

STATE BAR OF SOUTH DAKOTA



Newsletter



DECEMBER 2024

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Attention Members!

Reminder that inactive members who do not pay active dues for more than five calendar years lose the right to practice law in South Dakota, absent taking the Bar Examination, unless you meet one of the exceptions set forth in section 4.3 of the State Bar Bylaws.

Example 1: inactive members who have not paid active dues during the years 2021-2024 should pay active dues for the 2025 calendar year (due December 31, 2024). Your invoice for 2025 will reflect the active dues amount.

Example 2: inactive members who have not paid active dues during the years 2020-2024 have until December 31, 2024 to change from inactive to active status for the calendar year 2024.

If you are uncertain when you last paid active bar dues, call the State Bar office at 605-224-7554 Option 1 or email tailynn.bradford@sdbar.net.

State Bar of South Dakota

October 2024

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PRESIDENT'S **CORNER**

Sarah Sharp Theophilus



State Bar Colleagues:

As the year winds down, I want to take a moment to highlight a few areas where State Bar members share their time and talents with those in need, to future students and with our Bar.

I have always been impressed by the compassion of our members who give their expertise and time performing pro bono work. One avenue of doing this is through Access to Justice. The Access to Justice Squad are attorneys in our bar who accept a pro bono or reduced rate case from Access to Justice, Inc. This elite group upholds their oath and provides legal representation to those who need it. Their commitment to justice, fairness, and advocacy makes a meaningful difference every day.

Another avenue are the attorneys who volunteer at the USD Knudson School of Law. Providing insight and guidance not only inspires the law students but also helps them to better understand the realities of the legal practice and builds their confidence as they prepare for their careers. This commitment to giving back to the next generation of legal professionals is truly commendable.

This past month I had the honor of traveling to Eagle Butte with an inspiring group of lawyers. While this was my first time attending, the group was formed in 2015 with the intent to recruit Native Americans to law school. They traveled to both Pine Ridge and Rosebud Sioux Reservations in South Dakota and presented to high school and college students about benefits of attending

law school. In 2016 the group traveled to the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation and performed a mock trial, spoke to area high school and college students and held a legal clinic. The tradition has continued over the years and this year we presented mock trials to the students of the Cheyenne Eagle Butte Schools. The Honorable Judge Karen Schreier developed the trials and materials for Goldie Locks and the Three Bears which was presented to the third and fourth grade students. Later in the day, we assisted high school students in putting on their own trial based on the case of Ex parte Crow Dog (109 U.S. 556 (1883)), a landmark decision that held that a federal court did not have jurisdiction to try an Indian who killed another Indian on the reservation when the offense had been tried by the tribal court. Our group spoke to the students about how Native students are vastly underrepresented in the legal profession and in law school. Recognizing this disparity, the group shared their personal journeys that led them to the field of law.

A special thanks to Seth Pearman, the State Bar, the South Dakota Indian Country Bar and the Cheyenne Eagle Butte Schools, their administrators Jennifer Bowman, Larry Keller, Cora Peterson, Kimberly Edson for facilitating, and Mrs. Ducheneaux.

I am thankful for the opportunity to work with such an outstanding Bar association. The dedication, professionalism, and commitment of this community inspire me daily. May this holiday season bring you moments of peace, joy, and the chance to recharge. Here's to a new year filled with success, growth, and opportunities to continue making an impact.

Wishing you and your loved ones a happy and prosperous holiday season!



Turner Blasius, Madison Young, Randy Turner, Amanda Work, Judge Eric C. Schulte, Caleb Vukovich, Sarah Theophilus, Seth Pearman, Kim Johnson, Lacy Neuenfeldt, Raegan Chavez, Elizabeth Stanley, and Reese Ganje



(back row left to right): Turner Blasius, Madison Young, Caleb Vukovich, Judge Eric C. Schulte, Randy Turner, Seth Pearma

(front row left to right): Elizabeth Stanley, Raegan Chavez, Kim Johnson, Sarah Theophilus, Amanda Work, Lacy Neuenfeldt

State Bar of South Dakota

YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION



Chelsea Wenzel
President

Happy Holidays from the YLS Board! With the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, we do not have much to report. We have been rounding out our fall mixers, with planning for the spring events on the horizon.

As we get older it seems like the holidays become increasingly busy and stressful. Between making sure that perfect gift is on the way and cramming in the necessary hearings and meetings, the last two months fly by even faster than those before.

Last year on Thanksgiving my niece, nephews, and I put together a Lego version of the house from the Home Alone movie. It was such a blast watching it unfold with the help of my crew. I was also off food-prep duty, so it was double fun. We sipped our Welch's sparking grape juice and spent all day building.

Later that day, my entire family went up to the bowling alley in our small town. At one point "Oh What a Night" by The Four Seasons was playing on the jukebox. I looked around and saw my dad laughing as he watched

the kids bowl, the kids dancing with the music, and the rest of the adults grinning as they sang along. This is now a core memory.

It's funny how things like that can hit just right. I guess we get a little more sentimental as we age, too. The bowling alley has been around town for longer than I have, but we have never taken the time to go up and bowl as a family. My nephews have been interested in Legos for a while, but I had not taken the time to help them put many together. In law school and in my first few years as an attorney, I was often guilty of spending holidays working before the meal and thinking about looming deadlines during and after (as I'm sure many of us, both newer and more experienced, have). Here's to hoping we all have the opportunity to slow down and enjoy a few small things this holiday season.

For those wondering, the Home Alone Lego set is still available, and it was worth it. Fun for all ages. And no, Lego did not sponsor this article.





Spotlight: Stacia Jackson, YLS Board Third Circuit Representative

1. **Where did you grow up?** I grew up near Sinai, South Dakota, for about half of my childhood, then attended middle and high school in Wisconsin.
2. **Where do you work?** Helsper, McCarty, & Rasmussen in Brookings.
3. **What do you practice?** I practice primarily criminal defense, family law, civil litigation, and estate planning.
4. **What is your favorite book?** My favorite book of all time is Anne of Green Gables.
5. **Tell us about your family.** My husband Dan and I just welcomed our first child this year. Our daughter Freya will be 4 months old in December.
6. **What is an interesting fact about you most people don't know?** Freya is definitely the most interesting thing about me right now.
7. **How did you start getting involved with YLS?** Tony Teesdale reached out to me as his term as third circuit rep was coming up and asked if I would be interested in filling that position. Before that I

had attended a couple YLS events, including the statewide swearing in.

8. **What is some advice you wish you had 5 years ago?** I wish I had known to be more confident in the things I do know. As a young attorney it is easy to feel like more experienced attorneys must know better or know more than you know. But when you've put in the work on a topic, case, etc., you do know what you are talking about, and it is okay to be confident in your knowledge.
9. **What advice do you have for newer attorneys?** Be confident in your knowledge and abilities but be willing to learn from others and ask plenty of questions too.
10. **What advice do you have for newer attorneys?** It can be intimidating for young attorneys to network with you or ask for advice. Being willing to start the conversation can go a long way in helping that young attorney feel comfortable.
11. **Who has been your most influential mentor so far?** My most influential mentors up to this point in my career have been Linda Kogel, Chief Justice Gilbertson, and the great group of attorneys I work with at HMR.
12. **What are your interests and hobbies outside of the law?** In my free time (which is almost nonexistent now with a new baby), I read, play the piano, watch tv, and cheer on the SDSU athletic teams. GO JACKS!





PLEASE NOTE:

The State Bar is providing expanded wellness member benefits through our EAP provider, Sand Creek.

These benefits are available to ALL State Bar members and their household family members, and to USD Law students and their household family members.

Please take advantage of these expanded wellness benefits.



JANUARY LAW FOR LUNCH - TAX UPDATE

JANUARY 21, 2025
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM CT
ZOOM

REGISTER
HERE



OATH OF ATTORNEY



I DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR, OR AFFIRM, THAT:

**I WILL SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE
CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA;**

**I WILL MAINTAIN THE RESPECT DUE TO COURTS OF JUSTICE AND
JUDICIAL OFFICERS;**

**I WILL NOT COUNSEL OR MAINTAIN ANY SUIT OR PROCEEDING WHICH
SHALL APPEAR TO ME TO BE UNJUST, NOR ANY DEFENSE EXCEPT
SUCH AS I BELIEVE TO BE HONESTLY DEBATABLE UNDER THE LAW OF
THE LAND;**

**I WILL EMPLOY FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING THE CAUSES
CONFIDED TO ME SUCH MEANS ONLY AS ARE CONSISTENT WITH
TRUTH AND HONOR, AND WILL NEVER SEEK TO MISLEAD THE JUDGE
OR JURY BY ANY ARTIFICE OR FALSE STATEMENT OF FACT OR LAW;**

**I WILL MAINTAIN THE CONFIDENCE AND PRESERVE INVIOLEATE THE
SECRETS OF MY CLIENT, AND WILL ACCEPT NO COMPENSATION IN
CONNECTION WITH A CLIENT'S BUSINESS EXCEPT FROM THAT CLIENT
OR WITH THE CLIENT'S KNOWLEDGE OR APPROVAL;**

**I WILL ABSTAIN FROM ALL OFFENSIVE PERSONALITY, AND ADVANCE
NO FACT PREJUDICIAL TO THE HONOR OR REPUTATION OF A PARTY
OR WITNESS, UNLESS REQUIRED BY THE JUSTICE OF THE CAUSE WITH
WHICH I AM CHARGED;**

**I WILL NEVER REJECT, FROM ANY CONSIDERATION PERSONAL TO
MYSELF, THE CAUSE OF THE DEFENSELESS OR OPPRESSED, OR DELAY
ANY PERSON'S CAUSE FOR LUCRE OR MALICE.**

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Raising the Bar: Our Profession. Our Responsibility.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN!

Fellows of the South Dakota Bar Foundation

Foundation funds go to very important projects, including: Legal Services Programs in SD, Rural Lawyer Recruitment, SD Public Broadcasting of Legislative Sessions, SD Guardianship Program, Teen Court, Ask-A-Lawyer and Educational videos on aging, substance abuse and mental health issues.

