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Judge Wood addresses the Class of 2001 on 'The Legal Profession'

Diane P. Wood, circuit judge for the US Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit, spoke at the Law School commencement in May. 

Good afternoon and congratulations to each and every one of you. This is a moment to savor—for you, your families, and your friends—coming as it does, sandwiched between three years of hard work in law school and the promising careers that await you. It is a great privilege for me to be able to share even a little bit of this time with you. I know that no one has come here to listen to a discourse of Brezhnevian proportions, and I have not taken to these remarks. Some years ago, for example, with the help of my law clerks, I trawled Law Librarianship, and found 70 reasons why you’re glad law school is over. On the list were such things as ‘friends get to learn your first name,’ and ‘you won’t ever again have to endure thoseE teams whose hands are always in the air,’ and ‘life is open book.’ You might have your own ‘top 10’ list of the things you’ll miss—being surrounded by good friends, constant intellectual stimulation, more spare time than you will ever have. I just want to make sure that you are in the embarrassing position of having David Letterman sue me for infringing the copyright of his show. But the rather negative way the legal profession is portrayed in most of these jokes (as in the one about the boat that goes down, and all the passengers except the lawyers are devoured by sharks—when asked why the exception, the sharks reply that they spared the lawyers out of professional courtesy) set me thinking. Before you went to law school, when you thought of the word “lawyer” or the word “attorney,” what came to your mind? Maybe a person—real or fictional—who was or is a lawyer: Clarence Darrow, Atticus Finch, Abraham Lincoln, Perry Mason; or Ally McBeal, Horace Rumpole, or (heaven forbid) Judge Judy. Maybe the word made you think about what you thought lawyers did; spearheading the Civil Rights Movement, putting together glamorous international business deals, prosecuting organized crime syndicates, or perhaps snarling up the system with lawsuits based on questionable science, or drafting reams of tedious and obscure “fine print,” or getting criminal defendants “off” because “the glove didn’t fit.” And if someone had asked you to list the qualities you thought lawyers had, what would you have said? Honesty, moral rectitude, selflessness, commitment, intelligence, imagination, determination, stamina? Or would you have said things like slyness, pugnaciousness, brinkmanship, self-preservation, opportunism, and moral relativism? All those adjectives and many more, on both lists, have been applied to lawyers from time to time, as you know well by now, even if you did not some three years ago.

So which is it? Is this the profession of Clarence Darrow, Abraham Lincoln, Thurgood Marshall, and Myra Bradwell, or is it the profession of David Letterman, Ally McBeal, Cheatham, and Howe? Even more important, which path will you take? I am confident that as we all sit here on this lovely Saturday afternoon, that question is rhetorical only. But it might be worth thinking a little more consciously about the ways in which a lawyer might conduct herself or himself in a way that ennobles the profession, and the pitfalls that lie ahead that slowly, insidiously lead to some of our more disappointing colleagues. We can do this by asking ourselves several questions—questions every lawyer should reconsider from time to time throughout his or her career.

First, is it true that the need to pursue the almighty dollar in today’s competitive profession inevitably leads to discourteous behavior or unethical conduct or diminished work quality? While my answer to this question is of course “no,” it is a qualified “no.” There is nothing inevitable about the undesirable consequences that sometimes occur, but we must be ostriches or Pollyannas if we thought that the environment in which law is practiced is exactly the same today as it was in the first half of the 20th century. It would be at best foolish, and at worst dangerous, if we did not acknowledge the growing stresses on the lawyer who wants to maintain the highest standards of courtesy, ethics, and excellence. It is only by looking in the eye of the enemies of all that is best that we will defeat them.

Let me take these risks one at a time, then, and offer a few thoughts on the way they need to be combated in the admittedly rarified world I see before me at the outset of my remarks. At the outset, there is simple courtesy—to your client, to your opponent, to the court, and to anyone else you encounter in the course of your legal practice. What is it that makes some lawyers think that they are not very rigorously representing their clients unless they are shouting at people over the telephone, or refusing to agree to simple scheduling matters, or pushing someone aside in line for a taxi? This kind of behavior is reminiscent of the playground bully, and we all learned that there is simple courtesy—towards your client, your opponent, your court, and anyone else you encounter. It is a quality that the lawyer must maintain.

