



Chicago Volunteer Legal Services

Because equal access to justice is everyone's fight.

Upcoming Events

- October 24** - Seminar - Implicit Bias; 12:15 p.m.
- November 13** - New Volunteer Orientation, 12:15 p.m.
- November 15** - Seminar - Adoption; 12:15 p.m.
- November 30** - Vino + Van Gogh; 6:00 p.m.; Ovation Chicago, 2324 W Fulton Street



Sarah Schultes, Kirkland & Ellis LLP

CONFLICT IN THE COURTROOM

Kirkland attorney defends improperly sued veteran

Roderick is an 84-year-old Korean War veteran who lives in Mississippi. His adult son was being sued in Illinois for \$4,000,000 by a former employer with some shady business practices. Although the employer had filed the suit pro se, she was aided by an attorney with a suspended Michigan law license. The attorney had drafted the complaint and "served" Roderick by leaving it on his front porch in Mississippi. The attorney also sent him a series of emails and texts trying to settle the case "quickly" for \$30,000. An excerpt from one of the emails is below:

your son that is a clear violation of the existing [Temporary Restraining Order] and the law in this regard. It is even more unfair that they are being forced to spend additional sums to enforce an already existing Court order your son refuses to obey."

Our client had never been employed by this business. He was likely named as a party because he has assets, including his home in Mississippi. Luckily, instead of caving in to this attempted extortion, he contacted the IL-AFLAN hotline and was referred to CVLS. CVLS assigned Roderick's case to Sarah Schultes of Kirkland and Ellis.

"Of course, it is inherently unfair that [plaintiffs] Steve and Karen have to foot the bill for conduct engaged in by

...continued on page 2

VINO + VAN GOGH

On November 30, CVLS' Junior Board will be hosting their 9th annual Vino + Van Gogh. Preorder tickets are available for \$65 at www.cvls.org/vinovangogh



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP

Schiff
Hardin
SIDLEY



Steven Marshall and Kathy Clemens, Marshall Law LLC

New FREE CLE seminars available online!

Child Representative Training

Phil Mohr, Deputy Director
Rob Zielinski, Staff Attorney
2.25 hours CLE credit
<https://goo.gl/gPWPmB>

Inventories and Accounts for Minors & Disabled Persons

Steve Raminiak, Law Office of Steve Raminiak
1.00 hours CLE credit
<https://goo.gl/sY4Esi>

Post I-601A: Helping your Clients Navigate Consular Processing to Become Residents

Alix Strunk, Minsky McCormick & Hallagan, P.C.
1.00 hours CLE credit
<https://goo.gl/9WXGsP>

More available at
www.cvls.org/onlinecle

CVLS CHILD REP ENSURES SAFETY OF CHILD WITH DISABILITY

Nicholas is six years old. Born with a rare, genetic disease, he has significant developmental disabilities. Nicholas cannot speak or walk, and he can only eat through a feeding tube. Both of Nicholas's parents cared equally for their son. That is, until they separated when he was four years old.

Domestic relations litigation made Nicholas's young, stressful life even more problematic. His parents could not agree on a parenting plan, and their disagreements led to potential risks for Nicholas. To determine what would be in the child's best interests, the Court appointed CVLS as Child Representative. CVLS assigned the case to trusted volunteer, Steven Marshall. Steven met with the parties and advocated for an evaluation of their parenting abilities.

Throughout the case, Steven emphasized to the parties that they would have to work together to ensure the health and safety of their son. Steven argued for parenting classes through Metropolitan Family Services and referred the parents to family therapy to address their communication skills.

Steven's hard work took the form of a comprehensive parenting agreement

that Steven himself drafted. He even went as far as to prepare an order for child support! The final judgment requires each parent to have proper medical equipment and to inform each other as to Nicholas's condition. Hopefully, with these guidelines in place, Nicholas can be one step closer to life as a happy, healthy child.

