

September 2020 Volume 32 Issue 5



## From the RCBA President: 100th Anniversary of the Ratification of the 19th Amendment

*After a more than 72 year struggle for three generations of suffragists, the 19th Amendment was ratified on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 1920. The suffrage victory was just one victory in the effort to ensure the “one person, one vote” ideal. Forty-four years later, the Voting Rights Act was passed to address racial voting disparity.*

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## Judge Stephen L. Maxwell and Nellie Francis: Important Minnesota Heroes

*In early 2020, the Ramsey County Law Library received its first judicial portrait of a judge of color—Judge Stephen L. Maxwell. Judge Maxwell was the first African-American appointed to the Ramsey bench in 1968.*

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## Introducing: Judge Edward Sheu Newly Appointed to the Second Judicial District

*“It’s often said we’re measured, as a society, by how we treat our most vulnerable, and I believe that’s particularly true for how judges treat those who come before them.”*

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RAMSEY COUNTY BAR FOUNDATION

**BENCH  
& BAR**  
benefit

This year's RCBF Bench & Bar Benefit is a virtual event November 3, 4, and 5.

Each day features one CLE, presentation of an RCBA award, games, and more.

Details inside.

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RAMSEY COUNTY BAR FOUNDATION

# BENCH & BAR benefit

Visit [mnbar.org/rcbf-benefit](http://mnbar.org/rcbf-benefit) for more information and to register.

**Tuesday, November 3**  
12:00-2:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, November 4**  
4:00-6:00 p.m.

**Thursday, November 5**  
4:00-6:00 p.m.

**\$25 per day or \$60 for all three.**

**Proceeds benefit the Ramsey County Bar Foundation.**

The online silent auction runs Monday to Friday, November 2-6.

Featuring:  
Daily CLE  
Presentations

RCBA  
Awards

Games and  
Networking  
Opportunities

Past Client  
Testimonials

## BE PART OF THE BARRISTER: WRITERS WANTED

Interested in writing for the RCBA's *Barrister* newsletter? We're always looking for members to write profiles of new judges, award recipients, and foundation grantees. Or if you have an idea for practice tip articles of interest to other bar members, let us know.

Please follow up with Barrister Editor Bethany Lenderink, [blenderink@mnbars.org](mailto:blenderink@mnbars.org), with article ideas or if you are interested in writing opportunities.

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## 100th Anniversary of the Ratification of the 19th Amendment

August 2020 marks the centennial of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote. While most of us know about Susan B. Anthony's and Elizabeth Cady Stanton's contributions to the national suffrage movement<sup>1</sup>, each state had its own local leaders. These suffragists were indispensable in securing public approval, support of state congressional delegations, and ultimately passage of the Amendment.

Minnesota's suffrage movement had many contributors, the most important of whom was Clara Ueland. Ueland formed and led both the Equal Suffrage Association<sup>2</sup> and the Minnesota Woman Suffrage Association, and eventually became the first president of the Minnesota League of Women Voters. She believed that early national suffragists' efforts—gathering signatures and speaking at rallies to voters/legislators—were more about goodwill than pragmatic pressure.<sup>3</sup> Ueland thought that in order to succeed, suffragists should 1) mobilize public opinion, 2) convert opposing and ambivalent legislators, and 3) defeat the opposition at the polls. She welcomed younger women, working women, and men into suffrage efforts, correctly recognizing that if the movement were to succeed, the movement had to expand its constituency. She organized Hennepin County by precincts, wards, and legislative districts, with committees for many types of interests: one responsible for developing an organization in every ward and district, an education group, a press committee, a membership committee, a “junior committee to recruit young people from schools, factories, and department stores,” and a literature committee.<sup>4</sup>

Unlike the national movement that had a falling out with abolitionists and restricted black women's involvement in the movement, Ueland reached out to all women. Ueland appreciated the contributions of Nellie Griswold Francis. Francis was born in Tennessee in 1874 and came to St. Paul as a young girl. In 1891, she was the only black student out of 84 St. Paul High School graduates. Her presentations on “Race Problems” won 2nd prize in a speech contest and led to a job as a stenographer with the Great Northern Railway, where she met William Francis, the city's leading black attorney.<sup>5</sup> They married in 1893 and dedicated their lives to the betterment of conditions in the African-American community.<sup>6</sup>

