



SENIOR LAWYERS

The newsletter of the Illinois State Bar Association's Senior Lawyers Section

Chair's column: Technology really is for seniors!

By John T. Phipps

1. Computer Basics for Senior Lawyers

We had an excellent response to our continuing legal education program "Computer Basics for Senior Lawyers" held in October. The response from participants was so positive that we are now developing a new Computer Basics for Senior Lawyers program through the ISBA CLE department. Attendees at the new ISBA program will be able to get CLE credit for attending. Additional announcements will be forthcoming. We are also considering a program on smart phones or simply setting up a workshop at the ISBA Annual and Midyear meetings to help seniors with their questions about smart phones, tablets and basic computer issues. Your comments and indication of interest would be appreciated.

2. Smart Phones

Smart phones continue to evolve. The new smart phones, iPhone and Samsung Galaxy and similar phones, are much simpler to use and very powerful. The new smart phones are almost a desktop computer in your pocket. With a little help from the phone provider, most seniors can get a new smart phone up and running with the basic operating system. I have a number of friends, mostly seniors, who have finally moved to smart phones. They are all amazed that smart phones are adding so much to their lives by making things easy and opening up their communication options. Each one has been sorry they did not upgrade earlier.

Continued on page 2

ARDC thoughts

By John R. Cesario, Senior Counsel

Introduction

In this article I would like to cover two topics that are important to senior lawyers in Illinois. First, I will note trends regarding the aging of the legal profession and describe some challenges that trend will present the Bar and the Court.

Second, I will discuss some things senior lawyers should do to create a contingency plan to assist their own families, and to protect clients, if the lawyer should suffer from a sudden illness or disability.

The Demographic Reality, or the Advent of a Senior Tsunami

Illinois will see a significant rise in the number of attorneys over 65 years of age engaged in the practice of law over the next 10 to 15 years. Some

of the numbers show that, in 2011, there were about 6,700 attorneys on the Master Roll over 65 years of age, but in 2016 we will have 13,000 lawyers in that category. By 2021, the number will rise to 20,900 and then to 29,000 by 2026.

As a result, more attorneys may be practicing without adequate support staff while suffering from age-related impairments. In turn, clients may suffer from a lack of care and oversight by those attorneys due to those impairments.

Why are we seeing so many senior lawyers? There are several factors, including the increase in the number of attorneys over the last 50 years and broad demographic trends about population in general. For example, the total number

Continued on page 2

INSIDE

- Chair's column 1
- ARDC thoughts..... 1
- How and why you should join the Senior Lawyers Discussion Group..... 2
- Everything a senior counselor needs to know (or should know) about blogs 6
- Upcoming CLE programs 7
- Technology for seniors.... 8



IF YOU'RE GETTING THIS NEWSLETTER BY POSTAL MAIL AND WOULD PREFER ELECTRONIC DELIVERY, JUST SEND AN E-MAIL TO ANN BOUCHER AT ABOUCHER@ISBA.ORG

Chair's column

Continued from page 1

One senior couple, finally, after being pressured by their children, purchased the Samsung Galaxy phone. They have been astounded at how easy it is to operate even though it still has a learning curve that takes a little time. They particularly like the ability to check their e-mail when they are not at home or at work. They are delighted to find how easily they can keep up with things by sending and receiving e-mails. Now they are also using SMS text messaging to keep up with their children. They like the easy fill process for keywords and suggestions for proper words for e-mail and SMS text messaging. They are working with basic apps but they both are excited to download more. The wife has already downloaded a number of apps for her use and pleasure. They have been looking at numerous apps and note a number of them that will be very helpful and fit their lifestyle. An example of a useful app is *Poynt*, which has addresses and phone listings for business and people, gas prices, movie listings, and events listings with the option to call directly from the listing and get directions from the listing. They also are tak-

ing pictures and sending them to family and friends. They also love to receive pictures.