Full Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

I would like to contribute:

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- ☐ Life Fellow – \$25,000 or more, cumulative.
- ☐ Diamond Fellow – over \$10,000, cumulative.
- ☐ Platinum Fellow – \$10,000, cumulative.
- ☐ Gold Fellow – \$5,000, cumulative.
- ☐ Silver Fellow – \$1,000 per year.
- ☐ Fellow – \$500 per year.

In Memoriam

Donations in memory of a lawyer or judge may be made and will be deposited in the endowment fund. Such donations will be combined to qualify the deceased lawyer/judge as a fellow.

Today I am sending \$_____ (amount) to begin my gift.

Mail payment to:

State Bar of South Dakota
111 W Capitol Ave. #1
Pierre, SD 57501

Or you can email this form to:

tracie.bradford@sdbar.net or call 605-224-7554 to set up a payment.

Donations to the endowment are tax deductible and a perpetual gift to our profession and the education and charities the Foundation supports.

Raising the Bar
Our Profession. Our Responsibility.



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA
KNUDSON SCHOOL OF LAW



DEAN'S LIST: NEWS FROM THE LAW SCHOOL



Neil Fulton
Dean, School of Law

Like many of you, I tend to look back over the year that is ending as December begins. As I do, I feel tremendous gratitude for many things. Hopefully, many of you likewise have many things you are grateful for.

I am of course grateful for our students to start. It is a joy to walk into the Law School every morning and take a front row seat to see the next generation of lawyer leaders developing in real time. I am grateful to have seen the Class of 2024 graduate and go out to begin their careers in the spring and the Class of 2027 arrive this fall to start their journey to become lawyers. Throughout the year our students have done remarkable things in the classroom and beyond. I am grateful that these talented young people have chosen the law as their vocation and to begin that vocation here.

I am also grateful for the exceptional faculty and staff who form those students. It is rewarding to hear students share their appreciation for the exceptional connections they form with faculty. It is inspiring to watch faculty committed to the craft of teaching and who embrace being mentors. We have all been shaped by our mentors; I am grateful to see those relationships forming here at the Law School. I am also grateful for the dedicated staff who quietly and effectively do all the important tasks that make this place run. Their work is invisible to many outside the building, but those of us within the Law School depend upon the staff and are grateful for all they do.

Many of you came home to the Law School over the

past year and I am grateful for that. You chose to come home in many capacities. Many of you served as adjunct professors or guest lecturers, sharing your expertise with students. Our students would not have knowledge as deep or broad as they do without these contributions. Because so many of you came here to interview and hire students, we again had a placement rate over 90%. Students are looking for great places to put their education to work and I am grateful that so many of you have given them those opportunities.

I am grateful that the South Dakota Supreme Court again visited the Law School in October. They took the time to hear arguments, host a reception where they engaged many students, and participate in a panel to share their insights. This annual tradition is a high point in the Law School year, and I am grateful that it continues. I am also grateful that students got a chance to see exceptional lawyers advocating in real cases; my gratitude is even deeper because several of those advocates were recent graduates who came home to demonstrate how they have begun to fulfill their promise.

Over the past year, we have come together to work on critical issues. I am grateful to have been part of thoughtful conversations about how to deliver effective continuing education, develop a pathway to bar admission that will incentivize more students choosing public service, when and how to implement the NextGen Bar Exam, building a more efficient and effective system of indigent defense, what it means to be a “well-prepared” lawyer, how to attract more students

to legal careers, a strategic plan for the Bar, and other issues. Each of these has involved expertise and passion from many. I am grateful to work in a state where the Court, the Legislature, the Executive Branch, the Bar, Bar Examiners, lawyers, and the public at large are willing to engage in thoughtful dialogue about how to develop our system of justice and courageous enough to take action on the consensus that grows out of those discussions. I am grateful that students at the Law School see that this is how we practice in South Dakota.

Lastly, I am grateful for the support of family and friends. Not every day in any year is easy. That was true for me and for all of you, I am sure. On those harder days I never stood alone. Instead, I was fortunate to be supported by so many of you who have become good friends and by Molly and the boys who I am grateful make every day so rich.

Once finals end in a week, life at the Law School pauses just a bit as one semester ends and before another begins. That pause provides an important moment to

take stock and be grateful. I was happy to share a bit of my gratitude with all of you. I hope that this time of year provides all of you the time to do the same.



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Application for Pro Bono Emeritus Status

I, _____, an active member of the State Bar of South Dakota, do hereby apply for Pro Bono Emeritus Status, for the year 2025.

I understand that if approved, rather than pay regular dues for the year 2025, I will only be required to tender the sum of \$125 (same as inactive dues) but I will be entitled to all the rights and privileges of an active member of the State Bar.

Further, I recognize that this status means that I will be requested from time to time to take a referral from East River Legal Services, Dakota Plains Legal Services, or Access to Justice, and I am willing to accept at least one referral in the year 2025.

Finally, I acknowledge that pursuant to the Pro Bono Emeritus Status, I have retired from the active practice of law and I cannot accept private clients, cases for friends or relatives (even if no fee is charged) and that my practice is limited to such referral cases as I accept from the Legal Services Programs, Access to Justice or a non-profit specifically approved by the State Bar. In the event that I decide to accept cases other than those referred to me and which I accept, that I will tender regular active dues and withdraw from the Pro Bono Emeritus Status Program.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____

Signature_____

Printed Name_____

Address_____

City, State, Zip Code_____

Phone_____ Email_____



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- Nov 13 Black Hills Virtual Networking Event. [RSVP here.](#)
- Feb 6-7 OCI Round I. [Register Here.](#)
- Feb 24 Spring Career Fair
- March 20-21 OCI Round II

Accessible and affordable housing is a common barrier to student placements.
If you are a bar member willing to host an intern, please fill out [this form](#).





JUSTICE SQUAD

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING ATTORNEYS THAT ACCEPTED A PRO BONO OR REDUCED RATE CASE IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER FROM ACCESS TO JUSTICE, INC.! YOU ARE NOW A MEMBER OF THE A2J JUSTICE SQUAD - AN ELITE GROUP OF SOUTH DAKOTA LAWYERS WHO ACCEPT

THE RESPONSIBILITY TO DEFEND JUSTICE, UPHOLD THEIR OATH AND PROVIDE LEGAL REPRESENTATION TO THOSE WHO NEED IT.

ATTENTION SOUTH DAKOTA ATTORNEYS: How to sign up as an attorney volunteer through the sd.freelegalanswers.org website



1. Click on the ATTORNEY REGISTRATION tab.
2. Answer the questions to register and create your account.
3. Once the SDFLA administrator has approved your registration, you may log on to the website and choose the questions you would like to answer.

Special Thanks to:

BRIAN UTZMAN
VICTOR RAPKOCH
GABBY SAYALOUNE
MCLEAN THOMPSON KERVER
TIFFANI LANDEEN
COLE ROMEY
STANTON ANKER
PAUL JENSEN
JUSTIN DIBONA


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ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A LEGAL SUPERHERO
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A2J

HERO



*a person who is
admired or idealized
for courage,
outstanding
achievements, or
noble qualities*



Lynn Jackson Attorney's
is pleased to announce

Briana N Geraets
as an associate attorney

Lynn Jackson Attorney's
110 N Minnesota Ave, Ste 400
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Telephone: 605-332-5999

E-mail: bgeraets@lynnjackson.com

www.lynnjackson.com

Lynn Jackson Attorney's
is pleased to announce

Kyle D Krause
has become a shareholder in the firm

Lynn Jackson Attorney's
909 St Joseph St, Ste 800
Sioux Falls, SD 57701

Telephone: 605-342-2592

E-mail: kkrause@lynnjackson.com

www.lynnjackson.com

Lynn Jackson Attorney's
is pleased to announce

Gabriele A Sayaloune
as an associate attorney

Lynn Jackson Attorney's
909 St Joseph St, Ste 800
Sioux Falls, SD 57701

Telephone: 605-342-2592

E-mail: gsayaloune@lynnjackson.com

www.lynnjackson.com

Hoy Trial Lawyers, Prof. LLC
is pleased to announce

Rebekkah J. Mouw
as an associate attorney

Hoy Trial Lawyers, Prof. LLC
4900 S. Minnesota Ave., Ste. 200
Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2898

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Marlow, Woodward & Huff, Prof. LLC
is pleased to announce

Natasha Allen

as an associate attorney

Marlow, Woodward & Huff, Prof. LLC
PO Box 667
Yankton, SD 57078

Telephone: 605-665-5009

E-mail: natasha@mwhlawyers.com

DUEHR MEDIATION AND FAMILY LAW, P.C.

I would like to thank Bangs McCullen Law Firm for their partnership over the last 20 plus years. However, the time has come for me to separate, and I will be opening my own firm commencing January 1, 2025.

I am pleased to announce commencing January 1, 2025, I will begin operating:

Duehr Mediation and Family Law PC

PO Box 87983

Sioux Falls, SD 57109

Vduehr@duehrmediationandfamilylaw.com

605-709-3174

I will be primarily focused on providing mediation services Statewide, with some family law litigation.

I will have the ability to travel and or video conferencing to accommodate said mediation services. Thank you for considering me to assist your clients reach Resolutions Through Experience and Integrity!

Myers Billion, LLP
is pleased to announce

Madison Olafson

as an associate attorney

Myers Billion, LLP
230 S Phillips Ave, Suite 300
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Telephone: 605-336-3700

E-mail: molafson@myersbillion.com

myersbillion.com



State Bar of South Dakota Association

Avera Healthcare Plans

The following agents or agencies that are authorized to sell the
State Bar Association Health Plan.

