



## Attorney Recipient of Community Service and Dedication Award



Ronald G. Acho

We are pleased to announce that Ronald G. Acho, a Co-founder and Partner of the Firm, is the recipient of the Community Service and Dedication Award by the Chaldean-American Bar Association (CABA). He was selected and unanimously approved by the Board to receive this award for his many years of legal service to the Chaldean community and to the members of CABA. His litigation and mediation talents are well known to many throughout the community.

On receiving this prestigious award, Mr. Acho explained, "This award is very special to me, but really it is more than an award for an individual. This is an award for the entire law firm of Cummings, McClorey, Davis & Acho. The success we achieve in life, just as in the practice of law, is almost always a group effort. What makes our Firm special is the fact that we have

top-notch attorneys and an excellent staff, which is what led to me receiving this award."

Mr. Michael J. George, Sr., community advisor, client and friend of Mr. Acho's for many years offered the following thoughts: "Ron Acho is a man of integrity who understands the importance of mediation rather than litigation; and he is also a humanitarian that helps the deprived with humility and compassion."

He will be honored at the CABA's Third Annual Awards and Scholarship Ceremony on May 30, 2012. Keynote addresses will be made by U.S. Senator Carl Levin and State Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville, and a short video presentation will honor Mr. Acho with the 2012 Annual Award.

Please join us in congratulating Mr. Acho on this impressive and richly deserved award. Mr. Acho can be reached at (734) 261-2400 or [racho@cmda-law.com](mailto:racho@cmda-law.com).

## Attorneys Represent Recent NFL Draft Pick Mike Martin



Mike Martin receives a call from Titans GM informing him of his new team.

Our Firm has a long track record of representing those in the sports world. Among the current athletes for whom CMDA serves as legal counsel is recent NFL draft pick Mike Martin. (CMDA is not in the agency business, but serves as legal counsel.)

Jim Acho, a Senior Attorney in our Livonia office, oversees the review of all of Mr. Martin's contracts and appearances. Chris Schultz, a Partner in our Livonia office, will be setting up and overseeing Mr. Martin's chari-

table foundation, as he has for other NFL players, such as Larry Foote.

Jim attended Mr. Martin's draft party with another CMDA client, John Cuschieri, owner of Minnesota Title Agency, who will be handling Mike's real estate investments.

Mr. Martin, who was a three-year starter for the University of Michigan and a team captain in 2011, was the first Michigan player taken in the 2012 NFL Draft, going to Tennessee in the third round at pick No. 82 overall. CMDA wishes him all the luck in his quest for stardom at the NFL level and continuing to change lives for the better.

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# CMDA Happenings

## Firm Participates in CRAM Annual Highway Conference

Several attorneys from our Firm participated in the County Road Association of Michigan (CRAM) Annual Highway Conference held in Lansing, MI. The conference was attended by managers, engineers, finance directors, superintendents and road commissioners.



*Timothy Young*

CRAM is composed of Michigan's 83 county road agencies. The Association promotes higher efficiency in the operation of Michigan's county road systems through the cooperative efforts of the member county road agencies.



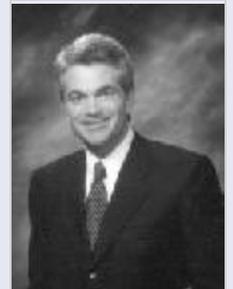
*Haider Kazim*

Attorneys Tim Young, Haider Kazim and Andy Brege enjoyed participating in this conference and having the opportunity to further develop a relationship with CRAM members.

## Attorney Presenter at MMRMA's New Training Facility

Tim Ferrand, a Partner in our Sterling Heights office, was one

of the initial presenters at the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority's (MMRMA) new Training Facility in Livonia. He, along with Mike Ellis, who is MMRMA's Director of Claims, spoke to a large group of municipal employees on Public Act 222 (PA 222).



*Timothy S. Ferrand*

PA 222 amends the Michigan Governmental Immunity Statute to limit the liability of governmental agencies for sewer backups. It also establishes procedures for affected persons seeking compensation for such events.

Topics covered at the presentation included how PA 222 applies in everyday course of business, how to handle an ordinary sewer backup claim and how to deal with a large-scale sewage disposal event. Mr. Ferrand enjoyed being one of the first presenters at the new Training Facility and looks forward to future presentations.

