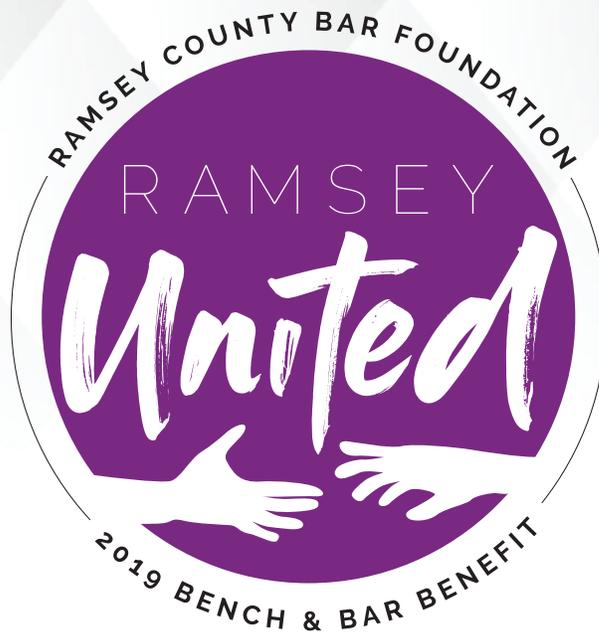


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**Saturday, November 2 | St. Paul Hotel**

*Save the date*

**RCBA HOLIDAY PARTY**

Thursday, December 12

*The Lexington*  
est. 1935

Contact Sharon Elmore with any questions:  
SElmore@mnbars.org or 651-789-3756.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Green Line Lunch

Tuesday, September 10, 2019  
Homi  
864 W University Avenue,  
St. Paul

### Fall Kick-Off and Happy Hour Hosted by New Lawyers

Thursday, September 12, 2019  
The Fitz  
173 Western Avenue North,  
St. Paul

### Families First Halloween Party

Monday, October 28, 2019  
John A. Johnson Elementary  
740 York Ave, St. Paul

### Bench & Bar Benefit

Saturday, November 2, 2019  
The Saint Paul Hotel  
350 Market Street, St. Paul

### Holiday Party

Thursday, December 12  
The Lexington  
1096 Grand Ave., St. Paul

### Judges' Dinner

Thursday, March 26, 2020  
Town & Country Club  
300 N Mississippi River Blvd.  
St. Paul

### Memorials

Friday, April 17, 2020  
Sundin Music Hall  
1531 Hewitt Avenue, St. Paul

### Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, July 20, 2020  
Keller Golf Course  
2166 Maplewood Drive,  
St. Paul

RAMSEY COUNTY BAR FOUNDATION



SATURDAY, NOV 2 @ ST. PAUL HOTEL

**Saturday, November 2, 2019**

**St. Paul Hotel**

5:30 pm Reception and Silent Auction  
7:00 pm Dinner

Pro Bono Award and Live Auction following dinner  
Proceeds benefit the Ramsey County Bar  
Foundation and SMRLS



**Tickets are \$85 each or  
two for \$150**

Add \$5 per person after October 18

**Table reservations are  
available for \$750 for ten  
people**

Discounts available for the New Lawyers Table (\$50 per person). Send an email to [info@ramseybar.org](mailto:info@ramseybar.org)

Sponsorship opportunities range from \$400 to \$7,500.

Donations needed for the live and silent auctions.

Three menu choices: Shrimp Scampi, Chicken Piccata with Linguine, Ricotta Stuffed Cannelloni

### Join these organizations in sponsoring the event:

HKM; Larson King; Stinson LLP; Briggs & Morgan, P.A.; Heley, Duncan & Melander, PLLP; Wolf, Rohr, Gemberling & Allen, P.A.; Litigation Insights; Lind, Jensen, Sullivan & Peterson, P.A.; Ascherman Law; DecisionQuest

**You can register online, or purchase a table or sponsorship:  
[www.ramseybar.org](http://www.ramseybar.org)**

Watch for auction preview teasers and get a head-start on your bidding online or via phone in our preview auction before the event. All online bids will appear on the paper bidding sheets at the event!

