

## CLASS action

John has been a member of the GU School of Law Board of Advisors since the 1990s, and also served as president. He was instrumental in securing private donations to help pay for construction of the new law building, completed in 2000. Through his expertise and vision, John also helped formulate a strategic plan for the law school to ensure its continued commitment to graduating knowledgeable, compassionate, and caring legal professionals. "I remember how several of my mentors during my youth would tell me that Gonzaga offered its students a phenomenal education and atmosphere," he recalled. "And now, looking back on it all, I couldn't agree more."

St. George, Utah, attorney **V. Lowry Snow ('79)** was sworn in as the new president of the Utah State Bar by Utah Supreme Court Chief Justice Christine Durham, as part of the Bar's annual convention held in Sun Valley, Idaho. Snow is a founding partner of Snow Jensen & Reece, where his practice areas include real estate law, civil litigation and land use planning. He is also a certified mediator. Snow serves on two Utah Supreme Court committees, one on professionalism and another that examines resources for those who represent themselves in legal disputes. He also served as the past president of the Southern Utah Bar Association in 1985. Snow was admitted to practice in the state of Utah in 1979, and currently holds memberships in the Utah State Bar and the U.S. District Court, District of Utah.

Commenting on Snow's credentials, John Baldwin, Executive Director of the Utah State Bar said, "Lowry Snow is a great lawyer, a consummate gentleman, and a visionary leader. He is well respected in the legal community and will be an outstanding president."

### 1980s

Internationally recognized expert in commercial law, **Henry Deeb Gabriel ('80)**, DeVan Daggett Professor of Law at Loyola University New Orleans, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar distinguished lectureship on international trade law at Portuguese Catholic University, Lisbon, Portugal, for the fall 2007 semester. Gabriel lectured on international trade law and worked on writing a book on comparative sales law.

Gabriel serves as a delegate from the United States to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law



**Above:** LTC Charles Grinnell, with 2005 graduate Hunter Abell at the crossed swords monument near the edge of the Green Zone in Baghdad.

and is an elected member of the Governing Council of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law in Rome. He has been a visiting professor at universities in Australia, Japan, Italy, Finland, and Malaysia, and he also lectured at other universities in Austria, Belgium, China, England, Korea, New Zealand, Spain, and Vanuatu. He was the national reporter for the revisions of the Uniform Commercial Code articles on sales and leases and the chair of the drafting committee on the article on documents of title. He is an elected member of the American Law Institute and was chair of the American Bar Association Business Law Section Committee on Sales Law from 1992 to 1996. After receiving his J.D., Gabriel earned his LL.M. from the University of Pennsylvania. His areas of expertise are domestic and international commercial law, contracts, international commercial arbitration, and federal appellate advocacy. You may contact Henry Gabriel through Rachel Ritter at (504) 861-5448 or rritter@loyno.edu.

Longtime defense attorney **Kevin Curtis ('81)**, a principal with the law firm of Winston & Cashatt, has been named president of the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (WACDL), a statewide association of more than 1,000 attorneys. Curtis, who has previously served on WACDL's Board of Governors, has more than twenty-five years of experience representing defendants in state and federal court. He has handled many of Spokane's high-profile criminal cases,

including the successful defenses of Joseph "Jojo" Andrews in a capital murder case and Wallace Jones, Spokane's first "mercy killing" case. Curtis joined Winston & Cashatt in 1996 after beginning his career at the Spokane County Public Defender's Office in 1981. Curtis has been a WACDL member since 1987. He is also a board member of the Washington Defenders Association and Junior Achievement.

**LTC Charles Grinnell ('81)**, M LTC RES USAR USARC, GU Law class of 1981, has been mobilized for his third tour of duty in Iraq. He was initially assigned as the Chief Magistrate in the Magistrate Cell of Task Force 134. He supervised a staff of over forty-five lawyers and support personnel reviewing every incoming detainee's case and determining if they should be released, forwarded for criminal prosecution, or held as a security detainee pursuant to United Nations Security Council Resolution 1546. He is the only JAG ever charged with supervising all three major legal components of Task Force 134 Legal, and is specifically charged with supervising an office of over fifty soldiers and support team members responsible for entering the "Red Zone," and the presentation of evidence against foreign fighters, Al Qaeda terrorists, and Iraqi insurgents in the Central Criminal Court of Iraq. He has lectured about and been interviewed on his experiences in Iraq and is a recognized expert in counter-terrorism, corruption, and the rule of law. Charles may be reached at charles.grinnell@us.army.mil.



*James G. Fausone*

estate, EEO, ethics, and human resources. Prior to joining the DOE in Richland, Washington, he was in private practice from 1987 to 2006.

**James G. Fausone ('81)**, a partner of Fausone Bohn, LLP, Northville, was recently selected to receive the University of Michigan College of Engineering, 2007 Alumni Society Distinguished Service Award.

