



# WOMEN LAWYERS of Utah Newsletter

UtahWomenLawyers.ORG

September 2007

- 1 Message from the President
- 2 Mark Your Calendars
- 2 Grapevine
- 2 Award-Winning Judge Has Achieved Balance
- 3 New WLU Board Members



Evelyn Furse

## Message from the President

Welcome to another year with Women Lawyers of Utah! Established in 1981, WLU provides a place for the community of women lawyers in Utah to gather.

Communities serve their members through support, advice, celebration, recognition, and teaching, among other things. As women we have many demands on our time, and we must be sure we have adequate resources to meet those demands. Time spent with the WLU community bolsters our resources. Whether you join a committee, help plan an event, become a mentor, or attend a luncheon, the payback will be tenfold.

The community of women lawyers in Utah is replete with strong, brilliant, dignified, joyful, resourceful, funny, exciting, thoughtful, fair, generous, enthusiastic women who make a difference. Collectively, we can do anything. This year we promise to further the rich tradition begun not so long ago.

This summer we hope to have a casual social gathering for our members to relax and enjoy each other's company. Reserve October 19th and 20th for our Annual Retreat, which celebrates our community and gives us all an opportunity to rise above the daily grind at Deer Valley. This year our keynote speaker will be Karen Lockwood, former President of the District of Columbia Women's Bar Association, and Partner with Howrey, LLP. She will speak about D.C.'s study on the retention and promotion of women in law firms.

On November 16, 2007 WLU will sponsor a track at the Utah Bar's Fall Forum to support our community through education. In January, WLU will hold our annual mentoring social where the Community Outreach Committee matches students and lawyers with mentors to help support and advise them through the challenges facing them. The annual Banter with the Bench and the Fireside Chat with Chief Justice Christine Durham of the Utah Supreme Court will take place in the Spring. The annual Banter and Fireside provide time for our community to honor and learn from our legends.

In addition to these events, the Board will apply for tax exempt status, which will bring WLU to a new level as an organization, increasing our capacity to serve; the career advancement committee will continue its work to ensure that women lawyers in Utah are nominated for recognition within the Bar and Utah; the special projects committee will study the issue of retention and promotion of women in law firms.

Please keep our community thriving by being an active part of it. While \$35 or \$45 may have seemed like a significant additional expense when you renewed your bar membership, you will see the membership quickly pays for itself through referrals, CLE's—either free or discounted—networking opportunities, mentoring, advice, and support. So come to our events or join a committee!

If we are preaching to the choir, please pass this newsletter along to others who could benefit from membership and whom we look forward to getting to know.

### Contact Information:

*If you need to contact us,  
please feel free to mail us at:*

Women Lawyers of Utah  
P.O. Box 932  
Salt Lake City, UT 84110

### Our website is:

*UtahWomenLawyers.org*

## WOMEN LAWYERS OF UTAH

**Mission Statement:**

*The mission of Women Lawyers of Utah is to provide opportunities for women lawyers to develop and advance their careers and to further the cause of women in Utah generally. The objectives of its mission are to educate and inform, to offer support, to encourage community affiliation for professional success, to seek greater responsiveness to women's needs from Utah's justice system and better living and working conditions for all Utah women.*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**2007 WLU FALL RETREAT**

October 19 – 20, 2007  
Chateaux at Silver Lake

We look forward to seeing you at Deer Valley this year! Our keynote speaker Friday night will be Karen Lockwood speaking on Retention and Promotion of Women in Law Firms. Ms. Lockwood, a partner with Howrey LLP, is Past President of the D.C. Women's Bar Association and headed the D.C. initiative on the issue. Saturday morning there will be a panel discussion.

Not only does the retreat provide an opportunity to obtain CLE credits, but it is also a great opportunity to relax, catch up with old friends, and meet new ones. We'll enjoy great company, great food, and a great place to spend the night. Full registration includes both sessions and meals; as alternative, participants may register for either of the two sessions independently. CLE credit is pending (approximately 2 1/2 hours).

See the insert for the retreat registration forms, agenda and lodging forms.

## Award-winning judge has achieved balance

*Pamela Manson – The Salt Lake Tribune*

*Salt Lake Tribune, The (UT)*

*Date: June 4, 2007 – Section: Local*

Tena Campbell just added another "first" to her name. She is the first female federal district judge in Utah and first woman to serve as chief federal district judge in the state. She also was one of the first women prosecutors in the U.S. Attorney's Office in Salt Lake City.

And now, she's the first U.S. district jurist to be named the Christine M. Durham Woman Lawyer of the Year.