They particularly appreciate having their calendars and contacts with them and the ability to update both. The e-mail feature, contacts and calendars are more than enough to fit their needs. They didn't realize that by spending only a little time learning about the basics of the smart phones, they could get so much out of them. The multiple other apps are just a bonus.

The access to the Internet and the ability to look up all kinds of things anywhere is a powerful tool. The navigation and location information and its ease of use make getting lost a thing of the past. Their adult children are thrilled to be able to communicate with them on a whole new level. They now have instant access to their teenage grandchildren who love to SMS and MMS text message but do not have time to talk. They are really sorry now that they didn't take advantage of the benefits of a smart phone sooner.

It has been interesting to watch their reaction as they progress and realize how, with very little work, they benefit from using a

smart phone. I don't want to say this couple were technophobes, because they did basic computing before, but using a smart phone has truly provided a new dimension to their lives and opened the scope of their world. The smart phone provides access to all kinds of things that they had never considered until now. All lawyers, especially senior lawyers, need to be aware of the potential and how smart phones can help them and make their lives both easier and more fun. For those seniors still practicing law, smartphones will open up a whole new world of productivity that will make their practices easier and help them serve their clients better. ■

About the Author: John T. Phipps is engaged in the general practice of law in Champaign, IL as John T. Phipps Law Offices, P.C. His primary emphasis is in the areas of family law, general civil litigation, real estate, criminal law, probate and business law. He is chair of the Senior Lawyers Section Council. He is a past chair of the ISBA General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Section Council and Co-Editor of the Section's newsletter and has been a member of the ISBA Assembly.

How and why you should join the Senior Lawyers Discussion Group

Don Mateer, Immediate past Chair - Senior Lawyers Section Council

I have been asked by several senior lawyers to provide a step-by-step guide for signing up to the Senior Lawyers Discussion Group. To sign up for the Senior Lawyers Discussion Group, you must first go to the ISBA Web site. In order to do this, you type in ISBA.org into your browser's (Explorer, Google Chrome, Firefox, etc.) search space. With your mouse, you click on ISBA.org which will open the ISBA Web site. Once at the Web site, take a look at the red bar near the top of the page. Scroll with your cursor to "member groups" and click on that. In the drop-down menu, click on Senior Lawyers. On the next page, you will see "resources"; click on senior lawyers discussion group sign up under resources. On the next page, type in your ISBA username and password. You should now be able to join the Senior Lawyers Discussion

Group. Welcome to the world of chatting with or asking questions of over 300 fellow senior lawyers.

Now that you know how to join the Senior Lawyers Discussion Group, these are some of the reasons you will find joining a wise decision. Many times an issue will come up in your practice that has been seen and dealt with by many senior lawyers. If this issue is new to you, a simple query on the senior lawyers discussion list will help answer any questions you might have. It is like having a senior lawyer consultant at your fingertips at all times. Not only are substantive issues of law dealt with in the discussion group, but also issues unique to senior lawyers. There have been discussions concerning Social Security, Medicare, and even where one can find senior discounts at restaurants and stores.

Useful and helpful tips have been given by fellow senior lawyers. Once you are signed up for the discussion group, you are able to access the prior discussions that have taken place in the forum.

If you have difficulty typing, but are still able to speak clearly, I would recommend the use of Dragon Naturally Speaking. This article was dictated directly to Dragon Naturally Speaking with no typing on my part. If you can speak, you can participate in the Senior Lawyers Discussion Group.

If you are having any trouble signing up for the discussion list, or have any questions concerning the discussion list, do not hesitate to e-mail me at mateerdon@gmail.com. If a simple e-mail will not answer your question, I will call you directly. ■

ARDC thoughts

Continued from page 1

of people over 65 will double in 25 years and the proportion of the population over 65 will grow from 13% to 20%. Improvements in health care over the last 100 years have had the happy consequence of allowing more attorneys to live longer and practice longer.

