PRESIDENT'S CORNER   - Pamela Reiter

If you want to see our justice system improving the lives of South Dakotans, I encourage you to attend a session of Drug Court, DUI Court or Veteran’s Court. Over the last few months, I have attended each of these problem-solving courts, including graduation ceremonies in both Sioux Falls and Rapid City. A common theme is that although the rules of these courts are stringent, the participants are exceedingly grateful for the opportunity to address their chemical dependency and mental health issues that contributed to their commission of a felony offense. The participants uniformly expressed their gratitude to the significant number of people that go above and beyond to make these courts work – and work well.

The first drug court, called the Northern Hills Drug Court, was convened in Sturgis in 2007. Given its success, the Legislature approved additional state funding to increase the number of drug courts and also expanded to DUI courts across the state. Today, South Dakota has ten drug courts, four DUI courts and two Veteran’s courts. Funding is sought for an additional Veteran’s Court this coming year. The majority of these courts were formed in the last five years: the number grew from three courts five years ago to 16 courts today.

A drug court is defined as a “judicially supervised alternative to incarceration and includes drug, driving under influence, and other specialty court dockets aimed at increasing public safety, offender accountability and decreasing recidivism for chemically dependent offenders.” SD Supreme Court IP Rule 2016-03. Thirteen screening and eligibility criteria focus these courts towards serving the highest risk and highest need individuals with a felony conviction who voluntarily agree to participate, usually within 50 days of his or her arrest.

The total number of participants in these courts in is currently 456, up from 350 participants in FY 16 and 295 in FY 15. The length of participation before graduation varies from 12 to 24 months, with drug courts typically at 18 to 24 months and DUI court at 12 to 18 months. The average participant’s sentence is 10 years in drug court and three years in DUI court. Thus, with 456 current participants and using an average sentence of 5 years, 2,280 years of prison most likely will not be served by the current participants. At an average annual cost of incarceration per inmate of $25,000, those years in prison would cost the state approximately $57,000,000. That amount compares to a total cost of $5,472,000 at an annual cost of $8,000 per participant for those same individuals to be in a drug, DUI or Veteran’s Court for 18 months.

Participants are required to maintain employment, participate in community service or both. Since January 1, 2017, the total wages earned by participants was $1,708,143. And because the participants are not incarcerated, they are able to provide care to their children, eliminating the need for the state to provide such care.

In terms of recidivism, South Dakota fares well compared to the national rate. South Dakota counts a participant as a reoffender if he or she is convicted of a felony within three years of graduation. Currently, 103 people have graduated from the problem solving courts and are three or more years post-graduation. Eighty-four of those 103 graduates have not reoffended in less than three years. Thus, South Dakota’s recidivism rate is 18% compared to 25% nationally.
A successful problem-solving court requires the time and effort of many people and organizations. Our circuit and magistrate judges preside over the courts. Others who contribute many hours include prosecutors, police officers, defense attorneys, court services officers, court personnel, chemical dependency counselors, and mental health professionals. In addition, numerous volunteers support the participants. Chief Justice Gilbertson leads the Drug Court Advisory Counsel, which provides statewide oversight of the problem-solving courts. If you want to learn more about any of these courts, please contact Noreen Plumage, the State Court Administrator for the courts, at Noreen.Plumage@ujs.state.sd.us.

The positive impact these courts have on participants’ family and friends is evident from their smiles as they watch their loved ones graduate. Participants in FY 12 to FY 17 had 1266 children who were able to have their parent home with them instead of in prison.

If you have a client or know someone who may qualify for a drug, DUI or Veteran’s court, I encourage you to attend a session of one of these courts to determine if you would recommend participation as an alternative to a lengthy prison sentence. As the number of participants in the courts increases to their full capacity, the average cost per participant will naturally decline, which benefits everyone in South Dakota.

While attending the Judicial Conference as President of our State Bar in September, I learned of a faith-based residential program for adult men called Teen Challenge of the Dakotas that operates in Brookings. It is primarily funded by private donors and is free of charge to men who choose to take a spiritual path to address the root cause of their individual problem that contributed to their criminal conviction. Through this in-patient program, participants learn life skills that they have not yet successfully developed to provide them a solid base to live their lives as contributing members of society following their graduation from this 16-month program. If you have a client who may be interested in this opportunity, please contact Rev. Mike Gilmartin at 605-693-9753 or visit www.tcdakotas.org.

**Practice Tip:** Recently I was visiting with a young lawyer and mentioned to her that I wished I would have trusted my gut about a document I was reviewing before approving its contents. Although you may not immediately know precisely what seems incorrect about a particular document, research, advice that you are about to provide, or any other situation, my practice tip is to trust your instincts and take the time to figure out what feels wrong about it. You may feel that it will take too much time or you feel pressure to complete the task at hand, but nearly every time you ignore your instincts it will end up taking more time to fix later, assuming it is fixable.
The holidays always seem like a good time for reflection. A priority for the Young Lawyer Section that we always try to reflect on and improve upon, is the role of mentors for young lawyers in South Dakota. Mentorship may be something that many take for granted, but for a young lawyer just starting out, it can be integral to one’s success in this field.

