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Special Edition:
Annual Business Meeting &
2015-2016 Board Election
Dear CWBA Member,

The CWBA’s Annual Business Meeting will be held at the 38th Annual CWBA Convention on Saturday, May 16, 2015, 6:30 p.m. at The Sebastian-Vail in Vail, Colorado. At that time, the 2015-2016 CWBA Board of Directors will be elected.

I strongly encourage you to attend in person. We have a fantastic Convention planned! For those unable to attend the business meeting, you may use the ballot and proxy forms enclosed in this correspondence to cast your votes.

**BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS:**

Please mail in your ballot if you do not plan to attend the Business Meeting. Please mark your ballot, and PRINT and sign your name where indicated. Ballots must be received at the CWBA office by close of business on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 to be included in the Election compilations.

**NOT ATTENDING CONVENTION? MAIL YOUR BALLOT TO:**

Colorado Women’s Bar Association, 6870 W. 52nd Avenue, Suite 125, Arvada, CO 80002

For those planning to attend the business meeting at Convention and vote in person, please use the ballot form provided (with this correspondence or posted on the website) to cast your votes in person.

**PROXY FORM INSTRUCTIONS:**

Please use the Proxy Form if you do not plan to attend the Business Meeting and you wish to have another CWBA member cast your vote(s) at the meeting on your behalf. You should sign the Proxy Form and give it to your appointed Proxy to bring to the business meeting with your ballot. Do not mail your Proxy Form to the CWBA.

We’ve had a tremendous year, and we are very optimistic about the year ahead. Many thanks to President Elect Jessica Brown for leading the Nominating Committee charge. The entire board appreciates the work of this year’s Nominating Committee to recruit and affirm commitments for the proposed slate of board members, officers and committee chairs.

If you have any questions about the annual business meeting or the election, please contact the CWBA office at (303) 831-1040 or email execdir@cwba.org.

Thanks for your membership and commitment to CWBA. Hope to see you at Convention!

Alison E. Zinn is 2014-2015 President of CWBA and is an Attorney at Wade Ash Woods Hill & Farley, PC where she focuses on litigation involving wills, trusts, and probate fiduciaries.
2015-2016 BOARD CANDIDATES

Meet The Candidates For Your 2015-2016 Board

PRESIDENT: Jessica Brown

Jessica Brown is a partner at Gibson Dunn specializing in employment law, e-discovery, and class action litigation. Jessica has been ranked by Chambers USA for 10 consecutive years as one of “America’s Leading Lawyers for Labor & Employment,” and was named by the Denver Business Journal as one of Denver’s “Forty Under 40” and finalist for the 2013 and 2014 “Outstanding Women in Business” awards. Jessica is Chair of the Legal Aid Foundation Board and a frequent lecturer on employment law and women’s issues. She is on the Diversity Committee and has served on the Professional Development and Hiring Committees at Gibson Dunn. Before joining the firm, Jessica clerked for federal judge Jim Carrigan and received her J.D. (Order of the Coif, High Honors) from the University of Texas School of Law.

PRESIDENT ELECT: Sarah Chase-McRorie

Sarah Chase-McRorie is Associate Corporate Counsel for Matrix Settlement & Clearance Services, LLC, a Broadridge company, and one of the nation’s largest providers of back-office, trust, custody, trading and mutual fund settlement services for financial institutions. Her practice focuses on the financial services industry and the corporate retirement and institutional services business. Sarah is a graduate of Colorado State University and California Western School of Law. Sarah is a member of the Denver chapter of the Broadridge Women’s Leadership Forum. She also is an active member of CWBA, and prior board positions include Professional Advancement Committee (2009-2011), Public Policy Committee (2011-2013), and Programs Committee (2013-2015).

VICE PRESIDENT: Shannon Stevenson

Shannon Stevenson is a partner in the commercial litigation group of Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP, where she focuses on state and federal appeals, as well as natural resources and construction litigation. Prior to joining Davis Graham & Stubbs, Shannon clerked for the Hon. David M. Ebel at the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and attended Duke University School of Law, where she served as editor-in-chief of the Duke Law Journal.

