

RAMSEY COUNTY BAR FOUNDATION

# BENCH **VIRTUAL** & BAR benefit

## November 3, 4, and 5

*Featuring:  
Daily CLE  
Presentations*

*RCBA  
Awards*

*Games and  
Networking  
Opportunities*

*Our  
Community  
Impact*

**To register visit:  
[mnbar.org/rcbf-benefit](http://mnbar.org/rcbf-benefit)**

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# RCBF Virtual Bench & Bar Benefit

For our 45th Annual Event, we're gathering in a whole new way. Be a part of this week of virtual programming and fundraising for the bar foundation.

<p><b>November 3</b> <i>12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.</i></p> <p><b>CLE Presentation:</b> <i>Topic: 19th Amendment Anniversary</i></p> <p><b>"Where Are They Now" –</b> Stories from clients impacted by RCBF grants to pro bono attorney programs</p> <p><b>Distinguished Humanitarian Service Award:</b> Evan Tsai</p> <p><b>Bingo Game</b></p>	<p><b>November 4</b> <i>4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.</i></p> <p><b>CLE Presentation:</b> Don't Panic! The Basics of an Ethics Complaint</p> <p><b>"Where Are They Now" –</b> Stories from clients impacted by RCBF grants to pro bono attorney programs</p> <p><b>Liberty Bell Award:</b> Court Visitor Program in Honor of Dennis Libra</p> <p><b>"Networking Social Hour" and Trivia Game</b></p>	<p><b>November 5</b> <i>4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.</i></p> <p><b>CLE Presentation:</b> <i>Topic: Wellness/Holistic Lifestyle Practices</i></p> <p><b>"Where Are They Now" –</b> Stories from clients impacted by RCBF grants to pro bono attorney programs</p> <p><b>Pro Bono Award:</b> Karen Tarrant</p> <p><b>Wine tasting and "Social Hour"</b></p>
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*Admission tickets are \$25 per day or \$60 for all three days.*

## Silent Auction

This year's silent auction will be held entirely online and will be available November 2-6. Watch your inbox and the website for previews of items. To donate to the silent auction, please contact [Sharon Elmore](mailto:selmore@mnbars.org) at [selmore@mnbars.org](mailto:selmore@mnbars.org).

## Sponsors

With a new virtual event this year, we have created new sponsor levels and benefits. We encourage individuals and organizations to consider sponsoring the RCBF Bench & Bar Benefit. View sponsor levels and benefits along with more information about the event on the RCBA website. Please contact [Amanda Idinge](mailto:aidinge@mnbars.org) at [aidinge@mnbars.org](mailto:aidinge@mnbars.org) to sponsor the event.

*Thanks to our sponsors:*





## 2020 Bench & Bar Benefit

*"I tell law students... if you are going to be a lawyer and just practice your profession, you have a skill—very much like a plumber. But if you want to be a true **professional**, you will do something outside yourself... something that makes life a little better for people less fortunate than you."*

*- Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg (1933-2020)*

As I was finalizing this column, our country received the tragic news that Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg passed away. What better way to honor Justice Ginsburg's life and memory than to follow her advice on being a true professional and do something outside of yourself for those less fortunate. As members of the Ramsey County Bar Association, we have many ways of accepting Justice Ginsburg's challenge. RCBA members serve on the Bench, are in public service or non-profit work, or volunteer pro-bono hours, and are already helping the less fortunate. For those who wish to do more, RCBA members can support the Bench and Bar Benefit through sponsorship or donations.

The 2020 Bench and Bar Benefit will be held virtually this year, a far cry from when the Benefit was created 45 years ago by the Lawyers' Wives of Ramsey County<sup>1</sup>. The Benefit—one of RCBA's signature events—is the major fundraiser for the Ramsey County Bar Foundation. As in the past, significant funds will be granted to Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services, and also awarded to other law-related organizations. Past recipients have included Civil Society, Children's Law Center, Minnesota Justice Foundation, Collaborative Community Law Initiative, HOME Line, Innocence Project, International Institute of Minnesota, Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers, Minnesota Elder Justice Center, and Tubman.

When the Bench and Bar Benefit Committee began meeting in April, we were in a quandary as to how COVID-19 would affect the event, from planning stages to whether it would be possible to hold the Benefit itself in early November. Neither canceling nor postponing until next year were viable options. Under the guidance of our intrepid co-chairs Kyle Dareff, Renee Fossen, and Caryn Boisen, as well as RCBA staff Sharon Elmore and Amanda Idinge, the committee has planned an exciting event that, although virtual, will be as much fun as the in-person event.