One challenge will be to develop appropriate responses to age-related impairments. While Rule 8.3(a) requires an attorney to report serious misconduct by another attorney, there is little guidance for attorneys or judges faced with an apparently impaired senior attorney who is not engaging in serious misconduct, but whose impairment may present a risk of harm to clients.

In this circumstance, colleagues, clients or judges may be reluctant to interfere or to act. Additionally, when confronted, an age-impaired attorney may often deny the allegations or resist efforts to address the problem.

I believe the process used by the Lawyers Assistance Program (LAP) can help a great deal. LAP uses carefully planned and researched interventions to address specific concerns to an attorney who is the subject of the intervention. While LAP predominantly uses its services for drug or alcohol problems, LAP has noted an increase in age-related impairments and has performed interventions for that issue as well. The LAP model is useful because it is non-adversarial and because LAP has healthcare resources that may be essential to evaluate the extent of any age-related impairment. A traditional disciplinary process may be unwarranted because, if the lawyer suffers from age-related impairments, there may be no element of willfulness or serious harm as occurs, for example, in a conversion of estate assets.

Sudden Illness, Disability and Other Sad Realities

The second topic I want to address concerns the sad circumstance that occurs when sudden illness or death creates a crisis for a senior lawyer, and places a burden on family, friends and clients. While this article is addressed to senior lawyers, such misfortune may strike an attorney at any age. For this reason, all attorneys should have a plan to designate a successor to care for client matters if such a misfortune should occur.

Insights provided by Rule 1.3 and

the Duty of Diligence

Rule 1.3 is rather straightforward. It provides that "A lawyer shall act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client."

Comment 5 to that Rule provides that, as part of the duty of diligence, each sole practitioner should prepare a plan that designates another competent lawyer to review client files, notify each client of the lawyer's death or disability, and determine whether there is a need for immediate protective action. The Comment then refers to the Illinois Supreme Court Rule regarding receiverships.

So, if you are a senior lawyer winding down a law practice, or a sole practitioner, you should have a plan to provide a smooth transition in case you should suffer a disability or death. The best approach is probably to team up with another sole practitioner or small firm to cover for each other if some problem should arise. This will help the attorney and the clients of the attorney.

Checklist of topics for a sole practitioner to discuss with a designated successor

I want to briefly suggest a plan for a sole practitioner, or a senior lawyer thinking of reducing the volume of cases in the practice, and offer a partial checklist of some things to do.

First, the attorney should have written instructions to family members or support staff to describe how to generate a list of client names and addresses. Also, the attorney should be able to generate a list of open matters and closed matters as well. In this regard, Supreme Court Rule 769 is useful and instructive. That Rule is entitled *Maintenance of Records* and it provides important guidance to attorneys. The Rule has two parts. The first requires every attorney to maintain records which identify the name and last known address of each of the attorney's clients and which reflect whether the representation of the client is ongoing or concluded. This information is also important for good office management because it allows the attorney to list and review all matters that are subject to his duty of care and diligence.

Also, an attorney should be able to produce the telephone numbers of all clients

SENIOR LAWYERS

Learn more about this section at
<<http://www.isba.org/sections/seniorlawyers>>.

OFFICE

Illinois Bar Center
424 S. Second Street
Springfield, IL 62701
Phones: 217-525-1760 OR 800-252-8908
www.isba.org

EDITORS

John H. Maville
600 S. State St., Suite 307
Belvidere, IL 61008

Gary T. Rafool
411 Hamilton Blvd, Ste. 1600
Peoria, IL 61602

MANAGING EDITOR/
PRODUCTION
Katie Underwood
kunderwood@isba.org

SENIOR LAWYERS SECTION COUNCIL

John T. Phipps, Chair
Barbara O. Slanker, Vice Chair
Russell K. Scott, Secretary
Don M. Mateer, Ex-Officio