Another point you should bear in mind, although belatedly is not particularly high-minded, is that you never know who you are insulting. Maybe some of you have played a game that one of my

From the Dean

International program expands, welcomes new dean

I am pleased to announce that Scott Palmer, a graduate of the Class of 2001, will be joining us as assistant dean for international programs effective Aug. 1.

Our graduate program in law has grown significantly over the last several years. During this time, I am very grateful, indeed, for the enormous effort expended by professors Lisa Farrisworth and Joe Hoffmann and the entire Graduate Committee to deal with the variety of academic issues that arise in the context of our LLM and SJD program. In addition, to the academic side of the program, however, there are also an enormous number of purely administrative tasks. These include, for example, arranging for appropriate visas for the students, working closely with the international admissions office at the university level to ensure that files are properly managed and expedites when necessary, as well as a host of student affairs issues. The demands of the program now require a person who can focus on the administrative tasks generated by this program and thereby free up faculty to focus on the academic side of the program.

Scott Palmer, we believe, will perform these administrative tasks admirably. In addition, there are a number of opportunities that we have never had the time or capacity to develop. These include the creation of alumni clubs in various cities throughout the world, including Tokyo, Seoul, Taipei, Beijing, and Bangkok. We now have a number of alumni throughout the world, especially in Asia. We have never really done much with alumni relations in this area, with the exception of a wide-ranging trip that I made a couple of years ago and a number of focused trips by Joe Hoffmann in the last year or two. One of the new tasks we hope Scott can undertake will be to put together an alumni network for us that will help to
Graduate address (continued from page 1)

daughters loves, the Kevin Bacon game, in which you are given two movies and you have to connect two events with a different actor in movie 2 through intermediate movies in which Kevin Bacon appeared. I'm here to tell you that your entire life will be the Kevin Bacon game. You will encounter your class mates from IU in the most unexpected places. You will discover that people you meet are only one or two common acquaintances away; and you will come quickly to realize that there may not be any quarters of the globe that you can go to not do something really stupid that no one will ever learn about. Not only that, but some people you don't know will tell you you need to meet soon. One of my favorite stories, which goes back to our theme of community, comes from the words of Judge Phyllis Kravitch of the United States Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit had many years ago. Judge Kravitch is a small woman from Savannah—not the kind of person the uninformed outsider would instantly tag as a V.I.P. One morning, she was in Atlanta at her hotel, getting ready to go over to the 11th Circuit’s courthouse to hear her cases for the day. It was raining cats and dogs, and there was a rather long line by the door for taxicabs. She waited patiently, but just as she reached the head of the line, a man cut in front of her and said, “I’ve got important business—I’m going to have to take this cab.” The judge was startled, but she acquiesced and took the next cab. Later on that morning, she was on the bench when the pressure to prove yourself is especially high, when you are an associate or a young lawyer still working on your principal job, your community? Once again, it isn’t easy—

The only rule that works, for lawyers as well as for human beings in general, is the one you were taught at your parents’ knees: courtesy to everyone, all the time.

Following an exchange via e-mail between professors Alex Tanford and Jeff Stake, Stake elaborated on his initial impromptu musings to come up with the following analysis of the property problem of baseball ownership:

One of my Property final exam questions asked about a recent event in baseball. The facts, as in any good law question, were designed to separate the “A” students from the “C” students with unimpeachable reliability but with absolutely no generalizability to the real world whatsoever, is simpler than this sentence. On April 18, 2001, Barry Bonds gained title by first occupancy. He went to the plate and hit it curved away from the hitter because of the pitcher’s twist of wrist, or that it was transferred title to the Giants in a voluntary transaction. (That the baseballs do not fly all of the time is easy to be fooled by the color commentators and the statistics designed to give the impression that we humans are in control. In some cases, fans have even asked whether the balls have been “juiced,” presumably because the agency has some causative influence on baseball behavior.