Instead of the usual evening soiree, the Benefit will take place over the course of three days, November 3 to 5, and incorporating CLEs—such as "Don't Panic: The Basics of an Ethics Complaint" with client testimonials, service awards, and entertainment. During the week, we will also be hosting a silent auction Monday, November 2 through Friday, November 6.

RCBA will also bestow the Liberty Bell Award and the Distinguished Humanitarian Service Award during the Benefit. The Liberty Bell Award, for a non-lawyer who promotes respect for the law and the courts and contributes to the effective functioning of the government institutions, will be awarded to the Court Visitor Program, in memory of Dennis Libra. Mr. Libra served as a contracted court visitor for many years after spending his career as a Ramsey County social worker. He passed away in January 2020. The Distinguished Humanitarian Service Award recipient is Marine Corps veteran, former public defender, and current RCBA Board member Evan Tsai, who is a defense attorney for the League of Minnesota Cities. Mr. Tsai was instrumental in forming the Ramsey County Veterans Treatment Court. Both the Liberty Bell Award and Distinguished Humanitarian Service Award demonstrate how the recipients have given back to the community.

The Bench and Bar Benefit gives us the opportunity to give back as well, through sponsorships or donations which fund Ramsey County Bar Foundation grants. Your support of the Benefit makes a difference in people's lives. For example, in the words of thanks received from Civil Society Executive Director, Linda Miller:

*"Your grant is a commitment to helping the underserved and is sincerely appreciated. Civil Society is so appreciative of the ongoing grants that the Ramsey County Bar Foundation has provided for our work to provide legal services to child and adult human trafficking victims. We are entering into a phase where we are discovering more and more children who would have been trafficked and really need these funds to provide legal services to them on an emergency basis. Please know that Civil Society is only able to wage this war against traffickers and perpetrators of these terrible crimes because of grant organizations like Ramsey County Bar Foundation.... Your help means so much."*

In these trying times, your help is needed more than ever. While going virtual means neither in-person appeals nor friendly, yet competitive, bidding among colleagues will occur, please heed Justice Ginsburg's appeal to do something outside of yourself and make life a little better for those less fortunate by supporting this year's Bench and Bar Benefit online.

Thank you for your generosity,  
Susan

<sup>1</sup>Lawyers' Wives of Ramsey County established the Bench and Bar Benefit in 1975. While continuing the Benefit tradition, the organization became the Lawyers, Advocates and Wives of Ramsey County in 1981 and then Law Advocates of Ramsey County in 1991. When Law Advocates disbanded in 1999, RCBA took on the role of planning the Benefit. Many thanks to Betsy Keyes, Mary Sue Godfrey, and Cheryl Dalby for historical information regarding the Benefit.

# Introducing: *Judge Kellie Charles*

Judge Kellie Charles has firsthand knowledge of how the justice system can affect people's lives. "I was a public defender for 23 years, and I wanted to become a judge because I felt that the system was broken—I saw the direct impact that had on real people," she said.

Charles was appointed to the Second Judicial District bench in July 2020. Prior to her appointment, she spent her entire career in the Office of the Hennepin County Public Defender. There, she represented indigent clients in adult, juvenile and child protection cases at the trial and appellate levels. For the last seven years, Charles supervised attorneys in the Hennepin County treatment courts—Drug Court, Mental Health Court, Veteran's Court, DWI Court, H.O.M.E.S. Court, and G.I.F.T. Court. Originally from Youngstown, Ohio, she received her B.A. from Miami University and her J.D. *cum laude* from William Mitchell College of Law.

**Sometimes people just want to know that someone believes in them. And having a personal connection, being able to talk to somebody directly and employing all the concepts of procedural fairness are really important to me. I want that to be part of my judicial philosophy going forward.**

Working in the treatment courts gave Charles a unique perspective on how specialty courts can affect people's lives. According to the Minnesota Judicial Branch website, "treatment court strategies include regular appearances before a judge, intensive supervision by a probation officer, frequent drug and alcohol testing that is random and individualized and using immediate sanctions and incentives to reward program compliance and respond to program non-compliance. Research shows that when these strategies are implemented correctly, treatment courts improve public safety and save taxpayer dollars."

"I've seen what a difference those courts made in people's lives, and the direct impact a judge has on improving people's lives just by making a connection, employing the concept of procedural fairness and making sure people are heard and that they feel they are heard," she said. "Not everyone can be in a treatment court. We have a lot of addicted people, mentally ill people, and veterans who are suffering from service-related disabilities, but there is not enough space for everyone in treatment courts. So, I want to bring the positive aspects of the treatment courts to all of the courts."

