

## VLP ATTORNEY OF THE MONTH

# Hard work pays off for attorney and his clients

By **Peggi Cornelius,**  
VLP Programs Coordinator

Graciously accepting recognition as the Volunteer Lawyer's Program (VLP) "Attorney of the Month," attorney Thomas F. Hickey says, "I like to think my dad is smiling down on me and is proud I have chosen to help those less fortunate."



**Thomas F. Hickey**

Hickey is being honored for the pro bono work he has done for many years through VLP, and most especially the volunteer commitment he has been making to the Probate Lawyers Assistance Project (PLAP) since the summer of 2016. At PLAP, which takes place at the Maricopa County Bar Association, attorneys donate their time to provide advice and guidance regarding guardianships, conservatorships, informal and formal probates, and trust litigation matters.

PLAP Co-Directors, volunteer attorneys Kelly L. Kral and Tracy M. Marsh, nominated Hickey for having donated more than fifty hours to the clinic in less than a year. "In addition," said Kral, "when it's needed, Thomas often picks up an additional shift to fill the schedule." Hickey says he likes helping people solve problems, and expressions of gratitude and appreciation are rewarding.

One of five children whose parents were teachers, Hickey might have found getting good grades in school a bit daunting. Instead, he tells a story of having challenged one of his elementary school teachers to a race to complete a math test. His classmates gathered round to cheer him on, and when he won the race, the prize for the class was an extra recess. He recalls, "The takeaway for me was that hard work pays off."

A native of Arizona would likely chuckle at the thought of Flagstaff as a warm place to live, but compared with the climate in Chugiak,

Alaska, even northern Arizona in the winter would feel warm. A native of Alaska, Hickey says he was seeking a warmer climate when he chose an undergraduate education at Northern Arizona University. When he was ready to attend law school, he moved to an even warmer environment at the University of

Arizona in Tucson. And when it was time to choose a place to begin his career, he moved to Phoenix and found he'd not only acclimated to desert weather, he'd developed relationships he wanted to continue here.

In the course of his career, Hickey has practiced in different areas of law, including commercial litigation, construction disputes, surety claims and defenses, real estate disputes, and business formation. But early exposure to estate planning, probate, and estate and trust administration introduced him to a growing need in these areas. He says his enjoyment and passion for this area of law has also continued to grow.

Speaking of the balance between his personal and professional pursuits, Hickey describes a family life filled with activities that revolve around two children and a dog named Reba. "My wife and I were blessed with twins, a girl and boy. They keep us pretty busy!"

Although busy at home and in his office at Gust Rosenfeld, Hickey somehow makes time to engage in community service as a member of the Kyrene Rotary Club, the Wills for Heroes program, and the University of Denver College of Law Tribal Wills Project in Phoenix. His family and colleagues in the firm support his volunteer commitments. Acknowledging another "takeaway," he says, "Pro bono work has opened my eyes to issues within my general practice area that I might not have otherwise encountered." ■

## PLAP gives thanks for a year of service

The Probate Lawyers Assistance Project, begun in 2011, is a collaboration of the MCBA Estate Planning Probate and Trust Section and the Volunteer Lawyers Program. The all-volunteer project is directed by Kelly Kral of Dyer Bregman & Ferris, and Tracy Marsh of Boland Law Group.

*The MCBA and the VLP thank the following attorneys and support volunteers for their generous contributions to PLAP services from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017:*

### PLAP ATTORNEYS

Marlene Appel  
Kent Berk  
Barbara Berman  
Adrian Betts  
Rita Daninger  
Allison Evans  
Andrew Evans  
James Fassold  
Scott Ferris  
Hillary Gagnon  
Lauren Garner  
Matthew Gobbato  
Marsha Goodman  
Thomas Hickey  
Amber Hughes  
Emily Kile  
Kelly Kral  
Michelle Lauer

Tracy Marsh  
Daniel Mazza  
James McDougall  
Kevin McFadden  
Troy McNemar  
Joshua Moya  
Joshua Mozell  
James Rayburn  
Emily Taylor  
Kathryn Warner

### PLAP SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS

Mathew Argyle  
Julia Brown  
Ryan Dorn  
Eleni Fujiwara  
Marilyn Gutierrez  
Michael Hartsock  
Alex John

Gregory Jones  
Jim Jones  
Sarah Lemley  
Melissa Macaron  
Andriana Macias  
David Mercer  
Philip Moncla  
Kate Montgomery  
Robin Morse-Bailey  
Sruti Patel  
Taitym Porter  
Angel Raymond  
Jimmy Rohde  
Carey Schomaker  
Ganessa Sidhu  
Christopher Sullivan  
Kathy Thompson  
Elizabeth Turnbull  
Frekyla Turnbull