EASTERN SOUTH DAKOTA

Office Location

Mitchell & Yankton Area
Aberdeen Area
Sioux Falls Area
Sioux Falls & Brookings Area
Pierre, Mitchell & Sioux Falls Area
Watertown Area

Agency

Dice Financial
Mark Mehlhoff
Midwest Employee Benefits
McGreevy & Associates
Fisher Rounds & Associates
Freimark & Associates

Contact

Jacquelyn Johnson
Mark Mehlhoff
Dawn Knutson
John Lawler
Josh Gilkerson
Todd Freimark

WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA

Office Location

West River

Agency

Black Hills Insurance Agency
Black Hills Insurance Agency
Carver Insurance

Contact

Dan Maguire
Everett Strong
Lisa Knutson

Questions on Eligibility, Rates, and Services?

Please contact the agency listed above based on your office location within
the state for questions related to the Association Healthcare Plan.



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2024 John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program

The John R. Justice (JRJ) Grant Program provides student loan repayment assistance for local, state and federal public defenders and local and state prosecutors who commit to extended service in those roles. All Applications and a Service Agreement along with a recent loan statement must be received or postmarked on or before **January 31, 2025**. A recent monthly statement from the borrowing agency is preferred over the generic "Loan Details" print out option as the monthly statement contains the pertinent information needed.

2024 John R. Justice Grant Program Application

2024 John R. Justice Grant Service Agreements

Eligibility: For the purposes of the JRJ Program, the following beneficiaries shall be considered eligible:

Prosecutor: full-time employee of a state or unit of local government (including tribal government) who is continually licensed to practice law and prosecutes criminal or juvenile delinquency cases at the state or local government level (including supervision, education, or training of other persons prosecuting such cases); prosecutors who are employees of the federal government are not eligible. Elected state's attorneys are not eligible.

Public defender: an attorney who is continually licensed to practice law and is a full-time employee of a state or unit of local government (including tribal government) who provides legal representation to indigent persons in criminal or juvenile delinquency cases, including supervision, education, or training of other persons providing such representation.

A full-time employee of a nonprofit organization operating under a contract with a state or unit of local government who devotes substantially all of the employee's full-time employment to provide legal representation to indigent persons in criminal or juvenile delinquency cases including supervision, education, or training of other personnel providing such representations.

A full-time federal defender attorney in a defender organization pursuant to subsection (g) of section 3006A of Title 18, United States Code, that provides legal representation to indigent persons in criminal or juvenile delinquency cases.

Application and a service agreement with original signatures must be submitted to the address below by January 31, 2025. A recent loan STATEMENT must be included that provides the following: (1) account number; (2) your name on the account; and (3) bank payment mailing address.

Lynell Erickson
Office of Attorney General
1302 E. Hwy 14, Suite 1
Pierre SD 57501

THE HAGEMANN-MORRIS YOUNG LAWYER MENTORSHIP COIN PROGRAM THE STATE BAR OF SOUTH DAKOTA YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

I. PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

The Hagemann-Morris Young Lawyer Mentorship Coin Program strives to foster mentorship within the State Bar by pairing members of the Young Lawyers Section with Mentors who can provide candid and insightful guidance to Young Lawyers as they navigate the beginning stages of their legal career. The Program hopes to:

- Foster the development of the Young Lawyers practical skills and their knowledge of legal customs;
- Create a sense of pride and integrity in the legal profession;
- Promote collegial relationships among legal professionals;
- Improve legal ability and professional judgment; and
- Encourage the use of best practices and highest ideals in the practice of law.

State Bar members are members of the Young Lawyers Section until they reach age 40 or have practiced law for ten years, whichever occurs later.

II. HOW IT WORKS

1. Young Lawyers and Mentors sign up with the State Bar by completing the online forms linked below.
2. The YLS Board establishes a compatible mentorship pair.
 - The YLS Board creates mentorship pairs using the information provided in the applications and reaching out to attorneys believed to be a good fit for the Young Lawyer.
 - Young Lawyers may also request specific mentors or request Mentor Coins for an already-established mentorship.
3. The YLS Board will send the Young Lawyer and Mentor an informational packet with suggested conversations and activities. The Young Lawyer will also receive Mentor Coins.
4. The Young Lawyer may present a Mentor Coin to their Mentor as an invitation for mentorship and acknowledge their trust in such Mentor.

JOIN THE PROGRAM



<https://statebar.typeform.com/mentorship>

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION

University of South Dakota Knudson School of Law
414 East Clark Street
Vermillion, SD 57069



Members of the State Bar of South Dakota,

Marshall M. McKusick, who served the legal profession and the University of South Dakota Knudson School of Law for nearly six decades, truly made a lasting impact. The resources he has provided have been of great benefit and value to law students, past and present, and will continue to have a positive impact on those entering into the legal profession for generations to come.

Each year, in honor and celebration of Marshall McKusick's dedication and service to the legal community in South Dakota, the Student Bar Association recognizes an outstanding member of the South Dakota Bar for their contribution to the legal profession and the University of South Dakota Knudson School of Law.

The 2025 McKusick Award nominations are now open. Please consider submitting a nomination. The award will be presented at the State Bar Convention this June.

Nominations can be submitted via e-mail to Brock.Brown@coyotes.usd.edu, or addressed to Brock Brown c/o Student Bar Association, University of South Dakota Knudson School of Law, 414 East Clark Street, Vermillion, South Dakota 57069.

We look forward to receiving your nominations prior to the due date of March 1, 2025.

Sincerely,

Brock A. Brown
SBA President 2024-25
USD Knudson School of Law

Brock Brown President	Garrett Adams Vice President	Kelsey Milford Secretary	Isabelle Kremeier Treasurer	Tia Vlasman ABA Rep.	Eric Gednalske SGA Rep.
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Wine Review

South Dakota Law Review

invites you to join us for an evening of
dinner and wine to celebrate Volume 16's
Editor-in-Chief and distinguished alumnus,

Jack Theeler



Friday, February 7, 2025

The Depot, Mitchell
210 S. Main St.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Dinner begins at 7:00 p.m.

RSVP by sending an email to
benjamin.titus@coyotes.usd.edu by January 25th, 2025

RSVP Tickets \$55. Tickets at door \$65.



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA
KNUDSON SCHOOL OF LAW



State of South Dakota Unified Judicial System



Office of the State Court Administrator

Telephone: (605) 773-3474
FAX: (605) 773-8437

500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

November 15, 2024

Mr. Paul Cremer
State Bar of South Dakota
111 W. Capitol Avenue, #1
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

RE: 2025 Court-Appointed Attorney Fees and Mileage

Dear Mr. Cremer:

Please publish the following announcement in the December 2024 issue of the State Bar Newsletter:

“Court-appointed attorney fees for 2025 will be \$120 per hour pursuant to UJS policy which provides that these fees increase in an amount equal to any cost of living increase approved for state employees by the Legislature. Mileage for court-appointed attorneys will be paid at the rate of \$1.00 per mile.”

Note: This is for trial level services but should be utilized for appellate work as well pending adoption of rules promulgated by the Commission on Indigent Legal Services.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Greg Sattizahn
State Court Administrator

Our Mission: Justice for All
Our Vision: We are stewards of an open, effective, and accessible court system, worthy of the Public's trust and confidence.

ALL Members:

Certificate of Compliance

Due January 31, 2025

**DID YOU
KNOW**

you can send in your certificate of
compliance electronically?



Email your completed form to:

mandy.fergen@sdbar.net



Certificate of
Compliance form

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

INSTRUCTIONS

The certificate of compliance for calendar year 2024 must be submitted to the State Bar of South Dakota by **January 31, 2025**.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION concerning compliance with trust accounting records and procedures, including the reporting form, appear immediately following this notice. All attorneys who were **"ACTIVE members" of the State Bar of South Dakota in 2024 must file the compliance form** with the State Bar no later than January 31, 2025. **This rule includes retired lawyers, lawyers engaged in teaching, banking, insurance, full-time government employees, etc.** This reporting requirement does NOT include those who were "inactive members" in 2024, nor does it include Judges (Federal or Unified Judicial System) who are full time and did not have private clients. Thank you.

State Bar of South Dakota

TRUST ACCOUNT COMPLIANCE FORM INSTRUCTIONS

Immediately following these instructions, a model form has been reproduced. The form may be modified to accommodate multiple signatures where a number of or all partners in a law firm utilize a single trust account. Please type the name of the sole practitioner or, if using a common firm trust account, the names of all lawyers utilizing the trust account. For the balance of the form, fill in the blanks, check the spaces, or leave blank or mark n/a where appropriate.

- 1 - check (a), (b), or (c) if applicable
- 2 - self explanatory (usually appropriate for inactive or retired members)
- 3 - self explanatory (usually exclusive or full-time corporate, legal aid, or public sector lawyer. Please identify the employer.)
- 3(a)- self explanatory (usually appropriate for part-time Bankruptcy trustees)
- 4 - self explanatory (usually appropriate for the employee or associate of a law firm who does not have trust account writing authority.) At this point, inactive, retired, full-time corporate, legal aid, or public sector lawyers, and associates without trust account check writing authority may sign the form and stop.

All others should have trust accounts and must provide the following information:

- 5 - state the name, address, and account number of trust account financial institution.
- 6 - the blanks should be completed with the most recent monthly trust account reconciliation.

Keep in mind monthly reconciliations are required. For example, if this form were completed on 1-15-25, you would insert the closing date of the most recent bank statement (i.e. 12-31-24).

6(a)-(h), and 7 - type or print yes or no in space provided. If you can answer "yes" to each of these questions, you are in compliance with SDCL 16-18-20.2. If you must answer any of these in the negative, you need to make changes in your trust accounting system. A negative answer will result in further inquiry.

8 - This question merely requires you to confirm that a monthly reconciliation was performed and if there were errors/inconsistencies in the reconciliation, to explain the same. It is not too late to perform monthly reconciliations through the date of completion of this form and monthly reconciliations must be performed prospectively. Occasionally, trust accounts have an odd amount, such as \$4.54, which has been in the account for years and the client has disappeared. The compliance report should so note the amount and reason (lawyer unable to disperse the sum of \$4.54 belonging to a client because the client is not able to be located).

