



2016 SMBA Law Day

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More Than Words

Wednesday, May 11, 2016
Hickory Hills Country Club

Law Day 2016

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more than words

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2016 SMBA LAW DAY LUNCH

WELCOME

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INVOCATION

Rachael Dockery

PRESENTATION OF STUDENT AWARDS

Crista Hogan, Executive Director

- Teen Court Advocate Award
- John D. Ashcroft SMBA Scholarship

2016 LAW DAY ADDRESS

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PRESENTATION OF LAW DAY AWARDS

Robert Palmer, SMBA President

- Equal Access to Justice Award
- Liberty Bell Award
- Judicial Excellence Award
- Distinguished Attorney Award



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2016 SMBA Law Day Poster Contest and Art Exhibit

Presented by Husch Blackwell

The SMBA Law Day Poster Award Ceremony was held April 8, 2016 at the Library Center. Family members joined sixteen award recipients as the winning posters were revealed, marking the official opening of the Law Day Art Exhibit. An exhibit of all 123 posters was on display in the Library Center Concourse in April.



Award Recipients

First Place, Julian Hom, Rountree, 5th grade

Second Place, Hannah Stone, Immaculate Conception, 4th Grade

Third Place, Katherine Southern, Immaculate Conception, 3rd Grade

Honorable Mention

Luke Sharp • Grace Keech • Anna Frye • Emilia Fouche
Grace Yarnell • Charlotte Bauer • Ella Venable • Tiffany Sisompou
McKenna Hunt • Shalla Bowers • Jaceson Globig
Abby Fulnecky • Britney Ung • Tess Fowler



Seated left to right: Britton D. Jobe, Mark L. McQueary, Paul G. White,
Jerry L. Redfern, Richard L. Schnake

Standing left to right: Nate Dunville, Melissa E. Bade, W. Bradley Risby,
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2016 SMBA Law Day Essay Contest and Author Reception

Presented by The Law Firm of Neale & Newman, LLP

The SMBA Law Day Essay Award Ceremony was held April 29, 2016 at the Library Center. Family members joined seventeen award recipients for a ceremony which was concluded with the first place award recipient reading her work. A publication containing the top 17 essays was distributed to those in attendance.



Award Recipients

First Place, Anna Burson, 8th grade, Immaculate Conception

Second Place, Lizzie Rottinghaus, 8th grade, Immaculate Conception

Third Place, Elizabeth Hayes, 7th grade, Immaculate Conception

Honorable Mention

Abby Feldt, Hickory Hills • Jennifer Neill, Hickory Hills
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Erin Jarvis, IC • Wyatt Johnston, IC • Sarah Knetzke, IC
Kayla Pfitzner, IC • Claire Wilgus, IC

From the John D. Ashcroft SMBA Scholarship Recipient

Good afternoon! I would like to begin by apologizing for my absence. Attending the Law Day Lunch instead of taking my last final would be far more fun, but my legal future—that you have so generously invested in—depends on it. Though no words could adequately convey my gratitude for this award, I hope to try.

Born and raised in Southwest Missouri, I have always had a fond appreciation for the close-knit community surrounding Springfield. Fortunately, I have been provided wonderful opportunities of meeting and shadowing attorneys in the area with each encounter further solidifying my dream of joining their ranks. Their passion for the profession and the Springfield community is unparalleled, and the support I have received, and continue to receive, from the community is unmatched. Furthermore, I would be remiss to not specifically thank Judge Mark A. Powell for his support, guidance, and encouragement throughout my law school search.

Desiring to be an attorney from a very young age, looking back, I realize now I lacked the knowledge of what that actually meant. Many teachers conveyed that becoming an attorney was both noble as well as a goal completely attainable if we “reached for the stars.” Describing the profession as one that could change lives, strengthen communities, transform government, and redefine justice only made my desire to be one stronger.

Growing up, I began to research what being an attorney meant and became more invested in working to attain that goal. Upon graduating from William Jewell College in 2014 with degrees in English, Political Science, and Critical Thought & Inquiry, I took the LSAT in the spring of my senior year. Shortly thereafter, I chose to attend The University of Missouri School of Law.

Entering my first day of class, I was astonished that I was actually in the place I always dreamt of being many years prior. Throughout my time in law school, I have served as a teaching fellow for Torts and Contracts; a research assistant for Professor Erin M. Hawley; and was recently appointed to the position of Senior Lead Articles Editor on the Missouri Law Review. And although I am well over half way through law school, there are still days when I stop to remind myself of how blessed I am to be experiencing this incredible opportunity.

Some time ago my Mother sent me the following quote by Vincent Van Gogh: “Your profession is not what brings home your paycheck, your profession is what you were put on earth to do, with such passion and such intensity that it becomes spiritual in calling.” As a future attorney, my plan is to always fight for clients with vigor and tenacity.

Thank you for investing in my education in order to help make that dream a reality. My hope is to someday be able to personally thank each of you. More importantly, I hope I am able to show my gratitude by serving the community of Springfield in some manner that you will feel your scholarship was money well spent.

