The Least Re-Tweeted Selfie in History
#whosdriving

Belushi Performance Hall, MAC Theater, March 7, 2014
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* You know the drill. If there’s an asterisk, it means that the person we say wrote it didn’t really write it but we’re saying they did ’cause hopefully it’s funnier that way.
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FROM THE EDITOR

Despite the Depiction of Brutal Attacks on the DuPage Legal Community, No One Was Actually Harmed in the Making of This Magazine.

BY MELISSA M. PIWOWAR

The Publication Board editorial guidelines provide that each and every Editor must start his or her piece with a snappy quote that sums up the entire magazine in one sentence. Some guy once said “Parody is making a new wine that tastes like the old but has a slightly lethal effect.” We may not be making fine wine, but after eight years we’re still here, so we have that going for us.

Eight being the round-est of round numbers, it seems appropriate to round up this column of this eighth year by thanking those participating in the antics contained herein. Through the years, many people have been thanked for their contributions to this magazine and some of these people were actual contributors. Sometimes we just lied. However, despite all appearances to the contrary, this magazine does not write itself. It takes a village, idiots or no, to put this rag together every year and the DCBA Grief would like to thank the biggest unofficial Grief committee, or posse, that ever existed.

The entire DCBA Editorial Board contributes to what could best be described as monthly communal psycho-therapy meetings. Don’t judge, we put together ten issues of a law journal every year in what amounts to a massive pile of un-billable, not-so-free time while managing author egos, local politics and more than a few requests and articles from crazy people. However, a very special shout out to the unofficial Grief committee, or posse, if you will, that gives us more of their life to putting together this issue.

I would like to first and foremost thank Ted Donner, my partner in crime and PhotoShop guru who may or may not have run for DCBA Third Vice President just so he could get a 3D cover past the budget committee. Jacki Hamler and Leslie Monahan, deserve our apologies for everything we put in this magazine after they approved it. Aaron Reinke, Arthur Rumminger, Ami Nizamuddin, Andrea Studzinski, Brent Christensen, Christopher J. Maurer, David Schaffer, Eric Waltmire, Frank Wesolowski, James F. McCluskey, Joseph Emmerth, John Pcolinski, Jr, Michael R. Sitrick, Raleigh Kalbfleisch, Sean McCumber, Steve Armamentos, and Terrence Benshoof all contributed in some form or another. We even sucked a few unsuspecting non-members into our cause. Chris Tews at Kelmscott Communications prints this magazine every month and generally encourages the DCBA Grief’s wouldn’t-it-be-cool-if attitude (and thinks 3D would be really cool). Robert Irving Potter (REP3.com), a long time friend of the DCBA Grief and the Editorial Board can always be suckered into providing some photography help. Thanks to Mike Sitrick’s friend who helped with that one thing and Laura Shields, our desktop publisher who reluctantly participated in the craziness. And of course we would be nowhere without Google, Istock photo and Spellcheck (even though it doesn’t think “Wellness,” “DuPage” or “Spellcheck” are real words). Though perhaps no one has contributed more editing to this magazine than Wikipedia. When you need to know the appropriate spelling for “Snidley,” there really is no other source to trust. In keeping with the status you would expect from this magazine, each piece was meticulously researched, fact checked and cited thoroughly for accuracy and continuity, mostly. If you’d like to contribute to this magazine, just like the rest of the year, we do take submissions. Send your stories to grief @dcba.org for consideration and if we’re still around next year we might just publish it.


Melissa M. Piwowar is a Paralegal with Donner & Company Law Offices LLC. She’s served in varying roles with Committee formerly known as the Publication Board since 2007. She often can be heard referring to her time served on the Board as herding cats with neither carrot nor stick. She gripes about authors missing deadlines as often as she misses them herself. While attending meetings, if she is not making snarky comments, she is always thinking them. Melissa currently holds the Editorial Board record for eye rolling and long distance pen throwing and is currently leading the charge to deny accreditation for any law school found guilty of awarding a diploma to a law student who does not know how to footnote or appropriately Blue Book cite authority.
A JOHN PCOLINSKI ORIGINAL PRODUCTION • WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY JOHN PCOLINSKI • BASED ON THE DEEPEST NIGHTMARES EXPERIENCED BY JOHN PCOLINSKI SINCE SIGNING UP FOR HIS THIRD STINT AS EDITOR AND AS DIRECTOR • THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF MANY TRILOGIES FROM JOHN PCOLINSKI WITH APPEARANCES BY RICHARD FELICE, UMBERTO DAVI AND VINCENT CORNELIUS • COMING SOON: THREE MEN AND A BABY • THE THREE MUSKETEERS • THE THREE STOOGES • THREE STRIKES AND YOU'RE OUT • THE THREE TENORS • THREE BLIND MICE • THREE KINGS • THREE'S THE CHARM • THREE'S COMPANY TOO • THREE TIMES A LADY • KNOCK THREE TIMES

RATED G

OPENING SOON AT A BAR ASSOCIATION NEAR YOU AND SCHEDULED FOR AN OPEN RUN THROUGH THE SUMMER OF 2017
What? Over? Did you say “over?” Nothing is over until we decide it is. Was it over when the Germans bombed Pearl Harbor? Hell no! And, it ain’t over now. ‘Cause when the going gets tough . . . the tough get going. Who’s with me? 
Senator John “Bluto” Blutarsky

When I started this wellness kick at the beginning of my term as President of the DCBA, no way did I think you all would take me seriously. Hey, I want to see my toes as much as the next guy in the Attorney Resource Center, but I might have created a bit of a monster with this wellness committee. People have been calling me left and right about Donut Day. Let me make one thing perfectly clear – if you like your donut, you can keep your donut. If you like your cream cheese spread, you can keep your cream cheese spread. My view on wellness and attorney health is based on a simple principle: Fix what’s broken and build on what works. Donuts work and that is what we intend to do.

Yes, President Barack Obama is not the only one who has true authority handed down from the founding fathers to make one branch of government superior to the other two. President Hurley has that power too, as I have my top legal minds (like Chuck Jacques and Michelle Moore) research the DCBA Constitution thingy that is in the back of the DCBA driver safety classroom. I found out from them that lil ol’ constitution gives some very broad powers to moi, as long as I talk about it at some Executive Committee, which is full of my friends anyways. So, I am issuing some DCBA ExecuOrders. First, any one who calls me Skippy will be bludgeoned like a harp seal. No questions, no apologies, no reprieve. If I hear the name Skippy and you are not talking about peanut butter, be prepared to lose some teeth. Also, all past presidents, beginning in 2014, will be given a stipend from the DCBA for their years of service. This stipend will be paid from our lifetime contract.
with the judiciary to provide drivers safety programs for traffic offenders. I am sure I will think of more ways to improve life for the members of the DCBA, but hey, I still have a few more months left in my term so there really is no rush.

For those of you who really missed the first nine months of my term, it was tremendous, and many will tell you that I tend to be pretty critical about such things, sometimes obnoxiously so. But in all seriousness, my year has been tremendous. We went to Charleston, South Carolina for the President’s Trip. Being a Bostonian by college education, it was a chance to really revel in the fact that we whooped their butts in the Civil War while still remarking how wonderful their Southern charm really is. Then, we had the Mega Meeting, which by all accounts was – wait for it – EPIC! We had wellness stuff again. Seriously, I committed to this theme and I meant it. I got you all at least three hours of professional MCLE credit, and unlike my predecessor, spared you any references to the Green Bay Packers and whatever else Sharon Mulyk was raving about last year. Most importantly, I single-handedly, without any help from any living person, returned Judges’ Nite to its fourth or fifth original home – the McAnnich Arts Center at College of DuPage. This show is so fantastic that it deserves the best community college theater stage that your money could buy at a severely discounted rate.

I think I have really shown what a great choice you made when you elected me four years ago. Just the other day, I was showing my kids the free DCBA pedometers I brought home. Through their respective tears of joy, I could see they had realized just how awesome it is to be the child of a Patrick J. Hurley. With that, I leave you with this parting thought from Brother Bluto - “Food Fight!”

The DCBA Grief is published by the DuPage County Bar Association which claims any copyrights in this thing that Melissa Piwowar hasn’t already called dibbs on herself. That includes the selfie from Judges’ Nite, Eric (“Mr. Intellectual Property”) Waltmire, so don’t start getting any bright ideas. You want to try arguing a case for Bradley Cooper, you go right ahead and argue a case for Bradley Cooper. Nobody expects a bunch of Hollywood actors, writers and directors to know the first thing about contracts or copyrights anyway. But here in DuPage County, well that’s something different altogether, now isn’t it? We’ve got an Association here that’s made up of over 2500 studied, experienced and downright brilliant legal scholars, plus we have Gerry Cassioppi. It may be true that not all of these legal eagles agree that our Ms. Piwowar holds the copyright to this image. But don’t be thinking, even for a minute, that she didn’t also cover the bases on that one. Jeffrey Ross, who took the photograph in question, signed a napkin earlier in the evening that Ted Donner has now done miracles to with Photoshop, and Leslie Monahan was far too busy looking for her shoes to be paying any attention during intermission. We were there to witness some very important people in the industry taking selfies and congratulating each other on a job well done. We didn’t need all those musical comedy bits filling so much time in the middle.
This Year’s Mega Meeting Was a Whole Lot of Fun and Everybody Had a Great Time And All That. We Got Some Pictures From Early in the Day When Everyone Was Still Kind of Awake.
These days, we are all being asked to do more with less. Even with a large pool of eager new attorneys available, firms are struggling to find competent young associates with strong research skills and the ability to reason well and write persuasively. That's why we made the switch to EastlawText™. I call EastlawText™ a 'game changer' because it helps our firm understand what the kids are saying and deliver what our clients need: Low cost work product that doesn't suck.