Thereafter, if the amount remains constant (\$4.54 as in this example), no further explanation is necessary in subsequent compliance forms.

The rule does not require, nor do we want, the amounts held in trust, the identities of clients, or any other confidential information. If all partners in a law firm use a common trust account, one form may be submitted provided all partners sign the form. Please type your name under your signature. This will avoid phone calls or letters trying to ascertain who signed the forms.

All lawyers must submit the compliance form no later than January 31, 2025. **Please submit compliance forms after reviewing your December bank statements.** If you have questions, please give us a call. Thank you.

2024 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

TO: The Secretary-Treasurer, **The State Bar of South Dakota, 111 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 1, Pierre, SD 57501**

Dear Sir: I/we (Please list all persons signing the form here) _____

member(s) of the State Bar of South Dakota certify that during the 12-month period preceding the date of this report:
(Check the following items where applicable and/or fill in the blanks.)

1. I (we) have engaged in the private practice of law in South Dakota as:

_____ (a) a sole practitioner;

_____ (b) a partner or shareholder of a firm practicing under the name of;

_____ (c) an associate of a sole practitioner or of a firm, as the case may be, practicing under the name of _____

and I maintain separate books, records, and accounts showing all legal business performed by me.

_____ 2. I have not engaged in the practice of law in South Dakota, and I have neither handled nor been responsible for either clients' trust funds or clients' trust property in South Dakota.

_____ 3. I have practiced law in South Dakota exclusively as an employee of (designate name of government agency, corporation, or other non-member of the Bar) _____

and I do not handle or become responsible for money or property in a lawyer-client relationship, other than money or property received in the course of official duties and disposed of in accordance with regulations and practices of (designate name of government agency).

_____ a. I have served as a trustee in one or more cases under Title 11 of the United States Code, and I am accountable for all funds I handled in connection therewith to the Office of the United States Trustee, which office is statutorily charged with the responsibility for reviewing and supervising my trust operations; therefore, my handling of such funds is not separately accounted for herein in connection with my private practice of law, and I further certify that I am in compliance with all such accounting requirements of said Office.

_____ 4. I have engaged in the practice of law in South Dakota as an employee or as an associate of a sole practitioner or of a firm, as the case may be, practicing under the name of _____

and to the best of my knowledge all legal business performed by me is shown in the books, records and accounts of such sole practitioner or firm.

(Only lawyers checking categories 2, 3, 3a, or 4 may sign below. See instructions.)

(Signature)

Full Name (Print or Type)

Business Address

City, State, Zip

Date _____, 2025

Please state the total number of hours of pro bono service, as defined by the South Dakota Rules of Professional Conduct 6.1, that you (or the whole firm) provided in 2024. Enter 0 if none. Total Hours: _____.

Rule 6.1. Voluntary Pro Bono Public Service

A lawyer should render public interest legal service.

A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by: (a) providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations; or (b) by service without compensation in public interest activities that improve the law, the legal system or the legal profession; or (c) by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.

(Attorneys checking categories 1a, 1b, or 1c must answer the following questions. See instructions.)

5. My (our) trust account(s) or the trust account(s) of the firm or association of which I am a partner or shareholder is (are) at the (name and address of banking institution) _____

(and bears the following name(s) and number(s)) _____

6. During the fiscal period ended December 31, 2024, to the best of my (our) knowledge I (we), or the firm of which I am a member, as the case may be, maintained books, records and accounts to record all money and trust property received and disbursed in connection with my/our practice, and as a minimum I/we maintained:

- a. A separate bank account or accounts located in South Dakota, in the name of the lawyer or law firm and clearly labeled and designated a "trust account." _____(Yes or No) (*An out of state member may strike "South Dakota" and insert the state where his/her trust account is located.*)
- b. Original or duplicate deposit slips and, in the case of currency or coin, an additional cash receipts book, clearly identifying the date and source of all trust funds received, and specific identification of the client or matter for whom the funds were received. _____(Yes or No)
- c. Original canceled checks or copies of both sides of the original checks produced through truncation or check imaging or the equivalent, for all trust disbursements. _____(Yes or No)
- d. Other documentary support for all disbursements and transfers from the trust account. _____(Yes or No)
- e. A separate trust account receipts and disbursements journal, including columns for receipts, disbursements, and the account balance, disclosing the client, check number, and reason for which the funds were received, disbursed or transferred. _____(Yes or No)
- f. A separate file or ledger, with an individual card or page for each client and matter, showing all individual receipts, disbursements and any unexpended balance. _____(Yes or No)
- g. All bank statements for all trust accounts. _____(Yes or No)
- h. Complete records of all funds, securities and other properties of a client coming into my/our possession, and rendered appropriate accounts to my/our clients regarding them. _____(Yes or No)

7. During the same fiscal period identified in section 6 above, I, or the firm of which I am a member, complied with the required trust accounting procedures, and as a minimum I/we prepared monthly trust comparisons, including bank reconciliations and an annual detailed listing identifying the balance of the unexpended trust money held for each client or matter. _____(Yes or No)

8. In connection with section 7 above, I or the firm of which I am a member, have completed the following procedures during the fiscal period herein: compared each month the total of trust liabilities and the total of each trust bank reconciliation, and there were (check one of the following)

- _____no differences between the totals, excepting those determined to be the result of bank error;
- _____differences. (Give full particulars below, identifying the months in which there were differences, the amounts involved, and the reason for each item contributing to a difference. Attach additional pages if necessary.)

9. a. _____The undersigned lawyer(s) do not have professional liability insurance; (***If you checked box 9(A), you must attach a representative copy of the letterhead you used to disclose the lack of insurance to your clients.***) or

b. _____The undersigned lawyer(s) have professional liability insurance, the name of the insurance carrier, policy number and limits are as follows: _____

10. If you are a solo practitioner, have you made arrangements with another lawyer to secure your files and trust account and protect your clients in the event of your death or disability? Yes _____No _____

(*This is not currently a requirement, but very much encouraged. Please check out the state bar website for checklists and forms for solo practitioners planning for unexpected death or disability.*)

I am a member of the State Bar of South Dakota filing this report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief the facts as reported herein are accurate, and I certify that I have at all material times been in compliance with Rule 1.15 of the Rules of Professional Conduct entitled Safekeeping Property and SDCL 16-18-20.1 and 16-18-20.2.

(All partners, shareholders, or associates checking categories 1a, 1b, or 1c must sign here. Attach additional signature pages if necessary.)

(Signatures)

(Printed Name)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

_____, 2025
Date

Additional signature and attachment is needed if responding lawyer checked box 9(A) : The undersigned lawyer(s) not having insurance, do hereby certify that pursuant to Rule 1.4(c), I have advised my clients of the lack of professional liability insurance during the reporting period and I have attached hereto a copy of my law office letterhead disclosing the lack of insurance, in the required format, pursuant to Rule 7.5 of the Rules of Professional Responsibility.

All Responding Lawyer Signatures:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

_____, 2025
Date

Attorney Health & Wellness Resources

It's okay to ask for help



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INDEPENDENT RESOURCE
(605) 391-5191

rebecca.porter@sdlawyersconcerned.org

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- *USD Law Students & their household family members*

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1 - 8 8 8 - 2 4 3 - 5 7 4 4

AVAILABLE 24 / 7

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

FROM ACCESS TO JUSTICE:



The new Spanish version of the Guardianship/Conservatorship Training video is now available on the State Bar of South Dakota website!

<https://www.statebarofsouthdakota.com/guardianship-conservatorship/>

Special Thanks to the following attorneys and paralegal for their assistance with this important project:

Lane Haskell
Erika Olson
Alejandra Hight (paralegal)

****This video project was made possible through a grant from the Commission on Equal Access to the Courts. The new Spanish version of the Guardianship/Conservatorship training video will provide the public with an additional training option to complete the required training to become a guardian/conservator in South Dakota.*



Robert Trzynka
Attorney
Sioux Falls, SD



Trinette LaFleur
Attorney
Jefferson, SD



Jack Brown
Attorney
Sioux Falls, SD



Janell Broekemier
Attorney
Sloan, IA



Christal Schreiber
Paralegal
Pierre, SD



Lisa Braet
Legal Assistant
Sioux City, IA



Michele Wiggs
Finance Manager
Sioux Falls, SD



Jennifer McLaughlin
Office Coordinator
Sioux Falls, SD

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Life comes with challenges. Your Assistance Program is here to help.

Your Assistance Program can help you reduce stress, improve mental health, and make life easier by connecting you to the right information, resources, and referrals.

All services are free, confidential, and available to you and your family members. This includes access to short-term counseling and the wide range of services listed below:

Mental Health Sessions

Manage stress, anxiety, and depression, resolve conflict, improve relationships, and address any personal issues. Choose from in-person sessions, video counseling, or telephonic counseling.

Life Coaching

Reach personal and professional goals, manage life transitions, overcome obstacles, strengthen relationships, and achieve greater balance.

Financial Consultation

Build financial wellness related to budgeting, buying a home, paying off debt, resolving general tax questions, preventing identity theft, and saving for retirement or tuition.

Legal Referrals

Receive referrals for personal legal matters including estate planning, wills, real estate, bankruptcy, divorce, custody, and more.

Work-Life Resources and Referrals

Obtain information and referrals when seeking childcare, adoption, special needs support, eldercare, housing, transportation, education, and pet care.

