLC Hate Crimes Education Task Force is busy presenting a fictional trial on Colorado's Hate Crimes/Bias Statute at local middle and high schools. We are looking for more volunteers to help with these presentations. To learn more about how you can get involved, visit the CLC website.



John McHugh at Slavens Middle School



Welcome Anjie Zhi, MixDIP Intern

The Colorado Lawyers Committee welcomes Anjie Zhi, extern through the Spring 2020 Judge Mix Public Interest Diversity Internship/Externship Program (MixDIP). Anjie is currently a 2L at the University of Colorado Law School where she is involved in the Colorado Natural Resources, Energy & Environmental Law Review. She is also the Events Chair of the Environmental Law Society and a mentor for the Women's Law Caucus. She received her B.S. in Petroleum Engineering from Texas A&M University. During her semester with CLC, Anjie will be working closely with our Hate Crimes Education Task Force to identify more schools across the state where we can take our program.

COLORADO LAWYERS COMMITTEE

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