For more information contact [SElmore@mnbars.org](mailto:SElmore@mnbars.org) or 651-789-3756

# Renew your membership



### The 2019-2020 Bar Year is Here!

Log in at [www.mnbar.org](http://www.mnbar.org) and select Ramsey (District 2) as your District Bar. Contact the MSBA at 612-333-1183 with questions or to renew over the phone. Thank you for your membership.



## A night to unite

Occasionally I forget why I became a lawyer. You get caught up in the calendars, court orders, and never-ending emails. It is just a part of our daily lives. I have to make time to think back to what I wrote in my personal statement that I submitted to get into law school. I wanted to do something to help. I wanted to fight for something. More simply though, I wanted to get away from my then-corporate grind to feel human again. To be moved by a personal story so compelling that it drove me to make a change. I left my cushy corporate gig full of travel and fancy dinner reservations and set foot back in the classroom. While I know we all took different paths in our careers, I know that many of us share that same ambition: to help. To make a difference in whatever shape or form that is.

The truth is, however, not all of us are cut out for the grueling work of legal aid. That work, in my opinion, is coveted by those whose compassion outweighs the want. They are a select group of people who assist those struggling, in one form or another, with the difficulties of life.

I highlight those at Southern Minnesota Regional Services (“SMRLS”). Many of you know that SMRLS provides legal services to low income individuals that need assistance to secure freedom and justice from hunger, sickness, and abuse. SMRLS is the oldest legal aid provider in the state with a 100-plus year history, and the Ramsey County Bar has shared a long partnership with them. In order to be eligible for SMRLS’ services, a client’s gross annual income must fall at or below 125% of Federal Poverty Guidelines. By current standards, this is approximately \$14,000/year for a single person and \$30,000/year for a family of four. Over one-half million Minnesotans live in poverty. And, because of limited resources, SMRLS is currently able to serve only 40% of the individuals who contact the agency for help.

You may not know that SMRLS is the biggest recipient of money raised at the Ramsey County Bar Foundation’s Annual Bench & Bar Benefit, receiving half of the donations. The other half is awarded in grants to other law-related charitable organizations such as Children’s Law Center, Minnesota Justice Foundation, Tubman Center, and Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers.

Jessie Nicholson, SMRLS CEO, talked about how they use the Benefit proceeds and how they do not take our support for granted. She talked about how SMRLS will use the funds to re-engineer themselves to stay

relevant to the community and their customers as well as to remain accountable to their donors. It is a part of who they are to constantly work to become a better provider.

The Benefit, held in the fall of each year, is the major fundraiser for Ramsey County Bar Foundation. It is a night to honor pro bono service and support the legal services community. This year’s benefit is on **November 2 at the St. Paul Hotel**. The Benefit is a way that we can come together on behalf of a profession we love, to help those struggling in our legal community.

Current Co-Chair of the Benefit Committee, Renee Fossen, commented on this: “Given the current divisive climate nationwide, it is important that we as judges, attorneys and collaborators in the legal community fight even harder for those without reasonable access to the services of

skilled legal professionals. That’s the main reason we’ve chosen the theme ‘Ramsey United.’ Even if we don’t have the ability to volunteer ourselves, we can support those organizations providing much needed services to those in need in our own backyard. That’s what the

