

# MULTNOMAH LAWYER

Volume 71, Number 5



#### **Keeping Faith**

by Yoona Park MBF President

Much has been written about these singular times, when our legal community is feeling political pressure, and at times, buckling from the strain. There's an undercurrent of anxiety in every recent conversation I've had with other lawyers and judges. But during those

The MBF's programs

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conversations, the people who stand in the back of my mind are always the same: my mom and dad.

Every immigrant has a story. I came to America as a five year-old, with parents who spoke only Korean. I remember my mom's plants on the windowsill, lovingly grown in used yogurt containers. I remember dancing on my dad's feet on the rough carpet in our small, dark apartment. I remember the pride and relief my parents felt when they were naturalized as citizens, after being tested on US history questions that many of the people reading this would struggle to answer.

Knowing we were bona fide Americans, validated and entitled to all the legal protections of citizenship, I can still feel the sense of security that fell like a warm blanket over our family. In the face of all the alienness we felt at school, workplaces, grocery stores, and restaurants, we had certainty in the fairness and righteousness of

outcomes. This country gave us faith that we would get our turn to speak even in imperfect English - and that we would be protected by institutions and processes that existed to serve all, not just some.

As I sat down to write this column as this year's president of the Multnomah Bar Foundation, I intended to focus on the happy

occasion of the Foundation's 20th Anniversary. But I ended up thinking about why the MBF's work is personally meaningful to me. It's because I remember viscerally how it felt to be invited into the safe harbor of our judicial system and the equal protection of the law - to feel that I was not standing outside the tent, but had been welcomed in.

The MBF's programs work to demystify the court system, which during times like these is just one more place to feel exposed and vulnerable. CourtCare provides a safe environment for parents to drop kids during court business. CourtSupport provides a court "navigator," bilingual in English and Spanish, to orient the public to court facilities and processes. And CourtConnect facilitates events to increase the public's engagement with judges and other practitioners.

It is easy to feel powerless in the wake of political decision-making that defies simple explanation. But we have power in this community. Through your donation to the MBF's core mission and programs, you make our legal community stronger, and even more worthy of the

As you consider a contribution to the Multnomah Bar Foundation its 20th birthday, I send a heartfelt thank you for your past

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Celebrating 20 Years

#### **Multnomah Bar Association Annual Meeting, Dinner & Judges Reception**

Thursday, May 22 5-8 p.m. **Hilton Portland Downtown** 921 SW Sixth Avenue

Celebrating the profession and recognizing our colleagues

> **Diversity Award** Tristen Edwards

**Professionalism Award** Richard Vangelisti

**MBA Award of Merit Colin Andries** 

**YLS Award of Merit** Shiri Salehin

YLS Rookie of the Year Leona Yazdidoust

> **Pro Bono Awards** Kristin Asai Gina Goddard Gabrielle Hansen

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#### mba | CLE

See details on p. 3. Visit www.mbabar.org/cle and input your OSB number to register at the member rate.

#### MAY

5.6 Tuesday Making Your Record: Trial and Post-trial Tips from a Domestic **Relations Appellate Attorney** Andrew Newsom

5.7 Wednesday **Employment Law Update Bruce Garrett** 

5.9 Friday **What Employers Need to Know About the SPPE** Ankur Doshi Cassandra Dyke

5.13 Tuesday **How Do You Get Consistent Orders Regarding Parental Contact in Washington** County? Judge Kelly Lemarr Ronald Ridehalgh Gina Skinner

5.14 Wednesday Representing Children in Clackamas, Multnomah and **Washington Counties** Judge Kelly Lemarr Judge Christine Martin Judge Todd Van Rysselberghe

5.20 Tuesday **Oregon's Anti-SLAPP Statute: Identifying and Litigating Challenges to Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation** Kevin Kono Keil Mueller

5.27 Tuesday **Annual Family Law Update** Judge Patrick Henry Sarah Bond Amy Fassler Lisa Holland-Wang

#### JUNE

6.3 Tuesday **Reimagining Law Firm Efficiency with AI** Miquela Anzulovich

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# Richard Vangelisti Receives the 2025 MBA Professionalism Award

by Elizabeth Savage MBA Professionalism Committee

The author asked this year's recipient of the MBA Professionalism Award, Richard Vangelisti, to share his thoughts on professionalism in the legal community. Here's what he had to say.

#### What does professionalism mean to you?

At its core for me, professionalism is helping one's client to efficiently achieve their goals while striving for the common good in our justice system and community at large.

#### How do you practice professionalism on a daily basis?

Though in recent years my role has been that of full-time mediator, I still work towards treating everyone with respect, listening to their needs, and then working in the spirit of cooperation. Though the nature of our work (as lawyer and mediator alike) is resolving legal disputes, one of my goals is to strive for every participant to feel that they have been treated fairly by our justice system.

#### Why is professionalism important?

Our "Oregon Way" of professionalism is central to our practice here at home. First, professionalism demonstrates the lawyer's respect for the judicial system, which in turn strengthens the ideal that we are a country that values the rule of law. Second, professionalism establishes credibility for ourselves amongst our colleagues, which enables us to better meet the needs of our clients and community. Third, professionalism makes our work more mindful and fulfilling for ourselves and others. In short, practicing professionalism makes us better lawyers.

### Describe a time when your professionalism was tested.

How did you handle it? In the context of a discovery dispute with an out-of-state lawyer, I once used some spicy language with my opponent on the telephone. After I cooled down, I apologized to this lawyer. In response, the lawyer did not think my language was a big deal and said that my spicy language was "normal" where he practices. I told the lawyer that my errant approach was not the Oregon Way in our bar. In working with others, I then and now keep the focus on identifying the issue and reaching a solution.

# What advice do you have for young lawyers about maintaining professionalism in their practice?

Professionalism is just plain smart! Of course, as lawyers our oath requires that we "pledge fairness, integrity, and civility, not only in court, but also in all written and oral communications." As it turns out, professionalism is not only the right thing to do, it's also the smartest thing to do for ourselves



Richard Vangelisti

and our clients. While I've always worked toward professionalism over the last 30 years, I did not consciously realize that professionalism is plain smart until one of my mentors, Bill Barton, told me that professionalism is simply the smart approach. Professionalism builds credibility in every situation, and in our line of work, credibility is the currency of the realm.

#### Did you have any role models when you were a young attorney that influenced the way you approach professionalism?

Jane Paulson was one of my role models. She is an incredibly effective advocate and simultaneously has a strong reputation for professionalism. She has mentored many young lawyers and is constantly giving back to our community.

### What is something that you feel like this bar does well with respect to professionalism?

Our bar values mentorship and diversity. In addition to the strong mentorship program of the Multnomah Bar Association, I will never forget Ed Harnden's standing offer to take younger lawyers to lunch to mentor them. In 2013, the MBA Board unanimously amended our Commitment to Professionalism to include: "We will support a diverse bench and bar." In the 2013-2014 term, our MBA Board tocused on diversity starting our year with a retreat with leaders from the affinity bars to plan efforts to increase diversity. There are many initiatives in our legal community to support diversity, equity and inclusion, including the Oregon Mediator Diversity Project (www.omdp.org), which strives to increase diversity among the ranks of mediators in Oregon. Our legal system can better serve Oregon's diverse population if we have diversity across all roles in our profession.

Yet another thing our bar does well is providing information on the vital importance of our ethos and practice of professionalism. The *Multnomah Lawyer* is continually providing helpful tools on how to be professional but also on effectively dealing with others

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#### Calendar

#### MAY

1-31 Annual MBF Fundraising Campaign

Details on p. 14

**1-14 Law Day Events** www.mbabar.org/law-day

**7 Wednesday OHBA/YLS Drop-In Social**Details on p. 11

14 Wednesday MBA Solo & Small Firm Workshop Details on p. 11

betaits on p.

16 Friday
OWLS' 2025 Roberts & Deiz
Award Celebration
www.oregonwomenlawyers.org

22 Thursday
MBA Annual Meeting and
Dinner
Details on p. 1

26 Monday Memorial Day MBA Office Closed

28 Wednesday MBA Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee CLE Details on p. 9

29 Thursday Professionalism in an Age of Isolation Details on p. 8

#### JUNE

**12 Thursday Cornhole Showdown**Details on p. 11

17 Tuesday YLS Judges' Social Details on p. 11

**21 Saturday Portland Pickles Event**Details on p. 6

# Gina Goddard Receives 2025 Legal Aid Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year Award

by Brett Cattani Legal Aid Services of Oregon

One person can make a difference as demonstrated by Gina Goddard, attorney with Oregon Elder Law, recipient of the 2025 Legal Aid Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year Award. Gina is being recognized for her exceptional commitment to the Senior Law Project (SLP), a pro bono project coordinated by Legal Aid Services of Oregon (LASO). As the longestrunning pro bono program in Multnomah County, SLP continues to be a critical legal resource for low-income seniors.

