

# CLASS NOTES



Molly J. Jasmer



Julie A. Seno



Booker T. Coleman, Jr.

**66 Louis J. Andrew, Jr.**, received the George Becker Business Spirit Award from Marian University, in Fond du Lac, Wis.

**82 Donald W. Layden, Jr.**, a member of the company's board, was named executive chairman and CEO of USA Technologies, based in Malvern, Pa.

**84 Phil R. O'Brien**, a shareholder in Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren, has been named to the national board of directors for the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), the advocacy arm of the American Cancer Society.

**85 Maxine A. White** was named by Gov. Tony Evers to the Wisconsin Court of Appeals (District I in Milwaukee). She previously was chief judge of the Milwaukee County Circuit Court.

Six Marquette lawyers were named officers of the board of directors of the Wisconsin Association of African-American Lawyers:

**Makda Fessahaye**, L'14, president

**Kristen D. Hardy**, L'14, past president

**Derek A. Hawkins**, L'13, treasurer

**Danielle D. White**, L'11, financial secretary

**Asia J. Patterson**, L'19, internal communications director

**Ashley A. Smith**, L'18, external communications director

Four Marquette Law School graduates have joined Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren, Milwaukee:

**Brady L. Brown**, L'19, in the corporate law practice

**Brett M. Erdmann**, L'19, in the trusts and estates practice

**Brooklyn A. Kemp**, L'19, in the real estate practice

**Daniel G. Murphy**, L'16, in the litigation practice

**88 Joe Donald**, previously a judge of the Milwaukee County Circuit Court, was named by Gov. Tony Evers to a seat on the Wisconsin Court of Appeals (District I in Milwaukee) and subsequently elected to a six-year term.

**Barbara Finigan Fitzgerald** was elected chairwoman of the board of directors for Catholic Memorial School of West Roxbury, Mass. She is the first woman to hold the position for the all-boys school.

**93 Timothy S. Trecek** of Habush Habush & Rottier obtained a verdict of \$38.1 million against Hyundai Motor Company on behalf of a client in an injury case in the Racine County Circuit Court.

**94 Heather L. MacDougall** was named vice president, worldwide, workplace health and safety, at Amazon, Inc.

The Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force recognized an adjunct professor and two Marquette lawyers for outstanding leadership and mental health advocacy: Deputy District Attorney (and Professor) **Jeffrey J. Altenburg**; Deputy Public Defender, Regional Attorney Manager, **Paige A. Styler**, L'92; and Assistant District Attorney **Kelly Hedge**, L'96.

**97 Molly J. Jasmer** has joined Grady, Hayes & Neary, based in Waukesha, Wis. She previously served both in private practice and as a juvenile court prosecutor for Waukesha County.

**00 Kathryn M. Statz** has been named director of gender equity/Title IX coordinator at DePaul University in Chicago.

**02 Julie A. Seno** has been named a shareholder in Davis|Kuelthau, Milwaukee. She is part of the firm's commercial finance, corporate, and real estate teams.

**03 Milton L. Childs** was named by Gov. Tony Evers as a Milwaukee County Circuit Court judge and then elected to a six-year term. Childs was previously a managing attorney with Wisconsin's Office of the Public Defender.

**Sherry D. Coley** was appointed as a member of the board of directors of Davis|Kuelthau, in Milwaukee. She is part of the firm's commercial and intellectual property litigation practice.

**04 Robert W. Habich** has been appointed as a member of the board of directors of Davis|Kuelthau, in Milwaukee. He is a commercial real estate and corporate attorney.

Three Marquette lawyers have joined Davis|Kuelthau in its Milwaukee office:

**Ethan C. Geis**, L'15, in the corporate and real estate litigation team

**Katherine M. Hampel**, L'19, in the corporate and real estate litigation team

**Anne V. O'Meara**, L'19, in the corporate and litigation team

**05 Mark A. Dodds** has received a degree of doctor of science (economics and business administration) from the University of Jyväskylä (Finland). He is a professor of sport law and sport marketing at the State University of New York, College at Cortland.

**Stephanie H. Vavra** has joined the intellectual property practice at Quarles & Brady in Milwaukee.

**06 Booker T. Coleman, Jr.**, was promoted to counsel with Ulmer & Berne's Chicago office. His practice is primarily focused on business and financial services litigation.