Leonard F. Amari	Hon. Patrick J. Hitpas
Frank V. Ariano	John J. Horeled
Hon. Carole K. Bellows	Eugenia C. Hunter
John W. Damisch	Bruce D. Locher
Robert K. Downs	Edward J. Schoenbaum
Loren S. Golden	David B. Sosin
Richard O. Hart	Richard L. Thies

Russell K. Scott, Board Liaison
Mary M. Grant, Staff Liaison
Janet L. Grove, CLE Committee Liaison
Eugenia C. Hunter, CLE Coordinator
Letitia Spunar-Sheats, CLE Coordinator

Disclaimer: This newsletter is for subscribers' personal use only; redistribution is prohibited. Copyright Illinois State Bar Association. Statements or expressions of opinion appearing herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Association or Editors, and likewise the publication of any advertisement is not to be construed as an endorsement of the product or service offered unless it is specifically stated in the ad that there is such approval or endorsement.

Articles are prepared as an educational service to members of ISBA. They should not be relied upon as a substitute for individual legal research.

The articles in this newsletter are not intended to be used and may not be relied on for penalty avoidance.

Postmaster: Please send address changes to the Illinois State Bar Association, 424 S. 2nd St., Springfield, IL 62701-1779.

Strength | Commitment | Dedication



we are
you.

No other professional liability insurer covers Illinois like ISBA Mutual Insurance. As a matter of fact, we **ONLY** cover Illinois lawyers.

ISBA Mutual policyholders are the owners of ISBA Mutual. As a mutual insurance company, insured members are not subject to the pressure of stockholders pushing rates higher to reach a targeted profit. ISBA Mutual has paid a dividend every year for the last eight years and since 2000 we have returned over \$13,000,000 to our policyholders.

This unique focus stems from the founding of ISBA Mutual to not only provide competitive rates, but to support the entire Illinois legal community. Our involvement includes sponsoring events, such as, the ISBA's Annual Meeting, Mid-Year Meeting and the Solo & Small Firm Conference. Additionally, all ISBA members are entitled to absolutely free online legal research through Fastcase in which we completely underwrite 100% of the program.

Our story is simple, we take care of the Illinois legal community.

www.isbamutual.com | (800) 473-4722



in pending matters so that someone could call those clients and reach them quickly, if necessary, to inform them that the attorney is unavailable and that they need to speak to another lawyer promptly about any ongoing legal matter. The second part of Rule 769 provides that an attorney shall maintain all financial records related to the attorney's practice, for a period of not less than seven years, including but not limited to bank statements, time and billing records, checks, check stubs, journals, ledgers, audits, financial statements, tax returns and tax reports.

Second, the attorney should have written instructions about how to locate a calendar or computer program that lists all pending matters and due dates on all cases. The instructions should include passwords or other necessary items. Since ongoing litigation proceedings are time sensitive, they are of the highest priority, and any plan to manage this contingency should focus on this aspect of the matter. The plan should therefore focus on identifying the name, title and case number of any pending litigation matters, and the name and address and telephone number for the client. This information would allow someone to communicate by phone or mail with clients to inform them of the bad news and invite them to retrieve the file and to speak to another attorney.

Third, the attorney should prepare careful instructions about any client trust account or escrow account. These instructions should identify the financial institution where the account is located, the title of the account and the account number. In addition, the attorney should describe where the client trust account records are located in the office to assist the designated attorney in finding all necessary items.

Fourth, there should be written instructions about how to retrieve messages from the voice mail system, and how to change the greeting to the voice mail system. This can be a simple and effective way to alert callers to the sad news and to refer them to a contact person to arrange the return of the file to the clients.

Fifth, there should be instructions regarding closed files. The instructions should describe where the closed files are stored and how those files are organized. The attorney should take care to identify any closed file that may contain an original will, deed or trust agreement that may require additional care and effort to return to the former client.

