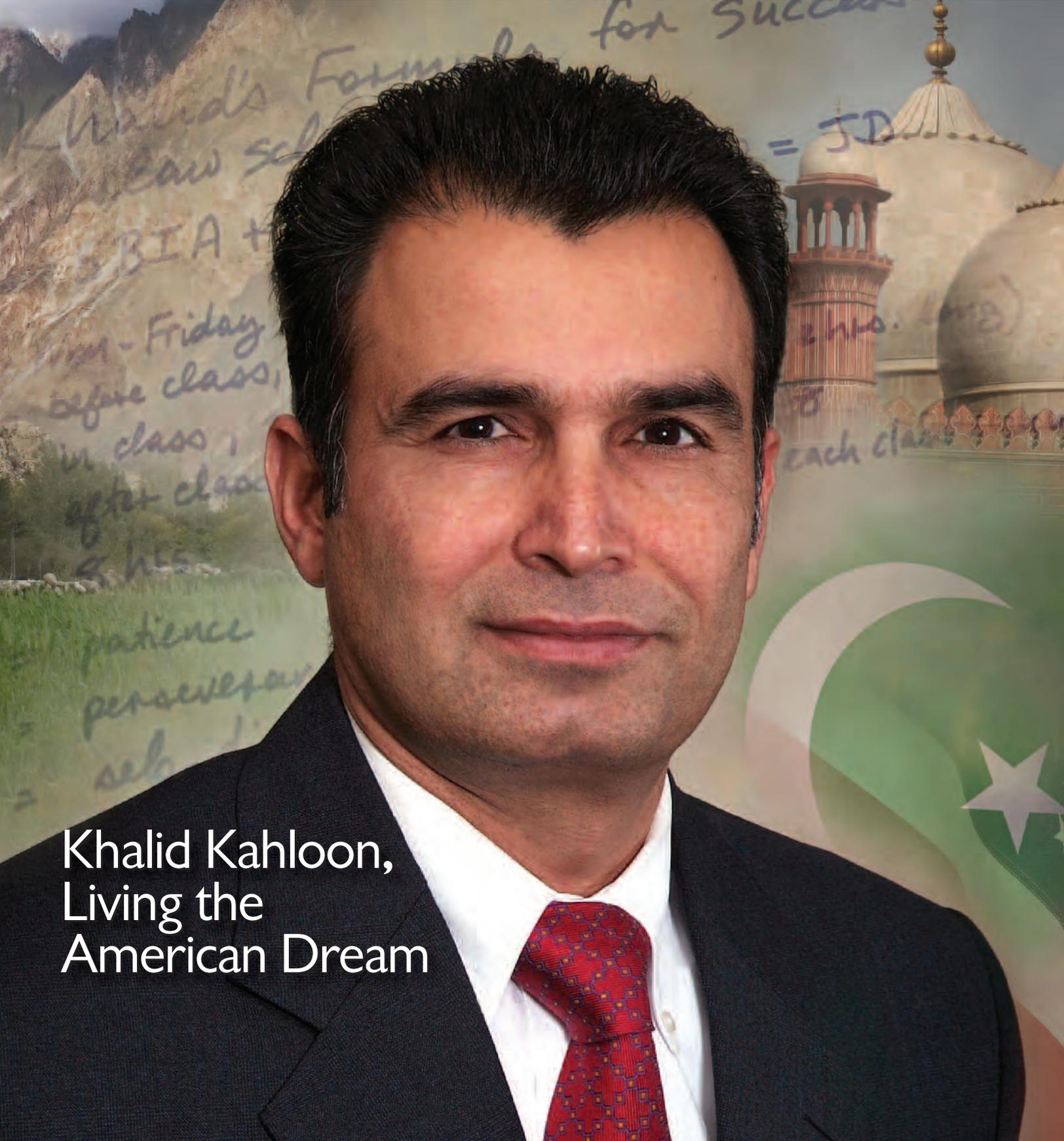


THE THOMAS M. COOLEY LAW SCHOOL MAGAZINE

# Benchmark

Trinity Term 2007 Volume XXIX Number 2



Khalid Kahloon,  
Living the  
American Dream

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The *Benchmark* is seeking submissions and story ideas from graduates. We are looking for stories on a variety of subjects including, but not limited to, graduate achievements, international law, cultural diversity, legal information helpful to practitioners, unique law practices, advice to prospective law students, and special events. If you would like to author an article, reprint an article you have authored for another publication, or share a story idea, please write, call, or e-mail:

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The user name will always remain the word alumni. The password changes each term and will be disclosed in the *Benchmark* on the inside front cover. Please call the Alumni Relations Office at (800) 243-ALUM (in the Lansing area, call 371-5140, ext. 2038), or e-mail [alumni@cooley.edu](mailto:alumni@cooley.edu) if you have any problems.

# letter from Cooley

## A Salute to Cooley's Alumni

### A Giving Place

Cooley is a giving place. Our great faculty and staff give their professional lives to providing our students with outstanding legal education. Students give to help both themselves and others learn to be competent and ethical lawyers. The alumni give by serving as student mentors, admissions recruiters, job finders, moot court judges, and alumni association leaders. And all of these groups give financially to support Cooley's many fine programs and scholarship funds.

Here are recent examples of how financial support can significantly affect Cooley's students.

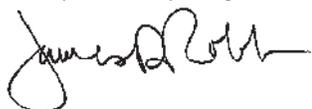
The Texas Student Loan Guaranty Association just gave Cooley \$277,000 to fund our Professional Exploration Program, an alternative admissions program for those who do not get admitted through our traditional process, but who nevertheless can show that they have what it takes to succeed at Cooley. With this gift, we will hire personnel to expand and evaluate this innovative program, ultimately affording greater access to legal education to those from traditionally under-represented segments of our society. Texas Guaranty is a leading student loan guaranty agency. Its mission — to promote access to education and to reduce student loan default rates — dovetails perfectly into Cooley's mission. We are proud to acknowledge Texas Guaranty's gift, one of the largest ever made to Cooley.

Ms. Ronnie Samson and Mr. Jay Corbin just directed to Cooley a gift of more than \$75,000 to support the endowed Howard Soifer Memorial Lecture Series in Sports and Entertainment Law. Their cousin, the late Howard Soifer (Christianity Class, 1977), was a distinguished and beloved Lansing lawyer known for providing sound advice to high-profile professional athletes. Previous Soifer lecturers have included NBA All-Star and MSU basketball great Steve Smith, NBA Deputy Commissioner Russ Granik, Los Angeles Dodger All-Star and MSU baseball great Steve Garvey, and PGA Tour senior executive Ross Berlin (Kavanagh Class, 1981). These speakers taught our students and guests about significant business and legal issues in professional sports and, more importantly, demonstrated the powerful relationships between star athletes and their trusted advisors.

On Aug. 13, 2007, Cooley hosted the 18th annual Alumni Golf Outing for the benefit of the endowed Alumni Memorial Scholarship Fund. By moving to a premier site, the Country Club of Lansing, we were able to attract an unprecedented number of players and corporate sponsors. In past years, we raised in the neighborhood of \$10,000. Our 152 golfers and many sponsors this year helped us to triple that amount, netting more than \$32,000 for additional scholarships for worthy Cooley students. Special thanks go to the lead event sponsors, the Rockford Development and Rockford Construction Companies, and other major sponsors: Custer Workplace Interiors, Kelly Services, Plante & Moran, Physician's Health Plan of Mid-Michigan, Wolters Kluwer and Aspen Publishers, and Delta Dental. For photos and more information about the golf benefit, see page 10 of this *Benchmark* issue. Don't forget to see other fabulous event photos, on the Web at [https://www.cooley.edu/alumni/golf\\_2007\\_photos.html](https://www.cooley.edu/alumni/golf_2007_photos.html).

Finally, it is important to note that Cooley does not rely exclusively on alumni and friends for outside financial support. I am pleased to report that in 2006, 157 Cooley employees themselves donated more than \$82,000 to the law school. Our faculty, staff, and administrators believe so strongly in Cooley's mission that they are willing to invest their own financial resources into the school's work to provide the very best legal education possible.

With our employees leading the charge, I will be proud to ask you for a gift to Cooley later this year. I hope that you will respond generously.



James Robb

Associate Dean for Development and Alumni Relations

# Help Build On A Good Start

## Join The Cooley Alumni Association



The Thomas M. Cooley Law School Alumni Association keeps its members involved in the life of the law school through stronger connections, participation in activities and programs, and improved service to alumni, students, and the school.

Cooley continues to grow and the Alumni Association is matching the pace set by the law school. We now have even more reason to be proud supporters of our law school. It is unmatched in the diversity of instructional offerings and has taken the initiative in so many areas, from our trend-setting flexible scheduling to our Center for Ethics, Service, and Professionalism.

The Alumni Association will continue to develop and promote the activities of its graduates so that, wherever you may be, you are not far from a Cooley event. The benefits of membership include networking opportunities, career and library services, mentoring opportunities, state and regional club membership, alumni database access, governance of the association, supplemental bar review programs such as BarStart and the Practice Multistate Exam, invitation to alumni events across the nation, and special alumni portal and e-mail account access.

Support Cooley's alumni and student outreach efforts by enrolling in your alumni association and participate in the alumni association

by joining a committee. No matter where you live, you may serve on one of several important committees, as many alumni participate via telephone conference calls.

The Special Events Committee plans member alumni events, the Student Recruitment Committee helps Cooley attract outstanding students, the Fundraising Committee helps obtain financial support for the association and Cooley, the Membership and Outreach Committee increases membership and promotes benefits for members, the Student Service Committee helps students and graduates find jobs and mentorships, and the Constituent Alumni Club Committee improves connections between the association and clubs across the nation.

The Cooley Alumni Association supports the networking of graduates, fostering cooperative communication among alumni and the law school. We want to connect with you, no matter where you may be. In recent years, Cooley has held alumni gatherings across the country. E-mail [parselld@cooley.edu](mailto:parselld@cooley.edu) or call (800) 243-ALUM for more information on Cooley Alumni Association membership.

THE COOLEY LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI

# HOLIDAY WREATH

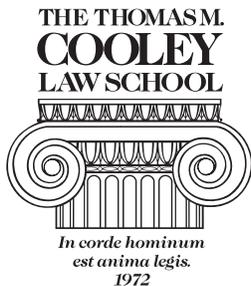
## Order Cooley Alumni Holiday Wreaths and Support Alumni Association Programs.

Enjoy and give the fragrance of the north woods this holiday season with a naturally beautiful, balsam fir wreath. The Cooley Alumni Holiday Wreath is handcrafted by artisans from freshly gathered balsam boughs from the Straits of Mackinac region of Northern Michigan. The holiday wreath has a rich, dark green color and a deep, long lasting fragrance and is complemented with white pine and cedar tips.

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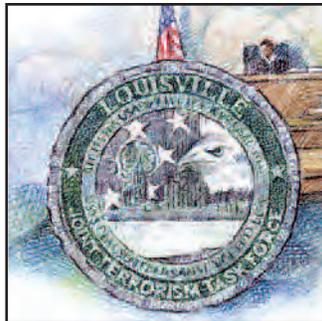
**Support Cooley Alumni programs and services in the true spirit of the season by ordering your holiday wreaths today. Call (800) 243-ALUM or e-mail [alumni@cooley.edu](mailto:alumni@cooley.edu) for more information and an order form.**



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## features

### 2 living the american dream

Khalid Kahloon is an Assistant Commonwealth Attorney for the state of Kentucky and Deputy Division Chief of the office's Unified Special Prosecutions Unit.

### 6 graduate lands dream job

Lars Thompson now works for Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, the first-ever Cooley graduate to have been recruited by the firm.

### 10 annual golf outing

The event was the best ever, setting new records for attendance with 152 golfers resulting in the event surpassing its fund raising goal.

### 12 race for education

The 8th annual Cooley 5K Race for Education was held June 1, 2007. Sunny weather and a new course greeted hundreds of runners, walkers, and supporters.

### 13 cooley for kids

Thomas M. Cooley Law School treated about 500 area children to lunch and a minor league baseball game as part of this year's Cooley for Kids event.

## school news

- 14 student awards
- 15 graduation highlights
- 16 graduates: boston class
- 18 faculty briefs

## alumni matters

- 20 alumni news
- 28 class notes

# Living the American Dream

“I am Muslim by birth, an American by choice, and Louisvillian by marriage,” noted Khalid Kahloon (Moody Class, 1996) from his office on the third floor of the Old Jail Building in the heart of downtown Louisville, Ky.

Kahloon is an Assistant Commonwealth Attorney for the state of Kentucky and Deputy Division Chief of the office’s Unified Special Prosecutions Unit. As a Pakistani, a multi-lingual former journalist, and an ex-defense attorney, he is about as far from where he originally thought he would land with his career as he can be – and he loves every minute of it.

Kahloon earned his B.A. in economics in 1986 from the Government College in Lahore, Pakistan, and his M.S. in military science in 1988 from Quaid-E-Azam University in Islamabad. Throughout his studies, Kahloon worked as a staff reporter covering Middle East affairs for *Pakistan Press International* and other Pakistani newspapers.

Life was good, but it was time to move on. “Just for the pure adventure,” Kahloon headed for North America. “Plan A when I left my village, was to go to Canada,” he recalled. But the day before he left Pakistan, he altered his course and headed for New York City.

It wasn’t long before the images of America gleaned from movies gave way to the reality of working for minimum wage at a donut shop in Harlem. Surrounded by drug deals, prostitution, and routine violence, Kahloon almost returned to Pakistan.

still a family favorite – egg and cheese bagel sandwiches. With a keen intellect and curiosity, Kahloon needed more and set his sights higher.

In autumn of 1991, Kahloon attended a law school forum at the World Trade Center. He met Assistant Dean of Admissions Stephanie Gregg, forming a life-long friendship and altering the course of his personal and professional life forever. He had already been accepted, but he was wait-listed and wanted the opportunity to meet people from Cooley. Gregg was impressed with Kahloon, who struck her as wise, responsible, and trustworthy.

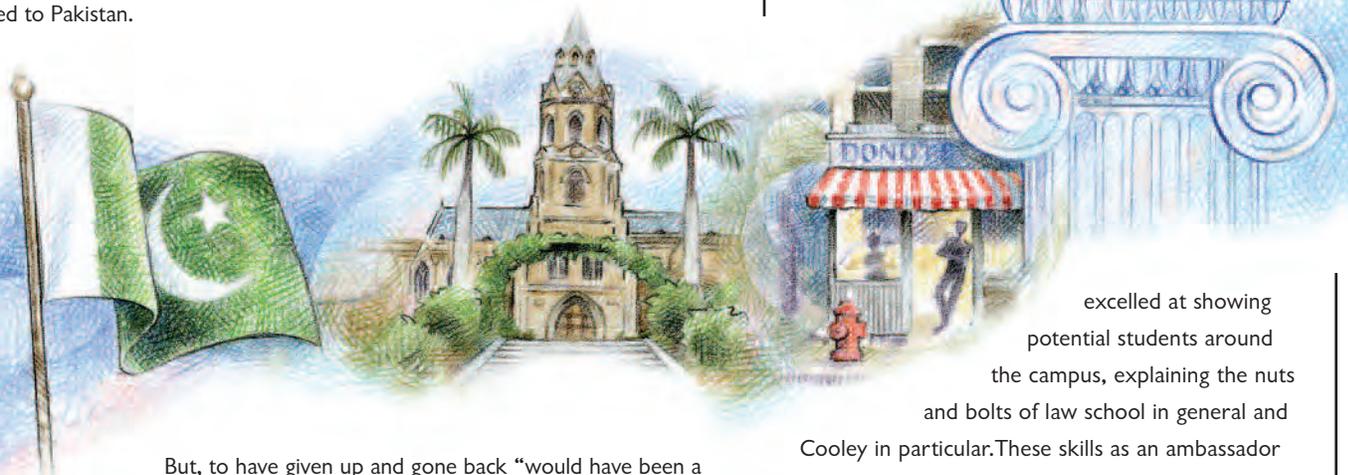
Kahloon eventually moved to Michigan to be on hand in case the waiting list suddenly shortened. It did, and in 1993 Kahloon started at Cooley. He graduated a term early, having received Cooley’s Alumni Memorial Scholarship Award and its Distinguished Student Award.

## Early Ambassador Work

During his time at Cooley, Kahloon served as a Student Admissions Counselor and

excelled at showing potential students around the campus, explaining the nuts and bolts of law school in general and

Cooley in particular. These skills as an ambassador for the law school would serve him well down the road when a national crisis would propel Kahloon into a role as a defacto ambassador on a much larger scale.



