



Bureau of Administrative Hearings Newsletter

Governor Bruce Rauner

September 27, 2017

Michael Hoffman, Acting Director
Sarah Kerley, Deputy Director

Deputy Director's Note

It hasn't quite felt like fall, but our calendars tell us otherwise. Like the seasons, the Bureau is also transitioning from a pilot project to a permanent fixture in State government.

The Bureau's webpage has been updated to include updates on the committees' work, bios for the leaders of the committees, and a more comprehensive background on the movement behind creation of the Bureau.

The website also provides an easy-to-navigate collection of existing resources related to the various hearing types across agencies. Click on the "Hearing Info" tab for links to enabling legislation, regulations, and litigant guides from across agencies.

I am also immensely proud of the work of the Professional Development Committee, led

by IDFPR Associate General Counsel Katy Straub, in completing the first state-wide bench book. The Bench Book serves as a comprehensive guide to issues commonly faced by the State's ALJs. It also combines links to existing resources and gives practical examples and practice tips for your consideration.

Check out the re-vamped Bureau Website [HERE!](#)

The Bench Book was circulated to General Counsels today, and will be made available electronically for State employees. (Link to come)

Next week, I head to the 2017 Central Panel Directors' Conference in Des Moines, Iowa. I look forward to learning from national leaders in the field of administrative law and bringing those lessons back to Illinois.

~Sarah Kerley

THE BUREAU'S WEBSITE HAS LOADS OF INFO!

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Have you ever wanted to see how other agencies format their decisions? Have you ever fielded a question better handles by another agency, but did not know where to find the information? The Bureau's updated webpage includes links to agencies' websites, hearing information, rules, and published decisions. Check it out!

FALL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES!

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Join us Friday, September 29th, 12:00-1:00, for the last of our two writing seminars. Adjunct Legal Research and Writing Professor (and clerk for IL Supreme Court Justice Rita Garman) Janice Pea brings her vast knowledge to a live audience in Springfield on Friday.

On October 27th, the Bureau teams up with colleagues at the ICC for a Final Friday training on issues arising with litigants with disabilities.

Train from your DESK(!) Friday and every Final Friday -



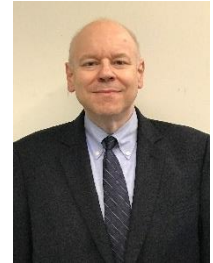
Since February, the Bureau's Final Friday seminars have been available by videoconference in both Springfield and Chicago. We're finding that a large contingent of ALJs can't get away to traverse the Loop for a lunch session or are otherwise unavailable.

Beginning with the September Final Friday (*this* Friday the 29th), Final Fridays will continue to be available in two forums – one with a live speaker and one via West's LegalEdcenter simulcast. No more travelling across town to sit in an otherwise empty conference room with several colleagues staring at a screen.

For those in Springfield, come see Professor Pea in the Stratton Building. Everyone else, join us while in the (relative) comfort of your office. We'll try the reverse for October, when we will host live speakers in Chicago. Let us know what you think about this approach at AdministrativeHearings@Illinois.gov.

ALJ Stories: *each month learn about one of the State's amazing ALJs*

ALJ Erik Gruber has spent the last three years at IDFPR after spending decades appearing before one administrative hearings unit most of us hope to avoid – the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission. As a career litigator whose practice varied beyond ARDC matters, Erik developed and has nurtured a tremendous respect for due process and appreciates the importance of preserving it. He regularly tackles the challenges of evaluating large amounts of complex information to achieve fairness when regulating professions for the public safety and welfare, and promoting confidence in our financial institutions.



In addition to being an avid rock collector and theatre buff (you can't go wrong with Magic Flute at the Lyric!), this ALJ may be the only person I know who can sing all four verses of the Illinois state song. Keep your eyes out for Erik, who has offered his talents and expertise as a presenter for upcoming Final Fridays trainings.

Let me know what the Pilot Bureau should explore or nominate a co-worker for next month's ALJ Stories!

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