**08 Creighton J. Macy**, in Washington, D.C., was named chair of North America antitrust and competition practice at Baker McKenzie.

**09 Stacy A. Alexejun** has been named a partner at Quarles & Brady Milwaukee.

**Thomas C. Kamenick** has formed a firm, the Wisconsin Transparency Project, which focuses on open-government laws. He was previously with the Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty.

REYNA MORALES, L'97

## Peace of Mind from Serving Those in the Toughest Situations

**R**eyna Morales says people sometimes ask her how she sleeps at night.

She spends many of her days as an attorney speaking with people who have done horrible things. It comes with the job of being a public defender in Milwaukee and generally handling “high-level” cases.

What doesn't necessarily come with the job is the degree to which Morales connects with her clients. She says that some of her clients who won't open up to anyone else, including doctors and therapists, open up to her. “It's what you exude,” she says. In her case, that includes a willingness to “just be there for other people.” This means showing compassion and a willingness to listen, along with providing legal representation.

“No matter what horrible thing you've done, you're still a human being, and one person should have your back,” Morales says. “Who am I to judge? I'm no one.”

She acknowledges the extremes of what some of the people she defends have done. So, given what she deals with, how does she sleep at night? “Like a baby,” she says.

For one thing, she believes the work is “absolutely” valuable. “Even if they're horrible cases . . . , we have the attorneys who will accept them, holding our heads up high,” Morales says.

Perhaps a second motivation comes from what Morales was exposed to during her childhood. She grew up in Guatemala during a long-running civil war. The level of violence was high. Her house was shot up; the priest of the church across the street was kidnapped, tortured, and

murdered; and sometimes bodies could be seen lying along roads. Such experiences leave, as she puts it, “an impression.”

When Morales was 16, her family moved to Long Island, N.Y. At that point, she did not speak English, but she adjusted successfully. She went to college at the State University of New York at Binghamton. After graduating, she took a year off, hoping to find a job as a social worker, which proved not to be easy.

Morales's intersection with Marquette Law School began when she attended a career fair on the Binghamton campus and the Law School had a table. She was interested and, without visiting Milwaukee, applied. A successful law school experience followed, and, shortly after being admitted to the bar, she was hired by the state's Office of the Public Defender.

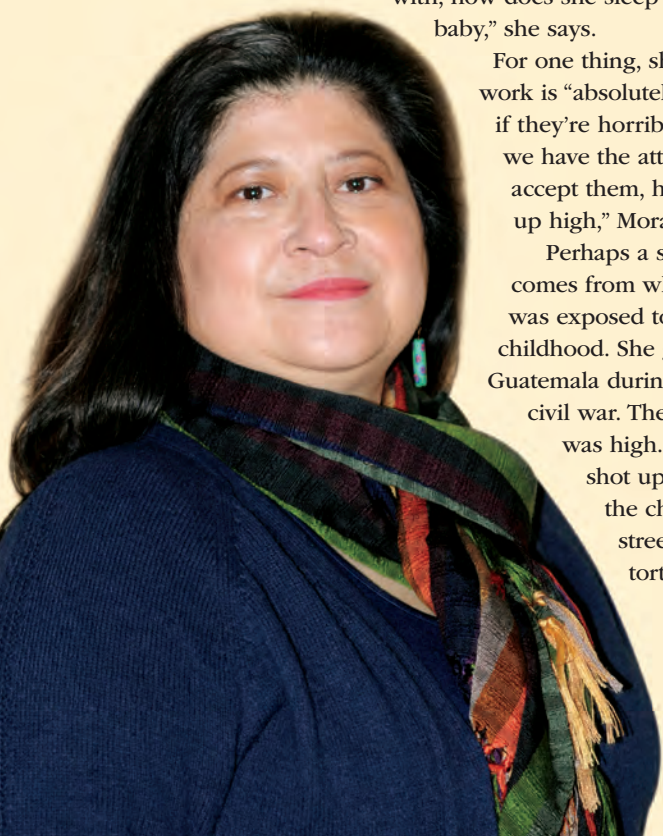
She worked in the Racine office from 1997 to 2006 before being assigned to the trial office in Milwaukee. “If there's a type of charge for which someone could be placed in custody, I've handled it,” Morales says.