Personal Assistant

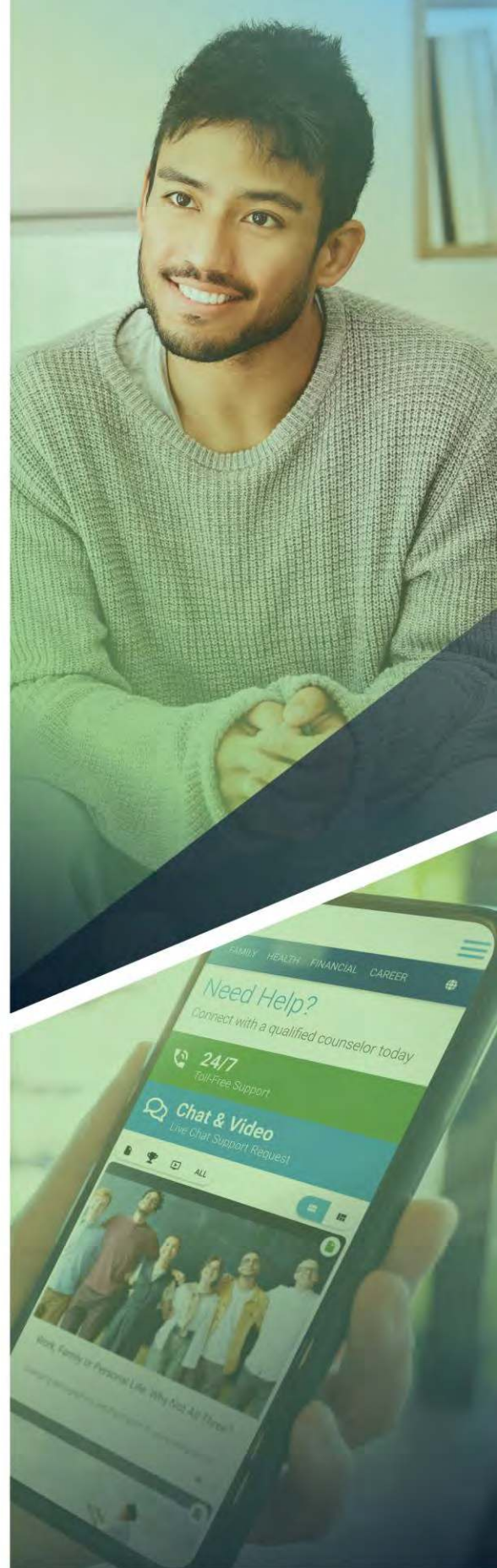
Save time with referrals for travel and entertainment, seeking professional services, cleaning services, home food delivery, and managing everyday tasks.

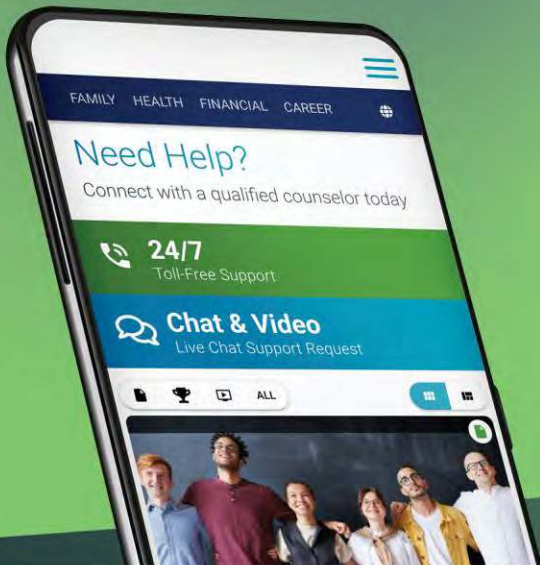
Medical Advocacy

Get help navigating insurance, obtaining doctor referrals, securing medical equipment, and planning for transitional care and discharge.

Member Portal

Access your benefits 24/7/365 through your member portal with online requests and chat options. Explore thousands of self-help tools and resources including articles, assessments, podcasts, and resource locators.





Introducing Your Member Portal

Browse benefits. Request services.
Enjoy 24/7/365 access.

Your Assistance Program offers a wide range of benefits to help improve mental health, reduce stress and make life easier—all easily accessible through your member portal.

Request a Mental Health Session

Request counseling by submitting an online form or live chat. Choose from in-person or virtual counseling options to meet your needs.

Request Referrals & Resources

Submit a request for family care and lifestyle support including childcare and eldercare referrals, legal referrals and financial consultation, personal assistant referrals and medical advocacy consultation.

Explore Thousands of Self-Care Articles & Resources

Health and lifestyle assessments, interactive checklists, soft skills courses, podcasts, resource locators, exclusive discounts, and expansive articles on whole health and well-being.

Visit Your Online Financial Center

Featuring worksheets, calculators, and a wide range of financial resources and tools to help reach personal goals and build financial wellness.

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1. Visit www.sandcreekeap.com and click on "Sign Up" below the login form
2. To create an account and sign in, enter your email address and company code: sdhelp
3. For login assistance, select "Email Support"

** You can always call to access services, without needing to create an account or log in to the portal.*



Contact AllOne Health
Call: 888-243-5744
Visit: www.sandcreekeap.com
Code: sdhelp



In Memoriam



Meghan Jo Sonstegard
August 29, 1978 –
October 27, 2024

Meghan Jo Sonstegard, age 46, of Sioux Falls, SD passed away on October 27th, 2024, surrounded by her family after a valiant battle with cancer. Meghan was born to Philip and Jackie (Jacques) Sonstegard on August 29, 1978 while residing in Howard Lake, MN. Meghan attended the University of Minnesota, earning her undergraduate degree while competing on the Gopher Swim Team. She then graduated from the University of South Dakota School of Law. After graduation, Meghan landed her first job as a Deputy Attorney General for the State of South Dakota, where she truly thrived and made many lifelong friendships. She was an unrelenting advocate for the underdog and a friend you could always count on. She made our world brighter.

Meghan was talented in so many aspects of her life. She enjoyed Broadway, gardening, quilting, and baking. She traveled the world and became fluent in Spanish. Spanish speaking countries were her favorite. Meghan cherished her time at the lake home in Spirit Lake, IA which brought them hours of family fun swimming and searching for lake glass. Most importantly she was a terrific mom, her children were her life. There was never a day that went by she didn't brag about all of her amazing kids and their accomplishments.

Meghan joins her four grandparents and her baby Violet in heaven. She is survived by her children Piper Anderson (13), Fiona Anderson (8), and Philip "Gus" Sonstegard (4). Meghan is also survived by her parents Philip and Jackie Sonstegard; siblings Melanie (Calvin) Johnson, Peter (Katy) Sonstegard, Goody (Mily) Sonstegard, Morgan Sonstegard, Anna Sonstegard (Kareem Haleem), and Shep (Alycia Michels) Sonstegard, and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. John 11:25-26 "Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."

While our hearts mourn the loss, we take comfort in knowing she is no longer suffering. In Meghan's final wishes she shared her gifts with thousands, in generosity and compassion towards them all. It was a need she wished to fill, and she did it. Thank you Meghan - for your Golden Heart!

Her Funeral Service will be 10:00 AM, Monday, November 4th, at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls. Entombment will be 11:00 AM, Monday, November 4th, in the Mausoleum, at Hills of Rest Cemetery.

UPCOMING LIVE WEBINARS

Free to all Bar Members!

Discover a whole new approach to well-being.

11
DEC



The Connection Between
Exercise and Mental Health

December 11, 2024
1:30 pm EST - 2:30 pm EST
[Register for this Webinar](#)

19
DEC



Discover Your Life Purpose

December 19, 2024
12:00 pm EST - 12:45 pm EST
[Register for this Webinar](#)

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South Dakota Paralegal Association

www.sdparalegals.com

Established in 1989 and made up of legal assistants and paralegals from across South Dakota.

OUR MISSION . . .

- ✓ **Establish good fellowship among association members, National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA), and members of the legal community.**
- ✓ **Continuing education among members of the profession.**
- ✓ **Cooperate with state bar associations.**
- ✓ **Encourage a high order of ethical and professional attainment.**
- ✓ **Support and achieve programs, purposes, and goals of NALA.**

We are committed to the preservation and continued growth of the paralegal profession.



“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.”
- John F. Kennedy



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Ericka Heiser, MBA, CVA
Certified in Business Appraisals



For Lawyers,

Is Moonlighting Worth It?

**By: Mark Bassingthwaight,
ALPS Risk Manager**

To take a side job or not to take a side job ... truth be told, the answer to this question is one where reasonable minds can see things differently. Some will say there's value in taking on additional work outside your main source of employment, others will say no; and of course, there will always be those who will take the middle ground. This is my way of saying that the answer isn't for me to decide, it's going to be entirely your call. All I can do is help you decide by discussing the benefits and risks as I see them.

What are the benefits of moonlighting?

When I was younger, I was told the fastest way to grow wealth is by first retiring all debt; and that lesson certainly proved true in my life. When my wife and I finally got to the point where we were able to accelerate payments on those seemingly never-ending student loans the relief was palpable. We were well on our way to financial security. I share this story because in my mind, the most obvious benefit would be **the additional income stream** from having a moonlighting side gig. This really can be an effective way to supplement your earnings and improve your financial security, particularly if you are straddled with debt.

Depending on the specifics of the opportunity, this could be a way to **grow professionally**. At a minimum, by taking on additional work you would continue to

sharpen your legal skills. You might also gain experience in a different area of the law, thereby broadening your skill set and/or deepening your knowledge base. Regardless, the additional experience can only help ensure your long-term success as an attorney.

Moonlighting can sometimes be an opportunity to **expand your professional network**. Usually, the broader your network, the greater likelihood of developing valuable referral sources and finding mentoring and perhaps even career advancement opportunities. Speaking personally, any opportunity to build or maintain connections to the broader legal community and stay informed about trends and developments in the legal profession is an opportunity worth considering.

In terms of benefits, the above are the big three in my mind. That said, I have heard others say that moonlighting can be a way to bring about autonomy and flexibility in their professional lives. I have trouble with this idea because by definition moonlighting is an extra job, a side gig. However, if deciding when and what additional moonlighting work you take on is entirely up to you, then there would be some accompanying flexibility and autonomy with this side gig.

Finally, if the additional income stream benefit isn't important, but the professional growth and networking benefits are, think about giving back. Not only will

those two benefits be in play, one new benefit will come into play. It's the health and wellness benefit of **personal fulfillment**, which often results after a decision is made to make a positive impact in the lives of others and to contribute to the greater good of your local community through the gift of pro bono moonlighting.