Even amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and alternative working arrangements, Charles has felt welcome in her first few months working in Ramsey County. "Everyone has been so supportive, from the court clerk staff, the deputies, the public defenders, the prosecutors, and the police officers that I have to call with questions when I'm signing warrants. Everyone is really friendly and encouraging. They all want

to do good work, so I've been really happy about that," said Charles.

The adjustments to the court have highlighted the responsibilities of being a judge. "It's interesting to switch gears and to recognize that I not only have responsibility for the defendant, but I also have responsibility for public safety and for making sure it's fair for everyone rather than just solely being focused on my client," she said. "That's been a little bit of an adjustment."

The racial disparities that have been highlighted in the summer of 2020 are not unfamiliar to Judge Charles. "Unfortunately, the George Floyd situation was not anything that came as a surprise to me—particularly after working as a public defender in Minneapolis and Hennepin County. The attention to this case has just heightened the importance of recognizing that everyone needs to understand that these issues exist, and I want to work on being part of the solution," she said.

With her decades of experience as a public defender, Charles understands the power of a judge, and how her decisions can affect racial disparities. "When it comes to impacting the criminal justice system, the judge has a lot of discretion—including setting bail, the conditions of probation and sentencing, and encouraging people to be involved in therapeutic outcomes," she said. "Sometimes people just want to know that someone believes in them. And having a personal connection, being able to talk to somebody directly and employing all the concepts of procedural fairness are really important to me. I want that to be part of my judicial philosophy going forward."

Even though she spent her career in Hennepin County, Charles is very familiar with working in St. Paul. She has served on the Capital Improvement Budget Committee as well as three St. Paul community councils. She has observed Ramsey County courts and used some of the ideas of the Ramsey County Mental Health Court to improve Hennepin County's Mental Health Court.

"There are really good judges on the Ramsey County bench that I am looking forward to working with. They are bright and energetic people who are not afraid to try new things, and I'm looking forward to working with them and making some changes for the betterment of justice in Minnesota," said Charles.



By: Nick Hansen



# 2020 RCBA Pro Bono Award

## Recipient: *Karen Tarrant*

When Karen Tarrant entered law school at the University of Chicago in 1970, she was one of only 17 women in a class of close to 140 students. Acclimating to the life of a law student, Tarrant would often read the cases in her case book and ask, “Where are the people?” From that start, Tarrant built a career focused on providing legal service with a human component. This year, she has been selected to be the recipient of the Ramsey County

Bar Association’s Pro Bono Award. The award recognizes an attorney or team of attorneys who has demonstrated significant dedication to providing legal services to disadvantaged individuals and nonprofit organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Tarrant has volunteered with Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS) as a pro bono attorney. In their nomination letter, SMRLS Executive Director Jessie Nicholson and Volunteer Attorney Program Supervisor Carol Bros note that Tarrant has taken over 70 cases since 2000 (the earliest year available in electronic recordkeeping) and provided over 1125 hours of service. They observe, “Karen is a particularly valuable volunteer because she takes a wide variety of cases, including debt and consumer, landlord/tenant, income tax, trust and estates, probate, and guardianships/conservatorships. In addition, Karen is willing to jump into unusual cases.”

Tarrant’s connection to pro bono work began with her father who was a lawyer in a small town in western Wisconsin. According to Tarrant, he believed the law was a service profession that placed a responsibility on each individual to take care of the community and find a way to help ordinary people. While at the University of Chicago, Tarrant volunteered with the legal aid clinic and considered it one of the most significant experiences of her law school career. After law school, Tarrant first practiced construction and securities fraud litigation at a medium-sized firm in Chicago and then relocated to Minnesota in 1978 to practice litigation. In 1982, she started her own law practice in an effort to balance work and family responsibilities. She eventually bought a building on Grand Avenue in St. Paul, renovated it for professional office use and created a child care center on the first floor. Now semi-retired from practice, Tarrant focuses less on litigation practice and does more estate planning and corporate work.

Tarrant has worked on a very diverse array of matters for SMRLS with a range of clients. Among the most noteworthy of her pro bono cases were a case in which she assisted a client with mental disabilities to

remain in his family home and a case in which she helped a grandmother who spoke only Hmong gain guardianship over her granddaughter while her daughter received medical treatment for tuberculosis. In their nomination letter, Nicholson and Bros remarked on Tarrant’s willingness to work with the same client over time even when there were new, but related legal issues.

Through her pro bono service, Tarrant has been able to become expert in a wide variety of legal areas – from Social Security disability to medical assistance to housing. This has benefitted her in her work with paying clients, particularly in estate planning matters. Tarrant believes her pro bono service has enriched her professional life and advises attorneys to find an organization with matters that interest them as a place to start looking for pro bono referrals. She has been impressed by the support she has received from SMRLS and appreciates the work SMRLS staff do to make it easier for attorneys to meet client needs.