With EastlawText™ my associates don’t even have to be able to formulate fully-intelligible sentences. They need only provide a few abstract thoughts, in their own language, relating to the legal issue at hand. EastlawText™ takes it from there, using its intuitive processes to deliver exactly what we need to attain the results our clients are paying for!

-Dirk Algonquin, Managing Senior Partner & Head Honcho In Charge of Lots of Important Stuff, Millon, Mullen & Mallen LLC

Say your associate needs to research what needs to be included in a complaint. The Associate types in: “Laydees head shaved @sum mean dentist dude. Shes like ‘OMG, now I cant werk cuz soooooo embarisssd n dipressed!’ Needz tu mayk her #winthecase!!” EastlawText™ finds: “Elements of Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress. In Illinois, a plaintiff may recover damages for intentional infliction of emotional distress if he or she can prove that: (1) extreme and outrageous conduct; (2) intentionally or recklessly caused; (3) resulting in severe or extreme emotional distress.”

EastlawText™ will even help your associates make cogent arguments for pleadings and briefs. All that is needed is for them to type in their best effort at a coherent thought and Eastlaw’s intuitive program will do the rest. Your Associate types in: “MzDixon suff rly bad stress cuz o Doc Daniels shave hr head when she wuz nocked owt in his dentist chayr an her bawldness mayd her feel :( and NOBODEE shud hafta feel dat :( SOOOOO rood.” EastlawText™ reads: “Ms. Dixon suffered severe emotional distress due to Dr. Daniels shaving her head while she was sedated in his dentist chair. Her resulting baldness caused her to experience shame and humiliation that no reasonable person should be expected to endure.”
Judge's Nite Director Announces Retirement

BY FRANK WESOLOWSKI

Director for life, Kevin Millon, announced he will retire at the end of Judge's Nite's 2014 season following the breakdown of negotiations for a 20 year extension of his contract last month. Millon, who has been the DCBA's only theater director this century, surprised observers with his announcement. Those close to the negotiations cite differences over artistic control and Millon's demand for use of a private jet as the deal breakers.

Millon's artistic differences with DCBA leadership surfaced last year when then president, Sharon Mulyk, issued an executive order that the 2014 production center on a natural disaster. “Who doesn’t like a good flood, fire or famine?” asked Mulyk. In his much publicized response, Millon stated, “Natural disaster shows are overdone and predictable. As long as my name is associated with the Judges’ Nite Show, it will present new and exciting storylines that avoid the formulistic crap that kills so many shows. Natural disasters are out ... people don’t like them anymore ... there is no way I would write a script that threatens the courthouse with a tornado ... that would just be stupid.”

Millon took the reigns as the shows writer, creative consultant, and director in 1989 with the unforgettable Courtspocalypse, which was marketed as “The Last Courthouse Disaster Show You Will Ever See.” Known for his mastery of the courthouse disaster genre, Millon's shows have audiences on the edge of their seats as the perils that tear apart the fabric of the courthouse unfold. His ability to continually snatch victory from the jaws of defeat has amazed theater goers for years. “I don’t know how he does it” says Hon. Bonnie Wheaton, a long-time fan, “I thought there were only so many ways to save the courthouse, but Kevin keeps proving me wrong.” Millon's perennial music Director, Steve Armamentos, also provided a testimonial to Millon's artistic instincts, “Kevin, was never blessed with a talented cast, but he had a knack for taking people who had no business being on stage and giving them an opportunity to prove it.”

In a recent TMZ interview, Millon related that his interest in thrillers started as a small child when he first watched Snidley Whiplash tie Nell Fenwick to the train tracks. Through his high school days his interest turned to such hits as “Towering Inferno,” “The Poseidon Adventure” and Millon's favorite, the calamity filled “Revenge of the Nerds.”

Following retirement, Millon is expected to embark on his one man karaoke show. “I’ve been working on this concept for the last decade. I think the time is right. Carnegie Hall is my next stop,” said the ever trend setting Millon.

With Millon's departure, applications for the next theater director should be sent to the DCBA Office.
PARTNER HIGHLIGHT: Chaz Broseph Busch

Chaz Busch is an associate in our business development section concentrating his practice in the gaming and entertainment industries with high net worth clientele and closely held family businesses.

The Attorneys of the DuPage County Office of FrozinBiehr LLP

Cristal Grey
Jack Henessy
Jim Belvedere
Alexander Brandy
Skyy Daniels

Dom Molson
Vin Bailey
Sherry Jameson
Brandy Gibson
Morgan David

Founded in 1992, FrozinBiehr LLP is a full service law firm offering top shelf legal representation. Each new matter is assigned a pack of 6 attorneys to ensure every client has the best shot at a successful outcome.
This week the DuPage County Sheriff’s Office submitted applications to the Illinois Department of Agriculture and the DuPage County Board to be the only Registered Cultivation Center of cannabis in northern Illinois. The recent enactment of the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program allows a “qualified” patient to legally possess an “adequate supply” of cannabis.

Sheriff John Zaruba announced the decision to have the DuPage County Sheriff’s Office seek permits to operate the Prescription Originated Treatment (“P.O.T.”) Cultivation Center stating, “We have the right personnel with all the required training to jump in right now and begin a successful medical marijuana farm. I’m looking forward to compassionately providing cannabis for those in need. It will be a nice change.” The Sheriff noted that the Act requires the cultivation center be an “enclosed, locked facility.” “That’s what we do,” said Zaruba, referencing the Sheriff’s long history with “enclosed facilities.” “It just seems a natural fit when you really take a close look at it” citing the Department’s record in enforcing Illinois’ extensive Controlled Substances Act which has resulted in over 1000 arrests each year for the last decade. “Something’s bound to rub off,” said Zaruba when asked about the qualifications of his deputies to operate the Cultivation Center.

The Sheriff’s plans include a potential eight acre facility located on the north end of the County Fairgrounds. The outdoor growing field will be surrounded by a 24 foot high wall featuring seven towers with undisclosed defensive weaponry. Adjacent to the outdoor plot will be a 10,000 square foot hydroponic growing chamber with the best available lighting and humidity control. The Sheriff’s plan also calls for a 50 vehicle fleet of armored delivery vehicles and the Direct Evaluation And Learning Education Resource (“D.E.A.L.E.R.”) annex which would be a multi-purpose distribution and learning center for all DuPage residents constructed at 420 County Farm Road. Extolling the impact the facility will have on his ever diminishing budget, Zaruba stated “[w]e really wanted one big hit.”

The Department estimates that sales will easily recoup the facilities’ $500,000,000.00 construction cost by April 20, 2014. Zaruba expects moderately high demand from “qualified” patients because “I’ve seen a lot of sick people out there… if you know what I mean.” Zaruba explained that significant cost savings were built into his plan by using individuals presently in the Sheriff’s Work Alternative Program (S.W.A.P.) who will be reassigned to the new Wrongdoers Exhibiting Exemplary Demeanor (“W.E.E.D.”) initiative to man the farm. “After all, they have much more experience in this field than painting curbs.”

A major obstacle to the plan comes from the highest county official, County Board Chairman Dan Cronin, whose 2014 budget included anticipated tax revenues from the sales. High ranking officials in the Sheriff’s Department have confirmed that the Sheriff has offered to allow the County to administer the companion Meals for Under Nourished Citizens Having Interesting Episodic Side-effects (“M.U.N.C.H.I.E.S.”) program to replace the tax revenues that went up in proverbial smoke. Referencing the legislature’s clear intent in creating the uniform Jail Only Instigates Negative Treatment (“J.O.I.N.T.”) Act, the Sheriff stated, “The recorded medicinal use of cannabis goes back 5000 years. It’s about time the Illinois legislature got around to dealing with this issue and providing help to those truly in need.”

In a related story, Zaruba also announced his office is also making plans to be ready when the State legislature tackles another 5000 year old problem - prostitution. “We are already working on this and when the time comes, we will be prepared,” said Zaruba.
Sheriff John Zaruba continues to deny any knowledge or premeditation in the recent closure of security lines at the Judicial Office Facility Complex, resulting in massive back-ups for those attempting to enter through security. Zaruba has recently been under more intense scrutiny after delays affected non-pass holding attorneys, litigants and jurors. It has been widely reported that these delays affected the smooth flow of all the very important emergency hearings in the Family Division. In what can only be described as an effort to curb the negative reports, Zaruba fired an unnamed Deputy following reports of a cryptic text message sent to courthouse security personnel: “Time for some traffic problems in the lobby.”

“I simply didn’t know anything about it,” contended the Sheriff in a press conference lasting more than three seconds – the longest in his career. “The notion that I would approve slowing down the security lines as some sort of retribution for Chairman [Dan] Cronin’s failure to endorse my proposed Sheriff’s budget and requests for full-body scanners is ludicrous. This Cronin guy wasn’t even on my radar - I doubt I could even pick him out of a line-up. As a practice, I avoid speaking directly to any County Board member. That’s what press releases are for.”

In a closed door hearing before the County Board, multiple witnesses claim the unnamed Deputy asserted his Fifth Amendment privilege, refusing to answer any questions about the burgeoning scandal. After requesting full immunity from political retribution, the deputy reportedly mumbled that the whole matter should be “nipped in the bud.” When asked to comment on the hearing Zaruba said that he had only recently learned about the problem and how long the lines that were involved had been. “Let me tell you I was blind sided with subpoenas yesterday morning,” he said. “I’m afraid we just don’t have the funds in our current budget to address all of them, but I’ve included a specific line item for them in 2015. I’m sure the County board will take these funds it into careful consideration.” □
The DuPage County Board has approved an agreement between the DuPage and Kane County government facilities to cut costs by moving the entire DuPage government infrastructure to Kane County. “We must build new partnerships with our neighbors that will enable us to end duplicate services and make local government operate more efficiently.”

