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It's Time for Our 41st Convention!

Annual Business Meeting & Election Notice

The CWBA’s Annual Business Meeting will be held at the 41st Annual CWBA Convention on Saturday, May 19, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at The Sebastian Hotel in Vail, Colorado. At that time, the 2018-2019 CWBA Board of Directors will be elected.

I strongly encourage you to attend in person. We have an amazing Convention planned for all of our Wonder Women! On Friday afternoon, we will kick things off with an interactive workshop on strategies for handling difficult scenarios presented by NITA. This program is intended to appeal to all women attorneys, not just litigators.

On Saturday morning, we will enjoy a “Breakfast of Champions” presented by Paulette Brown, the first female African American president of the American Bar Association.

Next, we are excited to have Dr. Nita Mosby Tyler present on what it means to be a good ally without succumbing to “diversity fatigue.”

For the keynote lunch on Saturday, we will hear from Maria Arias, former Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion for Comcast Corporation. Maria will be interviewed by bilingual journalist and producer Laressa Watlington.

On Saturday afternoon, we will again host a Judicial Roundtable, in which judges from different courts around the state – including our “Judge in Residence” Immigration Judge Melanie K. Corrin - will each discuss a different topic in a small group setting while participants rotate through the tables.

And Sunday morning, our popular legislative panel discussion will focus on pay equity and the exciting work the CWBA is spearheading to pass comprehensive legislation on this issue.

This year’s Convention has been approved for 14 CLE credits including 7 ethics credits!

In other words, you don’t want to miss Convention this year! But if you are unable to attend, you may use the ballot and proxy forms enclosed with this correspondence to cast your votes for the 2018-2019 CWBA Board.

BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS:
If you do not plan to attend the Business Meeting in Vail, please mark your ballot, PRINT and sign your name where indicated, and mail it to the CWBA by close of business on Tuesday, May 15, 2018:

Colorado Women's Bar Association
P.O. Box 1918
Denver, Colorado 80201

OR use the Proxy Form if you wish to have another CWBA member vote 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.

For those planning to attend the Business Meeting, please use the ballot form provided (with this correspondence or posted on the website) to cast your votes in person.

We’ve had a tremendous year, and we are very optimistic about the year ahead. Many thanks to President-Elect Cat Shea 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 Executive Director Kim Sporrer at (303) 831-1040 or execdir@cwba.org.

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

Very truly yours,

Wendy E. Weigler, 2017-2018 President
Meet the Candidates for your 2017-2018 Board

PRESIDENT:

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 attorney discipline and disability and magistrate matters. 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, Cat clerked for the Honorable Robert D. Hathorne 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. She 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. She is also a 2015 graduate of the Colorado Bar Association’s Leadership Training Program (“COBALT”) and served as Chair of its Sessions Committee for 2016-17.

VICE PRESIDENT:

ALISON ZINN

Alison Zinn is a trial attorney focused on trust and estate litigation and elder law. She is committed to helping families work through and resolve intricate situations that involve inherited property when a loved one dies as well as situations where a loved one is disabled or incapacitated. More specifically, she handles disputes concerning wills, trusts, probate fiduciaries, beneficiaries, guardianships, and conservatorships. Alison also accepts appointments to serve as guardian ad litem. Alison was recently appointed to the Judicial District Nominating Commission for the 1st Judicial District. She was honored as Denver Elder Law “Lawyer of the Year” for 2018 by Best Lawyers in America. She also serves on the Colorado Attorney Regulation Committee, and on the Executive Counsel for the Colorado Bar Association. Zinn served as President of the Colorado Women’s Bar Association for the 2014-15 fiscal year.

PRESIDENT-ELECT:

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. After law school, she received a Skadden Fellowship to build a foreclosure prevention program at Colorado Legal Services. Sarah is a past 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. In 2017, she was recognized as The Center's Barrister of the Year for her work defending LGBT rights.

SECRETARY:

MEGAN GARNETT

Megan Garnett recently moved to Polsinelli from Gordon & Rees. Before joining Gordon & Rees, Megan served as a judicial clerk for the Honorable Nathan B. Coats in the Colorado Supreme Court. Megan is active in the community serving as a board member for the Colorado Women's Bar Association, as a committee member in the Colorado IP Inn of Court, as a mentor to a college student in Law School Yes We Can, and on the ABA House of Delegates as the DBA liaison. Previously, Megan externed for the Honorable Neil M. Gorsuch at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and externed for the Honorable Michael E. Hegarty at the U.S. District Court of Colorado.
TREASURER:

GRETCHE MOORE

Gretchen Moore is a Tax & Accounting associate at Harper Hofer & Associates, LLC. She provides tax planning, tax preparation, and litigation support services related to tax and accounting. Gretchen has previous experience in both the public and private sectors that span a vast array of clients and entities. She is a graduate of the University of Kansas in Lawrence, KS.