But that is all an illusion; the ball is beyond control. A baseball is, not to put too fine a point upon it, wild, hence, courts should treat the baseball as they would a wild animal.

Now this particular wild animal in question is the Giants, and by that I mean Barry Bonds, who is apparently unknown to the law community, and which preceded the tagging because the catcher did not get enough “body” in front of it. But those are all explanations designed to give the impression that we humans are in control. In some cases, fans have even asked whether the balls have been “juiced,” presumably because the agency has some causative influence on baseball behavior.

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But that is all an illusion; the ball is beyond control. A baseball is, not to put too fine a point upon it, wild, hence, courts should treat the baseball as they would a wild animal.
Kathleen Woodward traces the Campaign 2000 buzzword "compassionate conservative" to a question in a 1992 presidential debate about how candidates George Bush Sr. and Bill Clinton had been personally affected by the national debt. Bush stumped, Clinton wept. Ever since, argues Woodward, he feels the most pain wins.

The last panel of the day was on "Alternativ...
Adjunct Appointments

IU professors join Law School faculty

Three IU professors join the Law School this fall as adjunct faculty.

Professor A. James Barnes, who was dean of the School of Public and Environmental Affairs from 1988 to 2000, will teach environmental law, one of his lifelong scholarly and professional interests. Barnes was deputy administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from 1985 to 1988 and from 1981 to 1983 was general counsel for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Legal historian Michael Grossberg, a professor in the history department, will teach on children and the law. Grossberg is the editor of the Legal historian in Nineteenth-Century America

Fedwa Mahi - Douglas, the Martha C. Craft Professor of Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences, will teach cultural legal studies. Malti-Douglas’s most recent book, The Starr Report Disrobed, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. She is currently working on a book on American fantasies dealing with law, politics, and sexuality in the Clinton era.

New alumni staff

Ringrose joins as annual fund director

The Law School is pleased to announce that Betsy Ringrose has joined its staff as the new director of annual fund and reunion giving. She replaces Amanda Burnham, who is now the director of development and alumni affairs for the IU School of Journalism.

Before coming to the Law School, Ringrose had been the coordinator for development and public programs at the Jepson Herbarium at the University of California at Berkeley.

"Before that, she had worked for several years on the development staff at UC Berkeley’s Botall School of Law. "I’m really excited to be continuing my development career here at IU,” she says, “and I’m looking forward to working with our alumni. I want to help support the school’s academic mission through the continued growth of the Fund for Excellence.”

Ringrose has a master’s degree in anthropology from California State University, Hayward. She also majored in anthropology as an undergraduate at the University of California at San Diego, where she minored in art history and psychology.

Faculty awards

Dean presents awards, honors efforts

Dean Aman presented two faculty awards in April at an informal ceremony in the Law School lobby. Upon receiving the Wallace Teaching Award, Professor Hannah Buxbaum reported that one of her children, mishearing her speak of an award, was under the impression Buxbaum was going to be going to war. “But if war has anything to do with what happens in the classroom,” she continued, “teachers and students are fighting on the same side.”

Professor Seth Lahn received the Leonard D. Fromm Public Interest Award, presented by PILF president Mindy Finnigan, in honor of his tireless efforts to both promote and provide service in the public interest. Professors Charlie Geyh and Jeffrey Stave were recipients of the 2000-01 Trustees Teaching Award.

The Professor and the Canary: Medical ethicist visits school as Smith Professor

Margaret Somerville has been known to flap her arms like a bird in front of an audience of hundreds to make her point, which is this: Health care, or the way a society approaches the ethical and financial dilemmas health care raises, is like a canary in the coal mine of the future. If health care doesn’t thrive, it may be an advance warning that something is rotten in the state of the nation. This idea is at the heart of Somerville’s recent book, The Ethical Canary, in which she discusses the ethical implications of the medical decisions we make about birth, death, and everything in between.