But, to have given up and gone back “would have been a scandal,” he said. “I can do this,” he told himself, and persevered.

He worked his way up from mopping floors to cashiering. The promotion earned him his first pay raise – to \$4.25 per hour. He learned how to make what is

“Like all other immigrants, I too had an American Dream. I am grateful to Cooley for providing me the key to access my dream,” Kahloon said.

In 1996, Kahloon earned his J.D. from Cooley, became a U.S. citizen, and passed the Michigan and New Jersey bars. He had a new home and a new career, and he was grateful for the opportunity.

“Like all other immigrants, I, too, had an American Dream. I am grateful to Cooley for providing me the key to access my dream,” he said. “Cooley was the only school that accepted me, and now my hard work has paid off!”

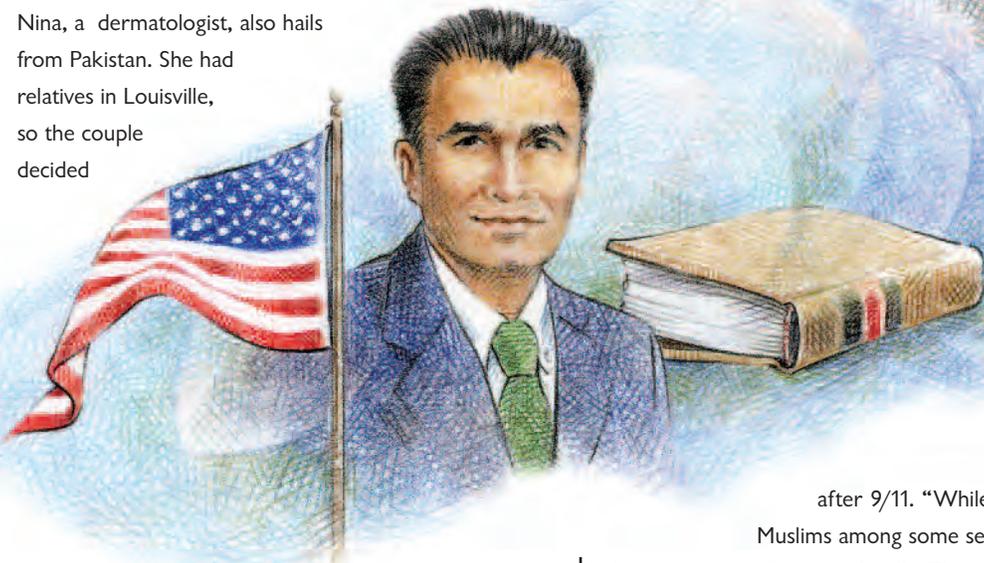
Following graduation, Khalid headed to Livonia, Mich., in southeast Michigan where he worked as a solo practitioner for three years in immigration law and criminal matters. Through a client, he met his wife.

Nina, a dermatologist, also hails from Pakistan. She had relatives in Louisville, so the couple decided

straight-forward and skillful. He does what he says he’s going to do. He’s a person of his word.”

Kahloon was still working at the Public Defender Office – and was in Juvenile Court – the morning of September 11, 2001 when terrorists leveled the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. It was an event that would change the course of Kahloon’s career.

Kahloon went home early that day. As the only Muslim around the courthouse, he became even more visible as details about the identity of the terrorists emerged. As friends and colleagues began asking him questions about Islam and Jihad, Kahloon saw an opportunity to reflect on his religion and his life in the United States



to relocate there. Four children complete the family, daughters Ashley, 14, and Lilah, 7, and sons Rehan, 3, and Rahim, 18 months.

Kahloon took the Kentucky bar exam and went to work with the Louisville Metro Public Defender Office in November 1999. Assistant Public Defender and former co-worker Sheila Seadler recalls Kahloon well. “I have so much respect for him,” she noted. “He’s

after 9/11. “While there was a knee-jerk reaction against Muslims among some segments of the society, I was touched by the outpouring of support locally. The experience renewed my faith in the basic goodness of American people and at the same time it steeled my resolve to confront and counter the extremism that drove the hijackers to commit such horrific acts as the unjustifiable killing of thousands of innocent people in the name of Islam. I felt that both my country and my religion were under attack,” he recalled.

Shortly after 9/11, Kahloon took a trip to Pakistan to be close to his father and three brothers. When he came back, he had a new job and a new mission.

#### **Life After 9/11**

In February 2002, Kahloon joined the Office of the Commonwealth’s Attorney as a Deputy Division Chief in the Unified Special Prosecution Unit.

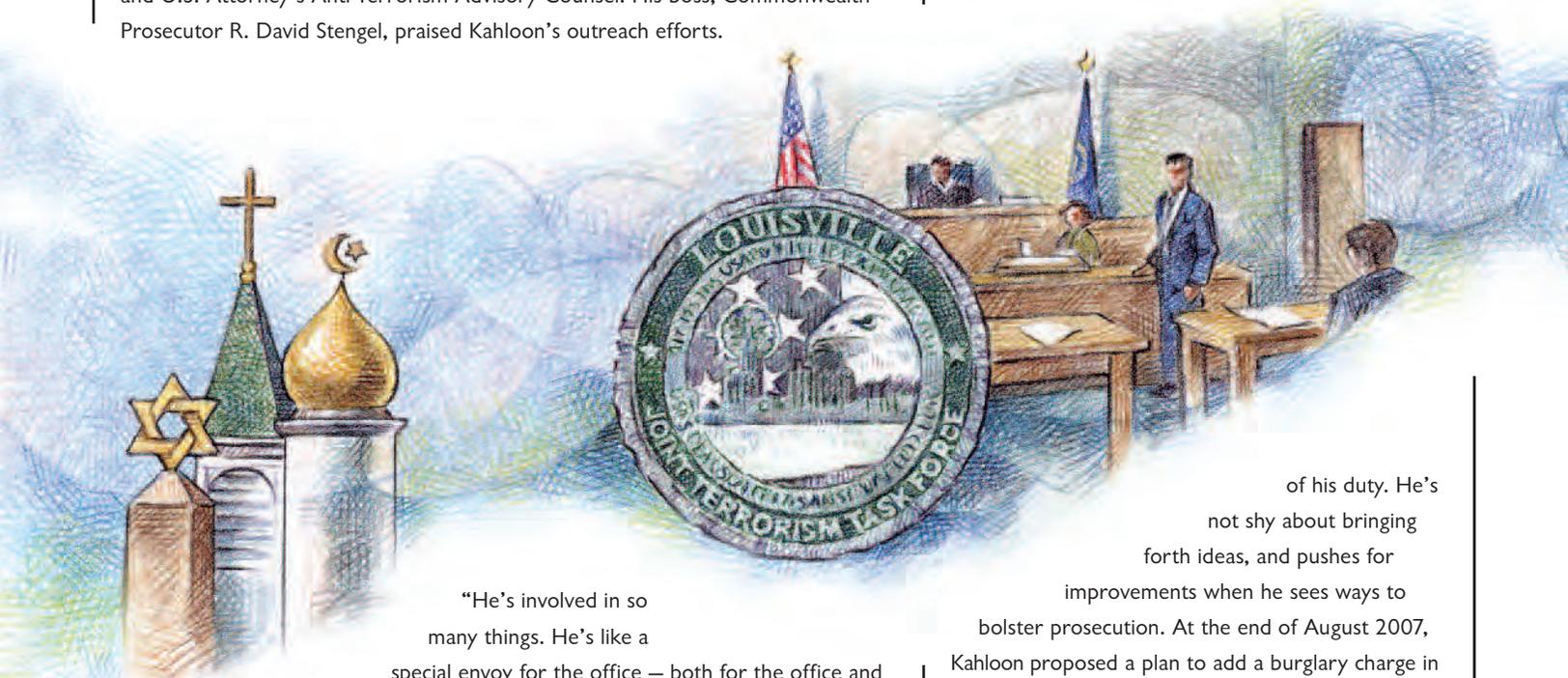
“After 9/11, I felt compelled to get involved in public service. I could no longer take things for granted. People needed to see Muslims in this country doing positive things,” he said.

“The key to building mutual trust was to get involved in the community around us,” Kahloon explained. And involved he became. Kahloon soon founded the American Muslim Association of Louisville (AMAL) and began an intensive interfaith dialogue. “We visited churches, synagogues, schools, prisons, and colleges to educate ourselves and others about Islam in general and American-Muslims in particular,” he said.

He was featured as a guest on local radio and television stations fielding questions from reporters and the general public about Muslim extremism. He has spoken at many state and federal anti-terrorism conferences educating law enforcement officers about Islam. Most recently he taught a course on Islam and Islamism at a local university. He currently serves on the boards of Metro United Way and Kentucky Refugee Ministries. He is also a member of the FBI’s Joint Terrorism Task Force and U.S. Attorney’s Anti-Terrorism Advisory Counsel. His boss, Commonwealth Prosecutor R. David Stengel, praised Kahloon’s outreach efforts.

The hectic post-9/11 flurry of coalition building has now settled down into the occasional request for a speech or presentation. Day-to-day crime-fighting now takes up more of Kahloon’s time. The last time he was in the news, it was for an Associated Press story featuring him for his uniqueness as a Muslim Prosecutor in the American heartland. Stengel recalls Kahloon joining the prosecutor’s office through the standard application/interview process. His ethnicity was never an issue. The positive feedback Stengel’s office heard from the legal community about Kahloon, on the other hand, contributed to the affirmative outcome.

Stengel said that Kahloon is both organized and aggressive in the pursuit



“He’s involved in so many things. He’s like a special envoy for the office – both for the office and the community. He’s more than an assistant prosecutor.”

Kahloon is proud of his public service record. “I never forget what a big role Cooley played in my development,” he added as he recounted his travels over hundreds of miles and meetings with ordinary Americans, and some not so ordinary Americans such as FBI Director Robert Muller and President Bush.

of his duty. He’s not shy about bringing forth ideas, and pushes for improvements when he sees ways to bolster prosecution. At the end of August 2007, Kahloon proposed a plan to add a burglary charge in cases of business robberies. It makes sense, Stengel said, adding that the office had done so once before but hadn’t made it a practice. The new practice of adding a burglary count to business robbery charges paid off recently when a jury acquitted the defendant on the robbery charge, but convicted him of burglary.

“He’s involved in so many things. He’s like a special envoy for the office – both for the office and the community. He’s more than an assistant prosecutor.”

Kahloon is serious about his job, Stengel said, but he also has a good time. “He’s a jokester sometimes,” he reported. He’s also passionate about his work. Kahloon turned down an opportunity for a more laidback lifestyle, and opted to stay with the prosecutor’s office where he’s found his true calling. Kahloon specializes in prosecuting gangs and violent juvenile offenders as adults.

He loves trial work. His favorite parts of the trial are voir dire and closing arguments. When asked, “how does a Middle Eastern-looking trial lawyer with a Pakistani accent break ice with a Kentucky jury?” he responded “I tell them with a straight face ‘those of you who are wondering about my accent (pause) I am



But as zealous as Kahloon is at prosecuting the bad guys, he is also watching out for the good guys who sometimes inadvertently get caught in law enforcement’s net. In one well-publicized robbery case, Kahloon and his team exonerated an innocent citizen wrongfully arrested by an overzealous detective in a tragic case of mistaken identity. But Kahloon was solid in his duty. “The prosecutor’s loyalty is to the cause of justice,” he said. “It’s important for us to be able to say ‘no’ to some police officers and alleged victims when justice so requires,” he noted.

It’s that commitment to the cause of justice itself that earned Kahloon the respect of Judge Shake. “The thing that I really like is that he

actually seeks to do the just thing. It’s not always the harshest sentence,” Shake said. “He’s sincere, and he’s always prepared.”

from Hikes Point (a small city in Kentucky where Kahloon first moved to). “Pretty much all of them burst into hearty laughter.”

Jefferson County Circuit Court Judge Jim Shake, in whose court Kahloon has appeared many times, said the Hikes Point joke is always a big hit.

Kahloon tries to educate his jurors and make them take pride in their country by comparing the American criminal justice system with justice systems in some Middle Eastern and Asian countries. “If you get them to like and trust you they are more likely to believe your side of the story,” he remarked. Given his rate of trial success, which he places at 97 percent, the Kentucky juries must be impressed with this international product of Cooley Law School.

As Kahloon goes through his work day, Cooley Law School is still very much in his mind. “I enjoyed being a student at Cooley. Everything you learned, you knew it was going to have practical implications. It was real. It was just a matter of time before you were out arguing this very point.”

Highlights were Dean John Nussbaumer’s Criminal Procedure class, Professor Maurice Munroe’s Contracts class, and his work as a Student Admissions Counselor.

On the Cooley side of the equation, Dean Gregg remembers Kahloon and keeps in touch. More than a decade after Kahloon’s graduation, Gregg still has Kahloon’s hand-written formula for success: Four hours daily briefing, plus eight hours weekly (per class) studying, plus patience, perseverance and self-discipline, equals a juris doctor degree.

From a school under Banyan trees in a small village in the Himalayan foothills to the courtrooms of Louisville, Ky., Kahloon has come a long way and he has enjoyed every step of the journey.

“Kahloon is both organized and aggressive in the pursuit of his duty. He’s not shy about bringing forth ideas, and pushes for improvements when he sees ways to bolster prosecution.”

# Cooley Graduate Lands Dream Job.

Lars Thompson (McAllister Class, 2005), 32, grew up as a “military brat,” primarily in Germany. He returned to the United States in 1995 to start college and go through the Army ROTC program.

He earned his undergraduate degrees in German and Criminal Justice, with a minor in Anthropology from The University of South Dakota in Vermillion, and still calls Vermillion, S.D., his official U.S. city of residence. But it's his current place of residence — and the career that goes with it — that sets Thompson apart.

Thompson now works for Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, the first-ever Cooley graduate to have been recruited by the firm. Working for the international powerhouse firm is a fantastic career move for Thompson, whose post-graduation path was a bit rocky at first, he admits. Freshfields is the leading member of the “Magic Circle”, the five most prestigious European law firms, and is based in London.

“At first I had a hard time finding a job, since I had not passed the bar exam yet,” he said, but then he took and passed the bar exam in Washington, D.C., and soon found the right career path when he decided to rely on his background.

“... remembering my military roots,

I decided I needed to do something for our men and women in uniform. So I moved to Germany and joined a small law firm specializing in representing U.S. soldiers stationed in-country. On the side I did a lot of *pro bono* work helping those who could not afford the firm's fees. I can actually say that I never turned away anyone in need,” Thompson noted.

One day, out of the blue, Thompson returned to his office to find a message waiting for him from what would turn out to be his new employer.

“The first time I heard of Freshfields was when an HR assistant left a message on my answering machine asking if they could meet me. It was totally out of the blue and very unexpected,” he said.

Thompson learned that Freshfields found him through an online service he'd used, LawCrossing.com.

“I used it to search for jobs (after my initial employer kept failing to pay me) with the intention of returning to the United States for work. Then I saw a few jobs listed in Munich, Germany, and applied for them, even though they were primarily geared towards German attorneys and in areas of law I had no interest

in, such as corporate and finance law.

Evidently, with a good reputation behind me, one of those smaller firms passed my application along to my current employer.”

He soon found himself in a new legal arena — and loving it.

Thompson explained, “Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer has a broad practice of commercial law, divided up into several practice groups: Antitrust, Corporate, Dispute Resolution, Employment Law, Finance, IP/IT Law, Real Estate, and Tax. Each group is subdivided into sub-practices. For example, Finance is composed of Asset Finance, Banking, Project Finance, Restructuring, Insolvency, and Structured Finance.”

He joined as an associate, and is on a partnership track. He soon found an area to specialize in. “I belong to the Corporate and Finance Practice Groups and am primarily involved in Debt Issuance Programs, Structured Debts, IPOs, and other types of Bond Emissions. My first client was a major European company with a €5 billion (\$6.5 bn.) deal. I could not believe it.”

## So what does a typical day look like?

“The days at work are long, but interesting,”

Thompson said. “I spend most of my time in my office working on contracts and other instruments. Being an English native speaker I have a lot of checking of documents to do that are in English. Since most of the deals we consult on are trans-border, the majority of legal documents generated by us are in English. Keeping up on the ever changing legal landscape here in Europe is also important, so I get to travel all over Europe to attend schooling, presentations, and seminars. That is in addition to all the client related travel.”

**Thompson now works for Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, the first-ever Cooley graduate to have been recruited by the firm.**



## Freshfields' client names are familiar ones. "Freshfields' clients are usually the very big, Fortune 500 firms where billions of Euros are at stake."