The Young Lawyer Section continues to champion the Hagemann-Morris Young Lawyer Mentorship Coin Program. 2009 – 2010 State Bar President Bob Morris, and 2009 – 2010 Young Lawyer President, Sarah Sharp Theophilus, collaborated to create what was originally named the South Dakota State Bar Young Lawyer Mentor Coin Project and associated program. The ultimate objective of the Project is to pair Young Lawyers with Mentors who share a common interest and who will provide frank, candid, and insightful guidance to the Young Lawyer. The Young Lawyer will present the Mentor Coin to his/her Mentor as an invitation for mentorship and acknowledgment of trust in such Mentor.

In April 2010, the Young Lawyer Board officially changed the name of the project to the “Hagemann – Morris Young Lawyer Mentorship Coin Program” in honor of the mentorship relationship between Bob and his “classic mentor,” the late University of South Dakota Law School Professor, John F. Hagemann.

It is our hope and desire that the Mentor Coin ultimately becomes a much desired symbol of affiliation among members of the State Bar. We hope that the Mentor Coin becomes a treasured and respected representation of “Knowledge and Friendship” as between the Mentor and the Young Lawyer. On the “flip side,” it is also our desire that the Mentor Coin will represent integrity, dedication to the core values of the law, excellence in the profession, and service to our profession and community before self.

The Young Lawyer Section tasks each of our Circuit Representatives with hosting Mentorship Events within their Circuit, and assisting Young Lawyers in finding mentorship matches. If you have any questions about the program, or are interested in hosting a mixer, or willing to serve as a mentor, or are in need of a mentor yourself, please reach out to any of the Young Lawyer Section Board, and they will be happy to assist you.

I have asked YLS Fourth Circuit Representative Eric Davis to give us his thoughts on mentorship as a Young Lawyer in South Dakota. Eric graduated from USD School of Law in 2013. Following two years of private practice in Spearfish, Eric became the City Attorney for the City of Spearfish. He spends as much free time as he can outdoors and enjoys hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, and biking. Thanks, Eric, for sharing your thoughts.
The holiday season is upon us—a special time for giving thanks, giving gifts, and making resolutions. It’s important to be mindful of the blessings of family and friends, but it’s also important to be thankful for the gifts we receive in our professional lives. This holiday season, I hope you will take a moment to recall a time in your professional career when someone offered you assistance when you needed it. Reach out to that person to say thank you. Being the only attorney in my office, I miss the opportunities I used to have to ask questions or discuss complex legal issues with my attorney colleagues. But, by attending mixers and bar events, I have met attorneys who are happy to let me bounce questions off them, for example, a random procedural question that has me stumped. Young attorneys, be thankful for the friendship and mentorship of your more experienced colleagues.

The holidays are also a time for giving gifts. More-experienced attorneys, please consider giving the gift of your knowledge to a younger attorney this year. Your experience, insight, and critiques are valuable to young attorneys individually and to the overall betterment of our profession. Please consider reaching out to the Young Lawyer representative in your circuit with an offer to mentor a less experienced colleague. The most common misconception I hear about the Hagemann-Morris Mentorship Program is that experienced lawyers don’t have the time or desire to babysit or become a newbie’s supervising partner. Frankly, young lawyers are just not seeking that kind of relationship. For me, simply knowing that I can occasionally reach out with a question offers me a great deal of confidence and relief. That is a real gift.

This year, consider making a resolution to learn more about how you can become a mentor to a younger, less-experienced attorney. I promise, it’s easier and less work than you think. Happy Holidays to you and yours.
ATTORNEYS - 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,
or 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 inviolate 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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THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING ATTORNEYS FOR ACCEPTING A PRO BONO OR MODEST MEANS CASE FROM ACCESS TO JUSTICE, INC. THIS MONTH!

- Gary Blue
- McLean Thompson Kerver
- Benjamin Tronnes
- Scott Heidepriem
- Jay Davis
- Melissa Nicholson Breit

Denotes two cases this month
Accepted multiple cases since January 2017
Current Bar Commissioner

AND, THANK YOU TO:
SCOTT MOSES
FOR ANSWERING QUESTIONS POSTED ON SD FREE LEGAL ANSWERS THIS MONTH!

WE ALSO WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEERS FOR MEETING WITH VETERANS AND ACTIVE MILITARY MEMBERS TO ANSWER THEIR LEGAL QUESTIONS DURING THE VETERANS STAND DOWN IN RAPID CITY ON NOVEMBER 9, 2017:

- Alan Smoot
- Alicia Garcia
- Doyle Estes
- Greg Erlandson
- Haven Stuck
- Ole Olesen
- Sarah Baron Houy

Are you interested in volunteering with Access to Justice? Send a message to Denise Langley at: access.to.justice@sdbar.net

ACCESS TO JUSTICE, INC.
A group of Sioux Falls and Rapid City area attorneys are holding informal peer-led meetings of lawyers who have faced or are dealing with depression, anxiety and/or similar issues. Attendance is limited to lawyers. The groups generally meet twice a month and have confidentiality policies. For more information or to receive blind copies of group announcements, send an email to cariboucoffeeclub@gmail.com

**The Caribou Coffee Club is not affiliated with The State Bar of South Dakota, the Second Circuit Bar Association, or the Pennington County Bar Association.**

**LAWYERS CONCERNED FOR LAWYERS**

**LAWYERS ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE**

Your Bar Leadership has been concerned that members needing help with chemical dependency or mental health issues may be reluctant to call State Bar Headquarters to inquire where to seek help. Phone calls seeking help for themselves or a loved one or a partner have always and will continue to be kept strictly confidential. That said, Bar Leadership has determined that a referral agency independent of the State Bar staff may reduce any reluctance to call.

