



## IOWA 2006-07 Board of Directors

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Sonya Streit  
515-281-0141

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## I.O.W.A. Membership Chair Christine Conover Honored

Christine Conover, Membership Chair of I.O.W.A., was recently named one of the Corridor Business Journal's Second Annual Forty Under 40. The Forty Under 40 Awards are given by the Corridor Business Journal to recognize and thank leaders under the age of 40 who have made a significant impact in their business, community or both early in their careers. Christine was nominated and chosen because of her community involvement and her positive contributions to the Cedar Rapids to Iowa City corridor.

Christine is a partner at Simmons, Perrine, Albright & Ellwood, P.L.C. where she has developed a very successful medical malpractice defense practice. She has been a member of the Board of Directors of I.O.W.A. since 1999, serving as President in 2002-2003. She serves on the Board of the Iowa Defense Counsel Association as the at large young lawyers Board member. Her outstanding work on that Board earned her the Edward F. Seitzinger Award in 2005. This award is presented each year to an outstanding Board member for exceptional contributions and meritorious service to the association. Christine is the youngest person to ever receive that award. Christine is also a member of the Mock Trial Committee of the Young Lawyers Division of the Iowa State Bar.

Christine is also committed to her community. Christine currently serves on the Board of Directors of Waypoint and in the past served on the Board of Directors of the Visiting Nursing Association of Johnson County. From 2001 to 2004, she helped coach the Robins Mock Trial teams. The high school students she coached won the State championship in 2002 and 2003, earning the right to compete at the National Mock Trial competition. I.O.W.A. would like to congratulate Christine on this great achievement.

## Professional Women's Dinner

### **November 9, Des Moines**

I.O.W.A. cordially invites you to attend its Professional Women's Dinner that will be held at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, November 9, 2006 at the Downtown Marriott Hotel, 700 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa. The keynote speaker will be the Honorable Marsha Ternus, Chief Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court. Justice Ternus will speak about the children's justice initiative to improve the court system for foster children. The cost is \$30.00.

Please contact Sonya Streit, I.O.W.A. Public Relations Chair at (515) 281-0141 or at [Sonya.streit@iowa.gov](mailto:Sonya.streit@iowa.gov) by **November 3** if you would like to attend.

Preceding the dinner will be a wine and cheese reception honoring Justice Ternus from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in Salon D at the Downtown Marriott Hotel. Attendance is free of charge. This event is sponsored by the Polk County Women Attorneys. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Sara Keenan at [slk@brownwick.com](mailto:slk@brownwick.com).

## Upcoming Events

### Making Children's Voices Heard in Custody Cases **November 10, Cedar Rapids**

The Kids First Law Center is sponsoring a one-day CLE, "Can You Hear Me Now? Making Children's Voices Heard in Custody Cases." The CLE will take place in Cedar Rapids on **Friday, November 10, 2006 from 8:30 to 5:00 p.m.** This one-day program provides an introduction to representing children in custody cases. It will serve as a training session for attorneys interested in representing children, as well as provide useful information regarding the child's perspective in divorce and custody cases.



Topics include: Developing a Custody Case for a Child Client, ABA Standards for Children's Attorneys, Sixth District Judges' Views on Children's Representatives, Child Psychology Related to Separate Households, Collaborating with Therapists, Techniques for Interviewing Children, Ethical Issues in Child Representation,

Children and the Grieving Process, and Iowa Law on Representing Children.

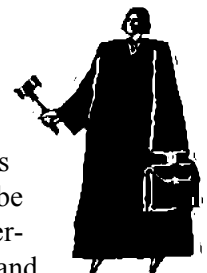
Presenters include: Judge Marsha Beckelman; Ann Estin, University of Iowa Family Law Professor; Kathy Ruyle, LISW, Children's Therapist; Sasha Mudlaff, MA, Children's Grief Counselor; Jenny Schulz, Kids First Law Center.

