



AMICUS NEWSLETTER

Summer 2014

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President's Message

By Mira Mdivani, The Mdivani Law Firm, LLC, Overland Park



Dear KWAA members:

hank you for the privilege of serving as your President this year. It is a great honor to lead the Kansas Women Attorneys Association in the year of our 25th anniversary.

25 Years of Hard Work and Progress, Much Remains to Be Done

We have gone a long way. The issues used to be that women had to fight for the right to be accepted into law schools, for the right to work as lawyers, not support staff, after obtaining a Juris Doctor Degree. We are way past those times when all nine judges on the U.S. Supreme Court were men. Behind us are times when male judges used to call women lawyers "honey" in front of juries, or refuse to hear a woman lawyer's argument if she wore pants to court. These days, while we have much to celebrate, there are new issues to tackle. Women constitute less than 20% of equity partners at law firms. Women lawyers across the board are paid less than their male colleagues. Women are still a visible minority on the bench and in the legislature. And our pipeline, the law schools, are reporting that the number of women law students has dipped from 60% to around 40% in the past several years. So we still have our work cut out for us.

KWAA Past Presidents Council

This year, we asked our past presidents to form a KWAA Past Presidents Council, and they said YES! The Council is headed by Cathy Reeder. Linda Parks hosted the first meeting of the Council at her firm's Wichita office. The Council is an invaluable resource of institutional knowledge, wisdom and connections available to KWAA through generosity and hard work of our Past Presidents. They are the leaders who have put 25 years into making great progress on women issues, helped to build KWAA into a thriving organization with a strong distinct voice, and continue to give and stay involved.

Upcoming 25th Anniversary Annual Conference

Our 25th Conference is shaping up to be a fantastic event! Conference committees headed by Conference Chair Deena Bailey, Programs Chair Amy Fellow Cline, Publicity Chair Sherri Wattenbarger, Logistics Chair Susana Valdovinos, History

Continued on next page.

President's Message (cont.)

Chair Mille Schroeder and Social Chairs Kim Bieker and Marie Laundry, have been working away on making sure the conference is especially meaningful this year. Our keynote speaker, Gail Collins, sounds like she could be one of our Presidents, in that she has dedicated years of her life as New York Times Editorial Page editor, giving voice to women's issues and asserting women's right for a place at the table. I expect she will fit right in!

Bring A New Member Initiative

We treasure our past, work vigorously on current issues,

and care a lot about our future. This includes reaching out to women lawyers who are not yet members of KWAA and bringing them to our 25th Anniversary conference. Encourage an associate or a new lawyer at the local bar association to come to the conference, and you will contribute to sowing seeds for our future.

Can't wait to see you in Lindsborg!

Sincerely, Mira Mdivani 2013-14 KWAA President

New Resiliency Group Meeting in Lawrence

By Anne McDonald, Kansas Law Assistance Program, Topeka



confidential discussion group solely for lawyers convened in Lawrence in February, 2014. The Kansas Lawyers Assistance Program facilitates the group which meets at the Sloan, Eisenbarth Law Firm, 900 Mass, Ste. 400, on the first Friday of each month from noon to 1:00 p.m. Group members are welcome to bring their lunch. Dr. Rae Sedgwick, who holds both a J.D. and a Ph.D. in Psychol-

ogy, guides the group. The Resiliency Group, and any group sponsored by KALAP, is confidential and there is no charge for participation.

Resiliency is that skill which helps a person bounce back from difficult or stressful situations or events. Statistics indicate that lawyers experience depression or alcoholism at about double the rate for the general population so the development of resiliency traits is particularly beneficial to the profession. The groups are open to any Kansas lawyer or law student; one need not be working with KALAP to participate.

Dr. Sedgwick has been coordinating similar groups in Johnson County and Topeka for the past few years. The Overland Park Resiliency Group meets at the GSF law office, 10990 Quivira, in Overland Park from 5 to 6 every first and third Wednesday. The Topeka Group meets on the third Friday at noon at the KALAP Office, 515 S. Kansas Ave., Ste. 202. To register, or for more information, contact the KALAP staff at 785-368-8275 or kalap@kscourts.org.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2014 LINDSBORG CONFERENCE!