This spring, Somerville was the George P. Smith II Distinguished Visiting Professor at the IU School of Law. During her stint in Bloomington, Somerville led a panel discussion of ethical issues in medicine. Wearing a canary-yellow jacket — the one she was wearing, she said, when she first hit upon the image for her title — she went on to head with several scholars in the Moot Court Room. The participants were David Smith, director of IU’s Poynter Center, Yvonne Cripps, Roger Dworkin, and George P. Smith II, IU’64, whose gift supports an annual visit by distinguished scholars and jurists.

As the Gale Professor of Law at McGill University in Montreal, Somerville is the first woman in Canada to hold a named chair in law, and she is the founding director of the McGill Centre for Ethics, Medicine, and Law. She is a public policy consultant to the Global Programme on AIDS of the World Health Organization, UNAIDS, the United Nations Human Rights Secretariat in Geneva, and law reform commissions in Canada and Australia. She has served on many editorial boards, advisory boards, and boards of directors, including the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport and the American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics, and is an ethics advisor to the auditor general of Canada. She has also been active in the clinical sphere, serving on clinical and research ethics committees and consulting for McGill University Teaching Hospitals.

Custer book


Every since Custer’s immediate superior, General Alfred Terry, first intimated that if Custer had survived his legendary defeat and death at the Battle of Little Bighorn he would have been court-martialed, historians and others have hotly debated the question of Custer’s culpability. On Sept. 18, 1998, the law weighed in. A board of "generals," comprising Justice Ginsburg, the Hon. Frank Sullivan Jr. of the Indiana Supreme Court, and IU Professor of Law David C. Williams, heard the case for and against Custer.

The new book compiles the Bill of Charges, the lawyers’ briefs, a transcript of the arguments, and the court’s opinion, together with a discussion of the legal and historical significance of the court-martial. The book and a video tape of the proceedings are both available for sale from the IU School of Law. Call (812) 855-9781 for more information.

Going wireless

La Vida Loca

In a transformation worthy of Clark Kent, Professor Craig Bradley wowed the audience with his Ricky Martin impersonation at Singing for Summer Salaries, a fund-raiser sponsored by PILF.
Before 1960

Lewis N. Mullin, LLB '40, and his wife, Hazel E. Mullin, BS '39, have restored an 1874 one-room schoolhouse in Carroll County. He is still practicing law in Delphi, Ind., (where they live), after 51 years. They have two children, both IU graduates.

California Western School of Law has announced an endowed program in select legal studies named in honor of Robert K. Castetter, LLB '34, who was dean of that school from 1960 to 1965.

Marjorie Castetter, a native of Martinsville, Ind., Castetter lives with her wife, Joan, in Muncie, Ind.

Samuel L. Reed, JD '79, was selected for the 2000-01 Indiana State Bar Association Board of Governors. He is a certified civil mediator and a senior partner in DeFin 

Vonir Hanan Radcliff & Reed. He and his wife, Joan, live in Muncie, Ind.

1960s

Joseph T. Bumbleburg, JD '61, was selected chair of the board of state trustees of IVC Tech State College in September 2000. He is president and senior partner of the Rochester and Lake Manitou Chamber of Commerce bestowed its Community Service Award on John Eric Gaber, JD '71, retired from Sprint Corporation, the American College of

Attorneys. He and his wife, Bernadette, live in Mansfield, Ohio.

Peter M. Kelly, JD '73, John R. Carr III, JD '74, and Carol Conner Flowe, JD '76, were among 172 prominent employee benefits attorneys who were honored as charter fellows of a new professional organization, the American College of Employee Benefits Counsel. The association was founded in July 2000 and grew out of an initiative of the American Bar Association's Employee Benefits committee on employee benefits.

Kathy practices in Chicago, Carr in Indianapolis, and Flowe in Washington, D.C.

