



THE ADVOCATE

Newsletter of the Advocates Society,
an Association of Polish-American Attorneys



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The Management of this Society is vested in the Board of Governors, consisting of the Officers, Chairs of Standing Committees and Past Presidents. The Board shall advise, guide, direct and determine the overall policy of the Society.

Polish Constitution Day Parade

The Advocates Society participated at the Polish Constitution Day Parade on May 6, 2023. Following a great brunch, the parade stepped off on Columbus Drive. While there was a little rain early on, the Advocates stayed dry in a beautiful party bus. It was delightful to gather once again to celebrate the adoption of the Constitution of 1791, generally considered Europe's first modern written national constitution. All the Advocates, their families--including some adorable furry babies--enjoyed the day with refreshments and camaraderie, including a visit from Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Iris Martinez.

The Grand Marshal was Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Adamczyk and this year's motto was "*Polish-American Partnership for Freedom.*"

Thanks to Third Vice President Judge Thomas Nowinski for organizing the fun time!



Calendar of Events

June 2023

Board Meeting - (TBD)

August 2023

Picnic Potluck (TBD)

September 2023

5th - Board Meeting; 6:30pm
Cocktails/Networking; 7pm
Meeting (Zoom)

14th- The Advocates Society
Annual Scholarship Fundraiser &
President's Award (TBD)

October 2023

5th - Board Meeting; 6:30pm
Cocktails/Networking; 7pm
Meeting (Zoom)

19th- The Advocates Society
Annual Judges Night (Polish
Museum of America, 984 N
Milwaukee Ave, Chicago.) (TBD)

November 2023

7th- Board Meeting; 6:30pm
Cocktails/Networking; 7pm
Meeting (Zoom)

16th - General Meeting and CLE;
6:30pm Cocktails and Networking;
7pm Meeting; (Copernicus, 5216 W
Lawrence, Chicago)



POZNAN, POLAND - Renaissance facades on the central market square

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Amicus Poloniae Legal Clinic;
Newsletter Contributors

Public Relations & Newsletter Committee

The Joint Committee
manages, edits and
coordinates the production
of the newsletter.

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Pamela Sakowicz Menaker
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Joan Smuda
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Advocatessociety@gmail.com for
publication consideration.

The 2023 Polish Constitution Day Parade

MAY 6, 2023

Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Adamczyk, *Grand Marshal of the Parade*
Jim Robaczewski, *Vice-Marshal*
Gen. Richard Neely, *"Friend of Polonia"*



The 2023 Polish Constitution Day Parade

MAY 6, 2023

FOR MORE HIGHLIGHTS, PLEASE VISIT THE OFFICIAL POLISH PARADE WEBSITE:
WWW.POLISHPARADE.ORG



THIS YEAR'S MOTTO:

*"Polish-American Partnership for
Freedom"*

Event Highlights



March 9th General Meeting and CLE: Panel Discussion on the Do's & Don'ts of Appeals in the Illinois Appellate Court

The Advocates' General Meeting was held on March 9, 2023, at the Copernicus Center. The evening included networking, delicious Polish food and an informative CLE. The CLE included the following All-Star panelists: Justice Mathias Delort, Justice Aurelia Pucinski, Justice Mary Mikva and Justice Jesse Reyes. Historian Alon Stein was moderating the panel discussion.



Event Highlights

The 2023 Vanguard Awards

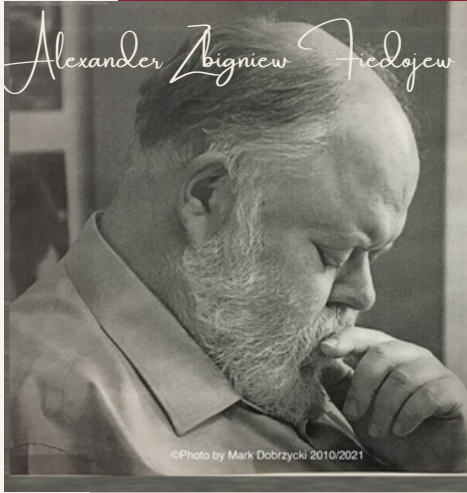
The Chicago Bar Association (CBA) sponsors the annual Vanguard Awards to honor individuals and institutions who have made the law and legal profession more accessible to and reflective of the community at large. The Award was created in 1998 to highlight the "vanguards" of society, who "lead the way in new developments and ideas." This year, the Advocates Society nominated **Alexander Zbigniew Fiedojew (posthumously)** to be the recipient of this year's Vanguard Award for his thirty-year tenure working with the State of Illinois Department of Human Rights and his strong dedication to the Amicus Poloniae Legal Clinic and the overall Polish-American community. He was also a past officer of the Advocates Society and a past president of the National Advocates Society.