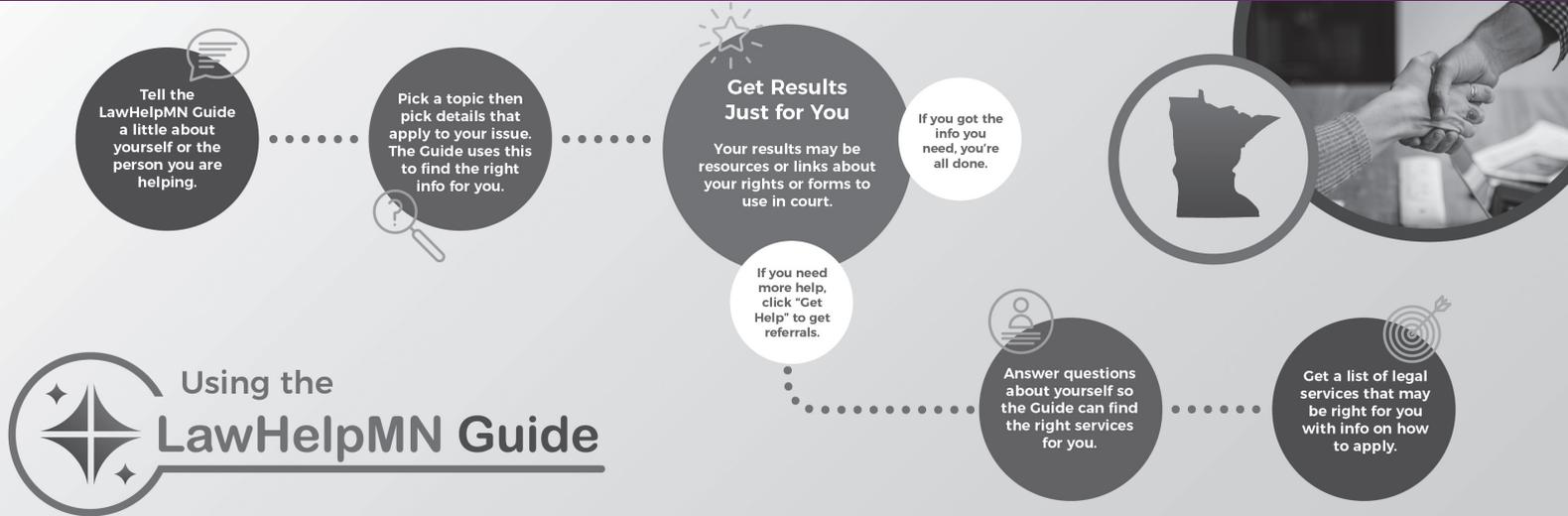
Bench and Bar Benefit is all about. Plus, you get to hang out with a bunch of your friends and have a lot fun at the same time.”

I, too, have found this event to be a great time – competing (and winning!) at the silent and live auctions, catching up with colleagues and judges, and remembering what it was that pushed me to make a change to practice law those many years ago. I love the theme this year and the idea that coming together, united, we can make a difference, just as I had once written about in my law school application. Even if just for one night.

This year, Paul Peterson and Steve Kirsch will be the auctioneers, and will no doubt bring significant liveliness to the event. The St. Paul Hotel will deliver delicious entrees such as shrimp scampi, chicken piccata, and ricotta stuffed cannelloni and there will even be complimentary wine and punch for the start of the social hour. I invite and encourage you to attend, purchase a table, or donate to this event to help support our legal services community. I also encourage you to thank the sponsors that attend and the staff at SMRLS that does this challenging work every day. Let’s fill up the room and unite together for a fabulous event. I look forward to seeing you there!

Please contact Sharon Elmore to get a seat or get more information at: [SElmore@mnbars.org](mailto:SElmore@mnbars.org).

# A Boon for the Legal Aid Community: The New LawHelpMN.org



With the launch of the redesigned LawHelpMN.org in 2019, the legal community at large and the public have rediscovered a singular and comprehensive resource for Minnesotans with civil legal issues. As in the past decade and a half, LawHelpMN offers immediate access to its well-stocked Self-Help Library of fact sheets, booklets, do-it-yourself forms and other legal resources, but now with a cleaner, less complicated interface and an emphasis on the award-winning resources created by the Education for Justice Project of the Minnesota Legal Services Coalition. For legal referrals, the site's Provider and Clinics Directory is now powered by a database of referral information updated in real-time. For the first time, this database of referral agencies includes unbundled services through the Minnesota State Bar Association, as well as mediation services through Community Mediation Minnesota.