John Eric Smithburn, JD '73, will have his eighth book, Cases and Materials in Juvenile Law, published by Anderson this year. He and his wife, Aladean M. De Rose, JD '71, retired from Sprint Corporation, the American College of

Attorneys. He and his wife, Bernadette, live in Mansfield, Ohio.

John R. Carr III, JD '74, joined Ayres Carr & Sullivan in November 2000 and will be a member of the Albany County Bar Association's board of directors. He and his wife, Connie, '79, sing in the United Unitarian Universalist Church choir in Bloomington, Ind. They have two children and live in Indianapolis.

John R. Carr III, JD '74, joined Ayres Carr & Sullivan in November 2000 and will be a member of the Albany County Bar Association's board of directors. He and his wife, Connie, '79, sing in the United Unitarian Universalist Church choir in Bloomington, Ind. They have two children and live in Indianapolis.

Death comes to Dufftown:
Soner's book recalls the good, not-so-good old days

By the time I started school, I thought I had a fairly good understanding of the life you were born, grew up, got married, went to work, had kids who grew up and got married, and soon you were a grandfather. You spent some good years on the store porch telling stories, and then you died. But I learned it did not always work this way.

Wilfred "Fuzzy" Kay's was my first hero. He was a big, strong, rugged-hand-generous guy and one of the star players on the Duff Indian baseball team. He lived with his sister, Nellie, and her husband, Gilbert Sunderman, who used his steam engine to power the saw mill he ran in winter. Fuzz worked for him and was using a cut-off saw to cut slab wood into store lengths. In one brief moment of inattention, he lost two fingers to the saw.

He was taken to the doctor who bandaged the hand but neglected to administer a tetanus shot. We thought Fuzz was well on his way to recovery, but soon he became deathly sick. The doctor was summoned, and the dread diagnosis, lock-jaw, spread through the community. For a week or more he lay, feverish and delirious, unable to eat through clenched teeth. Then, unbelievably, he died, and the community was cast into mourning at the loss of this young hero.

Fuzz was buried at the foot of a giant oak tree in Mayo cemetery. Many times over the years I revisited his grave, pondering the loss and lesson learned.

When I wish to relive the experience of his final days, I read Robert Frost's poem "Out, Out —", which seems to chronicle Fuzz's experience. In the poem, Frost tells of a young man who lost a hand to a buzz saw which he was using to cut stove-length sticks of wood.

He saw all spoiled. "Don't let him cut my hand off," the doctor, when he asked, "Does he let him, sister?"

So. But the hand was gone already.

The doctor put him in the dark of ether. He lay and puffed his lips out with his teeth.

And then — the watch at his pulse took fright.

No one believed. They listened at his heart.

Little — less — nothing — and that ended it.

No more to build on there. And they, since they were not the one dead, turned to their affairs.

John Phil Taylor's brother, Dorus, died on a bitter cold winter evening, and his body was laid on the front porch to await the coming of dawn and a trip to Pekivekel by family members to summon the undertaker. When the undertaker arrived in his passenger automobile, he was unable to get Dorus's body inside the car due to the cold temperature and rigor mortis, so he departed with Dorus's legs sticking out the window. Young Ray Stitwell saw him pull away and had nightmares for a while over that scene.

But what about the Taylors and drinking? It is too simple to say they were all alcoholics. They seemed to raise drinking whiskey to a different level — almost a spiritual one. They never went to church or talked about God or the hereafter, to anyone's recollection. At John Phil's grave site, as he was being interred next to the graves of his murdered sons, Wesley and Beaver, several bottles of whiskey suddenly appeared in the hands of the brothers who were present.

They took a long swig from the bottles they were holding, poured some onto the casket in the open grave, and then threw the still partially filled bottles into the grave to spend eternity with John Phil Taylor.