**Karen is a committed and energetic volunteer attorney for her clients. She brings all her legal talents plus determination and creativity to her work.**

According to Nicholson and Bros, “Karen is a committed and energetic volunteer attorney for her clients. She brings all her legal talents plus determination and creativity to her work.” They conclude that Tarrant is well-deserving of this recognition based upon her “long record of pro bono work and deep commitment to helping low-income clients.” In recognition of this record and commitment, the RCBA is proud to award Karen Tarrant the 2020 Pro Bono Award.

By: Steve Marchese

*The Pro Bono Award will be presented on November 5 on the third day of the Ramsey County Bar Foundation Virtual Bench & Bar Benefit.*

Visit [mnbar.org/rcbf-benefit](http://mnbar.org/rcbf-benefit) for more details.

# OCTOBER EVENTS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

4	5	6 <i>Hot Topics in Election Law</i>	7 <i>The Life and Legacy of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg</i>
11	12	13	14
18	19	20 <i>Real Estate Section CLE</i>	21
25	26	27 <i>Diversity Committee Meeting</i>	28 <i>Family Law Section CLE</i>

## 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

RCBA & Ramsey County  
Law Library CLE

1

## FRIDAY

Executive Committee  
Meeting

2

Bench & Bar Benefit  
Curbside Drop Off -  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.\*

## SATURDAY

3

8

Bench & Bar Benefit  
Curbside Drop Off  
- 10:00 a.m. to  
3:00 p.m.\*

9

10

Trusts and Estates  
Section CLE

15

Virtual Happy Hour  
Hosted by the New  
Lawyers Section

Bench & Bar Benefit  
Curbside Drop Off  
- 10:00 a.m. to  
3:00 p.m.\*

16

17

Solo/Small Firm  
Section CLE

22

Bench & Bar Benefit  
Curbside Drop Off  
- 10:00 a.m. to  
3:00 p.m.\*

23

24

29

Bench & Bar Benefit  
Curbside Drop Off  
- 10:00 a.m. to  
3:00 p.m.\*

30

31

For October CLE course  
presenters, descriptions, and  
registration information,  
please see page 8.

## SAVE THE DATE

Virtual Bench & Bar Benefit  
November 3-5

RCBA Memorials Session  
November 20 at 2:00 p.m.

Join us to celebrate the  
lives of lawyers and judges  
who have passed on.

Due to COVID-19, this  
year's Memorials will take  
place via Zoom, and will  
also be available via  
YouTube Live.

Watch the RCBA web site  
and e-news for details.



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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 between 10:00  
a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

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

# OCTOBER 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.

## 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

## 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.

**Credit:** 1.0 Elimination of Bias credit approved

**Cost:** FREE for all attendees

## October 6 | Hot Topics in Election Law—What you Need to Know in this Unusual Year Co-Hosted by the RCBA, MSBA, and HCBA

**Presenter:** Paul Linnell, Anoka County Election Manager

2020 will be a year like no other, especially when it comes to the election. This presentation is designed for attorneys who advise county and local election officials, attorneys who advise candidates, or any attorney interested in elections or serving as an election judge.

**Time:** 9:00-10:00 a.m.

**Cost:** FREE for RCBA members and law students; \$25 non-members

## October 7 | The Life and Legacy of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Co-Hosted by the RCBA, MSBA, and HCBA

**Presenters:** Professor Leondra Hanson, Hamline University; Professor David Schultz, Hamline University & University of Minnesota Law School

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's career as a litigator and her decades of service on the Supreme Court shaped the law and our lives. Join us for this review of Justice Ginsburg's legal legacy from a number of angles. Our presenters will also discuss the upcoming confirmation process—what we know about it, and what to expect.

**Time:** 4:00-5:00 p.m.

**Cost:** Free for RCBA members and law students; \$25 non-members

## October 15 | Trusts and Estates Section: Practical Insights to Unique Probate Problems

**Presenter:** Scott Ruhsam, Attorney at Law, Kennedy & Ruhsam Law Offices, PA

Every probate is unique, and in one way or another, complex to some degree. We will review what the fiduciary role entails and provide practical insight on handling several types of problematic probate issues.

## October 15 | Virtual Happy Hour Hosted by the New Lawyers Section: Thoughts on Wellness from the Bench—Featuring Ramsey County Judges

**Presenters:** Hon. Patrick Diamond; Hon. Nicole Starr; Hon. Stephen Smith, Ramsey County District Court

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. Ramsey County Judges converse about their experiences through 2020 and what they have seen in the courtrooms.