...continued from page 1

Sarah filed the appropriate pleadings to remove Roderick from the lawsuit and because he wasn't properly served. The Court granted Sarah's motion. Although the plaintiff indicated that she would attempt service again, she never appeared in court, and the judge eventually dismissed the case for want of prosecution. Congratulations, Sarah, for representing Roderick and giving him some well-deserved peace of mind.



Stephen Murphy, CVLS Volunteer

NO TERMINATION WITH REPRESENTATION

Volunteer fights for reasonable accommodation

Some CVLS clients desperately rely on housing assistance to keep from being homeless. Diagnosed with schizoaffective disorder, Quentin has been receiving treatment, care and support for his mental illness for over 15 years. He is also a participant in the Chicago Housing Authority's (CHA) Housing Choice Voucher Program, but he was recently at risk for termination for allegedly failing to pay rent. Despite Quentin telling the CHA about his diagnosis and habitability problems with his apartment, the CHA nevertheless found in favor of termination.

Quentin came to CVLS for assistance in filing his petition for judicial review. CVLS placed his case with Stephen Murphy, a first time CVLS volunteer who set to work trying to resolve the case as quickly as possible. After paging through hundreds of medical records, Stephen submitted a Reasonable Accommodation Request to CHA, detailing Quentin's long-time disability. The request itself asked CHA to resolve any future issues with payment of rent or evictions by contacting Quentin's mental health support team.

The CHA granted Stephen's request and reinstated Quentin to the program. Quentin was incredibly thankful and is glad to have put his housing woes behind him, so he can focus on his mental health and school—he's currently taking entry-level courses at a City College. We thank Stephen for his help on this case, and we wish Quentin a bright future.



Irene Hickey Sullivan, CVLS PILI Fellow

SOMETIMES YOU JUST NEED A HELPING HAND

Mr. Green was a participant in CHA's housing choice voucher program until he was terminated in 2016 for missing a pair of appointments at CHA HQ. He also failed to request an informal hearing within a month and was terminated. He then failed to file a lawsuit within 6 months of being terminated and the SOL under the administrative review act had run.

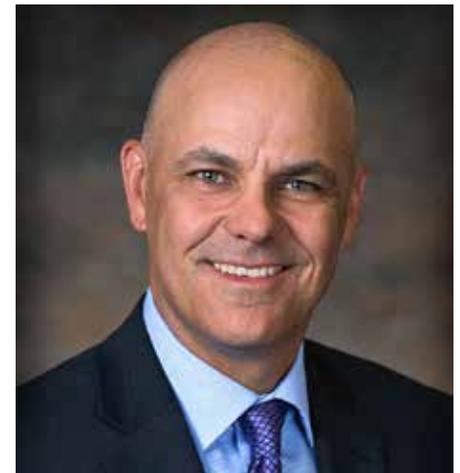
Mr. Green is developmentally delayed and has spent the last two years trying to get back into the program by calling CHA. In the meantime he moved in with his mother who eventually helped him figure out he needed to sue CHA. The court referred him to CVLS through the Access to Justice Program.

CVLS PILI Fellow Irene Hickey Sullivan worked with Mr. Green to put together a Reasonable Accommodation Request to the CHA, asking them to reinstate him to the program and to contact his mother if he misses appointments, etc. going forward. As part of the request she gathered medical records (and Mr. Green's own court file) and submitted them to CHA to show how Mr. Green's disability made it difficult for him to adhere to program requirements. CHA granted the request, the lawsuit was dismissed and he's already received his new voucher. Going forward CHA will contact his mother if there's ever a missed appointment, etc. Mr. Green is very sweet and was incredibly thankful for Irene's assistance.

RECORD-SETTING CVLS REFERRAL SAVES YET ANOTHER HOME!

After his mother passed away, Hurlice inherited the family home. His siblings transferred their interest in the property to Hurlice, but unfortunately he fell behind on the mortgage. Although Hurlice was recognized as the sole owner of the property, the bank refused to review him for a modification and instead filed a foreclosure case against him. Fortunately, Hurlice's case was assigned to Judge Loftus, who now holds a Foreclosure Division record for most Access to Justice (A2J) referrals to CVLS!