Throughout her career, the 62-year-old Campbell - an Idaho native who is married and has one daughter - has known the importance of balancing work and family life. That insight helped earn her the award, which was presented to her last month by Women Lawyers of Utah.



## GRAPEVINE

**Karen McCreary** moved to Executive Director at the ACLU from the Western Governor's Association.

**Margaret Plane** moved from Legal Director at the ACLU to a position as Assistant City Attorney for Salt Lake City. Marina Baginsky Low returned to Salt Lake City after practicing in San Francisco, and replaced Margaret at the ACLU.

**Laura Kirwan** left the Utah State Property Ombudsman's Office for the Salt Lake City Attorney's Office.

**Rebecca Parr** has moved from Howrey LLP to the Utah Attorney General's Office in the Litigation Division.

**Virginia Sudbury** has left the Disability Law Center and has opened her own practice focusing on unbundled family law services.

**Michelle Christiansen** moved from General Counsel for Governor Huntsman to District Court Judge for the 3rd district.

**Kate Toomey** moved from the Office of Professional Conduct to District Court Judge for the 3rd district.

**Vernice Trease** is another new District Court Judge for the 3rd district, moving from the Salt Lake Legal Defenders Association to take that position.

**Suchada Bazelle** moved from the Office of the Guardian Ad Litem to the 4th District Juvenile Court.

If you have any news to share with WLU, and would like to have it included in the next edition of the newsletter, please forward it to Jennifer Brown at [jbrown@chapman.com](mailto:jbrown@chapman.com).

The group also cited Campbell's years of public service.

After four years in private practice, she worked as a Salt Lake County prosecutor and then as an assistant U.S. attorney. President Clinton nominated Campbell to the U.S. district court bench in 1995 and she was confirmed unanimously by the Senate.

She took over the job of chief judge from Dee Benson, who completed his seven-year term earlier

this year. In her new position, Campbell oversees budgeting and operation of the court.

In addition, she will be working on getting a new federal courthouse built, an effort that has been on-going for years. The judge is particularly interested in a feature to assist employees who are parents.

"I desperately want an on-site day care facility," she said.

Campbell views her job as a collaborative one, with all judges deciding issues and an administrative team keeping the courts running smoothly.

"A chief judge does not mean a boss judge," she said.

Her former colleagues at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Salt Lake City praise Campbell's work ethic and

her sharp legal mind. She tried about 60 criminal cases during her tenure there.

"She was very methodical, very detailed, very hard-working and had a very great courtroom presence," said Carlie Christensen, first assistant U.S. attorney. "I think she's a role model for women but also a role model for all attorneys."

And senior litigation counsel Stewart Walz said Campbell "has to rank near the top of all prosecutors."

Campbell's love of the law and her job remains strong. "Even after a dozen years, I find I'm very happy when I come to work," she said.

pmanson@sltrib.com

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## New WLU Board Members

On May 9, 2007, WLU held its annual meeting at which new board members were elected, certain existing board members changed positions, and committee sign-ups occurred. Congratulations to our newly elected board members: Jennifer Brown, Kimberly Przybyla and Melanie Vartabedian. Below is a list of our current board members and the committees they chair:

President: Eve Furse	Secretary: Adria Swindle	Career Advancement/Development Committee: Margaret Plane
President-Elect: Lisa Yerkovich	CLE/Education Committee: Juliette White	Work-Life Balance Committee: Jessica Stengel
Past-President: Laurie Gilliland	Community Outreach Committee: Kimberly Przybyla	Membership/Publicity Committee: Jennifer Brown
Treasurer: Peggy Hunt		Special Project Committee: Melanie Vartabedian



## WHY JOIN WLU?

As stated succinctly by the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations:

"To be successful, every attorney must build a network. Joining a women's bar can jumpstart this process. The opportunities for business referrals and access to resources for substantive legal and practical advice and possibilities for leadership and visibility in the profession are all present in women's bar associations."

[http // www.ncwba.org](http://www.ncwba.org)

## DUES SCHEDULE

In Practice < 3 yrs	\$30	<input type="checkbox"/>
In practice 3+ yrs	\$40	<input type="checkbox"/>
Law students	\$15	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Law school & year of graduation:

Utah State Bar No.:

Area(s) of practice:

## DISCLAIMER:

*This newsletter is meant to inform educate, and support the women lawyers in Utah. Articles reflect the opinion of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or positions of WLU its Board. We gladly accept submissions for publication about issues or events of interest to you. We will publish position pieces by candidates for bar positions who are fully paid members of WLU, but do not endorse any candidates for Bar positions or other public office. WLU reserves the right to refuse to publish any item for any reason.*