Under the proposed four-year contract, Kane County will house all of the DuPage governmental services, according to a press release from the DuPage County Board. Chairman Dan Cronin estimates the program could save DuPage taxpayers millions. “With virtually identical departments already existing in Kane county, and the success of the juvenile detention center move, it seemed like the logical next step. Even the Bankruptcy Court has caught on. I expect a lot of folks will be wanting to follow in my footsteps.”

When asked to comment about a carve out of the DuPage County Election Commission, Cronin explained “there is nothing more important to ensuring the voices of the people of DuPage county are heard - and the Election Commission is vital to keeping DuPage just as it is.”

Cronin says the cost to house the many DuPage agencies, in government owned and maintained facilities is no longer the most economical choice. “Moving these agencies to Kane frees up valuable real estate that can be rented to private companies, bringing additional revenue to the county. This partnership is a good example of how collaboration can work effectively on behalf of DuPage taxpayers.”

The DuPage board voted 11-7 in favor of the new “DuKane Partnership” program after a handful of board members and residents spoke against it. Included in the opposition, an un-named attorney and DuPage resident who complained at the last public hearing that the agreement would require additional travel time which would not necessarily be recoverable as “reasonable collection costs” and would be essentially an unfunded blow to DuPage County collection attorneys. Further endangering the DuPage attorney’s way of life, “it could even encourage the use of members of the Kane County Bar.”

Cronin said at the Nov. 8 meeting that he was “impressed with himself” and believes the “right thing” for DuPage county is to “reduce costs - at all costs”. He said he believes this new partnership achieves what DuPage voters demand, “more good press for the most conservative county in an otherwise democratically controlled state. We need to show these state politicians how it’s done.”

One Board member commented “the Kane County government has a great reputation. I’m sure they will handle our county matters just the way we like them. I think we made a hard decision about how we spend taxpayers’ dollars … it’s not always the easiest thing to do but that’s just the kind of big picture thinking you can expect from DuPage’s elected officials. It leaves us to focus on the big ideas and less on the minutia of day to day governing and administration.”

In a written statement Cronin announced to the Board that all county government building space had been leased in anticipation of resolutions passing in both counties. “We’re the only commercial real estate landlord with a 100% occupancy in this County. Now if that isn’t efficient governing, I don’t know what is.” Kane County is scheduled to discuss the partnership and pass a resolution at their next meeting. Additionally, sources say the county is reportedly in negotiations with the U-Store-it facility in DeKalb to accommodate what few documents it retains on paper under another program dubbed the DePage Partnership.

The contract still needs to be approved by Kane County and it is estimated the transition would take place in late 2014, according to the DePage/DuKane Press release.
**State of the Courthouse Exclusive**

Chief Judge **Jack Elsner** provides the DCBA Grief an exclusive interview and announces the DCBA Grief will be the only “magazine” to be granted access to the 2014 State of the Courthouse case filing statistics. Chief Elsner says the reputation of the DCBA Grief is “second to none in DuPage County” and he “couldn’t imagine granting such exclusive access to any other award winning DuPage legal publication.” Chief Elsner delivered his annual State of the Courthouse address at the annual Mega Meeting. The ever witty Elsner brought the house down with a round of “Polar Vortex” jokes leaving the audience near tears.

Turning to the more serious nature of the event, Elsner declared 2014 the “year of technology”. “That’s what most lawyers want - for all of us in this courthouse to focus on advancing the practice of law into the 20th Century,” he said. Elsner offered what he called “concrete, practical proposals” for the growth and enhanced opportunity for the use of technology in DuPage. While some of his ideas may require action by the Circuit Judges, he has vowed to accomplish parts of his technology plan without them if necessary.

“Some require Circuit Judge action, and I’m eager to work with them,” he said. “But DuPage County does not stand still - and neither will I. So wherever and whenever I can take steps, without amending the rules, to expand the opportunity for more technology- that’s what I’m going to do.”

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**McTigue Named Official A.H.O.**

**BY JOHN PCOLINSKI, JR.**

Effective July 1, 2013, **John P. McTigue** was officially named a DuPage County Administrative Hearing Officer. McTigue presides over child support and parentage matters reporting ultimately to Associate Judge **Thomas Dudgeon**. “There was a lot of interest expressed in the A.H.O. position, including the DCBA Grief’s very own **Sean McCumber**.

“There were numerous suggestions of people who would be perfect A.H.O.’s but ultimately I decided John was the only logical choice as he is real A.H.O. material” said Chief Judge **Jack Elsner**. When was asked about his appointment, McTigue quipped, “the process was harrowing but everybody seem to be happy in the end. I will say that I am a much happier A.H.O. than my predecessor, **Tony Mannina**. I hope for a long run at this position.” McTigue can frequently be found Magistrating, twice daily, often in the Grand Jury Room. It’s really invigorating. It can be exhausting, but I feel like I’m 17 again.”
If there is one thing that drives us all bat crazy around the Editorial Board, it’s the lengths to which the ED (Executive Director) and the EC (Executive Committee) will go to make sure that every event that the current DCBA President has planned gets plenty of attention in the news section of this magazine. We have the announcement of “When the Big Event Will be Happening” story followed by the “Oh Isn’t This Interesting What’s Going to Happen at The Big Event” story followed by “Where to be this Month: The Big Event” story followed by our personal favorite, the “Look What You Missed Because You Didn’t Go to the Big Event” story. That’s the one with all the pictures.

It gets old. Let’s face it. Particularly for those of serving 20 years to life on the Editorial Board, there are only so many ways we can think of to describe the same old DCBA coat drive or Judges’ Nite (with care to spell THAT one correctly), or Mega Meeting. So this time, what say we just not, okay?

They want us to run pictures. Jeff gets paid a lot to take all these pictures. Sometimes it seems like all that matters is these pictures. It’s hard not to wonder if it’s more important to these people that we run these pictures than pretty much anything else that might be even remotely interesting. So here they are. More pictures from an event you didn’t attend. And before you ask, no. We have no idea who any of these people are. If you recognize someone, good for you. If you see a big picture of yourself, well good for you too. Just don’t think it means anything. Jeff took a lot of photographs, these were the only ones that weren’t of Rick Felice and Jim McClucksey standing together smiling for the camera or of Steve Armamentos making faces or something. This is what we got, so this is what we’re printing. □
Finishing Touches. The new seating areas in the Courthouse have been nearly completed. Fresh paint and re-touched seating will be a boon to those last-minute client preps. Third-floor dart boards are near completion as well. Due to programming delays with the manufacturer, the new waiting area ATM’s are not yet ready. When asked to comment, a representative from Diebold declined but said, off the record, that working through all the Executive Committee requests and change orders was slowing down the smooth rollout. He promised the DuPage County legal community would be thrilled with the results and able to have clients transfer funds into trust accounts smoothly and efficiently by the end of 2014.

Clarification to Concealed Carry IDs. The Sheriff’s Office has clarified the confusion over policy regarding Attorney IDs and requirements and penalties for concealed carry permit holders failing to disclose. If a concealed weapon is found on the person of an attorney without the proper color-coded ID, the card will be confiscated, and no new card issued. The Sheriff’s Office further clarified that persons openly carrying any variety of weapons, including knives, swords, anti-tank guns, or eggs, will be remanded to the basement after the weapons are confiscated.

DCBA Presidency. As the DCBA presidency of Patrick Hurley draws to a close, the membership looks forward to the return of Donut Thursday to the ARC. While many members have expressed their gratitude for the replacement of the unhealthy “breakfast pastries” with tofu and sprouts snacks, decaffeinated coffee and carrot juice, they did seem to find concern over the mandatory Physical Training drills. Members may also be relieved the continuous streaming of the Boston Red Sox, Boston Bruins, and New England Patriots highlight real on the ARC flat screens will cease upon the swearing in of President-Elect Lynn Cavallo. Cavallo is rumored to be considering a reel of her own “best of courthouse” arguments to familiarize those spending most of their time on the third floor with her face. Cavallo currently has no plans regarding the ARC refreshment menu, though several members have suggested she consider installation of a wine bar, in addition to restoring the full donut privileges.

Rule 138 Update. Supreme Court Justice Robert “Bobby Can You Hear Us” Thomas has announced that the Supreme Court has postponed implementation of Rule 138 again; this time indefinitely. Justice Thomas remarked “We really need to kick Rule 138 down the road, from what I understand, all the personal data we’re trying to protect seems to be already available to the government and private entities.”

Our DCBA People. InGrief continues to scoop the media outlets for those news items about our membership.

DCBA member Brent Christensen has announced a new law firm marketing concept. He expects “Ad-Toos” will be a boon to his client base, especially during the summer. Short term ads can be purchased, and all DCBA members receive a discount!

Back to School. The Second District Appellate Court announces that all sitting justice will be attending a Summer Snappy Seminar. The seminar might be the result of recent rumblings amongst the Eighteenth Circuit Judges regarding the “quotability factor” of Second District opinions. It seems that Judges and Attorneys alike have been favoring the citation of First District decisions. One might argue the plethora of Rule 23 Orders coming out of the local Appellate Court might be responsible for the trend. One unnamed Circuit was overheard saying “No one expects a Bauer, Posner or Easterbrook, but why can’t we have ‘put up or shut up’ standards?”