Freshfields' client names are familiar ones. "Freshfields' clients are usually the very big, Fortune 500 firms where billions of Euros are at stake," Thompson explained. "Notable names of clients we represent are mentioned all over our Web site and in legal news. They include such notable companies as Porsche, Volkswagen, Chrysler, Airbus, United Airlines, or banks such as Deutsche Bank, the Royal Bank of Scotland, or Bank of America. UBS, Morgan Stanley, and ABN AMRO are examples of investment entities we represent."

They solve a wide variety of problems. "We usually consult on different types of programs they want to start up, renew, or discontinue. It can be anything from a subsidiary's Initial Public Offering to Mergers and Acquisition, Restructuring, or to help them raise capital for future ventures. Freshfields is a full service law firm and pretty much consults in all types of problems faced by large companies and banks," he said.

### So what led Thompson to this destination? What made him pursue law in the first place?

"I am an idealist," he said. "I always wanted to help the little man, those more unfortunate."

He decided on Cooley because "it was the first law school that rolled out the welcome mat, and when I visited, I liked what I saw. I am sure I got the best education possible from Cooley, much better than those other law schools."

His standout memory is when a judge took him aside after a law practice motion hearing and told him that he did the best job of any law student in a long time and that he would be happy to write him a letter of introduction for any employer if he wanted.

Thompson has a background and skill set that has prepared him for the job he's in now.

"I was born in the German state of Bavaria where my mother's side of the family is from. My father spent most of his life stationed with, or working for, the U.S. Army in Germany. I am a native speaker, though 10 years in the United States made me a bit rusty. It took a few months to pick it back up. I admit, in college German was an easy "A" subject to study along with Criminal Justice."

### What was the deciding factor for Thompson to take on this experience?

"One of the big problems of being an idealist is that quite often the 'little man' can't pay you, and when most of your work is done pro bono, student loan companies, landlords, and other creditors tend to get upset about not being paid. Therefore, it was necessary to become a pragmatist and get a job that pays."

"Once financial health and wellbeing is restored, I will be able to afford being an idealist again. On the side, I still have many pro bono clients, so it isn't as if I just up and left. To this day, I still can't walk into the shopping centers on the military posts where I worked without being hit up for legal advice within the first 100 feet by former clients and people of the community that know me or my reputation."

"Another factor was the new challenge. When a firm like Freshfields comes calling, wanting you to work for them, it is a bit like being sin-

gled out by the Queen for knighthood, or getting called up to the Major Leagues – it is a great honor to be chosen. Additionally, I wasn't too keen on courses like Tax and Business Organizations in Law School, though I enjoyed Professor Larson's teaching. I figured it would be a good opportunity to learn more about the subjects I thought I enjoyed the least. Come to find out, it is very fulfilling to, for example, help companies with Debt Issuance Programs that enable them to raise money for expansion, which in turn means jobs for many people."

### What are the pros and cons of such a high-powered career?

"One of the biggest cons is the 'Work-Life-Balance' – we spend an amazing amount of time at work. On my first day I was already inundated with work and kept looking forward to 5 p.m., thinking it would be the end of the day. People looked at me really weird when I asked why nobody was leaving at 5. It turns out that sometime after 8 p.m. is usually when people start thinking about going home. My first day I was in the office until 9:30 p.m."

"There are many days when I come to work at 8:30 in the morning and don't leave until well after 10 p.m. There have been several days when I ended up working 24 to 36 hours straight. It makes it difficult to have a personal life, or, for that matter, a life at all. I can't imagine what it would be like to have someone, a better half, faced with putting up with my schedule. I am single, so it isn't a big problem right now."

### What tipped the scales toward taking the job?

"Several things: The piece of paper that the partner wrote my starting salary on, the challenge, meeting the team I would be working with, working in Frankfurt (the New York on

**Freshfields is a huge organization with a top reputation. There are 27 offices worldwide with 2,400 attorneys.**

## U.S. attorneys are very well liked by European firms as a result of our schooling and competence.

the Main River – also called “Main-hatten”), researching the firm and finding out about what an incredible organization it is.”

Freshfields is a huge organization with a top reputation. There are 27 offices worldwide with 2,400 attorneys. In a poll of places new attorneys would most like to work in Germany, Freshfields came in second only after the German Department of State, Thompson reported.

### What is the law firm culture like?

“The firm prides itself as being the best, and rightfully so, as many organizations and trade publications will verify. As such, there is an immense sense of satisfaction with belonging to the best and putting out the best possible work product. In return the firm does take very good care of its attorneys with great pay, schooling, travel, recognition, vacation, and advancement.”

Thompson is the only U.S. attorney on his team (two partners and eight associates), but there are five others in the Frankfurt office. “U.S. attorneys are very well-liked by European firms as a result of our schooling and competence, so most of the firms have one or more of us on staff. Freshfields has offices in D.C. and New York with around 100 U.S. partners and associates.”

It’s not hard to find friends, but there can be some bumps along the way. “Working as a team you make fast friends among your colleagues, but with anti-American sentiments running deep in a lot of Europeans, it may become difficult, especially when they engage in America-bashing and you can’t help but remind them what the good old U.S.A. did for them in the last 60 years and all the good it continues to do. Most of their misconceptions are the result of a very biased media and the very neg-

ative statements coming from certain elements in Hollywood and the U.S. Congress.”

Thompson’s family is nearby. His father is a retired U.S. Army officer and civil servant and his mother is German and a retired business executive. As a family, the Thompsons traveled throughout Europe and the United States, learning much along the way. Both parents made great sacrifices for their two sons, so the transition for Thompson from U.S. schooling to European career has been easier than it would be for some. Still, there’ve been some sharp surprises.

Taxes, for example are high, however, retirement or social security benefits are low, propelling prudent persons to save ahead. Thompson has heeded the call, saving and investing along the way. But there are other benefits than salary.

“Something that is really interesting to see is how important academic titles are in Europe. Often people see the J.D. after my name and ask what it is. After I explain that it is similar to the German “Dr.Jur.” (Doctor of Law) I am immediately addressed as “Herr Doktor Thompson.” That may be OK by ABA rules, but our profession has traditionally been against self-laudation, which is why we American attorneys do not use the title our degree confers upon us.

I am about to give up trying to win that fight, because now even my utility bills, notices from the city, and junk mail are addressed to “Dr. Thompson.” At seminars for speeches or guest-teaching at universities, I am automatically introduced as “Dr. Thompson,” no matter how often I complain about it.”

Thompson always knew he would continue his education beyond a J.D., and went on to earn his LL.M. He was accepted at Oxford in England, but when he decided to go to Germany, he figured he could get an LL.M. from a local university. He was accepted into the University of Regensburg. All the classes were taught in German, but that was no problem for Thompson and – as an added bonus – the tuition was free.

Formality is probably the biggest difference in work cultures between Germany and the United States “Whereas, we are a bit more relaxed in the United States, there is no such thing in Germany. Germans are not immediately on a first-name basis if you work with them. At pretty much all of the firms here in Germany, the associates are on a first-name basis, while the partners and the support staff are addressed more formally by “Mr.” or “Ms.” Partners, associates, and support staff (secretaries, paralegals, fax operators, etc.) form three distinct groups that are somewhat segregated from each other when it comes to personal exchanges.”

That didn’t mean Thompson could not reach out a bit.

“When I decided that it would be a good idea to celebrate the American Secretary’s Day (April 25, 2007) it really surprised my secretaries and paralegals that an associate would take them to lunch, but they were really excited and really appreciated the gesture. Guess we Americans come up with some pretty good ideas!”

### What are some similarities in work culture, general life?”

“Germans are very proud of what they consider the driving force behind their strong export economy – German quality. This translates into their private life as well. The belief is,

## Formality is probably the biggest difference in work cultures between Germany and U.S.

## Every student in Germany has to complete some sort of training before having a chance to enter the work force.

that if it is worth doing, then it is worth doing right. As a result, Germans are just as thorough in their private life as their work life. One of the best examples is a German's vacation. Staying at home and lounging around the house for a week or two is almost unheard of. Germans spend a lot of time saving money towards their yearly vacation and then almost always travel far to spend it. Vacation is almost a religion.

"Another good example is how proud Germans are of their trade or profession. Every student in Germany has to complete some sort of training before having a chance to enter the work force. If you are a graduate of an upper level school, you commonly go off to university, while graduates from lower level schools start apprenticeships in different trades. Even a store clerk goes through a two or three year apprenticeship to become a certified sales associate or "Kaufmann" as they call it here.

"Drop-outs and people without a completed apprenticeship have very little chance of finding a decent job and usually end up in labor-intensive fields. Your job is part of your identity, yet academics, white-collar, and blue-collar groups get along very well with each other and it is not uncommon to have close friendships between members of each group.

Thompson finds comparisons to U.S. life.

"I live in Sachsenhausen, which is to Frankfurt what the East Village is to New York. There is a great mix of

cultures, lots of artists and musicians, and traditional German shops and restaurants all in one place. Sachsenhausen sits on the banks of the Main River and I have a great view of the Frankfurt skyline on the other side."

Living conditions are similar to what a busy professional would encounter in U.S. cities.

"I live in an apartment. With real estate prices being enormous here in Frankfurt, it is almost impossible to own a house in the city, even on my salary. Besides, after a long day at work, I do not have the desire or energy to go home and cut the grass, paint the house, or do other chores. In wintertime, you get a ticket from the city if your sidewalk is not clean of snow by 7 in the morning – that early I would rather sit and

have a nice breakfast or, on weekends, still snooze under the covers. In an apartment building, the super does the snow removal."

As revered as the automobile is, it's not always the best choice for work.

"There is a subway stop very close

by and it only takes about 10 minutes to get downtown to our firm's high-rise.

As with any other large city, traffic is a nightmare around rush hour, so I like to take public transportation," Thompson said.

Thompson does have cars, but it's not practical to use them during the week.

"I have an Explorer and a Mustang, but I usually only get to drive them on weekends. Gas is very expensive over here, coming in at around \$7 a gallon, however, driving a Mustang on the German Autobahn is an incredible experience.

Thompson has practical advice for students who would like to follow his lead and apply to this firm or other firms abroad.

"Getting on with large and prestigious firms is always difficult, because aside from excellent academic records, they look for grads from prestigious law schools and people with additional qualifications, such as an LL.M., foreign experience, language aptitude, and experience in general. It usually helps to apply directly to the foreign office you want to work at, rather than the U.S. office, hoping to get hired and assigned overseas.

"Standards at foreign offices are often not quite as strict as they are at U.S. offices. You have to be ready to work in a foreign country if you want to work for such firms. After a few years, with your foot in the door and you in the system thanks to all the experience, it is easier to transfer to your firm's U.S. offices or even get a job with another U.S. firm where in the past you would not have stood the chance of even getting an interview. After a while, your law school and your grades become unimportant.

U.S. lawyers are very common in the U.S., but we are a commodity in the rest of the world."



# Annual Alumni Association Golf Outing



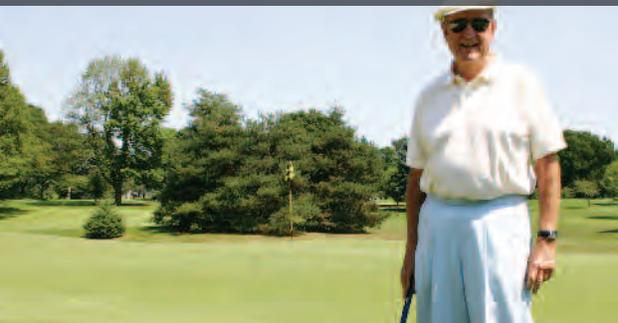
(From Left) Kevin Roragen, Michael Rhodes, JV Anderton, Kevin Keifer



(From Left) John Kalo, John Monnich, Judge Thomas Brennan, Pamela Heos, James Heos, Jimmy Chestnut



Judge Thomas Brennan



(From Left) David Berry, Bill Arnold, Rob Weiner, Bill Weiner



(From Left) Jason Aldrich, Rick Boruszewski, Tim Tuohy, Jim Paparella



## “What a Day,” the 18th Annual Alumni

Association Golf Benefit held for the Alumni Association Memorial Scholarship Fund at the Country Club of Lansing on August 13, was a sold-out success, raising \$33,000 for the scholarship fund. The event was the best ever, setting new records for attendance with 152 golfers resulting in the event surpassing its fund raising goal.

The Alumni Memorial Scholarship is awarded based upon financial need, academic achievement, extracurricular activities, and other considerations. The generosity of the golfers and sponsors is greatly appreciated by the Alumni Association and Cooley students.

The golfers enjoyed a bright blue sky with a mild breeze, which was much better than the previous day of rain and high humidity. Golfers were greeted at registration with welcoming smiles of appreciation followed by a superb luncheon served on the patio of the Country Club of Lansing. Upon completion of a day of golfing, a light dinner reception was held in the main dining room of the club where the awards ceremony was held. Professor Ernie Phillips was pleased with the day and remarked, “the alumni golf outing is a terrific opportunity to catch up with graduates and to learn of their many successes in a friendly, informal setting. Many of them have achieved great accomplishments and it is very gratifying to learn that they are very pleased with their education at Cooley Law School.”

The team with the overall lowest score consisted of Jim Heos (Cooley Class, 1976), John Monnich, John Kalo (Kelly Class, 1978), and Jimmy Chestnut. The group with the highest score was Vince Welicka, Dave Prine, Tom Halm, and Linda Walker. The team with the highest number of cumulative years since graduation comprised of Larry Nolan, Jerry Sutton, Judge Brent Danielson, and James Neumann, were all graduates of the January 1976 Cooley Class (the first class of the law school). This foursome is the perennial winner of this contest.

In the category of individual awards, Jeremy McKowen sank the longest putt. Mark Jerant’s shot made him the person who was closest to the pin with tee shot. Peggy Byrnes was a longest drive winner. Unfortunately, there was no hole-in-one contest prize awarded, \$10,000 trip of choice and \$10,000 to be donated to the Alumni Memorial Scholarship Fund, although Rob Weiner, son of Professor Bill Weiner, came the closest.

This year's outing also determined the winners of the Seventh Annual Cooley Cup. This is a traveling trophy that recognizes the team with the lowest score that has at least three members from the same law firm or legal employment association (such as a prosecuting attorney's office.) In 2000, Robin Omer (Ransom Class, 1978), Diane Bernick (Kelly Class, 1978), Dustin Foster (Fellows Class, 1997), and Dennis Bernick won the first Cooley Cup for the firm of Bernick, Omer & Radner, P.C. In 2001, the Hubbard Fox law firm won the prize, thanks to the golfing skills of Jim Mauro (Champlin Class, 1987), Johanna Carey, (Kuhn Class, 1995), Brian Surgener (McGrath Class, 1992) and John Caudell. The cup returned to the firm of Bernick, Omer & Radner in 2002 and stayed there through 2003, 2004, and 2005.

Changing what seemed to be an unbreakable pattern, the 2006 Cooley Cup went to Kevin Roragen (Adams Class, 1997), Mike Rhodes, JV Anderton, and Keven Kiefer of the firm of Loomis, Ewert, Parsley, Davis & Gotting, PC. Upon receiving the Cooley Cup again this year, Kevin Roragen stated, "the 2007 Cooley Alumni Golf Benefit is, as always, a fabulous event. Our team enjoyed and appreciated the new venue at the Country Club of Lansing, and it was certainly a pleasure to re-connect with Cooley staff, faculty, and fellow graduates for a great cause that helps support current Cooley students. Of course, it helps that the Loomis Law Firm team successfully defended our Cooley Cup championship. We are looking forward to a three-peat in 2008!"

The Thomas M. Cooley Law School's Alumni Association wishes to thank all of our golfers, sponsors, and donors who made this event so successful and wish to invite everyone to attend the 19th Annual Alumni Memorial Scholarship Benefit on June 30, 2008.

We also wish to give special thanks to the Rockford Companies of Grand Rapids for being our Event Sponsor and Delta Dental of Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio for their generous sponsorship of golf prizes.



(From Left) Steve Metz, Deb Grebner, Mary Ann Cartwright, Eric Washburn



(From Left) Jeremy McKowem, Darin Poole, Chris Nudo, Andrew Gozinsky



(From Left) Fred Puffenberger, Deb Hirsch, Rex Kuhn, Dane Wysocki



(From Left) Judge Brent Danielson, Larry Nolan, James Neumann, Jerry Sutton



(From Left) Chris Renna, Donna McNeelen, Terry Cavanaugh, Kathy Swedlow



8th Annual

# Cooley Race for Education



The 8th annual Cooley 5K Race for Education was held Friday, June 1, 2007. Downtown Lansing was festive with the music of the Uptown Band, face painting, Louie the Lightning Bug, Gus the Bus, and hundreds of runners, walkers, and their family and friends all having fun on a sunny, Friday night in downtown Lansing.

