



Newsbriefs

27th Annual Mock Trial Invitational

While a winter ice storm dumped freezing rain across the area, 24 local high schools braved the challenging weather on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 to present arguments in the case of *People of the State of Illinois v. Logan Emerson* at the Third Municipal District Courthouse for our 27th Annual Mock Trial event. The fictitious case was loosely based on the controversy surrounding the film *Rust* when a live round was discharged from a revolver used as a prop by Alec Baldwin.

It took more than 75 volunteers and courthouse staff to ensure that the teams had the most authentic courtroom experience possible, including 12 presiding judges, 36 NWSBA attorney scoring judges, additional runners, and administrative and courthouse personnel to support the event. We thank them for their efforts. Special thanks to the Hon. Jill Cerone-Marisie, presiding judge of the Third Municipal District for her commitment to this program and for her help and support in organizing the event.

The results for the competition are as follows:

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First Place:

Adlai Stevenson High School;

Second Place:

DeLaSalle High School;

Third Place:

TIE. Hinsdale Central High School and Homewood Flossmore High School.

First Place was awarded to the team from Adlai Stevenson High School.



DeLaSalle High School took the trophy for Second Place.



The award for Most Outstanding Attorney went to Larry Han from Adlai Stevenson High School and the award for Most Outstanding Witness was presented to Kyra Demeros from Maine South High School

The NWSBA also celebrated our very own Frank Serio with an award for *Outstanding Leadership and Dedication to the NWSBA Mock Trial Program*. Frank will be stepping down as a Mock Trial Chair after 13 years of service.

2023 Mock Trial Co-Chairs were Frank Serio, Patricia Jochum, John Hock and Sarah Raisch.

A complete gallery of photos can be found on our Facebook page.



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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

BY: KENNETH APICELLA

The Preamble to the Standards for Professional Conduct within the Seventh Federal Judicial Circuit provides that “[A] lawyer’s conduct should be characterized at all times by personal courtesy and professional integrity in the fullest sense of those terms. In fulfilling our duty to represent a client vigorously as lawyers, we will be mindful of our obligations to the administration of justice, which is a truth-seeking process designed to resolve human and societal problems in a rational, peaceful, and efficient manner.” As recognized by the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct, however, conflicting responsibilities as a representative of clients, an officer of the legal system and a public citizen are inevitably encountered. While a lawyer has a duty to zealously protect and pursue a client’s legitimate interests, the lawyer must do so within the bounds of the law, while maintaining a professional, courteous and civil attitude toward all persons involved in the legal system.

While a lawyer’s obligation towards civility certainly encompasses an obligation to disagree without being disagreeable, a respect for the rule of law and a rejection of scorched-earth litigation tactics calculated to obscure the truth, civility is more than just good manners although being polite is a necessary first step. Notwithstanding, it is certainly possible to politely assert a false narrative or courteously reject a job applicant for discriminatory reasons.

Recognizing this obligation of civility the NWSBA has been partnering with several other bar associations including the Cook County Bar Association, the National Bar Association, Decalogue Society of Lawyers, the Illinois Latino Judges Association, Puerto Rican Bar Association, Hispanic Law Association of Illinois and others to provide its members free CLE on topics like implicit bias, diversity, equity and inclusion. Our Mentorship Committee provides a program for young lawyers with professional development. Our Courthouse Relations Committee provides lines of communication for all stakeholders in the system to work towards efficient and effective outcomes for our clients. Our social committees sponsor multiple events that provide opportunities for our members to establish and stay connected.

Uncivil behavior feeds the negative stereotypes that damage the profession. It can be emotionally exhausting and lead to higher levels of burnout. Civility leads to better outcomes for our clients and us as attorneys as well.

COURTHOUSE VOLUNTEERS THANK YOU

Once our courts open again, we hope that you will consider volunteering for one or more of the services listed below.

Court Facilitator

The Court Facilitator program is unique to the Third Municipal District. The NWSBA provides volunteers on Thursdays from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM to assist the Domestic Relations judges. Dates are scheduled by the Association staff through use of a Sign Up Genius web site.