SECRETARY: Wendy Weigler

Wendy Weigler is a founding partner of Lansky, Weigler & Porter, P.C., a Denver law firm focusing on the representation of condominium communities and homeowners associations. She received her undergraduate degree from the State University of New York at Albany in 1991 and her J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law in 1994. Wendy is a member of the Colorado Bar Association, the Denver Bar Association and CWBA, where she served as Judicial Committee Co-Chair (2008-2013) and as a mentor. She also served two terms on the Board of the National Conference of Women’s Bar Associations, where she served on the Executive Committee and Chaired the Awards Committee. Wendy is a frequent lecturer on condo and HOA law and has published several articles in industry publications.
TREASURER: Sheri L. Betzer

Sheri L. Betzer is a licensed CPA and Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE), and is a partner in Betzer Call Lausten & Schwartz, LLP. Sheri provides litigation support to defense and prosecuting/plaintiff’s counsel in civil/criminal white collar crime and fraud cases. She also provides in-depth financial fraud investigations. An affiliate instructor at Metro State University of Denver, Sheri developed a course for their Masters in Professional Accountancy program in conducting, reporting and testifying to financial fraud investigations. Sheri has been an active member and supporter of the CWBA for 18 years.

HISTORIAN: Patricia M. Jarzobski

Patricia (Patty) M. Jarzobski is the 2015-2016 President Elect of Colorado Bar Association (CBA). She will be the CBA’s fifth female President in 119 years and the first female President in 10 years. Patricia is the 2012-2013 Past President of the Colorado Women’s Bar Association. She serves on the board of The National Conference of Women’s Bar Associations and Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains. Patricia is a mentor in the Colorado Supreme Court’s Attorney Mentoring Program. She also serves on the 17th Judicial Committee Nominating Commission. Patricia is a member of many specialty bar associations including the GLBT Bar Association, APABA, CHBA, SABA. She is a 1989 graduate of the University of Denver College of Law. Patricia is dedicated to mentoring and sponsoring women lawyers and advancing women as leaders in the legal community.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Alison E. Zinn

Alison Zinn is an Attorney at Wade Ash Woods Hill & Farley, P.C. where she focuses on litigation involving wills, trusts, and probate fiduciaries. Alison’s practice also includes guardian ad litem appointments as well as contested and uncontested guardianship and conservatorship proceedings for the elderly, disabled, and children. Alison has been named as a Rising Star from 2013-2015 and was also featured in 5280 Magazine for her significant leadership and service contributions in Colorado. Alison earned her undergraduate degree from University of Colorado, Boulder and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. Alison has served on the Board of Directors for the Colorado Women’s Bar Association since 2009 and served as President for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Board Slate continued on page 5

REGISTER NOW!
May 15-17, 2015
38th Annual Convention

The Advocate is going all-digital with the Spring 2014-2015 issue!
Watch for an email with information to gain online access to the members-only Advocate on the website.
CONVENTION: Kristi Dorr

Kristi Dorr is an associate attorney with Dufford & Brown, P.C. in the natural resources practice group. Kristi focuses her practice on upstream oil and gas title and regulatory issues, as well as land use issues. Kristi served on the Working Group for the Model Mining Development Agreement, a project of the Mining Law Committee of the International Bar Association and will co-present her forthcoming article, “That Other Royalty: Calculating and Allocating the Burden of Non-Participating Royalty Interests” at the 2015 Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Conference in Anchorage, Alaska. Kristi received her J.D. from Vermont Law School; a Master of Resources Law Studies from University of Denver Sturm College of Law; and a B.A. in Political Science from University of Colorado.

CONVENTION: Melanie MacWilliams-Brooks

Melanie Macwilliams-Brooks practices commercial litigation at Foster Graham Milstein & Calisher, LLP. She received her JD from Boston College Law School.

JUDICIAL: Ann Lebeck

Ann Tuxbury Lebeck graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a B.A. in English Literature and received her J.D. with honors from the University of Texas School of Law, where she served as an articles editor of the Texas Law Review. Following law school, Ann clerked for the Honorable William Lockhart Garwood at the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Ann joined the CWBA’s Board of Directors in 2012 as an At-Large Representative, served as Co-Chair of the Programs Committee during the 2013-2014 year, and became Co-Chair of the Judicial Committee in May 2014 for the 2014-2015 year.

JUDICIAL: Catherine (Cat) Shea

Catherine (Cat) Shea is an Assistant Regulation Counsel for the Colorado Supreme Court Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel. In that capacity, she investigates and prosecutes attorney discipline and disability, law examiner, magistrate, and judicial matters at trial and in appellate proceedings. Cat received her undergraduate degree from Western Kentucky University and her law degree from the University of Michigan Law School. After a brief stint in private practice, Ms. Shea clerked for the Honorable Robert D. Hawthorne at the Colorado Court of Appeals. Prior to joining the Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel, she served as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Colorado in the Business & Licensing Section for nearly five years. Ms. Shea is a member of the Colorado Bar Association’s Ethics Committee and Professionalism Coordinating Council and has served on the CWBA’s Board of Directors since 2010.