The Legal Aid Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year award is presented to a lawyer who has displayed an outstanding commitment to the delivery of critical pro bono services to low-income persons through LASO or the Oregon Law Center (OLC), and Gina is truly deserving of this honor. Over the past two years, Gina has assisted with over 120 pro bono senior law cases - a remarkable contribution that demonstrates her compassion and commitment to reducing the justice gap by helping underrepresented and often vulnerable members of the community while displaying the highest level of professionalism.

The SLP hosts 20 legal clinics a month at seven senior centers across the county. It offers free consultations for Multnomah County seniors 60 and over on a variety of civil legal matters like wills, powers of attorney, housing, and consumer protection - areas of law that can have a profound impact on an individual's quality of life, particularly for those living on fixed incomes or dealing with mobility issues. "This project



Gina Goddard

relies upon the dedication of attorneys such as Gina, who we can count on to provide this important service," says Marc Beck, Pro Bono Coordinator and Staff Attorney with LASO. Gina's deep commitment to the project has ensured that dozens of seniors have received high-quality legal advice and left their appointments feeling heard, supported, and better equipped to handle their affairs.

"Gina's commitment to serving seniors at the Community for Positive Aging (CfPA) is unwavering," says Lisa Nims, CfPA's Community Engagement & Resource Coordinator. "The folks she serves leave feeling empowered, educated, and supported. Each person she works with expresses immense gratitude for the guidance and support she offers. We are incredibly grateful for Gina and her ongoing work with us through the Senior Law Program. Her impact is widespread and felt deeply throughout the community."

Gina's dedication to pro bono service is rooted in a lifelong commitment to community.

Continued on page 14



# Visit www.mbabar.org/cle to register online or scan this QR code.



The MBA will apply for general OSB MCLE credit unless otherwise noted; Washington credit may be obtained independently. Registrants who are unable to attend will receive a link to the archived webcast and written materials. Registration fees are non-refundable. Unless otherwise noted, all classes are held online.

#### Making Your Record: Trial and Post-trial Tips from a Domestic Relations Appellate Attorney

Tuesday, May 6 12-1 p.m.

Members \$35/Non-Members \$55

At the trial level, domestic relations cases have a lot of moving parts. After the court makes their decision, many clients will ask about appealing their case if they are not happy with the results. This seminar will provide tips for preserving the record to ensure your client is in the best possible position in a potential appeal, whether you win or lose at the trial level. Topics will include evidentiary objections (do they matter?), offers of proof, common preservation pitfalls, use of proposed findings/conclusions, and what can be done between the time of the ruling and time an appeal is initiated. It will also provide basic information on the appeal process, including typical timelines and costs. **Andrew Newsom**, Holtey Brown Newsom, an expert in domestic relations appeals, will present this topic for domestic relations attorneys who would like to know more about how to set a case up for success in the appellate process, and how to be a better trial attorney as a result.

**For more information:** Contact Nicole Clooten, Wyse Kadish LLP, at 503.228.8448. For registration questions, contact the MBA at mba@mbabar.org.

#### Employment Law Update Wednesday, May 7 12-1 p.m.

Members \$35/Non-Members \$55

Join **Bruce Garrett** of Dunn Carney LLP for an engaging examination of changes and recent trends in employment law. It's been another landmark year for employment hot-button issues. Topics will include changes to Paid Leave Oregon and revisions to the Oregon Family Leave Act, additional protections for warehouse workers provided by House Bill 4127, new overtime rules for agricultural workers, changes to minimum wage, emerging trends in employment claims and administrative charges, and more!

For more information: Contact the MBA at mba@mbabar.org.

#### What Employers Need to Know About the SPPE Friday, May 9 12-1 p.m.

Members \$35/Non-Members \$55

Ankur Doshi, OSB General Counsel and Cassandra Dyke, OSB SPPE coordinator, will provide employers with details about the Supervised Practice Portfolio Examination, a new method of obtaining licensure within Oregon. Employers can learn about how the program works, what employers need to do to employ an SPPE applicant, and how employers can support SPPE applicants.

For more information: Contact the MBA at mba@mbabar.org.

#### Restraining Orders, No Contact Orders, Domestic Relations Orders, Juvenile Orders OH MY!

#### **How Do You Get Consistent Orders Regarding Parental Contact in Washington County**

Tuesday, May 13 12-1 p.m.

Members \$35/Non-Members \$55

In 2022, the Washington County Local Family Law Advisory Committee convened a work group to study the issue of multiple conflicting orders regarding parental contact in various court proceedings. This work group (Competing Orders Workgroup) resolved to discuss how our community could better address issues of parental contact when there are allegations or charges concerning domestic violence and a family is suddenly faced with a domestic relations order that is different from a restraining order that is different from pre-trial release conditions (criminal no contact), that is different from orders entered in juvenile cases. It is often confusing for parents to navigate these conflicting orders resulting in unintended violations, abrupt changes in parental contact and even primary care, and inefficiency in a court system that prefers to have a "one judge, one family" policy.

The group studied the issue for two years and made recommendations to the Washington County Circuit Court Presiding Judge that were adopted by PJO 353, which creates an expedited hearing process that will assign one judge to hear matters concerning contact with minor children in the context of a pre-trial criminal proceeding where there are one or more civil orders concerning contact with the same child. Washington County Circuit Court Judge Kelly Lemarr; Ronald Ridehalgh, Ridehalgh & Associates LLC; and Gina Skinner, Washington County District Attorney's Office, will cover the following:

- 1. PJO 353, detailing the process by which an interested party can request a hearing to address conflicting orders concerning parental contact in Washington County
- 2. Practical guidance on how to fill out the new forms required to request a competing orders hearing
- 3. What to expect at a competing orders hearing
- 4. Limitations and exclusions on what can be requested at a competing orders hearing

**For more information:** Contact Mark Barzda, Gevurtz Menashe PC, at 503.227.1515. For registration questions, contact the MBA at mba@mbabar.org.

#### Representing Children in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties

Wednesday, May 14 12-1 p.m.

Members \$35/Non-Members \$55

Court-appointed attorneys can provide a vital voice for children in cases involving custody and parenting time. The **Honorable Todd Van Rysselberghe** of Clackamas County, the **Honorable Christine Martin** of Multnomah County, and the **Honorable Kelly Lemarr** of Washington County will explain how to become a children's attorney and effectively advocate for children. They will explain the process each county uses for appointing children's attorneys, discuss the standards for representing children of different ages, and highlight ways in which attorneys can have a positive impact in resolving custody disputes.

**For more information:** Contact the MBA at mba@mbabar.org.

### Oregon's Anti-SLAPP Statute - Identifying and Litigating Challenges to Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation Tuesday, May 20 12-1 p.m.

Members \$35/Non-Members \$55

A special motion to strike under Oregon's anti-SLAPP statute, ORS 31.150, can be a powerful tool for challenging and quickly disposing of claims that arise from public participation, from public statements related to issues of public interest, or from other conduct related to the exercise of the right of free speech or the right to petition. **Kevin Kono**, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, and **Keil Mueller**, Keller Rohrback LLP, will address how to identify claims that are ripe for a special motion to strike and how Oregon courts determine whether the anti-SLAPP statute applies. They also will address the statutory standards for overcoming an anti-SLAPP motion.

**For more information:** Contact the MBA at mba@mbabar.org.

#### Annual Family Law Update Tuesday, May 27 3-5 p.m.

Members \$70/Non-Members \$110

On Tuesday, May 27 the MBA will hold its annual two-hour Family Law Update. Multnomah County Chief Family Law Judge, the Honorable Patrick Henry, will be joined by Lisa Holland-Wang, Multnomah County Circuit Court Family Law Department supervisor, Sarah Bond of Bond Family Law and Amy Fassler of Schulte Anderson for an in-depth discussion of recent Oregon Court of Appeals cases affecting domestic relations jurisprudence and Oregon family law practice. Our speakers will also provide family law practitioners with important information on recent changes, updates, reminders and practice tips regarding Multnomah County Family Court procedures and practice.

For more information: Contact the MBA at mba@mbabar.org.

#### Reimagining Law Firm Efficiency with Al Tuesday, June 3 12-1 p.m.

FREE for Members/Non-Members \$35

Discover how AI can simplify your law firm's work, reduce friction from intake to invoice, and enable you to scale without sacrificing quality of work or the human touch that makes your firm special.

In this session, you will come away with:

- Discover practical ways of using AI tailored to law firms of all sizes and practice areas
- Gaining insights into AI as an enhancement rather than a replacement
- Learn how to implement AI securely, ensuring client data remains protected and compliant.

Miquela Anzulovich from Clio will present this CLE.

For more information: Contact the MBA at mba@mbabar.org.

#### How a Bill Really Becomes a Law in Oregon Wednesday, June 11 12-1 p.m.

Members \$35/Non-Members \$55

Join two experienced public interest lobbyists - **Sybil Hebb**, JD, Director of Legislative Advocacy at the Oregon Law Center and **Chris Coughlin**, Policy Director at Oregon Consumer Justice - to have your questions answered about how a bill really moves through the Oregon legislative process. You will hear about how you can engage in the process long before the start of a legislative session, as well as key ways to track and engage during a legislative session.