Sixth, it is a good idea to include a refer-

ence to the contingency plan in any initial attorney-client agreement with new clients so that clients are aware of your plan in case of death or serious illness. The statement could be as simple as including a paragraph to note that, in case of death or serious illness, the law office has made arrangements for attorney John Smith to review files and notify clients and take other protective action.

Time devoted to planning for such unfortunate circumstances will bring peace of mind for sole practitioners and great relief for family and friends attempting to close a law practice under difficult conditions. Such a plan could ease the cost of administering the estate of a deceased attorney, and it could make efforts to sell a law practice pursuant to the provisions of Rule 1.17 more feasible.

In addition, the States of Indiana, Florida and Delaware have a rule that requires attorneys to designate a successor. These jurisdictions differ slightly in the details, but the essence of the rule is this - every sole practitioner must state when they register each year whether they have designated a lawyer, or law firm, to review files and records and to communicate with their clients if they become ill or die suddenly. The purpose of the rule is to create a procedure for sole practitioners to prepare for the unfortunate circumstances of death or disability.

A designated successor rule could also inspire bar associations to hold programs on

contingency planning. Even lawyers in a law firm setting should review their procedures about disaster contingencies because a partner or associate may become ill or suffer some other misfortune.

Concluding thoughts and observations

In closing then, we should note that the challenge of an aging population creates difficulties and opportunities for the Bar. We need to develop programs to identify and address age-related impairment issues that seek to balance the need to protect the public with the need to respect a senior attorney who may have had a long and distinguished career with no blemishes until age-related impairments emerged.

Also, the news is not all grim. Many attorneys reaching retirement age may want to continue to serve in a pro bono capacity, and the additional time afforded by retirement may provide just such an opportunity. The Illinois Supreme Court anticipated this phenomenon by amending Rule 756 and allowing pro bono work under special circumstances. Normally, an attorney on inactive or retired status may not practice law, but the amendments to Rule 756(f) and (j) allow an attorney to continue to provide pro bono services under the auspices of a sponsoring entity that is a not-for-profit legal service organization. ■



THINKING ABOUT RETIRING?
Do you want to earn something for the practice you built?

Consider merging your law practice and retiring at your own pace with a full service law firm in the Chicago suburbs. All sizes of practices considered, however, corporate, estate planning, and real estate practices are most easily merged and expanded.

Please email or call us confidentially at ILLawMerger@aol.com or 630-386-2395 to start a dialogue.

Everything a senior counselor needs to know (or should know) about blogs

By Leonard F. Amari

As we all know, especially we senior lawyers (and especially me!), the internet has become an ever growing part of each and every one of our lives. If we want to continue to practice law, in fact, just effectively communicate, we had best come into the 21st century world of communication. For example, do we still need to ask ourselves what is a blog? I think so because there are many misconceptions regarding blogs, and their importance is more relevant than one may think. But, perhaps as part of the older generation (ugh!), we've never really learned what a "blog" is, why they exist, and why we old timers really should care. What follows is a basic explanation for those of us that find this stuff a mystery.

A blog is a discussion or informational site published on the world wide web and consisting of discrete entries ("posts") typically displayed in reverse chronological order (the most recent post appears first). Until about four or five years ago, blogs were usually the work of a single individual, occasionally of a small group, and usually covered a single subject. More recently "multi-author blogs" (MABs) have developed, with posts written by large numbers of authors and professionally edited. MABs from newspapers, other media outlets, universities, think tanks, ISBA Committees and Section Councils and the like, interest groups and similar institutions account for an increasing quantity of blog traffic. The rise of Twitter and other "micro-blogging" systems helped evolve single-author blogs into societal newstreams—(ouch!).