## Attorney Speaks on Employee and Student Interactions

Patrick Sturdy, an attorney in our Livonia office, recently gave a presentation at Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor on Employee and Student Interactions and how to avoid personal liability in the educational setting.

## CMDA Attorneys Awarded with AV Preeminent Rating

Several attorneys from CMDA have been awarded with the prestigious "AV Preeminent Rating" by Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Ratings.

The AV Rating is the highest possible rating given by LexisNexis Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review for an attorney and is established on a peer-review basis. The AV Preeminent designation

signifies that an attorney has been rated by judges and fellow attorneys as having the highest possible rating for legal abilities and ethical standards. The rating is awarded to less than five percent of all attorneys across the United States and is the highest rating offered by the Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory.

### ATTORNEYS FROM OUR FIRM WHO ARE AV RATED INCLUDE:

Owen Cummings  
Gerald Davis

Ronald Acho  
Robert Blamer

T. Joseph Seward  
Jeffrey Clark

Christopher Schultz  
Timothy Ferrand

Kenneth Galica  
Edward Salah

Gail Massad

## COMMUNITY COLLEGE CORNER



*Patrick R. Sturdy*

Under Michigan's School Safety Legislation, full- and part-time employees of local and intermediate school districts, public school academies and non-public schools shall be fingerprinted for the purpose of performing criminal history background checks.

A number of community colleges provide instruction to high school students who are eligible for dual enrollment under the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act. Community colleges, however, are

not required to conduct criminal history background checks on employees who provide instruction to K-12 students under the Legislation.

Instead, the school board of a K-12 school is responsible for ensuring compliance with Michigan's School Safety Legislation. Still, colleges should be careful that they have contractually agreed to assume this liability in dual enrollment and consortium agreements.

If you have any questions about what you have read or would like additional information, Mr. Sturdy can be reached at (734) 261-2400 or psturdy@cnda-law.com.

### Attorney Profile: Kenneth G. Galica



*Kenneth G. Galica*

In this month's newsletter Attorney Kenneth G. Galica is profiled. Mr. Galica first joined the Firm in 1987 as a Partner where he worked for six years. He returned to the Firm in 2003 as a Partner.

Mr. Galica has extensive litigation experience in the areas of federal civil rights claims, employment actions based on both federal and state law, as well as the defense of governmental entities. He has successfully defended counties, cities, townships, villages and their employees, including police officers, in multiple categories of litigation. Mr. Galica has never lost a case for the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA). On his success, Mr. Galica explains, "I believe in thoroughness and extensive preparation. I strive to know more about each case than the plaintiff's lawyer and more about an area of expertise than the plaintiff's expert."

Mr. Galica frequently presents seminars on police liability issues to the FBI National Academy, the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, the Michigan Sheriff's Association, the MMRMA, the Michigan Public Risk Management Association and several local law enforcement agencies.

Mr. Galica is an AV Rated attorney by Martindale-Hubbell (see article on page 2). Additionally, he is a member of the State Bar of Michigan (public corporations section, negligence section and employment section), the Oakland County Bar Association (municipal law committee and negligence committee), the American Bar Association (litigation and tort section and insurance section) and the Bay County Bar Association. Further, he is a member of the Defense Research Institute, the Michigan Defense Trial Counsel and the Association of Defense Trial Counsel. Mr. Galica has been a Mediator for the Wayne County, Oakland County and Bay County Circuit Courts.

He received a Juris Doctor degree from the Detroit College of Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Wayne State University.

Mr. Galica and his wife Joan live in Farmington with their dog Augie. Their son, Kenny, lives in Arizona where he is a Planner for the City of Avondale. Mr. Galica enjoys watching and playing sports, especially golf. He also likes reading and listening to music. He is an actively involved at his church, St. Gerald Church in Farmington.

Mr. Galica can be reached at (734) 261-2400 or kgalica@cnda-law.com.

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## Our Vision

*To meld our legal expertise, professional support staff, technical resources and variety of locations to deliver first rate legal services at a fair value to a full range of business, municipal, insurance and individual clients.*

On Law is a monthly publication from Cummings, McClorey, Davis & Acho, P.L.C.

Comments and questions regarding specific articles should be addressed to the attention of the contributing writer. Remarks concerning miscellaneous features should be addressed to the attention of Jennifer Sherman.

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