CVLS placed Hurlice's case with volunteer attorney, Eric Papier of McVey and Parsky. Eric masterfully handled the assignment, and when probate issues flared up, Staff Attorney Matt Hulstein provided guidance. After months of review and follow-up, the lender finally approved Hurlice for a modification, and the foreclosure case was dismissed. Well done, Eric!



Eric Papier, McVey and Parsky

Sadly, Judge Loftus missed the chance to enter the dismissal order in Hurlice's case because she was transferred to the General Chancery Division prior to the motion being heard. Although we will miss Judge Loftus in foreclosure, we look forward to appearing before her again on Chancery cases.

RACE JUDICATA® 2018 AN INCREDIBLE SUCCESS

Chicago comes out to show support despite move

On September 13, Chicago came together to make Race Judicata 2018 a huge success. Almost 5,100 registered participants, 250 law firms and legal organizations, and hundreds more partygoers showed their support for Chicago Volunteer Legal Services and continued this city's long history of civic philanthropy through volunteerism. This event perfectly spotlighted the best this city has to offer and we look forward to another 25 years of celebrating pro bono with all of you.

For everyone that showed up to race or volunteer, for everyone who came out to support their fellow coworkers or friends, CVLS thanks you. You made the event more than just a 5K run. You made it the blowout summer closeout for Chicago's legal community! Over \$220,000 was raised to support CVLS' mission to coordinate, support and promote the voluntary pro bono legal representation of the Chicago area's poor and working poor. We'd also like to thank all of our sponsors who year after year show their commitment to pro bono and furthering CVLS' work.

TEAM RESULTS

Largest Team Mayer Brown

Men

Division 1	Sidley Striders
Division 2	Dykema
Division 3	Bloomberg Law
Division 4	Office of the Attorney General of the State of Illinois

RESULTS

Men

FASTEST LAWYER	
Kevin Oliver	16:44
OVERALL	
Martin Martinez	16:14
Chris Brunnuell	16:50
Jeff Wysong	16:56
UNDER 20	
Paul Garcia, Jr.	22:36
Rai Borrell Koshiyama	23:57
Matthew Zuccarelli	24:25
20 THRU 29	
Ryan Gooding	17:09
Christian Madridejos	17:36
Christopher Dempsey	18:03
30 THRU 39	
Roger Billhardt	17:23
Thomas Laser	17:24
Christopher Willis	17:26
40 THRU 49	
Derek Holland	17:16
Nathan Rugg	18:33
Ryan Curry	19:14
50 THRU 59	
Zach Fardon	18:48
Bill Cohn	20:19
Craig Hauser	20:32
60 THRU 69	
Richard Stevens	21:05
Robert Held	21:51
Michael Wojtas	22:04
70 AND OVER	
Gerald Shekleton	25:40
Craig Backe	25:59
Robert Arroyo	30:25