HISTORIAN:

MIRANDA HAWKINS

Miranda Hawkins is a partner at Goddard & Hawkins, P.C., specializing in estate planning and administration. She has served several years on the CWBA Board of Directors as an At-Large Representative and as a member of the Professional Advancement and Convention Committees. Miranda is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and serves on the Board of Directors of the Denver Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association. Miranda was selected to the 2018 Colorado Super Lawyers list and was named among the 2018 “Women Leaders” in the law by The American Lawyer Magazine featuring women lawyers who earned the Martindale Hubbell “AV” Preeminent Peer Review Rating. She is a graduate of the University of Denver College of Law and Baylor University.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

WENDY WEIGLER

Wendy Weigler is Of Counsel with Winzenburg, Leff, Purvis & Payne, LLP, following a merger with Lansky, Weigler & Porter, P.C., a women-owned law firm Wendy founded in 2006. Wendy’s practice focuses on community association law, including the representation of condominium communities and homeowners associations throughout Colorado. 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), on the Executive Committee (2013-2018), and as a mentor. She also served two terms on the Board of the National Conference of Women’s Bar Associations, where she was on the Executive Committee and chair of the Awards Committee. Wendy is a frequent lecturer on condo and HOA law and has published several articles in industry publications.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

KIM M. SPORRER, APR

Kim Sporrer joined the CWBA in July 2014 as Marketing Director and was appointed as Executive Director in April 2015. Kim reports to the CWBA’s President and Board of Directors and is responsible for strategic leadership and management for the effective achievement of the CWBA’s mission and goals. Kim brings 26 years of public relations, marketing, and communications experience to the CWBA, including 15 years with nonprofit organizations and 11 years with PR agencies in Colorado and Iowa. She was previously Director of Marketing & Communications for The Women’s Foundation of Colorado. Her work has been recognized with numerous local and national awards. In 2007, Kim earned her Accreditation in Public Relations (APR), a distinction held by less than 25 percent of PR practitioners in the world. Kim has also served on several nonprofit boards, including as 2013 President of the Public Relations Society of America, Colorado Chapter. She is an alum of the Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation’s “Impact Denver” program.

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CONVENTION:

ALLI GERKMAN

Alli Gerkman is Director of Educating Tomorrow’s Lawyers, a national initiative to align legal education with the needs of an evolving profession. Ms. Gerkman leads all major projects of Educating Tomorrow’s Lawyers, including Foundations for Practice, which is identifying the foundations entry-level lawyers need to practice and steering legal education toward that end. Educating Tomorrow’s Lawyers encourages collaboration among educators and the legal profession and supports the work of forward-thinking legal educators and law schools. Prior to joining IAALS, she worked in continuing legal education and private practice. She is a commissioner of the Colorado Chief Justice’s Commission on Professional development and the chair of that commission’s New Lawyer Working Group.

ELIZABETH HOWARD

Elizabeth Howard formerly worked at Childs McCune LLC where she focused on litigation involving professional negligence defense. Prior to joining IAALS, she worked in continuing legal education and private practice. She is a commissioner of the Colorado Chief Justice’s Commission on Professional development and the chair of that commission’s New Lawyer Working Group.

JUDICIAL:

ALISON CONNAUGHTY

Alison Connaughty is an Assistant Attorney General with the Financial Fraud Unit and specializes in the investigation of criminal insurance fraud and securities fraud cases. She is originally from Chicago but came to Colorado in 2002 to attend the University of Colorado, where she obtained her undergraduate degree in philosophy. She began her career in 2009 as a Deputy District Attorney in the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office after graduating from DU Law School. She handled felony criminal dockets and oversaw the Jefferson County Veteran's Treatment Court. She joined the Colorado Attorney General's Office Financial Fraud Unit in 2015. In her free time she enjoys cooking, hiking, cycling, and spending time with her husband and her St. Bernard, Daisy.

ELIZABETH MECK

Elizabeth Meck is Vice President at The Northern Trust Company where she works closely with individuals and families to implement estate planning and wealth transfer planning objectives. She has been a member of the CWBA since 2010 and has served on the Board since 2015. She previously served as Co-Chair of the Programs Committee. Elizabeth received her J.D. from the University of Denver, her Master's degree in Education from the University of Denver, and her B.A. in Psychology from the University of Virginia. 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.