On May 2, 2023, a special in-person event was held at the Union League Club and awards were given at that time. Alexander's sister, Terry Fiedojew, accepted the award on his behalf.

We are so very proud of Alexander for all the work he did helping the Polish-American community. Some Advocates who attended included: Ann Melichar, Mark Dobrzycki, Judge Michele Gemske, Jan Strzalka, Alon Stein, Robert Blinick, Robert Groszek, Michael Zink, and Judge Scott Tzinberg. More photos on the next page.



Photo submissions by Alon Stein and Mark Dobrzycki



Event Highlights

The 2023 Vanguard Awards



Photo submissions by Mark Dobrzycki

Event Highlights

Raising of the Polish Flag at the Daley Center on May 2nd



Photo submissions by Judge Michele Gemskie

Event Highlights

May 11th General Meeting and CLE: Panel Discussion on the Best Practices in Domestic Violence Court

The Advocates' General Meeting was held on May 11, 2023, at the Copernicus Center. The evening included networking, delicious Polish food and an informative CLE. The CLE included the following Advocates/panelists: Judge Jonathan Clark Green, Judge Thomas Nowinski, Kathy Bojczuk and Krista Peterson. Historian Alon Stein was moderating the panel discussion.



Photo submission by Mark Dobrzycki

April 27th CLE: Panel Discussion on the Diversity in the Courtroom

The Bankruptcy Court Liaison Committee of the Northern District of Illinois presented the CLE, which was also co-sponsored by the Advocates Society and Robbins Dimonte LTD. The CLE was held on April 27th at the Robbins Dimonte LTP downtown office. The CLE included the following panelists: Justice Jesse Reyes, Juan Perea and Ava George Stewart. J. Israel Greene was moderating the panel discussion. After the CLE, the audience was able to speak with the panelists and network with other guests.



Photo submission by Julia Jensen Smolka



Event Highlights



The Legion of Young
Polish Women's
83RD ANNUAL
WHITE & RED BALL

March 4, 2023



Past President Robert Groszek with wife, Jennifer Groszek, and two sons (Drake, 15 and Aleksander, 11). Drake escorted the 2023 Queen (Kamila Wojdyla).



Photo submissions by Robert Groszek

Bravo! TO THE DEBUTANTES

Event Highlights

ISBA's Allerton Conference

On March 30 through April 1, 2023, in Champaign, Illinois, various members and friends of the Advocates Society participated in the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA) Allerton Conference, which serves as a biennial think tank for the legal profession in Illinois.

The dinner which opened the Conference featured remarks by Chief Justice Mary Jane Theis of the Supreme Court of Illinois, while a lunchtime fireside chat featured comments by Illinois Supreme Court Justices Elizabeth Rochford and Mary K. O'Brien. Presiding Judge E. Kenneth Wright, Jr. of Cook County and Chief Judge Michael Chmiel of McHenry County joined Northwestern Law Professor Daniel Linna and Attorney Nelson Rosario in a panel discussion on the use of artificial intelligence (A.I.) in handling small claims in the court system and ethical considerations for the same.

Attorneys Caroline Marouzek Cozzi, George Bellas, and Ronald Menna joined Retired Judge Dory Reiling of the Netherlands and Appellate Justice Eugene Doherty of the Fourth District of Illinois in presenting an overview on the use of A.I. in all courts.



Photo submissions by Judge Michael Chmiel & Mark Karno

FROM REFUGEE TO JURIST, A TRIBUTE TO JUDGE ALFRED J. PAUL (RET.)

Written By Justice Mathias W. Delort

This article first appeared in The Gavel, the Illinois Judges Association's newsletter, and it is reprinted with permission of the author and the IJA.

Today's news reports are full of stories about refugees fleeing their homelands in search of a better life. From our perspective as American judges, these stories might seem remote and perhaps even irrelevant. The life story of one of our judicial colleagues, however, not only illuminates the tremendous potential these persons have to contribute to our society, but serves as an inspiration for all of us.

Cook County Associate Judge Alfred J. Paul, who recently retired after 36 years of distinguished service to the State of Illinois, was born in 1942 in Huszczka Duża, Poland, a tiny settlement about 100 miles from Lviv, Ukraine. At that time, World War II was raging, and Poland was under German control. When he was but two years old, Al and his older brother Kazimierz, and his mother were snatched at gunpoint by German soldiers and placed on a train to Germany to work as unpaid laborers on a farm. The farm was liberated by French troops in 1945, and the family lived in barracks in Germany from 1945 to 1950. The family could not return to their homeland, because Poland was under Russian occupation. During this time, Al learned not only his native Polish, but German, as well, although teaching in the refugee camp was sporadic at best. In 1948, President Truman signed the Displaced Persons Act, which allowed families such as the Pauls to immigrate to the United States if they could receive medical clearance and secure sponsorship from an American citizen. The Paul family's sponsor was an army colonel from Texas.