What about the risks of moonlighting?

Here again, I'll talk about what I see as the big three. The first is a **wellness concern**. Stress, burnout, depression, and addiction are significant problems for our profession. The reason why is often due to the time demands and pressures that come with the practice of law. To add in extra stress with additional work from moonlighting only risks further compounding the wellness problem. Even if the impact of extra hours is limited to fatigue, this alone can impair one's judgment. It can be quite difficult to continue to consistently serve your clients competently if you spread yourself too thin.

There are also **ethical and legal concerns** because moonlighting by definition is a side gig that your employer is unaware of. Lawyers have been suspended, forced to disgorge earned fees, fired, and even disbarred once their moonlighting work came to light. Also understand that there are no moonlighting exceptions to any of the rules of professional conduct. Conflicts must be tracked, unearned funds must be placed in a trust account, client confidences must be kept, data must be protected, and the list goes on. If you are interested in moonlighting, never take this step unless and until the firm you work for approves your request to do so. Otherwise, you are simply asking for trouble; and ethical missteps are just one of the ways that trouble can get its start.

Finally, there is an **insurance coverage concern**. Here's one way it can play. Assume a viable malpractice claim

arises on one of your moonlighting matters and the exposure is more than you could ever hope to personally handle. Now, if your thinking is something along the lines of "yes, having to fess up to my employer that I've been moonlighting is going to be problematic; but at least my firm's malpractice policy will take care of the claim," you're wrong.

Far too many lawyers seem to believe that once they are covered under a malpractice policy, they are covered for everything they do as a lawyer. This simply isn't true, and the moonlighting space is an excellent example of why. Malpractice policies cover lawyers for work they do on behalf of clients of the firm they work for. This means that any work you do outside of the scope of your employment with a firm will not be covered. Yes, you could go out and purchase your own malpractice policy to cover your moonlighting exposure, but in my experience this doesn't happen.

In sum, while the benefits of moonlighting can be enticing, they do need to be weighed against the associated risks and challenges. There's nothing wrong with pursuing additional income or experience. Just make sure you never compromise any ethical standards, sacrifice any client's interests, or allow your workload to become unmanageable along the way. Oh, and always check with the powers that be at your place of employment before doing any moonlighting. As I see it, that's never going to be optional.



Authored by: Mark Bassingthwaighe, ALPS Risk Manager

Since 1998, Mark Bassingthwaighe, Esq. has been a Risk Manager with ALPS, an attorney's professional liability insurance carrier. In his tenure with the company, Mr. Bassingthwaighe has conducted over 1200 law firm risk management assessment visits, presented over 400 continuing legal education seminars throughout the United States, and written extensively on risk management, ethics, and technology. Mr. Bassingthwaighe is a member of the State Bar of Montana as well as the American Bar Association where he currently sits on the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility's Conference Planning Committee. He received his J.D. from Drake University Law School.

Career Center

STATE BAR OF SOUTH DAKOTA CLASSIFIEDS

Email your employment announcement to tracie.bradford@sdbar.net by 26th of each month to have it included in the next newsletter. Please be sure to include a closing date. To see more jobs listings, visit www.statebarofsouthdakota.com



Associate Attorney - Sioux Falls

Myers Billion, LLP, an AV-Rated firm located in Sioux Falls, SD, is seeking a licensed South Dakota attorney to join its firm as an ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY. The successful applicant must be in good standing with the South Dakota State Bar, a self-starter, and have strong communication, research, and writing abilities. The attorneys of Myers Billion, LLP practice across several areas including litigation, family law, criminal law, estate planning, business transactions, and many more. The successful applicant will have the opportunity to craft their own unique practice in consultation with the rest of the partners of Myers Billion, LLP.

Associate benefits include health insurance, 401K match, professional dues and membership fees, annual CLE tuition, profit sharing and additional incidental benefits.

Please direct a cover letter, resume, and list of references to Joshua D. Zellmer, Myers Billion, LLP, 230 S. Phillips Ave, Suite 300, Sioux Falls, SD 57104 or to jzellmer@myersbillion.com. All inquiries will be kept strictly confidential.

Office of Attorney General Medicaid Fans

DETAILS: The Office of Attorney General seeks an attorney for a position with Medicaid FANS. This specialized attorney will oversee the investigation and prosecution of healthcare fraud cases, as well as cases involving abuse, neglect, and exploitation of healthcare patients and vulnerable adults. This attorney will practice both civil and criminal law. The right candidate will have an interest in healthcare law, strong organizational skills, and good judgment.

OFFICE LOCATION: The preferred location for this position is Pierre or Sioux Falls.

SALARY: Salary range is between \$80,000 to \$125,000 annually, depending upon experience and funding availability. The State of South Dakota has an excellent benefit package including retirement, state-paid health insurance, and paid leave.

QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants must have a JD degree and be licensed to practice law in South Dakota. Litigation experience of 3 to 5 years is preferred, but not required.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND DEADLINE DATE: Interested persons should send a resume containing three references, a writing sample under 10 pages, and a letter of interest addressed to Mandy Miiller by November 29, 2024, to the following:

MEDICAID FANS, OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL, 1302 E. HIGHWAY 14, SUITE 4, PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-8504, or email Sue.Zilverberg@state.sd.us

HIRING?

Find out how you can post
your open positions here!

Email: tailyann.bradford@sdbar.net

Chief Public Defender - Brown County

Public Defender Office

Opening date: 12/01/2024

Wage: \$4615.38 - \$5384.61/bi-weekly; DOE

Closing date: 01/31/2025

JOB SUMMARY

The Brown County Public Defender Office will provide quality legal defense to persons who cannot afford counsel in felony, misdemeanor, juvenile, mental health commitments and alcohol commitment cases in Brown County, SD. The Public Defender will also sit on the Brown County treatment courts.

The Chief Public Defender will lead an office of attorneys and staff. The Chief will be a full-time employee of Brown County. Outside legal work is prohibited.

This is an opportunity to help create a public defender office from the ground up.

MAJOR DUTIES

The Chief oversees and provides representation, consultation and advice to indigent defendants in circuit, magistrate and juvenile court proceedings.

The Chief will ensure that all attorneys and staff are trained to comply with state and federal constitutions, state and federal laws, ethical rules, and best practices, including holistic, client-centered representation.

The Chief supervises professional and support personnel.

The Chief allocates resources for services, equipment, facilities, and finances planning and advocating for future services and budgetary needs of the office.

The Chief hires, evaluates, disciplines, and dismisses attorneys and staff.

The Chief supervises planning, development, preparation, and monitoring of annual budget, grant funding, and statistical reports.

The Chief directs staff on legal issues, case dispositions, and advocacy.

The Chief represents the public defense function in criminal justice coordinating meetings with clients,

judges, prosecutors, commissioners, and others.

The Chief presents to social and civic groups, incarcerated persons, and other organizations to explain, publicize, and promote the public defender program and defendants' rights.

The Chief represents the Public Defender Office in appropriate public and professional meetings and conferences; in interactions with state, county, and municipal officials; county and state bar associations; and citizen groups.

The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment to the position.

KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED BY THE POSITION

- Knowledge of local, state, and federal law.
- Knowledge of investigative tools and techniques.
- Knowledge of trial proceedings.
- Knowledge of computers and job-related software programs.
- Skill in the completion of legal research and writing.
- Skill in producing persuasive legal arguments.
- Skill in the analysis of problems and the development and implementation of solutions.
- Skill in training and supervising personnel.
- Skill in oral and written communication.
- Skill in leadership, management, and budgeting

SUPERVISORY CONTROLS

The Chief reports regularly to the Brown County Public Defender Advisory Committee and the Brown County Board of Commissioners.

GUIDELINES

The Chief Public Defender ensures that the office provides quality criminal defense representation that complies with federal and state constitutions, federal law, state statutes, rules of professional conduct, ethics rules, and state and national best practices, as well as county and department policy and procedure. These guidelines require judgment, selection, and interpretation in application.

COMPLEXITY/SCOPE OF WORK

- The work consists of varied legal duties. The variety of tasks to be performed contributes to the complexity of the position.
- The fast pace of the working environment contributes to the complexity of the position.
- The purpose of this position is to participate in the defense of criminal cases. Success in this position contributes to the successful defense of criminal cases.

CONTACTS

- Contacts are typically with co-workers, legal assistants, other county employees, other attorneys, law enforcement personnel, judges, victims, witnesses, defendants, and members of the general public.
- Contacts are typically to provide services; to give or exchange information; to resolve problems; to motivate or influence persons; or to justify, defend or negotiate matters.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS/ WORK ENVIRONMENT

- The work is typically performed while sitting at a desk or table or while intermittently sitting, standing, or stooping. The employee occasionally lifts light objects.
- The work is typically performed in an office or courtroom.

SUPERVISORY AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

- This position will supervise attorneys and staff.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Graduation from an accredited school of law.
- Current, active membership in the State Bar of South Dakota or ability to obtain at the most immediate opportunity.
- Candidates for Chief Public Defender should possess leadership, litigation, public defense, supervision, management, and budgeting skills:
 - Has litigated criminal cases for at least 7 years.
 - Has tried multiple cases to verdict.
 - Has worked as a criminal defense lawyer for at least 5 years.
 - Has supervised at least 5 attorneys and staff.
 - Has served as a supervisor for at least 4 years.
 - Has managed daily operations for a legal

organization for at least 4 years.

- Has helped create or oversee an organizational budget.
- Priority will be given to candidates who meet or exceed the description above.