July 24th-26th





You Don't Want to Miss the Silver Anniversay Conference!

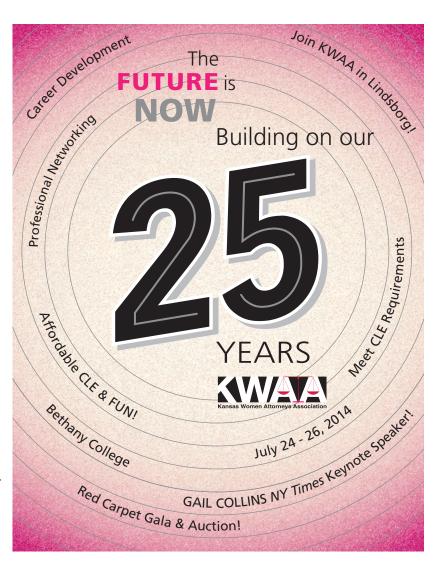
ake sure your calendars are marked for the 25th Anniversary Lindsborg Conference on July 24-26, 2014. You will notice that the conference falls a week later than usual, so check your calendar now to save this date. You won't want to miss the great CLE line up we have planned for you this year, in addition to a fantastic keynote speaker and an exciting Friday night dinner "red carpet style" to celebrate our 25 years!

In addition to looking forward to our all-star CLE line up we have planned (Be sure to check out the schedule on the following pages!), we are also excited to welcome to Lindsborg, our 2014 keynote speaker, Gail Collins, a nationally-known columnist with The New York Times. Ms. Collins joined The New York Times in 1995 as a member of the editorial board and later as an Op-Ed columnist. In 2001, she became the first woman ever appointed editor of the Times's editorial page. At the beginning of 2007, she stepped down and began a leave in order to finish her book: "When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present." She returned to The Times as a columnist in July 2007. Ms. Collins' most recent book is "As Texas Goes: How the Lone Star State Hijacked

the American Agenda," published in 2012. She is also the author of "America's Women," "Scorpion Tongues: Gossip, Celebrity and American Politics," a biography of William Henry Harrison and "The Millennium Book," which she co-authored with her husband, Dan Collins.

Finally, make sure you check out the History Room that will be featured this year. Attendees will have the chance to stroll down a 25-year memory lane. You can see great pictures from various conferences and take in all the great memories we have made over the years.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the conference!



2014 Key Note Speaker Gail Collins





LINDSBORG 2014 SCHEDULE

Thursday, July 24, 2014 (3.0 hours CLE)

11: 00 a.m. Solo Practice/Small Firm Luncheon* For details email WPLLC@WPLawPractice.com

* Cost of lunch additional

1:00 p.m. REGISTRATION OPENS

1:30 – 2:20 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- From Student to Lawyer to Successful Lawyer: Practice Tips for Young Lawyers & Law Students (LPM) Hon LaDonna Lanning, Kathryn Lewis, Paula Langworthy, Becky Mann
- •General Ethics (ETHICS) John Ambrosio
- •DUI Update Karen Wittman
- •Resiliency Strength Training: Building for the Future (ETHICS) Anne McDonald, Carol Ruth Bonebrake & Rae Sedgwick

2:30 – 3:20 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- Criminal Law 101- Kathleen Ambrosio
- •Branding Makeover Take Years Off Your Business Development & Networking Learning Curve (LPM) Patricia Voth Blankenship, Mira Mdvani & Amanda Kiefer
- •Ethical Obligations in a World of Smart Phones & Social Media (ETHICS) Wendy Tatro & Paula Johnson
- •It's HOW You Say It Barbara Teicher

3:20 – 3:40 p.m. BREAK

3:45 – 4:35 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- A Playbook on Appellate Advocacy: Tips for Raising Your Game Hon. Steve Leben & Hon. Melissa Standridge
- Bankruptcy: Tips for Non-Bankruptcy Practitioners Susan Sadian & Bill Zimmerman
- The New Country Lawyer: Recruiting & Retaining Young Lawyers to Smaller Communities (LPM) Arturo Thompson & Quinton Lucas
- From Coffee to Football: Trademark Basics & Some Recent Developments Jasmine Abdel-khalik

4:45 - 5:45 p.m. Law School Receptions

5:50 - 6:55 p.m. DINNER at the Union

7:00 p.m. KEYNOTE: Gail Collins at Burnett Following Keynote RECEPTION at the Sandzen Art Gallery



LINDSBORG 2014 SCHEDULE (CONT.)

FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2014 (KS 6 HRS. CLE; MO 6.5 HRS.)

6:30 a.m. Coronado Heights Fun Run and Lindsborg City Walk

7:30 a.m. BREAKFAST at the UNION

8:30 – 9:20 a.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- Making Crime Pay: Tips on Practicing Criminal Defense Laura Shaneyfelt
- KAW: Electing Women & Restoring Kansas's Proud Progressive Past (non-CLE) Erin Thompson
- Coping with Powers of Attorney Rachael Pirner, Emily Donaldson & Stacey Janssen
- Teacher Due Process-Does It Still Exist in Kansas? Sarah Loquist

9:20 - 9:40 a.m. BREAK

9:40 - 10:30 a.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- Legal & Non-Legal Means of Persuasion Amy Lemley, Lee Thompson & Jeff Jarman
- Elder Exploitation Issues from the Civil Side, including Claims & Remedies Rachael Pirner, Emily Donald-son & Stacey Janssen
- Alphabet Soup of Banking Jane Deterding
- Social Media & Other Electronic Evidence: "I Move for the Admission of" . . . Really?! Hon. Kelly Ryan

10:30 - 11:45 a.m. PLENARY

Appellate All-Star Review - Hon. Marla Luckert, Hon. Melissa Standridge, Hon. Karen Arnold-Burger

11:50 a.m. - 1:35 p.m. LUNCH at the UNION Annual Meeting beginning at 12:30

1:40 - 2:30 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- •Kansas Open Records & Meetings: How These Laws Affect the Private Practitioner & How to Get Items You Need from the Government - Tamara Niles & Sarah Fertig
- •Hot Topics in Family Law- Linda Elrod
- •The Proper Care & Feeding of Your District Court Judge for a Positive Outcome for Your Client Hon. Sally Pokorny, Hon. Evelyn Wilson & Hon. Rene Young
- •National Association of Women Judges, Informed Voters/Fair Judges Project (non-CLE) Hon. Cheryl Rios Kingfisher & Amanda Kiefer

2:30 - 2:50 p.m. BREAK

2:55 - 3:45 p.m BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- •Workplace Investigations: How & Why Ann Molloy
- •Popcorn & Paternity: Innovations in Family Law Cases Hon. Kathleen Lynch & Sheryl Bussell
- •If You Aren't the Lead Dog, the View Never Changes: Leading Your Firm, Bar Association & Community (LPM) Gloria Flentje, Susan Berson, Marcia Wood, Laura Ice & Kathy Webb
- •Raising Awareness of New Human Trafficking Law: A Victim-Centric Approach Christine Ladner & Pat Colloran

LINDSBORG 2014 SCHEDULE (CONT.)

FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2014

3:50 – 4:40 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- QDRO Basics Division of Retirement Plan Assets in Divorce Curtis Barnhill
- Collections Lou Probasco
- Cracking the "Affordable Care Act" Nut: How Federal Health Care Reform Affects Employers Brad Schlozman
- Meditations on Mediation Hon. Karen Humphreys, Hon. Cheryl Rios Kingfisher, Dennis Gillen & Deena Bailey

4:45 – 6:30 p.m. Lindsborg Chamber of Commerce Reception

7:00 p.m. Red Carpet Gala Night including Cocktail Hour, Dinner, Auction & Music at Sundstrom Conference Center

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 2014 (3.0 HRS CLE)

7:00 - 8:00 a.m. BREAKFAST

8:10 – 9:00 a.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- •Recent Developments in Indian Child Welfare Law Stacy Leeds
- •Corporations are People, My Friend: Effective Examination of Corporate Representatives under Rule 30(b)(6) - Russ Hazlewood
- •Not What You Were Expecting, or How Immigration Law Keeps Popping Up Where Least Expected -Mira Mdivani, Rekha Sharma-Crawford & Kathleen Harvey
- •LPM: Tips & Apps (LPM credit) Angel Zimmerman