The Paul family, now reunited with Al's father, boarded a ship and emigrated to the United States under the new law. When the ship arrived

in New Orleans in 1950, Al was wearing German lederhosen. The family traveled to Texas and discovered that the sponsoring colonel intended to exploit the family for free agricultural work on a chicken farm. They were housed in a snake-infested hovel, where temperatures routinely exceeded 100 degrees. They feared deportation if they did not accede to this arrangement.

After six months of this horrific experience, a Polish-American priest from the community came to the family's rescue by helping them escape from the Texas farm under cover of darkness. The priest wrote a large tag for each family member to wear, stating that the wearer did not speak English and was headed to Chicago. A cousin living in Chicago, whom they had never met, obtained a taxi to meet them at the station. The cousin helped Al's father secure housing in the Wicker Park neighborhood and a job in a local factory.

At age seven, Al began attending the local Catholic grade school, where the nuns helped him learn English for the first time. An excellent student, Al went on to graduate from Holy Trinity High School. He then became a student at DePaul University, where he participated in the ROTC program, became a naturalized citizen, and graduated with a degree in history. He then served in the army for almost three years during the Vietnam War era. Although his ROTC training qualified him as an officer, Al's assignment was far from a cushy desk job. He was assigned to one of the most desolate military posts on earth—Murphy Dome Air Force Station in northern Alaska—where the temperatures dipped to glacial levels as low as -71° Fahrenheit. The base housed a radar



FROM REFUGEE TO JURIST

(CONTINUED)

facility manned by soldiers like Al. Their job was to sit in an underground bunker and constantly monitor radar screens for possible nuclear missiles from Russia routed over the polar regions. To qualify for this role, Al obtained top-secret cryptographic clearance. Murphy Dome soldiers took on other tasks in the area, as well, and Al was commended for his heroic efforts helping to save lives and property during the great Fairbanks, Alaska flood of 1967.

After being discharged with the rank of first lieutenant, Al began working at the federal courthouse in Chicago as a clerk for a bankruptcy referee. This piqued his interest in the law, and he began attending Chicago-Kent Law School at night. During law school, he married Mary McCue, and the couple has been together for over 50 years.

Al and Mary's son, Danny, was born in 1979, and was quickly diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy, a condition which renders him a functional quadriplegic. For a long period during his childhood, Danny received extensive care at Children's Memorial Hospital, and his parents kept close watch on him while they stayed at the nearby Ronald McDonald House. Like his father, Danny was an excellent student, a fact that is especially remarkable, given his inability to attend school in person. He received much of his education through lessons which teachers sent home for him to work on. He graduated from Lane Technical High School in Chicago and earned a bachelor's degree in general studies, with distinction, online from Indiana University. Danny has continuously been on a ventilator since 1986, and he receives round-the-clock nursing care from a devoted group of home health aides and his tireless parents. He

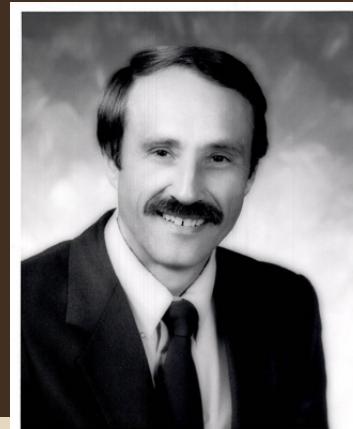
enjoys watching sporting events and working on his computer, which he operates by using his eyebrows to move a cursor to select letters and words. With this remarkable technology, he has met friends from around the world.

After a few years of working for a small law firm and handling personal injury litigation for the Chicago Transit Authority, Al was appointed as an associate judge of the circuit court of Cook County in 1986. During his time in the Law Division, he presided over countless jury cases, helping reduce the division's then-legendary backlog. For the last 21 years, he has been the mainstay of the court's county division, which handles a variety of unusual matters such as real estate valuation objections, tax deeds, mental health issues, and election disputes.

In recognition of his military service, Judge Alfred Paul retired from the circuit court at 11:11 am on Veterans Day (11/11), 2022. His judicial colleagues presented him an award engraved with these words: *"To the best team player who never said no to anyone who needed help."* That's quite an understatement.

The Illinois Judges Association extends its congratulations and gratitude to Judge Paul for an inspiring life of selfless service to country, community, and family.