## Volunteer Lawyers Program Thanks Attorneys

The Volunteer Lawyers Program thanks the following 28 attorneys and firms for agreeing to provide pro bono representation on cases referred by VLP to help people with low incomes. VLP supports pro bono service of attorneys by screening for financial need and legal merit and provides primary malpractice coverage, donated services from professionals, training, materials, mentors and consultants. Each attorney receives a certificate from MCBA for a CLE discount. For information about ways to help, please contact Pat Gerrich at VLP at (602) 254-4714 or pgerrich@clsaz.org. ■

### **BANKRUPTCY:**

**D. Lamar Hawkins**  
Aiken Schenk Hawkins  
& Ricciardi

**Florin V. Ivan (2 cases)**  
Ivan & Kilmark

**Robert Teague (2 cases)**  
Teague Law Firm

### **CONSUMER:**

**Todd Jones**  
Snell & Wilmer

### **COURT ADVISORS FOR CHILDREN IN FAMILY COURT:**

**Stasy D. Click (2 cases)**  
ASU Alumni Law Group

**Annette M. Cox**  
Law Office of Annette M. Cox

**Joshua Phillip De La Ossa**  
De La Ossa & Ramos

**Jennifer Gadow**  
Smith Fromm & Gadow

**Jeremy M. Goodman**  
Goodman Law

**Christina W. Kelly**  
Polsinelli

**Kathleen Stillman**  
Fromm Smith & Gadow

### **GUARDIANSHIP OF INCAPACITATED ADULTS:**

**Michael Ford**  
Snell & Wilmer

**Andy Landeen**  
Quarles & Brady

**Robert S. Reed**  
Snell & Wilmer

**M. Todd Smith**  
Quarles & Brady

**Christina M. Stoneking**  
Kile & Kupiszewski

**Shufan Sung**  
Sung Law Group

**Karl Tilleman**  
Steptoe & Johnson

**Kevin J. Walsh**  
Quarles & Brady

**Kevin W. Wright**  
Snell & Wilmer

### **GUARDIANSHIP OF MINOR CHILDREN:**

**John DeWulf**  
Coppersmith Brockelman

**Nancy E. Tribbensee**  
Arizona Board of Regents

### **HOMEOWNERSHIP:**

**Bradley Pack**  
Engelman Berger

### **PRIVATE LANDLORD TENANT:**

**Peggy LeMoine**  
Attorney at Law

**Judy O'Neill**  
Attorney at Law

### **PROBATE:**

**Karen Nagle**  
Nagle Law Group

### **TRANSACTIONAL ASSISTANCE TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS:**

**Kami Galvani**  
Steptoe & Johnson

### **\*\*\*PRO BONO SPOTLIGHT ON CURRENT NEED\*\*\***

#### **CONVENIENT ONLINE PRO BONO OPPORTUNITY:**

Online Arizona Justice, soon to be Arizona Free Legal Answers, is a confidential question answering system that allows attorneys to give free legal advice online at a time and location convenient for you. Once you are registered, you can log into the site, decide whether you would like to answer any question and send your response via the website. As the volunteer attorney, you decide when to answer a question and when to end an exchange. It is that easy! Register today at: <https://onlineazjustice.org/Account/UseAgreement> or contact Kim.Bernhart@azflse.org for more information.

**The Volunteer Lawyers Program provided \$3,285,147 in economic benefit to families through cases completed during 2016. Thanks to all who participated and supported VLP!**

**The Volunteer Lawyers Program is a joint venture of Community Legal Services and the Maricopa County Bar Association**

## Welcome, Sustaining Members!

*The MCBA is proud to welcome the following attorneys who have joined the association as Sustaining Members for 2017:*

**Ms. Barbara R. Berman**

**Mr. Bruce L. Bauman**

**Ms. Kay Bigelow**

**Ms. Laura  
Kay Chapman**

**Mr. Michael A. Curtis**

**Mr. James C. Dutson**

**Ms. Magaly Fontes**

**Ms. Kina Harding**

**Mr. James R. Harrison**

**Ms. Leonnesia Herd**

**Hon. Carey Snyder  
Hyatt (Ret.)**

**Mr. Joseph S. Kelly**

**Mr. Jack Levine**

**Mr. Charles F. Myers**

**Mr. Rich J. Peters**

**Mr. Donald W. Powell**

**Mr. Michael Radosevich**

**Mr. James T. Rayburn**

**Ms. Terrie S. Rendler**

**Ms. Shawna Riggers**

**Mr. James B. Rolle**

**Ms. Lynda C. Shely**

**Mr. Salim Adel Shleef**

**Ms. Carol A. Soderquist**

**Ms. Jennifer Stupski**

**Mr. Robert E. Thomson**

**Mr. James P. Yeager**

**Mr. Daryl Wilson**

(List updated July 14, 2017)