President-Elect Lynn Cavallo (we think)
Some Rules Are Just Asking to Be Broken

BY JOHN PCOLINSKI, JR., ARTICLES EDITOR*

As both of my long-time readers know, before Neal Cerne parted the heavens and invented the Attorney Resource Center (the “ARC”), attorneys were forced to wander the halls and streets of DuPage County in search of free coffee and camaraderie. McDonalds never quite provided the privacy necessary for the truly thoughtful connections involved in attorney communications. I’d go for the coffee and the company but always thought the atmosphere a little stifling to the spirit of good communication. There is nothing like cradling your third cup of java and telling your cohorts an old story or two. Like this one time, one of DuPage’s true good ole boys, S***head, that’s what we call him, told me about his first trial. I have no f***ing memory of what it was, but I’m sure as h*** it was funny. I can’t remember why we call him S***head either, but I’m really f***ing sure he deserves it.

Then there is F***face, now he can get the crowd roaring. Isn’t much of a coffee drinker, seems to prefer orange juice, you can’t get that sh** in the ARC, so he has to go all the f***in way down to the cafeteria for his fix. It’s not all old timers, as you might think, the newbie lawyers swagger in on occasion drinking their diet sodas. This is the ARC, we don’t have no f***in straws. Best way for them to learn the ways of this County is to sit quietly at the end of the table and watch how it’s done. Story telling is a bad*** skill to have as a lawyer and if you’re gonna be successful in DuPage, you have to learn how to get and keep people’s attention.

Now, you know and I know that I’m supposed to use this space to introduce the scholarly articles we’ve compiled for this issue rather than talk about stuff that amuses me. Well it’s a good f***in thing these articles amuse the s**t out of me. If they didn’t, I wouldn’t bother talking about them at all because I’m the F***in Editor of Editors. Why the F*** I’m writing in this section of the magazine F***in escapes me, but I’m too busy to learn how all this magazine sh** works. What I do know is this magazine is a b**** to put together and I’ve got more interesting things to do than worry about the technical stuff. So we’re gonna talk about rules and don’t even get me started on these authors, they were decent enough to write about issues that have my panties in a bunch so this month they are the best F***in lawyers around as far as I’m concerned. The guys in the ARC always saying “give it a rest” Pcolinski, “this sh** doesn’t bother us.” Well, guess what? I don’t give a F***, I’m the F***in Editor of Editors. □

John Pcolinski, Jr., is a partner in a Wheaton Law firm. Licensed in Arizona, in anticipation of his a cushy County retirement package, his practice, for now, concentrates in all phases of the cases he handles. Pcolinski is possibly the longest sitting member of the DCBA Board of Directors in recent memory who hasn’t run for President. He’s fond of large bodies of water and free coffee. A DuPage judicial hopeful, he can often be found holding court in front of a table of middle aged attorneys in the ARC waiting for someone to tap him in to the judicial ring. Pcolinski is currently serving his third sentence as Editor of Editors for the DCBA Grief and hopes to one day write something printable in this issue of the magazine.

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New Rule 219(c)(viii) Suggests Methods to Encourage Adherance to New Locally Unenforceable Suggestions

BY SOMEBODY WHO SHOULD SEND US THEIR PICTURE AND BIO NEXT TIME

In the wake of the controversial VC&M v. Andrews decision, the Illinois Supreme Court Standing Rules Committee has amended the Illinois Rule of Civil Procedure which grants authority to the local courts to create and enforce local rules within each Circuit. The majority decision which served as the impetus of the amended rules reasoned “It’s not that we don’t trust the local courts or anything, it’s just that sometimes we disagree with them. What we’ve done is basically create a back door through which the Illinois Supreme Court, and to some extent the Appellate Courts, if they ever have the nerve to publish something NOT under Rule 23, will be able to publish decisions without being restricted by someone else’s rules.” The court went on to explain that it’s ruling was not without precedent, “[t]here is a large body of case law which holds the rules are a restriction on the parties and not on the court.” “Allowing another court to dictate rules the Illinois Supreme Court must even use as a guidelines offends justice and is contrary to the status of this court.”

Justice Robert “Bobby” Thomas, a DuPage favorite, disagreed with the majority. In a blistering dissent, he encouraged his colleagues to see reason and recall their own time in the Circuit Courts as local lawyers and judges. “What good would it be to devote your practice in one local county, spend years active in the legal community, fund-

1 (Non-Supreme Court people)

2 “Rules are rules, unless we don’t like them under a particular set of circumstances” Anderson v Gibson, See also Creswell v Fawell, both 2nd Circuit, Google it, its all online now.

3 And perhaps the Illinois Constitution. See also “It’s just plain wrong, we won elections too.” Anonymous Justice overheard standing in line to the open bar.

4 This footnote is about the Standing Rules Committee or whatever they’re called. It appears here because footnotes in the first paragraph are against the Publication Board rules -mostly because they do that weird large type for the first few lines. At any rate you should know the name of the committee and method in which the Illinois Supreme Court Rules get changed is beyond the scope of this article.

5 Also beyond the scope of this article is the propriety and circumstances under which the word “circuit” get capitalized.

6 Or Judge William “Sage of DuPage” Bauer, however, as a Federal judge he has no jurisdiction over this particular pissing match.

7 “To the extent the rules allow the trial judge the ability to make up their own rules as they go along.” Id.
titled “Circuit Court Local Unenforceable Suggestions” and thereafter amended to provide “[a] majority of the most important (Circuit) judges in each Circuit may adopt suggestions governing civil and criminal cases which are consistent with their level of annoyance with attorneys appearing before them. The suggestions may be ignored, so far as practicable, in deference to judicial preferences and snark level, as appropriate from time to time. All suggestions of the circuit court shall be filed with the Administrative Director 10 days prior to adoption for review and approval by the Supreme Court.”

Following these amendments, the annual Eighteenth Judicial Circuit Court Judicial Conference on Local Court Suggestions convened and proposed several amendments for approval with the Illinois Supreme Court. Among those proposed include revisions to Domestic Relations Rule 15.27 “Matters filed in the domestic relations division shall be exempt from the Code of Civil Procedure.” Also proposed, an amendment to Rule 1.35: “Definition of ‘shall’: Wherever the word ‘shall’ appears in statutes or the Code of Civil Procedure, it shall be ignored. Any attorney suggesting that the word ‘shall’ imposes an affirmative duty to act on the judiciary, shall be fined $150 for the first offense, $300 for the second offense and $1,000 for each offense thereafter.”

On March 5, 2014 Rule 219(c) viii was added to aid the local courts in effectively administering these changes in the courtrooms and to suggest methods to encourage adherence to the newly amended Local Unenforceable Suggestions. The Supreme Court approved several suggestions exclusively for the esteemed Eighteenth Circuit Court. For the readers convenience, 219(c)(viii) is reprinted here in its entirety:

Positive Reinforcement. Judicial attention is one of the most powerful forms of positive reinforcement. When attorneys are behaving the way you’d like, be sure to let them know with a few kind words like “Good Job!” and don’t forget to offer a few encouraging words to the losing party. A “nice effort” will go a long way toward encouraging the plaintiff to try harder on that second amended complaint.

Redirecting. This technique involves the act of redirecting the attorney to more appropriate behavior. Instead of saying “Stop that!” try “If you continue to do that, you might hurt yourself.”

Verbal Instruction/Explanation. Going over what you want the attorney to do and why can help him or her develop good judgment. Written opinions might be necessary for attorneys who find it difficult to hear their motion was denied. Allowing them to return to a safe environment, such as the ARC, will help them learn and digest their professional failings.

Time-outs. Time-outs involve physically removing the attorney from a problem situation. Sending the attorney to a neutral and “boring” area, such as the corner of the courtroom with no cell phone, and ignoring him or her until he or she is calm and quiet. One minute of time-out per year of practice is a good rule of thumb.

Establishing Rules. Explain your rules and be prepared to repeat them until the attorneys learn to follow them on their own. Try gently reminding them “You’re a real attorney now. Please review the local rules again.” Efforts to recruit intimidating courtroom clerks and secretarial staff are a more effective use of judicial resources than standing orders. The inability to read social cues and body language is a common attorney trait, so ample courtroom signage might serve as helpful “reminders.”

Grounding. A technique effective with even the most stubborn attorneys, it involves restricting them to a certain place, usually a cell or even a chair in chambers, as punishment. For example, “grounding” the attorney for the duration of the Monday morning call may be effective when other methods fail to gain their attention.

Withholding Privileges. Attorneys should learn that privileges come with responsibility and they must be earned. A privilege that is valued by the attorney, such as a Courthouse security pass, carrying a cell phone or sitting in the jury box with friends, should be removed when that privilege is abused.

Miscellaneous. If any of the above suggestions do not remedy attorney behavior the Court shall furrow its brow and wag it’s finger in the attorney’s general direction.
Rule 23 Decisions: Like That Six-Pack You Were Too Young to Buy, You Can’t Get ‘Em Unless Someone With Their Own Bar Journal Watches Your Back

BY MICHAEL R. SITRICK*

Each month I write, and cajole our various committee members for case law updates in what DCBA’s most recent survey calls the “most popular section of this magazine.” We aim to feature only cases which are published and cite-able, keeping DCBA members up to date on areas that may be of interest to them and most useful in their practice. Recently, I’ve found that some of the most interesting cases are “unpublished” decisions under Illinois Supreme Court Rule 23(e). This rule says that some decisions are not precedential and may only be cited for “double jeopardy, res judicata, collateral estoppel or law of the case” purposes.

You see, unlike its Federal Court counterpart, these cases aren’t considered persuasive. Many an Illinois attorney has lamented late night researching, finding the perfect fact pattern and holding that goes their way only to realize later that the case is unpublished and not usable. This is true for some of the most obvious legal concepts as well. The cries of young associates everywhere have been heard, and I’m here to tell you that the DCBA Grief has finally solved this age old dilemma.