For more information: Contact the MBA at mba@mbabar.org.

#### FREE CLE CONTENT FOR 2025 MBA MEMBERS

2025 MBA members receive access to a catalog of video webcasts recorded during the Fall 2023-Spring 2024 program year. This amounts to 60+ hours of free MCLE-accredited programming, available anytime.

To take advantage of this offer, simply visit www.mbabar.org/freeCLE.

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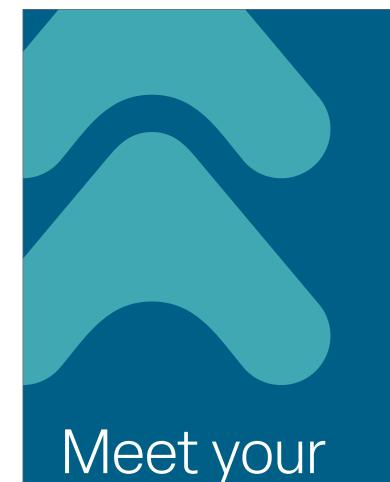
We are pleased to announce that Grace Family Law has joined McKinley Irvin's Portland office.

Grace Lee and Joe Crowell bring their expertise and client-focused approach to enhance our family law services. Together, they strengthen our commitment to protect what our clients value most.









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#### Clio Solo and Small Firm Virtual Summit

Attend this free CLE seminar on May 8 for actionable tips on taking your law firm operations to the next level. Learn how to work smarter, not harder while caring for your practice and your wellbeing. Visit www.bit.ly/clio-summit for details and registration.

MBA members receive a 10% discount on Clio products, excluding Clio Draft.

#### **MBA** Battle of the Lawyer Bands

The MBA Events Committee is seeking bands and sponsors for the August 21 Battle of the Lawyer Bands. Bands comprised of at least one Oregon lawyer will compete for the title of "Best Oregon Lawyer Band 2025" at this **Multnomah Bar Foundation** fundraiser. Band applications are due May 2. Sponsorship forms are due May 9. More information is available at www.mbabar.org/calendar.

#### **Virtual Mindfulness Sessions**

The Mindfulness in Law Society (MILS) Oregon Chapter invites you to practice mindfulness while connecting with lawyers from around the country. Two virtual sits are offered each week - one on Mondays at noon, and one on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. Attendance is free even if you are not a MILS member. Visit www.mindfulnessinlawsociety.org/virtual-sits for details and to participate.

#### **Multnomah CourtCare**

Free drop-in childcare for children six weeks to 12 years of age is available at the Central Courthouse, Monday-Friday, from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. This MBF-funded program is for families who have business at the Central Courthouse, federal courthouse, or Justice Center in downtown Portland. Reservations are encouraged, but not required (503.988.4334, courtcaredropin@voaor.org).

#### **Pro Bono Opportunities in Multnomah County**

Find the opportunity that is right for you by browsing the list of pro bono providers at www.mbabar.org/probono. Many of the programs listed provide training materials and mentors to assist new volunteers.

#### Statement of Diversity Principles Available to Sign

The MBA Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee invites you to sign the Statement of Diversity Principles. Read and sign the diversity statement and pledge at www.mbabar.org/diversity.

#### **Noontime Rides**

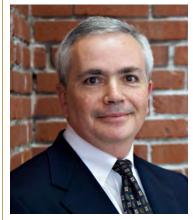
Join all ages of bicycle riders for noontime hill climbs on Mondays and Thursdays. Assemble at noon at the SW corner of Pioneer Square and leave together at 12:15 p.m. Rain or shine. Frequent regroups. Mondays include rotating paceline around SW Fairmount; Thursdays go up through Forest Park. E-bikes okay. Great repeating interval workouts. Contact Ray Thomas, 503.228.5222, if you are a new rider or for additional details.

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#### **Ethics Focus**



Earlier this year, the Oregon State Bar issued an ethics opinion broadly surveying emerging issues for lawyers using artificial intelligence tools - "AI tools" - in law practice. Formal Opinion 2025-205 adds an Oregon accent to a similar survey from the ABA last year from a national perspective in Formal Opinion 512. The opinions are available, respectively, on the OSB and ABA websites.

The Oregon opinion, like its ABA counterpart, focuses primarily on competence and confidentiality. We'll discuss those two areas here with specific reference to the Oregon opinion.

Before we do, however, two qualifiers are in order.

First, although we'll focus on competence and confidentiality, the Oregon opinion addresses many other areas - including communicating with clients about the AI tools used in handling their work, billing for AI tools, supervision of both lawyers and staff using AI tools, and following any applicable court rules when using AI tools for briefs and other court filings.

Second, the Oregon opinion acknowledges that in this rapidly developing area, new issues are likely to arise and will require further analysis. Understandably, the opinion is framed around general issues that also arose during earlier waves of technological change in law practice. Those earlier waves, however, primarily brought greater efficiency. AI tools at some point may also involve a degree of professional judgment that may require new or different thinking.

#### Competence

Formal Opinion 2025-205 leads with the bedrock precept that

#### Good Counsel: New OSB Opinion on Al Tools in Law Practice

by Mark J. Fucile Fucile & Reising LLP

lawyers under RPC 1.1 must competently handle client work.

An earlier OSB opinion in the context of cloud computing - Formal Opinion 2011-188 (rev. 2015) - emphasized that competence under RPC 1.1 includes both substantive knowledge of applicable legal principles and understanding the technology we use in handling client work.

The new opinion echoes that approach. Formal Opinion 2025-205 emphasizes that lawyers exploring the use of AI tools in law practice must conduct sufficient due diligence to understand both their utility and their risks and must undertake adequate training before using them for client work. In some instances, lawyers will have the requisite technical competence to handle these tasks on their own. In others, they will need assistance from knowledgeable technology professionals - whether on a law firm's staff, outside consultants, or a combination.

Formal Opinion 2025-205 cites Mata v. Avianca, Inc., 678 F. Supp.3d 443 (S.D.N.Y. 2023), as a cautionary tale. Mata, which produced significant national media attention, involved a lawyer who didn't understand how the "free" version of Chat GPT worked, used it to write a brief that resulted in multiple citations to non-existent cases, and then had his partner (who, unlike the lawyer-drafter, was admitted in the federal district involved) file it without checking the accuracy of the cites. Aside from what Mata may say about human nature, it provides a powerful example of how not to approach new AI tools. The court in Mata was not amused with the lawyer's "I didn't understand what I was doing" defense. The lawyer, his partner, and their law firm were all sanctioned by the court.

#### Confidentiality

Formal Opinion 2025-205 addresses confidentiality in

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considerable detail. It begins by outlining the broad sweep of the confidentiality rule - RPC 1.6 - and the specific responsibility lawyers have under RPC 1.6(c) for taking reasonable steps to protect client confidentiality.

Formal Opinion 2025-205 notes that some consumer AI tools - which the opinion calls "open models" - offer no assurance of confidentiality and typically use information provided to "train" the tool involved. That does not necessarily mean that a general consumer product can never be used in law practice. For example, a personal injury lawyer might want to know about weather conditions in an area on the day of an accident. Using readily available internet sites to obtain this kind of information would ordinarily be permitted because it does not reveal client confidential information. By contrast, the lawyer in Mata entered increasingly client-specific search prompts into a "free" version of ChatGPT apparently without appreciating the confidentiality issues involved.

Formal Opinion 2025-205 counsels that, in theory, confidential information could be shared with an "open model" with a client's informed consent. "Informed consent" is a defined term under RPC 1.0(g) and requires a discussion with the client in advance concerning the risks along with any benefits. A significant generic risk in this scenario is that privilege could be waived and, under OEC 511, waiver generally goes to the subject of a communication - not simply a particular conversation or isolated document.

By contrast, Formal Opinion 2025-205 notes that AI products tailored to legal work - which the opinion calls "closed models" - typically offer contractual assurances of confidentiality consistent with our duty as lawyers and do not use information shared to train the tool involved. The opinion cautions, however, that even with "closed models," the contractual assurances warrant close review before sharing client confidential information with an AI tool.

Formal Opinion 2025-205 finds that with "closed models" offering solid contractual assurances of confidentiality from reputable vendors, client consent is ordinarily not required. The opinion cautions, however, that the need for client consent can turn on the sensitivity of the information involved, and the client concerned. In making these observations, the recent Oregon opinion again mirrors the general guidance offered earlier by OSB Formal Opinion 2011-188 in the context of electronic file storage.



#### **mba** Multnomah Lawyer

#### **Around the Bar**



Olivia Ashé

#### **Tonkon Torp LLP**

The firm is excited to welcome attorney Olivia Ashé (Ah-Shay) to its Litigation Department.
Ashé's practice is focused on complex commercial civil matters for businesses and individuals and she has extensive experience managing discovery and developing strategies to resolve or avoid disputes.