Women

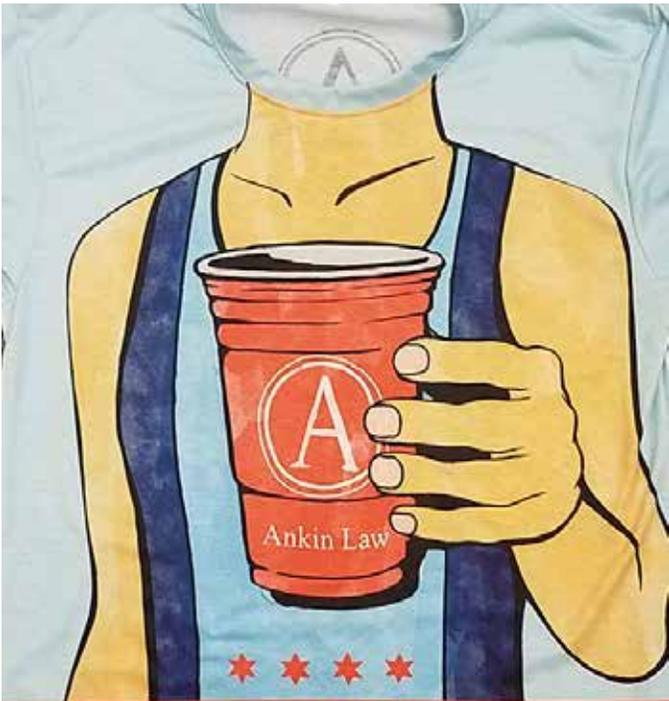
FASTEST LAWYER	
Sarah David	18:50
OVERALL	
Megan McGreatl	18:59
Monica Banzak	19:01
Alicia Yancey	19:01
UNDER 20	
Audrey Burmeister	25:36
Anna Dover	28:09
Siena Belko	28:30
20 THRU 29	
Lucy Rios	19:34
Annie Monjar	19:49
Anne Redd	20:23
30 THRU 39	
Emily Savas	19:21
Fiona Carlon	20:03
Abigail Levine	20:41
40 THRU 49	
Laura Horak	19:35
Maria Reyna	21:17
Daniela Munoz	21:38
50 THRU 59	
Catherine Miller	22:13
Nancy Biber	23:19
Brooke Lord	23:21
60 THRU 69	
Sara Thorpe	29:08
Rebecca Pallmeyer	29:35
Laurie Mikva	31:19
70 AND OVER	
Sharon Eiseman	44:52
Carol Kiwala	51:55
Janet Gilbert	52:17

Women

Division 1	Perkins Coie
Division 2	Singewald Law Firm
Division 3	Bloomberg Law
Division 4	Office of the Attorney General of the State of Illinois

Co-Ed

Division 1	Sidley Striders
Division 2	Dykema
Division 3	Bloomberg Law
Division 4	LAF



RACE JUDICATA 2018
SPRINT FOR JUSTICE
STROLL THE AFTERPARTY



From left to right, top to bottom:

T-shirt contest winner - Ankin Law Office;

Runners getting ready at the starting line;

Beer sponsor BMO Wealth Management getting ready for the after run rush;

Mayer Brown gathers to take their photo for the largest team award.

More photos at
www.cvl.org/judicata

THE TELL-TALE FILE

(with apologies to Mr. Poe)

Crazy! I am not crazy. You may think that I am, but I am not. Do not judge me until you have heard my entire story, for it is the truth.

It started out simply enough. I am a 4th year associate for a large Chicago law firm. My work in the real estate department, drafting and reviewing commercial leases, is enjoyable. I am a meticulous attorney. I am scrupulous in every part of my professional and personal life. I know that I am not crazy.

I cannot say how the thought first entered my mind to take a pro bono divorce case, but once I did, the idea haunted me until the pro bono office found an undemanding case for me to handle. I accepted their file along with their procedural instructions. I felt assured that I would be as successful with this divorce case as I am with my real estate work.

You should have seen how well I handled the file. How careful I was to properly complete the necessary forms, how diligently I communicated with my client. When the case was nearly finished, I appeared before the court for the prove-up. I was cautious when preparing for this hearing. You see, I do not appear before a judge under normal circumstances; my real estate work is transactional. But this divorce case demanded that I stand before the judge, my client at my side, to present her case.

I was a success. My client spoke as I had prepared her. The Judge, upon hearing the evidence, pronounced her divorced. He then advised me that I should submit a Judgment for Dissolution of Marriage to him within 28 days.

I felt elated. How easy this all was. I hurried back to my office with every intention of completing all of my necessary paperwork then. But when I reached my desk, I discovered something for which I was unprepared: A message from my boss instructing me to proceed with all possible dispatch to Peoria, to assist him with a complicated closing. I hurried out of my office, carefully

placing the divorce file on the southwest corner of my desk.