Happy Retirement!



Advocate SPOTLIGHT: *Attorney Roman Drewniak*

To acquaint readers better with Members of the Advocates Society, we spotlight some Members in each issue. In this issue, we feature a Question and Answer with Roman Drewniak, who is in private practice and serves on the Board as the Treasurer. Roman is an associate attorney at Abels & Annes, PC.



Why are you a member of the Advocates Society?

I am a member of the Advocate's Society because I was born in Breszko, Poland. My heritage provides me with a sense of great pride and the Advocates Society allows me to connect with like-minded attorneys who want to serve and help Polonia. Joining immediately after admission to the Bar also allowed me to connect with many attorneys early in my career who practice in various area of law.

Give us an example of how being a member of the Advocates Society empowered you as an attorney.

As a member of the Advocate's Society, I frequently volunteer for the Amicus Poloniae legal clinic. This has empowered me not only by being able to help those unable to afford legal counsel but also by serving as a network to connect with other personal injury attorneys and discuss challenges we face in our cases. These round table discussions have been invaluable by allowing me to get perspectives outside of my own firm leading to better results for my clients.

What are you most looking forward to this year, personally and professionally?

Personally, I am looking forward to welcoming our son to the world in June and all of the joys that will come with becoming first time parents. Professionally, I am looking forward to serving as Treasurer of the Advocate's Society as well as growing my practice in effort to aid as many injured clients as possible.

Share any other information about yourself that you think our readers would enjoy.

While not practicing law, I enjoy training Brazilian Jui Jitsu. It allows me to take a step back and focus solely on the sport, providing better mental clarity when I am at the office. Exerting myself physically on the mats make the daily challenges at work seem to be much more manageable.

"The Advocates Society helps connect me with like-minded attorneys who want to serve and help Polonia."

Advocate SPOTLIGHT: *Attorney Regina Rathnau*

We are also featuring Regina Rathnau, who is in private practice and has been past President and currently serves as Chair of the Scholarship Committee and President of the National Advocates Society.



Why are you a member of the Advocates Society?

My grandfather, Alex Janoski, was president, and my father, Joseph Rathnau, was a member. I remember the Christmas parties as a child, and I always knew I wanted to be a member of Advocates. I was quite nervous with my application, actually!

Give us an example of how being a member of the Advocates Society empowered you as an attorney.

Advocates has been instrumental in making professional contacts that were quite important when I started my solo practice 13 years ago. Anna Krolikowska, Steve Kozicki, and several others were quite kind with their advice and guidance. I have also gained some key clients through Advocates Society referrals. Also, as a solo attorney, it is necessary to have a sounding board when you do run into questions. I am thoroughly grateful for those who have helped out.

What are you most looking forward to this year, personally and professionally?

Working less! Ha! The trick of a solo practice is balancing the needs of clients and the needs of yourself. No one is there to watch you constantly and help you monitor the workflow, so it is easy to bite off more than you can comfortably chew. I would love to hire an attorney to help lighten the load and groom to take over someday, but we'll see if I get there. Fingers crossed.

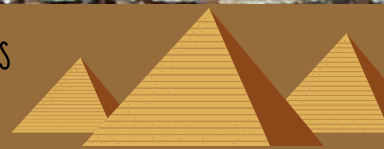
Share any other information about yourself that you think our readers would enjoy.

I am currently President of the National Advocates Society, and we are hosting a convention August 9-13 at Lake Lawn Lodge at Lake Delevan, Wisconsin this summer. It is a great opportunity to vacation with your fellow Polish attorneys and earn a little CLE. We partner with the NMDA (National Medical Dental Association of Polish-American doctors/dentists). We would love to have some Chicago Advocates join us this summer! These conventions have been ongoing for many decades and are great for the whole family. It's how we did summer vacations when I was a kid!





Advocate Judges Join Illinois Judges Association's Trip to Israel and Egypt



By Judge Jonathan Clark Green

Justice Aurelia Pucinski and myself were honored to join about 30 of our colleagues of the Illinois Judges Association ("IJA") for a memorable trip to Israel and Egypt this last March. Lead by IJA President Justice Eileen O'Neill Burke, and organized by Justice Michael Hyman and retired Judge Moshe Jacobius, the trip featured a rather ambitious schedule including visits to Tel Aviv, the Israeli Courts in Nazareth, the Golan Heights, the Jordan Valley, including the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea, as well as Jerusalem and Bethlehem in the West Bank. It concluded with a visit to the Israeli Supreme Court and a meeting with Israeli Justice Alex Stein, as well as first-hand experiences with the street demonstrations supporting the Judiciary and the Rule of Law. Quite a time to visit, especially with Passover, Easter and Ramadan also coinciding at the same time. About half the group, including Justice Pucinski and myself, continued on to Cairo to visit the Pyramids and other Coptic Christian sites, along with a visit with an old classmate of mine from IIT Chicago-Kent to discuss the legal system there, Egyptian Attorney Idris Al-Melegi.