Close to 600 runners and walkers from all across Michigan and beyond, participated in the Cooley 5K Race for Education. About 150 young people participated in the two children's races. In addition to being one of the area's largest races, the 5K is part of the Playmaker Series, a 12-race running series where runners compete for various prizes and points.

The Cooley race consists of a 5K run in downtown Lansing, a Kids' Race around the Capitol (approximately ½ mile) and a Kids' Capitol Dash (100 yards). The unique thing about the race is that all proceeds get distributed to educational institutions selected randomly through nominations from 5K participants. More than \$60,000 has

been raised for educational institutions since the race began in 2000.

This year, Dwight Rich Middle School in Lansing came out the big winner, nominated by Bruce Bower, of Lansing. The school garnered \$5,295.71. As the top winner, Dwight Rich Middle School received 50 percent of the funds raised. Other school winners were St. Peter's Lutheran Pre-School, in Rockford, Mich. (\$2,647.86 as 25 percent of total proceeds); Michigan State University's Eli Broad School of Business (\$1,059.14 as 10 percent); Beekman Center in Lansing (\$1,059.14 as 10 percent); Radmoor Montessori, in Okemos, Mich. (\$539.57 as 5 percent); and Lakewood High School, in Lake Odessa, Mich. (Cooley winner \$1,000).

The race also had several winners who ran the streets of downtown Lansing. The overall male winner was Jerome Recker, 24, of Lansing, Mich. with a time of 15:20. The overall female winner was Shannon Stanglewicz, 23, of Okemos, with a time of 19:00. The overall male master's winner was Eric Stuber, 43, of Lansing, with a time of 16:04, and the overall female master's winner was Christine Vincent, 43, of Jackson, Mich., with a time of 19:45.



# Cooley for Kids Play Ball

## Cooley Knocks One Out of the Park for Local Kids

Thomas M. Cooley Law School treated about 500 area children to lunch and a minor league baseball game as part of this year's Cooley for Kids event.

Each year the law school sponsors Cooley for Kids, where the school provides money to send children affiliated with Lansing Parks and Recreation to a Lansing Lugnuts game at Oldsmobile Park. The children watch a minor league baseball game, eat lunch, and participate in a parade around the baseball field.

This year's event took place on July 18. The partners making it possible included the Student Bar Association, the Alumni Association, and Cooley faculty and staff. The Alumni Association's contribution of \$1,612.50 was raised through selling holiday wreaths each Michaelmas Term, said Darryl Parsell, Cooley's Director of Alumni Relations.

“The alumni want students to know that alumni donations are supporting student activities that are important to our community.”



Patrick Griffin, Cooley SBA Vice President, and Cooley President Don LeDuc, sport their Cooley 4-Kids t-shirts at the Lansing Lugnuts game on July 18.



Lansing Park and Recreation students give Lansing Lugnuts players high fives as they walk around the field during a parade before game start.



Oldsmobile Park, downtown Lansing

Photo courtesy of the Greater Lansing Convention and Visitor's Bureau

# student awards



David Neef, Danette Kobolt, U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi, Monika Zarzecki, and Maria Pardue

## Students Attend AAJ Convention:

On June 14-18, Cooley students David Neef, Monika Zarzecki, Danette Kobolt, and Maria Pardue attended the American Association for Justice (AAJ) conference in Chicago for a truly memorable experience.

The convention featured 2,000 lawyers and 40 law students. Pardue said that they received a good response from the attorneys. "The people there loved that law students came to such a conference and many took us under their wings," she said.

The students had the opportunity to meet several presidential hopefuls such as senators Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, John Edwards, and Joe Biden. Nancy Pelosi addressed the convention one night and the band Chicago played.

Flynn Peterson, the new AAJ President-elect, handled the Q&A period for the senators and afterward, she took the students up to the stage, where they sat at the \$1,000-per-head table with the former president of AAJ.

Students also went to the Art Institute of Chicago for a private dessert and drinks reception for AAJ members exclusively, and attended an AAJ dinner cruise sponsored by Power Law Firm that took off from the Navy Pier at night.

## Alumni President Clement Grants the Distinguished Student Awards for the Brickley Class

The faculty, staff, and student body of Thomas M. Cooley Law School gathered in the Auditorium of the Temple Classroom Building on July 13 for the Honors Convocation of Trinity Term 2007.

Alumni Association President Julie Clement (McDonald Class, 1998) was on hand to grant the Distinguished Student Award to Anisha Desai, Sarah Wilkinson, and John G. Zevalking.

The 14 students nominated for this term's Distinguished Student Award furnished a variety of information, including résumés and letters of reference that were reviewed by the Executive Committee. Nominees were also personally interviewed as part of the selection process. Members of each graduating class are evaluated on the criteria of character, academic accomplishment, leadership, and extracurricular activities in the decision to grant the Distinguished Student Award.

Brickley Class Distinguished Student Anisha Desai will sit for the Michigan February 2008 Bar Examination. She is seeking a position as a judicial clerk. Ms. Desai wants to eventually become a partner in a large firm, specializing in business law and litigation. According to Ms. Desai, "It is an honor to be recognized by the Cooley Alumni Association. I feel that it is important for me to express my gratitude towards the faculty at Cooley, and the administration at the Oakland University campus, for their constant support and guidance. I look forward to giving back to the law school that has given me so much over the past three years."

Brickley Class Distinguished Student Sarah Wilkinson will also take the Michigan Bar Examination in 2008. She wants to work as a clerk for the Michigan Supreme Court or the Michigan Court of Appeals. Ms. Wilkinson's ultimate goal is to become an elected official, first as Cass County Prosecuting Attorney and then run for a Congressional seat.

Ms. Wilkinson felt that "Simply being nominated for the Alumni Association Distinguished Student Award was such a great honor that it is hard to find the perfect words to express my surprise and excitement over actually receiving the award. The Distinguished Student Award stands for qualities that I feel every Cooley graduate possesses — leadership, strong character, academic success, and potential to impact the community. The fact that the Alumni Association chose to recognize me for possessing these qualities is very humbling and a simple thank you will never truly express how grateful I am to the Association for their recognition of my accomplishments and the award."

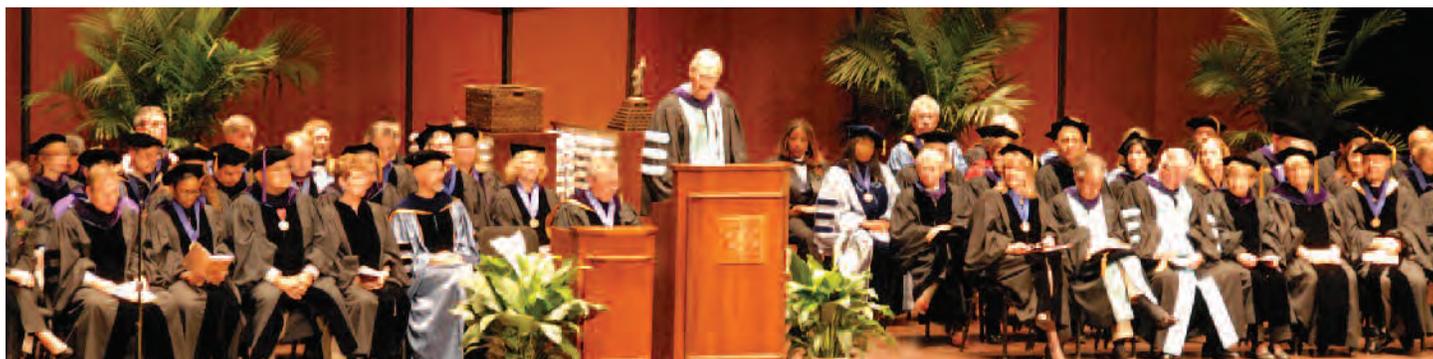
Brickley Class Distinguished Student John G. Zevalking will sit for the 2008 Michigan Bar Exam. He is seeking a position as a clerk with the Michigan Supreme Court. Mr. Zevalking's longterm plans involve assisting people who lack financial resources to deal with constitutional legal issues. He is "...humbled and proud all at once. The honor is especially great considering the character of my classmates. I have never been more proud to be associated with a group of people than with my fellow students here at Cooley. No brag, no bull, just fact. I wish everyone could meet my classmates and know the integrity and quality of our future lawyers."

The Alumni Association is proud and pleased to give recognition to these outstanding members of the Brickley Class and extends its best wishes for their continuing success.

Lower left, Alumni President Julie Clement (second from left) with Distinguished Student Award winners Anisha Desai, John Zevalking, and Sarah Wilkinson. Middle, Leadership Achievement Award winner, Alison Lopes, and Paul Zelenski, Associate Dean of Enrollment & Student Services. Lower right, Alumni Director Parsell, right, greets former student employee Timisha J. Brooks, Convocation July 13.



# graduation highlights



## Gerald W. Boston Class

Commencement ceremonies for the Boston Class were held May 19, 2007 in the Wharton Center at Michigan State University.

The invocation was given by Associate Professor John Kane. Senior R. Anthony Najera was chosen by his fellow graduates to deliver the valedictory remarks.

Commencement speaker was James J. Vlastic, senior shareholder of Sommers, Schwarz, P.C., in Southfield, Mich., and a member of the Cooley Board of Directors.

Anna Rebekah Rapa, *summa cum laude*, was the recipient of the James E. Burns Memorial Award, and Joseph Howard Cantlin, *magna cum laude*, earned the President's Achievement Award.

The Burns Award is given to the student who graduates with the highest grade point average in the class, while the President's Achievement Award goes to the student who had the highest percentage increase between incoming index and graduating G.P.A.

Professor Mable Martin-Scott won the Beattie Award for Excellence in Teaching, an award voted on by members of the graduating class.



At top, commencement speaker James J. Vlastic, partner with Bodman L.L.P in Troy, Mich., and member of the Cooley Board of Directors, delivers his address. Center left, Joseph Howard Cantlin, *magna cum laude*, holds his President's Achievement Award and, center right, R. Anthony Najera, valedictory speaker. Bottom left, Associate Professor John Kane delivers the invocation. Bottom right, Anna Rebekah Rapa, *summa cum laude* and winner of the James E. Burns Memorial Awards, pictured with President LeDuc.

# graduates: boston class

**May 2007 Boston Class  
JD Degrees**

Eric Christian Adams  
Philip Case Admiraal,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Evan Michael Allen  
Antonio Alonso  
Timothy Joseph Altieri  
Lubin Choon An

Sami Lynn Anderson  
Sarah Elizabeth Anderson  
Terry Anderson  
Roger David Andoh Sr.,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Heidi Marie Andre  
Joseph Apollos Andrews  
Barbara JoAnne Arleth,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Kahla D. Arvizu,  
**LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD, CUM LAUDE**

Sara Meghan Ashton,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Richard O. Azikiwe  
Tariq A. Baig

Joshua Albert Bailey  
Edward Amir Bajoka  
Lacy Ann Baldwin,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Charles Andrew Banas,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Afan Abdo Bapacker  
Jeremiah Hilton Barlow,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Paul Joseph Bender  
Samuel Leif Berkman  
Ross Richardson Bettis

Scott Michael Beute,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Sameer N. Bhimani,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Angela Rebekah Bohman  
Shawn Marie Bontekoe  
Brian Roderick Boyes,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Michael Stephen Brady,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Ross Tyler Brand  
Andrew James Brege,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Colleen Renee Brinker  
Kristine Renee Brotherton  
Bernard John Brown

Dana J. Brown,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Andrea Taneka Bryant  
Edward David Brydle,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Gregory E. Burcz  
Tara Ann Burden  
Matthew Dillard Busby,  
**LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD**

Stephen Thomas Buttorff,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Heather Anne Buzzard,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

E. LaVern Campbell  
Joseph Harland Cantlin,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE, PRESI-  
DENT'S ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD**

Timothy Bernard Cantlin,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Venessa G. Capo  
Sarah Elaine Carnes  
James Patrick Casement,  
**CUM LAUDE**

William James Casey,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Joshua Patrick Cecil  
Andrea June Charron  
Tin Nai Anne Cheng

Quinn Joseph Chevalier  
Ian Daniel Clark

Peter L. Clark  
Thomas Earl Clark,  
**CUM LAUDE**

LaToya Shantell Clarke  
Michelle Ann Cobourn-Baurley,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Bryan P. Cogswell,  
**CUM LAUDE**

David Joseph Cohen  
Amy Jo Coletta,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Korinne Courtney Collier  
Veronica Kay Contreras

Wanda Faye Cooper  
Warren Brent Copple  
Andrew V. Coviello Jr.

JoHanna Lynn Coyle  
Brice Jeffrey Crafton

James Andrew Crowe  
Florence E. Cullerton

Jessica Lynne Dadas  
Anita Marie D'Amico  
Angela Marie Danbery

Jyoti Davendra Dave  
Clarissa Louise Davis  
Deborah Jean Davis

Michael Richard Dean,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Tamara Arnetta DeBerry  
Matthew Scott DeLange,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Khiedrae Meikelle DeLoach  
Brent L. Densham  
Ravinder Singh Deol

Michelle R. DeSouza Forte  
Jason Michael Despetorich

Georgina Diaz Cortez  
Caycie Divena Dix,  
**LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD**

Ryan Vieth Doherty  
Pascale Emmanuelle Duvert

Andrea M. Eggert  
Stephanie Rachelle Ellis,  
**LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD**

Jennifer Marie Endl  
Nicole Antoinette Evans

Hawraa Farhat  
James Frank Fee Jr.

Dawn Star Fleming,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

LeeAnn Marie Ford,  
**DISTINGUISHED STUDENT  
AWARD, CUM LAUDE**

Matthew Adam Forney  
Christopher Michael Foss

Charles Frederick Fox IV  
Daniel J. French

Daniel Adam Frischberg  
Anthony Charles Froberger

Edward Jonathon Joseph Fujawa  
David Lawrence Gallagher

Jill Amy Gannon-Nagle,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Diana Alexandra Gasparini  
John L. Geary

Geffrey Gismondi,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Felecia Dorothea Gittens  
Erissa Jean Glekler

Merryn Shannie Gluys  
Douglas Adam Goerss,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Dorothy E. Gozdziaik  
Jennifer Lynn Grahek,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Brian Christopher Grant  
Sebastian Joseph Grasso

Victor Walter Groszko  
Ann Dee Gamboe Hall

Jennifer M. Hall,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Michael Andrew Hamilton  
Harold Leon Hardy II,  
**LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD, CUM LAUDE**

Raymond Alick Harris,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Sarah Jean Hartman  
Sara A. Hasselbring

Lori A. Heisler  
Jennifer Nichole Heller,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Tracy Lynn Hightower  
Daniel David Hill

Norman Rodney Holmes  
Tommy Terrell Holmes Sr.