In Illinois, law journal articles are considered secondary sources and may be considered as persuasive authority, so each month we will feature a select number of Rule 23 cases for publication in this magazine. If you’d like to see a particular Rule 23 decision published here, feel free to contact me by email. When making your request please indicate what decision you’d like cited and include a succinct summary accurately portraying the specific issue in the case you’d like to see in print. If there is a deadline for which you’d like the issue in print, please indicate that as well.

*Email me at mikewhosyourdaddynow@dcba.org

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1 I’m pretty sure that one starts with FRCP though.
2 I read in a committee comment that there is a “presumption against publication.” Don’t even get me started on why that just seems down right unconstitutional. Probably the Due Process one, or the part that establishes the Court system and says they’re supposed to interpret the law or something. Someone should write about that.
3 Maybe even some non-Illinois people but they’re probably not members of the DCBA, so I’m not allowed to cater to them.
4 When citing the statute or rule just doesn’t seem like enough.
5 Since whenever Rule 23 came around or, at least, 2011 when we could finally get them online and we knew what we were missing.
6 I’m pretty sure it’s a rule or something.
7 Email me at mikewhosyourdaddynow@dcba.org
8 Parties on like a 28 day briefing schedule should probably plan to file at least one motion for extension of time since...
While we generally don’t do a lot of criminal law articles and really don’t understand the criminal Rule 23 orders, I’m happy to consider those decisions. If you are a criminal defense attorney, you ought to contemplate the amount of self-promotion available. This stuff is available on the internet. If, every time someone googled “What happens in DuPage when the police seize money from a wallet that was in same house, but not near the drugs, during a drug seizure search warrant and then the officer doesn’t show up to the initial status call and when he does, and your court appointed defense counsel is ten minutes late and the judge says to come back another day and your lawyer lady says its her first case like this,” your name and article would pop up in the search results. Dollar for dollar, the *DCBA Grief* is better than any phonebook or matchbook advertising you could buy. So without further adieu, I would or matchbook advertising you could buy.

10 Without further adieu, I would point out several recent Rule 23 decisions the Publication Board thought were worthy of inclusion in this award winning magazine.

In *R.M. v. D.Z.* the court held you can not believe everything you read on Twitter “[and] rely upon Twitter account postings or MySpace or Facebook as proof of facts, actually things that have happened, just can’t be done – especially with young people.”

In *Baytree National Bank & Trust v. Miles*, in the concurring opinion, the Second District found it had better things to do.

In *VC&M v. J.P. Jr.*, the Defendant’s meeting a deadline under the “mail box rule” filing was found not deficient where the notice of filing listed the “DuPage County Courthouse.” Explaining that while not the legal address of the clerks office (which would technically be the it takes over a month to put these magazines together and deadlines aren’t really our “thing”.

9 Mostly because the publication board is made up of family law attorneys looking to get their name in print or pad their resumes

10 Co-draft could improve the Avvo rating.

11 Some scholars have observed it is possible that Rule 23 is just the appellate courts way of saying “we’re pretty sure we’re right, but just in case we’re not, we don’t want the Supreme Court to make fun of us” *DCBA Grief, April 2014.*

12 No really, it did, except there were two hyphens but we’re short on space this month.

13 The greatest rule ever.

Henry Hyde Judicial Office Facility) the plaintiff failed to argue he was prejudiced by the omission and therefore waived the issue on appeal.

In *People v. Bieber*, the question on appeal was whether a juror could be intoxicated and still be legally able to decide a defendant’s guilt or innocence. The court concluded the answer was: “ideally not.”

In *Rough & Associates P.C. v. Doggy Daycare* the court was asked to decide whether an attorneys’ retainer agreement provided an independent cause of action against clients who wrote negative Yelp reviews. The Court found that private parties were free to contract for the exchange of services and that the nature of the retainer agreement, which included a provision regarding duties to keep certain information confidential, meant the client was on notice that a confidentiality provision might go both ways.

In *Skartoff v. Palin Consulting* the District Court said sanctions were appropriate where a respondent in a citation to discover assets effort to avoid creditors were so blatant and inartfully executed that they were sufficiently insulting to the integrity of the court and the intelligence of Plaintiff’s counsel.

In *Schmoopsie v. Leigh*, the court found James Grogan, of Illinois ARDC fame, is the end all be all authority on ethics in Illinois, any citation to a Grogan speech, interview or statement otherwise attributable to Jim is considered authority in any court of jurisdiction, competent or not.

In *Bank Largess v. Littlemen*, the issue was whether mileage was a recoverable expense under a “prevailing party” fee contract. The court specifically noted that it was common knowledge that taking I-88 to the DuPage courthouse was clearly not the shortest or most direct route possible and while Cook County attorneys could do so at their own clients’ expense, this route would otherwise be deemed excessive.

Finally, in a nod to our criminal brothers and sisters, in *People v. Snyder*, the court reversed sanctions against a DuPage County State Attorney, holding that it would be unfair to sanction an attorney for publishing personal information about the defendant where the Circuit Clerk had already provided the same information on its public access terminals to anyone who wanted it.
Finally Realized He’s Old Enough to be Making His Own Decisions


In United States v. Mallory, the U.S. Attorney’s office brought RICO charges against a group of mothers who established a ring of for-profit home-tanning salons for teens in an effort to circumvent Illinois’ new law prohibiting minors from tanning salons. The mothers, a group of eight enterprising women residing in Hinsdale, Illinois installed tanning beds in their homes and then marketed their services by word of mouth to parents and teens, charging rates of $250 to $500 a session. A review of the ring’s books revealed that the illegal venture grossed more than $500,000 in its just two short months of operation. During the trial, a series of amicus briefs were filed by several DuPage-based cheer and dance mom groups begging for leniency against the mothers under the theory that they were “merely working to preserve the tradition of DuPage beauty standards” and help them teens avoid the unforgivable fashion faux pas of ending up pale throughout the Winter cheer competition season and Spring prom season.

Notwithstanding these arguments, a jury convicted the women of violating the RICO Act. In so finding, it determined that the women had indeed established an enterprise, secured significant unreported income in excess of $500,000 from a pool of more than 300 customers over a two-month period, and then used the income to expand into neighboring communities Burr Ridge, Oak Brook and Glen Ellyn. Seeking to make an example out of the offenders and to deter the formulation of other similar groups, the court seized all profits from the ring, assessed fines and sentenced the DuPage moms to 10 years in prison with no tanning privileges of any kind.

Defendant Stripped of Statutory Defenses. 

In People of Illinois v. Rogers, the defendant, a male adult entertainer received a citation for violating Illinois’ new cell phone law (625 ILCS 5/12-610.2) en route to a bachelorette party. Rogers, who was stopped after being observed talking on his cell phone in a “highly agitated state”, admitted to his use of the phone but protested the citation. Rogers alleged two defenses in the alternative: 1) that his actions should be excused under the language of the statute because he was using the phone for the sole purpose of reporting an emergency—i.e., that he was running late to a performance due to a serious costume related injury; and 2) that his actions should be excused because at the time of the alleged violation he was “performing” official duties as a law enforcement officer and operating an emergency vehicle.

In considering Rogers’ arguments, the traffic court handedly rejected both defenses. With regard to the “emergency” defense, the court found that, despite Rogers’ perception of the magnitude of the situation failed to rise to the level of a “true emergency” that would warrant use of his cell phone as contemplated under the statute. With regard to Rogers’ second defense, that he was “performing official duties as a law enforcement officer” at the time of incident, the traffic court found his argument without merit. Specifically, the court reasoned that while the defendant was in uniform at the time “[Rogers’] ‘performance’ had could not have begun until his arrival at the party, thus [he] could not find avail himself of the statutory exception for cell phone use while ‘performing the duties of a law enforcement officer’.

Michael R. Sitrick would rather not get into a lot of detail about his own life right now, if it’s all the same to you.
THE STATE OF THE COURTHOUSE: CHIEF JUDGE ELSNER’S CHALLENGE TO THOSE WHO SEEK THE BLACK ROBE.

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JANUARY 2014
The State of the Courthouse

BY CHIEF JUDGE JOHN ELSNER*

For many years now, the DuPage County Bar Association has been honored by the Chief Judge of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit who has appeared at the annual Mega Meeting in January to tell lawyers in attendance about what has been happening in the courthouse and about plans and developments to look forward to. This year was no exception as Chief Judge John (“Jack”) Elsner took the podium for the last time as he finishes his final year as Chief Judge. Following is the transcript from his remarks.

Thank you, President Hurley, for those kind remarks. I want to begin by letting everyone know that it is my intention to keep this as short as possible. Most of what I have in the way of statistics will appear in the next issue of the DCBA Grief, a magazine I have always enjoyed.

The DCBA Grief is second to none in DuPage County and I could not imagine granting such exclusive access to any other award winning DuPage legal publication. Now about that polar vortex (pause for laughter).

But seriously, folks. As I look around the room at all of you in attendance, saying that this is the Year of Technology for the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit [tape inaudible] as we focus on advancing the practice of law into the 20th Century. [tape inaudible] Let me turn now to the important issue of judicial appointments.

The privilege of swearing in a new Associate Judge is one of the only perks to this job. It is something that every Chief Judge enjoys but, as most of you know, it is something I have not been able to do as frequently or for as many good and able candidates as I would prefer. During my tenure as Chief Judge, we have been austere. We have cut costs and we have kept well within the budgetary restraints imposed upon us by a County Board run amok, even when that meant limiting the number of judicial appointments to be made.

You all remember the good old days, when a Chief Judge could appoint three new judges in a day or so, as my predecessor, Chief Judge Stephen Culliton, did even as recently as 2011 when he appointed Judge Tom Else, Judge Anthony Coco and Judge James Orel.