In 1914, Francis established the Everywoman Suffrage Club. She belonged to upper class black society and connected with predominately white women's social and political clubs that had been reluctant to include black women. When St. Paul business schools would not admit young African American women, Francis held evening shorthand classes in her home. Following the 1920 lynchings in Duluth, she wrote and persuaded the Minnesota legislature to pass the first anti-lynching law in the U. S.<sup>7</sup> When Clara Ueland met Nellie Griswold Francis in St. Paul, she proclaimed Nellie Francis a “star....what we call a lady, but her spirit is a flame.”<sup>8</sup>

Clara Ueland believed that a comprehensive state effort would ultimately result in a federal suffrage amendment. Ueland planned

public activities to draw as many as possible to the cause: she organized a march in downtown Minneapolis, and organized events at the State Fair. At the State Fair, she offered refreshments, sing-alongs, and tracts to make a case for suffrage to a larger, more diverse audience.<sup>9</sup>

Ueland also worked with Emily Noyes, a St. Paul suffragist. Noyes was the daughter of an abolitionist who risked his life during 1837 riots to shelter an abolitionist publisher. She studied industrial and social conditions affecting women and the family and strove to procure full citizenship rights for women. Noyes established the Women's Welfare League in 1914 to undertake the political organization for suffrage in Ramsey County.<sup>10</sup> Ueland, Francis, Noyes, and other Minnesota suffragists' combined efforts succeeded, and the Minnesota delegation all voted yes<sup>11</sup> in both the unsuccessful bid to pass the 19th Amendment, and in 1919<sup>12</sup> when it passed.

After a more than 72 year struggle for three generations of suffragists<sup>13</sup>, the 19th Amendment was ratified on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 1920. The suffrage victory was just one victory in the effort to ensure the “one person, one vote” ideal. Forty-four years later, the Voting Rights Act was passed to address racial voting disparity. Even today, the debate over voting rights continues with mail-in voting, online voting, reinstatement of felon's right to vote, and voter safety during the COVID-19 Pandemic all regularly in the news.

On the centennial of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, if you would like to read more about the movement to secure woman's right to vote, I recommend *Suffrage: Women's Long Battle for the Vote*, by Ellen Carol DuBois, and *Gentle Warriors: Clara Ueland and the Minnesota Struggle for Women Suffrage*, by Barbara Stuhler. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Minnesota History Center's Exhibition on Women's Suffrage, Votes for Women, launching on August 26, 2020, will be online at [www.mnhs.org/votesforwomen](http://www.mnhs.org/votesforwomen). Finally, the Minnesota League of Women Voters, [www.lwvmn.org](http://www.lwvmn.org)<sup>14</sup> offers educational materials about the suffrage movement and provides recommendations about how to get more involved in voting rights issues.

<sup>1</sup>Ellen Carol DuBois *Suffrage: Women's Long Battle for the Vote* 33 (1st ed. 2020)

<sup>2</sup>Barbara Stuhler *Gentle Warriors: Clara Ueland and the Minnesota Struggle for Women Suffrage* 76 (1995)

<sup>3</sup>*Id.*, 80

<sup>4</sup>*Id.*, 76.

<sup>5</sup>They were victims of cross-burnings at their Sargent Avenue, Macalester-Groveland residence.

<sup>6</sup>Stuhler, *Gentle Warriors*, 81.

<sup>7</sup>Barbara Stuhler 1995. Organizing for the Vote: Leaders of Minnesota's Woman Suffrage Movement, *Minnesota History* 54 (7), 300.

<sup>8</sup>Stuhler, *Gentle Warriors*, 81

<sup>9</sup>Stuhler, *Id.*, 82-85.

<sup>10</sup>Stuhler, *Id.*, 80.

<sup>11</sup>Stuhler, *Id.*, 163.

<sup>12</sup>Stuhler, *Id.*, 172.