41st Annual CWBA Convention | May 18-20 | The Sebastian-Vail
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LEGAL SERVICES:

ERIKA HOLMES

Erika Holmes is the founder of ELHolmes Legal Solutions, LLC – a modern law practice focusing on family law and attorney ethics and regulation. Erika's legal career began at the Denver District Court where she served as a law clerk and a pro se case manager. During that time, Erika also interned at the Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel, assisting the trial division and inventory counsel. Erika is the current chair of the Colorado Bar Association’s Modern Law Practice Initiative, as well as a member of the CBA Ethics Committee, the Professionalism Coordination Council, and the Chief Justice’s Commission on Professional Development. She is a volunteer attorney for Project Safeguard and various Colorado Legal Services clinics.

RUCHI KAPOOR

Ruchi Kapoor is the Appellate Director and Legislative Liaison for the Office of Respondent Parents’ Counsel where she oversees the appellate program for all indigent parents with attorneys appointed through the office and works on child welfare-related policy issues at the capitol. Ruchi received her undergraduate degree from Creighton University and her law degree from the University of Colorado. After graduating in 2010, she clerked for the Denver Juvenile Court, igniting a passion for child welfare law. After clerking, she spent three years in private practice solely devoted to appellate and post-conviction work. She is a past president of the South Asian Bar Association of Colorado and is currently serving on its board as secretary. She has served on the CWBA Board of Directors since 2014. She is also a 2017 graduate of the Colorado Bar Association's Leadership Training Program (“COBALT”) and is currently on its Sessions Committee.

MEMBERSHIP:

EMMA GARRISON

Emma Garrison is Staff Counsel at Wheeler Trigg O’Donnell LLP, where she focuses on legal research and writing for commercial litigation cases. She received her JD from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law in 2004. Emma joined CWBA in 2014 and started out participating in the membership committee. She joined the Board in 2016 and served as Convention Committee Co-Chair for two years. Emma is also the 1st Regional Vice-President of the Colorado Bar Association, a member of the Denver Bar Association Board of Trustees, and occasionally writes for the Denver Docket. She previously served on the Colorado Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Executive Council for five years, and was Chair for 2013-2014. She graduated from the COBALT leadership program in 2013. Outside of the legal world, Emma serves on the City of Golden Historic Preservation Board. When she’s not working or honoring her volunteer commitments, you might find her at the pool, out for a run, riding her bike, or taking a yoga class.

HANNAH WESTMONT

Hannah Westmont is an associate attorney with Polidori, Franklin, Monahan & Beattie LLC. She has concentrated her practice in the area of domestic relations law throughout her career. Hannah graduated from Colorado College in 2007. After living and working in New Zealand, Hannah earned her J.D. from Vermont Law School in 2011. Upon graduating from law school, she served as a law clerk for Magistrate Hübler in Denver District Court. In May 2016 Hannah co-wrote an article for the Colorado Lawyer: “Who’s Their Daddy: Navigating Allocation of Responsibilities and Paternity Actions.” Hannah frequently lectures on various domestic relations topics, and Colorado Super Lawyers Magazine recognized Hannah as one of its Rising Stars in 2018.
KYM SORRELLS

Kym Sorrells joined the Colorado Attorney General’s Office in April 2017 as the 1st Assistant Attorney General for the Tort Litigation Unit. She is a seasoned attorney with more than 20 years of combined litigation and transactional experience, serving clients ranging from Fortune 100 companies to small business entities and individuals in a broad range of subject matters, including complex commercial, employment, and product liability litigation in addition to education and insurance law. Kym’s background also includes serving as in-house and outside general counsel to a public k-12 charter school and three years of transactional practice at a national telecommunications company, where she acted as in-house counsel and director of strategic negotiations. Kym received her B.A. in Philosophy and Psychology in 1991 from Tulane University, and her J.D., cum laude, from Georgia State University College of Law in 1996. During law school, she was a summer intern for Justice Carol Hunstein of the Georgia Supreme Court. She also was a member of the Georgia State University Law Review, serving as the Legislation Co-Editor. Kym is active with the Colorado Defense Lawyers Association, having served on the Board of Directors as the Chair of the Legislative Committee, and as the Vice Chair of the Employment Law Committee. She also previously served on the Board of Directors for Qualistar Colorado and acted as the Board Chair from 2012-2014. She has been a member of the CWBA Professional Advancement Committee since July 2015.