Since I became Chief, I have only appointed three judges altogether, Judge Robert Gibson, Judge Jeff MacKay and Judge Alex McGimpsey. Wait, maybe it’s four. Was Judge Rob Douglas mine? Oh, who knows, who cares. Let me tell you, three or four total, I’m still tired of Judge [Stephen] Culliton ribbing me about that every time I run into him at Home 24 DCBA GRIEF

GAME OF ROBES
Depot or at the laundromat. Today I am announcing my intention to do something about it. I have discussed this problem with those I have already appointed and they have convinced me there is no better way to pick this great many judges than with what they have concocted.

I am pleased to announce that the next judicial appointments for this court will be determined through a Game of Robes. Anyone can play, and that includes John Pcolinski, and the rules are simple enough that even Sean McCumber should understand them. I’m sure there’s room in the DCBA Grief so we’ll put the game board in there as well.

I’m looking for a few good judges. So, if this is a position you’ve long aspired to but always found just beyond your grasp, today is your lucky day. All you have to do is get together with some of your friends in the ARC, play the game until you have a winner and then, if you are that winner, you can just come downstairs to my offices and ask for Lapinski. He will be holding your robe for you. John, Sean, please just wait until I finish my remarks before... yes, thank you.

Let me close by saying that, being here among so many of my old friends, giving my last State of the Courthouse address, it’s an overwhelming thing for me. I know people aren’t used to seeing this side of me, but I can’t help it. I have treasured these years as your Chief Judge and I mean that with all my heart -- and yes, it was so good to hear that, when I finish this last address, we can all look forward to a pitch from some DCBA Sponsor. Really touching that is. I can’t begin to tell you how much that means to me on a day like this. So, yeah, thank you all again. And on that note, let the games begin!”

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“I know people aren’t used to seeing this side of me, but I can’t help it, I treasured these years as your Chief Judge, I mean that with all my heart.”

“It was so good to hear that, when I finish this last address, we can all look forward to a pitch from some DCBA sponsor. Really touching, that is.”

“Being here among so many of my old friends, giving my last State of the Courthouse address, it’s an overwhelming, emotional thing for me.”
DCBA Cosplay Program Off to Slow Start

BY SEAN MCCUMBER*

When DCBA President Patrick Hurley first announced that the bar association would be hosting weekly

“Cosplay events at the Bar Center as an inherently therapeutic exercise,” most of the membership (including this humble reporter) didn’t have even a clue what he was talking about.

“It’s a kind of performance art,” he finally said when asked, “in which the participants wear costumes and accessories to represent a specific character or idea.” The people who participate are called Cosplayers and the idea is for these Cosplayers to get together and immerse themselves every Saturday night in a ‘subculture centered on role play.’

“It’s really a lot of fun,” he continued, “and it’s good for you. I sure wish more people in the DCBA would join in.” At the time, he said, only three people were showing up regularly. He was going himself, as were former DCBA President Sharon Mulyk and Second Vice President Jay Laraia. No one else was sticking around for long if they showed up even once.

 “[President Elect] Lynn Cavallo came to one of the first meetings,” Hurley said, “and we were doing Doctor Who and the Avengers, but she left in kind of a hurry. I’m not sure but I think maybe she was put off seeing Jay in a leather Black Widow costume. I know that one made me kind of uncomfortable. Umberto Davi, Rick Felice and Vince Cornelius -- they also came to a meeting. It was just before the holidays, I think, and they came dressed up in their little ‘Three Amigos’ costumes and that was great and everything, but the rest of us

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\(^1\) Hurley’s explanation turned out to be a direct quote from Wikipedia.

\(^2\) Wikipedia explains that “a broader use of the term cosplay applies to any costumed role play in venues apart from the stage, regardless of the cultural context.”
thought it was just a little over the top.”

More to Hurley’s liking has been “Gilligan’s Island” night, which he has scheduled for the first Saturday of every month, and the so-called “Hundred Acre Woods” event which he introduced in early January and has repeated a few times since. “The whole thing is just a lot of fun,” he explained, and it’s really good for you too. I don’t know if people know it, but this kind of play is known to provide ways for people to express their experiences and feelings through a natural, self-guided, self-healing process.”

“I have to admit I had my doubts,” said Mulyk. “When Pat first told me about this at last year’s Presidents Ball, I figured he was just getting into the spirit of the ‘Mad Hatter’ theme we had going that night. The fact that I’m answering questions from a reporter for the Grief dressed up like Captain America, well I guess that’s a pretty good clue how serious he was about this.”

“The only thing I don’t like about Cosplay Night” said Laraia, “is that it’s always just the three of us. We get together and we have fun and all that but it’s like we’re in our own little world. It’s like we’re in a bubble that no one else is really part of and, for me at least, I don’t know if that’s such a good idea in some ways.” Laraia heads up the DCBA Planning Committee, he explained, so one thing he is contemplating is whether to include Cosplay Night among the topics in the next survey.

Sure enough, Hurley also appears to have learned this from Wikipedia, although he isn’t quoting the idea quite correctly. According to Wikipedia, “Play therapy is generally employed with children aged 3 through 11 and provides a way for them to express their experiences and feelings through a natural, self-guided, self-healing process.”
That’s right! Now you too can be the lawyer you’ve always dreamed you would be! Patrick Hurley, the reigning President of the DCBA, has reached the apex of his career and now he wants to share the secrets of his success with you! Let him tell you how regularly brushing your teeth, eating your vegetables, exercising and avoiding the temptations of alcohol, tobacco and late night television can work for you! Sound a little preachy? No, not at all! What better way could there be to start your day than reading Pat’s column in the DCBA Grief, exercising with his videos, or listening to his one-hour motivational tapes! Pat Hurley is Mr. Wellness and Mr. Wellness is ready for you! Let Pat show you the way to better living in the 21st Century! Let him make a real lawyer out of you! Call the DCBA now, operators are standing by! You may be already a Regular Member or a Sustaining Member but now you can also be a Wellness Member! And you know it’s true, a Wellness Member is a really good member to be!
Leslie’s Latest Survey Roundup!

BY LESLIE MONAHAN*

Leslie Monahan is the Executive Director of the DCB-Everything. She has all kinds of credentials and an impressive educational background and all that but thinks it’s most important everyone know she has found her shoes and will definitely be wearing them to the next bar event.

I know it may seem funny to share this, but I love Richard Dawson. Yes, the Family Feud guy. He was so suave, caring and interested in hearing what people had to say about important things.

I could hardly contain myself waiting to hear what 100 doctors or 100 married women thought and just when I couldn’t take it anymore, he’d say “Survey says . . .?!” I knew right then and there, the first time I saw him, that no matter where my career path led me, my job would involve surveys. It would be an integral part of the work I would do.

When I walked into the offices of the DCBA on my first day, my work was cut out for me. We have over 2,500 members, each of them with their own ideas and opinions and I was going to find out what made them tick so I could give them the best darn bar association ever.

Over the last year, I have personally sent out over 1,000 surveys to the members, with topics ranging from the new napkin-folding at the estate planning meetings, to the appropriate blue-ness of the DCBA logo, to some of the more serious issues we deal with in this prestigious professional organization.

Brow-moppers for judicial speaking engagements, Committee Chair term limits and closed captioning for Judges’ Nite were some of the most controversial issues seen this year.

Our biggest survey was the wellness survey, and boy oh boy did you guys answer in force.

Of the five people that answered the question – “Would you use Stairmasters if we made them available in the ARC or just disabled the escalators” – 27.6% said they would.

Of that 27.6%, 53% of those responding preferred the disabling of the escalators.

See, these surveys do matter.

Now our biggest survey response, with 15 people responding, answered the question – “What color should the background for ID badges be for the photos of people who hold concealed carry permits” – and 97.2% of those people responded “Yes.”

Now, most importantly, one member of the DCBA answered all the surveys we issued and was the fastest to respond. That member, Joseph Mirabella, Jr., answered every survey within four minutes of the emails being sent. I was confused that he kept asking me to get him a table for dinner at 4 p.m. for him and Sharon. I did not know he and our Past President Sharon Mulyk had so many divorce cases together.

Thankfully, we will have a survey next month about whether the ARC should be open to attorneys who do not practice in the family division, so get those responses in early because I have a lot of surveying to do. □

Leslie Monahan is the Executive Director of the DCB-Everything. She has all kinds of credentials and an impressive educational background and all that but thinks it’s most important everyone know she has found her shoes and will definitely be wearing them to the next bar event.
LRS UPDATE

I Went to a Really Useful Seminar

BY CYNTHIA GARCIA*

When they made me the LRS Coordinator for DCBA, they told me I would be going to some seminars to learn about “things.” Mostly, though, what I do is I talk to over 400 members of the public on the phone here every month and over half of them are people I don’t even know. They tell me about their problems with the dishwasher or their neighbors or their kids or something called the Office of the Controller or something and then, a lot of times, they ask me for a lawyer to talk to and I give them the phone number for one of our LRS attorneys.

Once a month, maybe, I get a seminar. The seminar I went to this month was particularly interesting, I will say, and I think I learned the most there of any of them. The person who was speaking was a lawyer. She had on a really nice suit and she said that when you work as a LRS Coordinator, you really have a lot of power. She said lawyers really want clients and they give people flowers and candy and buy them drinks and send them presents when they get clients from them because clients are very important for them to get paid and feed their families. I had never thought of that before. It’s a really good point, I think.

Some of the lawyers that talk to me about their LRS clients are not very nice. They complain about things a lot. One of them even yelled at me because he said his LRS client wasn’t paying him on time and it’s my fault. Leslie agreed with me that’s not my fault so he should not have been talking like that because like the lawyer at the seminar said, I have a lot of power. I am the LRS Coordinator so if the lawyer who yelled at me wants to get paid and feed his family, from now on, he better be a lot nicer when he calls.