LEGAL SERVICES: Casey S. Cassinis

Casey S. Cassinis is a partner at Schaden & Cassinis, PLLC where she represents clients in a variety of matters requiring litigation expertise including personal injury, bad faith insurance, and contract disputes. Ms. Cassinis has litigated in state and federal courts across the country. In 2014, Colorado Super Lawyers recognized her as a “Rising Star.” Ms. Cassinis graduated from the University of Colorado with a business degree in 2002 and earned her law degree from the University of Denver in 2005. She has served on the Board of the CWBA since 2012. Ms. Cassinis is licensed to practice law in Colorado and Florida.
LEGAL SERVICES: Sally Pennington

Sally Pennington is an Assistant Attorney General in the Education Unit at the Colorado Attorney General’s Office. She represents the Colorado Department of Education, Colorado School of Deaf and Blind, and institutions of higher education in litigation matters. Previously, Sally was an associate at McConnell Fleischner Houghtaling, LLC, where she represented professionals involved in medical and legal malpractice actions. Sally earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Boston College, Masters of Education from Boston College, and her law degree from Villanova University School of Law. She has served as Co-Chair of the CWBA’s Publications Committee for the past two years.

MEMBERSHIP: Diane Wozniak

Diane Hankins Wozniak is an attorney in Berenbaum Weinshienk’s litigation group. Diane focuses her practice in the areas of family law and general civil litigation. Diane also clerked in Arapahoe County District Court for the Honorable Judge Cheryl Post and the Honorable Judge Charles Pratt.

Diane has served on the Membership and Judicial committees for the CWBA. Diane graduated magna cum laude from the University of Oklahoma in 1999 and earned her law degree from the University of Houston in 2006. In her spare time, Diane enjoys spending time with her husband, dog, family and friends as well as hiking, yoga, food and travel. Diane is a member of the Runners Roost racing team and has completed 14 marathons with a 3:19 PR, including multiple Bostons and two Ironmans.

MEMBERSHIP: Whitney Beck

Whitney Beck was born and raised in the small town of Kokomo, Indiana and moved to Denver, Colorado three years ago where she started her own firm, Whitney K. Beck, Attorney at Law. As a licensed trial attorney in both Indiana and Colorado, Whitney focuses her practice in the areas of personal injury and family law. She has been a member of the CWBA and the Membership Committee for the last three years. She earned her undergraduate degree from Miami of Ohio. After living in South America for a year, she moved back stateside and earned her J.D. from Indiana University - Bloomington.

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT: Megan Rose

Megan Rose is clerking for the Honorable Nathan B. Coats at the Colorado Supreme Court. She completed her undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado and worked at CU for three years in the Planning, Design, and Construction Department. During her time at law school, she competed in mock trial and moot court competitions and was a member of the Journal on Telecommunications and High Technology Law. She also participated as a student attorney in the Entrepreneurial Law Clinic. Outside of law school, Megan is actively involved in CWBA, is a member of the IP Inn of Court, and served as student liaison to Colorado Bar Association Young Lawyer’s Division. While in law school, Megan externed for the Honorable Neil M. Gorsuch at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit as well as the Honorable Magistrate Judge Michael E. Hegarty at the United States District Court of Colorado. Prior to her externships, Megan spent her summers working at Robinson Tweedy, PC and Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP.
**PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT:**

**Kelley R. Southerland**

Kelley R. Southerland focuses her practice on the representation of children. Kelley serves as a GAL representing the best interests of children in Denver Juvenile Court. She also serves as a CFI. Kelley is a former president of the Thompson G. Marsh Inn of Court. She chaired the Family Law Evidence Practicum for the CBA/CLE in 2011, 2013, 2014, and will Chair this program again in 2015. Kelley was a presenter at the American Bar Association Conference on Children and the Law in 2013, discussing the work of multidisciplinary law offices. She is the recipient of the 2014-15 award for Professionalism among Dependency and Neglect GALs in the State of Colorado.

**PROGRAMS:**

**Elizabeth Meck** is an associate at Holland & Hart LLP. She has been a member of the CWBA since 2010, previously serving on the membership committee and programs committee. Elizabeth received her J.D. from the University of Denver in 2012. She also received her Master’s degree in Education from the University of Denver and her B.A. in Psychology from the University of Virginia. Elizabeth’s practice is concentrated in all aspects of estate and wealth transfer planning, complex and disputed estate and trust administration, and fiduciary litigation. In addition to the CWBA, Elizabeth is an active member of the Colorado Bar Association’s Trust and Estate section and is involved with community organizations focused on education and women’s health issues.