<sup>13</sup>DuBois, Ellen Carol (2020, July 31st) How Women's Suffrage Changed America Far Beyond the Ballot Box. *Wall Street Journal*

<sup>14</sup>This past May, 13, 2020 RCBA offered a CLE celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment for our Member Appreciation Day. It was a privilege to have the MN League of Women Voters Executive Director, Michelle Witte, present this CLE: Commemorating the Centennial of the 19th Amendment: 100 Years of Voting Rights and Civic Engagement. For additional reading, please see the MN League of Women Voter's virtual traveling exhibit, [www.lwvmn.org/traveling-exhibit-virtual](http://www.lwvmn.org/traveling-exhibit-virtual).

# Judge Stephen L. Maxwell and Nellie Francis: Important Minnesota Heroes

In early 2020, the Ramsey County Law Library received its first judicial portrait of a judge of color—Judge Stephen L. Maxwell. Judge Maxwell was the first African American appointed to the Ramsey bench in 1968. To acknowledge the new accession, a brief celebration will feature highlights of Judge Maxwell's judicial and professional career. An accompanying CLE program will focus on another important African American—Nellie Francis. The Ramsey County Law Library and the Ramsey County Bar Association are collaborating on this special virtual event that will take place on October 1. (For more details about this event, see page 9.)

The CLE program will be presented by Dr. William Green who is especially well-qualified to discuss Nellie Francis's life. He has a new book coming out in 2021 entitled *Nellie Francis: Fighting for Racial Justice and Women's Equality in Minnesota* (University of Minnesota Press). Francis was a prominent, early twentieth century African-American woman. In 1921 she led efforts to enact a state anti-lynching statute after the infamous hangings of three African-American men in Duluth. She was also president of the Everywoman Progressive Council, which was a successor to the Everywoman Suffrage Club. Dr. Green is Professor of History at Augsburg University and has won awards for his books about racial history in Minnesota.

Judge Stephen Maxwell is the first African American appointed to the district court bench, not only in Ramsey County, but also in the whole state of Minnesota. While Howard Bennet preceded him in 1958 as Minnesota's first African American judge, Judge Bennet was appointed to the Hennepin County municipal bench. Judge Maxwell's district court appointment in 1968 followed his prior appointment as a St. Paul municipal court judge in 1967. Judge Maxwell also served as an assistant Ramsey County attorney. He was part of the prosecution team involved in the infamous murder case in 1963 when T. Eugene Thompson was convicted of killing his wife in St. Paul's Highland park neighborhood.

In a June 1987 *Pioneer Press* article that was written shortly after he announced his retirement, Judge Maxwell shared his personal reflections about being a judge. Describing himself as outspoken and sometimes gruff in the courtroom, he observed that he became irritated when lawyers didn't come directly to the point or didn't perform up to what he considered acceptable standards. He also explained that he enjoyed talking to jurors after a trial and answering their questions, telling them that "It's your court, your administration of justice. It doesn't belong to the judge."

Judge Maxwell retired from the Ramsey County bench in 1987. He went on to serve as Acting Minnesota Supreme Court Justice for a second time in 1992 (previously he had served in this capacity in 1979). Over his lifetime, he served on many boards and commissions. Judge Maxwell died on August 31, 2009. Judge Maxwell's wife, Betty

V. Maxwell, died in 2019. Judge Maxwell is survived by his granddaughter, Arianne. Both of Judge Maxwell's sons predeceased him.

The portrait of Judge Maxwell (pictured below) was donated to the law library's judicial portrait collection by Judge Maxwell's granddaughter, Arianne Maxwell. While plans were underway for an on-site celebration and CLE to take place in the law library, the highly anticipated event was cancelled due to COVID-19. Rather than wait for a safer time, the law library and RCBA decided to move ahead with a virtual program to acknowledge this special portrait gift. Judge Maxwell's portrait is the first one of any diversity in the library's judicial portrait collection.