Sponsors anticipate the program will provide 6.5 hours of CLE credit, including 1 hour ethics. The registration fee for the program is free to attorneys who agree to represent two children pro bono through the Kids First Law Center within the next year. For attorneys unable to represent two children, the registration fee is \$150.00.

Space is limited, so attorneys must register in advance. To obtain a registration form, email Jenny Schulz at [jenny@kidsfirstiowa.org](mailto:jenny@kidsfirstiowa.org) or call (319) 365-5437 for more information.

### Reception Honoring Chief Justice Ternus **November 14, Iowa City**

A reception to honor Justice Marsha Ternus as the first female chief justice for the State of Iowa and to commemorate Iowa's first female attorney, Arabella Babb Mansfield will be held at the Old Capitol in Iowa City from 5:00p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on November 14, 2006. Special guest First Lady Christie Vilsack is scheduled to attend. During the event, a brief presentation will be made to welcome Justice Ternus and to honor the role of pioneering women in the Iowa legal system. Appetizers will be served and there will be a cash bar. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Alison Werner Smith at 319-337-9606 or [awsmith@hbbmlaw.com](mailto:awsmith@hbbmlaw.com).



#### 2006-07 IOWA Board

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**Newsletter Chair**  
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**Bar Liaison Chair**  
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515-281-3592

## Newsletter Submissions

Do you have an idea for the I.O.W.A. newsletter?



Do you have a job to advertise, news about an I.O.W.A. member, or an upcoming event to announce?

Contact Kathy Law at [kklaw@nyemaster.com](mailto:kklaw@nyemaster.com).

## In the Spotlight

If you know of a female Iowa attorney who would like to appear in this section of this newsletter, please contact Kathy Law at [kklaw@nyemaster.com](mailto:kklaw@nyemaster.com).



## Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence

The Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) was founded in 1985. Today 28 organizations across the state are members of the Coalition. These organizations provide direct services to survivors of domestic violence. In 2005 they served 21,738 Iowa women and children. The programs provided shelter to 2,358 women and children and trained more than 17,000 people statewide. Member organizations depend on ICADV for training, fundraising, and technical support.

ICADV staff members provide training, counseling, community outreach, program management and technical support for the coalition members and the community. ICADV administers seven programs, including, but not limited to State Certification of domestic violence programs and advocates, legal assistance to victims, a statewide rural AmeriCorps program, and a national technical assistance program for attorneys representing immigrant victims of domestic abuse.

To date, ICADV's primary source of funding has been large federal grants. While this money is important and essential to its work, it recognizes that the support of Iowa businesses and individuals is equally important to its future. As a result, ICADV has launched a new effort focusing on raising awareness of and support for our work throughout the state. One way the Coalition is doing this is through the creation of its Advisory Council. The Advisory Council will be made up of individuals who support the Coalition's cause and are willing to provide technical assistance and general support to ICADV. The members will lend their advice and their names to our efforts.



Another exciting development here at ICADV is the creation of a special event. The Coalition's First Purse Power Awards and Auction will be held **April 14, 2007**. The Coalition will honor three Iowa women who use their "Power" to make our state better. The specific awards will be the Power of Volunteerism, Power of Education and Power of Leadership. The Coalition will also auction designer and custom made purses to raise critical unrestricted funds for the organization.

There are many ways I.O.W.A. members can help make this event a success. Here are just a few:

- Join the event committee
- Become a personal event sponsor or encourage your firm to become a sponsor
- Donate a designer or custom made purse
- Suggest an influential Iowan to join the Coalition's Advisory Council
- Share your special talents with ICADV

By supporting ICADV with your time and/or money you can use your "Purse Power" to help ICADV help Iowa abuse survivors rebuild their lives. To get involved or for more information please contact: Sarabeth Anderson, Director of Development, Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 515 28th St., Des Moines, IA 50312, Phone: 515-244-8028 ext. 315, Fax: 515-244-7417, [sarabetha@icadv.org](mailto:sarabetha@icadv.org).