These improved features alone make the site worth a visit, but at its core is a tool created to give users a custom experience: the LawHelpMN Guide (the Guide). The Guide provides users with targeted legal information and referrals based on their answers to a series of questions about their issue. By harnessing new technology to create a logic tree,

the Guide narrows a person's legal topic and, if needed, assesses their potential eligibility for services based on location, income and other factors. The result is less time spent sorting through a long list of resources that may not apply to the situation or calling agencies and organizations that may not be able to help. The LawHelpMN Guide is intuitive and easy to use by either the person seeking information or an attorney, advocate, or anyone assisting them.

The staff here at Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS) have enthusiastically embraced the new LawHelpMN and are involved firsthand in making sure information about our services at SMRLS is up-to-date, accurate, and immediately available, ensuring that those who need us can find us. As a nonprofit we are sometimes limited in the services we can provide. LawHelpMN's Provider and Clinics Directory puts targeted referrals and specific information about other organizations at our fingertips.

By Jessie Nicholson, Chief Executive Officer, Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services

## GREEN LINE LUNCHES

The **RCBA Diversity Committee** continues its series of "Green Line Lunches" in celebration of the vibrant University Avenue neighborhoods along the light rail line.

No reservation is necessary. Participants order off the regular lunch menu and pay for their own lunch.

**Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at Noon.**

**Homi (Mexican)**

864 W University Ave (Victoria St Station)

**Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at Noon.**

**Ngon Vietnamese Bistro**

799 University Ave W (Victoria St Station)

Join Sarah McEllistrem, RCBA president, and the rest of the RCBA leadership to kick-off the new bar year at The Fitz on Thursday, September 12th!

## KICK-OFF & HAPPY HOUR

HOSTED BY THE NEW LAWYERS SECTION

Meet the RCBA leaders, learn about opportunities to be involved, and socialize with colleagues over a free beverage and appetizers at the happy hour following the kick-off.

Thursday, September 12

4:30pm – 5pm Fall Kick-off

5pm – 7pm RCBA Happy Hour

Hosted by the New Lawyers

The Fitz, 173 Western Avenue North, St. Paul

Sponsor:  ARECHIGO  
STOKKA

Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services requests your presence at the 2019

## Fall Appreciation Luncheon

InterContinental Saint Paul  
Riverfront Hotel  
Tuesday, November 26  
11 AM - 1:30 PM

Tickets: \$50  
Table of 10: \$500

Learn more and register  
at [smrls.org/luncheon](http://smrls.org/luncheon)

@smrlsmn

#JusticeMatters



## 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

# The Attorney's Attorney: The Benefits to Working with a Strategic Litigation Consultant

Using a Strategic Litigation Consultant (SLC) can enhance your practice. There are freelance lawyers who do great work, such as research and writing and deposition summaries. But I am talking about high level strategic work on litigation files, including family law. Using an SLC is like having an “of counsel” relationship on demand without the commitment.

Many litigation projects are a great fit for using the services of an SLC. One example is using an SLC to take a mock deposition of a client and to help with the overall strategy and theory of the case. Because the client doesn't know the SLC, the mock deposition will feel like the “real thing.” It enables the client to help get the nerves out and be more prepared. A strong deposition performance can only help the client's case. If the SLC attends the deposition, the SLC can focus on the big picture, such as where opposing counsel is going with the questions. The lawyer defending the deposition can then focus on whether to object to each question. The SLC is the strategic set of ears and eyes.

An SLC is also useful to help lawyers in areas which are outside of the lawyer's comfort zone, such as a family law attorney defending a post-decree motion involving a real estate issue. An SLC who knows real estate law will understand the terminology and nuances and, therefore, can prepare the documents more efficiently. It will also free the family law lawyer to do work in his or her area of expertise. The lawyer can mark up the SLC's bill if he or she chooses to do so.