By: Sara Galligan | Ramsey County Law Library Director

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#### Sources:

*African Americans in Minnesota* by David Vassar Taylor, Minnesota Historical Society, 2002

*For the Record: 150 Years of Law & Lawyers in Minnesota*, MSBA, 1999

"Francis, Nellie (1874-1969)," *MNOpedia* ([mnpedia.org/person/francis-nellie-1874-1969](http://mnpedia.org/person/francis-nellie-1874-1969)), 2020

"Law Schools in Focus," *Bench & Bar of Minnesota*, February 2007

*Pioneer Press*, June 22, 1987



*"It's your court, your administration of justice. It doesn't belong to the judge."  
- Judge Stephen L. Maxwell*



# Introducing:

## *Judge Edward Sheu*

Judge Edward “Ted” Sheu has a long history of accomplishments as a civil litigator and partner with local firm Best & Flanagan. As an advocate, Judge Sheu’s experience has been exceptionally varied, encompassing arbitration, trial and appellate litigation of complex commercial, intellectual property, real estate, securities, and other matters in state and federal courts. Judge Sheu received his B.A. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and his J.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles, where he served as an editor of the school’s flagship law review. He clerked for the Minnesota Court of Appeals before joining Best & Flanagan. Despite this academic and professional pedigree, Judge Sheu has a personal background and a passion for service that balances his elite-level experience with an exceptional understanding of the challenges facing everyday people, many acting as their own attorneys, who appear in district court seeking a patient ear and a thoroughly reasoned decision each day.

While his depth of expertise and litigation know-how has the civil trial bar brushing up on motion practice, Judge Sheu’s most valued courtroom experiences have taken place in rural county courtrooms, advocating for the interests of children. For many years, Judge Sheu represented the Forest County Potawatomi, the Ho-Chunk Nation, and the Lower Sioux Indian Community in Minnesota in child protection proceedings. His work involved negotiating culturally appropriate placements for Native children who could not live with their parents for safety reasons. As an advocate for the children’s tribe, Judge Sheu was also responsible for ensuring compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act, a federal law that promotes the security and stability of Indian families and tribes by requiring that active efforts are made to keep Native children with their parents, and that court-ordered placements reflect, whenever possible, the unique values of the children’s tribe and culture. “Tribal representatives in CHIPS and permanency proceedings may play a significant role in fostering resolution, and many of ICWA’s protections are aspirations for all child-welfare proceedings. I look forward to working to ensuring Ramsey County remains a leader and a model for ICWA and MIFPA [the Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act] compliance throughout the state.”

Judge Sheu’s father is an immigrant from China, giving Judge Sheu a personal understanding of the difficulties that come with adjusting to a new culture, language, and legal system. Judge Sheu was raised primarily by his mother, who brought him to her volunteer work at a domestic abuse shelter, an experience that was formative in developing his enthusiasm for service. The difficulties that many self-represented parties face: navigating the legal system while juggling work and parenting, inaccessibility due to language barriers, and a complex system of laws that can seem indecipherable to the unrepresented, are matters of particular concern for Judge Sheu. Judge Sheu considers it of primary importance that every person, without regard for economic circumstances, background, or



language, be afforded the same meaningful and respectful opportunity to be heard. “It’s often said we’re measured, as a society, by how we treat our most vulnerable, and I believe that’s particularly true for how judges treat those who come before them.”

From 2009 until his appointment to the bench, Judge Sheu chaired Best & Flanagan’s pro bono committee, engaging the firm in a collaborative effort to donate time, money, and other resources to those who cannot afford legal representation. Following the recent unrest related to the killing of George Floyd, it became clear that outreach opportunities were needed beyond the traditional pro bono structure. Judge Sheu encouraged a change in the firm’s pro bono program: providing opportunities for non-attorney staff to contribute their skills and efforts to community action and volunteer work. Judge Sheu noted that this change benefits the community in new ways, and that formal support of non-attorney volunteer efforts affirms every person’s ability to make valuable contributions towards furthering justice.

Judge Sheu is a member of multiple Minnesota bar associations, including the Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association, and has served as a mentor to new attorneys for the Federal Bar Association. He has previously volunteered as a pro bono attorney with the Volunteer Lawyers Network in Minneapolis, and his non-legal community involvement includes serving as the vice chair of St. Paul’s District 10 Community Council, and volunteering with Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity and Meals on Wheels.

In his free time, Judge Sheu enjoys skateboarding. Judge Sheu will begin his rotation on the misdemeanor criminal calendar, on an expedited schedule, in September 2020. “I’m looking forward to rolling up my sleeves to help the Ramsey County justice system get through this pandemic.”