All the best,
Cailynn Hayter

LIBERTY BELL AWARD

The purpose of the Liberty Bell Award program is to recognize service which strengthens the effectiveness of the American system of freedom under law and encourages respect for our legal system. The past honorees are:

2015	Anne Marie Frost	1990	Jack Harmon
2014	Jody Austin	1989	Bob Bilyeu
2013	Bob Dixon	1988	Robby O'Neal
2012	Greater Springfield Area Crime Stoppers	1987	Sister Lorraine
2011	Bob Horton	1986	York Johnson
2010	Lynn Rowe	1985	Jane Coughenour
2009	Morey Mechlin	1984	Dr. Fred L. Hamburg
2008	Jim Anderson	1983	Gracie Gardner
2007	Dr. Kenneth Rutherford	1982	James D. Hutchinson
2006	Cynthia Rushefsky	1981	Dr. Roy Grando
2005	Michelle Davidson	1980	Manda Boykin
2004	Kevin Baker	1979	Mrs. Pat Walker
2003	Marcia Johnson Phyllis Shestak	1977	Rev. Dorsey E. Levell
2002	Kay Murnan	1978	Dr. Duane G. Meyer
2001	Truly Applegate	1976	C.J. "Buck" Tindle
2000	Mickie Stark	1975	W. Fred Schaeffer
1999	Dr. Ruth Bamberger	1974	Richard A. Birmingham
1998	Sue C. Terry	1973	Dr. Durward G. Hall
1997	Stacy Sherrod	1972	Otis D. Emmert
1996	Debora S. Biggs	1971	B. Harry Nicholson
1995	Jo Thompson	1970	James R. Craig John Wylie
1994	Linda Maggard	1969	Barbara Clauser
1993	Fern Bookwalter	1968	C. Frank Knox
1992	Dr. Alice Bartee	1967	Dr. William E. Everheart
1991	Traci Bauer	1966	William Henderson
		1965	Dr. L.E. Meador

EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE AWARD

The Equal Access to Justice Award was established to recognize those individuals who have made significant contributions to the mission of Legal Services of Southern Missouri, both through Volunteer Lawyers Project hours and judicare hours.

2015	Jenifer Placzek	2003	James Arneson
2014	John Hacker	2002	Evelyn Gwin Mangan
2013	Derek Ankrom	2001	Carl Lippelman
2012	Lisa Sims	2000	Deanna Scott
2011	Justin Rouse	1999	Ken Reynolds
2010	Jim Sharp	1998	Christian Wise
2009	Marsha Jackson	1997	Betty Pace
2008	Jason Umbarger	1996	Kay and Richard Van Pelt
2007	Nick Venute	1995	Richard Dorr
2006	Jason Clough	1994	Jerry Redfern
2005	Millie Donahoe	1993	Bill Prince
2004	Jon Gold		

JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

The purpose of this award is to recognize members of the bench who exemplify the highest legal and ethical standards to which all in the legal profession should strive. The award is presented in the form of a plaque at the SMBA Law Day Luncheon. The minimum qualifications for the award are that the nominee be a member in good standing of the SMBA that the nominee exhibits high standards on the bench for 5 years or more, that the nominee be actively involved in service to both the legal and non-legal community, that the nominee is an active and supportive member of the SMBA. Past Recipients: The Honorable Richard Dorr, The Hon. J. Miles Sweeney, The Honorable Don Burrell, Jr., The Honorable Nancy Rahmeyer, The Honorable James England

DISTINGUISHED ATTORNEY AWARD

The SMBA Distinguished Attorney Award recognizes a member of the Bar whose practice of law epitomizes the highest legal and ethical standards to which all attorneys should strive. This award is presented annually to a member of the Springfield Metropolitan Bar Association who has exhibited exemplary standards in the practice of law for 20 or more years and has actively served both the legal and non-legal community. The Distinguished Attorney Award is the highest honor bestowed by the SMBA.

2015	Bill Powell	2006	Ransom Ellis, Jr.
2014	The Hon. John Holstein	2005	Tom Strong
2013	Leland Bussell	2004	Warren Stafford
2012	Lincoln Knauer	2003	William A. Dalton
2011	Richard Owensby	2002	John Hulston
2010	Virginia Fry	2001	Fred Hall
2009	Kenneth Reid	2000	Jerry Redfern
2008	Raymond Whiteaker	1999	Bill Clampett
2007	Glenn Burkart		



Bill Powell



The Hon. John Holstein



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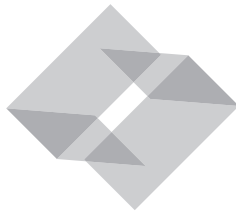
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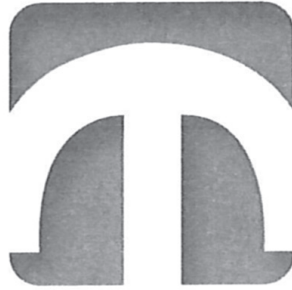
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LAW DAY USA AND THE SPRINGFIELD BAR

Law Day USA was established May 1, 1958 by proclamation by President Eisenhower. The first SMBA Law Day Address was held five years later, May 1, 1963. That address was delivered by a Cuban lawyer, Francisco Taracido as the audience spilled into the hallways of the courthouse to hear the speech.