My favorite chocolates are the dark ones with the cherry center and I don’t like roses very much but I do like the white ones with the stripes, something lillies I think, and I really like the pizza from Jack Straw’s for lunch sometimes and it’s never too late for a nice Christmas present. If you have any questions about LRS or you want to join, please send those things to me at the bar center or email a gift card to cynthiagarcia@dcba.org.

Finally, at the end of this column every month, I remind our readers that LRS keeps track of my phone calls. We keep a tally and then every month we generate this report. It tells us what kinds of calls we had, how many, and how they were handled. I’m not sure how we get some of this information. Some of these I don’t even remember but Leslie seems mad about some of them sometimes. So this month, I’m also putting in an explanation.

Administrative. I don’t get this one. I include all the calls for Leslie but maybe I should include Jacki’s calls too, I don’t know.

Animal Law. Some callers I just really don’t want to talk to, okay?

Appeals. Almost every caller wants to do this so Ron Menna gets a lot of referrals from me. You would think he’d be happy about it but he’s not. He says he’s not our “frickin’ switchboard.”

Civil. None of these people ever is. Ever.

Family Law. So we got a lot of calls in this category last month but they were all from this same guy who called in lots and lots and LOTS of times and kept going on and on and I’m not here to be someone’s shoulder to cry on, you know what I’m saying?

Federal Court. I don’t know why this is a category but it sounds important so Glenn Gaffney gets a lot of referrals too. He’s nicer about it than Ron Menna, I’ll say that.

School Law. OMG these people’s kids get into SOOOOOO much trouble!
As the year winds down for Illinois State Bar Association President Paula H. Holderman, she ponders her next move in Bar Association hierarchy. It was recently rumored that Holderman had eyes on the DuPage County Bar Association. Those rumors were confirmed when former Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court, James Holderman, announced he had been told he was going to have to relocate to Wheaton, Illinois. Anxious to begin her reign, Holderman approached current DCBA President Patrick Hurley about assuming power immediately. Hurley questioned whether this was possible. Ms. Holderman answered, “Hey, this is Chicago. You know the right people, you can do anything. I’ll do it by Executive Order, if necessary.” Hurley responded to Holderman’s request with, “I’m game - but what about Felice?”

Second Vice President of the ISBA, Umberto Davi, seemed to be divided and entirely unsure how to feel about the situation. Third Vice President, Vince Cornelius, said, “Hey man, it’s DuPage county.” It is reported that Leslie Monahan has taken up residence at the Chicago Regional Office of the ISBA at 10 South Clark Street. In the meantime, former ISBA Executive Director Bob Craghead has taken up residence at the DCBA headquarters at 126 County Farm Road. At the time of the writing of this article, custody of DCBA Financial Manager Jacki Hamler was still a subject of dispute and threatened to derail the entire scheme. However, not one to waste time, Holderman is proceeding with her plans to host the Supreme Court dinner at the Verdict Restaurant among other events. “Over the last year, it has been oft repeated and made clear to me that the DCBA is THE Bar Association in Illinois”.

In the meantime, new ISBA Executive Director Monahan will be traveling on a weekly basis to oversee the Springfield office. It has been reported that the ISBA has a budget eight times that of the DCBA so things look to be rosy for Hurley and Monahan. Plans to build an ARC in every courthouse in the state are in full swing. “We plan to bring the best of what DuPage has to offer to the rest of the state, come hell or high water...” said Monahan.

Newly appointed DCBA President Holderman made it known that the majority of the ISBA’s 30,000 members enthusiastically joined the DCBA when word of the member benefits spread. The ranks at the DuPage County Bar Association have now swelled from a mere 2,700 members to over 27,000. Some of the benefits enticing new members include: 30% off Hertz rent-a-car, 50% off Morton’s restaurant for any size steak, Free CLE for life (available to members 80 years and older), free transportation to and from the Henry Hyde Judicial Office Facility Complex, and a full 8 x 10 glossy of all former officers of the ISBA.

Watch this space for the latest news on the latest DCBA and ISBA events including up to the minute and late breaking news on development in the Hamler contract negotiations. □

James F. McCluskey, a principal instigator in the firm of Momkus McCluskey LLC, handles a wide range of heavy weight litigation matters befitting a member of his stature in the DuPage legal community. His areas of expertise incorporate over 30 years of political wrangling and knowing just when to steer clear of the fray. Known to his friends and Felices’s as McFluskey, he focuses his time and energy on giving back to the legal communities that elect him to office. Ultimately Jim is a man who competes in the occasional triathlon and knows the only thing scarier than the IronMan swim, is the thought that Georgianna might retire someday.
**LEGAL AID UPDATE**

**Affordable Legal Care Act Levels the Playing Field**

**MORE ABOUT BRENDA CARROLL THAN BY BRENDA CARROLL**

Brenda Carroll and Cecilia Najera announce their newest initiative and Legal Aid fundraising program has passed in both houses of the Illinois legislature - The Affordable Legal Care Act. In light of the funding shortfalls to Legal Aid and an increase in *pro se* litigants, Carroll and Najera spearheaded the effort to help provide affordable legal representation for every member of the DuPage community. Primarily the Act focuses on fulfilling the largest need of a *pro bono* legal organization. Cash. This is accomplished by focusing on those most closely affiliated with the program by requiring all Legal Aid Foundation Board members and DCBA political insiders to pledge 50% of their income toward the program beginning July 1, 2014. Sitting LAF Board members Jim Reichardt and Connie Gessner have already written their checks saying they were more than willing to pay their “fair share” to help provide DuPage County access to adequate legal representation.

The second focus of the Act is to provide *affordable* legal representation. Carroll stated that these changes will not affect the wealthiest clients who can afford heavy weight representation and no matter what your situation, if you can afford your lawyer, you can keep your lawyer. Since not every lawyer is as benevolent as they could be, The Affordable Legal Care Act has targeted, I mean, selected some individuals for participation in some income re-distribution. Thus, the proposed legislation includes *nunc pro tunc* amendments to all retainer agreements with a list of specific individuals. For instance, Bill Stogsdill will be required to bill $25.00 per hour for his clients; his court appearances will take no more than .10 of an hour, telephone conferences are limited to five minutes and drafting will be limited to .03 of an hour. The total charge for all legal services for any one client will include maintenance, child support, visitation and property division. The whole shebang for a divorce with Stogsdill would be capped at $100.00.

Another provision in The Affordable Legal Care Act allows in kind contributions to the organization. Illinois State Bar Association President-Elect Richard Felice, has opted to fulfill his obligations by providing one vehicle, no less than two years old to Legal Aid attorneys for travel to court calls. DCBA member Joe Fortunato has opted to fulfill his duty by donating the use of his Toyota Prius to Mr. Felice. Bill Scott has volunteered a select group of his oldest and dearest outstanding accounts receivables for the benefit of Legal Aid. About his donation, Scott commented “I’ve known these receivables a very long time, I hope Legal Aid gets as much out of them as I did.”

News of this innovative program has even reached Washington D.C. The Official Obama is an Oligarch Twitter account called the Act “a result of Obama’s second term policies” and even managed to start a few rumors about Obama’s post White House opportunities in DuPage County with a “POTUS should get out of Washington and head straight for DuPage #joboffer?”

The Legal Aid 2014-2015 budget has been revised to reflect the new projections released by the non-partisan budget office of long-time DCBA treasurer John Pleviak. The revisions include pay raises for Brenda Carroll and staff- though still under the requests made by her office during budget negotiations. To make up for the shortfall and show her solidarity for all the DCBA heavy weights she relies on to sponsor events, DCBA Executive Director Leslie Monahan has agreed to donate half her salary to Legal Aid as well.

While the Act has yet to take effect, several amendments are already being considered in the Illinois Senate. These include changes to the minimum standards to qualify for Legal Aid representation. The financial qualifications for Legal Aid services would require a client to have at least one million in assets and that matters have a minimum of $100,000 allocated from the fund before a new case may be taken on. The effective attorney billable rate charged to the Legal Aid fund for each matter would rise to $1,000 per hour and $500.00 for paralegal and clerical staff. All clients would be required to guarantee at least 200 hours of billable time. Any matters falling under the time minimum would be subject to a default rate of $2,000 per hour. During an interview, Carroll said, she “whole heartedly supported” the amendments adding they would further the cause and “level the playing field out there for Legal Aid.”

*Jim McCluskey probably wrote this.*

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**Image:**

- **Brenda Carroll**
- **Cecilia Najera**

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**Legal Aid 2014-2015 budget**
- Revised to reflect new projections
- Changes to minimum standards for Legal Aid representation
- Financial qualifications for Legal Aid services
- Amendments being considered in Illinois Senate

**Bill Scott**
- Donated vehicles
- Donated outstanding accounts receivables

**Richard Felice**
- Provided a vehicle for Legal Aid attorneys

**Joe Fortunato**
- Donated the use of his Toyota Prius

**Bill Scott**
- Commented on the donation

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**Bill Stogsdill**
- Limited court appearances to .10 of an hour
- Limited telephone conferences to five minutes
- Limited drafting to .03 of an hour

**Legal Aid**
- Fundraising program mentioned
- Amendments to legal representation
- Changes to income re-distribution

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**Affordable Legal Care Act**
- Passed in both houses of the Illinois legislature
- Aimed at fulfilling the largest need of a *pro bono* legal organization
- Amendments require participation of high-income individuals

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**DuPage County**
- Access to adequate legal representation
- Heavy weight representation

---

**Washington D.C.**
- Oligarch Twitter account
- Start of rumors about Obama’s post White House opportunities

Help Wanted. Midsized law firm seeks large, imposing paralegal with collections experience. Looking for a self starter who can work independently. Pliers and blowtorch will be provided. Send resume, criminal history, and list of favorite Tarantino films to cindy@fuzzybunnylaw.com.