Of special interest to our Polish roots, we were able to visit Poland's fabulous mosaic contribution to the Church of the Assumption in Nazareth, as well the Church of St. Joseph nearby, reconstructed by Polish refugees during World War II. While our visit to Yad Vashem in Jerusalem was very sobering, documenting Holocaust activities in Poland during the war, I was quite uplifted by a visit with some distant cousins from our Green family who emigrated from Poland and have a history going back to the very creation of Israel. We shared information, and they offered details on where to look for the old family neighborhoods, northwest of Warsaw, when I hope to visit Poland soon. There is truly still a special connection with Poland for many in Israel, as they celebrate their 75th anniversary of statehood. Many in our group, including Justice Pucinski and myself, expressed our interest and excitement in visiting Poland soon with new IJA and ISBA (Illinois State Bar Association) trips there being planned for the near future. (Photos on the next two pages.)

Article and Photo Submissions by Judge Jonathan Clark Green, Past President of the Advocates Society

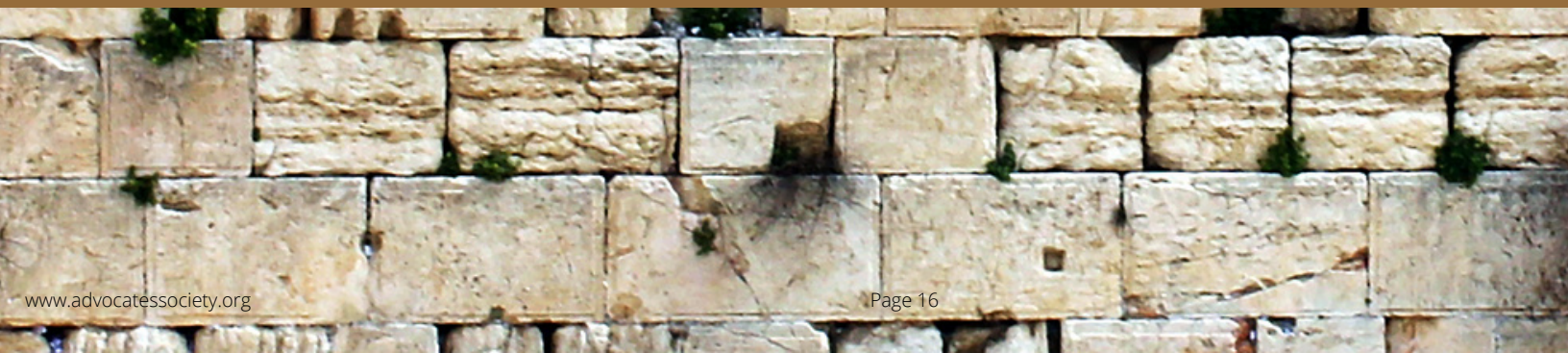


Photo 4: The Polish mosaic at the Church of the Assumption

Photo 5: The plaque recognizing the work of Polish refugees at the Church of St. Joseph

Photo 6: The Western Wall in Jerusalem

Photo 7: Visiting the Israeli Supreme Court

Photo 10: Breaking the Ramadan fast with Egyptian Attorney Idris Al-Melegi in Cairo

Photo 11: The Pyramids and Sphinx

Photo 12: The Pyramids and Sphinx during the famous sound and light show in Giza



Photo 10



Photo 4



Photo 7



Photo 5



Photo 12



Photo 11



Photo 6

Photo 1: Justice Pucinski and her daughter Rebecca in Tel Aviv

Photo 2 & 3: Visiting the Courts in Nazareth

Photo 8: Visiting Justice Alex Stein at the Israeli Supreme Court

Photo 9: In the middle of street demonstrations in Jerusalem



Photo 8



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 1



Photo 9

Judge's Corner: *The Honorable Diann Marsalek*

The Judge's Corner is to highlight some amazing judges who support the Advocates Society. In this issue, we highlight Judge Marsalek, who currently serves as presiding judge in the traffic division in the Cook County Circuit Court. She was appointed judge in 2011. Here is what she shared with us.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Meeting all the new judges as Traffic Court is their first assignment. I train the new judges and mentor them in the start of their judicial careers. I also try to make a difference in the lives of people appearing before me and also volunteer at community events to help restore driving privileges.

What do you miss about being a lawyer?