By: Amy Edwall | Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services

# SEPTEMBER EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
		1	2
6	Labor Day 7	8	9
13	14	Real Estate Section CLE 15	Board of Directors Meeting 16
20	21	Diversity Committee Meeting 22	Family Law Section CLE 23
27	28	29	30

## Regular Section Meeting Times (Dates subject to change)

Criminal Law Section - Dates vary

Family Law Section - Fourth Wednesday of each month

Real Estate Section - Third Tuesday of each month

Solo and Small Firm Section - Fourth Thursday of each month

Trusts & Estates Section - Second Tuesday of each month

## THURSDAY

## FRIDAY

## SATURDAY

3	Executive Committee Meeting	5
	Bench & Bar Benefit Curbside Drop Off - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	
10	Trusts and Estates Section CLE	12
	Bench & Bar Benefit Curbside Drop Off - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	
17	Virtual Happy Hour Hosted by the New Lawyers Section	19
	Bench & Bar Benefit Curbside Drop Off - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	
24	Solo/Small Firm Section CLE	26
	Bench & Bar Benefit Curbside Drop Off - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	
1	RCBA & Ramsey County Law Library CLE	3
	Bench & Bar Benefit Curbside Drop Off - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	

# OCTOBER

## THANK YOU 2019-2020 RCBA Section and Committee Chairs

### Section Co-Chairs

**Real Estate Section:**  
Royee Vlodaver and Mike Burke

**Family Law Section:**  
Andrew Meyer and Amy Krupinski

**Trusts & Estates Section:**  
Amanda Hespen and John Wehrly

**Solo/Small Firm Section:**  
Margaret Barrett and David Drach

**Criminal Law Section:**  
Landon Ascherman and John Arechigo

### Committee Co-Chairs

**CLE Oversight Committee:**  
Leanne Fuith and Carol Bros

**Judges' Dinner Committee:**  
Victoria Elsmore, Anu Chudasama, and Judge Jeffrey Bryan

**Charity Golf Tournament Committee:**  
Martin Norder and Jim Erickson, Jr.

**Benefit Committee:**  
Renee Fossen and Kyle Dareff

**Families First Committee:**  
Mike Burke and Rick Stebbins

**Memorials Committee:**  
Betsy Keyes and Scott Borchert

**Youth & Law Committee:**  
Sarah Orange and Judge Jessica Palmer-Denig

**Diversity Committee:**  
Terrance Hendricks, Geri Sjoquist, and Racey Rodne

RCBA programming is currently being offered via remote participation unless otherwise noted.

For the most updated event information, please visit our website:  
[www.ramseybar.org](http://www.ramseybar.org)

\*Curbside drop off silent auction items or wine for the Wall of Wine Raffle between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Email Sharon Elmore at [selmore@mnbars.org](mailto:selmore@mnbars.org) for details.

# SEPTEMBER CLE AND SECTION PROGRAMMING

(Unless Otherwise Noted)

**Location:**

All RCBA programming is currently via remote participation only.

**Time:** Noon – 1:00 p.m.

**Cost:**

\$15 RCBA members  
\$30 non-members

**Credit:** 1 standard credit applied for

Register at [ramseybar.org](http://ramseybar.org) or call (651) 222-0846.

## September 10 | Trusts and Estates Section: Interrupting Stigma While Surviving and Thriving in Challenging Times

**Presenters:** Joan Bibelhausen, Executive Director, Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers; Robert Schuneman, Outreach Coordinator, Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers

*In the best of times the legal profession is at risk for high levels of stress and mental health challenges. During challenging times our professional and personal lives may seem out of control and this can affect our work and relationships. This program will identify normal feelings, reactions, and behaviors, and recognize when they are cause for concern. It will examine the role of stigma and bias in preventing us from asking for and accessing help for mental health issues, and identify tools to cope and to thrive while developing and enhancing skills to identify and address individual needs.*

**Credit:** 1.0 Elimination of Bias credit applied for

## September 15 | Real Estate Section: Mechanic's Lien Essentials

**Presenter:** Bryan Zlimen, Zlimen & McGuiness, PLLC

*This webinar will discuss the who, what, when, and how of mechanic's liens to help you advise your clients about the advantages and requirements of this powerful collection tool. Topics will include what types of participants and services can qualify for a lien, the steps and timelines that must be adhered to, and an overview of the lien enforcement process.*

## September 17 | Virtual Happy Hour Gathering Hosted by the New Lawyers Section: Six Tools for Resilience

**Presenter:** Joan Bibelhausen, Executive Director, Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers

The New Lawyers are offering a series of virtual happy hours this fall with a focus on wellness. New and experienced lawyers are encouraged to attend.