**Time:** 5:00-6:00 p.m. **Cost:** FREE for all attendees

Thanks to our sponsor: **Ascheman Law**

**October 20 | Real Estate Section: Restructuring Commercial Leases During COVID-19**

**Presenter:** Stephen Cohen, Attorney at Law, Stephen Cohen Law

*The COVID-19 pandemic and related government restrictions have caused a severe drop in sales for many restaurants and retailers and has forced many office tenants to send their employees home to work. This course will help the attorney with a commercial tenant navigate the choppy and changing waters of rent restructuring during these uncertain times.*

**October 22 | Solo/Small Firm Section: Important New Amendments to the Court Rules. What You Need to Know**

**Presenters:** Patrick Busch, Attorney, State Court Administrator's Office, Legal Counsel; Karen Cole, Premium Legal Writing

*Amendments to Minnesota's court rules impose new requirements for filing nonpublic documents in civil cases. And the amendments impose some new penalties for improperly filing non-public documents. Most of the amendments take effect on January 1, 2021. Understand the new rules and what you need to do to comply.*

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

**Credit:** 1.5 standard credits approved

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

**October 28 | Family Law Section: Introduction to Business Valuation in a Marital Dissolution**

**Presenter:** Corey O'Connell | Transaction Advisory Manager at Boulay

*Factors to consider when determining whether a business valuation is needed in a divorce; common business valuation terminology; introduction to valuation approaches and methods; discussion of the income approach; and common errors in a business valuation report.*

**Thanks to our sponsor: Soberlink**

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## THANK YOU to RCBA's annual sponsors

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**Gold Level**



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**Silver Level**



## THANK YOU to our 2020-2021 RCBA Section and Committee Chairs

### Section Co-Chairs

**Criminal Law Section:**  
Kristin Hendrick

**Family Law Section:**  
Adeola Adekunle and Amy Krupinski

**New Lawyers Section:**  
Alexandra Haigler and  
Samantha Ivey

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

**Solo/Small Firm Section:**  
Cassandra Suchomel and  
David S. Drach

**Trusts & Estates Section:**  
Patty Stotzheim and John Wehrly

### Committee Co-Chairs

**Benefit Committee:**  
Caryn Boisen, Renee Fossen, and  
Kyle Dareff

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

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

**Diversity Committee:**  
Maya Missaghi and Racey Rodne

**Ethics Committee:**  
Timothy J. Simonson

**Fee Arbitration Committee:**  
Lisa Veith

**Judiciary Committee:**  
Susan Buckley and  
Monica Dooner Lindgren

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

**Solo/Small Firm Committee:**  
Margaret Barrett and David S. Drach

**Youth & the Law Committee:**  
Sarah Orange and  
Hon. Jessica Palmer-Denig

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### Achieve Your Goals.

Attorney coach/consultant Roy S. Ginsburg provides marketing, practice management and strategic planning services to individual lawyers and firms.

Contact: [roy@royginsburg.com](mailto:roy@royginsburg.com) or 612-812-4500.

### Mediation Training in St. Paul.

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[www.transformativemediation.com](http://www.transformativemediation.com)

Contact: [Dan@simon-mediation.com](mailto:Dan@simon-mediation.com) or 612-824-8988.

To place an ad, contact **Nicole Altobell** at [naltobell@mnbars.org](mailto:naltobell@mnbars.org).

## MEMBER NEWS

- **Reginald W. Snell, Jr.** has joined Larson • King as a law clerk.
- Fredrikson & Byron has elected 12 new shareholders: **Katherine A. Charipar**, **Michael R. Cummings**, **Mercedes McFarland Jackson**, **Lynn S. Linné**, **Kiel C. McElveen**, **Pari I. McGarraugh**, **Alissa N. Mitchell**, **Ryan M. Spanheimer**, **Erik A. Splett**, **Anupama D. Sreekanth**, **Jeffrey J. Steinle**, and **Kyle W. Ubl**,
- Tewksbury and Kerfeld PA is pleased to announce that **Patrick M. Conlin** has joined the firm.

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

## JOB SHADOW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED OCTOBER 12-16

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 RCBA 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 [szenat@mnbars.org](mailto:szenat@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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## MINNESOTA Lawyer Referral

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More Narrowly Tailored  
Client Referrals

Online Opportunities for  
Self-Referrals

## 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 (MNLRS)**. 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 MNLRS 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.



Client Line: 612-752-6699 Attorney Line: 612-752-6660

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



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