Jeffrey Alan Hoover,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Jason Patrick Hopper  
Scott Christopher Howard

Aaron Weston Hubbard,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Samantha Marie Hull,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Meghan Suzanne Hurley  
Giha Hyun

Andrea C. Irons,  
**LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD**

Nimi Estella Iyalla-Ipaye, **LEADER-  
SHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Malinda La Verne Jensen  
Scott Erik Jessen

Adam Oliver Johnson  
Jodi Lynn Johnson

Krystal Denise Johnson,  
**DISTINGUISHED STUDENT  
AWARD, LEADERSHIP  
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD, CUM  
LAUDE**

Nathan John Juett  
Neelamjeet Kaur Kahlon

Rachel Joy Kanner  
Thomas Arrowood Kellis II

Mike Khoury  
Jenelle Marie Kiernan

Roxanne D. Kirby  
Bartosz Andrzej Kmiec

Tracy Lynn Koch  
Ashley Lynn Kogan,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Sander Reed Kopseng  
Mark Calvin Korschgen

Joseph A. Kotoch Jr.  
Douglas Christopher Kramarsic,

**CUM LAUDE**  
 Nicholas Frank Kravitz,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Michael Louis Kujacznski  
 Chad Aaron Kupper,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Robert Frederick Kurtycz  
 Alexander Kutanovski  
 Michelle Catherine LaComb  
 Willnae LaCroix  
 C Y Juliana Lau  
 Shane Michael LaVigne  
 May Lee,  
**LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT  
 AWARD**  
 Andrew J. Lemke,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**  
 Edward M. Lenchitz,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Dominic Ralph Leone III  
 Michael Garrett Lichterman, **MAGNA  
 CUM LAUDE**  
 Keri Resa Lindsay  
 Barbara B. Liu,  
**LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT  
 AWARD**  
 Gina Maria Lo Bue  
 Richard Albert Lopez  
 Julia Anne Lordi  
 Kathrine Marie Lorenz,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Anne Whitney Mabbitt,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Jennifer Marie Marlowe  
 Jeffery S. Marshall  
 Jennifer Lee Marshall  
 Patrick James Martin,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Aubrey William Mason III  
 Paul Travis Massey  
 Ryan R. Matt  
 Sharon Gail Mattheie  
 Danielle Sun Hee Matz  
 Tommy Ryan May  
 Bryan David McCarty  
 Amanda Lynn McLittle  
 Jamie Marie McPartlin,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Diana Renee Menefee  
 Jessica Lee Merchant,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Ecleyenne Mercy  
 Susannah Marie Meyer  
 Matthew W. Michaels  
 Sean David Mick  
 Jeanne A. Miglicio,

**CUM LAUDE**  
 Mason Mandrake Millar  
 Brian Elliot Miller  
 Lisa Michelle Lacefield Miller  
 Nicole Elizabeth Mills,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Michael Frank Mitchell  
 Jeffrey Michael Mock,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Katie Mae Moeller,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**  
 Diana Lynn Moers  
 Tamara Xavier Moore  
 Jessica Lee Morgan  
 David J. Morriral  
 Amanda Marcella Mullens  
 Ruben Anthony Rangel Najera  
 Westley Okabe Neal  
 Adam R. Newhouse  
 Justin Andrew Nicolosi,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Travis Ronald Nye,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Jun Obara  
 Lisa Faith Oldham  
 Dallas Seymour Ferschke Oliver  
 Nathan Paul Olson,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Sarah Ann Ouellette  
 Kwankyu Park  
 Brian Adalberto Paruas  
 Neetu Y. Patel  
 Jessica Ellen Pelto,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Chadwick Alan Perrine,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Brandon Michael Petelin,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**  
 Joseph Paul Petito,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Nicolas Brandon Porter  
 Benjamin William Pourcho  
 Vanessa-Nola Pratt  
 Frank Anthony Quatrino,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Scott Andrew Radloff  
 Anna Rebekah Rapa,  
**SUMMA CUM LAUDE**  
 Kelly Marie Reske,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Scott David Riggs  
 Catherine Drew Ritter  
 Cristal Dawn Robinson  
 Gayle Robinson  
 Gary Kenneth Roehm  
 Darren S. Rogow

Michele M. Romelus  
 Abbie Alejandro Rosario-Ortiz  
 Emily Adriana Rosema  
 Teresa Ann Rowe  
 Kimberly Sue Royster  
 Kimberly June Savage  
 Ryan Christopher Scarafilo  
 James J. Schenher  
 Bethany Ann Schienke,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Marie Loretta Schrauger  
 Jason Scott Schwartz  
 Lisa J. Seager  
 Jonas Kearney Seigel  
 David Sabah Senawi,  
**LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT  
 AWARD**  
 Steven Matthew Serra,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Aubrey Nicole Sharp  
 Brian Allen Shidaker  
 Linda Victoria Shupe  
 Suzy M. Sidote  
 Jeffery Ryan Sieving  
 Hayley A. Silverberg,  
**DISTINGUISHED STUDENT  
 AWARD, LEADERSHIP ACHIEVE-  
 MENT AWARD, CUM LAUDE**  
 Jonah Kealiiukai Sjoquist  
 Heather Lynne Slocum  
 John Patrick Smith,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**  
 Leticia Carroll Smith  
 Samantha Maria Snow  
 Craig Noble Stanger,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Theodore Justin Stavros,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Natalie Ann Stegall  
 Ralph John Stephan Jr.  
 Lance David Stevenson,  
**CUM LAUDE.**  
 Erica Ann Stock  
 Anne Elizabeth Swan,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**  
 Afrene Naaz Syed  
 Bruno Tabbi Jr.  
 Todd Gregory Tallerday  
 Matthew Alan Tallerico  
 Rachel Lynn Terpstra,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**  
 Laramie Christian Thompson  
 Jennifer H. Tiao  
 Joel Scott Tilleson  
 Gregory R. Todd,  
**CUM LAUDE**

Tracie Lynn Tomak,  
**LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT  
 AWARD, CUM LAUDE**  
 Andrew Jackson Torrey  
 Thomas Thang Tran  
 Christian Tsoubanos  
 Sara Elizabeth Tumbleson,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Stephen Richard Turel Jr.,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Babak Vakili  
 Maria Adele VanAlmen  
 Kristin Kay Vanpraet  
 BreiAnne Ruth Varner  
 Roumiana Ivanova Velikova,  
**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**  
 Mark Immanuel Verkhlin  
 Cheryl Ann Verran,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Conchita Maria Vogt  
 John Michael Waksmundski  
 William W. Waldner  
 Christopher Edward Wall  
 William J. Wanecke  
 Marshall Steven Warren  
 Sally Janette Weaver  
 Alexander Joseph Weisse,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Margaret Elizabeth Welch  
 Lacy Rose Whaley,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Shannon Elaine Wiklanski  
 Reyna Lynn Wilkens  
 Patrick Ryan Wilson  
 Erin L. Wiseman  
 Michael Jennings Witt  
 Dianna Lynn Wojdyla  
 Carly Moser Wolf,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 John Ryan Worman  
 Katherine Nicole Worman,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Lance William Wright  
 Julie Ann Wyrembelski  
 Kelly Grace Yarboro  
 Rose Amina Yazdani  
 Sharon L. Yoder,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Maria HyunJun Yoo,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Sarah Elizabeth Yust,  
**CUM LAUDE**  
 Daniel Zachary Zaluski  
 Steven R. Zeer

# faculty briefs



**Curt Benson, Associate Professor**  
**Published**, an article, "Persuading and Dissuading: The Degree of Proof in Insurance Fraud Cases," in the *Thomas M. Cooley Law Review*, Vol. 23, No. 3, Michaelmas

Term 2006.

**Accepted**, for publication, an article, "Michigan Rule of Evidence 301, I Presume," in the *Michigan Bar Journal*.

**Spoke**, on Recent Amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, at American Inns of Court, March 5, 2007, in Grand Rapids, Mich.

**Spoke**, on Proposed Federal Rule of Evidence 502, at the Grand Rapids Bar Association Luncheon, on April 11, 2007, in Grand Rapids, Mich.

**Spoke**, on The New Federal Electronic Rules of Discovery, to the Chicago Voluntary Services Foundation, on June 19, 2007, in Chicago, Ill.

**Appointed**, by the president of the Michigan Bar Association, Kimberly M. Cahill, to the State Bar of Michigan Standing Committee on Civil Procedure and Courts.



**Ron Bretz, Professor**  
**Published**, a chapter in a new ICLE publication, *Introducing Evidence at Trial*, 3rd edition, titled "DNA Typing Evidence," that explains what DNA is and the uses of forensic DNA typing being used in

litigation since the late 1980s. The chapter explains the different typing techniques that can be used to identify the source of the sample, and who would be qualified as an expert witness in DNA.

**Published**, in a new ICLE publication, *Introducing Evidence at Trial*, 3rd edition, a chapter, "Scientific Evidence."

**Spoke**, on Vanishing Rights and Remedies: The Michigan Supreme Court, at Criminal Law in the Sun, in April 2007 in Tucson, Ariz.

**Spoke**, on Parole Reform in Michigan, at the State Bar Criminal Law Section Annual Conference on Mackinac Island (Michigan), June 16, 2007.



**Paul Carrier, Associate Professor**  
**Delivered**, a paper, on International Relations in Connection with the U.S. Treatment of Alleged Terrorists: The Case of Maher

Arar and Canada, for a Cooley Amnesty International program, "The International Human Rights Obligations of the United States, and Other Related Issues," March 23, 2007, at Cooley Law School.

**Published**, an article, "Recent Developments in the Application of the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act," in *Michigan International Lawyer*, Vol. XIX, No. 11, Spring/Summer 2007.

**Published**, an article, "FSIA Applied Retroactively and Subsequent Commercial Use of Expropriated Property Does Not Qualify for the 'Commercial Exception,'" in *The Globe*, the newsletter of the Illinois State Bar Association's Section on International & Immigration Law, March 2007, Vol. 44, No. 6.

**Moderated**, and helped organize a panel discussion of U.S. and Canadian scholars of water law, on May 31, 2007, at Osgood Hall, York University's Center for Professional Development, in Toronto, Canada.



**Patrick Corbett, Professor**  
**Spoke**, on "Cyber Bullying and Other High Tech Crimes Involving Kids," at the Michigan Probate Judges Association Conference, Dearborn, Mich., on June 25, 2007.

**Spoke**, on "Cyber Bullying and Other High Tech Crimes Involving Kids," at the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center, Exploring Careers in the Law Conference, Lansing, Mich., on July 18, 2007.

**Spoke**, on "A Review of Michigan Cyber Crime Laws," at the Michigan District Judges Association Conference, Boyne Mountain, Mich., on August 16, 2007.



**Anthony Flores, Associate Professor**  
**Attended**, the State Bar of Michigan 2007 Summer Litigation Conference, "Cross Examination of Expert Witnesses," on July 28, 2007, in Glen Arbor, Mich.

**Conducted**, Child Protective Services Foster Care Training, in Detroit, Mich., on Aug. 9, 2007.

**Quoted**, in the *Saginaw News*, *Flint Journal*, *Oakland Press*, and *Associated Press* news stories on "Proposed Sex Offender Limits Draw Criticism," on June 15, 2007.



**Elliot Glicksman, Professor**  
**Published**, in a new ICLE publication, *Introducing Evidence at Trial*, 3rd edition, a chapter, titled "Confrontation Clause," that discusses the issues sur-

rounding *Crawford v Washington*, a landmark case in which the U.S. Supreme Court reinvigorated the Confrontation Clause of the Sixth Amendment to prohibit the admission of hearsay evidence against a criminal defendant under certain circumstances.



**Joseph Kimble, Professor**  
**Received**, a prestigious Burton Award at a ceremony at the Library of Congress. He received the "Reform in Law" award for his work in rewriting the

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The new rules are scheduled to take effect on December 1.

**Will Receive**, an award for his achievements in plain language from the Plain Language Association International. He is one of the first two persons to receive the award. It will be presented at the association's sixth international conference, in Amsterdam.

**Published**, an article called "Hunting Down Nouners" in the *Michigan Bar Journal*.

**Began**, a series of articles called "Lessons in Drafting from the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure" in the *Michigan Bar Journal*.

**Organized**, the Scribes annual luncheon during the ABA annual meeting in San Francisco. Professor Kimble is Scribes' executive director.



**Dorean Koenig, Professor**  
**Published**, a sidebar of work being done on international death penalty standards in the spring issue of *Human Rights Magazine*. Professor Koenig is the

co-chair of the death penalty committee of the Individual Rights and Responsibilities Section (IRR) of the American Bar Association (ABA). In 2006 she was asked to chair a subcommittee drafting a statement of international death penalty standards.

**Attended**, the ABA mid-year meeting in Miami, and the annual ABA meeting in Hawaii.

**Spoke**, at a symposium, Jurisdoctrinal Trends & Mechanisms in International Law presented by Cooley's International Law Society in 2006.

**Taught**, a course on the International Criminal Court, at Cooley's program in Toronto in 2007.



**Don LeDuc,  
President and Dean  
Published**, the 2007

Cumulative Supplement to *Michigan Administrative Law* (West Group). This is the sixth annual supplement since the 2001 publication of the Revised Edition of the Text, which was first published in 1993.



**Nelson P. Miller,  
Assistant Dean and  
Associate Professor  
Organized**, a series of five

speaker-workshops on cultural competence as a lawyer's skill, at Cooley's Grand Rapids campus. **Published**, "Meta-Ethical

Competence as a Lawyer Skill: Variant Ethics Affecting Lawyer and Client Decision-Making," in *9 T.M. Cooley J. Practical & Clin. L.* 91 (2007).

**Spoke**, on the "Value of Adult Learning" at the Grand Rapids Area Higher Education Network.



**John R. Nussbaumer,  
Associate Dean and  
Professor  
Appointed**, to the Appellate

Defender Commission, by Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm, for a term expiring in 2011. He was recommended by the State

Bar of Michigan.

**Spoke**, on Facts and Figures: Update on the Status of African-American Law School Enrollment, at the National Bar Association Annual Convention on Aug. 2, 2007, in Atlanta, Ga.

**Honored**, with the National Bar Association Presidential Award, from President Linnes Finney Jr., on Aug. 3, 2007.



**John Rooney, Professor  
Spoke**, at the IVR 2007

Congress of Legal/Social Philosophers, in Krakow, Poland, Aug. 6, 2007. His presentation was "Intuiting Justice: Social Psychology and the Law."

He was in a workshop on Leon

Petrzaycki, the Polish philosopher who invented a psychological theory of law.



**Marjorie Russell,  
Professor  
Served**, during her sabbatical,

as the trial consultant for the legal team representing Kifah Jayyousi, a co-defendant of Jose Padilla, in the recent terrorism-related trial in Miami.

**Held**, along with Cooley Law School and the Criminal Defense Lawyers of Michigan, the fourth annual Criminal Defense Trial College in the Cooley Center courtroom facilities in August, 2007.

Professor Russell also taught at the college.

**Spoke**, on jury selection, trial preparation and case theory development in terrorism cases, at the NORML Advanced Legal Defense Seminar in Aspen, Colo., June 8-11, 2007.



**Chris A. Shafer,  
Professor  
Spoke**, on "Is the Proposed

Great Lakes Compact Constitutional?" for a panel discussion on Current Issues of Water Law in the Great Lakes Basin, on May 31, 2007 at

Osgood Hall Law School, Toronto, Ont.



**Amy Timmer, Associate  
Dean and Professor  
Spoke**, about Cooley Law

School's work with the State Bar of Michigan to create Cooley's Professionalism Program, at the annual meeting of the National Conference of Bar Presidents, Aug. 10, 2007, in San Francisco, Calif.



**Evelyn C. Tombers,  
Associate Professor  
Attended**, a conference, the

National Association of Council for Children, Annual Training, in Keystone, Colorado, Aug. 15-19, 2007.

**Spoke**, on Ethics in

Leadership, at the Michigan Youth in Government Leadership Team Training for High School Students on April 17, 2007, in Lansing, Mich.

**Spoke**, on The Basics of Moot Court, at the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center, Exploring Careers in the Law for High School Students, on June 25, 2007, in Lansing, Mich.

**Elected**, to a 2-year term on the Council of Appellate Lawyers Executive Committee by the American Bar Association Judicial Division, Council of Appellate Lawyers. The Council of Appellate Lawyers is the only national bench-bar organization. Its mission is to improve practice in all federal and state appellate courts. To that end, together with the Appellate Judges Education Institute, the CAL sponsors annual educational summits for appellate judges and lawyers.



**William Wagner,  
Professor  
Continues**, to lead a public

service project where American law students and faculty donate text books to law schools around the world. When a Nigerian

law school needed text books, Michael C.

Ogbonna, a 1998 Cooley graduate, sought Professor William Wagner's assistance. Due to the generosity of the Cooley Law School faculty and students, the project was able to donate over 1,000 text books to the law school at Enugu State University of Science & Technology. On May 11-12, 2007, students from Professor Wagner's classes packed the shipment of text books for Nigeria.

**Attended**, a national conference, "The American Experiment: Religious Freedom," hosted by the University of Portland on April 14, 2007.

**Presented**, a paper at "The American Experiment: Religious Freedom" conference hosted by the University of Portland on April 14, 2007. His paper looked at the potential moral and legal implications of the commerce power on state assisted-suicide legislation. A peer review panel selected Prof. Wagner's paper for presentation at the conference.



**Cynthia M. Ward,  
Assistant Dean and  
Associate Professor  
Named**, Assistant Dean

of Students at Cooley Law School.

**Served**, as a trainer for the Committee on Regional

Training's week-long Trial Advocacy Skills Training Program July 30-Aug. 3, 2007, in Ann Arbor, Mich.

**Presented**, at a teleconference training session on Michigan's Probate Process, for the Michigan Elderlaw Task Force, on Aug. 9, 2007.

# alumni news

## Cooley Alumni Association Board of Directors Holds Its 2007 Spring Meeting in May

The Board of Directors of the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Alumni Association met on Saturday, May 12, 2007 at the Cooley Center in Lansing. Other members of the Board of Directors participated by conference telephone.

Julie Clement, the President of the Alumni Association thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for everyone's contribution and support. She introduced the members of the Executive Committee and then introduced President LeDuc.

President and Dean Don LeDuc reported that the results of the February Bar Exams were good, and that Cooley purchased 66 acres in Oakland

students for Oakland and Grand Rapids combined.