An SLC can provide value by analyzing motions for other lawyers and suggesting the best way to proceed. That sense of how to approach motions and hearings comes from many years of practice and appearing before numerous judicial officers.

The above examples are actual situations in which an SLC has assisted with cases. While each of these attorneys was experienced and very competent, they found hiring an SLC helpful for select projects. An SLC is also helpful for newer attorneys who don't necessarily know what they don't know. With both experienced and newer attorneys, the SLC fills in gaps of experience and knowledge, as well as provides a second set of strategic eyes.



By Susan Dickel Minsberg, *Susan Minsberg Law Office*. She has been practicing law for over 34 years (27 as a solo) and has worked on a wide variety of family and litigation cases. She has appeared in front of numerous judges in state and federal court, and she has assisted other lawyers as an SLC.

## Attorney Referral Service Enrollment Period!

We are currently accepting applications for the 2019-2020 enrollment period. Please consider becoming a member of our Attorney Referral Service, our Modest Means Program, or both! We will help you build your practice by providing quality referrals in your area of practice.

For more details about these programs please contact Thea Anderson, [tanderson@mnbars.org](mailto:tanderson@mnbars.org) or 651-224-1775



## Families First Halloween

Join RCBA attorneys, law firms, and local businesses at the Families First Halloween Party. Students from St. Paul east side schools gather with their families for dinner, games, and fun activities.

### VOLUNTEERS & SPONSORS NEEDED 5-8PM

T-shirt sponsor for \$250. Game Sponsor for \$500. Dinner Sponsor for \$1,000. Sponsors are acknowledged at the event, in the Barrister, and on our website.

Monday, October 28  
from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.



John A. Johnson Elementary School  
740 York Avenue, St. Paul



To sign up, please contact Sharon at [SElmore@mnbars.org](mailto:SElmore@mnbars.org) or 651-789-3756

## 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 17, 18, 21, and 22. Please consider volunteering to have a Mitchell Hamline law school student shadow you for a few hours on one of those days.

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.

# 2019 GOLF tournament

KELLER GOLF COURSE



## Thank You Golf Tournament Sponsors

**Lunch Sponsor:** HKM

**Dinner Sponsor:** Robins Kaplan LLP

**Hole in One Sponsor:** Ciresi Conlin

**Closest to the Pin Sponsor:** Briggs & Morgan, P.A.

### Tee Sponsors:

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**Putting Green:** Hansen Dordell; Nolan, Thompson, Leighton & Tataryn, PLC

### Prize Donors:

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# SEPTEMBER CLE OPPORTUNITIES

## Midday Section CLE Opportunities

Register at [www.ramseybar.org](http://www.ramseybar.org)

**Location (unless otherwise noted):**

First National Bank  
Building Training Room 332  
Minnesota Street, St. Paul

**Time:** Noon – 1:00 p.m.

**Cost (includes lunch):**

\$15 RCBA members;  
\$30 non-members

**Teleconference Cost:**

\$15 RCBA members;  
\$30 non-members

**Credit:** 1 standard credit  
applied for

### SEP 12 | Trusts & Estates Section: A Demonstration of CLEWills

**Presenter:** Michael P.  
Sampson, Mason LLP

Demonstration of CLEWills,  
new automated document  
system developed by  
Minnesota CLE, companion  
to popular *Drafting Wills &  
Trust Agreements* book of  
forms.

**Location:** Wells Fargo First  
Floor Conference Room, 30  
E 7th St. Suite 175, St. Paul

### SEP 17 | Real Estate Section: 2019 Real Estate Legislative Update

**Presenter:** Kevin Dunlevy,  
Beisel & Dunlevy, P.A.

What happened in the  
2019 legislature regarding  
real estate law, and what is  
likely to happen in the 2020  
legislature.