Thus, beginning July 1st, we have entered into a contract with South Dakota Advocacy. Both LCL and LAC committees have provided names and contact information for referrals. You will be provided with the names and phone numbers and proceed to call whomever you select from the appropriate list.

Disability Rights South Dakota: 605-224-8294 or toll free 800-658-4782
Phone calls to Disability Rights of SD are kept strictly confidential.
STRESS and DEPRESSION HELP
Contact information for the regional mental health centers in South Dakota is located at www.statebarofsouthdakota.com (“For SDBAR Members” Under the Health & Wellness tab, click on the Stress/Depression/Addiction link. We have reached an understanding with all these centers and all will honor our agreement. If you are stressed out or you believe that you may be suffering from depression, the State Bar encourages you to seek a professional evaluation. If you don’t have insurance or otherwise lack the financial resources, the State Bar project, funded by ALPS and the SD Bar Foundation, will cover the evaluation and several follow-up counseling sessions if indicated. You need only schedule the appointment and show them your 2017 active membership card. This is a confidential project. Counseling records are not, repeat, are not made available to the State Bar. We just pay the bill for those who can’t afford it, up to the limit of $500 per lawyer.

If you have a law partner or lawyer friend that you believe may be suffering from stress and depression, visit with them. Encourage this lawyer to consider having an evaluation. Depression caught at the early stages prior to becoming chronic is much, much easier to address. In just a few counseling sessions, you/your friend can learn techniques to deal with the stress more effectively in our lives, whether personal or professional.

SOLACE PROGRAM
If you are aware of anyone within the South Dakota Legal Community (lawyers, law office personnel, judges, courthouse employees, or law students) who have suffered a sudden and/or catastrophic loss due to an unexpected event, illness, or injury, the South Dakota SOLACE Program may be able to assist. Please contact solace@sdbar.net if you, or someone you know, could benefit from this program.

We have a statewide (and beyond) network of generous South Dakota attorneys willing to get involved and help. We do not solicit cash but can assist with contributions of clothing, housing, transportation, medical community contacts, and a myriad of other possible solutions through the thousands of contacts available through the State Bar of South Dakota and its membership.
Cadwell Sanford Deibert & Garry, L.L.P. is pleased to announce that

Michelle Stratton

has joined the firm as an associate attorney effective August 9, 2017.

200 East 10th Street - Suite 200
PO Box 2498
Sioux Falls SD 57101-2498

Telephone (605) 336-0828
Facsimile (605) 336-6036
E-mail: mstratton@cadlaw.com

www.cadlaw.com

Please Note that the Law Firm of

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Marli Schippers
John Nooney
Kurt Solay
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Becky Porter 605-343-6443
or
Pat Meyers 605-716-0745

From all of us at
The State Bar!
LAW FOR LUNCH

December 21, 2017
12:30 CT

“Statistics and Insight into the South Dakota Supreme Court and its Decisions.”

Speaker: Meghann Joyce

Register Here:
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/373191126182849795
November 15, 2017

Thomas C. Barnett, Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer
State Bar of South Dakota
222 E. Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

RE: 2018 Court-Appointed Attorney Fees and Mileage

Dear Mr. Barnett:

Please publish the following announcement in the December 2017 issue of the State Bar Newsletter:

"Court-appointed attorney fees for 2018 will be $94 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."

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

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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.
November 28, 2017

Ms. Pamela Reiter, President
State Bar Association of South Dakota
pamela@janklowabdallah.com

Re: Reappointment of Neil S. Fulton

Dear Ms. Reiter:

The current appointment of Mr. Neil S. Fulton as Federal Public Defender for the Districts of North Dakota and South Dakota expires on June 27, 2018. Mr. Fulton desires another four-year appointment.

The court of appeals judges, prior to consideration for reappointment, are charged with assessing the quality of representation, level of commitment and service, performance of the Federal Public Defender, and the quality of the services provided by her office. To assist the court in assessing these areas, we are soliciting the views of various segments of the bar.

It would be appreciated if you would have the members of your association forward to this office their written comments. I would appreciate you setting a deadline for having the comments to this office by February 1, 2018. All comments will be held in confidence. Please have comments sent to this office either by:

mail at the above address; fax to (314) 244-2605; or e-mail at CE@employment@ca8.uscourts.gov.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

Millie B. Adams
Circuit Executive

MBA/lb
NOTICE PURSUANT TO SDCL 16-3-5.1

IN RE: FEBRUARY 2018 SUPREME COURT RULES HEARING

A Supreme Court Rules Hearing will be held Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at 11:00 a.m., in the Courtroom of the Supreme Court, Capitol Building, Pierre, South Dakota.

