

# ACCESS TO JUSTICE UPDATE

VOLUME V ISSUE 3 NOVEMBER 2012

The Justice Action Group is a coalition of individuals and organizations established in 1995 to provide leadership and coordination in planning for the provision of civil legal aid to low-income and elderly Mainers.

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## Lawyers Honored by the Supreme Judicial Court as *Katahdin Counsel*

- |   |                                     |                                       |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Eben Albert-Knopp, Portland             | Sarah S. Hellstedt, Portland        | Kimberly A. Pacelli, Portland         |
| Jennifer A. Archer, Portland            | Melissa A. Hewey, Portland          | Ellen Palminteri, Portland            |
| Vanessa A. Bartlett, Portland           | Kelly M. Hoffman, Portland          | David Paris, Bath                     |
| Sarah H. Beard, Portland                | Pamela S. Holmes, Wells             | John M. R. Paterson, Portland         |
| Erin Elizabeth Berry, Portland          | Susan C. Hopkins, Westbrook         | Elizabeth Lancaster Peoples, Portland |
| Thomas A. Berry, Boothbay Harbor        | Lori A. Howell, Eliot               | Kim Pittman, Portland                 |
| Joseph M. Bethony, Bangor               | Nathaniel R. Hull, Portland         | Victoria Powers, Portland             |
| Stephen D. Bither, Portland             | Erin O'Reilly Jakan, Alfred         | Robert M. Powers, Kennebunk           |
| Daniel W. Boutin, Portland              | Marcus B. Jaynes, Portland          | Gary M. Prolman, Portland             |
| Lauri Boxer-Macomber, Portland          | Kerry Clark Jordan, Orono           | Heidi M. Pushard, Lewiston            |
| Audrey Bryant Braccio, Bangor           | Edward J. Kelleher, Portland        | Amanda E. Ramirez, Wells              |
| Zachary William Brandmeir, Bangor       | Christine Kennedy-Jensen, Portland  | Craig John Rancourt, Biddeford        |
| Travis M. Brennan, Portland             | Nelson Larkins, Portland            | Nolan L. Reichl, Portland             |
| Nathaniel D. Bryans, Portland           | Kenneth William Lehman, Portland    | Clifford Ruprecht, Portland           |
| Daniel C. Buck, Wayne                   | Joe Lewis, Portland                 | Andreea Sabin, Portland               |
| Anne M. Carney, Portland                | Frederick Lipp, Portland            | Geraldine G. Sanchez, Portland        |
| Deborah Meier Carr, Greenville Junction | Caitlin LoCascio-King, Auburn       | Timothy R. Shannon, Portland          |
| Shelley P. Carter, Freyburg             | Cathy Rogers Lufkin, Millinocket    | David S. Sherman, Jr., Portland       |
| Rebecca A. Cayford, Skowhegan           | Arnold C. Macdonald, Portland       | Leslie Silverstein, Portland          |
| Jane S.E. Clayton, Penobscot            | Jane Makela, Falmouth               | Ellen Simmons, Camden                 |
| Seth S. Coburn, Portland                | Sarah A. McDaniel, Gorham           | R. July Simpson, Biddeford            |
| Amber Collins, Portland                 | Amy B. McGarry, Kennebunk           | Charles W. Smith Jr., Saco            |
| Thomas A. Cox, Portland                 | Bruce A. McGlaufflin, Portland      | Sophie Louise Spurr, Blue Hill        |
| Theodore S. Curtis, Jr., Orono          | Cynthia M. Mehnert, Bangor          | Heather A. Staples, Hulls Cove        |
| Alicia Margaret Cushing, Portland       | Eric M. Mehnert, Bangor             | Wendy Moulton Starkey, York           |
| Peter J. DeTroy, Portland               | William J. Michaud, Portland        | Timothy E. Steigelman, Portland       |
| George T. Dilworth, Portland            | Catherine C. Miller, Portland       | Melanie Haslip Stevens, Portland      |
| Cynthia J. Dresden, Brunswick           | Elek A. Miller, Portland            | Sheldon J. Tepler, Lewiston           |
| Richard K. Dubois, Caribou              | Katie Minervino, Portland           | Angela M. Thibodeau, Wells            |
| Jonathan M. Dunitz, Portland            | Steven J. Mogul, Bangor             | Louise Thomas, Portland               |
| Keith J. Dunlop, Portland               | Halliday Moncure, Portland          | Jennifer E. Thomas, Portland          |
| Dawn D. Dyer, Windham                   | Jack Montgomery, Portland           | Marsha Weeks Traill, Gorham           |
| Diane M. Edgcomb, Saco                  | Victoria Morales, Portland          | M. Thomas Trenholm, Portland          |
| Angela M. Farrell, Bangor               | Riikka E. Morrill, Portland         | Joy A. Trueworthy, Bangor             |
| Rita M. Farry, Kennebunk                | Misti D. Munster, Portland          | Neal L. Weinstein, Old Orchard        |
| Benjamin E. Ford, Portland              | Michael J. Murray, Portland         | Russell B. White, York                |
| John P. Foster, Eastport                | John E. Nale, Waterville            | Heather Thomas Whiting, Westbrook     |
| Ariel R. Gamble, Brunswick              | Alice A. Neal, Portland             | Roberta E. Winchell, Bangor           |
| Scott David Giese, Biddeford            | Thomas C. Newman, Portland          | Wenonah M. Wirick, Bath               |
| Bonnie S. Gould, Fryeburg               | Margaret Minister O'Keefe, Portland | Karen Frink Wolf, Portland            |
| Katie M. Gray, Portland                 | Bridget K. O'Rourke, Wayne          |                                       |
| Brian J. Hansen, Portland               | Sean Ociepa, Belfast                |                                       |
| Jennifer G. Hayden, Biddeford           | Zack M. Paakkonen, Portland         |                                       |