At a recent meeting of the marketing committee of the ISBA/Mutual Insurance Company, one of the more respected (and more senior) committee members suggested we use blogs to market our malpractice insurance coverage to more ISBA members. As my fellow senior counselor and friend Ron Guild pointed out at the meeting, a 2011 Social Media Examiner article named the top ten business blogs. That list includes Southwest Air, Proctor and Gamble, and Disney parks. These companies are certainly not similar to the ISBA MIC, but there are several

that are. Topping the list are a specialty tea distributor, an organic dairy distributor, and a seller of Western wear for women. Note that all three have a limited appeal to a limited audience, which certainly describes a service useful only to Illinois lawyers in private practice in firms with 1 to 50 employees. A similar article lists 15 companies with popular blogs, with some overlap to the previous list. That list includes Amazon, Accenture, Dell, Lenovo, 37 Signals, Adobe, BBC, Sun Microsystems, FreshBooks, Marriott, Seagate, GM and Quicken.

Many major retailers and manufacturers, service organizations, hotels and restaurant chains use blogs. The ability to publish content online (and largely control what is published) is an asset to almost all businesses from solo lawyers, architects and doctors to the largest corporations in the country.

Many blogs provide commentary on a particular subject; others function more as online brand advertising for a particular individual or company. Most blogs are primarily textual, although some focus on art (art blogs), photographs (photoblogs), videos (video blogs or "vlogs"), music (MP3 blogs), or audio (podcasts). A typical blog combines text, images, and links to other blogs, webpages, and other media related to its topic.

To put it in terms we ISBA gray beards can understand, a blog is basically a type of website, or part of a website, that is similar to a forum and allows users to publish or contribute their thoughts in a chronological fashion, all while the website regularly updates the content. Over the last decade, blogs have gained increasing notice and coverage for their role in breaking, shaping, and spinning news stories.

The main misconception about blogs comes from people that associate blogs with their content. Many people think of blogs as online diaries where people share their opinions, ramblings and personal events. While a blog may fit that definition, it is just one of the many things you can do with a blog. Blogs are used for a plethora of purposes. As mentioned above, companies use blogs to communicate and interact

with customers and other interested parties. Newspapers have incorporated blogs into their main website to offer a new channel for their writers. Additionally, individuals create blogs to share their expertise with the world on specific topics. Many blogs provide commentary on a particular subject; others function as more personal online diaries; and others function more as online brand advertising of a particular individual or company. The ability of readers to leave comments in an interactive format is an important feature contributing to the popularity of many blogs.

Those who blog ("bloggers") now provide nearly-instant commentary on, for example televised events, thus creating a secondary meaning of the word "blogging": to simultaneously transcribe and comment on speeches and events shown on television. (For example, "I am blogging Obama's speech" means "I am posting my reactions to the President's address into my blog as I watch him on television or listen to him on the radio.") Real-time commentary is sometimes referred to as "liveblogging."

In the early 2000's, the role of blogs became increasingly mainstream, as political consultants, news services and candidates began using them as tools for outreach and opinion-forming. The Democratic and Republican Parties' conventions credentialed bloggers, and blogs became a standard part of the publicity arsenal. Some blogs were an important news source, for example, during Hurricane Katrina in August 2005 and the aftermath. A few blogs, located in New Orleans, including the Interdictor and Gulfsails, were able to maintain power and an internet connection and disseminate information that was not covered by the mainstream media.

As senior lawyers, as the gray beards of our profession, we may or may not become bloggers. We may or may not turn to and utilize blogs, but it behooves us to at least know what a blog is, why such a thing exists, and how perhaps we can avail ourselves of blogs. More things to complicate our lives – darn! ■

Upcoming CLE programs

To register, go to www.isba.org/cle or call the ISBA registrar at 800-252-8908 or 217-525-1760.

March

Tuesday, 3/4/14- Webinar—Introduction to Fastcase Legal Research. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association – Complimentary to ISBA Members Only. 1:00.

Tuesday, 3/4/14- Live Studio Webcast—Criminal Dispositions Without a Conviction! Presented by the ISBA Committee on Corrections and Sentencing. 3:30-4:30.

Tuesday, 3/4/14- Teleseminar—Employment Agreements, Part 1. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. 12-1.