An original and ten copies of proposals for amendment or adoption of rules should be filed with the Clerk of the Court pursuant to SDCL 16-3-5.1 no later than December 8, 2017.

This notice inviting proposals and a subsequent notice of rules hearing will be posted at the Unified Judicial System's website at http://ujs.sd.gov and the State Bar of South Dakota's website at http://www.sdbar.org/, or as the Court may order.
ATTORNEYS

City Attorney: The City of Box Elder is looking for a City Attorney to serve as the chief legal advisor to the City, and is responsible for providing legal services to the City Council, the City Administrator, all departments, employees, and City boards and commissions. Responsibilities include planning, staffing, and supervising the legal service needs of the City, and preparing and administering the Department budget. The City Administrator assigns work in terms of department goals and objectives. The City Administrator reviews work through conferences, reports, and observation of department activities. The City Attorney represents the City in all legal proceedings; is responsible for the preparation and presentation of cases; renders legal opinions; prepares contracts, ordinances, resolutions, and leases; and assists in drafting proposed legislation for enactment by the state legislature on matters of interest to the City. The City Attorney defends the City in cases filed in county, state, and federal courts; manages the hiring and work of outside attorneys retained to provide legal services to the City; and represents the City in all cases filed in Pennington and Meade Circuit Court. Work is performed with independence in accordance with accepted practices. This class is responsible for performing related duties as required. Applicants selected for interviews may be subjected to an appropriate background check. Please go to the following website for further information: www.boxelder.us
Salary: $43.99 to $53.66 per hour, dependent upon experience.
Submit a complete application, letter of interest resume and transcripts to the following address:
City of Box Elder
Personnel Department
420 Villa Drive
Box Elder, SD 57719
Submission deadline: Friday, December 29th 2017.

Associate Attorney: Richardson, Wyly, Wise, Sauck & Hieb, LLP, Aberdeen, SD is seeking to hire an associate attorney with 1-3 years of experience. An ideal candidate will possess strong oral and written skills as well as courtroom experience. Confidential inquiries, including resume, cover letter, and academic transcript, should be sent to Stacy M. Johnson, Richardson, Wyly, Wise, Sauck and Hieb, LLP, P.O. Box 1030, Aberdeen, SD 57402-1030 or sjohnson@rwwsh.com.

Litigation Attorney: Siegel, Barnett & Schutz, LLP, Aberdeen, SD, is seeking to add an attorney to our litigation team. Confidential inquiries, including resume, cover letter, transcript and writing sample should be sent to Vicki Nash, Siegel, Barnett & Schutz, LLP, P.O. Box 490, Aberdeen, SD 57402 or via email to vnash@sbslaw.net.

Managing Attorney: Pine Ridge, SD
Dakota Plains Legal Services (DPLS), a non-profit legal services program, has an opening for a Managing 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.
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; must demonstrate an interest in poverty law and working with Native American and low income clients. Applicant must have at least one year’s experience in the practice of poverty law or Indian law, with trial and appellate experience in state and federal courts or
two years' experience in the general practice of law. If Applicant does not possess this experience we would consider Applicant for a staff attorney position until qualified to be a Managing Attorney.

Competitive, depending on experience. DPLS has an excellent fringe benefits package including generous leave benefits and employee insurance coverage (medical, dental, life, disability).

Open until filled.

Please submit a letter of interest and resume to: John J. Buchy, Executive Director, Dakota Plains Legal Services, PO Box 727, Mission, SD 57555, (605) 856-4444, dpls1@gwtc.net

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

Senior Associate: The Sioux Falls law firm of May & Johnson, P.C. is currently seeking a Senior Associate to join our litigation team. The candidate should have the experience to immediately handle files, conduct discovery, and appear in court. All inquiries will be kept confidential.

Requirements:
3+ years of experience in a comparable position and/or relevant practice; JD from an ABA accredited law school; In good standing with South Dakota State Bar Association; Civil trial experience in state and federal court; Motivated to build a litigation practice in Sioux Falls. Salary and benefits will be competitive with the market and the candidate's skills.

Please send resumes and references to marndt@may-johnson.com.
Deputy State’s Attorney:
Open Until Filled Starting Wage: $4,740 Monthly
Please submit a Meade County application to:
Human Resources / 1300 Sherman Street Suite 212
Sturgis, SD 57785
Under the direct supervision of the State’s Attorney, is responsible for performing detailed legal work as required in the areas of Adult and Juvenile crimes. Review, authorize and prosecute violations of felony and misdemeanor criminal laws of the State of South Dakota (and County ordinances) committed inside the County.Authorize and prosecute felony adult & misdemeanor juvenile delinquency offenses, Prosecute cases in regards to violence against women, Represent the County in criminal matters as well as juvenile delinquencies, and parental neglect proceedings, Process mental commitment cases, Process juvenile delinquency proceedings, Process cases of abused or neglected children, Prosecute state statute violations, Assist the State’s Attorney in advising the County Commission and other County officials in legal matters, Serve as the State’s Attorney in the absence of the State’s Attorney, Attend training sessions and meetings as required, Perform additional duties as required, performing all duties in a manner consistent with safe practices and policies.