9:05 – 9:55 a.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- •Surrounded by Legal Marijuana, But not in Kansas a/k/a Colorado & Missouri's Legalization of Marijuana & its Growing Impact on Kansas - Roger Falk
- •You're in Contempt! A Practitioner's Guide to Using Contempt Sanctions in CINC & Family Law Cases -Kellie Hogan & Christine Campbell
- •Effective Negotiation & Settlement Strategies & Ethical Considerations Ron Pope, Tom Theis & Shawn Leisinger
- GAIL COLLINS NY Times Keyn's •LPM: Tips & Apps; Follow-up Training (non-CLE) - Angel Zimmerman

10:00 - 10:50 a.m. PLENARY

Lawyers, Taxes & Ethics (ETHICS)



FOOD FROM THE BAR

n its fourth year, KWAA and the legal community raised donations to provide meals for Kansans in need! KWAA participated in the national Food from the Bar campaign, scheduling its state-wide efforts to start on April 1 through April 30. There were several collaborations between KWAA and other bar associations.

Each KWAA district had its own coordinators who volunteered to be responsible for signing up law firms, offices and organizations to participated. Those volunteers made up our informal committee. Each law firm or office which signed up to participate, also had a coordinator who volunteered to handle the responsibilities of collections for the office. There were also many attorneys who helped KWAA spread the word about the effort. The not-for-profits benefiting



from the donations are listed below, along with participant and breakdown information, where available.

CROSS-LINES (Kansas City, Kansas)

Give a BIG THANK YOU to the folks below for raising food and monetary donations for Cross-lines Food Pantry.

Beam-Ward, Kruse, Wilson, Wright & Fletes, LLC	55.6	
Commercial Law Group, P.A.		\$250
Dentons LLP	75.8	
Foulston Siefkin LLP	41.4	\$151
Jackson & Wade, L.L.C., Attorneys at Law	205.7	\$100
Walden & Pfannenstiel, LLC	151.2	
Martin, Pringle, Oliver, Wallace & Bauer, LLP	69.4	\$194
Linda C. Krebs/KWAA Book Club	20	\$50
Berson Law Group, LLP		\$100
Kansas City, KS and Missouri Federal Courthouses	117.3	\$240
International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC), Midwest Region, "Eat, Drink & Do Good Happy Hour"		\$400

TOTAL:	736.40 \$1,485
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Even better, the donations to Cross-lines qualify for matching contributions from another program that Cross-lines participates in with the Feinstein Foundation which means that our donations raised could double!

Continued on next page.



FOOD FROM THE BAR (CONT.)

HARVESTERS FOOD BANK (serves Kansas City, Kansas & Missouri)*

The collaborative effort with the Association of Women Lawyers of Kansas City and Kansas City Metro Bar Association raised donations for Harvesters in the amount of \$2,500 in monetary donations, and just over 3,000 pounds of food!

SALINA

Salinas Emergency Assistance sends a Big "THANK YOU" to Karen Black and Debra James for being the coordinators, and the contributors below who collected \$2,255 in monetary donations!

Achterberg & Angell
Catherine Craft
Karen Black
Brown & Vogel
Clark, Mize & Linville, Chtd.
Eggers & Zimmerman
Robert German
Hampton & Royce, L.C.
Debra Egli James
Wendell W. Kellogg
Mickey W. Moshier
Norton, Wasserman, Jones K Kelly, LLC
Leslie Johnson



TOPEKA: PROJECT TOPEKA*

Project Topeka received \$121.85 and 369 pounds of food! Collaborating with KWAA was the Women Attorneys Association of Topeka. THANK YOU Kristin Ballobin for coordinating the effort in Topeka this year!

KWAA'S BRAGGIN' RIGHTS AWARD REGION WINNER 2014: SALINA!

Braggin' Rights go to last year's winner and the inaugural year's winner, Salina!

KWAA's Honorable Mention:

Jackson & Wade law firm, Shawnee, Kansas IWIRC "Eat, Drink & Do Good Happy Hour"

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED AND SUPPORTED THE 2014 EFFORT ON AN AMAZING JOB!



Women in the News

Susan Berson's article *Retirement Reset: What are you doing for the rest of your life?* was featured in the May 2014 issue of the *ABA Journal*.