Associate Dean for Development and Alumni Relations James Robb reported that there are 317 first-term students for Trinity Term 2007. A total of 3,175 enrolled students: about 485 students are at the Oakland County campus, and about 325 students are in Grand Rapids. Robb thanked everyone for their continued support and hard work and said he is very pleased with everyone's efforts, participation, and leadership.

Alumni President Clement reported on the following events: the January 2007 New Judge's Reception in partnership with The Michigan Judicial Institute drew 53 guests, the March 2007 Student Alumni Mixer Event in GR, drew 38 guests, the May 2007 Law Day Luncheon in partnership with the Grand Rapids Bar Association drew 109 people, and the May 10, 2007 Alumni

association, there are more things being done with new programs and events. He encouraged everyone to continue contributing new ideas. He also encouraged everyone to bring in new members. In the future, meetings will also be held through video conferencing. Darryl asked anyone interested in working with him on hosting an alumni event outside the Lansing area to e-mail or call him. He also thanked everyone for their hard work and contribution.

Treasurer Michelle Esperance reported that the Alumni Association Operational Fund balance is \$16,384.52, as of April 30, 2007. The Alumni Memorial Scholarship Fund balance is \$144,042.45 as of April 30, 2007. There has been a good turnout on golf sponsorships due to the hard work of Tom Garikes and Pam Heos. The Holiday Wreath Fund balance is \$8,692.47 as of April 30,



County for our new campus in Auburn Hills. Cooley also has purchased the building at the Grand Rapids campus. Cooley received an award from the ABA for its Professionalism Program. A comparable review of the Skills portion is now completed. We are anticipating that Cooley will also be recognized for its Skills Program. Cooley met its enrollment goal; roughly between 3,000 – 3,100 students for this summer and roughly 800



Reception with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra drew 39 guests. She also asked alumni at the meeting to remember the June 21 student/alumni mixer, the Aug. 13 Alumni Memorial Scholarship Golf Outing, the Sept. 27 alumni reception at the State Bar of Michigan's meeting in Grand Rapids, the Oct. 27 annual meeting and wine tasting event, and the Nov. 1 student/alumni mixer at the Oakland County campus.

Director of Alumni Relations Darryl Parsell reported that with the new structure of the



2007. The Bank of America (formerly MBNA) Credit Card Royalties quarterly payment in January 2007 is \$1,489.88.

Past Presidents' Committee Chair Virginia P. Allen reported that the committee's main function is to pick two recipients of the Alumni Memorial Scholarship and to select the Distinguished Alumni Award. For this year, the recipient for the Alumni Memorial Scholarship is Mariela Sagastume and the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Service Award is Darryl Parsell. She welcomes everyone's input or nomination for the Distinguished Alumni Service Award.

Special Events Committee Chairs Aletha Honsowitz and Lisa Pohl reported that the committee's biggest project so far is the Swearing-In at the U.S. Supreme Court in January 2008. Only 12 people can attend during an argument day, which is already filled. There is a waiting list for January around the same time or during a non-argument day. The committee is planning to do this on an annual basis. The committee continues to have the mixers at all three campuses and has been receiving good feedback from students.

Student Recruitment Committee Chairs Larry R. Betz and Laurie Berner reported that there are 23 committee members in eight states. The main function of their committee is to recruit alumni to attend special events; in particular the open houses at the three campuses, regional recruiting

Membership & Outreach Committee Chair Alecia Ruswinkle reported that currently there are eight members. They distribute a newsletter each term and she invited everyone to contribute in writing an article. The committee has also handed out items to the incoming class on a couple of occasions. In the future, they will attend the graduation receptions for the three campuses to hand out items to graduating students and alumni membership information. The committee will also send out a second mailing for recruitment. Currently, there are 291 alumni members and it is growing steadily. Some of the new benefits that the members have are retaining their Cooley e-mail address and access to the portal.

Student Services Committee Chairs Amy Timmer and Audra Foster reported that the committee added four new alumni members and adopted a

participated in the Career Services Job Fair and Attorney Outreach for the Lunch With a Lawyer Series through the Career and Professional Development Office. The committee also helped the Center for Ethics, Service, and Professionalism in finding speakers for the Integrity in Our Communities Luncheon Lecture series.

Constituent Alumni Club Committee Chair Diane Britt submitted a written report that describes the committee's role in setting up its own activity in areas outside of southern Michigan. There are 12 members who are all residing across the country (Michigan, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Texas, Illinois, Colorado, Florida, and Kentucky). They give suggestions on how to set up an activity or plan meetings (i.e. venue, promotion of the events). On Dec. 5, 2006, there was a big reception in Washington, D.C. It had 55



events, and the law forums that are held throughout the country.

Fundraising Committee Chair Mary Ann Cartwright reported in writing that the function of the committee is to sponsor events to raise funds. Last year, the committee sponsored the Wine Tasting Event that raised more than \$10,000. The golf outing was held at a new course in 2007, the Country Club of Lansing. In previous years, the golf outing raised between \$11,000 to \$14,000. This year, the committee is hoping that it will triple that amount.



resolution adding three student members, one from each campus, to get a better sense of what the students want from the committee. The committee also adopted a mission statement supporting the Mentoring Program, the Portfolio Project, the Externship Office, and the Career and Professional Development Office. It also assisted in the expansion of the Mentor Program to include first-year student mentors and using more recent alums who have graduated within the last five years. The committee



guests and the guest of honor was Congressman Bart Stupak (Dethmers Class, 1981). President LeDuc and Dean Robb also attended. Another Washington, D.C. alumni reception was planned as part of the swearing-in ceremony in January 2008. Other upcoming events will be held in Las Vegas, Washington, Texas, Florida, and in the Frankenmuth area (Bay City-Saginaw-Flint area).



# Sporting Philanthropy



Howard Soifer 1949-2003

**This fall, Cooley President and Dean Don LeDuc proudly announced that Cooley has received a major gift of more than \$75,000 from family members of the late Howard Soifer, a 1977 Cooley graduate.**

## Major Gift to Cooley Completes Campaign to Endow Lecture Series in Sports Law

This fall, Cooley President and Dean Don LeDuc proudly announced that Cooley has received a major gift of more than \$75,000 from family members of the late Howard Soifer, a 1977 Cooley graduate. The gift was made to support the Howard Soifer Memorial Lecture Series in Sports and Entertainment Law at Cooley.

“This generous gift to Cooley will enable us to bring to the law school both outstanding practitioners and the athletes and entertainers who benefit from their wise counsel,” said LeDuc.

“Howard’s sound judgment, unquestioned integrity, and solid reputation were reflected in the importance of the matters entrusted to him by his clients. Through this lecture series, Cooley students will learn not only about the business of professional sports and entertainment but, more importantly, also about the dynamics of the relationship between a high-profile client and a skilled, trusted advisor.”

The gift, one of the largest ever made to Cooley, completes the first level of the school’s fundraising campaign to fund the Soifer Lecture Series endowment. “Completion of this endowment enables

Cooley to host the Soifer lecture for years to come,” said LeDuc. “And it demonstrates that Cooley has the kinds of programs that can attract major philanthropic support.” In total, Cooley has now raised more than \$125,000 from alumni, family, and friends of Howard Soifer, and it hopes to reach the \$200,000 level in the future.

## The Lecture Series Honors Howard Soifer’s Love of Sports Law

Some attorneys like to argue a fine point of constitutional law while others thrill in developing an airtight patent claim. But Howard Soifer (Christianity Class, 1977) enjoyed nothing more than discussing how sports and law sometimes mixed with surprising results. He frequently spoke at Cooley and co-authored an article published in the *Thomas M. Cooley Journal of Practical Clinical Law* regarding the 1998-99 NBA lockout.

When Howard died from cancer in 2003, his daughters Halie, 24, and Marci, 26, wanted to honor their father’s passion and professionalism while giving back to the law school that meant so much to him. After much consideration, the Soifers presented Cooley with a gift to launch the development of a lecture series designed to inspire careers in sports and entertainment law.

The gift, one of the largest ever made to Cooley, completes the first level of the school’s fundraising campaign to fund the Soifer Lecture Series endowment.



Marci, Sandy, and Halie Soifer

**“He would be thrilled about the lecture series,” she said. “Cooley gave him an opportunity for a legal career, and he believed so much in giving back; this truly honors his legacy.”**

“Howard loved sports, and he took great pride in practicing law,” said his wife, Sandy. “I don’t think there is a more fitting tribute to Howard than to put the two interests together for others to appreciate.”

In its first two years, the Howard Soifer Memorial Lecture Series in Sports and Entertainment Law has featured some of the most respected names in the industry. Recent presenters have included Steve Smith, the former NBA All-Star and Michigan State University basketball great; Steve Garvey, a 10-time MLB All-Star and 1974 National League MVP; Russ Granik, former deputy commissioner and chief operating officer of the NBA; and Ross Berlin, a Cooley graduate and vice president of player affairs for the PGA Tour and a former agent for professional golfer Michelle Wie.

Sandy, Halie, and Marci serve as honorary co-chairs of the series and are actively involved in enhancing the program. This includes realizing the goal of endowing the series so that it serves as an ongoing educational resource.

“We wanted to ensure that this lecture series will be Howard’s legacy for perpetuity,” said Sandy.

And through the wonderful contributions of Howard’s family in 2007, the Soifers’ dream became a reality. Sandy worked with Howard’s cousins, Ronnie Sampson of New York City and Jay Corbin and his wife Lynn Corbin, of Queens,

N.Y., along with their counsel, Joel M. Schwartz of Bellerose, N.Y., to designate Cooley as the recipient of a charitable bequest from the estate of Sampson’s and Corbin’s late parents, Leon and Shelley Corbin. And through various other fundraisers, gifts from family, friends, and the legal community, the family was able to help Cooley bring the giving to its current total.

Howard himself would have avidly followed the lecture series, Sandy said. Born in the Bronx, Howard spent his early years cheering on the New York Yankees. Following his undergraduate degree from Long Island University in Brooklyn, Howard moved to East Lansing with Sandy to attend law school at Cooley, and they became avid Michigan State Spartans.

After graduation from Cooley in 1977, Howard began his legal career as an Ingham County Assistant Prosecutor before he joined the Lansing law firm of Loomis, Ewert, Parsley, Davis & Gotting, P.C. Despite the rigors of his job, he and Sandy always made time for family, sports, and community.

It was while at the Lansing law firm that Howard began representing Steve Smith in his NBA rookie season with the Miami Heat in 1991. From the outset, the two men clicked immediately, sharing mutual values and philosophies on life.

“Personally and professionally, they just meshed and shared a very special relationship,” said Sandy. “Howard would be thrilled about the lecture series,” she said. “Cooley gave him an opportunity for a legal career, and he believed so much in giving back; this truly honors his legacy, recognizes his love of sports and his passion for the law.”

By working together, the Soifer family has done a great thing for Cooley while also perpetuating Howard’s memory. Indeed, the Soifers want other families considering ways to honor a loved one to know that anything is possible, said Sandy. “There is no better way to honor someone than to create something that will carry your loved one’s name. We want this to be an example for other families . . . and helping to educate others is the greatest legacy.”

For more information about the Howard Soifer Memorial Lecture Series or charitable giving, please contact Pamela Heos at [heosp@cooley.edu](mailto:heosp@cooley.edu).

**“There is no better way to honor someone than to create something that will carry your loved one’s name.”**



## Cooley Students and Alumni Welcome the First Day of Summer at June Lansing Mixer

Cooley Law School and the Alumni Special Events Committee hosted the Lansing Alumni Reception and Student Mixer on June 21, the long-awaited first day of summer. One hundred and two guests, including Cooley faculty, staff, grads from the mid-Michigan area, and current students joined hosts Alumni Association President Julie Clement (McDonald Class, 1998), Alumni Special Events Committee Chair Aletha L. Honsowitz (Witherell Class, 1990), and Alumni Relations Director Darryl Parsell (Wiest Class, 1979) for the evening in the Cooley Center.

According to Alumni President Clement “It’s great to be able to bring students and alumni together. The students I talked with seemed to appreciate the opportunity to talk with alumni about everything from law school basics, to professors, to the job search after graduation. These mixers are one more way we can help ease students into the legal profession.”

Special Events Chair Honsowitz said “What a wonderful opportunity for alumni to come together and share memories of our time at TMCLS. It is also a great opportunity for students to network and talk with successful Cooley alums.”

Student Bar Association President Chris Harris found the mixer to be “...a great opportunity to meet faculty members, alumni members, and students you have not previously encountered at Cooley. Overall, it gives you a good feel for the type of work schedule you would have if you chose a certain career. It’s also beneficial to run into recent grads and discuss preparing for the bar exam and how their employment experience is different than law school.”

Career and Professional Development Office (CPD) Deputy Director Kathy Fox was there “to thank those alumni who volunteer their time

to assist students through the CPD, to provide information to alumni who may be seeking to hire students, and to talk with alumni in attendance who may be searching for employment.” If you would like more information regarding the alumni services provided by the CPD, please contact Kathy at (517) 371-5140 ext. 4110 or via e-mail at foxk@cooley.edu.

The Cooley contingent was led by President and Dean Don LeDuc, and included Student Services Coordinator Goldie Adele (Paterson Class, 2002), Adjunct Professor Natalie Alane (Chase Class, 2002), Director of Enrollment Programs & Student Services Bill Arnold, Professor Ron Bretz, Professor Terry Cavanaugh, Adjunct Professor Mary Chartier-Mittendorf (Johnson Class, 2002), Assistant Director of Admissions Allen Chung (Chase Class, 2002), Professor & Alumni Association President Julie Clement (McDonald Class, 1998), Events Director Margie Doyle, Professor Cindy Faulkner (Durand Class, 1992), Career & Professional Development Deputy Director Kathy Fox, Assistant Dean of Admissions Stephanie Gregg, Adjunct Professor Ron Grim (Flannigan Class, 1999), GR-WMU Head of Public Services & Special Events Alum Committee Co-Chair Aletha Honsowitz (Witherell Class, 1990), Professor Eileen Kavanagh, Adjunct Professor Garry Kregelka (Paterson Class, 2002), Programs Planning & Assessment Clinical Coordinator Marianne Menna (Blair Class, 2001), Associate Dean of IT & CIO Charles Mickens, Associate Dean of Community Relations Helen Mickens (Bushnell Class, 1980), Professor Marla Mitchell-Cichon, Adjunct Professor Linda Mullins-Kisabeth (Snow Class, 1998), Associate Dean of Development & Alumni Relations James Robb, Service & Professionalism Programs Assistant Director Heather Spielmaker, Professor Otto Stockmeyer, Career & Professional Development Assistant Director Jamie Stone, Alumni Executive Assistant Amy Swope, Associate Dean of Students

& Professionalism Amy Timmer (Pratt Class, 1988), Professor William Wagner, Professor Cynthia Ward, and Professor F. Georgann Wing (Felch Class, 1977).

The alumni guests included Terry Angle (Fisher Class, 2007), Steven Bangs (Moore Class, 1993), Darcy Smith Bozen (Mundy Class, 1986), Christine Campbell (Potter Class, 1980), Rhonda Clark-Kreuer (Ostrander Class, 1994), Stephen Cornish (Reid Class, 2006), James Dennis (Butzel Class, 1979), Rob Ellis (Morse Class, 1987), Jody-Anne Gilzene (Fisher Class, 2007), Stephen Gobbo (Bird Class, 1995), Mary Elizabeth Low (Marston Class, 1978), Randall Mattson (Edwards Class, 2006), Stacey Murphy Lott (Blair Class, 2001), Valerie Rice (Rutledge Class, 2000), Membership & Outreach Alum Committee Chair Alecia Ruswinckel (Swainson Class, 2003), Pam Smith (Weadock Class, 1999), Darcel Smith Bozen (Mundy Class, 1986), Alumni Association Past President and Cooley Law School Board Member Charles R. Toy (Kavanagh Class, 1981), Amy Tripp (Moody Class, 1996), John Ujlaky (Felch Class, 1977), Eric Van Steel (Edwards Class, 2006), and Dean Winnie (Wiest Class, 1979).

Current Cooley students also attended the event including Adeyemi Adediran, Jeremy Andrew, Zeena Bhattacharya, Andrew Brege, Kristin Campise, Rachel Cohen, Jelani Cooper, Caitlin Donohue, Amit Ghoshal, Heath Goldstein, Patrick Griffin, Issa Haddad, Chris Harris, Courtney Haueter, Kevonna Hunter, Shawn Jarrett, Darlene Jolibois, Zahirah Khan, Meredith Krause, TeShawn Moore, Nathan Nikirk, Tanya Rice, Caleb Sandoval, Patricia Scott, John Terry, Brenna Veltre, Johnny Vines, Kendra Weaver, Jessica Weaver-Stoll, Sarah Wilkinson, Fayola Williams, Jarvis Williams, and Susan Wright.