Sometimes I miss doing jury trials as a lawyer representing one of the parties. I do hear jury trials as a judge so I still participate in jury trials in a different capacity, now as a Judge.

At times, judges hear a wide range of cases. Are there any issues that are especially important to you?

The important aspects of being a judge are to listen to those appearing in front of you, being respectful and kind to all appearing in front of you and giving everyone their day in court.

Do you have any mentors? What is the most valuable lesson(s) you learned from him/her?

I was fortunate to have several mentors in the legal community. My father was a mentor to me as he was a lawyer and judge. He always taught me to be kind, respectful and to try to help others. My mother also had a career including government service. Both of them encouraged me to give back to the community.

Do you have any advice for attorneys trying a case before your bench?

The best advice is to be prepared and be civil to everyone.

Share any other information about yourself that you think our readers would enjoy.

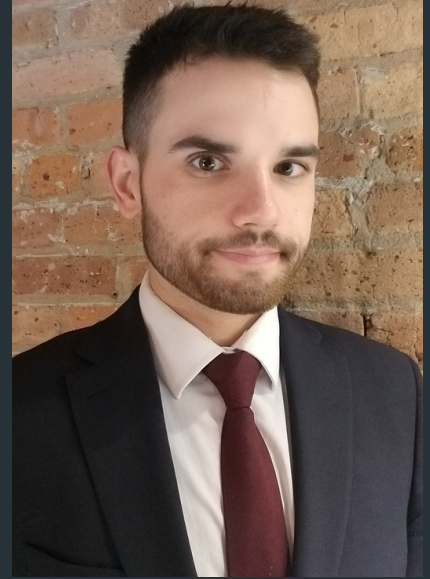
I believe in mentorship. I also participate as an official mentor to new judges. I encourage young students to consider a career in the field of law. I support numerous bar associations and try to support any scholarship efforts for law students. I also encourage law students to join bar associations and find a mentor in the legal field.



Judge Marsalek, as the Grand Marshal at the 2017 Polish Constitution Day Parade

Advocate SPOTLIGHT: *Student Thomas Bacharz*

Thomas Bacharz is featured as a Law Student Member. Thomas is currently a 3L at UIC Law. Here is what he shared with us.



Why are you a member of the Advocates Society?

As a law student, I knew that building connections in the legal community would be critical to my future success. I also wanted to find people who share my cultural background and experiences. That's when I discovered the Advocates Society. I was immediately drawn to the idea of connecting with other attorneys who could relate to my Polish American heritage and offer unique perspectives that could be especially relevant to my work as a lawyer.

I also saw the Advocates Society as an excellent way to start building meaningful relationships, even before I graduate from law school. With its wide range of events, from social events to community service activities, the Society offered an opportunity to grow my knowledge and skills and get to know other attorneys on a personal level.

Overall, the Advocates Society is an invaluable resource for anyone in the legal profession, whether they are a law student like myself or a seasoned attorney with decades of experience. By bringing together people with diverse backgrounds and perspectives, the Advocates Society helps foster a sense of community and collaboration within the legal profession. It also provides valuable opportunities for learning, growth, and professional development.

Give us an example of how being a member of the Advocates Society empowered you as a law student and future attorney.

One of the most significant benefits of being a member has been the opportunity to connect with experienced attorneys who are passionate about sharing their knowledge and helping law students like myself grow. Through attending Advocates Society events, I have had the chance to meet attorneys who have a vast amount of courtroom experience. It has been fascinating to hear their stories and gain insights into the various challenges they have faced throughout their careers. Moreover, learning from their experiences has been instrumental in helping me develop my practical skills. I recently applied these insights during mock trial competitions and utilizing my 711 license. In effect, being a member of the Advocates Society has empowered me to become a more confident and competent law student and a glimpse into what it takes to become a successful attorney. (Continued)

Advocate SPOTLIGHT: *Student Thomas Bacharz*

Most importantly, the Advocates Society has helped me to see the bigger picture of what it means to be a lawyer. By engaging with other members and learning from their experiences, I have gained a greater understanding of the legal profession's role in promoting justice and serving the public good. This has inspired me to approach my legal education as not only a means to a career but as a way to make a meaningful impact in the world.

What are you most looking forward to this year, personally and professionally?