M y dad, who was 15 when his grandpa died, was very close to Floyd and had adopted many of his sayings. Sometimes, when I tried to get an exact answer out of him about something, he'd say, "Three in a hill and sometimes a pumpkin," referring to the time when corn was planted in hills, instead of rows. Three grains of corn were planted in a hill, and sometimes, but not every time, and not even every other time, a pumpkin seed. In other words, there is no exact rule; it's whatever feels right. If Dad found himself in a place he didn't want to be, he'd say, "Tell 'em, John, this is no place for an old soldier." Years later, when my dad lay dying on a hospital bed in the corridor of a local hospital, I asked him what Floyd would say if he were in that predicament, and he replied, "Ow'll tell ya, sonny, this is no place for an old soldier." Those were the last words I ever heard him say.
1980s
Frederick Kopee, JD'80, is group legal counsel for 742 Solutions Inc., a mobile commerce software company, supporting their operations in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. Kopee lives on Lake Austin, about 20 minutes by boat to downtown Austin, Texas.

After eight years on the bench, Susan L. Macey, JD'80, has stepped down from the Marion Superior Court, where she served as an attorney for the law firm of Barnes & Thornburg, Indianapolis. Before her appointment to the judiciary, Macey had served as an attorney in the Indiana General Assembly, was a master commuter for the former Marion Municipal Courts, and was in private practice.

Bradley J. Dougherty, JD'82, joined the Indianapolis firm Rose McKinney & Evans as an attorney with the creditors' rights and bankruptcy group. Previously, she was a staff attorney for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Indiana. She lives in Carmel, Ind.

Jeanette E. Hinshaw, JD'82, joined the Indianapolis firm Rose McKinney & Evans as an attorney with the creditors' rights and bankruptcy group. Previously, she was a staff attorney for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Indiana. She lives in Carmel, Ind.

Vicky, BS'86, live in Carmel, Ind.

John Buchanan, JD'90, was elected to the board of directors of McHale Cook & Welch, Indianapolis. He serves as chair of the property tax appeal group and vice chair of the property department.

School of Law

Dean ........................................... Alfred C. Aman Jr
Associate Dean .................................. Lauren Robel
Editor/Director of Communications ............................. Leora Baude

IU Law Alumni Update

Volume 10, Number 1

This newsletter is published for the IU School of Law Alumni Association in cooperation with the Indiana University Alumni Association to encourage alumni interest and support for the School. For membership or activities information, call (800) 824-3044 or e-mail inalu@indiana.edu.

Alumni Notes

(continued from page 5)

Life Insurance Co. She and her husband, Vidmantas Vitkus, JD'77, live in Fort Wayne, Ind.

After almost 15 years with the Keillogg Co., Bruce J. Banch, JD'79, has taken a job as chief counsel for the meat division of Sara Lee Corp. He lives in Bloomington, Ind., with his wife, Jeanne Hoffmann, JD'79, and their two children, who move from Memphis, Tenn., to Cincinnati.

mental services and finance department. She is board chair of Open Hand Inc., a program that provides a counseling alternative to the juvenile system for juvenile offenders.

Monica Stutzmann, MCL'86, writes, "After a law degree in franchise law at IU-Bloomington, I am happy to stay in touch with my American university. It was a great year." She lives and works in Strasbourg, France.

Sheila A. Carlisle, JD'92, is a deputy prosecutor for Marion County.

Sam E. Everson, JD'91, is the director of plant giving and counsel for the St. Meinrad Archabbey in Santa Cruz, Calif. He and his wife, Marla, live in Jasper and have four children.

George T. Patton Jr., JD'87, chairs the Community Advocates Law Group, a new national appellate bench bar entity of the American Bar Association. He is partner at Rose McKinney & Evans, Indianapolis, concentrating in appellate litigation, creditors' rights, and administrative law.

Bronio Port, JD'87, of Winston-Salem, NC, is a full-time writer and part-time professor of political science. In 2000, he published a book, How It Is the Court: Judicial Process and Politics in America (Addison Wesley Longman), a textbook designed for use by advanced undergraduates and beginning law students. He is currently writing a book about the purpose of college sports, and he occasionally writes appellate briefs for area attorneys.