Wednesday, 3/5/14- Teleseminar—Employment Agreements, Part 2. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. 12-1.

Thursday, 3/6/14- Webinar—Advanced Tips to Fastcase Legal Research. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association – Complimentary to ISBA Members Only. 1:00.

Thursday, 3/6- Friday, 3/7/14- Chicago, ITT Chicago-Kent School of Law—13th Annual Environmental Law Conference. Presented by the ISBA Environmental Law Section. 8:30-4:45 with reception from 4:45-6; 8:30-1:30.

Tuesday, 3/11/14- Webinar—Boolean (Keyword) Searches on Fastcase. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association – Complimentary to ISBA Members Only. 1:00

Tuesday, 3/11/14- Live Studio Webcast—Game On- What's Happening in the Illinois Gaming World. Presented by the ISBA Local Government Section. 11-1.

Tuesday, 3/11/14- Live Studio Webcast—Municipal Animal Ordinances. Presented by the ISBA Animal Law Section. 2-4.

Tuesday, 3/11/14- Teleseminar—Planning with Special Needs Trusts. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. 12-1

Thursday, 3/13/14- Chicago, ISBA Chicago Regional Office—Litigating, Defending, and Preventing Employment, Housing and Public Accommodation Discrimination Cases: Practice Updates and Tips Concerning the Illinois Human Rights Act. Presented

by the ISBA Human Rights Section; co-sponsored by the ISBA Labor and Employment Section. 9-4.

Thursday, 3/13/14- Live Webcast—Litigating, Defending, and Preventing Employment, Housing and Public Accommodation Discrimination Cases: Practice Updates and Tips Concerning the Illinois Human Rights Act. Presented by the ISBA Human Rights Section. 9-4 (morning, afternoon or full session offered).

Thursday, 3/13/14- Teleseminar—Diligence in Business Transactions. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. 12-1.

Friday, 3/14/14- Fairview Heights, Four Points Sheraton—Spring 2014 DUI & Traffic Law Conference. Presented by the ISBA Traffic Law Section. All Day.

Friday, 3/14/14- Chicago, ISBA Chicago Regional Office—Medical Malpractice Seminar. Presented by the ISBA Tort Law Section. 8:30-4:30.

Tuesday, 3/18/14- Live Studio Webcast—City Dogs- Dog Complaints, Shootings & Other Issues Arising in Urban Environments. Presented by the ISBA Animal Law Section. 2-4.

Tuesday, 3/18/14- Teleseminar—“Crowd-funding” in Business Ventures: Raising Capital from the Public. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. 12-1.

Thursday, 3/20/14- Teleseminar—Employment Law Torts in the Workplace. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. 12-1.

Friday, 3/21/14- DeKalb, Northern Illinois University—From Myra Bradwell to Us: Rise Up and Reach Back. Presented by the ISBA Committee on Women and the Law. 3-5pm program; 5-7 reception.

Tuesday, 3/25/14- Chicago, ISBA Chicago Regional Office—Master Series: The Cybersleuth's Guide to the Internet: Super Search Engine Strategies and Investigative Research. Presented by the Illinois State Bar

Association. All day.

Tuesday, 3/25/14- Live Webcast—Master Series: The Cybersleuth's Guide to the Internet: Super Search Engine Strategies and Investigative Research. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. 9-4:15

Tuesday, 3/25/14- Teleseminar—Designing and Drafting GRATS in Estate Planning. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. 12-1.

Wednesday, 3/26/14- Teleseminar—LIVE REPLAY: Joint Ventures in Business, Part 1. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. 12-1.

Thursday, 3/27/14- Teleseminar—LIVE REPLAY: Joint Ventures in Business, Part 2. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. 12-1.

Friday, 3/28/14- Chicago, ISBA Chicago Regional Office—Master Series: The Uniform Commercial Code Made Easy: A Groundbreaking Approach to Incorporating the UCC into Your Practice. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. All day.