Equal Opportunity Employer

APPLY BY

Submit Brown County application to:

Brown County

Human Resources

25 Market St

Aberdeen, SD 57401

Fax: 605-725-2355

Email: Humanresources@browncounty.sd.gov

Email: Allison.Tunheim@browncounty.sd.gov

Union County Deputy State's Attorney

ANTICIPATED SALARY RANGE: Dependent on Experience

The Union County State's Attorney's Office has an opening for a Deputy State's Attorney to start January 5, 2024. This is a fulltime salaried position with benefits. Resumes will be accepted until the right candidate is found and the position is filled. The Duties of this position require the applicant to answer to the State's Attorney and work well with the current employees in the department. Additionally, any applicant must be willing and able to professionally work with law enforcement, community members, and victims, in the preparation of criminal cases. The position would entail legal research and preparing documents as necessary for motions and pleadings to prosecute and litigate Juvenile and some Criminal Felony cases. You must be detail oriented and willing to assist where needed. Qualification for employment is a Juris Doctorate degree and admitted to practice law in the State of South Dakota. No experience is required but will be preferred and relevant as to the salary that will be offered. Interested individuals are encouraged to apply by submitting a cover letter, resume, salary requirement, three professional references, and a five-page or less writing sample to Union County State's Attorney's Office, 209 East Main St. ~ Suite 140, Elk Point, SD 57025, or by submitting the above via e-mail to Kathy.Zenner@unioncountysd.org with the subject line: Deputy State's Attorney

Supervisory Attorney

Department of Social Services

Division of Legal Services

Job ID: 29279

Job Title: Supervisory Attorney

Location: Statewide, South Dakota

Salary: Depending on experience

Pay Grade: L3

Employment Type: Permanent Employee – 40 hours weekly

Closing Date: Open Until Filled

***** \$5,000 Hiring Incentive! *****

PLEASE ATTACH THE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS LISTED AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE

The Department of Social Services seeks an attorney committed to serving the public. As the largest state agency, DSS attorneys engage with a wide variety of legal topics and settings, including:

- Child protection, foster care, and adoption;
- Medicaid and behavioral health;
- Food and nutrition support, income and work programs;
- Child support;
- Professional licensing; and key public policy decision-making.

We practice before South Dakota's circuit courts and Supreme Court, as well as before administrative law judges. This is a senior attorney position with supervisory responsibilities.

This is a Full-Time position with the Department of Social Services. Join the South Dakota State Government team where Family/Life balance is valued. We strive to meet this commitment by providing 15 days of paid vacation, 14 days of paid sick leave, family leave, and 11 paid holidays per year, along with reasonable flexibility and career development opportunities. Start and build your career here! To learn more about how DSS values and serves South Dakota citizens, visit <https://dss.sd.gov/>.

Becoming a team member with the State of South Dakota means that you are offered: employer health insurance with a \$0 premium option, dental, vision, with additional insurance options available, and excellent retirement benefits. We offer 6% matched

retirement into the SD Retirement System (SDRS). Many other fringe benefits! You can view our benefits information at <https://bhr.sd.gov/job-seekers/work-for-state-government/>.

Gain experience in and perform the following duties:

- Work in a leadership role within the Division of Legal Services and assist with supervision of attorneys within the Division. Participate in strategic planning and other agency-wide initiatives.
- Represent the Department of Social Services in litigation, including in administrative hearings as well as the circuit court. Plan and execute litigation, prepare witnesses; prepare motions, briefs, and exhibits; and argue cases.
- Assist with the management of other staff members.

The Ideal Candidate Will:

- display high standards of ethical conduct;
- communicate effectively and efficiently;
- understand litigation practice and strategies;
- exercise sound judgment when making decisions and take prompt, decisive action;
- analyze information, issues, situations, practices, and precedents to arrive at a logical interpretation;
- work independently while accepting guidance and soliciting input;
- actively seek, collect, and evaluate information to learn more about issues or events;
- successfully plan and organize work activities, adjust to multiple demands, and prioritize tasks to complete assignments and meet schedules and deadlines.

Education/Licenses:

The applicant must be a graduate of an accredited law school; be a member of the South Dakota State Bar or willing and qualified to become a member of the South Dakota State Bar, and qualify for appointment as a Special Assistant Attorney General. Admission and/or experience with tribal courts would be a plus.

Additional Requirements: To be considered, please include a resume with your application.

This position is exempt from the Civil Service Act.

The State of South Dakota does not sponsor work visas for new or existing employees. All persons hired will be required to verify identity and eligibility to work in the United States and complete an Employment Eligibility Verification, Form I-9. The State of South Dakota

as an employer will be using E-Verify to complete employment eligibility verification upon hire.

The State of South Dakota offers \$0 premium employee health insurance option plus eleven paid holidays, generous vacation and sick leave accrual, dental, vision, and other insurance options, and retirement benefits. You can view our benefits information at <https://bhr.sd.gov/job-seekers/work-for-state-government/>. This position is a member of Class A retirement under SDRS. Must apply online: <https://gen-stateofsouthdako-trn.inforcloudsuite.com/hcm/xmlhttp/shorturl.do?key=9J> You must apply online, emailed resumes or submissions will not be accepted.

South Dakota Bureau of Human Resources
Telephone: 605.773.3148 Email: careers@state.sd.us
<http://bhr.sd.gov/workforum>
“An Equal Opportunity Employer”

Deputy State's Attorney - Yankton County

POSITION TITLE: Deputy State's Attorney
Department: Yankton County State's Attorney
Reports to: Yankton County State's Attorney
FLSA Status: Exempt
Grade: 13
Probationary Period: 180 days
Starting Salary Range: \$71,942.98 - \$77,873.89
Closing Date: January 6, 2025

Position Description

- The Deputy State's Attorney performs routine legal work in the prosecution of civil and criminal crimes, juvenile crimes, and juvenile abuse and neglect cases in Yankton County as well as representing the State in mental illness proceedings.

Key Responsibilities (may not include all of the functions performed)

- Reviewing offenses and evidence to make determination on charges and prosecuting violations of state law.
- Reviewing requests for subpoenas, petitions and other legal documents.
- Advising county offices and commissions on legal issues.
- Attending legal proceedings.

Supervisory Responsibilities

- Supervise support staff and interns.
- Represent the State's Attorney Office at public,

private, and inter-governmental programs and events.

- Train and educate volunteers, law enforcement, and social workers on their roles and duties on legal issues and the court process duties.

Qualifications

- Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities
- Working knowledge of civil and criminal law and methods and practices of pleadings, court procedures, and rules of evidence.
- Working knowledge of principles, methods, materials, and practices utilized in legal research.
- Working knowledge of general law and established precedents.
- Ability to prosecute cases.
- Ability to speak and write effectively in the preparation and presentation of legal matters.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with coworkers, other agencies, and the public.
- Ability to maintain professional appearance and demeanor.

Education

- Graduation from a college of law.
- Attainment of a Juris Doctorate degree from an accredited law school.
- Admission by the Supreme Court of South Dakota to practice law in the state of South Dakota; or be licensed to practice law in any other state and able to take the next available South Dakota bar examination; or be a recent or imminent law school graduate, eligible to sit for the next available South Dakota bar examination.

Experience

- 0-1 year

Other Requirements

- Ability to draft and use computer programs

Send applications and resumues to Tyler Larsen - tyler@co.yankton.sd.us

Tyler L. Larsen
Deputy State's Attorney
Yankton County
410 Walnut Street #100
Yankton, SD 57078

State's Attorney - Dickinson, North Dakota

Ebeltoft . Sickler . Lawyers, a growing and progressive regional law firm located in Dickinson, North Dakota, seeks to add lawyers to their legal team. A successful applicant must be licensed to practice, or eligible to become licensed to practice, in North Dakota, and will receive a competitive compensation package that will reward beneficial experience and encourage a long-term relationship with the firm. This is an opportunity for a motivated lawyer to join a successful "AV"® rated firm. Visit our website at www.ndlaw.com. Please submit your letter of application and resume to Ebeltoft . Sickler . Lawyers, Attn: Courtney Presthus, 2272 8th Street West, Dickinson, ND 58601, or to cpresthus@ndlaw.com. All applications will be kept confidential.

Director of EEO/Title IX Coordinator

Institution: The University of South Dakota

Working Title: Director of EEO/Title IX Coordinator

Department: USD-Human Resources

Physical Location of Position (City): Vermillion

The University of South Dakota is seeking a qualified individual for the position of Director, Equal Employment Opportunity/Title IX Coordinator. This position is responsible for overseeing the University's compliance with federal and state laws concerning Equal Opportunity (EO), Affirmative Action (AA), and Title IX, ensuring fair, thorough, and timely investigations of complaints and incidents. This position facilitates the University's response to discrimination, harassment, and other related complaints, ensuring compliance with the Clery Act and other applicable regulations. The Director, Equal Employment Opportunity/Title IX Coordinator will also engage with stakeholders, develop training programs, and maintain accurate records to foster a safe and inclusive campus environment for all members of the University community.

Key Responsibilities

1. EO/Title IX Compliance Planning and Reporting (20%)

- Develop, update, and deploy University policies and procedures related to EO, Title IX, AA, and other related regulations.

- Monitor, review, and report on EO, Title IX, and AA compliance to senior leadership.
- Address patterns or system issues related to discrimination and harassment, providing recommendations for corrective actions.
- Maintain accurate records for University annual security reports and participate in campus climate surveys.

2. Training Programs (20%)

- Plan and conduct training sessions on EO, Title IX, affirmative action, sexual harassment, and discrimination for students, staff, faculty, and search committees.

- Develop high-quality, accessible training materials in various formats, ensuring all members of the University community are well-informed of their rights and responsibilities.

- Maintain records and reports on completed training sessions and identify areas of concern to implement corrective educational strategies.

- Facilitate yearly online training for faculty and staff, and track compliance with training requirements.

3. Records Management (10%)

- Maintain accurate and confidential records in accordance with retention requirements and university policies.

- Ensure case files, disposition reports, and related documentation are organized and accessible for review and analysis.

- Prepare compliance reports for HRD and senior leadership, ensuring timely and accurate documentation.

4. Complaint Coordination and Processing (30%)

- Receive and coordinate the timely processing of complaints related to EO, Title IX, and other legal provisions.

- Conduct investigations, review evidence, and ensure thorough, neutral, and fair processing of complaints in accordance with University policies.

