



# LEGAL BEAGLE

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

<p>Thursday November 9, 2006 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Social Mixer at Fox &amp; Hound</p>
<p>Wednesday November 15, 2006 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.</p>	<p>Luncheon at V's Restaurant \$15/person Topic: Municipal Court Seminar with speakers including prosecutors from the surrounding metropolitan area.</p>
<p>Friday December 15, 2006 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Christmas Party Drumm Farm 15400 E. 34th St. Independence, MO 64055</p>



Election day is rapidly approaching and several critical issues will be on the ballot in this election cycle. One of particular importance is Amendment No. 7 which is designed to give judges a much needed raise. According to a recent Lawyer's Weekly article, the larger firms in the Greater Kansas City Area pay \$90,000 to \$95,000 per year to newly admitted lawyers. In contrast, Missouri circuit judges earn \$108,000 annually. Clearly, judicial salaries are inadequate. If we are to attract and retain quality judges in Jackson County and throughout the state, it's time for the voters to step up to the plate and say yes to Amendment 7. I urge all of you to speak out and promote an increase in judicial salaries in this election.

Although we will not all agree on all of the issues and candidates, as lawyers, we can set an example to friends, neighbors and the public at large by being informed about the issues and educated about the candidates. An informed and independent thinking electorate more readily sees through the hype of campaign half-truths and the smears of negative political ads. Take action by voting and encourage others to exercise their constitutional right to do the same. I think it was Justice Brandeis who said, "The most important office in a democracy is the citizen who holds the right to vote." Our country is great because of our constitutional freedoms and one of the most important is the right to vote. So speak out, encourage others to be informed in the issues and candidates and vote on November 7. The stakes are high. Best Regards.





## Register Online

Did you know that you can now register for an event online? This month at the bar website, [www.ejcba.com](http://www.ejcba.com), you may register for upcoming events. As you utilize this site, please give us feedback about the site and its effectiveness. We appreciate your input to help make our site informative and functional.

If you would like to receive the Legal Beagle by e-mail please forward your e-mail address to:

[william.d.piedimonte@pedimontelaw.com](mailto:william.d.piedimonte@pedimontelaw.com)

To send information to EJCBA, mail to:

Rick Scaletty  
233 W. Walnut St.  
Independence, MO 64050



### EJCBA Representative at Leadership Academy

The Bar Association is pleased to announce that we are providing a scholarship for member Lori Schulze (law clerk for Judge Grate in Division 17) to attend the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Greater Kansas City Bar Leadership Academy. Members include emerging bar leaders representing a cross section of the Greater Kansas City legal community including geographical, racial, gender and private and public law representation. The goals include to enhance each participant's leadership skills to better excel in service to the profession and the community and to foster closer working relationships between local and specialty bar associations in the Kansas City area. Congratulations and good luck, Lori.

### Tom Locke Scholarship

We are proud to announce that the scholarship fund now exceeds \$7,000 which is being managed by the Heartland Foundation. Scholarship applications are expected to be sent to area high schools in October 2006 for selection in the early spring. Our Association provides a \$1,000 educational scholarship to a deserving senior who graduates from a high school in Eastern Jackson County. Please encourage any senior who you think may benefit from this scholarship to check with their high school guidance and counselor's office for an application form to apply. The scholarship is funded from the proceeds from our annual golf tournament.

### Newly Renovated Office Space in Independence.

- Receptionist and telephone service
- Spacious conference room
- Recently carpeted 230 sq. ft. offices with windows,
- Attractive lobby, friendly staff
- Conveniently located within 2 blocks of courthouses, city and county offices, post office, restaurants and business services.

**114 S. Main Street, Independence  
Call 816.254.0535**



## FOCIS Increase in Fees

On October 12, 2006, Presiding Judge Ann Mesle entered an administrative order 06-05 effective October 15, 2006. FOCIS program class providers may collect a fee up to and including \$46.00 per adult participant and the New Beginnings FOCIS program class providers may collect a fee up to \$55.00 per adult student.

### Heartfelt Thanks

*Judge Vernon Scoville wishes to express his gratitude and appreciation to all members of the bench and bar who have extended him condolences over the tragic loss of his wife. Judge Scoville has returned to work in Division 28 and appreciates all of your support.*

We again encourage all members to be certain you have paid your annual dues for 2006-2007. Again, renewal forms are attached to the Beagle. Be sure to invite a colleague who lives or works in Eastern Jackson County to join. Please complete and return it with your check to:

Randy Cain  
4971 NE Grandview Circle  
Lees Summit, Missouri 64064

**Renewal  
Time!**

**Eastern Jackson County Bar Association**  
***Membership Information and Application/ Renewal***

*Please complete and send with your \$75.00 annual dues to the address listed below (\$37.50 if a government employee).*

I, the undersigned, hereby make application for membership in the Eastern Jackson County Bar Association. Annual dues must be paid in June of each year to remain an active member, in the amount established by the Board of Directors.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm Name/ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Law School Attended: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Admitted to Missouri Bar: \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Licenses: \_\_\_\_\_

Public Office(s) Held: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Application Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

Mail to: Randy Cain  
Cain and Cain  
4971 NE Goodview Circle, Suite B  
Lee's Summit, Missouri 64086