Friday, 3/28/14- Live Webcast—Master Series: The Uniform Commercial Code Made Easy: A Groundbreaking Approach to Incorporating the UCC into Your Practice. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. All day.

Friday, 3/28/14- Quincy, Quincy Country Club—General Practice Update 2014: Quincy Regional Event. Presented by the ISBA General Practice Section; co-sponsored by the Adams County Bar Association. 8:15am-5pm.

April

Tuesday, 4/1/14- Teleseminar—Planning and Drafting Revocable Trusts. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association. 12-1.

Thursday, 4/3/14- Chicago, ISBA Chicago Regional Office—Exempt Offerings: Regulation D to Crowdfunding. Presented by the Business and Securities Law Section. 9-11:30am. ■

SENIOR LAWYERS

ILLINOIS BAR CENTER
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62701-1779

FEBRUARY 2014

VOL. 5 NO. 2

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Springfield, Ill.
Permit No. 820



Technology for seniors

By Hon. Edward J. Schoenbaum, Loren S. Golden, Gary T. Rafool and Frank V. Ariano

This is the latest of what has become a regular column in the ISBA Senior Lawyer Section Council newsletter. Hopefully you will take a turn in contributing a section on your own "Best Practices" or problems you have in using technology. Please let us know what you need.

iPad Mini with Retina Display

Some of you may remember that we talked about the iPad mini when it first came out (Oct., 2012). Since then, Apple has introduced the same device, but added the Retina Display (previously only available on the full size iPad), the A7 chip and M7 co-processor (previously only available on the iPhone 5s & iPad Air), more "storage" (up to 128 GB) and iOS7. As it turns out, it is the increased speed from the chip and co-processor that, in our opinion, offers the best reason to upgrade. Putting the two devices side by side does not really show much display difference (at least to these "senior" eyes). There is an increased sharpness, but not as noticeable as hoped. That said, it is certainly a device you should consider. It can do anything that the iPad Air can do, at a quarter pound less weight, with not much less in

display size (7.9" vs. 9.7"). It also fits in a jacket pocket.

Speaking of the iPad Air, it's weight and thickness have been significantly reduced making it a very useful "computer" for use in your practice or just for "surfing" the internet, dealing with e-mail, calendar, "ticklers," and with available apps for just about anything else you could think of or want. To compete with Microsoft, Apple is now offering free productivity apps (Pages, Numbers and Keynote), which equate to the Office programs Word, Excel and Power Point, and the ability to convert to Word or .PDF formats.

Whether you like the full size or smaller tablet offered by Apple, you now have virtually everything you can do on your PC with you in a portable and user-friendly device. In the opinion of this senior, there is virtually no need or reason to buy a PC any longer. If the keyboard bothers you, you can purchase a portable Bluetooth one (wireless) that is almost full size (or use the voice recognition feature that, along with Siri, obviates the need to type). A few years ago, we urged you to try a tablet for fun. We now suggest that you use it in your practice for your calendar, research, e-mail, document

production, etc. Think of the money you can save on a briefcase! And, of course, you can still take photos, play games, and even do those FaceTime calls with the grandchildren.

Computer Basics for Senior Lawyers

On October 18, 2013, beginning at 10:00 a.m., our committee conducted a very successful three hour hands-on "Computer Basics for Senior Lawyers" program at the National Lewis University Computer Lab in Chicago.

Our fine faculty demonstrated while senior lawyers practiced on 24 computer keyboards with their mouses doing basic typing/word processing (using Microsoft Word program); responding to e-mails; and accessing the Internet (using Mozilla Firefox/Internet Explorer).

It was so successful that we are planning another one for this Spring. We also hope to have our committee members available at the Annual Meeting to help senior lawyers do hands-on learning. Our faculty has discussed how to improve our next program since some of our students needed larger fonts and other help.

If any of you need or want other assistance in using computers or tablets, please send us an e-mail or snail mail. ■