LEILA HOCK

Leila Hock is the Senior Manager of Innovation and Training for Diversity Lab, an organization that boosts diversity in law firms through innovation, data, and behavioral science. Before joining Diversity Lab, she ran a private coaching practice helping mid-career professionals take a long-term, strategic approach to their careers. Leila practiced law for nine years, primarily as in-house counsel, before transitioning to support the practice of law. She earned her JD from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law in 2007 and her BA from Tulane University in 2004.

KELLEY RIDER GOODWIN

Throughout her career, Kelley Rider Goodwin has been dedicated to advocating for individuals encountering some of life’s greatest challenges. She is a firm believer that no individual should ever have to confront a legal crisis on their own and has made it the mission of her firm to deliver unwavering support to our clients.

Kelley began her career at Colorado Legal Services in December 2009, providing legal assistance to low-income Coloradans. In June 2010, she transferred to the Family and Children’s Unit, exclusively practicing Family Law in the Denver Metro area.

Realizing that providing compassionate and skilled guidance in the field of family law was indeed her calling, she left Colorado Legal Services in December of 2014 and established her own sole law firm, Rider Goodwin Law Offices LLC. Kelley has received several awards for her work, including the 2017 Gary McPherson Young Lawyer of the Year from the Young Lawyers Division of the Colorado Bar Association. She also volunteers for numerous legal and community organizations and is a 2018 member of the Colorado Bar Association’s Leadership Training Program (“COBALT”) class.

JESSIE PELLANT

Jessie Pellant is the managing partner and founder of StudioIP, a boutique intellectual property firm. Jessie is a graduate of the University of Colorado, Boulder and Gonzaga University School of Law, Cum Laude. Prior to starting her own practice, Jessie clerked for the Honorable Judge Hansen in the Fourth Judicial District of Idaho and practiced intellectual property at Lathrop & Gage LLP, Dorsey & Whitney LLP and Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck. Jessie has been recognized as a Colorado Super Lawyers Rising Star in 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018. Jessie is active with the Colorado Intellectual Property Inn of Court and the Colorado Women’s Bar Association serving on the board since 2016. Outside of practicing law Jessie’s favorite passion is raising her three daughters.
PUBLICATIONS:

KRISTIN ARTHUR

Kristin Arthur is graduating from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law in Spring 2018. She will take the bar exam in July, after which she will begin clerking for Colorado Supreme Court Justice Brian D. Boatright. Following her clerkship, Kristin will join the trial group at Davis Graham & Stubbs. Kristin has spent the last two years as the DU Student Representative to the CWBA and is thrilled to continue playing an active role in the organization. Kristin is a native of Denver and enjoys spending her free time with her family and exploring new breweries with her friends.

SALLY ROLLER

Sally Roller is an Assistant Attorney General in the K-12 Education Unit at the Colorado Attorney General’s Office. She represents the Colorado Department of Education, Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind, and the Colorado Charter School Institute. 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 previously served as Co-Chair of the CWBA’s Legal Services Committee and as Co-Chair of the Publications Committee.

PUBLIC POLICY:

JENNIFER CARTY

Jennifer Carty will be transitioning to an Assistant Attorney General position with the criminal appeals section of the Colorado Attorney General’s Office beginning in May 2018. Prior to starting this position, Jennifer worked as an associate family law attorney at Robinson & Henry, P.C. focusing on dissolutions of marriage and allocation of parental responsibilities, both pre- and post-decree. Jennifer has frequently presented on family law issues facing the LGBT community and served as a faculty member for the 2017 Annual Family Law Institute. Prior to joining R&H, Jennifer worked as an appellate law clerk for the Honorable Steven Bernard on the Colorado Court of Appeals. Jennifer also worked briefly prosecuting misdemeanor crimes in El Paso County. In her pre-law school life, Jennifer spent five years as an active duty maritime inspections officer for the United States Coast Guard conducting regulatory compliance on the international shipping industry. Jennifer continues to serve in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve as an attorney and was recently deployed in support of response efforts for Hurricanes Irma and Maria. She is active member of both the Colorado and the LGBT Bar Associations and has been a member of the CWBA public policy committee for the past two years.

GINA GLOCKNER

Gina L. Glockner is an attorney at Childs McCune where she specializes in litigating professional and general negligence claims and advising healthcare providers on regulatory matters. She is a graduate of Dickinson College and Brooklyn Law School, and is a member of the Colorado, Connecticut and New York bars. Since moving to Colorado in 2012, Gina has been active in the CWBA and previously served as Co-Chair of the Legal Services Committee.