Ashé regularly works within Oregon's environmental and agriculture sectors as a founding board member of the Black Oregon Land Trust, a nonprofit working to ensure that Black communities have secure and affordable land access, protected ecosystems, and earth stewardship skills.

Prior to joining Tonkon Torp, Olivia was a litigation associate at K&L Gates with a practice covering commercial, environmental, and land use disputes. Before her law career, she served as a pastor and the co-director of a nonprofit. While attending Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Ashé served as a mediator for small claims court with the Center for Conflict Resolution in Chicago and worked as a judicial extern for former Oregon Supreme Court Justice Adrienne Nelson.



Andrea Moore

Miller Nash LLP
Miller Nash welcomes Andrea
Moore to the firm's tax team.
Moore provides strategic
guidance to clients on a wide
range of tax matters.

Before joining Miller Nash,
Moore gained extensive experience
as a federal tax associate at a
leading multinational accounting
and auditing firm, where she
focused on federal tax law and
large-scale transactions. She also
advised clients at a prominent
Pacific Northwest firm on tax
issues across multiple industries.
Early in her career, Moore worked
as a private wealth compliance
analyst, honing her ability to
tackle intricate tax challenges with
precision and insight.

Moore earned her law degree at the University of Oregon School of Law. She received her LLM degree in tax from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law.

The Around the Bar column reports on MBA members' moves, transitions, promotions and other honors within the profession. The submission deadline is the 10th of the month preceding publication or the prior Friday if that date falls on a weekend. All submissions are edited to fit column format and the information is used on a space-available basis in the order in which it was received. Submissions may be emailed to mba@mbabar.org.

#### mba|EVENT

The MBA Events Committee invites you to

Portland Pickles Event
Saturday, June 21
7:05 p.m.
Walker Stadium
4727 SE 92nd Avenue, Portland



Join the MBA Events Committee on Saturday, June 21 for the Portland Pickles vs Bend Wolves game. A block of seats has been reserved for our group in the Pickle Party Plaza on the first base line. Gather your lawyer friends, legal staff and family members for this evening of fun.

Gates open: 6 p.m. Game time: 7:05 p.m.

Cost: \$25 for members and non-members

Register at www.mbabar.org





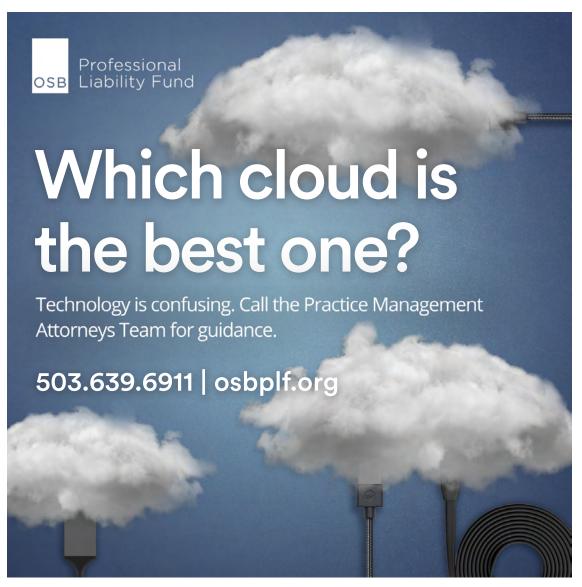
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#### Tips From the Bench

# **Improving Pretrial Release Outcomes in Criminal Cases**

by Judge Celia Howes Multnomah County Circuit Court



Local news outlets recently reported that the Multnomah County jail has nearly reached capacity five times in this calendar year. In March, the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners adopted an updated jail capacity management plan that allows for the forced release of individuals should the jail reach capacity. Reporters cited as one factor contributing to the increased jail population the changes implemented in January by the Presiding Judge Order governing who must remain in custody pending an appearance in court.

Oregon law requires the presiding judge of each judicial district enter a standing pretrial release order instructing the jail on who they can release on their own and who must be held to see a judge. See ORS 135.233. Chief Justice Meagan Flynn established by order the guidelines that presiding judges must follow in crafting their own pretrial release orders. See Oregon Supreme Court Chief Justice Order CJO24-014. Chief Justice Flynn's guidelines have the stated goals of:

- 1. Providing a consistent release decision-making structure across the state;
- 2. Reducing the use of bail;
- 3. Ensuring victim notification and participation; and
- Balancing the rights of the defendant and legal presumption of release against community and victim safety, and the risk of failure to appear.

By Presiding Judge Order No 24PJO00002, Judge Judith Matarazzo updated Multnomah County's release guidelines to align with Chief Justice Flynn's 2024 order. Of note, Judge Matarazzo's order made changes that address some of Multnomah County's most serious public safety concerns, including the distribution of fentanyl, repeated car theft, and people who fail to appear or commit new crimes while on release on pending charges.

While Judge Matarazzo signed the order in June 2024, certain changes were scheduled to go into effect in January 2025 to allow system partners to plan for an expected bump in jail population. The delayed changes were those designed to address the significant failure to appear rates in Multnomah County, as well as those designed to stop the repeating cycles of new criminal

activity by people already facing criminal charges.

When a defendant is booked and released but fails to appear for court, the cycle of arrest and booking repeats. Each cycle of arrest, booking and setting of new court dates is costly to the criminal legal system. When a person is arrested, they are booked into the Multnomah County Detention Center. The Department of Community Justice then must conduct a pretrial evaluation and determine whether to release or hold the person based on the presiding judge's release guidelines. The person is either released and given a date on which to return to court or is held pending a court appearance. If after release, the person fails to appear, the court issues a warrant, and the person returns to court only after law enforcement arrests them on the warrant or for committing a new crime. This cycle drains legal system resources, from law enforcement to jail booking and detention, and the court's dockets

The data on Multnomah County's failure to appear rates reveals a problem worth fixing. From September 2024 to February 2025, rates for failures to appear ranged from 41% to 52% on misdemeanors. For felonies, rates ranged from 30% to 41%. Until the changes were implemented, individuals could be booked and released repeatedly on the same charges, before ever seeing a judge. These rates show an untenable drain on system resources. These rates are bad for victims who want to be heard and who are seeking closure. And they are bad for defendants whose lives are on stall while charges remain pending, who cannot access supportive services while they are on warrant status, and whose case outcomes worsen when new charges are piled on.

The consequence of the Presiding Judge Order is that the individuals who are failing to appear or who are presenting a risk to the community are held to see a judge who makes a discretionary release decision. The victim has a right to appear at the hearing and be heard on the release considerations. The detained individual typically needs wait only until the next day for a court appearance. In no event do they wait longer than 96 hours. The statutory scheme governing the court's release decision creates a presumption of release. However, the judge must decide whether to release a person with no conditions, to set conditions of release, or to set bail. The law requires the court to choose the form of release that is most likely to ensure the safety of the victim and public, the defendant's likelihood of returning to court, and that the defendant does not engage in domestic violence while on release.

Holding certain individuals for a court appearance does

#### **News From the Court**



by Tomas Osborne MBA Court Liaison Committee

#### Civil Court Update - Chief Civil Judge David Rees

It's a very busy time at the courthouse, with numerous trials taking place and many jury trials proceeding. This uptick in trial activity presents a valuable opportunity for newer attorneys to gain courtroom experience, as there are more chances than usual to appear in court. The court is gradually returning to a pre-COVID timeline for bringing cases to trial, which has been a welcome development. However, with that progress has come a noticeable increase in motion practice in the weeks leading up to trial. This last-minute flurry often creates complications and challenges, likely a residual effect of the backlog caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. As the saying goes, "justice delayed is justice denied," and the current system is working to avoid further delays. Notably, it is now unlikely that trial dates will be continued or set over, reinforcing the importance of timely preparation. Despite the volume of motion practice, the system appears to be functioning effectively. Judges assigned to hear motions are selected randomly.

Questions have come up regarding the procedure for requesting an elected judge for motions for summary judgment (MSJs). Currently, a notice goes out that a pro tem judge will be assigned, but often the identity of that pro tem is not yet known. This creates confusion about when a request for a sitting judge must be made. Presiding Judge Judith Matarazzo clarified that the best practice is to wait until the pro tem is actually assigned before making the request. This approach helps avoid losing the hearing date and provides a backup plan if a sitting judge is unavailable. It's important to note that merely meeting the 60-day deadline for filing an MSJ does not guarantee that the motion will be heard before trial or that it can be assigned to a sitting judge due to limited availability. There is no right to a summary judgment hearing before trial, and no postponements will be granted

Judge Matarazzo noted that affidavits of prejudice are filed approximately 50% of the

temporarily increase the jail population. But the court has a legal obligation to make release decisions that protect the community and ensure defendants return to court. By requiring certain individuals be held to see a judge, the Presiding Judge Order ensures that release decisions adequately account

time, where one side asks for an elected judge to hear the case as opposed to a pro tem judge. In many cases, both parties will file affidavits once a new assignment is made. There appears to be a growing mindset within the bar that a judge's prior professional background may create bias, leading attorneys to file affidavits based on perceived unfairness. However, it is important to remember that filing an affidavit is a sworn statement asserting personal knowledge that a judge cannot be fair to a particular client not merely a strategic preference.