Paternity Court Facilitator

Paternity Court Facilitators volunteer on Thursdays from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM to assist the Paternity Call. Dates are scheduled by the Association staff through use of a Sign Up Genius web site.

Pro Bono Desk

The Pro Bono Desk, located in Room 251 in the Rolling Meadows Courthouse, is a volunteer service provided by members of the Northwest Suburban Bar Association. It is a free service to members of our community.

Attorneys serving at the pro bono desk are available to answer legal questions members of the general public may have. While the attorneys serving at the pro bono desk will try to answer your questions to the best of their ability, understand the attorney(s) serving that day may not have expertise in the legal area for which you have a question. The attorney(s) serving the pro

bono desk are there to provide legal advise, but are not there to represent the general public on a pro bono basis (free of charge) and therefore do not represent you in any way in the matter for which you may be seeking advice. However, since you are seeking legal advice, your communications with the attorney(s) are subject to attorney-client privilege. Those visiting the pro bono desk are limited to 5-15 minutes in length, depending on the number of others waiting.

Volunteers are needed at the Third District Courthouse every Friday from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM. Volunteer dates are scheduled by the Association staff through use of a Sign Up Genius website.

LINK TO SIGN UP GENIUS:

A link to the volunteer sign up can be found on the Home Page of our website under the “Member Dashboard” tab. If you are a member and are not receiving volunteer emails from Sign Up Genius, please call the Association office at 847-621-2378.

Again, thank you for your service,
Pro Bono Committee

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Newsbriefs

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 15th of the month

Advertising Rates:
 Call 847-621-2378

Northwest Suburban Bar Association Executive Committee

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Tja Chiapelli & Caitlin Wilder



February 27, 2023

Via Electronic Mail:

Julie Barth
NWSBA Executive Director
Jbarth@nwsba.org

Frank Serio
Frankjserio@gmail.com

Re: NWSBA Nominating Committee

Dear Mr. Serio and Mrs. Barth

Please accept this correspondence as the formal recommendation of the Northwest Suburban Bar Association's 2023 Nominating Committee.

Executive Committee:

Anthony Calzaretta	President
Stephanie Garces Donat	Vice President
Nicholas Richardson	Second Vice President
Frank Serio	Treasurer
Raj Jutla	Secretary

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Anna Markley Bush	Board of Governors
Scott Kuntz	Board of Governors
Gregory Walker	Board of Governors
Adam Berger	Partial Term for position vacated by Raj Jutla

The candidates are qualified for the positions for which they are being recommended, and we are confident that each of them will ensure success for the NWSBA for years to come.

Regards,
Stephanie Garces Donat

579 First Bank Drive • Suite 240 • Palatine • IL 60067
Phone (773) 373-9592 • Email SGarces@GarcesLawFirm.com



A tie for Third Place went to the teams from Homewood Flossmore (top) and Hinsdale High School (bottom)



Left to right: NWSBA President, Ken Apicella, Hon. Jill Cerone-Marisie, presiding judge of the Third Municipal District and Frank Serio, recipient of the Outstanding Leadership & Dedication to the NWSBA Mock Trial Program award.

We would like to thank the Illinois State Bar Association for their generous grant.

A list of volunteers can be found on Page 11.
See photos on Page 8.

#LunchAndLearnWithGeo

What you may have missed:

- *Metaverse: What is it and what are the implications for the Practice of Law.*
- *Defenses to defuse the Ticking Time Bombs in your Practice: Protection from hacking, data breaches or cybercrime.*
- *Maximizing your Google Business Profile.*
- *March 8 learn about "Cyber Risk and Cyber Liability Insurance."*

George "Geo" Bellas has been running the webinar for the past 4 years and during the pandemic was doing it once a week to help keep us in touch with each other. The programs are informative and timely focusing on the latest tech developments in the Courts and in practice.