**PROGRAMS:**

**Ryann B. Fogel** graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder with a degree in Business in 2005 and from the University of Denver College of Law in 2009. Since graduating, she has worked as a Judicial Fellow for the 18th Judicial District and as a contract attorney at Reilly Pozner, LLP where she focused on commercial litigation. Currently, she is an Associate at McConnell Fleischner & Houghtaling where her law practice consists of professional liability defense, typically in legal malpractice actions. This will be Ryann’s fifth year serving on the Board. Previously, Ryan was actively involved with the CWBA Legal Services Committee for three years, serving as Co-Chair of that committee for two years. She was also the Co-Chair of the Membership Committee for one year. Ryan served as Co-Chair of the Convention Committee for 2014-2015.

**PUBLICATIONS:**

**Deborah O’Neil** is Vice President at Assured Equity Management Corporation where she works with business owners of privately held companies to help them identify and implement their business and estate planning objectives. Debbie received her J.D. and LL.M. from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law and is licensed in Colorado and Michigan. Debbie is on the Board of Trustees of the CO-WY Chapter of the National MS Society and is a member of the Financial Development Committee of the Metropolitan Denver YMCA. Debbie holds the Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) and CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNERTM professional (CFP®) designations. Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc. owns the certification marks CFP®, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER® and CFP® in the U.S. Debbie offers securities and annuity & insurance products through AXA Advisors, LLC (NY, NY/member SIPC) and AXA Network, LLC respectively, which do not provide legal counsel or services and which do not own or operate Assured Equity Management Corporation. #102057 (03/2015)(exp 03/2017)
PUBLICATIONS: Monica Rosenbluth

Monica Rosenbluth is an attorney with the law firm of Butler Snow LLP, where she practices in the public finance/tax credits department and has served as counsel in connection with a variety of tax-exempt bond financings in several states. Monica is a frequent speaker in Colorado on various legal and public finance topics, including the fiscal challenges our state faces due to its current Constitutional structure. Monica grew up near City Park in Denver, and she and her family now live a few blocks from her childhood home. Her two daughters attend Denver Public Schools.

PUBLIC POLICY: Alli Gerkman

Alli Gerkman leads Educating Tomorrow’s Lawyers, a national initiative that works with a consortium of law schools and legal employers, educators, lawyers, and judges, to align legal education with the needs of an evolving profession. She is currently conducting a national study to identify the foundations entry-level lawyers need to practice. In addition to her work with the CWBA, she is a commissioner of the Chief Justice’s Commission on Professional Development and a member of the Mandatory Continuing Legal and Judicial Education Rules Committee; she is a member of the Colorado Bar Association’s strategic planning group; and she is Vice Chair of Colorado Common Cause. For fun, she runs, bikes, hikes, writes, and cooks - in no particular order. She served as CWBA Professional Advancement Committee Co-Chair for 2014-2015.

PUBLIC POLICY: Angie Schmitz

Angie Schmitz is an Associate Attorney at the Drake Law Firm, P.C. where she represents small businesses and organizations in insurance disputes, real estate matters, landlord tenant matters, and general business matters. Angie received her undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University and her law degree from the University of Oregon School of Law (Order of the Coif). Following law school, she clerked for the Hon. Darleen Ortega at the Oregon Court of Appeals, and then served as a hearings officer on land use cases for an Oregon county. Prior to attending law school, Angie worked as legislative staff for the Alaska State Legislature. Angie co-chaired the CWBA’s Public Policy Committee for the 2014-2015 year. In addition to her involvement with the CWBA, Angie is active on the Boards of the Denver Mother Attorney Mentoring Association and the Denver Asset Building Coalition.

