

October 27, 2015 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PRO BONO COMMITTEE TO HOLD PRO BONO WEEK CELEBRATION Area Attorneys to Receive Awards for Pro Bono Commitment

The Fifth Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committee will celebrate National Pro Bono Week and recognize the achievements of pro bono attorney volunteers within the circuit at the Pro Bono Week Celebration on Wednesday, October 28th from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Mattoon Country Club.

This event will recognize 45 attorneys from the Fifth Judicial Circuit who have provided pro bono legal assistance over the past year. Additionally, Kevin Colombo, a partner at Saikley, Garrison, Colombo & Barney LLC will be presented with the 2015 Pro Bono Service Award. Susan Zielke, Managing Attorney of the Eastern Regional Office at Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation, Inc. nominated Colombo for the award.

"Kevin is dedicated to his pro bono clients and invests a lot of time in their cases," Zielke said. "We are thrilled to be able to recognize his extraordinary volunteer efforts and commitment to pro bono service."

Signatories of the Fifth Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Pledge will also be recognized at the dinner. The attorneys and law firms who have signed the pledge have committed to expand pro bono legal services among low-income and underrepresented individuals and families in the Fifth Judicial Circuit. The Pledge was launched last spring.

The Pro Bono Week Celebration is open to attorneys, court staff and press. Keynote remarks will be delivered by Illinois Supreme Court Chief Justice Rita B. Garman. Other speakers include Fifth Judicial Circuit Committee Chair, Angelica Wawrzynek and Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation Senior Staff Attorney, Ramona Sullivan. Tickets are \$45 and can be purchased at PILI's website.

About the Committee: The Fifth Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committee strives to increase equal access to justice by enhancing and expanding pro bono legal services within the Fifth Judicial Circuit. Learn more at www.pili.org/5thcircuit.

About PILI: PILI's mission is to cultivate a lifelong commitment to public interest law and pro bono service within the Illinois legal community to expand the availability of legal services for people, families and communities in need. PILI envisions a legal community with a deeply rooted culture of service, where law students, lawyers and legal professionals at all stages of their careers engage in public interest law or pro bono work, and remain committed to addressing the unmet legal needs of the poor and underrepresented.

To learn more about PILI, visit our website at www.pili.org, or contact PILI Executive Director Michael Bergmann at mbergmann@pili.org or 312-832-5129.