**John R. Dudley ('82)** has joined the U.S. Department of Energy as an attorney. His work focuses on government contracts, litigation, real

Littleton, Colorado, Assistant City Attorney, **Brad Bailey ('83)**, received the IMLA (International Municipal Lawyers Association) Amicus Service Award at the organization's mid-year seminar in Washington, D.C. on April 14, 2008. "This award is a new distinction, and seeks to recognize lawyers who have been actively involved in legal advocacy for and on behalf of local governments and IMLA, and who have done exemplary work to protect and advance local government interests," said IMLA Associate Council Devala Janardan. IMLA is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the interests and education of local government lawyers. Brad has authored a number of amicus briefs on behalf of the IMLA and is a member of the Amicus Committee of the Colorado Municipal League, and is currently president of the Colorado Municipal Attorneys Association.

Class of 1983 law graduate **Janine Sarti** is now the general counsel at Palomar Pomerado Health District, California's largest public health district, serving the counties of South Riverside and North San Diego.

**Charles E. Maduell ('85)** has been named as a partner in the Seattle firm of Davis Wright Tremaine LLP.

Charles practices in the areas of real estate/land use and litigation. "These individuals represent our best," said firm-wide managing partner David C. Baca. "They are committed to helping their clients succeed and have made significant contributions to our firm and their communities. We are honored to have them as partners."

### 1990s

**Jon Benson ('92)** was recently named executive director of the Oregon Board of Bar Examiners. Previously, Jon practiced in several civil litigation firms in Portland, Oregon. He also worked as a staff attorney for legal aid programs in New Mexico and Oregon. Jon and his spouse, Wendy Bunch, both graduated *cum laude* in 1992. They have three children and numerous dogs, cats, and chickens. You can reach Jon at jbenon@osbar.org.

**Alan C. Brown ('93)** was recently made president elect of the 600-member Orange County Trial Lawyers Association, headquartered in Laguna Hills, California. Alan is a 1993 graduate of the law school, and is a partner in the firm of Day, Day & Brown in Tustin, California. His practice focuses on

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**Above:** Alan C. Brown; **Above Right:** Tracie Lindeman; **Right:** Christopher J. Wright

medical malpractice and personal injury cases. Alan will assume the office of president of the association in January of 2009.

**1993** law grad **Melissa Hauer** was recently hired by the North Dakota Insurance Department as general counsel and special assistant attorney general. In her position Melissa is responsible for the legal affairs of the department, providing general counsel, representing the department in litigation, and assisting with legislative affairs.

Prior to joining the insurance department, Melissa served for eight years as the director of the Legal Advisory Unit of the North Dakota Department of Human Services working mainly in health care law. Prior to that, Melissa was in private practice as an associate attorney with Wheeler Wolf. Melissa was admitted to the Washington State Bar in 1993, and the North Dakota State Bar in 1994. Melissa and her husband, Darren Silbernagel, live in Bismarck, ND, and have two children.



On January 8, 2008, **Tracie K. Lindeman ('93)** was sworn in as the Supreme Court of Nevada's sixteenth Clerk of the Court. In this position, Tracie is responsible for overseeing the Supreme Court's case docket; she also reports the decisions for all cases decided by the Court. Tracie supervises both attorney and non-attorney court employees. Tracie attended Gonzaga University School of Law as a Thomas More scholar and graduated in 1993. Prior to her appointment as clerk of the court, Tracie served as supervising attorney for the capital case team.



**Christopher J. Wright ('93)** has joined the law firm of Lukins & Annis, P.S. as a partner. Chris graduated *cum laude* in 1993, and has fifteen years experience including work in private practice and as corporate counsel for the Metropolitan Creditors' Trust. Chris's practice at Lukins & Annis will focus on commercial and real estate transactions, loan documentation and foreclosure, sales of receivables, and structured settlement transfers. He is admitted to practice in Washington and Idaho.

**Beverly A. (Hallett) Benka ('94)** has been appointed Clerk of Court for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the eastern district of Washington. She previously served as staff attorney for the Chapter 13 Trustee for the eastern district of Washington. Her contact information is:

beverly\_benka@waeb.uscourts.gov.

**Brett M. Tolpin ('96)** joined the IP law firm of Olson & Cepuritis, Ltd. in Chicago. Brett previously was with Welsh & Katz, Ltd. Brett can be contacted at: btolpin@olsonship.com.



Brett Tolpin

**Matthew Wolkofsky ('96)** has been appointed to the board of directors of the Embrace Kids Foundation. Embrace Kids is a non-profit organization that provides funding for a variety of services for children with cancer or blood disorders.

**Paul Schlossman ('97)** presented a speech at the Washington State Legislature's joint legislative session on January 9, 2008. The speech was on the governance of the Port of Seattle, and one of the highlights of the speech was how the fiduciary norm as taught by GU law school professor Michael McClintock (utmost good faith, fair dealing, and full disclosure), may apply to the Port.