*In these uncertain times, self-care so we can most effectively help our clients and shape our careers, is critical. Learn specific tools and strategies that will help you deconstruct your own stress and build your resilience. Following the presentation, join in with your RCBA colleagues for a discussion about these resilience strategies as the pandemic continues to impact our professional and personal lives.*

**Time:** 5:00-6:00 p.m.

**Cost:** FREE for all attendees

## September 23 | Family Law Section: Legal Parentage without Marriage: Lessons from Bischoff v. Vetter

**Presenters:** Jack DeWalt, Viitala Law Office; Mary Pat Byrn, DeWalt Chawla Saksena

*Jack DeWalt will share his experience representing a non-biological parent that did not marry the birth mother, or adopt the children, in her case seeking recognition as a legal parent. Mary Pat Byrn will share her views on the Bischoff case and how attorneys should address similar cases in the future.*

**Thanks to our sponsor: Soberlink**

## CLE PROMOTIONS

### DISCOUNT Packages!

RCBA will be offering CLE packages again for the 2020-2021 CLE season. Watch your weekly emails for pricing and availability.

### Live CLE 10-Pack Pass

Cost: RCBA member \$125  
Non-member \$250

Pass valid for live in-person and live webcast programs of any length.

2020-2021 pass expires June 30, 2021.

### On Demand Unlimited Season Pass

Coming soon.

To purchase your package, email [info@ramseybar.org](mailto:info@ramseybar.org) or call 651-222-0846



## September 24 | Solo/Small Firm Section: How to Find (Almost) Anything: Tips and Tricks for Researching the Law

**Presenter:** Sarah Larson, Outreach Librarian, Minnesota State Law Library

*Explore the wealth of legal and government information available for free online or in print. Librarians from the State Law Library will cover free and low-cost legal research tools, finding court records, finding government documents, and how to search the archived internet.*

**Time:** 8:30-10:00 a.m.

**Credit:** 1.5 standard credits applied for

**Cost:** \$20 RCBA members; \$30 non-members

## October 1 | Nellie Francis, Champion of Women's Equality and Racial Justice Co-Hosted by the RCBA and the Ramsey County Law Library

**Presenter:** Dr. William D. Green, Augsburg University

*A presentation on Nellie Francis who both participated in leading the campaigns for women's suffrage in 1919 and (in the wake of the lynchings of three black men in Duluth in 1920) drafted and successfully lobbied the bill to make lynching a crime. The CLE is a special event that also celebrates a new accession to the judicial portrait collection displayed in the Ramsey County Law Library. The latest portrait is of Judge Stephen L. Maxwell. Judge Maxwell was the first African-American appointed to the bench in the Second Judicial District (Ramsey County) in 1968.*

**Credit:** 1.0 Elimination of Bias credit applied for

**Cost:** FREE for all attendees



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## GET INVOLVED WITH SECTIONS AND COMMITTEES

Get involved with the RCBA by signing up for one of our free sections or committees. You can sign up by visiting our website: [ramseybar.org](http://ramseybar.org)

- **CLE Oversight Committee** - Recruit speakers, plan CLE seminars for RCBA members, and oversee the calendar of CLEs presented by the sections.
- **Solo and Small Firm Committee** - Plan CLEs, social events, and networking opportunities for attorneys in solo and small firm practice.
- **Diversity Committee** - Promote diversity within the RCBA and the profession in general. Provide a forum for discussion with other groups.
- **Youth and the Law Committee** - Participate in programs that educate young people about the bar and promote volunteerism in education.
- **Memorials Committee** - Assist in planning the memorials for deceased members of the Ramsey County bench and bar.
- **RCBA SECTIONS (free for RCBA members):** Criminal Law • Trusts & Estates • Family Law • New Lawyers • Real Estate • Solo/Small Firm
- **New Lawyers Committee** - Plan social events, CLEs, and community service projects for RCBA new lawyers.
- **HELP PLAN THESE SIGNATURE ANNUAL EVENTS:** Bench & Bar Benefit • Judges' Dinner • Golf Tournament

## MEMBER NEWS

- Collins, Buckley, Sauntry & Haugh is pleased to announce that **Victoria A. Elsmore** has been named a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML).
- Larson King welcomes **Madison Fernandez** as their summer associate.