After taking six months off to rest following her three years of service as Bloomington's fire chief, Kathy J. Saunders, JD'87, has returned to emergency services work. She is now the fire marshal of Knox County, Tenn. Her husband, David R. Day, JD'87, teaches Philosophy of Law and Political Philosophy at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Suzanne Vlahovertis, JD'96, writes, "My husband, Kevin O'Neill, and I were blessed with twin sons, Christopher and Rory James, on May 1, 1999. Life has never been more wonderful!" The family lives in Gaitersburg, Md.

Jeffrey T. Bennett, JD'90, has been selected to the board of directors of McHale Cook & Welch, Indianapolis. He serves as chair of the property tax appeal group and vice chair of the property department.

Kirk Grahe, JD'90, is counsel with Barnes & Thornburg, Indianapolis, practicing in the areas of governmental services and finance.

Diana Mercier, JD'90, is a member of Your Divorce Advisor: A Lawyer and a Psychology Guide You Through the Legal and Emotional Landscape of Divorce, published in February by Simon & Schuster. She is a divorce mediator in Indiana, with her own firm, Peace Talks Mediation Services, in Santa Monica, Calif. Mercier is an adjunct professor in alternative dispute resolution at the University of LaVerne. Her e-mail address is diaz1590@comcast.net.

Christopher Nichols, JD'98, heads the labor department for the Pepper Office of the St. Louis-based firm Husch & Eppenberger.

Becky Pierson-Treacy, JD'88, is the master commissioner for the Marion Superior Court.

James Reed, JD'89, of Chicago, is assistant regional counsel for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Midwest Region). He represents clients such as the Indian Health Service, the administration for Children and Families, and HCFA (Medicare). He writes, "Assisting Native Americans, impoverished children, and the elderly to access adequate health care has been extremely rewarding."

Geoffrey G. Slaughter, JD'90, joined Sommers & Barnard as a partner/director in January. He is a member of the litigation department and will focus his practice on business and commercial litigation. He lives in Indianapolis and can be reached at geoffrey.slaughter@indiana.edu.

1990s
John Buchanan, JD'90, is a prosecuting attorney for Boone County, Ind. He lives in Zionsville

Andrea Hermer, JD'90, was elected as a partner to the Indianapolis law firm Stewart & Irwin in January. She has had a cross-disciplinary practice in telecommunications and real estate. She lives in Indianapolis and can be reached at alhermer@home.com.

Michael Gottschlich, JD’91, joined Bremer, Novotny, & Swanson, Indianapolis, as of counsel on May 8. He works in the litigation practice group. He is a former partner at Hight & Brown & Bosse in Los Angeles. He and his wife, Suzanne, live in Indianapolis.

Jeanne M. Hamilton, JD’91, writes to say that when Gov. Frank O’Malley appointed her to the superior court on Jan. 10, she became the first woman judge to be named to the position in Indiana. She lives in Greenfield, Ind.

Mary Ann Schlegel Ruether, JD’91, has been admitted to partnership with Baker & Daniels, Indianapolis. She concentrates her practice in the areas of corporate finance and general corporate law.

Salvador Vasquez, JD'91, has his own practice in Merrillville, Ind. He and his wife, Ana, BGS'95, live in Crown Point, Ind., and he can be e-mailed at salvasquez@lawyers.com.

James Joven, JD’92, has been named deputy attorney general by Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter, JD’83.

Roger B. Finderson, JD’93, writes, "Terra, BA’95, and I gave birth to our first child on Feb. 15, 2001. Delaney Marie Finderson was 7lbs., 2oz., 20 in." The family lives in Fort Wayne, Ind., and can be reached at rdfindenso@comcast.net.

Phil Hatfield, JD’93, is associate independent counsel for the Office of Independent Counsel, Washington, D.C., and was admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court Bar in March.

Jeffrey A. Michael, JD’90, joined Barnes & Thornburg, Indianapolis, as a partner in March. He will work in their intellectual property department.

Matthew Price, JD’93, has been elected a professional member of McHale Cook & Welch, Indianapolis. He was a partner/associate at a medium-sized firm before his election.