Patricia Voth Blankenship, Foulston Siefkin LLP partner, has been elected to membership in the American College of Real Estate Lawyers (ACREL), the premier organization of U.S. real estate lawyers.

Jaime Blackwell is the incoming president of the Young Lawyers Section of the Wichita Bar Association.

Mary Beth Blake was honored as a Baron of the Boardroom at the KCMBA 2014 Bench-Bar & Boardroom Conference.

Judge Karen Arnold-Burger of the Kansas Court of Appeals was nominated as a woman who makes a difference in Kansas City. The list of nominees, along with a description of their accomplishments, can be found at www.Makers-KC.org.

Holly Dyer was elected as the Wichita Bar Association President-Elect for 2014-2015.

Holly Dyer and Amy Lemley, Foulston Siefkin partners, have both been named by Benchmark Litigation in 2013 as one of the Top 250 Female Litigators in America.

Danielle Hall served as a law practice management advisor for the 2014 ABA Techshow's Solution Lab. She also orchestrated a two day solo and small/tech conference with tech guru Jim Calloway in May.

Kellie Hogan is this year's recipient of the Wichita Bar Association's Chester I. Lewis Diversity Achievement Award.

Laura Ice is this year's recipient of the Wichita Bar Association's Howard C. Kline Award.

Amanda Kiefer was on the panel at the first women's forum for GoTopeka held in April, is the incoming President of the Topeka Bar Association, and is part of the graduating class of Leadership Greater Topeka.

Christine Ladner was chosen to be a member of the 2014 class of Leadership Kansas. She was one of 40 selected, out of 768 nominations.

Amy Lemley, a Foulston Siefkin partner, was recognized as a Top 50 Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyer* in 2013.

Amy Lemley, Foulston Siefkin partner, was appointed to be the 2013-2014 vice-chair of the Kansas Chapter of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Marta Fisher Linenberger, Foulston Siefkin Special Counsel, was named 2014 Topeka Health Care Law Attorney of the Year by The Best Lawyers in America.

James Wood Green Medallion



Photo taken by Steve Puppe

On May 10, 2014 KWAA was presented with the James Wood Green Medallion from Kansas University School of Law for KWAA's \$25,000 Scholarship contribution. KWAA President Mira Mdivani and KWAA Career Development Chair Martha Hodgesmith are pictured here with the award.

Women in the News (cont.)

Rebecca Mann was elected to the Wichita Bar Association Board of Governors.

Debs McIlhenny was elected to the Wichita Bar Association Board of Governors.

Justice Nancy Moritz was confirmed to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Sylvia Penner was elected as the Wichita Bar Association's Secretary-Treasurer for 2014-2015.

Kari Schmidt presided over the first ever all female Wichita Bar Association executive board this year -- and **Jennifer Hill**, as incoming WBA President, will also have an all-female executive board.

Marty M. Snyder was awarded the Women Attorneys Association of Topeka 2014 Justice Kay McFarland Attorney of Achievement Award. This award was presented at WAAT's April 16th meeting. This prestigious award is given to an individual who has achieved professional excellence in her field; and has influenced other women to pursue legal careers; or has opened doors for women lawyers in a variety of job settings that historically were closed to them; or has advanced opportunities for women within a practice area or segment of the profession.

Michelle Wade of the aviation law firm Jackson & Wade, L.L.C. is scheduled to speak at the National Business Aviation Association convention in October, 2014 on the panel titled Operating and Doing Business in China.

Marcia Wood was this year's recipient of the Wichita Women Attorneys Association's Louise Mattox Attorney of Achivement Award. This award was presented at a luncheon on April 21, 2014.



Marcia Wood was recently elected to the management committee of her firm, Martin Pringle. She was also elected to be the Wichita Bar Association's Vice President for 2014-2015.

Angel Zimmerman now serves on the GoTopeka's Minority and Women Business Development Council. The Council advises and assists GO Topeka with outreach initiatives to provide effective business, education and training resource programs to women, minority and low- to moderate-income entrepreneurs or small business persons in the Topeka/Shawnee County area.