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

- **SAVE THE DATE: Access to Justice Day 2013 will be sponsored by JAG on March 7, at the State Capital.**

## KATAHDIN COUNSEL RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Hanna Sanders, Esq.

This year, the Maine Supreme Judicial Court honors 125 attorneys participating in the inaugural year of the Katahdin Counsel Recognition Program. Collectively, these attorneys have provided more than 13,600 hours of pro bono service to needy clients in their communities, representing millions of dollars in free legal assistance.

The purpose of the Katahdin Counsel Program, and the corresponding recognition events, is to bring public attention to the important role of pro bono legal service in maintaining the civil justice system. Katahdin Counsel Program Recognition Events were held on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Biddeford District Court; on November 5<sup>th</sup> at the Cumberland County Courthouse; and on November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Penobscot Judicial Center.

At the Biddeford awards ceremony, Chief Justice Saufley stated that Maine attorneys are among the most generous in the nation in their donation of pro bono time to those in need. "To provide free legal service to people who can't afford it means everything in a community," the Chief Justice noted during an interview with the Journal Tribune.

Media coverage of the Katahdin Counsel Recognition Program events has been very positive, and the County Bar Associations have been instrumental in organizing and supporting the Katahdin Counsel Recognition Program events.

Please visit [http://www.courts.state.me.us/citizen\\_help/attorneys/katahdin/overview.html](http://www.courts.state.me.us/citizen_help/attorneys/katahdin/overview.html) for additional information or contact Judicial Branch Access to Justice Coordinator Hanna Sanders, Esq. via [katahdin@courts.maine.gov](mailto:katahdin@courts.maine.gov) with any questions about this program.

JENNIFER ARCHER, ESQ.  
ILAP REPRESENTATIVE  
TO THE JAG BOARD



JAG welcomed Jennifer Archer of Kelly, Remmel & Zimmerman as the ILAP representative to the JAG Board at the January 2012 meeting. Jennifer is the current president of ILAP's Board of Directors. She received her undergraduate degree in 1997 from the University of Tulsa and then attended law school at the University of Maine School of Law, where she graduated in 2000 *cum laude*.

Jennifer focuses her practice on both general civil litigation and immigration. She also advises individuals and businesses alike on complex immigration matters. Jennifer has helped her clients through all phases of the immigration process. Additionally, she litigates matters in immigration court, helping clients defend against removal and deportation.

## OUTREACH TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR

### Hon. John Rich III

The Justice Action Group's Private Sector Outreach Task Force, which includes several prominent Maine business leaders and in-house counsel who have joined with Maine's legal services community, is examining how Maine's legal services programs and pro bono initiatives affect Maine's private sector and the Maine economy.

The Task Force, co-chaired by the Hon. John H. Rich III, the U.S. Magistrate Judge in Portland, and Kevin Gildart, former Vice-President of Human Re-

sources for Bath Iron Works, has been meeting approximately monthly to discuss how to build awareness of Maine's access to justice need in the business community and how to encourage the business community to become more actively involved in providing access to justice in Maine. The goal of the task force is to present a report to JAG by the end of the year. The report will be followed by a presentation to the JAG Board at the January 23, 2013 board meeting.