Another reason for the compassion she feels for clients is the prevalence among them of mental illness. Other than the provision of prescribed medications, treatment is minimal in jail or prison. In society as a whole, there is far more need for mental treatment than what is available. And while there has been some improvement in services or awareness related to mental health in recent years, Morales says, “We're just beginning to pick at the iceberg and becoming more aware that we need to address this. It is affecting everybody.”

Morales does not have simple answers but says that mental health needs to be given higher priority and more resources.

As for herself, one thing she can do is keep doing her work, offering legal representation—and personal attention—to clients.

“You should have compassion for any human being, no matter what they do,” Morales says. ■





**John Paul (JP) H. Croak** **Christopher M. Hayden** **Emily I. Lonergan**

**10 Marvin C. Bynum II** was made a shareholder in Godfrey & Kahn, Milwaukee. His practice focuses on commercial real estate transactions.

**11 William T. Crowley** has been named a commissioner of the City of Milwaukee Equal Rights Commission by Mayor Tom Barrett.

**Brittany C. Grayson**, who was previously an assistant district attorney in Milwaukee County, was named by Gov. Tony Evers to be a judge of the Milwaukee County Circuit Court and subsequently elected to a six-year term.

**Emily I. Lonergan** was named by Gov. Tony Evers as a judge of the Outagamie County Circuit Court and then elected to a six-year term. Lonergan previously was an attorney with Peterson, Berk & Cross in Appleton and with Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown in Milwaukee.

**Kristina M. Seseck** was named counsel to the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, which is chaired by Sen. Lindsey Graham (R.-S.C.).

**Nathaniel J. Wojan** married Noël M. Zettler on October 12, 2019, in Wausau, Wis. They live in Appleton, Wis.

Five Marquette lawyers have joined Godfrey & Kahn in Milwaukee:

**Khatija M. Choudhry**, L'19, in the corporate practice group

**Sara E. Flaherty**, L'19, in the data privacy and cybersecurity practice

**Margaret L. Johnson**, L'19, in the investment management practice group

**Kelly E. Lewandowski**, L'19, in the corporate practice group

**Yamilett M. Lopez**, L'19, in the corporate practice group

The *Milwaukee Business Journal* honored three Marquette lawyers in its selection of top corporate counsel lawyers in the Milwaukee region:

**Anne F. B. Dorn**, L'05, of Direct Supply, best assistant general counsel

**Joshua M. Erickson**, L'98, WEC Energy Group, top corporate counsel mentor

**Kristen D. Hardy**, L'14, Briggs & Stratton, top corporate counsel rising star

Employment data for recent classes are available at [law.marquette.edu/career-planning/welcome](http://law.marquette.edu/career-planning/welcome).

The State Bar of Wisconsin honored **Angela Schultz**, assistant dean for public service at Marquette Law School, and **Mary Ferwerda**, L'11, of the Milwaukee Justice Center, as legal innovators. They developed an experiential learning activity called "Lost in the Law." The role-playing game educates participants about the complex circumstances facing lower-income Wisconsinites in navigating the civil justice system.

**12 James N. Law** was elected a shareholder in Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren. He is in the firm's litigation practice in Milwaukee.

**13 John Paul (JP) H. Croak** joined Husch Blackwell as an associate in its Madison office. He is a member of the firm's real estate, development, and construction group.

**Aaron Hernandez** was named director of the sports law and business program at Arizona State University.

**Justin P. Webb** was named a shareholder of Godfrey & Kahn, Milwaukee. His practice focuses on data privacy and cybersecurity.

**Kathryn K. Westfall** was inducted into Harvard University's Varsity Club Hall of Fame. She played soccer for the school.

**15 Christopher J. Kradle** has joined Baker Vicchiollo in Edina, Minn., in a trusts and estates practice.

**Thomas R. Knight** became a partner with Andrus Intellectual Property Law, Milwaukee.

**16 Molly R. Madonia** was promoted to associate counsel at Milwaukee World Festival, Inc., the organization that produces Summerfest.

**17 Katie L. Czapanskiy** was named a staff attorney in the refugee representation program of Human Rights First in Los Angeles, Cal.

**Christopher M. Hayden** has joined the civil litigation and real estate team of Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown, Milwaukee.

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We are especially interested in accomplishments that do not recur annually. Personal matters such as weddings and birth or adoption announcements are welcome. We update postings of class notes weekly at [law.marquette.edu](http://law.marquette.edu).

