



# LEGAL BEAGLE



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## President's Message

Welcome to the renewed Legal Beagle! As your President for this year, I am committed to getting an issue out each month as I believe it to be a valuable tool for disseminating and exchanging information of interest to the bar. If you have news of interest to the bar, such as office moves, new hires, deaths, etc., you may send notices and announcement to me or Bill Piedimonte via e-mail or telephone.

Randall Cain  
President

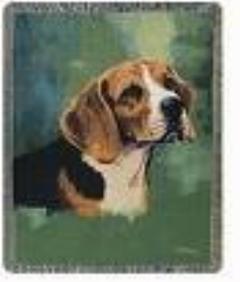
## Reminder of Coming Events

Our next meeting is a luncheon at V's, Friday, November 22. Our speaker is Rebecca Randles, the attorney who has handled many of the child sex abuse cases against the Catholic church and select officials. We very much look forward to hearing her perspective on handling these difficult and emotional cases. We anticipate receiving an hour of CLE credit for this luncheon.

The Christmas Party will be Thursday, December 5 at Ophelia's from 5-8pm.

Please mark your calendars for these luncheon date, time and location to be announced

January 23, 2014  
February 28, 2014  
March 28, 2014  
April 18, 2014  
May 2, 2014 - Annual Steak Fry



## Register Online

You can now register for an event online at the bar website,

[www.ejcba.com](http://www.ejcba.com),

As you utilize this site, please give us feedback about the site and its effectiveness. We appreciate your input to help make our site informative and functional.

If you would like to receive the Legal Beagle by e-mail please forward your e-mail address to:

[william.d.piedimonte@](mailto:william.d.piedimonte@piedimontelaw.com)

[piedimontelaw.com](http://piedimontelaw.com)

## Courthouse Happenings

Big changes are underway at both the Truman Courthouse and the Annex. On September 7, 2013, the Truman courthouse was re-dedicated after four years of renovations and repairs made by the county. The iconic courthouse has now been restored to closely resemble its appearance when it was first dedicated on September 7, 1933, 80 years ago. The courthouse re-opened officially on September 16. Real estate and tax records have already been moved there. Next time you're downtown, go in and look around! Improvements are also underway at the Annex. Four new courtrooms are being added, two of which will have jury boxes.

Departments that will be moving to different space in the Annex include the Prosecutor's office, Criminal Records, the Jury Assembly Room, and Civil and Associate Records (which will be consolidated). There is no firm timetable for completion, but architects meet with a committee of persons from the County and Court once per month.

## Jackson County Judgeships

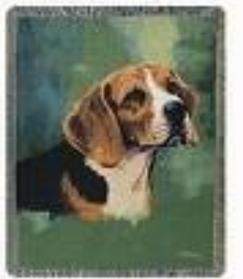
It was announced November 6 that Jeff Keal has been named to replace Judge Scoville in Division 28.

Applicants for Division 7 are Margene Burnett, Jannette Rodecap, and Brian Round. The deadline for the Governor to select is December 23, 2013.

Division 26 has now opened since Judge Garrett was appointed to Division 2. Interviews by the Commission will be in late November and are open to the public.

Letters in support of applicants may be sent to:

Office of Governor Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon  
 Attention: Ted Ardini  
 State Capitol, Room 216  
 P.O. Box 720  
 Jefferson City, MO 65102  
 Telephone: [573-751-5122](tel:573-751-5122)  
 Facsimile: [573-751-1495](tel:573-751-1495)



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[william.d.piedimonte@piedimontelaw.com](mailto:william.d.piedimonte@piedimontelaw.com)



## IN MEMORIAM

Melinda Bunyard passed away on June 6, 2013. Melinda was a longtime member of the EJCBA, and will be missed by all. She was an assistant prosecuting attorney in Cass County, and spent the last several years of her practice in the areas of domestic, traffic, and criminal law.

## Financial Report

Our balance as of October 31, 2013 is \$9,487.60. This is unusually low, but is caused by the fact that we won't start getting renewal fees until the end of the year.

## Membership Renewal

This year the Board has decided to change our membership term to a calendar year basis. Thus, memberships are due for renewal on January 1, 2014, for a term running until December 31, 2014. We hesitated to institute this change because we know lots of things come due at the end of the year. However, on balance we thought the change to be worthwhile. Many members were continually confused as to when their renewals were due, when the term expired, etc. This change makes things simpler, and the cost is relatively small in comparison to other year-end expenses such as the Missouri Bar renewal. We hope you like the change.