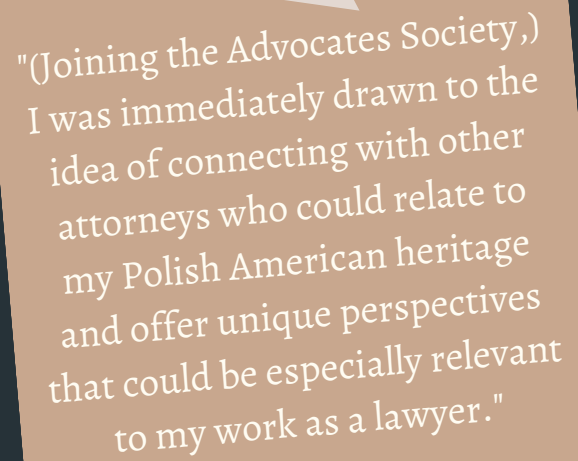
As a law student about to graduate, I am looking forward to taking and passing the joy that is the bar exam. In addition to passing the bar, I am excited about the opportunity to continue gaining courtroom experience by arguing motions and making legal arguments in front of judges by utilizing my 711 license. The continued experience will be invaluable as I transition into my professional career as an attorney.

Personally, I am excited to explore the city of Chicago more in the coming year. One thing I'm looking forward to is attending more concerts. I love music, and Chicago has so many amazing venues and performers. I'm also looking forward to trying out some new restaurants, and Chicago has no shortage of great restaurants to choose from. Finally, I'm hoping to visit some of the city's famous comedy clubs. Chicago has a rich history of comedy, and some of the best comedians got their start here.

Share any other information about yourself that you think our readers would enjoy.

One interesting thing about me is that I play a few instruments. Specifically, I play the bass guitar and keyboard and create my own music. It's been a passion of mine for quite some time now, and I enjoy the process. The bass guitar and keyboard are two of my favorites because they allow me to create deep, rich sounds that truly fill out a song.

As for my influences, I'm a fan of artists from the 80s. Depeche Mode, Joy Division, and The Cure are all major inspirations of mine. I love the way they use electronic sounds and synth-driven melodies to create music that is both haunting and upbeat at the same time. When I'm producing music, I try to incorporate some of those same elements. It's always a thrill to hear a new song come together and know that I've created something that is all my own.



"(Joining the Advocates Society,) I was immediately drawn to the idea of connecting with other attorneys who could relate to my Polish American heritage and offer unique perspectives that could be especially relevant to my work as a lawyer."

How to Respond to a Motion in Domestic Relations & Civil Cases: A Practice Pointer

By Alon Stein



Your client gets served with a Motion. How do you respond to it? Clearly, all motions in the Circuit Court of Cook County are responded to in the same way, right? Wrong!

While there is no Illinois Code of Civil Procedure section or Illinois Supreme Court Rule that directly deals with this, there is a custom that has been established over the years that makes responding to motions in domestic relations cases different from how similar motions are responded to in civil cases brought before the Municipal, Law and/or Chancery divisions.

In Illinois courts, "Every answer and subsequent pleading shall contain an explicit admission or denial of each allegation of the pleading to which it relates" 735 ILCS 5/2-610(a). In addition, "Every allegation, except allegations of damages, not explicitly denied is admitted" 735 ILCS 5/2-610(b).

In Domestic Relations, motions (also sometimes called petitions) are treated like pleadings and therefore each and every statement made in the motion needs to be responded to by explicitly admitting and denying. In addition, if the Motion contains a Verification, then the Response also needs to have a Verification as well.

An attorney who mostly handles civil cases, who is unfamiliar with the above Domestic Relations custom of having to respond to each and every statement in a motion/petition with an admission or a denial could find himself or herself unpleasantly surprised. If the

attorney does not explicitly admit and deny each allegation, in addition, to sending the message to opposing counsel that the attorney is not a family law "regular," that attorney could also be waiving objections and making admissions. Needless to say, these are not good things.

In contrast, for civil cases, it is highly unusual to see anyone respond to a motion by the "Admit, Deny, Neither Admit Nor Deny" format that one sees in Domestic Relations cases (usually when that it done that way, it is done by a Domestic Relations attorney unfamiliar with how things are done for civil cases).

In fact, one does not need to file a written response to a motion at all and can instead opt to orally argue a response in open court (this is not the recommended way to handle responses to motions). Responses to motions in civil cases are in the narrative form with arguments relying on citations to cases and statutes. Responses are filed as briefs. Usually, such response briefs are around fifteen pages long.

In sum, it is important to know the customs of the court that you are stepping into, and therefore, it is extremely important to know the differences in how motions are responded to in civil cases and domestic relations cases.

Alon Stein is the founder of Stein Law Offices in Northbrook, Illinois, and is a commercial litigator. Stein Law Offices is a full-service law firm representing businesses in the Chicagoland area and in Wisconsin. Alon Stein is also Of Counsel to the law firms of Miller Berger, LLC and Hoeppner Wagner & Evans LLP.