Associate General Counsel: Raven, headquartered in Sioux Falls, was established in 1956. Today, Raven is publicly traded on NASDAQ (RAVN) and has earned an international reputation for innovation, product quality, high performance, and unmatched service. The Associate General Counsel will support in-house legal department with responsibilities including contract review, M&A support, corporate governance, regulatory compliance, legal research and litigation assistance, and various legal projects.

Education/experience:
Graduate of an accredited law school. Strong academic credentials, 2+ years experience in a corporate legal department or private practice (with business law) is preferred; or equivalent combination of education and experience, Licensed to practice law in South Dakota or other jurisdiction.
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Our team of valuation professionals provide reports in Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP), Yellow Book (USFLA) and IRS appraisal standards. Having grown up in rural communities and family farms in the Dakotas, we know the value of professionalism and integrity. We specialize in:
- Agricultural Properties
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- Conservation Easements
- Wildlife Habitat
- Rural Residential
- Commercial Properties
- Single and Multi Family
- IRS
- Yellow Book (USFLA)
- Mini-Storage Warehouses
- Lake Properties
- Estates, Donations, & Trusts

Our team also offers: consulting services, MLS research, agricultural land advising and real property valuation.

Contact us today for a personalized quote!
Notice of Judicial Vacancy

TO: All Active Members of the State Bar of South Dakota

FROM: Bruce V. Anderson, Secretary, Judicial Qualifications Commission

The retirement of the Hon. Jon Erickson in June 2018 will create a vacancy for a Circuit Court Judge position in the Third Judicial Circuit. The Judicial Qualifications Commission is now taking applications for this position.

All lawyers and judges interested in applying should obtain the application form at http://ujs.sd.gov/, or contact Lori Grode at the State Court Administrator's Office. The application must be returned to the Administrator's Office and must be postmarked no later than 5:00 PM on January 29, 2018. The duty station for this position shall be located in Huron, SD.

You may also obtain the application form by writing or telephoning:

Lori Grode
State Court Administrator's Office
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Telephone: 605-773-3474
Email: lori.grode@ujs.state.sd.us

Or, visit http://ujs.sd.gov/ for current job openings.

The Third Circuit is comprised of the following counties: Beadle, Brookings, Clark, Codington, Deuel, Grant, Hamlin, Hand, Jerauld, Kingsbury, Lake, Miner, Moody and Sanborn.
As someone who has recently retired as a public sector mediator, arbitrator, and administrative judge in various areas of employment law, I thought it would be worth commenting on how ADR may shape what you do.

When I began work in this area in the 80’s, there was next to nothing available to help learn the trade; today, a growing number of tools offer help. In 2018, the ABA will be publishing “Resolving Insurance Disputes Before Trial,” a book to assist practitioners critically assess how ADR such as mediation, arbitration, and settlement conferences can help them what is becoming a major component of their everyday practices. I understand there will be a chapter on workers’ compensation ADR, written by David Torrey, a prominent writer on workers’ compensation and former Pennsylvania ALJ, and Michael Duff, a Professor at Wyoming’s College of Law. The nuts of bolts of mediation will be presented in other chapters, but if you would like something right away, I recommend another ABA publication, “Representing Clients in Mediation” (2013) by Spencer Punnett. I was lucky to train with some of the best mediators in the world at the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service; there was little else available at the time, but now many excellent programs are available to get a new mediator up to speed.

Workers’ compensation arbitration is also becoming more popular here. A recurring problem has been dealing with the possible subrogation claims Medicare can make against the proceeds of what in the past would have been routine workers’ compensation settlements. A few years ago, Dick Tieszen from Pierre got the idea that our Department could arbitrate such claims; the parties would resolve as many existing claims by compromise as possible, and submit the remainder on a stipulated record to an arbitrator (usually me, though a private arbitrator could as easily do it), agreeing to abide by whatever result was reached. The Department would sign off on the arbitrator’s order, satisfying Medicare’s requirement for a neutral disposition of the issues. A Department case involves pre-hearing procedures that are complicated, expensive, and lengthy, while arbitration reduces each of these factors significantly; as a result, practitioners have quickly come to use this tool more frequently.

Especially in an age when screens and computers are making such inroads on what we do, there is a growing place for the kind of personal, face-to-face experience that makes ADR such a success, and it is valuable to be able to critically assess whether it will work for you and your clients.
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 2018.

I understand that if approved, rather than pay regular dues for the year 2018, I will only be required to tender the sum of $100 (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 2018.

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.

I understand that the Pro Bono Emeritus Status Program will provide me with professional negligence insurance limited to those referral cases of which I accept.

Dated this _________ day of _______________________________, 20____

Signature__________________________________________________________________________________________

Printed Name______________________________________________________________________________________

Address___________________________________________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip Code_________________________________________________________________________________

Phone________________________________   Email__________________________________________________________
To: All Members of
The State Bar of South Dakota
From: Tom Barnett

We all have problems. And, most often, we manage to solve them ourselves, but sometimes we can’t handle them alone. Recognizing that attorneys can develop personal problems that may jeopardize their health, family structure or employment, the State Bar of South Dakota provides members with the Sand Creek Member Assistance Program.

Sand Creek is a confidential telephonic counseling service that can help members solve personal and work related problems before they grow into serious and costly crises.