Professor Ron Bretz (center) catches up on news at the Lansing mixer with alumni Mary Chartier-Mittendorf (left) and Natalie Alane (right), who recently opened their own law firm in Lansing.

## President LeDuc and Dean Zelenski Host August Alumni Reception in San Francisco

Cooley Law School held an alumni reception on August 9, hosted by President & Dean Don LeDuc and Associate Dean of Enrollment & Student Services Paul Zelenski. They were joined by Information Technology Director Sally Backofen, Associate Dean of Information Technology Charles Mickens, Associate Dean of Community Relations Helen Mickens (Bushnell Class, 1980), Associate Dean of the Oakland Campus John Nussbaumer, Associate Dean of Students Amy Timmer (Pratt Class, 1988), Web Director Ric Tombelli, and 6th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals Senior Judge and Distinguished Visiting Professor Richard Surheinrich. Cooley's guests became better acquainted in the bar at Ducca in the Westin San Francisco Market Street. Seventeen guests attended the reception.

Dean Helen Mickens said that "Faculty, deans, and Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Richard Surheinrich were pleased to get together with Cooley alumni, a prospective student, and friends of the law school in a vibrant, urban setting in San Francisco." According to Dean Zelenski "It was great to see our alums from the San Francisco area. It was a wonderful opportunity to catch up, reminisce, and network."

The alumni guests included Lisa Edgar Dickman (Wilson Class, 1990), Tin Huynh (Fisher Class, 2007), Kreg Kitchen (Fisher Class, 2007), May Lee (Boston Class, 2007), Michelle Libasci (Fisher Class, 2007), and Derek Meyer (Fisher Class, 2007). Prospective student Denise Alfaro joined the group to learn more about Cooley.



(Left:) May Lee (Boston Class, 2007) and Derek Meyer (Fisher Class, 2007) (Middle:) From left: Lisa Edgar Dickman (Wilson Class, 1990), and current student Denise Alfaro in San Francisco. (Right:) Director of Alumni Relations Darryl Parsell (left) and Clifford Maine, both of the 1979 Wiest Class, chatted at the alumni gathering in Grand Rapids, Mich., March 13.

## "It was exciting to see a new generation of attorneys committed to the fair and ethical practice of law."

According to Ms. Lee "It was a great opportunity to meet fellow Cooley Alumni and share experiences of job hunting in San Francisco. It was also great to see Dean Z, Dean Timmer, and President LeDuc because it was a part of Cooley in San Francisco. Thank you."

Ms. Edgar-Dickman wanted to "Please tell everyone that worked to put on the event Thank you! I enjoyed seeing Cooley Professors and Deans that I had not seen in over 17 years! It was a great opportunity to meet other Cooley grads in the area since we do not have an alumni group in the Bay Area."

## Grand Rapids Area Alums, Staff and Students Socialize in March

Cooley's western Michigan alumni and current students gathered on March 13 at McFadden's Restaurant & Saloon on Ionia Avenue SW in downtown Grand Rapids, Michigan. Thirty-eight current students, faculty, staff and alumni of the law school joined the hosts, Alumni Relations Director Darryl Parsell (Wiest Class, 1979) and Alumni Special Events Committee Chairs Aletha Honsowitz (Witherell Class, 1990) and Lisa Pohl (Kuhn Class, 1995). Faculty and staff at the event included Professor Curt Benson (Mundy Class, 1986), Professor Donald Petersen, GR Campus Deputy Director Joan Rosema-David (Jay Class, 2000), and GR Campus Dean's Administrative Assistant Cheryl Scott.

Professor Benson observed that "What is obvious to us is sometimes lost on our students: law school is not forever. And maybe, just maybe, this ordeal will one day be worth it. Our wonderful alumni show up occasionally to make that very point. Bless them all."

The following alumni guests met students at the Mixer; Sandy Densham (Starr Class, 2005), Myra Dutton-Johnson (Kuhn Class, 1995), Stephanie Fekkes (Douglass Class, 1989), Paul Fox (Sherwood Class, 1986), Drinan Gorney (Reid Class, 2006), Gordon Haan (Swainson Class, 2003), Nancy Hillary (Black Class, 1996), Jody Jernigan (Fead Class, 1999), Bonnie Lent-Davis (Kuhn Class, 1995), Clifford Maine (Wiest Class, 1979), Kimberly Manns (Toy Class, 2003), and Judith Singleton (Paterson Class, 2002).

Alumna Maureen Van Hoven (Grant Class, 1987) said "It was exciting to see a new generation of attorneys committed to the fair and ethical practice of law."

Current students who took advantage of the networking opportunity included Philip Admiraal, Sabastian Alvarado-Quisenberry, Joann Dickinson, Alicia Fabiano, Nick Gumina, Samantha Hull, Robert Kennedy, Michael Kujacznski, Mia Olsen, Elizabeth Peterson, Kim Royster, Daniel Stauffer, Karen Streeter, Christine Terry, Jasna Tomic, Roumiana Velikova, and Anthony Vindigni.

Student Samantha Hull said "The GR Student Alumni Mixer was a good opportunity to talk with



other established Cooley alums. I found those alumni who participated to be very open and willing to talk to students about their "legal" experiences. I will take their advice with me as I move on to establish my own legal career." Philip Admiraal echoed, Sam's sentiments about the mixer this past week. "I think that the more Cooley becomes established in Grand Rapids, more Cooley alumni will participate in these events. I appreciated the chance to hear about different legal adventures of each alum who attended and to hear about the legal path each had chosen. Opportunities to meet, learn, and network are beneficial to us who are ready to embark on our own adventure."

### Cooley Hosts 8th Canadian Krinock Lecture, Bringing Toronto Alumni and Current Students Together

Cooley Law School hosted a Krinock Lecture and Reception at the University Club in Toronto. The event was held on June 22 and this year's speaker was Mr. Justice Todd Archibald. He became a Justice on the Superior Court of Justice in 1999. He earned his LLB at the University of Toronto Law School and has an LL.M. from Osgoode Hall Law School, York University.

Justice Archibald has taught several courses in our Toronto summer program. The topic of Mr. Justice Archibald's lecture was "The Art of Advocacy," and the talk revolved around tips on the art of courtroom persuasion.

### Denver Alumni Reception Held in May

Cooley Law School held a Denver, Colo., alumni reception on May 31. Twelve Colorado alumni and friends joined host Tom Garikes, one of the law school's Development Directors, at the Omni Interlocken Resort in Broomfield, just outside Denver.

The alumni guests included Alex Dykstra (Fisher Class, 2007), Bryan Benbow (Boyles Class,

2005), Michael Bland (Moore Class, 1993), Kay Granath (Johnson Class, 2002), Van Hinder (Graves Class, 1977), Matt Humphrey (Morell Class, 1985), Peter Schaub (Starr Class, 2005), and Natalie Smucker (Fisher Class, 2007).

The group exchanged information regarding their practice specialties and locations. They were advised of the many ways that they could stay connected to their law school, both in service and financial support. Graduates then enjoyed the opportunity to network and to become better acquainted.

### Dean Nussbaumer Meets Alumni in Atlanta

Cooley Law School held an alumni reception on August 2, at the Wyndham Garden Café, located in downtown Atlanta, Georgia. Fifteen alumni and friends joined host John Nussbaumer, Associate Dean of Cooley's Oakland University Campus. He "...thought the best part about this event was the opportunity it gave our alums to renew old friendships and develop new ones, with lawyers who live and work in their community. One of the alums who attended had just graduated and taken the bar exam, and the older alums were very generous in giving her their cards, offering to meet with her, and giving her several leads on potential jobs. Real Cooley spirit."

The alumni guests included Jimmine Hagler (Fisher Class, 2007), Gloria Hardiman-Tobin (Witherell Class, 1990), Lenny Krick (Johnson Class, 2002), Ray Lail (Ostrander Class, 1994), Yolanda Smith-Williams (Smith Class, 2003), Victoria Starks (Reid Class, 2006), June Sullenger (Jay Class, 2000), R. Roush Vance (Moore Class, 1993), Samuel Williams (Swainson Class, 2003), Katrina Wilson (Swainson Class, 2003), Kimberly Wright (Fisher Class, 2007), and Paul Yacu (Swift Class, 2004).

Ms. Sullenger found the event to be an opportunity to get to know other Cooley grads. "As a new resident of Atlanta, the Cooley Alum Reception

gave me a great opportunity to meet attorneys in the area. It was an ideal networking event." Mr. Lail said "It was great to see the Cooley alums and talk about the good ole days with Dean Nussbaumer."

### Cooley Law School Hosts August Alumni Reception in Dallas

Cooley Law School hosted an alumni reception in Dallas on August 16. Eighteen Texas alumni and friends joined Texas alumni leader Bill Cox III (Witherell Class, 1990) and Alumni Relations Director Darryl Parsell (Wiest Class, 1979) at Cantina Laredo. Bill generously donated the cost of the event to the law school, as well.

The alumni guests included R. Nathan Brin (Graves Class, 1977), Jason Friedman (Fisher Class, 2007), Don Hood (Krinock Class, 1991), David Karlen (Krinock Class, 1991), Joseph Legere (Wilson Class, 2001), Okwy Maduforo (Boyles Class, 2005), Christopher Migliaccio (Boyles Class, 2005), Rich Reister (Needham Class, 2004), Rusty Reynolds (Rutledge Class, 2000), William Smith (Potter Class, 1980), Jeff Stanglin (Edwards Class, 2006), Kristin Timmer (Cross Class, 2004), Erycerla Willie (Edwards Class, 2006), and prospective student Frank Oduze.

According to Director Parsell, "The evening was a great opportunity to see old friends in the Lone Star State, meet the newer graduates, and help everyone to share referral information and employment opportunities. I really look forward to visiting Texas, as the grads there have a special zest for law practice and life in general."

### Alumni, Staff Attend Play in Grand Rapids

On Aug. 10, eleven Thomas M. Cooley Law School alumni, Grand Rapids campus faculty, and guests attended dinner and the Circle Theatre play "Daddy's Dying, Who Has The Will." According to Colleen Klesmith (Whipple Class,

1985) it was “an enjoyable evening — it was fun to see familiar faces and enjoy a play.”

The play was set in Texas where the family gathered to await the death of their father and son-in-law. The comedy was full of down home ‘country-isms’ as the children searched for the Will, sure that they had been written out for various reasons. Prior to attending the play, alumni and faculty met at Mangiamo’s restaurant for dinner. It was “nice to get out with Cooley alums,” stated Myra Dutton-Johnson (Kuhn Class, 1995).

The event was organized and hosted by Aletha Honsowitz (Witherell Class, 1990), Chair of the Alumni Special Events Committee. We hope to organize another theater event in Grand Rapids in the coming year. Jill Goodell (Ostrander Class, 1994) summed it up nicely, noting that a “good time was had by all.”

Also attending were: Jill Goodell’s guest, Ellen Blysm; Colleen Klesmith’s daughter, Elizabeth Klesmith; Professor Nelson Miller, his wife, Ann Miller, and their daughter, Sarah Miller; and Professor Devin Schindler and his wife, Sheila Schindler.

## Dean Robb Meets San Diego Alumni in June

Two Southern California alumnae went to the Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego on June 28 to meet Associate Dean for Development and Alumni Relations James Robb. He was in San Diego for a conference and hosted an informal get together at the hotel.

Dean Robb enjoyed meeting Jill Sanoff, (Carpenter Class, 1993) and Marie Stockton (Sharpe Class, 1998), and gave them an update on activities at the law school.

# letter from

## the alumni association president

### Julie Clement

### Greetings!

As the end of my tenure draws near, I have spent some time thinking about what I’ve learned during my year as Alumni President. Specifically, I’ve been trying to figure out what to share with you as parting words, and I keep coming back to one word: community.

I have been involved with our alumni association since I was appointed as a student representative on the faculty’s Alumni Relations Committee in 1996. Since that time —and especially in the last two years — we have made amazing progress in bringing three communities together: students, alumni, and the law school itself. When the Alumni Board of Governors was restructured two years ago, we moved from being a separate —albeit supportive — group of graduates to being a strong, focused organization that is making a real difference in the lives of students and in the law school’s growth and success.

Certainly, the former Board of Governors did many positive things for students. The Alumni Memorial Scholarship alone was something to be incredibly proud of. But we did not start to realize our potential as partners with the law school and its students until we reorganized, focused our goals, and began bringing more graduates into leadership roles. Now, in addition to helping from the sidelines and supporting one another, we are working side by side with students and the law school — as part of the same community. Regular student-alumni mixers, an expanded mentoring program, and more externship opportunities are just a few of the ways we are connecting with students. When the law school hosts a reception for potential new students — whether in Lansing or Las Vegas — alumni members are in attendance, giving our future colleagues a successful insider’s view of Cooley Law School. Students regularly tell us that this personal contact with alumni and professors made the difference in their choice of which law school to attend.

Often, life gets so busy that we forget how much of a difference one person can make. It’s easy to believe that our individual efforts are insignificant. They are not. You are making a real difference in the success of Cooley Law School and in the success of its students. In spite of over 10,000 graduates, and in spite of being the largest law school in the country, we are a strong, single community. And we are making a difference. Thank you.

Kindest Regards,



Julie Clement

# class notes

The *Benchmark* encourages all graduates to contribute information to the Class Notes. Please include graduating class name and year when submitting your information. We encourage information about your law practice and other accomplishments in the legal profession. You can e-mail your Class Notes information to [alumni@cooley.edu](mailto:alumni@cooley.edu). The *Benchmark* has a policy of not printing bar passage information.

## 1976 Campbell Class

**Jordan, Stephen H.**, an attorney with Rothman Gordon P.C., in Pittsburgh, Penn., has been named a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer for 2007 for Labor & Employment. *Law and Politics Magazine* and *Philadelphia Magazine* mailed more than 39,000 ballots to attorneys across Pennsylvania, asking them to vote for the best lawyers that they had personally observed in action. The nominees were reviewed and scored, with only the top 5 percent of Pennsylvania lawyers receiving the distinction. Mr. Jordan was also listed on The Top 50 Pittsburgh Super Lawyers, which is a list of the lawyers within the Pittsburgh area who received the highest point totals in the balloting and review process.

## 1980 Bushnell Class

**Cagle, Mary**, has been named the Director of Child Welfare Legal Services for the Florida Department of Children & Families. She has served as the Chief Executive Officer of CHARLEE Homes for Children, a foster care agency, since 2004.

**Wimsatt, Thomas C.**, has joined the law firm of Mahlberg, Brandt, Gilbert, Thompson and Bommarito in Saginaw, Mich. Mr. Wimsatt has represented clients in trial and appellate work for 25 years. He served as a law clerk for Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice John Fitzgerald for two years. After Justice Fitzgerald retired, he stayed on for an additional year and became Justice James Brickley's first law clerk. He then entered private practice.

## 1981 Dethmers Class

**Hamre, Paul**, was inducted into the Paw Paw (Michigan) High School Hall of Fame. He is the Executive Chief Judge for Van Buren County.

## 1982 Wing Class

**Asbury, Rachel**, was appointed to the Michigan Tax Tribunal in October 2007. Phone: (517) 335-1242; e-mail: [asburyr@michigan.gov](mailto:asburyr@michigan.gov).

**Goldin, Gary A.**, opened a general practice law firm, Goldin & Associates, P.L.L.C., at 28411 Northwestern Hwy, Ste. 930, Southfield, Mich. 48034. The firm specializes in personal injury and criminal law. Mr. Goldin has appeared as a TV analyst on the Michigan No-Fault Act. Previously, he was the managing partner of Freedman, Krochmal, Goldin, Harris & Freedman, P.L.L.C. Phone: (248) 208-0500; e-mail: [ggoldin@goldinlegal.com](mailto:ggoldin@goldinlegal.com).

**Transth, Steven A.**, was appointed by Michigan Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm to the Michigan Public Service Commission, for a term expiring July 2, 2009. He most recently served as Assistant Director and Legal Counsel for the non-partisan Michigan Legislative Service Bureau.

## Goodwin Class

**Butcher, Thomas**, University Counsel for Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich., received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of College and University Attorneys. The award recognizes members who have

given extraordinary services to NACUA and institutions of higher learning.

## Brooke Class

**Kendziorski, Tom**, was promoted to Rear Admiral in the U.S. Navy, effective Oct. 1, 2007. He is the Executive Director for The Arc of Oakland County, Inc., in Troy, Mich. Phone: (248) 816-1900; e-mail: [tfk@thearcoakland.org](mailto:tfk@thearcoakland.org).