- Advise and collaborate with legal counsel, law enforcement, and university leadership to resolve

complaints and ensure compliance.

- Provide counsel to faculty, staff, and students regarding EO/AA issues and the complaint process.

5. Affirmative Action Plan and EEO Compliance (15%)

- Lead the development, coordination, and implementation of the University's Affirmative Action plan in compliance with federal and state laws.
- Collect and analyze data to ensure compliance with all reporting requirements, and develop action plans to meet AA and EEO goals.
- Work with consultants, legal counsel, and institutional research teams to maintain and update the University's affirmative action strategies.

6. Threat Assessment and Clery Compliance (5%)

- Serve as a member of the University's Threat Assessment Committee, Care Team, and Clery Compliance Team to address issues related to campus safety, compliance, and policy enforcement.

Education and Experience Requirements

- **Education:** Master's degree in Business, Public Administration, Psychology, Social Work, Counseling, or a related field. A Juris Doctor (JD) is preferred.
- **Experience:** 1–3 years of experience in human resources, equal opportunity, or Title IX compliance. Prior experience in a higher education setting is preferred.
- **Certifications:** Title IX Coordinator training (within 6 months of hire)

Required Skills and Qualifications

- **Knowledge:** In-depth knowledge of federal and state laws, including Title IX, Clery Act, VAWA, Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and other non-discrimination laws applicable to higher education.
- **Communication:** Strong written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to develop training materials and conduct presentations for diverse groups.
- **Analytical:** Ability to assess complaints, patterns, and

trends, and to propose appropriate corrective actions.

- **Confidentiality:** High degree of professionalism and the ability to maintain confidentiality in all aspects of work.

- **Collaboration:** Experience working with cross-functional teams, legal counsel, law enforcement, and other university departments.

- **Organizational:** Strong organizational skills with the ability to manage multiple tasks and meet deadlines.

Posting Date: 11/19/2024

Closing Date: Open Until Filled

First Consideration Date: 12/03/2024

Advertised Salary: \$90,000-104,000; commensurate with education and experience

Duration of the Term: 12 months

Appointment Percent: 100

Work Hours: Typically 8-5

Appointment Type: Regular

Faculty Status: No

Scope of Search: External (includes Internal)

This position requires: Travel, Overnight stays, Weekends/Holidays, Valid Drivers License

Department Description and Cultural Expectations: USD is committed to fostering a dynamic and welcoming working and learning environment for all. USD provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to ideological, political, or sectarian opinions or perspectives; or race, color, creed, religion, sex, ancestry, disability, national origin or any other factor protected by applicable federal, state, or local laws. USD is committed to the principles of free expression and encourages the timely and rational discussion of topics in an environment that is intellectually and ideologically diverse.

Cognitive Requirements: Analyzing, Comprehend, Intense Customer Interaction, Logic, Memory, Multiple Priorities, Reading, Reasoning, Verbal Communication, Written Communication

Physical Requirements: Driving, Fine Finger Manipulation (keyboarding, pipefitting, bench work, etc), Sitting for sustained periods of time, Wrist Movement (twisting or rotating)

Sensory Requirements: Speaking

Required Documents

1. Resume
2. Cover Letter
3. Reference List

Optional Documents

1. Other

Full Job Description and Application Info available at: [South Dakota Board of Regents Employment Opportunities | Director of EEO/Title IX Coordinator](#)

Staff Attorney, Mission

Are you passionate about racial justice and holistic legal advocacy? Join our team, and make a long-term impact!

DAKOTA PLAINS LEGAL SERVICES (DPLS), a non-profit legal services program, has an opening for a Staff Attorney position in our Mission, South Dakota, branch office. The Mission office serves the counties of Gregory, Jones, Mellette, Todd and Tripp along with the Rosebud Reservation.

QUALIFICATIONS/RESPONSIBILITIES: Applicants must have a JD degree and be licensed to practice, or by reciprocity be able to obtain a license to practice, in South Dakota, or be qualified to take the next South Dakota Bar Exam; must be a bright, motivated, self-starter; must have the tenacity to assume immediate practice responsibilities, including handling a significant caseload touching on many different areas of law with regular appearances in court; and must demonstrate an interest in poverty law and working with Native American and low income clients.

SALARY/BENEFITS: 70,000+ starting salary for attorneys with 2 or more years of experience. DPLS has

an excellent fringe benefits package including generous leave benefits of 6 weeks paid leave, and 15 paid holidays. Employer paid employee insurance coverage (medical, dental, life, disability). DPLS observes a 34 hour 4-day work week and offers matching 401(k).

CLOSING DATE: Open until filled.

APPLICATION INFORMATION: Please submit a letter of interest and resume to: Thomas S. Mortland, Executive Director, Dakota Plains Legal Services, PO Box 489, Mission, SD 57555, (605) 856- 4444, tmortland@dppls.org.

Native Americans, Women and Minorities are encouraged to apply. Dakota Plains Legal Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Staff Attorney PCAP, Rapid City

Are you passionate about racial justice and holistic legal advocacy? Join our team, and make a long-term impact!

DAKOTA PLAINS LEGAL SERVICES (DPLS), a non-profit legal services program, has an opening for a Staff Attorney position in our Rapid City, South Dakota office providing legal representation for indigent criminal defendants to whom DPLS is court appointed in Pennington County.

SALARY/BENEFITS: 70,000+ starting salary for attorneys with 2 or more years of experience. DPLS has an excellent fringe benefits package including generous leave benefits of 6 weeks paid leave, and 15 paid holidays. Employer paid employee insurance coverage (medical, dental, life, disability). DPLS observes a 34 hour 4-day work week and offers matching 401(k).

QUALIFICATIONS/RESPONSIBILITIES: Applicants must have a JD degree and be licensed to practice, or by reciprocity be able to obtain a license to practice, in South Dakota, or be qualified to take the next South Dakota Bar Exam; must be a bright, motivated, self-starter; must have the tenacity to assume immediate practice responsibilities, including handling a significant caseload touching on many different areas of law with regular appearances in court; and must demonstrate an interest in poverty law and working with Native American and low income clients. Some same day travel is required.

CLOSING DATE: Open until filled.

APPLICATION INFORMATION: Please submit a letter of interest and resume to: Thomas S. Mortland, Executive Director, Dakota Plains Legal Services, PO Box 489, Mission, SD 57555, (605) 856- 4444, tmortland@dpls.org.

Native Americans, Women and Minorities are encouraged to apply. Dakota Plains Legal Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Staff Attorney, Pierre/Eagle Butte

Are you passionate about racial justice and holistic legal advocacy? Join our team, and make a long-term impact!

DAKOTA PLAINS LEGAL SERVICES (DPLS), a non-profit legal services program, has an opening for a Staff Attorney position in our Eagle Butte, South Dakota office. The Eagle Butte office serves the counties of Dewey, Haakon, Hughes, Potter, Sully, Stanley and Ziebach along with the Cheyenne River Reservation. This position follows a hybrid schedule, working in office and remotely.

SALARY/BENEFITS: 70,000+ starting salary for attorneys with 2 or more years of experience. DPLS has an excellent fringe benefits package including generous leave benefits of 6 weeks paid leave, and 15 paid holidays. Employer paid employee insurance coverage (medical, dental, life, disability). DPLS observes a 34 hour 4-day work week and offers matching 401(k).

QUALIFICATIONS/RESPONSIBILITIES: Applicants must have a JD degree and be licensed to practice, or by reciprocity be able to obtain a license to practice, in South Dakota, or be qualified to take the next South Dakota Bar Exam; must be a bright, motivated, self-starter; must have the tenacity to assume immediate practice responsibilities, including handling a significant caseload touching on many different areas of law with regular appearances in court; and must demonstrate an interest in poverty law and working with Native American and low income clients. Some same day travel is required.

APPLICATION INFORMATION: Please submit a letter of interest and resume to: Thomas S. Mortland, Executive Director, Dakota Plains Legal Services, PO Box 489, Mission, SD 57555, (605) 856- 4444, tmortland@dpls.org.

CLOSING DATE: Open until filled.

Native Americans, Women and Minorities are encouraged to apply. Dakota Plains Legal Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Staff Attorney, Pine Ridge

Are you passionate about racial justice and holistic legal advocacy? Join our team, and make a long-term impact!

DAKOTA PLAINS LEGAL SERVICES (DPLS), a non-profit legal services program, has an opening for a Staff Attorney position in our Pine Ridge, South Dakota, branch office. The Pine Ridge office serves the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota and Oglala Lakota, Jackson and Bennett counties in South Dakota.

SALARY/BENEFITS: 770,000+ starting salary for attorneys with 2 or more years of experience. DPLS has an excellent fringe benefits package including generous leave benefits of 6 weeks paid leave, and 15 paid holidays. Employer paid employee insurance coverage (medical, dental, life, disability). DPLS observes a 34 hour 4-day work week and offers matching 401(k).

QUALIFICATIONS/RESPONSIBILITIES: Applicants must have a JD degree and be licensed to practice, or by reciprocity be able to obtain a license to practice, in South Dakota, or be qualified to take the next South Dakota Bar Exam; must be a bright, motivated, self-starter; must have the tenacity to assume immediate practice responsibilities, including handling a significant caseload touching on many different areas of law with regular appearances in court; and must demonstrate an interest in poverty law and working with Native American and low income clients. Some same day travel is required.

CLOSING DATE: Open until filled.

APPLICATION INFORMATION: Please submit a letter of interest and resume to: Thomas S. Mortland, Executive Director, Dakota Plains Legal Services, PO Box 489, Mission, SD 57555, (605) 856- 4444, tmortland@dpls.org.

Native Americans, Women and Minorities are encouraged to apply. Dakota Plains Legal Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The background is a light blue gradient. The top half is decorated with numerous small white dots and several larger, stylized white snowflakes. The bottom half features a row of white, stylized evergreen trees of varying heights, creating a winter landscape effect.

For Upcoming Events Visit

WWW.STATEBAROFSOUTHDAKOTA.COM