#### Presiding Judge's Report -Presiding Judge Judith Matarazzo

A key issue the court is dealing with is the consistent underestimation of the number of days needed to complete a trial. Attorneys are encouraged to more carefully evaluate the time required to try their cases, as overly optimistic estimates can create scheduling challenges and disrupt the court's calendar. If a trial is expected to exceed four days, parties must notify Cheri Coe (Cheri.L.Coe@ojd.state.or.us) at least six weeks in advance. Typically, this responsibility falls on the plaintiff or the State, who are expected to alert the court within the required timeframe. The court continues to experience a high volume of trials, adding pressure to manage time and resources efficiently. On the civil side, attorneys are reminded that the trial date selected during the trial setting conference is final. Parties should not expect to reset that date, and must plan accordingly when scheduling and preparing their case.

# Trial Court Administrator's Report - Trial Court Administrator Barbara Marcille Despite the heavy workload in Multnomah County, the court

is making a concerted effort to adhere to the disposition standards set by Chief Justice Megan Flynn. On the criminal side, the court will soon be implementing structural changes to misdemeanor case flow that have been in development for many months. These changes are designed to keep cases progressing efficiently through the system, introducing checkpoints to minimize delays and reduce the need for rescheduling.

At the Justice Center, construction work to repair the Second Avenue entrance is underway and is expected to be completed by the end of the summer. Meanwhile, construction is beginning in the lobby of the Juvenile Justice Center to improve security and crowd movement in that area. The contractors are working outside of business hours when possible, but the projects may be somewhat disruptive and the court and Multnomah County appreciate everyone's patience. On a positive note, repairs to the audiovisual (AV) systems throughout the Central Courthouse are nearing completion, which should improve functionality and support smoother proceedings moving forward.

#### Free CLE & Courthouse Social: "Professionalism in an Age of Isolation"

Thursday, May 29, 3-5 p.m. The court and MBA Court Liaison Committee invite you to attend a free CLE and social at the Central Courthouse. This event is designed to provide both professional insights and an opportunity for networking. The CLE will address how attorneys can maintain professionalism and build community in a hybrid or remote working environment, offering practical tips on what to do - and what to avoid - and how to engage with colleagues in the profession despite the increase in remote legal practice. Bring your questions and join us from 3-4:15 p.m. for a panel discussion with Judge Jacqueline Alarcón, Judge Steffan Alexander, and Judge Christopher Ramras, moderated by David Hutchinson, HLH Law LLC. Stay for the social immediately following and enjoy an opportunity for conversation and networking. Free for MBA members and non-members, registration is required. RSVP to Pamela Hubbs (pamela@mbabar.org) to register. The MBA will apply for 1.25 hours of General OSB MCLE credit for this event. More information at www.bit.ly/prof-cle.

#### **Question for the Court?**

If you have a question for the court or would like to share feedback about court practices through the Court Liaison Committee, please send your questions or comments to Pamela Hubbs, pamela@mbabar.org, with "Question for the court" in the subject line.

for these considerations. And, by interrupting the recurring arrest-booking-appearance cycle, holding people with repeated failures to appear should save system resources.

The court continues to monitor data related to pretrial release decisions and jail population. The court is also participating in efforts

to reform Multnomah County's pretrial release system. A prerelease assessment of a person's needs and risks and connection to supportive community resources would allow for more people to be safely released in the community while they have a pending criminal case.

# **Announcing New MBA Board Directors**

We welcome our new directors whose three-year terms begin June 1.



Rebecca Cambreleng

Rebecca Cambreleng, an experienced litigator at Cambreleng & Marton, specializes in employment law, seeks justice for victims and survivors of sexual assault and sexual harassment, and advises small businesses on a variety of employmentrelated matters. Rebecca also serves as a Washington County Circuit Court pro tem judge. Rebecca has long been active in the legal community, serving on the MBA's Solo & Small Firm Committee, Public Service Committee, Court

Liaison Committee and YLS Membership Committee. She is also a member of Oregon Women Lawyers, Queen's Bench Chapter. Rebecca received her JD from American University Washington College of Law and an LLM from the New York University School of Law.



Nick Kampars

Nick Kampars is a trial lawyer and founding partner of Wildwood Law Group and has over 18 years of experience representing individuals and companies in matters ranging from significant personal injury cases to complex business disputes. Nick has demonstrated a strong commitment to the legal community through his

leadership within the MBA and other organizations. He has a long history of board and committee service going back to 2007, which includes serving as president of the Multnomah Bar Foundation, the MBA Young Lawyers Section and the Campaign for Equal Justice. Nick received his JD from Willamette University College of Law.



Jonathan Strauhull

Jonathan Strauhull serves as an Assistant County Attorney for the Multnomah County Attorney's Office, where he provides legal counsel to the Department of County Human Services on a wide range of matters, including general legal advice and contracts. He also advises and represents the Adult Care Home Program, the Developmental Disabilities Program, the Public Guardian's

Office, and the Joint Office of Homeless Services. Jon has been actively involved with the MBA since 2011. His leadership includes service on the Professionalism Committee, VLP Golf Committee, and the CLE Committee, where he served as a member and as chair. Jon received his JD from Willamette University College of Law.



Maxine Tuan

Maxine Tuan is the Executive Director of St. Andrew Legal Clinic, where she leads efforts to provide affordable family law services and legal support for veterans across Multnomah and Washington counties. Maxine's extensive involvement in the legal community includes serving as past president of OAPABA and as a board member of the Oregon Women Lawyers Foundation. She is also

a former president of the MBA Young Lawyers Section. Maxine earned her JD from Lewis & Clark Law School, where she also served as a 1L mentor.



Tyler Volm

**Tyler Volm** is a partner at McEwen Gisvold LLP where his practice includes business transactions, employment matters and civil litigation. Tyler has a long MBA history of board and committee service going back to 2011 and including service as president of the Multnomah Bar Foundation and the MBA Young Lawyers Section. Tyler served as emcee for the Campaign for Equal Justice Laf-Off and has been one of the event's comedians. Tyler earned his JD from Lewis & Clark Law School, with a certificate in Business Law.

#### MBA Professionalism Award

 $Continued\ from\ page\ 2$ 

who may exhibit unprofessional conduct. For example, see "Why Professionalism Boils Down to Kindness and Respect - The Honorable Jacqueline Alarcón" by Allison Kamilos in the April issue of the Multnomah Lawyer (www.mbabar.org/newsletter).

# Is there an area where most practitioners in our bar could stand to improve with respect to professionalism?

In my mediation work, I have the privilege of working with many lawyers in Oregon and around the country. I've noticed that lawyers are becoming busier and more stressed. I've also learned that while everyone is focused on the legal dispute at hand, there may be personal challenges that many are experiencing such as workrelated stress, illness, or sometimes the loss of a loved one. I think we should continue to build on our Oregon Way and take the time to listen and understand that each of us may have personal challenges. Through a better understanding of one another, including on a personal level, we can have a more mindful approach to serving our clients. Oregon is the best place to practice, and our strong commitment to professionalism is the leading reason.

#### On a national level, what challenges do we as attorneys face with respect to maintaining professionalism? The integrity of the profession?

A few Google searches can illustrate the immediate challenges to our judicial system and the integrity of our profession.

Simply Google: "Supreme Court Justice John Roberts statement rejecting calls for impeachment of federal judges," "American Bar Association supports the rule of law," and "punishing law firms."

#### What can we do to meet those challenges?

I appreciate Brad Krupicka's column in the April *Multnomah Lawyer*, "The MBA Stands with the ABA, Local Bar Associations, and Affinity Groups to Support the Rule of Law and the Judiciary." I anticipate that we will continue to see local and national responses to these challenges. Of course, the responses will have to be within our profession, including law schools, and outward to the communities that lawyers serve. I am hopeful that we will overcome these challenges.

Richard Vangelisti will be presented with the 2025 MBA Professionalism Award at the MBA Annual Meeting and Dinner on Thursday, May 22 at the Hilton Portland Downtown. Tickets/details at www.mbabar.org/events. Vangelisti is a full-time mediator, a past president of the MBA, and one of the founders of the Oregon Mediator Diversity Project.

# Colin George Andries Receives the MBA Award of Merit Presented Posthumously

The MBA Award of Merit is posthumously awarded to **Colin Andries**, who passed away on September 7, 2024 at the age of 44.

Colin, formerly with Black Helterline, was well known in the MBA community for his volunteer involvement, leadership and support. Colin's dedication to the legal community and his commitment to building strong relationships and mentoring new lawyers made a lasting impact.