Ann Zimmerman, Salina, was awarded a "Horizons Grant" from Salina Arts & Humanities Foundation, and with it, she directed and sang with sixty Salina third graders for three concerts featuring the songs of her latest recording, "MEADOWLARK: Songs for the Child in You." She also produced a music video of one of the songs, "Weevily Wheat," including eighteen of the third graders, done in collaboration with the Media Productions class from Kansas Wesleyan University and their professor Paul Green. View the video at www.annzimmerman.com/videos.html.

The Best Lawyers in America selected five women attorneys from Foulston Siefkin for the "Best Lawyers in America 2014 edition". The list includes Holly Dyer, Amy Lemley, Trisha Thelen, Patricia Voth Blankenship and Marta Fisher Linenberger.

Five Foulston Siefkin women attorneys were selected as 2013 Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers or Rising Stars. They include **Brooke Bennett Aziere**, **Holly Dyer**, **Amy Lemley**, **Trisha Thelen**, **and Marta Fisher Linenberger**.

Chambers USA, a national research publication, included 2 Foulston Siefkin attorneys that were recognized as leading lawyers in their field of practice in 2013 including **Patricia Voth Blankenship** for Real Estate Law, **Trisha Thelen** for Labor and Employment



Your 2013-14 KWAA BOARD

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President - Mira Mdivani

President-Elect - Susan Berson

Past President - Angel Zimmman

Secretary - Eunice Peters

Treasurer - Miranda Carmona

STANDING COMMITTEES AND AD HOC COMMITTEES

Archives Co-Chairs - Gabrielle Thompson, Marie Landry

Career Development Chair - Martha Hodgesmith

Membership Chair - Amanda Kiefer

Newsletter Chair - Danielle Hall

Publicity Chair- Sherri Wattenbarger

Small and Solo Co-Chairs - Malissa Walden, Cassie Pfannenstiel Rodriguez

Women in the Law Chair - Patricia Hamilton

Annual Conference Chair - Deena Hyson Bailey

Annual Conference Social Co-Chairs - Kim Bieker, Marie Landry

Annual Conference Silent Auction Chair - Margann Bennett

Annual Conference Program Chair - Amy Fellows Cline

Annual Conference Logistics Chair - Susana Valdovinos

Annual Conference History Chair - Mille Schroeder

Annual Conference Pulblicity Chair - Sherri Wattenbarger

Awards Chair - Anne McDonald

Website Chair - Marylin Harp

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

District 1 – Johnson County Linda Krebs, Malissa Walden

District 2 – NE Kansas Brandy Sutton, Sally Pokorny

District 3 – SE Kansas Lisa Montgomery

District 4 – E. Central KS/Emporia Tamara Niles

District 5 – Shawnee County

District 6 – N. Central KS

Jennifer Hays, Angel Zimmerman

Brenda Stoss, Ann Zimmerman

District 7 – Sedgwick County

Amy Fellows Cline, Kellie Hogan

District 8 – W. Central KS

Tracey Beverlin

District 9 – SW Kansas

Lara Blake Bors

District 10 – NW Kansas Susan J. Whitfield Harding, Melissa Hunsicker-Walburn

District 11 – Wyandotte County Rae Sedgwick





DUES NOTICE AND MEMBERSHIP FORM DUES OF \$50.00 FOR AUGUST 1, 2014 TO JULY 31, 2015

If you have not joined KWAA for the coming year, complete this form and mail it with your check for \$50.00 made payable to the Kansas Women Attorneys Association to:

KWAA PO BOX 598 Topeka, Kansas 66601

NAMF.

Estate Planning

1 11 111111.			
FIRM/AGENCY:			
	State:		
Work Phone:	Fax:		
E-Mail:			
Home Phone:	(will be included in the directory)		
AREAS OF PRACTICE, check a	ll that apply:		
Administrative	Family	Real Estate	
Appellate	General Practice	Social Security	
Arbitration/Mediation	Government Counsel	Tax	
Bankruptcy	Insurance	Utility	
Business/Corporate	Judiciary	Workers Compensation	
Collections	Juvenile	Other:	
Corporate Counsel	Labor		
Criminal	Legal Education/Professor		
Disability	Legislation —————		
Education	Litigation	Litigation	
Elder	Medical Malpractice		
Employment	Non-Traditional/Non-Lega	al	

Personal Injury