The closing was difficult and took several days longer than I had anticipated. When I returned to my office, there were other vital matters to which I had to attend. I gave no thought to my divorce file, but worked furiously into the deepest hours of the night. As I was leaving my office which was bathed in pale moonlight, I heard a rustling sound in the vicinity of my desk. Thinking it my overburdened imagination playing tricks, I quickly shut the door behind me and hurried home.

The next morning when I arrived in my office, bleary-eyed but ready to work, I noticed the divorce file in the center of my desk. I thought it odd, but gave it no further attention as I turned to overdue matters. But when I left late that night, I again heard the rustling sound. It was louder this time. Insistent, almost. But I was tired and overwrought and I left quickly. The next morning I found the divorce file upon my chair. I was shaken, but determined to put it out of my mind.

As my real estate work continued to prevent me from attending to my divorce file, I began to dread coming into my office in the morning. The file haunted my every waking moment. Its hideous rustling became so loud, I was forced to place it deep inside a filing cabinet, buried under a heavy stack of letterhead.

Yet still it rustled. Louder and louder, like a forest of dry leaves quaking in an autumn wind. I was sure that my boss would comment on it whenever he came near. I did not believe him when he denied hearing anything untoward. He heard the file noises. Of course he heard! He knew it was taunting me for not completing my work.

The file's noise grew and grew and grew! The sound penetrated every fiber of my being. It was punishing me! The file would report my failure to complete my case. I would lose my law license! The file would not forgive my lapse. I had to get away.

I ran out of my office, speaking to no one. The moment the elevator reached the ground floor I raced out of doors. I had to escape that incessant noise. Suddenly, I felt a vibration. Was it the

cursed file clinging to me? No! It was my Blackberry with an urgent email. I calmed my nerves long enough to read the small script. It was a message from the pro bono office. They were contacting me to offer their help. If I was too busy I could send them the file. They would complete the judgment and get it entered within the 28 day time limit.

I was saved! The file could not destroy me. I hurried back up to my office and quickly thrust it into the hands of a paralegal lurking outside my door.

"Here," I told him. "Deliver this to the pro bono office. Quickly! Quickly!" I shoved him out of my office and pulled the door shut.

Quiet surrounded me and filled my body with peace. I had learned my lesson. The referring pro bono office was there to aid me in my work. I could contact them to avoid the disquiet I'd suffered. They would ease my burden. They would not allow my next pro bono case to make me crazy. I am at rest.





WELCOME LISA MURPHY

CVLS is excited to introduce our newest family member, Lisa Murphy. Lisa will be working with Deepa Arora as a staff attorney in our Guardian ad Litem for Adults program. No stranger to CVLS, Lisa first joined us as a PILI intern in the summer of 2013. She caught the pro bono bug, and after law school continued as a CVLS volunteer, handling Guardian ad Litem cases. During law school, in addition to interning with CVLS, Lisa served as a staff editor of The John Marshall Law Review and interned for Judge Virginia M. Kendall of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Once she graduated, Lisa was an associate attorney with McNees & Associates, LLC where she gained experience in residential real estate law, probate law, guardianships, and estate administration.

Next time you visit our office, please stop by and say hello! If you would like to volunteer with CVLS in our GAL for Adults program, sign up for one of our monthly GAL for Adults training sessions, conveniently listed online at www.cvls.org. If you are currently a volunteer, thank you very much. Lisa is looking forward to working with you to make a difference in people's lives.

CHICAGO VOLUNTEER LEGAL SERVICES JUNIOR BOARD

presents...



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2018 at 6 - 10 PM
OVATION CHICAGO at 2324 WEST FULTON

\$65 in advance \$80 at the door

After 5 attire

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The logo for Chicago Volunteer Legal Services is a black, stylized shape resembling a speech bubble or a banner. It has a pointed left side and a pointed right side. The text "CHICAGO VOLUNTEER LEGAL SERVICES" is written in white, bold, uppercase letters inside the shape. The text is arranged in four lines: "CHICAGO", "VOLUNTEER", "LEGAL", and "SERVICES".

**CHICAGO
VOLUNTEER
LEGAL
SERVICES**

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