Colin was an active member of the MBA Young Lawyers Section (YLS) and chaired the YLS Membership Committee. He served on a number of MBA committees and chaired the MBA Events Committee. He also served on the Oregon State Bar Board of Governors, the Oregon State

Bar House of Delegates, and the University of Oregon School of Law Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Colin's colleagues and friends at Black Helterline remember Colin as "a larger-than-life presence in our midst, whose work ethic and genuine care for each member of our firm endeared him to all, from staff to his fellow partners. His instantly recognizable voice and laugh could be heard from across the office and once he made his way to your door, a warm greeting, and often, a joke, were offered. His intrepid optimism and positive attitude made him a fearless leader and litigator, who understood that each member of a team was integral to its success."



Colin Andries

Colin's wife, Evyan wrote that Colin "approached his life with infectious joy and boundless enthusiasm that radiated well past his inner circle and poured out onto everyone he encountered." That infectious joy and boundless enthusiasm was ever-present in the way Colin practiced law and in his volunteer work. We are grateful to Colin for his service. It was a privilege to have known and worked with him.

#### **MBA Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee presents**

Language Access and Cultural Competency in Legal Practice Wednesday, May 28 Noon-1 p.m.

Remote attendance only via Zoom

Please join the MBA Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee for this CLE, which explores the intersection of language services and cultural competency in legal settings. **Yvette Tamamoto**, Language Access Coordinator at the Oregon Judicial Department, and **Janet Cowal**, Professor of Applied Linguistics at Portland State University, will provide guidance on working with interpreters and discuss broader implications for equitable access to justice.

**Cost:** \$20 for members; \$30 for non-members
The MBA will apply for 1 hour of Access to Justice OSB MCLE credit

For more information or to register, visit www.mbabar.org



# Young Lawyers Shiri Salehin Section Receives 2025 Y

#### What is the YLS?

An inclusive section of the bar, comprised of any MBA member in practice less than six years or under the age of 36. The YLS provides leadership, networking, professional development and service opportunities. And we have fun!

#### **Civics Learning Project Mock Trial Recap**

by Zack Johnson and Shiri Salehin YLS Service to the Public Committee



Photo courtesy Andie Petkus Photography

"The best way to preserve democracy is to teach democracy." - Civics Learning Project

The Civics Learning Project (CLP) supports Oregon youth in becoming "active, engaged, and informed participants in democratic society." Since its beginnings in 1973, CLP has been dedicated to the cause of helping students "participate in the state's distinctive model of direct democracy and be active community members." In the 2022-23 school year, CLP served more than 147,000 students across Oregon. One of the primary ways CLP teaches democracy is through its mock trial program. This means that students are able to participate as attorneys, witnesses, or court staff, resulting in a lively trial for all.

CLP's mock trials are not simply a classroom strategy: they are an extracurricular competition in which students throughout the state participate. Initially, students are given a mock court case and then required to prepare to serve as attorneys, witnesses, or court staff. After their initial preparation, student attorneys present opening and closing statements and ask direct and cross-examination questions. Student attorneys then must also learn to navigate the CLP rules of evidence. Student witnesses memorize significant fact patterns so that they may answer student attorneys' questions in character. Students in the court staff role act as law clerks to the presiding judges. The mock trial program allows high school students to compete at regional,

state, and even national levels. A new and exciting case is created by CLP each year. This year's case included a social media influencer, a family-run amusement park, a ride gone awry, and a highly disputed social media post, among other curiosities.

In reality, CLP's mock trial program is not only for high school students - it is an opportunity for the greater legal community. CLP relies on legal professionals to volunteer as presiding and scoring judges. Attorneys, judges, educators, and interested citizens from throughout Multnomah County and beyond volunteer their time to facilitate the competitions. This year, nearly 50 volunteers helped at each event, including multiple members of the MBA Young Lawyers Section Service to the Public Committee. CLP mock trails would not be possible without significant community support.

This March, Zack Johnson and Shiri Salehin of the YLS Service to the Public Committee volunteered as scoring judges. The Mark O. Hatfield Federal Courthouse hosted the final state-level competition. The weekend was filled with excitement as high school teams from throughout the state competed against one another. Congratulations to Team Blue from Grant High for advancing to the national tournament in Arizona this month!

Visit www.civicslearning.org for details about the mock trial program and to get involved.

# **Receives 2025 YLS Award of Merit**

by Alex Hutchinson YLS Board of Directors

The YLS Board is excited to present this year's YLS Award of Merit to Shiri Salehin! Shiri is serving their second year on the YLS Service to the Public Committee (STP) and has been an integral part of the committee's success. In their time on the committee, Shiri reestablished the YLS's involvement with Law Day, the American Bar Association's annual commemoration of the rule of law. In addition to Law Day, Shiri and fellow committee member Zach Johnson provided volunteer and support services to the Civics Learning Project for its annual high school moot court competition in 2024 and 2025.

Shiri joined the STP committee in 2023 because they resonated with the committee's mission. Shiri has a strong belief that public education is an important part of a functioning democracy, and through STP they are able to promote the

legal profession in the greater community that we, as lawyers, serve. Shiri plans to continue their involvement with the STP Committee next year.

Shiri attended University of Oregon for law school, graduating in 2023 with a J.D./MA joint degree. Prior to law school, Shiri earned an undergraduate degree from Knox College, a dual master's degree in public policy and international law from The American University of Paris, and a certificate in human rights law from Oxford University. Shiri is an honors attorney at the Oregon DOJ and currently works in the Medicaid Fraud Unit. Shiri previously completed a rotation with the DOJ's Special Litigation Unit.

In addition to the YLS, Shiri is involved with the OWLS Foundation Board, the OGALLA Board, the Portland State University Explore the



Shiri Salehin

Law mentorship program, the UO mentorship program, and the Trans Law Caucus. In their free time, Shiri enjoys studying languages and is currently improving their French. Shiri and their partner plan to take Amtrak across the country this fall and are particularly excited to explore Washington, D.C.

Congratulations to Shiri, the 2025 recipient of the YLS Award of Merit. This prestigious honor is awarded to a member who has made a meaningful impact within the YLS and the broader Portland legal community - a distinction that Shiri truly embodies.

#### **Leona Yazdidoust Receives 2025 YLS Rookie** of the Year Award

by Caulin Price YLS Board of Directors

The MBA Young Lawyers Section is excited to announce this year's winner of the YLS Rookie of the Year Award is Leona Yazdidoust. As a member of the YLS Membership Committee, Leona plans events and fosters connections among the many organizations that she is a part of. Along with other members of the committee, she planned a trivia night at Migration Brewing in February. And in early March, she helped coordinate a joint networking event with Lewis & Clark Law School, Oregon Women Lawyers, the Oregon State Bar Intellectual Property Section, Focal PLLC, and the YLS. In Leona's own words, she loves planning events and bringing the legal community together. She hopes to use her recent experience to leverage future events with the YLS and other organizations with which she volunteers.

And the list of those organizations is impressive some examples are Oregon Women Lawyers, Queen's Bench, the OWLS Foundation, and the Oregon Arab Iranian Bar Association. She also serves as a mentor for both the Portland State University Explore the Law program and at Lewis & Clark Law School. Community is important to Leona, and she's found various ways to be

involved in our communities. She has also been intentional about that involvement, choosing organizations that have goals and missions that align with her passion.

Growing up in Camas, Washington drives Leona's passion for her community and the Pacific Northwest. She attended Portland State University, where she participated in the same Explore the Law program where she now volunteers. Leona then attended Lewis & Clark Law School, graduating in 2023. Her community involvement at Lewis & Clark was just as impressive as her community involvement has been in her legal career. She was the Student Bar Association Vice President of Programming, the Women's Law Caucus Vice President, the Oregon Arab Iranian Law Student Association President/Co-Founder, Oueen's Bench Law Student Liaison, and a Student Member of the Owen M. Panner Inn of Court among many other roles.

Mentorship is another theme of Leona's community involvement. She is grateful to have had strong mentors through college and law school, and she recognizes the importance of paying it forward by helping college students, law students, and new professionals navigate the



Leona Yazdidoust

challenges of college, law school, and the practice of law. She encourages others to get involved with mentoring as a simple but incredibly effective way to give back to our legal community. As Leona puts it, she could not be in the position that she's in today without her mentors, a sentiment that I'm sure many of us share.

As for her day-to-day, Leona practices business transactions and litigation at Elevate Law Group, where she appreciates the variety of projects she assists with, which helps her learn about diverse and engaging areas of law. Before joining Elevate, she spent her first year out of law school clerking for Judge Jeffrey Jones of the Clackamas County Circuit Court. In her spare time, Leona plays the piano, which she's been doing since she was four years old, and explores the wonderful food scene in Portland.

Leona's breadth of community involvement is truly impressive, and the YLS is lucky to count her as a committed member. Congratulations to Leona on being this year's YLS Rookie of the Year - we are excited to see all that she can accomplish.

#### **Tristen Edwards Receives the 2025 MBA Diversity Award**

by Referee Joe Hagedorn MBA Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee

The MBA has selected Tristen Edwards as the 2025 recipient of its Diversity Award.