**Michael Johnston ('98)** has been a lead staff attorney at the Washington Court Commissioner's Office for the past year. His work includes screening petitions for review and motions for discretionary review, drafting rulings and per curiam opinions, and training new law clerks. This is the third appellate court that Mr. Johnston has worked for. He previously clerked at Divisions II and III of the Washington Court of Appeals. Before joining the Supreme Court, he was an assistant attorney general in Olympia defending state employees and agencies against tort lawsuits.

### 2000s

**Janaé Ball ('00)** has been hired by the Spokane office of K & L Gates. Her practice focuses on employment law and drafting trial motions, discovery and legal memoranda, and advocating in a variety of court hearings. Janaé clerked for the Spokane County Prosecuting Attorney's Office where she tried felony cases, and interned for a law firm in California. She also worked for the International Foundation for Election Systems in Washington, D.C.

In May of 2007, **Anna Blaine ('01)** was awarded a Masters of Library Science by Southern Connecticut State University, along with the Lynda Moulton Award for Outstanding Student in the Special Library Program. In January she began work as a reference librarian at New York Law School in New York, NY.



Hunter Abell

After six-and-a-half years at Northwest Justice Project, '01 graduate **Jason T. Vail** has relocated to Chicago to work for the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law. Jason has worked as a part-time staff attorney-legal editor for Clearinghouse Review, a legal journal of poverty law and policy published by the Shriver Center, and is planning on expanding his role at the Center to work on ways to bring the Review fully into the "Internet Age," thereby expanding its reach to legal aid advocates everywhere. He may be reached at [jasonvail@povertylaw.org](mailto:jasonvail@povertylaw.org).

**2005** graduate and former SBA president, **Hunter Abell** was sent to Iraq with the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps last October. He is at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad and is working with the Central Criminal Court of Iraq (CCCI) Liaison Office helping prosecute terrorists before Iraqi judges. He also works closely with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to increase procedural due process for the detainees brought before the court. His time in Baghdad overlapped with LTC Charles Grinnell, and the fellow "Zag JAGS" joked about establishing the Gonzaga Law School Alumni Association, Baghdad Chapter. Hunter notes that "between the terrorists, the Red Cross, and incoming mortar rounds, there's never a dull moment here in the Green Zone."

**Hokyeom Kim ('06)** is working as an international lawyer and foreign legal consultant in the Pureun International Law Firm in Seoul, Korea. The firm engages in banking and financing, foreign investment, corporate, debtor-creditor, tax, international business transaction and logistics, admiralty and maritime, and intellectual property law.

GU Law **2007** graduate **Jill Conrad** has recently been hired by Stamper Rubens, P.S. 

## in MEMORIAM

The Gonzaga University School of Law extends its deepest condolences to the families and friends of the following alumni and friends.

**Adolph Lund "Duff" Harstad, J.D. 1983**

**Reginald K. "Reg" Cullitan, J.D. 1982**

**Gordon Lee Bovey, J.D. 1965**

**Thomas Dempsey, J.D. 1963**

**Laurence B. Ryan, J.D. 1959**

**Otto Henry Bjerke, J.D. 1956**

**Carl Diana, J.D. 1953**

**Tim Healey, J.D. 1950**



## What's new? Did you move? Change Jobs?

Keep in touch with your former classmates, professors, and friends by sending us your professional, and personal news for publication. Please make sure the news you submit is accurate, complete, and legible. Include a picture if you wish.

If you have information you would like to submit for Class Action, please send it to:

Gonzaga University School of Law Alumni Office  
P.O. Box 3528  
Spokane, WA 99220-3528

Fax: (509) 313-5744

Or send an e-mail to: [nfike@lawschool.gonzaga.edu](mailto:nfike@lawschool.gonzaga.edu)

# DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR WILL IS?

MAKING SURE OTHERS KNOW WHERE YOUR WILL IS LOCATED IS AS IMPORTANT AS MAKING ONE.

On average, a person works more than 40 years to accumulate assets and spends 10 years conserving what has been earned, but does not spend even 2 hours to plan for the distribution of those assets. The chaos that often occurs following a death can be burdensome. A key element of proper planning is the implementation of an estate plan. The Gonzaga School of Law is offering a helpful booklet entitled *Planning for the Future: A Guide to Wills and Trusts* to organize family, personal, financial, will and trust information into one document. Then the important reminder... make sure your loved ones and/or personal representative is aware of the contents and its location!

Call or e-mail us for a complimentary copy of the *Planning for the Future* booklet today at 800-388-0881, 509-313-6141 or [plannedgiving@gonzaga.edu](mailto:plannedgiving@gonzaga.edu). Please remember the 'Corporation of Gonzaga University' and/or 'Gonzaga Law School Foundation' in your estate planning.  
Thank you!