

# **Up to Your Ears in Alligators? Creative Delegation Outside Your Shop**

By:

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Presented at:  
ACLEA 47<sup>th</sup> Mid-Year Meeting  
January 22 - 25, 2011  
San Francisco, California

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Susan Gobbs is the Executive Director of People's Law Center, a statewide non profit legal organization. She practices exclusively in the area of Social Security Disability and supervises 4 offices across Montana. Before joining PLC in 2002 as a staff attorney, she was employed by Montana Legal Services Association in both their Havre and Helena offices for a total of 14 years. While with MLSA she worked in a myriad of areas in both the legal arena and the administrative area.

She is the Chair of the Continuing Legal Education Institute for the State Bar of Montana where she coordinates and plans various types of training for members. She is a volunteer, as are all the members of her committee. They are assisted by one part time staff member, Gino Dunfee. Susan is active in local and state bar activities, she has served as an officer in both local bar associations, and state sections and committees. She is the co-chair of the Public Interest Committee of ACLEA and works at the state and local level to encourage pro bono activity by the legal community.

Susan has spoken for ACLEA previously as well as for the National Organization of Social Security Claimants Representatives (NOSSCR) of which she is a sustaining member.

Susan grew up in Southwestern Montana. She graduated from Montana State University in 1982, did graduate work at MSU from 1982-1984, graduated from University of Montana Law School in 1987 and did graduate work in Public Administration at UM from 1999-2002.

Susan and her husband, Richard have been married for 26 years and are currently in a commuter marriage with residences in the Gallatin Canyon and Helena. She is the mother of two daughter, one who is an environmental educator working for the Reno Children's Museum and the other who is a health and fitness educator in Hohenfels, Germany where her husband is stationed with the U.S. Army. She is looking forward to the birth of her first grandchild this spring.

Susan wishes to acknowledge the support she has received from the board of People's Law Center and the rest of the staff. They have allowed her to be able to devote a substantial amount of time and energy to the State Bar of Montana and to ACLEA.