Employee Assistance Services (EAP) are provided by a staff of professional counselors, clinical psychologists, and social workers skilled at helping you identify and hand handle problems such as marital and family issues, chemical dependency, mental and emotional disorders and educational or career problems.

Free confidential telephonic services provided to you by Sand Creek include: problem assessment, action planning, and follow up along with 24-hour crisis telephone services. To access these services - see the box to your right.

The Sand Creek website, www.sandcreekeap.com, is a useful resource designed to help make your life easier. On the website you will find: Child care and elder care referrals; hundreds of articles on important mental and emotional health issues; work-related resources to help manage stress, cope with job changes or deal with a difficult boss; wellness resources including a comprehensive exercise, nutrition and healthy living portal that has hundreds of articles, recipes and tips for healthy living.

Confidentiality is the bedrock of a Member Assistance Program. All discussions and services are kept strictly confidential. The State Bar of South Dakota will not know that you are using the services. We encourage you to use this valuable benefit.

Sand Creek is a HIPPA compliant service.
Many South Dakota lawyers have risen to the challenge of making the SD Bar Foundation a favorite charity. Such generosity deserves public acknowledgement. Therefore, the Bar Foundation Board of Directors has created a “Fellows” program to not only make such acknowledgement, but also to provide an opportunity for more of our members to participate and determine their personal level of professional philanthropy. Participation can be on an annual basis or by pledge with payments over a period of time. All contributions made to the “Fellows” program will be deposited in the Foundation’s endowment account managed by the SD Community Foundation – famous for low management fees and excellent investment returns. Donations to the endowment are tax deductible and a perpetual gift to our profession and the educational and charities the Foundation supports.

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**Fellows of the South Dakota Bar Foundation**

Raising the Bar: Our Profession. Our Responsibility.

| LIFE PATRON FELLOW: $100,000 plus – Cumulative, including Pledges & Testamentary Gifts |
| SUSTAINING LIFE FELLOW: $50,000 plus – Cumulative, including Pledges & Testamentary Gifts |
| LIFE FELLOW: $25,000 plus – Cumulative, including Pledges & Testamentary Gifts |
| DIAMOND FELLOWS: $10,000 plus – Cumulative, including Pledge & Testamentary Gifts |
| PLATINUM FELLOWS: $10,000 – Cumulative, including Pledge & Testamentary Gifts |
| $10,000 PRESIDENTIAL FELLOWS |
| GOLD FELLOWS: $5,000 – Cumulative, including Pledge |
| SILVER FELLOWS: $1,000 per year |
| FELLOWS: $500 PER YEAR |

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| LIFE PATRON FELLOW: $100,000 plus | Cumulative, including Pledges & Testamentary Gifts |
|-------------------------------------|
| Fred & Luella Cozad |
| SUSTAINING LIFE FELLOW: $50,000 plus | Cumulative, including Pledges & Testamentary Gifts |
| Frank L. Farrar |
| LIFE FELLOW: $25,000 plus | Cumulative, including Pledges & Testamentary Gifts |
| Thomas C. Barnett, Jr. |
| Robert E. Hayes |
| DIAMOND FELLOWS: $10,000 plus | Cumulative, including Pledge & Testamentary Gifts |
| Thomas C. Barnett, Jr. |
| Robert E. Hayes |
| PLATINUM FELLOWS: $10,000 | Cumulative, including Pledge & Testamentary Gifts |
| Hon. Richard H. Battey |
| Hon. John B. Jones |
| Hon. Jack R. Von Wald |
| $10,000 PRESIDENTIAL FELLOWS |
| Richard D. Casey |
| Hon. Michael Day |
| Robert B. Frieberg |
| Thomas H. Frieber |
| David A. Gerdes |
| Hon. David R. Gienapp |
| G. Verne Goodsell |
| Robert E. Hayes |
| Patrick G. Goetzinger |
| Terry L. Hofer |
| Hon. Charles B. Kornmann |
| Bob Morris |
| Thomas J. Nicholson |
| Gary J. Pashby |
| Stephanie E. Pochop |
| Pamela R. Reiter |
| Robert C. Riter, Jr. |
| Eric C. Schulte |
| Jeffrey T. Sveen |
| Charles M. Thompson |
| Richard L. Travis |
| Thomas J. Welk |
| GOLD FELLOWS: $5,000 | Cumulative, including Pledge |
| Richard A. Cutler |
| Scott C. Moses |
| P. Daniel Donohue |
| Richard L. Kolker |
| SILVER FELLOWS: $1,000 per year |
| Scott C. Moses (in Memory of William J Janklow) |
| Timothy J. Rensch (17-18) |
| Herb C. Sundall (renewed 16-17) |
| Brandon M. Taliaferro (renewed 16-17) |
| Hon. Kathleen Trandahl (renewed 16-17) |
| Gregory A. Yates (renewed 17-18) |
| FELLOWS: $500 PER YEAR |
| Hon. John Bastian (renewed 17-18) |
| Hon. John L. Brown (renewed 17-18) |
| Mary Jane Cleary (renewed 17-18) |
| Craig A. Kennedy (renewed 16-17) |
| Robert A. Martin (renewed 16-17) |
| Hon. Judith Meierhenry (renewed 17-18) |
| Kimberley Mortenson (17-18) |
| Hon. Bobbi Rank (17-18) |
| Robert C. Riter (renewed 16-17) |
| Mrg Simon (renewed 17-18) |
| Thomas E. Simmons (renewed 17-18) |
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 ageing, substance abuse and mental health issues.