Submit your member news to Barrister editor **Bethany Lenderink** at [blenderink@mnbars.org](mailto:blenderink@mnbars.org).

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### Achieve Your Goals.

Attorney coach/consultant Roy S. Ginsburg provides marketing, practice management and strategic planning services to individual lawyers and firms.  
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To place an ad, contact **Nicole Altobell** at [naltobell@mnbars.org](mailto:naltobell@mnbars.org).

## JOB SHADOW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Ramsey County Bar Association job shadow program provides an excellent opportunity for law students to get a firsthand look at what the legal world is really like outside of law school.

The Ramsey County Bar Association partners with Mitchell Hamline School of Law to provide law students unique job shadow opportunities.

The fall job shadow opportunity will take place on October 12-16. This year, due to COVID-19, all shadowing will be done remotely. Every Mitchell Hamline law student has access to a Zoom account and can work with you on a suitable time.

Although this year's format will differ, past job shadow volunteers have invited students to observe hearings or client meetings, tour their company or law firm, or just talk about their work over lunch. Lawyers from all size firms or public agencies, prosecutors, public defenders, and corporate counsel are all needed.

To volunteer, please contact **Steve Marchese** at [smarchese@mnbars.org](mailto:smarchese@mnbars.org) or 612-278-6308.



## PLACEMENT SERVICE

Let the Bar Association help you find the right staff for your law firm. We specialize in the placement of full-time and part-time legal office support staff:  
**Paralegals | Legal Assistants | Receptionists | Office Administrators**

### What law firms say...

"The best part about working with the RCBA is how it simplifies the hiring process. The Placement Service has consistently met our expectations by finding good, qualified candidates. The service is also very reasonably priced compared to their competition. It's a win-win experience."



**GET STARTED!** Contact Placement Service Director **Sabina Zeenat** at [szeenat@mnbars.org](mailto:szeenat@mnbars.org) or 651-222-0846



"Every law firm has unique staffing needs. I'm here to help you find the right person for your office. Let's work together."

**Sabina Zeenat**, Placement Director



"For over 30 years, the RCBA Placement Service has been a go-to-resource for local lawyers and law firms."

**Cheryl Dalby**, Chief Executive Officer

# Kathleen R. Gearin

Ramsey County District Judge, Retired



During 26 years on the bench, Judge Gearin presided over a wide range of civil cases, from family law to complex commercial matters, and gained a reputation for her integrity, decisiveness and sensitivity. As Chief Judge of her district, she frequently dealt with sensitive cases, including the Coleman-Franken Senate recount and the longest government shutdown in U.S. history. She is available as a mediator, arbitrator, special master and discovery referee in cases involving **business/commercial, employment, family law, governmental/public agency, insurance, personal injury/torts, professional liability and real property** matters.

The JAMS Minneapolis panel also includes:

Philip L. Bruner, Esq. • Daniel H. Mabley, Hennepin County District Judge, Retired

Hon. James M. Rosenbaum (Ret.) • Hon. Janice M. Symchych (Former) • Lawrence Zelle, Esq.

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## The New Referral Service You Oughta Know

The Ramsey and Hennepin County Bar Associations recently merged their existing referral services into a new and enhanced program, the **Minnesota Lawyer Referral and Information Service (MNLIRIS)**. The creation of this program allows us to consider new, innovative ways to meet the needs of today's legal consumers. Now is the time for you to get involved.

Trained members of the MNLIRIS staff communicate with over 1000 legal consumers a month connecting them with vetted member attorneys or other appropriate resources. In previous years, our referral services have delivered over 1.5 million dollars in business. Our enhanced new program will only continue to expand. Your business cannot afford to miss out.



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**[mnlawyerreferral.org](http://mnlawyerreferral.org)**



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