### SEP 25 | Family Law Section: Social Media and its Impact on Family Law

**Presenters:** Carlo Faccini,  
SeilerSchindel; Tifanne

Wolter, Henningson &  
Snoxell, Ltd; Hon. Elizabeth  
Clysdale, Ramsey County  
Court Referee

Topics such as the  
admissibility and  
authentication of social  
media posts, how to find  
social media posts that  
are relevant to your cases,  
strategies to consider when  
speaking with clients about  
social media, and of course  
ethical considerations.

## Solo Small Firm Section CLE Opportunities

Register at [www.ramseybar.org](http://www.ramseybar.org)

Join us for an informal CLE  
presentation and networking  
gathering at the **Louisiana  
Cafe (613 Selby Avenue)** in  
St. Paul the fourth Thursday  
of every month. The solo  
small firm group met in  
August and developed a  
great line-up of CLEs: time  
management; how to deliver  
bad news; technology to  
help client development;  
hiring/retention for the solo  
small firm lawyer; Elder/  
Estates topics for all solo/  
small lawyers, skip tracing,  
vulnerable adults, ethics  
for solo/small attorneys;

residential real estate  
questions, and more!

### September 26 | Time Management – Effectively Addressing Demands for Time

**Presenter:** Matt Ludt, Atticus  
Family Law

Several effective strategies to  
identifying priorities, planning  
them, holding off distractions,  
and ending each day better  
off than it started.

**Credit:** 1.5 standard credits  
applied for

### October 24 | Good Ways Lawyers Can Deliver Bad News

**Presenter:** Melissa DeLay,  
Message Maven at  
TruPerception

Working in law is great  
when you're winning cases  
and your employees are  
an industry dream team.  
But throw in a difficult  
situation—such as telling a  
client they lost or explaining  
the right processes to an  
employee making critical  
mistakes—and even the

most successful lawyers can  
be at risk of damaging their  
reputation and losing their  
influence.

Drawing from her book, *The  
Truth About Scandal: The  
Everyday Guide to Navigating  
Business Crises*, DeLay will  
show you how to overcome  
the most challenging  
communication situations.

**Credit:** 1.5 standard credits  
applied for

## FREE CLE Opportunity

Register at [www.ramseybar.org](http://www.ramseybar.org)

**Co-sponsored by the  
Ramsey County Law Library  
and Ramsey County Bar  
Association:**

### SEP 16 | Tough Cases: Judges' Hidden Struggles in Dispensing Justice

**Presenters:** Hon. Gail Chang  
Bohr (Ret.); Hon. Edward S.  
Wilson (Ret.)

Retired Ramsey County  
District Court judges discuss  
"tough" cases included in  
the book collection, *Tough  
Cases: Judges Tell the Stories*

*of Some of the Hardest  
Decisions They've Ever Made.*

**Time:** 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Ramsey County  
Law Library, 18th floor,  
Ramsey County Courthouse,  
15 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul

**Credit:** 1.0 standard credit  
applied for

**COST: FREE**

**There will be no remote  
access option for this CLE.**

# CLE DISCOUNT Packages!

RCBA is offering flexible CLE packages again for the 2019-2020 CLE season. Great savings over buying individual CLEs High Quality, Relevant CLEs presented by local experts

**5 CLEs \$60**

**10 CLEs \$110**

**15 CLEs \$150**

Any length: 1 credit hour, 1.5 hours, 2 hours, 3 hours  
Any format – live, teleconference, on-demand Includes lunch, if applicable.

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

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[www.mnlcl.org](http://www.mnlcl.org)

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at 888-243-5744**

## OCTOBER CLEs

10/3 Trusts & Estates Section CLE

10/15 Real Estate Section CLE

10/23 Family Law Section CLE

10/24 Good Ways Lawyers Can  
Deliver Bad News



# Kathleen R. Gearin

*Ramsey County District Judge, Retired*



During 26 years as a Ramsey County District Judge, 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, which includes the state Capital, she frequently dealt with politically sensitive cases involving issues such as free speech, 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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