Robert D. Schankner, JD’93, is an Indianapolis attorney and a legal writer. He has been a legal thriller titled A Criminal Appraisal, its sequel, Natural Law, published in March. He is the author of four novels, whose screenwriting, fiction, and poetry at IPUI and is waiting to see who the screenplay rights for his first book will go. He can be reached at RZatuToo@aol.com.

Sarah Di Lorenzo, JD’94, has made the switch from a law firm in Chicago to in-house counsel at Allstate in South Barrington, Ill.
Melina Maniasis Kennedy, JD'95, is assistant deputy mayor for policy development for Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson.

Tina L. Scibilia, JD'96, opened the Chicago legal recruiting firm, Nichols & Scibilia Attorney Search. She will focus on placing practicing attorneys in new positions with law firms and corporations. Before starting this business, she was a litigation associate at the Chicago firms Chapman & Cutler and Grippo & Elden before becoming the senior associate director of the Center for Career Strategy and Advancement at Northwestern University School of Law. She can be reached at acs@nwu.edu.

Todd S. Schenk, JD'98, has become a partner with Tressler Soderstrom Maloney & Priest, Chicago.

James A. Shepherd, JD'98, has joined the business transactions group at Willmer Cutler & Pickering, Washington, D.C.

Erica L. De Santis, JD'98, was selected as the Monroe County Human Association's first executive director in August 2000. She has worked with several nonprofit groups and volunteer-driven organizations since graduation from law school. She lives in Bloomington, Ind.

Melinda J. Gentry, JD'96, joined Riley Bennett & Egolf in September 2000. She lives in Indianapolis and can be reached at gentry@rbe.net.

Kyle E. Hanrahan, JD'98, writes, "I have achieved my dream job, working as a special agent for the FBI. I am assigned to New Orleans, where I live with my hound dog, Jesse. I can be reached at jethanrahanfbi.com."

N. Scott Murphy, JD'98, has joined Baker & Daniels, Indianapolis, as a member of the environmental law team.

Dawn A. Mee, JD'98, has joined the firm of Littler Mendelson, a national labor and employment law firm, as an associate in the Phoenix, Ariz. office. She can be e-mailed at smee@littler.com.

As a federal investigator and attorney for the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Matthew Villicana, JD'96, investigates computer fraud and the transport of child pornography through the U.S. mail.

Sonnia M. Hall-Justice, JD'97, has been named an assistant professor at the University of Indianapolis. Her specialties are environmental law, water law, and Indian law. He adds, "The Attorney General of the Indiana Tribal Council asked us to consider making for exciting times out of our new positions with law firms and corporations. Before starting this business, she was a litigation associate at the Chicago firms Chapman & Cutler and Grippo & Elden before becoming the senior associate director of the Center for Career Strategy and Advancement at Northwestern University School of Law. She can be reached at acs@nwu.edu.

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provide us with top students in the future, and connect these various alumni with our school on a regular basis.

In addition, we now have several relationships with law schools around the world. Those relationships require administrative support. Beyond the initial process of working with faculty to receive the proper authorizations (both university and accreditation authorities) for these programs, the ongoing relationships require support, including assuring that the student and faculty exchange aspects of the program go smoothly, developing resources to support present relationships and future relationships that faculty members are interested in pursuing (the large grant that Hoffmann wrote a few years ago to initiate an academic exchange in Kazakhstan comes to mind), and facilitating conferences that have international participants.

Those who know Scott know of his energy, intelligence, and interest in international law, as well as his experience in Asia. He speaks Chinese, and, in his capacity as president of the International Law Association, he has already established excellent relationships with our graduate students. He also has been instrumental in helping us over the last year or two to develop increasingly strong intellectual ties with the School of Law and Political Science in Beijing.

I know I speak for the entire Law School community when I say how pleased we are that Scott will be joining our administrative team. We look forward to the creative efforts that we know he will undertake in the months and years ahead and we welcome him to our administrative staff.

— Alfred C. Aman Jr.