Full Name ________________________________
Address __________________________________
City ___________________ State ________ Zip Code ____________

I would like to contribute:

☐ in Lump Sum  ☐ Annually  ☐ Semi-Annually  ☐ Quarterly  ☐ Monthly

☐ Life Patron Fellow – $100,000 or more, cumulative.
☐ Sustaining Life Fellow – $50,000 or more, cumulative.
☐ 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.

Today I am sending $ ____________ (amount) to begin my gift.
I am paying ___ by check, ___ by credit/debit card.

Credit/Debit Card Payments:
Name on Card (if different than above) ________________________________
Address Tied to Card (if different than above):

___________________________________________________________

Card Number: _______________________
Expiration Date: ____________

*Alternatively, you can call The State Bar (605-224-7554) to setup your payment(s).

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

Meet the KTLLP Business Valuation Team
Certified Business Appraisals

What should I know about valuations for the purpose of marital dissolution?

When a marital asset is the interest in a closely-held business entity, we can determine the fair market value (or fair value) of the ownership of such entity, assist with property settlement negotiations, and formulate a list of questions that should be asked during a deposition to ensure all necessary information is obtained. In addition, we are experienced in courtroom testimony and can serve as your expert witness.

Are you helping a client through marital dissolution? We can help!

Contact us if you or your clients are in need of professional expertise.

Ericka Heiser, MBA, CVA, Senior Manager ericka@ktllp.com
Paul Thorstenson, CPA/ABV, CVA, Partner paul@ktllp.com

Ketel Thorstenson, LLP
Certified Public Accountants/Business & Personal Consultants
810 Quincy Street | Rapid City | 605-716-8997 609 Mount Rushmore Road | Custer | 605-673-3220
123 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 2 | Spearfish | 605-642-7676
ktllp.com
HOW THE STATE BAR ETHICS COMMITTEE WORKS

Identifying and responding to ethical issues that arise in practice can be challenging and frightening. The Ethics Committee of the South Dakota Bar is available to help all lawyers in South Dakota through those questions.

It is important to remember that the Ethics Committee is NOT the Disciplinary Board. The Ethics Committee exists not to identify and discipline ethical violations, but to confidentially assist lawyers in achieving compliance with the Rules of Professional Responsibility. As a result, there are some rules about how the Ethics Committee operates that are important to know:

1. REQUESTS ARE CONFIDENTIAL
The Ethics Committee will provide an opinion about concrete ethical questions to lawyers admitted to the State Bar of South Dakota. Action taken in reliance on a formal ethics opinion of the Committee is protected against discipline. Opinion requests are held confidential, and formal written opinions are de-identified to the greatest degree possible.

2. QUESTIONS MUST-relate to YOUR OWN CONDUCT
The Ethics Committee can only provide an opinion about the conduct of the lawyer making the request or another lawyer with whom that lawyer practices in partnership or similar association. Opinions cannot be sought about the conduct of opposing or unaffiliated lawyers lest they be used as swords rather than shields.

3. NO HYPOTHETICALS PLEASE
Requests for opinions need to be presented in concrete situations, with a description of the operative facts involved. Those facts will be assumed true by the Ethics Committee and the opinion limited to them. It is difficult to address hypothetical questions, so requests need to be tied to an actual factual scenario the requesting lawyer presently faces or is likely to.

4. SEND TO CHAIR WITH DEADLINE
Opinion requests can be directed to the chair via email: neil_fulton@fd.org and are then circulated for discussion within the Ethics Committee. The Committee endeavors to be timely, so it is useful to note any time pressures for the opinion.

5. WE ARE HERE TO HELP
Lastly, although formal opinions are common, the Committee is always happy to try to brainstorm an ethical issue with lawyers. Feel free to email or call the chair or another Committee member directly.

Opinions of the Committee over the years are collected on the State Bar Website. They make an excellent starting place to research an ethical question. The Committee also can steer lawyers to ethics opinions from the ABA, other states, and other ethics resources that may be helpful. Most importantly, the Ethics Committee exists to be a resource for members of the Bar. Please never hesitate to get in touch with questions or suggestions of how the Committee can best serve you.

This message is provided to members of the state bar by Ethics Committee Chair, Neil Fulton. Other members of the committee include: Ellie Bailey, John Billion, Jeffrey Bratkiewicz, Richard Engels, Douglas Fosheim, Alecia Fuller, Sandra Hoglund Hanson, Eric Kelderman, Tamara Lee, Christopher Madsen, Donald McCarty, Wendy McGowen, Ann Mines-Bailey, Sander Morehead, Sarah Morrison, Mike Schaffer, Thomas Simmons, Ryan Snell.
Today’s data rich environment calls for better eDiscovery Management solutions. We offer computer forensic investigative expertise combined with a cost-effective data processing protocol.
A hearing was held on November 7, 2017, at Pierre, South Dakota, relating to the proposed adoptions to the Appendix of SDCL Chapter 16-17 relating to the By-Laws of the State Bar of South Dakota and the Court having considered the proposed adoptions and oral presentation thereto and being fully advised in the premises, now, therefore, it is

ORDERED that the Appendix of SDCL Chapter 16-17 relating to the By-Laws of the State Bar of South Dakota be and they are hereby adopted to include the following:

Appendix of SDCL CHAPTER 16-17.