JAG is grateful for the generous amount of time and

effort donated by task force members including: Miles F. Archer, Esq., UNUM Vice President & Chief Insurance Operations Counsel; Janet Vivar Britton, Esq., Legal Counsel at Hanford Bros. Co.; Charles S. Colgan of the Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine; Dana F. Connors, President of the Maine State Chamber of Commerce; Sara Gagné-Holmes, Esq., Executive Director of Maine Equal Justice Partners; Brenda Garrand, CEO Garrand; and Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, CEO of Goodwill Industries of Northern New England.

# Lawyers in Libraries

## Maine Public Library Posting

The Volunteer Lawyers Project has received a grant to provide legal information workshops/clinics, and then legal representation clinics, through the Maine libraries video conferencing units and Movi/Jabber desktop video conferencing technology.

- The project will allow volunteer lawyers to provide information clinics on specific civil legal subjects that are likely to be of interest and use to Maine people with low incomes (but open to all patrons of public libraries). These clinics will be remote, but in real time, so patrons in different libraries will be able to attend and ask questions directly to the

attorney who will be available by video conference.

- This project will allow Volunteer Lawyers Project to set up actual consultations for people with low incomes to speak privately with a lawyer over the MOVI technology. The client will be at their local library, while the lawyer will be at the Volunteer Lawyers Project offices. The focus will be on bringing these video clinics to rural areas that have less legal resources available, but will be open to participation for all Maine Libraries.

## Video Workshop Schedule Tuesday, November 20th, 2012 6 pm – 7 pm, on Probate

The Portland Public Library and the Maine State Library in Augusta will be the video conferencing host on November 20th from 8 pm to 7 pm. The topic will be Probate.

The Volunteer Lawyers Project will be scheduling more informational workshops on a variety of legal issues in 2012-2013.

## WILLIAM C. KNOWLES, ESQ., PTLA REPRESENTATIVE TO THE JAG BOARD



Bill Knowles, a partner at Verrill Dana LLP, has maintained a general civil trial practice, with an emphasis on civil rights, commercial, personal injury, probate, and real estate litigation, for 30 years. Bill joined the JAG Board at its September 2012 meeting as a representative for Pine Tree Legal Assistance.

Bill has published articles in the *Maine Bar Journal* and has lectured extensively, including local seminars on civil litigation, and lectures at the University of Maine School of Law, the People's University of China, and the Georgetown Law Center. Bill received the 1999 Justice Louis Scolnik Award, presented by the Maine Civil Liberties Union and the 2002 Annual Award presented by the Disability Rights Center.

**We are on the web!**

[www.mbf.org/jag.html](http://www.mbf.org/jag.html)

## JUSTICE ACTION GROUP

### Justice Action Group Board of Directors:

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Caroline Wilshusen, JAG Executive Coordinator

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**Facebook**  
Maine Justice  
Action Group

For more information please contact:

Caroline Wilshusen, Esq., Executive Coordinator

[cwilshusen@mbf.org](mailto:cwilshusen@mbf.org)

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Katahdin Counsel Recognition Ceremony, November 5, 2012, Cumberland County Courthouse

## 2012 CAMPAIGN FOR JUSTICE SEEKS TO REACH ALL SUPPORTERS

*Cathy Coffman,*  
Campaign Coordinator

With the pressing need for legal aid and declining IOLTA and public funding, the 2012 Campaign for Justice set an ambitious goal of raising 12.5% more than it had in 2011 when the legal community raised \$400,000 (as it first did in 2008).

The 2012 Campaign is almost 80% of the way to its goal. Nearly 1,000 members of the legal

community have given to date. Most heartening is the fact that gifts are averaging slightly more than 12.5% higher than last year, so it is clear that the legal community is embracing the need. However, the gifts of many more past supporters are needed in these last two months to reach the goal and make the difference the Campaign hopes to achieve in legal aid support.

Volunteers are working to contact by phone and through mail and email the nearly 600 donors

from 2011 and another 450 donors from recent years who have not yet renewed their support, many of whom always give at year-end. With everyone's support, the legal community can indeed help more Mainers with low income who need legal assistance.

For more information, please contact the Campaign for Justice, 40 Water Street, Hallowell 04347 or online at [www.campaignforjustice.org](http://www.campaignforjustice.org)