## 1984 Carr Class

**McCall, J. Scott**, was promoted to Group Senior Vice President-Agency Services for LandAmerica Financial Group, Inc. He supervises the company's National Agency Team and leads local teams in the West and Northwest regions, developing strategic initiatives for business expansion. He is based in Richmond, Va.

## 1986 Mundy Class

**Kline, Robert J.**, was one of five attorneys selected in 2007 by the Florida Bar to serve on the Bar's Probate Rules Committee. He will serve a three-year term. He was also selected by *Law and Politics Journal* for 2007 as a "Florida Super Lawyer" in the area of Estates and Trusts, and as one of Florida's "Legal Elite" in Estates and Trusts by *Florida Trend Magazine*. He practices at Holland & Knight, L.L.P., in Tampa, Fla. Phone: (813) 227-6567; e-mail: [robert.kline@hkllaw.com](mailto:robert.kline@hkllaw.com).

## Miles Class

**Bauman, Mary V.**, an attorney with Miller Johnson in Grand Rapids, Mich., has been appointed to a four-year term on the Hope College Board of Trustees. She previously served on the presidential search committee at Hope College. Ms. Bauman's law practice focuses on employee benefits and executive compensation, with her primary concentration being on health and welfare benefits. She is listed in Best Lawyers in America for employee benefits law. She also serves on the Forest Hills Educational Foundation and is a member of the East Michigan Advisory Council for Inforum, a professional women's alliance.

**Carolan, James A.**, Vice President Trust and Estate Adviser for Comerica Bank, is one of the first 200 professionals obtaining the industry's newest designation of Certified Wealth Strategist. The designation, administered by Cannon Financial Institution, recognizes those individuals completing thorough study of the issues surrounding effective wealth advising to comprehensively address clients' wealth management needs. Phone: (313) 222-3466; e-mail: [jacarolan@comerica.com](mailto:jacarolan@comerica.com)

**Mohan, Thomas J.**, has joined the law firm of Miller Canfield as a senior attorney in the Troy, Mich., office. He focuses on estate planning, business transition planning, buy-sell agreements, family limited liability companies, prenuptial planning agreements, and business and real estate transactions. Mohan is admitted to practice in Michigan

and New York, the U.S. District Court-Eastern District of Michigan, and the United States Tax Court.

#### **1987 Morse Class**

**Viggiani, John**, has joined the Jacksonville, Fla., office of Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin as an associate in the professional liability department. He is admitted to practice in Florida and Michigan, and before the U.S. District Courts of the Northern, Middle, and Southern Districts of Florida; the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western districts of Michigan; and the 5th, 6th and 11th Circuit Courts of Appeal.

#### **1988 Green Class**

**Ittner, Lori A.**, has been named Treasurer of the Michigan Defense Trial Counsel Board. She is a shareholder in the Grand Rapids, Mich., office of Garan Luow Miller, P.C. Her areas of practice include automobile negligence, Michigan first-party benefits, balance billing issues, ERISA litigation, and coverage litigation. She has made presentations at numerous seminars.

#### **Pratt Class**

**Loeffler, Cheryl**, with Frankenmuth Mutual, has earned a professional designation from the Insurance Institute of America and the American Institute of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters. Ms. Loeffler came to Frankenmuth Mutual in 1996 as a collection specialist and received a promotion to senior collection specialist in 2002. She holds designations of chartered property casualty underwriter, associate in insurance services and her certificate in general insurance.

#### **1990 Wilson Class**

**McGinn, Cate**, has taken a senior level position in the legal department at McDonald's Corp., in Oak Brook, Ill, near Chicago.

She previously worked with WalMart Stores, Inc., in Bentonville, Ark. Phone: (630) 623-3332; e-mail: cate.mcginn@us.mcd.com

#### **1991 Turner Class**

**Waalkes, Marie**, is the new human resources director for Ottawa County, Mich. She formerly worked with the Michigan State Police. Ms. Waalkes became the first female captain in the history of the Michigan State Police in 1998, when she took over as commander of the human resources division, then became the first woman to reach the rank of major two years later as commander of the State Police's Office of Organizational Development.

#### **Lawrence Class**

**Covington, Deborah L.**, was hired by the Guam Office of the Attorney General in March 2007. She began in the child support division, but in August became legal counsel for the Department of Revenue and Taxation. Previously, she worked for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Attorney General for 12 years. She earned her LL.M. in Taxation from Georgetown University Law Center.

**Craft, Wendy**, has joined Hudson Land Company, L.L.C., as Senior Vice President. She oversees and manages the operations of the company, which is dedicated to offering title insurance to selected commercial clients.

#### **1993 Hooker Class**

**Kolasa, Michael J.**, senior trust administrator with Wells Fargo Private Client Services, has been named as an Honor Graduate of the Cannon Trust School offered by Cannon Financial Institute (CFI). CFI's school is a three-year program consisting of 38 hours of classroom instruction each year.

**Seese, Michael D.**, is a lead attorney in the new Distressed Asset Group, formed by the law firm of Kluger Peretz Kaplan & Berlin in Miami, Fla., in response to an increase in distressed real property in Florida. The group will work with lenders, developers, private equity firms, hedge funds and other parties owning or acquiring distressed real and personal property. Phone: (305) 379-9000.

#### **Moore Class**

**Baker, Paula A.**, was promoted to Senior Assistant and Narcotics Prosecution Team Leader for the Muskegon County Prosecutor's Office. She has previously supervised the office's Child Support and Paternity Division and Family Court Division, and served as a member of its Criminal Sexual Conduct Review Committee.

#### **1994 Person Class**

**Wolfe, Brian K.**, has joined Comerica as a Trust and Estate Advisor in the North Michigan Region. He has 12 years of experience in fiduciary services, most recently at JP Morgan Chase. He will be located in the Pinehurst Bloomfield Hills Mich., trust office. Phone: (248) 645-8951.

#### **1995 Steere Class**

**Rice, Stephen M.**, has accepted a position as assistant professor of law at Liberty University School of Law in Lynchburg, Va., teaching Contracts. He has practiced as a commercial litigation lawyer for the past 12 years with the Kalamazoo, Mich., law firm of Silverman, Smith & Rice, P.C. He most recently served as the firm's president.

**Weiser, David**, was promoted to Lead Trial attorney-New York City, for the law office of Vincent P. Crisci-Hanover Insurance Group. His practice focuses solely

on personal injury defense, and he is assigned the defense of large loss matters including brain damage, wrongful death, and other serious cases involving extensive surgery. Two of his trial cases have been highlighted in the *New York Law Journal-Verdicts & Settlements*. Areas of expertise include products liability, construction accidents, asbestos & mold, and other complicated fact patterns involving expert testimony of accident reconstruction, vocational rehabilitation, economics, and neuropsychology. Phone: (212) 943-8940, ext. 222; e-mail: dweiser@hanover.com.1996

#### **Black Class**

**Baribeau, Lesley**, was married to Patrick M. Glennon on Aug. 4, 2007. Lesley directs the immigration Law Clinic at St. Vincent Catholic Charities in Lansing, Mich.

**Lawter, Anne**, was promoted to principal, from associate principal, at the Kitch firm in Detroit, Mich. She practices healthcare law, working in the areas of healthcare business/regulation, medical malpractice defense, and equine law.

**Phillips, John N. Jr.** and Angela Stamm-Phillips (Sharpe Class, 1998) announce the birth of their son, John N. Phillips III, on Jan. 14, 2007. Angela is an Assistant Social Services Attorney for the Niagara County Department of Social Services, and she has opened a general practice firm, the Law Office of Angela Stamm-Phillips, in Lockport, N.Y. E-mail: lockportlawyer@yahoo.com. John is a partner with Chelus, Herdzik, Speyer & Monte, in Buffalo, N.Y. He focuses on civil litigation. E-mail: jphillips@cheluslaw.com.

### 1997 Adams Class

**Flynn, George K.**, was named a partner at the law firm of Clausen Miller P.C. in Chicago. Flynn concentrates his practice in professional and general liability defense. He is licensed to practice law in Illinois and in the U.S. District Courts for the Central and Northern Districts of Illinois. He is a member of the Chicago Bar Association. Flynn and his wife, Tanya, reside in Chicago.

### Voelker Class

**Gambrell, Todd**, was named Person of the Year for 2006 by the Midland, Mich., Downtown Business Association.

**Wallace, Megan**, has joined the firm of Stark, Meyers, Eisler & Leatham, L.L.C., in Rockville, Md. She continues to practice business and real estate law, and will expand her practice to include estate planning (wills, trusts, etc.) and probate. E-mail: mwallace@starkmeyers.com.

### Fellows Class

**Chamberlain, Margaret**, was promoted to principal, from associate principal, at the Kitch firm in Detroit, Mich. She concentrates her practice in long-term care, including healthcare law, administrative law, and professional liability.

**DiGiacomo, Frank**, of Palm City, Fla., married Susan Michelle Privitor on the beach on Singer Island on April 15. He is an attorney with the Law Office of Frank DiGiacomo in Stuart, Fla.

### 1998 Sharpe Class

**Stamm-Phillips, Angela**, and John N. Phillips Jr. (Black Class, 1996), announce the birth of their son, John N. Phillips III, on Jan. 14, 2007. Angela is an Assistant Social Services Attorney for the Niagara County Department of Social Services, and she has opened a general practice firm, the Law Office of Angela Stamm-Phillips, in Lockport, N.Y. E-mail: lockport-lawyer@yahoo.com. John is a partner with Chelus, Herdzik, Speyer & Monte, in Buffalo, N.Y. He focuses on civil litigation. E-mail: jphillips@cheluslaw.com.

### 1999 Flannigan Class

**Hazen, Andrew**, is the founder and chief executive of Internet marketing firm Prime Visibility and the star of the reality Web show "Startup," which looks at life inside the fast-growing New York firm. The first shooting for "Startup" was June 15.

### Fead Class

**Malinowski, Christopher**,



announces that The Fairfax County Bar Association, located in suburban Washington, D.C., recently named Hottell Malinowski Group, P.C. as the "Pro Bono Law Firm of the Year." The firm helped an immigrant win sole custody of her children and successfully reunited a military wife with her minor children in a pitched custody battle. The firm represented both clients *pro bono*. Mr. Malinowski has prac-

ticed family law in Northern Virginia for seven years with his partner, Dennis M. Hottell, who is a fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. They crafted an alliance between local, experienced family law attorneys and the Family Legal Assistance Project (FLAP), which is a privately funded organization that seeks *pro bono* representation for low-income residents with complex family law issues. Under the program, Virginia fellows of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML) commit to provide free legal representation to at least one eligible FLAP applicant each year. The AAML is a national body of highly skilled negotiators and litigators who represent individuals in all facets of family law. In addition to his busy litigation practice, Mr. Malinowski is the referral coordinator for the FLAP-AAML partnership for which he matches qualified FLAP applicants with *pro bono* counsel. Mr. Malinowski also recently became the chair of the Fairfax Bar Association's Pro Bono Advisory Committee.

### Weadock Class

**Violanti, Louis P.**, was appointed Associate Lackawanna City Court Judge, in Lackawanna, N.Y., where he presides over both criminal and civil matters. In addition, he and his wife, Kelly, announce the birth of their second child, Louis M. Violanti, born on May 3, 2007. Judge Violanti's first day on the bench; court was adjourned that day. Phone: (716) 824-2221; e-mail: violanti@ecc.edu.

### 2000 Cushing Class

**Reed, Michelle Lahey,** accepted a position as an associate attorney at Schott Bublitz & Engle, S.C., in Brookfield, Wisc. She concentrates her practice on health care litigation. Phone: (262) 827-1700; e-mail: mreed@sbe-law.com.

### 2001 Wilson Class

**Porterfield, Nanette,** won first prize in a recipe contest in *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine. She won \$400 for her recipe, Easy Italian Mac. Her recipe can be found in the September 2007 issue of *Better Homes and Gardens*.

### Iredell Class

**Heindl, Michael,** has been named Dean of Student Affairs for the Rankin Campus and Jackson Campus-Academic/Technical Center of Hinds Community College in Mississippi. He previously worked as district director of admissions and records.

**Reed, Shane M.,** recently became the Assistant Director of Escalations at Medline Industries, Inc., in Mundelein, Ill. Phone: (414) 423-1102; e-mail: reed1183@msn.com.

### 2003 O. Smith Class

**Graff, P. Rowland,** has joined the St. George, Utah law firm of Hughes, Thompson, Randall, and Mellen, P.C., as an associate attorney.

**Mills, Robert A.,** has joined the Boise, Idaho-based insurance defense law firm of Anderson, Julian & Hull, L.L.P., as an associate. Previously, he was an associate at the Martelle Law Offices, as well as Cosho, Humphrey, Greener & Welsh.

### 2004 Cross Class

**Constain, Monica Patricia,** and Bryant Fabian Tovar were married at St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church in Massapequa, N.Y. Ms. Constain-Tovar is a staff lawyer for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rockville Centre; she works in the immigration services department in Amityville, N.Y.

**Gerard, Craig S.,** has joined The Gallagher Law Firm P.L.C. in the Lansing, Mich., area. He focuses his practice on trust estate administration. He is implementing the law firm's public seminar series on the process and benefits of using trusts in estate planning.

### 2005 Starr Class

**James, Daniel M.,** has been named Assistant Prosecutor for Morgan County, Md. He formerly served as a law clerk for Judge David H. Sanders, of the 23rd Judicial Circuit Court.

### 2005 McAllister Class

**Hayes, Edward Lee,** and Miriam L. Henry were married June 2, 2007, in Anderson, S.C.

### Boyles Class

**LaPres, Andy,** joined the Osceola County Prosecutor's Office as an Assistant Prosecutor. He previously worked as a criminal defense attorney.

### Warrington-Whipple,

**Melissa A.,** was appointed as an Attorney-Advisor with the U.S. Army TACOM, Business Law Division in Warren, Mich. Her practice is in government contracting. This is a federal position under the Department of Defense. E-mail: m.warrington-whipple@us.army.mil.

### 2006 Edwards Class

**Cubit, Stacey Lynn,** married Kyle Ryan Hicks on March 3, 2007, at the Beaches Resort in Negril, Jamaica. The couple lives in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

### Fitzgerald Class

**Abara, Obinna,** has joined the Philadelphia-based law firm of Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaer Toddy, P.C., as an associate in the firm's insurance defense practice group.

**Hills, Tara J.,** has joined the law firm of Michelle Biddinger, in Cass City, Mich.

### 2007 Fisher Class

**Glass, Adam S.,** has joined the law firm of Fine & Hatfield, in Evansville, Ind., as an associate. He practices in the firm's litigation department, where he concentrates on civil and commercial litigation.

**Neumann, Chantelle R.,** has joined the litigation department of Potestivo & Associates, as an associate attorney. She assists with regional counsel matters.

**Veda, Angela S.,** has been named director of foreclosure operations for Potestivo & Associates, P.C.

### Wright, Tawanna D.



has joined the Grand Rapids, Mich., office of Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge as an associate. She will practice general civil litigation at the firm.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Harfst, David** (Ransom Class, 1978), 65, died June 21, 2007. He was a member of the U.S. Surgeon General's task force on access to dentistry for children; a member of the Michigan governor's task force on Medicaid; and co-founder and chairman of the board of Lansing's Harvest House.

### Mathews, Michael P.

(Goodwin Class, 1982), 56, died Aug. 19, 2007, in Grand Rapids, Mich. He practiced law in Lansing and Benton Harbor, served with the Public Defenders Office in Grand Rapids, then opened his own law practice in Big Rapids, Mich.

**Mogel, Gary S.** (Morse Class, 1987), 49, died of a heart attack on Aug. 5, 2007, at his home in Plainview, NY. He was a highly regarded insurance reporter for InvestmentNews.

**Polner, Hope** (Lawrence Class, 1991), 40, died June 24, 2007. Memorial services were in Boynton Beach, Fla.

**Shannon, Robert Harvey** (Wing Class, 1982), 53, of Davison, Mich., died May 29, 2007. He was born April 18, 1954 in Flint, Michigan.

**Trost, Fred,** (Sharpe Class, 1998), 61, died July 18, 2007, of a rare lung condition. He was the longtime host of the television shows, Michigan Outdoors and Practical Sportsman on public television.

# HOLIDAY WREATH

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 NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
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**300 SOUTH CAPITOL AVENUE | P.O. BOX 13038, LANSING, MI 48901**

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NOV. 7, 2007

NOV. 14, 2007

NOV. 22, 2007

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**FOR DELIVERY  
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NOV. 12, 2007

NOV. 19, 2007

NOV. 26, 2007

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(GIFT MESSAGE LIMIT 35 CHARACTERS)

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