All of these presentations and others relating to the use of technology in the Courts and in your Practice are available for replay on the Bar's website or on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1lyB0XEc7I_hkGq7VTGsJg/videos

Mock Trial Photo Recap





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Wednesday, May 3rd

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Wednesday, September 20th

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Thank you to our Mock Trial Judge and Attorney Volunteers

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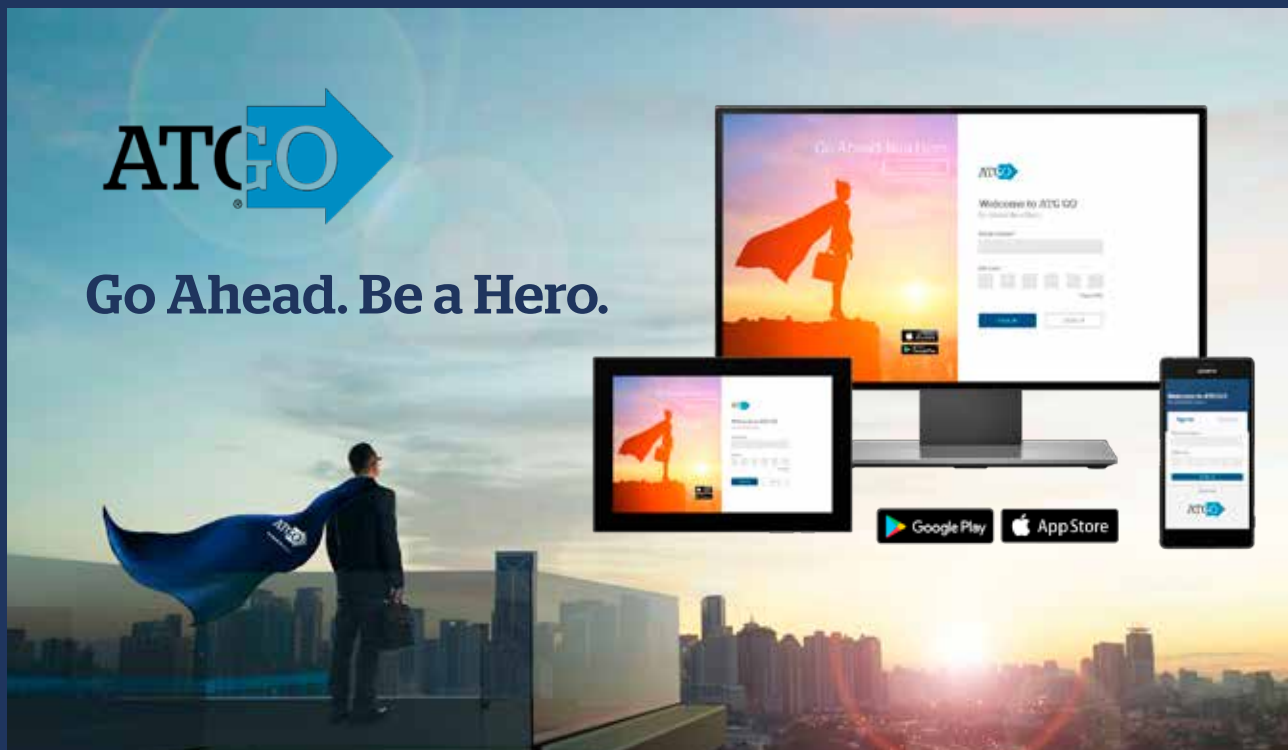
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Employment Opportunities*

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CALENDAR

- APRIL 12 - #LUNCH & LEARN WITH GEO: RECOVERING DATA FROM EDR'S GUESTS SANTOS REYES AND SEAN P. DRISCOL
- APRIL 26 - #LUNCH & LEARN WITH GEO: 10 TRICKS TO GET CONTROL OVER YOUR INBOX
GUEST DANIELLE DAVIS ROE
- MAY 3 - ANNUAL JUDGES NIGHT
- MAY 10 - #LUNCH & LEARN WITH GEO: GUEST JD GERSHBEIN
- MAY 24 - #LUNCH & LEARN WITH GEO: THE USE OF TEXT MESSAGES IN LITIGATION
GUEST: JENNIFER HISEL
- AUGUST 2 - COMMITTEE CHAIR ORIENTATION
- SEPTEMBER 20 - ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

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