Since joining the Oregon bar more than seven years ago, Tristen has demonstrated her deep commitment to equity and inclusion within our legal community. After joining the bar, she started and continues her

legal career in Oregon as a public defender at the Metropolitan Public Defender (MPD). Tristen has a unique position at MPD in that she both represents clients and does policy work promoting the use of restorative justice as an alternative to prosecution. Tristen is a member of the Restorative Justice Coalition of

Oregon and works on restorative justice programs and policy across the state. In furtherance of her commitments to restorative approaches to harm, Tristen serves on the governor's Racial Justice Council where she is the co-chair of the Criminal Justice Reform Committee and chair of the Subcommittee on

the Department of Corrections. Through this work, she helps shape the governor's efforts to improve racial equity within the criminal justice system and promote the principals of restorative justice. If that were not enough, she also volunteers tirelessly to build connections and community for lawyers of diverse backgrounds.

After college, Tristen spent one year in Rwanda on a fellowship from her university. There she learned about Rwanda's efforts for reconciliation after the genocide in 1994, which were largely based in restorative approaches aimed at repairing harm. These efforts for reconciliation continue today. For example, in Rwanda, April is the month of remembrance where collectively, the harmed and responsible parties in the genocide gather to remember and work towards peace in their community. During her time there, Tristen gained exposure to a society shaped by a collective effort to uphold peace and to memorialize national harms in order to prevent their repetition. It is no surprise that, during and after law school, Tristen was attracted to the power and potential of restorative justice as an alternative to our deeply entrenched punitive system. Restorative justice promotes the values of accountability, healing, and relationships in a way that deepens community connections and creates true public safety.

Tristen carries a great deal of pride in and care for her public defense community. She serves on the board of the Public Defender of Marion County and, five years ago she founded the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee of the Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. Drawing from her own experience



Tristen Edwards

moving to Oregon as a person of color, Tristen strives to build relationships and community around defenders and students of color. She regularly connects not just lawyers, but law students to bar exams resources and scholarships. She and her committee host events that are based in promoting community, joy, and rest for defenders of color across the state. These events have included group dinners, happy hours, employment panels, summer picnics, and, for the last two years, a weekend-long committee retreat. Tristen experiences these efforts to build community as an act of reciprocity. As engagement in the committee grows, Tristen enjoys the privilege of developing meaningful relationships with other defenders of color.

Tristen Edwards will be presented with the 2025 MBA Diversity Award at the MBA Annual Meeting and Dinner on Thursday, May 22 at the Hilton Portland Downtown. Tickets/details at www.mbabar.org/events. Edwards is a public defender at the Metropolitan Public Defender (MPD), and founded the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee of the Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

#### **Upcoming YLS Events**

#### Details & registration at www.mbabar.org/events

**Legal Legacy of Japanese American Incarceration** 

Monday, May 5 Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Workshop begins at 6 p.m.



**University of Oregon Portland Campus** 2800 NE Liberty Street Registration is free - www.bit.ly/law-day25

In this workshop, attorney Peggy Nagae, leader of the team that successfully fought to overturn Minoru Yasui's conviction for violating Executive Order 9066 will discuss the legal history of Executive Order 9066 and her work to overturn Yasui's conviction. This talk will be followed by an interactive discussion of Korematsu v. U.S., a 1944 Supreme Court decision upholding Japanese American incarceration, and Trump v. Hawaii, a 2018 Supreme Court decision that references Korematsu.

Peggy Nagae will be joined by attorney Shiri Salehin who will assist in facilitating the workshop and historian Christa Graf who will curate a pop-up exhibit for this event.

#### YLS Drop-in Social with the Oregon Hispanic Bar Association Wednesday, May 7, 5:30-7 p.m.

Papi Chulo's, 611 NW 13th Avenue

Please join the Oregon Hispanic Bar Association (OHBA) and the YLS Membership Committee for happy hour at Papi Chulo's. Appetizers will be provided, and drinks will be available for purchase at the bar. No RSVP necessary - we hope to see you there!



#### What is Federalism and Why Does it Matter?

Wednesday, May 14, 12-1 p.m. Portland State University Urban Building 506 SW Mill, Parsons Gallery (Second Floor) This event is free and open to the public



Join the YLS Service to the Public Committee for this final event commemorating Law Day 2025. PSU Professor Chris Shortell will give a talk about his research on federalism, while Oregon Supreme Court Justice Rebecca Duncan and Washington County Circuit Court Judge Maalik Summer will speak about their respective roles in the state and county legal systems, as well as their own pathways to the bench.

In addition, two traveling exhibits will be on display to celebrate the diversity of the Oregon Bar, courtesy of Oregon Women Lawyers and the Oregon Judicial Department.

#### **Second Annual Cornhole Showdown**

Thursday, June 12, 5-7:30 p.m. Rogue Eastside Pub and Pilot Brewerv 928 SE 9th Avenue \$20 per person



Join the YLS Service to the Public Committee and Oregon Society of CPA Young Professionals for "Profit & Toss: A Cornhole Showdown." This exciting event will once again pit lawyers and accountants against each other to answer the age-old question: who is better at cornhole? Attendees are invited to showcase their cornhole prowess individually or as a duo, or just hang out.

Proceeds benefit Youth Villages Oregon. Youth Villages is committed to providing the most effective and cost-efficient treatment options to help build successful lives for children with emotional and behavioral issues, their families, and youth aging out of state custody.



#### YLS Judges' Social

Tuesday, June 17, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Pioneer Courthouse, 700 SW 6th Avenue Free for members, \$25 for non-members

The YLS Membership Committee invites you to the annual Judges' Social at the historic Pioneer Courthouse. This event provides lawyers the opportunity to socialize with members of the bench in a cordial, informal environment.

Registration is free for members and \$25 for nonmembers.



#### **Solo & Small Firm Committee presents**

#### **BEYOND BILLABLE HOURS**

**Building a Resilient and** Recognizable Law Firm

> Wednesday, May 14 CLE: 3-4 p.m. Social: 4-5 p.m.

The Royal Sonesta, 506 SW Washington Street

In today's fast-changing legal landscape, a strong reputation and purposeful strategy are just as critical as legal expertise. Join law firm growth strategist Camron Wilde for a practical, forwardthinking session on how to build a resilient law firm that stands out. Drawing from 15+ years of experience scaling firms across the West Coast, Camron will share actionable insights on branding, digital marketing, client experience, and strategic growth - all tailored to the realities of modern legal practice.

Perfect for attorneys looking to elevate their firm's visibility, client relationships, and long-term sustainability.

Cost: \$20 members; \$30 for non-members The registration fee includes hosted hors d'oeuvres.

The MBA will apply for 1 hour of General OSB MCLE credit This CLE is not being live streamed or recorded. Please join us in person!

Register at www.mbabar.org

# 2025-26 MBA Board Officers Elected



Austin Ratalder

Austin Batalden, Stannard and Batalden Family Law PC, will serve as MBA President effective June 1. Previous to her board service, Austin served on the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee, chairing the committee from 2021-22 and is presently MBA Board Secretary. Austin received her JD from Hamline University School of Law.



Tania Manners

Tania Manners will serve as Secretary. Tania is a litigation attorney and founding partner of Manners Law Firm where she practices personal injury, medical malpractice, and general litigation matters. Her previous MBA service includes chairing the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee from 2022-23. Tania received her JD from Albany Law School and started her legal career in New York.



Anaiah Palmer

Anaiah Palmer will serve as Treasurer. Anaiah is an inhouse US Immigration Counsel for Concentrix Corporation and manages immigration sponsorships and compliance for the company's operations throughout the US. Her past MBA service has included chairing the Judicial Screening Committee, serving as YLS Treasurer and YLS Membership Committee Chair. Anaiah received her JD from Lewis & Clark Law School.



Brad Krupicka

Brad Krupicka, a partner at O'Hagan Meyer, will serve as Immediate Past President. Brad has been actively involved with the MBA since 2011 and has served on committees and in leadership positions for both the YLS and MBA. Brad received his JD from Lewis & Clark Law School.



#### Kristin Asai Receives 2025 Pro Bono Award of Merit

by Heather Kemper Oregon Law Center

Kristin Asai is the 2025 recipient of the MBA Pro Bono Award of Merit, which is awarded to a lawyer who has exhibited the highest standards of commitment to increasing access to justice in Oregon for those unable to afford legal assistance or from communities underserved by the legal profession.

Kristin, a partner at Holland & Knight, represents clients with business-related disputes spanning several practice areas, including contract disputes, class actions, trade secrets, and business torts. But what sets Kristin apart from other attorneys are the lengths she goes to in her dedication and passion to pro bono work in Oregon.

Kristin's colleague Shannon Armstrong, also a partner at Holland & Knight, says "Kristin's commitment to increasing access to justice through pro bono work is deeply rooted in her personal history. Her Japanese family's internment during World War II serves as motivation and underlies her deep dedication to increasing access to justice for underserved communities. In her eyes, commitment to pro bono work is not merely a professional obligation but a cultural responsibility."