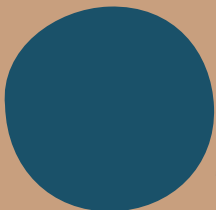
Save the Dates



Picnic Potluck

August

(more details to come)



Scholarship Fundraiser
& President's Award
Thursday, September 14th



Judge's Night

Thursday, October 19th



Scholarship Opportunities

for law students

**Polish American Advocates
Scholarship Foundation**

www.advocatessociety.org

**Illinois Judge's Foundation Harold
Sullivan Scholarship**

Applications Due: June 26, 2023 at 3pm

www.ijafoundation.org

Diversity Scholarship Foundation

www.diversitychicago.org





Poland's History, Culture and Traditions

We Celebrate Pulaski, a True Polish American Hero

By Kathy E. Bojczuk



Fort Pulaski National Monument - Savannah, Georgia

On March 6th, Chicago celebrated Pulaski Day. Casimir Pulaski, the "father of the American cavalry" fought in the American Revolution, notably saving George Washington's life. Earlier, though, Pulaski was also fighting revolutionary wars in Poland, the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth, and against foreign domination.

Besides Chicago, there are many other places that celebrate Pulaski. Across the United States, there are many cities, towns, counties, bridges, roadways, streets, monuments and parks named after this war hero. To the right are some cities (but definitely not all) that have honored Pulaski with statues or monuments. Next time you visit any of those cities, make sure to check out our great Polish American hero!

Cities Honoring Pulaski:

- Baltimore, MD
- Boston, MI
- Cleveland, OH
- Detroit, MI
- Flint, MI
- Hartford, CT
- Milwaukee, WI
- Providence, RI
- Savannah, GA
- Scranton, PA
- Stevens Point, WI
- Washington, DC

Photos Wanted



Advocates, send us your PHOTOS!

Traveling abroad? Planning a trip to Poland?
Attended an Advocates' event? Send us photos to include in the Newsletter!

Email:

Advocatessociety@gmail.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/polishadvocates>

NEWSLETTER PUBLISH DATES

Spring Issue - March 1st
Summer Issue - June 1st
Fall Issue - Sept 1st
Winter Issue - Dec 1st

BECOME A MEMBER

Who qualifies to be a member? Any person of Polish descent or affinity, duly licensed to practice law in any jurisdiction, is eligible for membership in this Society, regardless of race or religion. A condition of membership shall be absolute and unqualified loyalty to the constitution of the United States of America.

When do I need to renew? Memberships are renewed every March.

How do I pay? You can visit our website, www.advocatessociety.org.

General Membership

(5 or more years) - \$175

Attorneys who have been admitted to the bar for five (5) or more years.

General Membership

(less than 5 years) - \$150

Attorneys who have been admitted to the bar for less than five (5) years.

Law Student Membership - \$30

Individuals who are not licensed to practice law in any jurisdiction, but are a student attending an accredited law school.

Associate Membership (non-attorney) - \$75

Individuals who are not licensed to practice law in any jurisdiction. This is a non-attorney, non-voting membership.



Amicus Poloniae Pro Bono Clinic

Volunteers are needed (attorneys and Polish translators) for the Amicus Poloniae Pro Bono Clinic Sessions.

WHEN? 3rd Saturday of each month - 9am to 1:30pm
(Summer Dates: June 17, July 15, August 19)

WHERE? In person at the Polish National Alliance (6100 N. Cicero Ave., Chicago), via Zoom, or by being "on call."

HOW? Contact us by emailing: Advocatessociety@gmail.com, and we will make sure you receive a CVLS volunteer registration form to fill out prior to the next session so you are all set for the session you want to attend and those for the rest of the year. CVLS provides legal liability coverage for registered volunteers.

THANKS!

The PR/Newsletter Committee gives thanks to the contributors who submitted photos, content and information to the current issue of the Newsletter. We appreciate your time, support and dedication!

Contributors in this issue include:

- Thomas Bacharz
- Judge Michael Chmiel
- Justice Mathias Delort
- Mark Dobrzycki
- Roman Drewniak
- Judge Michele Gemske
- Judge Jonathan Clark Green
- Robert Groszek
- Mark Karno
- Judge Diann Marsalek
- Judge Thomas Nowinski
- Regina Rathnau
- Julia Jensen Smolka
- Alon Stein



Congrats!

Audrey Cosgrove was among 17 elected to the ISBA Assembly, the governing body of the bar association, in a contested race in Cook County.



FROM THE ADVOCATES SOCIETY

Newsletter Submissions

Please send items to Advocatessociety@gmail.com. Articles should be in Word format and pictures in jpeg or PDF format. Permission to publish as received or edited is assumed when emailed. Any announcements such as job promotions, awards received or personal achievements may also be submitted.