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2018–2019 BOARD CANDIDATES

AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVES:

JUDGE ADAM ESPINOSA

Adam J. Espinosa is a Denver County Court Judge. He has served in the Civil, Municipal Criminal, and State Criminal Divisions of that Court. Prior to his appointment, he served as senior trial attorney for the Colorado Supreme Court Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel and as a Deputy District Attorney in several Colorado counties. Judge Espinosa earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas and his law degree from Washburn University. He spent his final year in law school as a visiting student at the University of Denver College of Law and upon graduation began practicing in Colorado as a judicial law clerk for the Hon. Michael A. Martinez, the current Chief Judge for the Second Judicial District. He is active in the community, having been appointed and served on numerous boards, committees and commissions, including the Denver Crime Prevention and Control Commission, the Colorado Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission, the ABA Standing Committee on Client Protection, the CWBA Board, and the CHBA Board. Judge Espinosa has dedicated his legal career to public service, public safety, and access to justice.

MAGISTRATE MELINA HERNANDEZ

Magistrate Melina Hernandez has worked as a Magistrate in the Denver Juvenile Court since early 2017 and as a family court facilitator in the Denver District court since 2013. She specializes in family law issues specific to unrepresented indigent parties. She graduated from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law in 2007 and from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law in 2011. Melina is bilingual, a member of the Denver Metro Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee, and has served as a coordinator for the Colorado Judicial Domestic Relations Institute for the last four years.

AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVES:

ALMIRA MORONNE

Almira recently joined Davis, Graham & Stubbs as an associate working on natural resources and public lands. She moved to Colorado from Jakarta, Indonesia, where she worked since graduating from law school in 2011, specializing in mining, agriculture, and emerging market development. She has been an active member of the CWBA Public Policy Committee and loves politics. As an At-Large Board Member, she hopes to help the CWBA grow and become a more diverse organization. She holds a BA from UC Berkeley and a JD from Duke University.

www.cwba.org/convention
REGISTER NOW!
CWBA REPRESENTATIVE TO CBA BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

MAGISTRATE MICHAL LORD–BLEGEN

Honorable Michal Lord-Blegen received her undergraduate degree from Hood College in 1990 and her J.D. from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law in 2009. Before moving in to the law, Magistrate Lord-Blegen worked as a teacher and principal for 18 years. Magistrate Lord-Blegen initially worked as a solo practitioner focused on criminal and family law. In 2012, she was one of the founding partners of Wohl Stetler Lord-Blegen, a law firm focusing on family law and mediation. Magistrate Lord-Blegen served as a Child and Family Investigator on nearly 300 casa as well as an expert in education-related cases included teacher dismissals and school choice. On July 7, 2016, Chief Judge of the Denver District Court, Michael Martinez, appointed Magistrate Lord-Blegen to the district court bench. Her docket consists of post-decree domestic matters.

COLORADO LAWYERS COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE:

ANNA–LIISA MULLIS

Anna-Liisa Mullis is a litigation associate at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP, where she represents healthcare organizations and professionals in a variety of litigation, government relations, regulatory compliance, and patient privacy matters. A Colorado native, Anna-Liisa received her undergraduate degree and her law degree from the University of Colorado. She has been actively involved with both the CWBA and the Colorado Lawyers Committee since she was a law student. Anna-Liisa was named an Up and Coming Lawyer by Law Week Colorado in 2016.

COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE:

KARA VEITCH

Kara Veitch is the Deputy Executive Director and Chief of Staff at the Colorado Department of Personnel & Administration. In this role, Kara is responsible for providing day-to-day leadership to the executive team, developing the department vision and strategy, program implementation, regulatory compliance, and operations. Kara is the CWBA’s appointment to the Board of Directors of Colorado Legal Services and serves as the chair of its Priorities and Long Range Planning Committee. Finally, Kara is a past-president of the CWBA.

The board composition also includes additional appointed representatives from the following organizations:

- CWBA Chapters: Boulder, El Paso, Larimer, Mountain, Pueblo, and Weld
- Center for Legal Inclusiveness
- Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Colorado
- Colorado Lesbian Gay Bisexual & Transgender Bar Association
- Colorado Hispanic Bar Association
- Sam Cary Bar Association
- South Asian Bar Association of Colorado
- Law Students from University of Colorado Law School and University of Denver Sturm College of Law

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