Springfield Bar Law Day Address

Remarks by Dr. Francisco Taracido

May 1, 1963

In the first place I want to express my thanks to you for giving me this opportunity to speak to you on Law Day, U.S.A. This is an especially significant day to me because in my own Country of Cuba, I have seen democratic processes disappear. It is impossible to have law enforcement and the administration of justice where there is not liberty or freedom. That statement requires no verification.

By reason of my profession first as a lawyer, then as a Judge, and finally as District Attorney, I was constantly in contact with the administration of justice for almost 25 years.

When Fidel Castro and his followers took over, Cubans gradually became acquainted with the international conspiracy of communism and with it the loss of our liberty.

From the beginning of the Castro government the lawyers and all members of the judicial branch were conscious of the serious threat to every Cuban's liberty. To give you a clear example: all Judges and District Attorneys were called to a meeting in the Palace of Justice in Havana. There we were informed by a special Castro agent that we were no longer representing the former Cuban law, but rather we were now employed by the Socialist regime to serve the Revolution. We were given no choice. The Castro group had planted agitators who immediately began shouting in favor of this new order and saying "He who is not in favor of the Revolution is against Cuba!" this is the usual practice of the communist. Recognizing the serious danger confronting our profession, many lawyers and judges handed in their resignations.

But they were not accepted and we were told that we must remain in our positions.

This was, of course, only a “cover-up” front to give to the rest of the world the appearance that his was a government whose prime purpose was to insure justice. He really gave no recognition to the Judicial Branch and the regular courts were largely ineffective. Their edicts were not enforced.

Castro formed his own “Court of Justice” early in 1960 and appointed his own men to administer the Agrarian Reform Act. This new “Court” was used to administer most of the “justice” dispensed by the Castro followers. It was made up of men with absolutely no formal preparation in the law. Moreover, not one of them was a law abiding citizen!

My job as District Attorney had not only included prosecution for law violations but it entailed many other duties such as appropriation of land for hospitals, roads, etc. the Court of Justice took this job out of our hands and from that point on property was taken without formalities and, in most cases, without compensation.

The greater part of the Cuban population was deceived by Castro for a few months. However, I can say that I never for one moment accepted Castro or his followers. In the first place I knew Castro in the University of Havana where he was known as a gangster. He has killed a man while in the University and his leftist tendencies were apparent even then. Because of my profession I had occasion to know the delinquents in my city of Guines and I saw many of these persons among Castro’s immediate followers. Soon we realized the difficulties we must face in working with a Society which had subverted all ethical and moral values.

I prosecuted one of Castro’s militia-men and he was convicted of being a “Peeping Tom”. However, he insisted he was innocent by explaining that he had been informed that there had been a conspiracy against the revolution of Castro in the particular house on which he had been caught spying. He said he was merely fulfilling his duty to Castro by investigating. As a result of our sentencing this and other men who were followers of Castro, the Judge and I were accused of trying to obstruct the progress of the Castro revolution. The Judge was able to flee to Jamaica. I had already sent my children, and later my wife, to the United States on the pretext that they could get an education in

the United States. You remember that the schools were closed down in Cuba for a while. My passport was held up, however, for six months. I was accused by the President of the Neighborhood Vigilance Committee (who, by the way, was a confessed prostitute) of being against the revolution of Castro and a servant of the “Yankee Imperialism”. Incidentally, in the trial of the “Peeping Tom” the Court had to order out militia-men who came into the court room with tommy guns hanging on their hips.



*Kenneth Reid, SMBA President;
Ray Whiteaker, Law Day Chairman;
Francisco Taracido*

Just three years ago today I attended a celebration in Havana in striking contrast to this ceremony. The Attorney General of Cuba had sent all District Attorneys a circular insisting that we “voluntarily” attend the May Day celebration in Havana. I remember joking with the officers of the Court about the voluntary nature of the attendance. We all knew full well that we would be accused of being spies and traitors if we did not attend. The District Judge and I went to Havana two days before May Day. Almost half of the people on the streets carried tommy guns. It was a most depressing sight. I knew then that I could no longer hope to perform any service for my country in that condition.

With these brief explanations I have tried to point out how utterly impossible it is to practice law and order where liberty and freedom no longer exist.

Happy and blessed are the administrators of justice in this country where you have not lost the honor of your profession and you can still offer to your people the Roman statement “Sum cuiusque tribuendi” –the daily practice of protecting the individual rights of the people.

With this blessing there comes a responsibility. The responsibility of conserving and defending this liberty and freedom from the International Conspiracy of Communism. We must not forget that without liberty and free practice of democracy, justice loses its power and majesty.

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