*Turnier, Hedd & Koff, LLC*, concentrating in Men's Health Malpractice Litigation for over a decade. We know how to ask the probing questions. Our potent team of hands-on litigators won't rest until our clients get the endings they deserve. Call 1-800-NADS-LAW for a free initial consultation.

Vinnie's Auto Parts: We carry a growing inventory of low cost parts for luxury vehicles. Our red-vest service techs will treat you right. If we don't got it, we can get it. Call (630) WE-TAKE-U.

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"Bag It" Intravenous Catering: Tired of your staff going out to lunch? Tired of calls going unanswered because they have food in their mouths? No more! *BagIt* offers low cost, nutritionally sound IV bag lunches for the modern workplace. 3 vitamin rich, caffeine packed flavors: *Billable Berry Blast, Motivated Mocha*, and *Orange Creme*! FDA approval pending.

Offline Audio Concepts. Is your online presence not generating clients? Does your firm’s website look like a cataleptic shut-in’s Myspace page? The internet is a passing fancy anyway, so go offline! At Offline Audio Concepts, we have a team of very loud marketing professionals, who will wander the town of your choice and yell out the name of your firm, phone number and areas of practice, while ringing a large bell. Send inquiries to OfflineAudioConcepts@myspace.com.

Help Wanted. Large downtown firm seeks associates for high-volume family law practice. Must be experienced in time management, billing and collections. Long hours required, results are optional. Knowledge of billing strategies and billing software a plus. Please send resumes (and billing history) to Dan@youvelostdatlovinfeelin.com.

**Electric Blanket Judicial Robes!**

Justice is a dish best served warm. To schedule a fitting, email dave@warmjustice.com.
I f you're over this whole DCBA "wellness program," have heard one too many peppy motivational speaker-types, and just don't want to spend the last Saturday in April, or any Saturday, getting up to run around some Downers Grove subdivision before you've had your first cup of coffee, well, welcome to the club. We joined this bar association for some diversion -- so we could enjoy a little camaraderie and party down between trials. We weren't exactly expecting Sergeant Hurley's Magical Wellness Tour. Indeed, putting it bluntly, we were looking for donuts, we got carrots, apples and celery sticks - and that does not make us very happy at all.

What does make us happy is the alternate reality we prefer to live in, in which you can play a board game to become judge or work for a law firm called “Frozen Biehr” or maybe get pro bono credit for getting involved in the DCBA cosplay program. It's a universe in which donuts and pizza are good for you and you don't have to watch your carbs if you don't want to. And it's a universe in which, come April 26, maybe just maybe we'll be raising money for DCBF, like good community activists, with a genuine Pub Crawl through Downers Grove. We'll figure out how much we're trying to raise and what to do with it later, the cool thing is that, in our Google search for “Downers Grove bars and pubs,” we actually came up with a few places that don't look all that bad. We'll be heading over to one of these five places, I don't know, probably around 8:30-9:00am, somewhere in there and then we'll travel the path until it gets too hard to put one foot in front of the other. If you think we're taking advance registrations, you have got to be kidding. Bring some spare cash for the program and look around until you find us. We'll be around there somewhere, well probably anyway. Look, if we're not there, call Waltmire, he usually keeps his phone charged, and he'll tell you where to find us. □
HOW TO PLAY

THE STATE OF THE COURTHOUSE: Chief Judge Elsner has ruled over this court since long ago, but his time is soon ending. Desirous of a lasting legacy, he turns to those he has appointed, Judge Gibson, Judge MacKay, Judge Douglas and Judge McGimpsey, to ask their advice. Who is fit to be his next and possibly final appointment, he asks. They argue among themselves, Judge Douglas declines to play anymore,1 and the others rule out witchcraft, patronage, battles to the death, and beheadings, until they finally agree on a game of chance. Pit each lawyer against others, they suggest, until one proves victorious. A board game may be less exciting than a good beheading, but this is DuPage County. It ain’t exactly westeros.

RULES OF THE GAME: You are one of four lawyers seeking to take your place alongside Judges Gibson, MacKay and McGimpsey, as an Elsner Appointee (and Douglas too, even though he didn’t make the photo shoot). To get your robe, you must have the endorsement of all of the presiding judges. To get those endorsements, you must roll a single die and move that many spaces (counter-clockwise). You must travel around the game board this way until you land on a corner space (they are marked Chancery, Law, Traffic, and Family). Each time you land on a corner space, draw a card from the stack for that corner and answer the question posed (you might find the correct answers on the back of the board if you don’t find them quite as obvious as we intended). If you land on a corner and no cards are left for that corner, you may arbitrarily wrest one from any other player. Once you collect all the cards from one division, you have that judge’s endorsement. If you manage to get all of the judges’ endorsements, you win!

WINNERS: Take your winning cards to the Chief Judge’s office at the courthouse and tell whoever is there that you want to claim your robe. No, really. We’ll wait right here until you get back.

1This particular fiction has made it into our little story here because of the authors’ failure to look closely at the calendar. Judge Douglas was appointed in February 2012 and therefore should have been in the original count. So, yeah, just a big ol’ dumb oops.
The Chief Judge is Looking For You...

And He's Not Happy.

The seminar you gave in the ARC was “interesting.” Okay, maybe not.

Filing deadlines: When you’re most tempted to make a deal with the devil. Here, you don’t need to file a brief to get an extra turn. Just go ahead, take one. You won’t regret it.

Surrender now or forge ahead? Try the case or settle it? Life's full of tough choices with no second chances. So this time, roll the dice until you get a number you like. No, for real. We should all get such an opportunity at least once in our lives.

TWO WORDS: CAFE DUPAGE.

Skip a turn.

Somebody’s playing you in Judges’ Nite. Take an extra turn, you have arrived!

Oops.

That’s meant the case is unpublished, Einstein. Go back three spaces.

Ronnie Cochran
GAME OF ROBES

Clarence Sparrow
Start Here >>

Sherris Mason
Start Here >>

Ronnie Cochran
Start Here >>

Two Words: Cafe Dupage

A Turn.

Filing deadlines: When you’re most tempted to make a deal with the devil. Here, you don’t need to file a brief to get an extra turn. Just go ahead, take one. You won’t regret it.

That incredible victory from last summer was just reversed on appeal. You can spend the next turn having a pity party or you can go back two spaces, you pick.

Two Words: Cafe Dupage

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(1) Judge Sutter has been known to do what during settlement conferences? (A) listen to both sides; (B) facilitate the parties' efforts at finding middle ground; (B) play blues riffs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(2) Arbitration has the value of: (A) facilitating compromise; (B) limiting the unnecessary exploitation of courthouse resources; (C) providing a source of income to attorneys who can serve as arbitrators for each other.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) A jury trial in DuPage County should be avoided if: (A) the amount at issue is less than the jurors would otherwise earn in a day; (B) your client is a liberal; (C) today is donut day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) DuPage County jurors are notoriously: (A) unwilling to award damages for pain and suffering; (B) resistant to punitive damage claims; (C) likely to be related by blood to someone working in the clerk's office.</td>
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<tr>
<th>(1) Which of the four Chancery Judges will be unhappy if you file an emergency motion just before 4:30pm for hearing the next morning?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(2) What should you not do during the uncontested call before Judge Wheaton? (A) argue with your opponent; (B) say “just one more thing” more than once; or (C) forget to spell your name for the record.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) What can you do while waiting for Judge Gibson's agreed call? (A) prepare a draft order; (B) work out a schedule with opposing counsel; or (C) write a complete legal article for the DCBA Grief.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) What case should not be filed in Chancery: (A) breach of contract; (B) any where only monetary relief is sought; (C) anything particularly complicated.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>(1) In DUI cases, a judge should make sure to tell the defendant: (A) statutory admonishments; (B) an obligatory lecture on the evils of alcohol abuse; (C) to sign up for traffic school at the Bar Center.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>(2) His ability to pronounce what two words consecutively limits the possibility of Judge O'Shea ever being assigned to the felony division? (A) “vote Democratic;” (B) “yes, please;” (C) “not guilty.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) What traffic court judge was appointed by Judge Elsner but didn't make it to the center of the game board like his colleagues? Bonus: Whose fault was that?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Traffic school at the Bar Center should be required of every driver who: (A) is under the age of 21 and found guilty; (B) has been engaged in reckless or dangerous conduct; (C) has a pulse.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>(1) The “Third Floor Club” refers to: (A) lawyers practicing in Family Law; (B) members of the DCBA Family Law Section; (C) Friends of Susan Alvarado.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(2) What family court judge would be most likely to tell a joke like this: “Do you know the difference between prison and marriage? The prisoners sometimes get to finish their sentences.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Form orders on a family court website would: (A) ease the strain of pro se cases; (B) help those who cannot afford a lawyer help themselves; (C) be the end of the world as we know of it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) DuPage lawyers practice family law because: (A) the number of US divorces continues to increase; (B) court ordered fee payments; (C) “Rules of procedure? Oh, I missed that semester.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Okay, here's the thing. You're a lawyer. You'd think you'd read the fine print before you spent hours and hours sitting in the ARC playing a board game in hopes of getting a seat on the bench. Seriously, you know this. It doesn't matter how you spin it. You spent hours and hours playing a board game in hopes of getting a seat on the bench. Unless you've got the support of the powers that be in Felony, you're always going to be one very important card or two short of a full deck.