THE STATE BAR OF SOUTH DAKOTA

BY-LAWS OF

THE STATE BAR OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Section 34. Electronic Communications: Electronic communications, records, and signatures may be used in connection with all matters contemplated by the by-laws unless prohibited by law. The Bar Commissioners may use and rely upon electronic communications for all notices, waivers, consents, and action for all matters contemplated by the by-laws.

Section 35. Board Action (with less than required notice): Meetings and action of the Board of Bar Commissioners held with less than required notice may be held upon unanimous consent of the Board. Once unanimous consent is obtained, the Board may act upon majority vote of the Commissioners present at the meeting. A vote on the merits is deemed to be a waiver of the notice requirement.
Section 36. Action without a Meeting: Any action required by law or required by these by-laws to be taken at a meeting of the Board of Bar Commissioners or any action which may be taken at a meeting of the Board, may be taken without a meeting if all of the Commissioners consent in writing, which writing sets forth the action so taken and is signed by all the Commissioners. Such consent shall have the force and effect of a unanimous vote, and may be stated as such in any document, whether or not filed with the secretary of state of South Dakota.

Section 37. Conflict of Interest: Each Bar Commissioner shall timely advise the Board of any conflict of interest. Upon notice and explanation of a conflict of interest, the Board may, by majority vote, exercise any of the following options:

a. Require recusal of the Commissioner on the conflicted matter;

b. Authorize the Commissioner to speak on the merits of the matter but refrain from voting;

c. Waive the conflict and authorize the Commissioner to vote;

or

d. Authorize action appropriate and consistent with the Board’s fiduciary duties.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this rule shall become effective immediately.

DATED at Pierre, South Dakota, this 13th day of November, 2017.

BY THE COURT:

[Signature]

David Gilbertson, Chief Justice

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Supreme Court (SEAL)
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

INSTRUCTIONS

The certificate of compliance for the year 2017 must be submitted by January 31, 2018.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION concerning compliance with trust accounting records and procedures, including the reporting form, appear immediately following this notice. All ACTIVE members of The State Bar of South Dakota must file the compliance form with The State Bar not later than January 31, 2018. This rule includes retired lawyers, lawyers engaged in teaching, banking, insurance, full-time government employees, etc. This reporting requirement does NOT include inactive lawyers nor does it include Judges (Federal or Unified Judicial System) who are full time and did not have private clients.

Tom Barnett
Secretary-Treasurer

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 12-15-10, you would insert the closing date of the most recent bank statement (i.e. 11-30-10).
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 the Supreme Court Rule 91-10. 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 same. I remind you that the effective date of this rule was July 1, 1991. It is not too late to perform the monthly reconciliations from and after July 1, 1991, through the date of completion of this form; however, monthly reconciliations must be performed prospectively.

I have heard from a number of lawyers who have said that their trust account has an odd amount, such as $4.54, which has been in the account for ages 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 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 nuisance phone calls or letters trying to ascertain who signed the forms.

All lawyers must submit the compliance form no later than January 31, 2018. Please submit compliance forms after reviewing your December bank statements. If you have questions, please give me a call. TCB
2017 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

TO: The Secretary-Treasurer, The State Bar of South Dakota, 222 East Capitol Avenue, 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:
   (check the following items where applicable and/or fill in the blanks)
   ____ (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 _________________________, 2018

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 2017. Total Hours:_______________.

Rule 6.1. Voluntary Pro Bono Publico 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, 2017_________________, 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)
   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; or
   b. _____The undersigned lawyer(s) have professional liability insurance, the name of the insurance carrier, policy number and limits are as follows:______________________________________________________________________

      __________________________________________________________________________

      __________________________________________________________________________

   (*An out of state member may strike "South Dakota" and insert the state where his/her trust account is located.)

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 practitioner 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.)

(Signatures)

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

________________________, 2017

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:

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

___________________________________________    _____________________________________________

________________________, 2017

Date

*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.
December 2017

CLE- December Tax Update.............December 8..............................Ramkota Hotel, Sioux Falls
Bar Commission Meeting..................January 5............................Red Rossa, Pierre
Disciplinary Board..........................January 4-5.........................Red Rossa, Pierre
Disciplinary Board..........................April 5-6..........................ClubHouse, Sioux Falls
ABA Day..................................................April 9-12.........................Washington D.C
Bar Commission Meeting.................April 12..........................ClubHouse, Sioux Falls
Juvenile Law CLE.................................April 13am.....................Ramkota, Sioux Falls
Alternative Dispute Resolution........April 13pm..........................Ramkota, Sioux Falls
2018 Jackrabbit Bar Conference........May 31 - June 2, 2017............Medora, ND
2018 Annual Meeting........................June 20-22..........................Ramkota, Sioux Falls