Kristin has increased access to justice by providing hundreds of hours of pro bono service to a wide range of clients and organizations. Serving as pro bono general counsel for the Japanese American Museum of Oregon, Kristin helps to carry out the museum's mission "to preserve and honor the history and culture of Japanese Americans in the Pacific Northwest, educate the public about the Japanese American experience during WWII, and advocate for the protection of civil rights for all Americans." Kristin believes that "preserving the unique history for Japanese Americans in Oregon is important so that we do not repeat past mistakes by disregarding the civil rights for any Oregonians."

Another legal arena in which Kristin volunteers her time is in protecting the rights of both adults and children as they navigate the immigration court processes. Kristin has worked with two organizations to provide direct representation to clients - Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), who provide legal representation to unaccompanied minors in immigration proceedings, and



Kristin Asai

the Innovation Law Lab, an organization ensuring the rights of immigrants and refugees, using a combination of technology, activism and the law.

In addition to providing direct pro bono service to indigent clients, Kristin has also volunteered to provide impact litigation on behalf of the Oregon State Bar (OSB) and for the Public Defender of Marion County (PDMC). Kristin currently represents the OSB as lead counsel in a case presenting constitutional challenges related to mandatory bar membership, which she argued to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and has been appealed to the US Supreme Court.

In addition to representing the OSB, Kristin also represented the PDMC in litigation to determine whether judges could force public defenders to accept new case assignments even when they did not have the capacity *Continued on page 13* 

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#### Kristin Asai

Continued from page 12

to adequately represent indigent criminals, as required by the Constitution. Attorneys from across the country followed the case in the media, where Kristin argued to the Oregon Supreme Court that what public defenders "desperately need is a clear rule from this Court" confirming that forced appointments are improper, because, when forced appointments occur, the attorneys "are not providing sufficient representation to clients, they are knowingly being asked to violate their ethical duties to other clients and they are ultimately leaving the profession."

Although the case ultimately became moot, Matt Donohue,

Partner, Holland & Knight, said, "She inspired our office, her team, and public defenders across the state with her argument. Several young public defenders reached out to her after the argument to thank her for speaking up about the mental health of our young attorneys in public defense who are asked to do so much for their clients, with so few resources and in impossible circumstances."

While Kristin's pro bono commitment speaks for itself, she's also deeply committed to equity and inclusion within the legal profession. Kristin has been selected to serve on Holland & Knight's firmwide diversity council, and she also leads the Portland office's diversity committee. Kristin is also active in the Oregon

Asian Pacific American Bar Association (OAPABA), serving as its president in 2019-20, and is now the treasurer for the OAPABA Foundation. She also actively participates in the Opportunities for Law in Oregon (OLIO), the OSB's recruitment and retention program for law students, which is focused on increasing the diversity of Oregon's bench and bar.

Kristin exemplifies pro bono in Oregon and illustrates there are a myriad of pro bono avenues to pursue - whether it's direct service to indigent clients, serving as volunteer general counsel, or leading a litigation team to make systemic changes within the state, we should all follow Kristin's lead to increase access to justice in Oregon.



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#### **mba** Multnomah Lawyer

#### Gina Goddard

Continued from page 2

After graduating from Loyola University Chicago, she served with AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps, then went on to study environmental law at Vermont Law School. For several years she worked on conservation policy at Defenders of Wildlife before taking time off to raise her children. When returning to the workforce, Gina chose a new path that brought her closer to the people she wanted to help directly. With guidance from her mentor, Sibylle Baer, and inspiration from colleagues like Julie Meyer Rowett and Whitney Yazzolino, Gina pursued a career in elder law and joined the firm Oregon Elder Law, where she now practices estate planning, Medicaid planning, and guardianship and probate matters.

Her reasons for volunteering are grounded in empathy and practicality: "Many individuals do not have the resources to prepare an estate plan or plan for long-term care related to an unexpected medical event like a stroke or heart attack," Gina explains. "The Senior Law Project addresses this critical need by providing resources to those navigating these challenges."

For new attorneys, or even seasoned practitioners considering pro bono work, Gina offers heartfelt encouragement: "I was initially hesitant to volunteer, especially when I first started practicing in this area because I felt there was so much I needed to learn. Yet it was one of the best things I could have done to immerse myself in the practice while also fulfilling my desire to give back to the community." She adds, "Sure, there are times when

my day-to-day practice is so busy that I feel I don't have the time, but ultimately, when I do make the time, I am grateful for the opportunity because it gets back to why I wanted to go to law school in the first place." Gina recalls how many clients come to SLP clinics feeling overwhelmed and confused, burdened by stress or misinformation. "It's rewarding to see clients leave consultations with a clear understanding of their options and a sense of relief."

Gina Goddard embodies the values that the Legal Aid Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year Award seeks to celebrate: compassion, integrity, and

an unwavering belief in the importance of access to justice. We are grateful for her service and proud to recognize Gina's outstanding contributions.



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#### Gabrielle Hansen Receives 2025 Michael E. Haglund Young Lawyer Award

by Jill Mallery Legal Aid Services of Oregon

Gabrielle Hansen is the outstanding recipient of the 2025 Michael E. Haglund Young Lawyer Award. An award presented to a young lawyer who, in the tradition of Michael Haglund, founder of the Volunteer Lawyers Project, has displayed a particular dedication to pro bono services. For anyone who has met Gabrielle, her commitment to increasing legal services to low-income Oregonians shines through both her pro bono work and perspective on volunteer service. Gabrielle shares, "pro bono work is rewarding because you are having such a direct positive impact on another person's day-to-day life. The clients that I have worked with have all been a pleasure to work with and I have felt lucky to have been able to help them resolve their legal issues."

Following Gabrielle's graduation from Willamette University College of Law, magna cum laude, she clerked for the Honorable Meagan A. Flynn at both the Oregon Court of Appeals and Oregon Supreme Court, the Honorable Scott A. Shorr at the Oregon Court of Appeals, and the Honorable Stephen K. Bushong at the Multnomah County Circuit Court. Currently, Gabrielle is an associate with Stoel Rives LLP where she assists clients with Internal Revenue Code and ERISA compliance relating to employee benefits. She has been involved with the MBA since she became licensed and has served on the YLS Service to the Public Committee and the YLS Pro Bono Committee.

Gabrielle began volunteering with Legal Aid Services of Oregon (LASO) in March 2022. Since that time, she has volunteered with multiple pro bono projects, advocating on behalf of survivors of domestic violence, lowincome tenants, and people seeking to seal old eviction and criminal records through LASO's Domestic Violence Project (DVP), the Stoel Rives LLP and Dunn Carney LLP LASO Night

Clinic, and LASO's Expungement Clinic, respectively. Gabrielle's passion for helping others is inspiring. She is also quick to urge others to get involved and make a difference, "if you haven't done pro bono work yet - do it! And if you are doing it - keep doing it! It's so important that lawyers share our skills in this way."

Gabrielle is professional, thorough and kind. Through her direct client services, she has shown her dedication to increasing high quality legal services to those unable to pay for legal assistance. Her commitment to pro bono work is recognized by her colleagues. Stephen Galloway, Of Counsel at Stoel Rives LLP is a champion of pro bono and coordinates the firm's participation in the Night Clinic. Stephen shares, "Gabby's dedication to pro bono service is a model for the Portland legal community. She is regularly the first to volunteer and the last to give up. Her participation in the Legal Aid Night Clinic at Stoel Rives has repeatedly demonstrated her passion for helping those most in need, even when it means stepping outside her comfort zone. This recognition of Gabby's efforts is very well deserved."

Gabrielle assists clients located in the Portland metro area as well the rural areas of Oregon that have a shortage of attorneys. She provided critical legal representation to a survivor of abuse in a contested restraining order hearing in Central Oregon. She also travels to Oregon City and Gresham to meet in person with clients at expungement clinics. While at the clinics, she reviews court records to determine eligibility and completes all the necessary forms to seal eligible court records. Her expungement clinic work truly gives clients a fresh start by removing barriers to safe housing, employment and education opportunities. Gabrielle is a strong advocate for her clients and displays true



Gabrielle Hansen

determination when working a pro bono case. When asked why she makes volunteering a priority she explains, "beyond the meaningful impacts that I think pro bono work has for our community, I enjoy working with people and doing pro bono work is generally direct client service work."

Gabrielle is an all-around advocate for pro bono. In addition to her direct pro bono service and dedication to volunteer work, she encourages her colleagues in the legal community to get involved in pro bono opportunities. "I

understand that it can feel daunting to help a client in an area in which you do not normally practice, but there are external resources that you can use to make sure you are on the right path. It is also possible that other lawyers at your firm who have done pro bono work will provide support to you (as has been my experience at Stoel)."

We thank Gabrielle for her outstanding commitment to pro bono service and congratulate her on receiving the Michael E. Haglund Young Lawyer Award.











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The MBA is pleased to offer its conference room to members for professional law-related business when it isn't needed for MBA activities. Reservations are required and may be made up to one month in advance. Reservations may sometimes be made further in advance but are not guaranteed. Call 503.222.3275 or email mba@mbabar.org to make arrangements.

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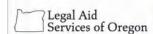


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