CWBA REPRESENTATIVE TO CBA BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Nancy Rodgers

Nancy Rodgers is a partner at Kissinger & Fellman, P.C. She specializes in general commercial litigation, employment law, local government law, and transportation law. Nancy represents both public and private entities, primarily focusing on general legal advisement and representation in litigation and administrative proceedings. Nancy received her undergraduate degree from Colorado State University, a Masters in Education from the University of Georgia, and her law degree from the University of Denver. She has been an active member of the CWBA since 2004, serving as Professional Advancement Co-Chair 2007-2009, and Historian 2009-2010. Nancy also serves on the Executive Committee for the William E. Doyle Inn of Court. She is a member of the Denver and Colorado Bar Associations, and was a participant in the 2013 COBALT class, and on the Sessions Planning Committee for the 2014 COBALT class. Nancy is also a mentor for a young attorney through CAMP (Colorado Attorney Mentoring Program).
AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE:

**Stephanie Donner**

Stephanie Donner is the Chief Legal Counsel for Governor John W. Hickenlooper. Stephanie advises the Governor on legislative and policy issues, judicial appointments, and emergency management issues. Prior to assuming the position of Chief Legal Counsel, Stephanie was the Deputy Chief of Staff and Executive Director and General Counsel for the flood recovery. In those roles, Stephanie advised on a variety of legal issues and led the coordinated response to recover from the largest natural disaster in the state’s history. Stephanie pursued and advocated for millions of dollars to assist Coloradans recovering from fires and floods. Prior to joining the Governor, she was an associate at Morrison & Foerster. Stephanie represented public companies, and their directors and officers, in securities fraud class actions, shareholder derivative lawsuits, and special investigations. Stephanie also routinely defended clients in breach of contract and employment disputes. Mrs. Donner also clerked at the Federal District Court for the District of Colorado, and spent time as an associate at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP. Her practice includes representing corporations and management in employment litigation, labor and employment due diligence for corporate transactions, employment policies and compliance counseling, and industrial labor relations. Tiffany is a Colorado native and graduate of the University of Colorado Law School. She served as the CWBA Convention Committee Co-Chair from 2014-2015.

AD HOC - CENTER FOR LEGAL INCLUSIVENESS:

**Tiffany Updegraff**

Tiffany Updegraff practices labor and employment law at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP. Her practice includes representing corporations and management in employment litigation, labor and employment due diligence for corporate transactions, employment policies and compliance counseling, and industrial labor relations. Tiffany is a Colorado native and graduate of the University of Colorado Law School. She served as the CWBA Convention Committee Co-Chair from 2014-2015.

AD HOC - COLORADO LAWYERS COMMITTEE:

**Lisha McKinley**

Lisha McKinley is a litigation associate at Silver & DeBoskey, P.C. She received her J.D. from the University of Colorado Law School in 2008. Lisha served as Co-Chair of the CWBA’s Convention Committee in 2011-2012 and the Professional Advancement Committee in 2012-2013 and 2013-2014. In addition to the CWBA Board of Directors, she is a member of the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association, the Board of Governors of the Colorado Bar Association, and the Board of Trustees of the Denver Bar Association. Lisha was the 2011 recipient of the Bryan S. Gardner Outstanding Young Lawyer Award from the El Paso County Bar Association. Her practice focuses on business and real estate litigation.

AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE: **Sarah Parady**

Sarah Parady is a partner at Lowrey Parady, LLC, where she practices plaintiff’s-side employment and civil rights law. Sarah received her J.D. (Order of the Coif) from New York University School of Law, where she served as Executive Editor for the NYU Law Review and as a Hays Civil Liberties Fellow. After law school, she received a Skadden Fellowship to build a foreclosure prevention program at Colorado Legal Services. Sarah is Vice President of the Plaintiff Employment Lawyers Association, and a former law clerk to the Honorable Carlos F. Lucero of the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.
NON-ATTORNEY LEGAL PROFESSIONALS:

Jenna Klos

Jenna Klos is a licensed CPA and an associate at Harper Hofer & Associates, LLC. She provides business valuation, marital dissolution, and litigation support services. Jenna has previous experience in both assurance and advisory accounting services for public, private and government clients. She is a graduate of Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She has been a member of the Non-Attorney Legal Professionals Committee for the past year. This is her first year serving as co-chair of the Committee.

Judy Stevens

Judy Stevens is the owner of Stevens-Koenig Reporting, a full-service, state-of-the-art court reporting firm which has served clients in Denver for 40 years. Judy works with clients to provide technology-based services which integrate into any litigation support programs within the legal arena. Stevens-Koenig was awarded by the Denver Business Journal as a 2013 Top 10 Fastest Growing Private Companies in Denver, and Judy was nominated for the Denver Business Journal's 2014 Outstanding Women in Business award. Judy’s goal for this committee is to find ways to mesh the needs of CWBA members with top-quality non-attorneys who can provide the services they need throughout the discovery process of litigation.

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Register by 4/24/15 to avoid paying a $50 late fee.

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Arvada, CO 80002