



# BRIEFS

Nº 4

Newsletter of Citizens for Judicial Excellence • April 2012

## Annual Poker Night



It's Poker Time again! On Friday, April 27, 2012, CJE will host our third annual Poker Night at the Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island (same location as past years) starting at 5:00 p.m. The event was so successful in years past that we are adding even more prizes and lots of other exciting extras.

In addition to the opportunity to play cards, even if you are a novice, with fellow colleagues including some prosecutors who have decided to join the fun, is the opportunity to help CJE contribute to its campaign war chest and continue its successful track record again in 2014. This event will be bigger and better than last year and promises to bring in more funding for our organization. This will help us continue our successful track record at election time.

This unique event will include snacks, a light dinner, refreshments and some exciting prizes including a trip to Las Vegas, a four-day stay at a waterfront condo at Wapato Point on Lake Chelan, and a gift certificate

to Daniel's Broiler. A new iPad generously donated by TCM Investigations / Tom Missel will be raffled off to cap the evening.

*There are just a couple of seats remaining at the event, so if you and a guest would like to attend, please contact Ted Barr at (425) 462-4224 right away. First come, first served!*

### A "Shout Out" To Our Corporate Sponsors

This year's Poker Night is being co-sponsored and underwritten by Assessment and Treatment Associates and Lacey O'Malley.

ASSESSMENT & TREATMENT ASSOCIATES



Without their generous support, we could not make this event as successful as it is.



If you see Steve, Gayle or Denny, please express your appreciation to them for their support!

## CJE Board Briefing

For those of you who were unable to attend this year's Annual Membership Meeting, it was announced that Mary Ann Ottinger had recently resigned as CJE's Executive Director.

Mary Ann joined CJE three and a half years ago as our Political Consultant. Over time, Mary Ann's role demanded more and more time and energy and she eventually became CJE's de facto Executive Director, a job she never intended to assume.

It is difficult to exaggerate the value Mary Ann had to CJE. Without question we would never have attained the success we have enjoyed so far without her tireless work.

CJE has grown to the point that our demands on Mary Ann made it impossible for her to pursue her larger ambition of working as a political consultant/campaign manager in judicial and other campaigns. It became clear that Mary Ann could no longer pursue her long-term goals and meet the growing demands of her role with CJE.

As Mary Ann focuses her attention on Bill Bowman's campaign for King County Superior Court, as well as other judicial campaigns, we express our gratitude and wish her success in all of her future political projects.

Mary Ann's decision to leave CJE made us aware of the multi-faceted responsibilities required of a CJE Executive Director. The Board determined that the necessary skill sets are too diverse and demanding for one person to handle. Therefore, the

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## CJE Annual Meeting

The CJE 2012 Annual Membership Meeting was held on January 25 at Carillon Point in Kirkland. The meeting was well attended and featured a lengthy and spirited discussion of the current judiciary along with a straw poll of 2014 races deserving CJE attention.

Special recognition awards were presented to ATA and Lacey O'Malley for their outstanding support of CJE.

The new CJE logo, designed by member Dan Gerl, made its debut and is also featured in the CJE membership lapel pin. If you have not yet received your membership pin, please contact Ted Barr.

## KCBA Breakfast

CJE was well represented with its own table at the King County Bar Association Breakfast With Champions on March 22 at the Westin Hotel. More than \$286,000 was raised at the event to benefit the King County Bar Foundation. It was attended by over 1,000 of King County's most accomplished judges, prosecutors, public defenders and private attorneys.

CJE President Ted Barr captained the table and was joined by members Gayle and Denny Behrend of Lacy O'Malley, Dan Gerl, Nat Wylie, Danielle Anderson-Havens, Melanie Dane, Scott Liest, Steve Uhrich of ATA, and our newest member Elizabeth Fraser of the Snohomish County Public Defenders.

## KC Legal News

**Seattle Muni Forms:** Attorneys practicing in Seattle Municipal Court can now access their approved forms online. Point your browser to <http://seattle.gov/courts/house.htm>.

**New Sheriff In Town:** Earlier this year, King County Sheriff Sue Rahr accepted the position of executive director of the state's Criminal Justice Training Commission. Steve Strachan, Chief Deputy Sheriff, has been appointed by the County Council to serve as interim Sheriff until November 2012 and then stand for election.

## Welcome New Members!

CJE welcomes the following new members:

Robert Ault  
Tom Cox  
Ray Ejarque  
Beth Fraser  
Hussein Karmali  
Jag Matto  
Tom Missel  
Lizanne Padula

Don't forget to introduce yourself to our new members the next time you see them.

## Board Briefing

*Continued*

Board has decided to hire both a part-time Administrative Director and part-time Political Director to replace Mary Ann.

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Greg McDonald as Administrative Director. Greg is committed to CJE's mission and has the high tech, organizational, and diplomatic skills needed by CJE to support the President and the Board through the upcoming judicial elections and next period of CJE growth.

Greg has demonstrated his commitment and abilities during the past couple of years as a CJE volunteer working on our website, newsletters, and Poker night. In addition, as a bonus, Greg has worked for non-profit organizations and political campaigns in both volunteer and paid positions in the past.

The Board will now turn its attention to hiring a part-time Political Director to assist us in recruiting and preparing exceptional candidates and helping us through the 2014 judicial elections. Our goal is to have a Political Director hired and fully engaged by September 30. We will keep you posted.

We thank you for your ongoing support and confidence. The Board works diligently every week to continue to deserve it.

— Ted. C. Barr, CJE President



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