From the Chair

BY TIM HOWARD

It is with great pleasure that I assume the Chair of the Senior Lawyers Section Council for 2017-2018. First, I want to thank our out-going Chair, Frank Ariano, for his leadership during the past year.

Second, I want to remind our members that the mission of the Senior Lawyers Section is to provide service to and create opportunities for ISBA lawyers who are age 55 and up, or who have practiced for at least 25 years.

This year I want our Council to study and address the issue of “transition” that has been or will be faced by our members. There are over 14,000 members of the Senior Lawyers Section. Most of these lawyers reside in Illinois. Of the Illinois residents:

- More than 7,500 of our members (53.6%

Trustee’s acceptance of a deed in trust

BY JOHN J. HORELED

Effective January 1, 2017, there is a new statute, 760 ILCS 5/6.5, which requires a written acceptance of a conveyance of real estate by the grantee/trustee. The statute reads as follows:

Sec. 6.5 Transfer of property to trust

(a) The transfer of real property to a trust requires a transfer of legal title to the trustee evidenced by a written instrument of conveyance and acceptance by the trustee.

(b) If the transferor is a trustee of the trust, an interest in real property does not become trust property unless the instrument of conveyance is recorded in the office of the recorder of the county in which the property is located.

I have received various comments from title companies, such as (1) never heard of this statute; (2) you can record without the acceptance; (3) you can record, if you have

Continued on next page
From the Chair
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

percent) are Baby Boomers born between 1944 and 1960;
• More than 2,600 members (18.6 percent) were born prior to 1944; and
• Over 2,300 members are part of Generation X that were born between 1961 and 1980.

I have asked the members of our Council’s eight committees (CLE, Newsletter, Technology for Seniors, Member Benefits, Mentoring, Website, Legislation and Strategic Planning) to consider and present proposals and programs that will assist our members as they make their own individual journeys transitioning from the active practice of law to whatever new challenges that they may choose for themselves.

Your Membership in the Senior Lawyer Section has many benefits. I encourage you to check out our webpage at <https://www.isba.org/sections/seniorlawyers>.

I hope that you will use our Listserv, read our Newsletters (maybe contribute an article) and attend our sponsored CLE programs (we are also always looking for new topics).

The Council encourages our members to participate in the Section’s planning process to help develop and support programs and events. We need your input and help to be successful in serving the members of our Association.

Thanks. Tim ■

Hannibal’s Niece: A book review

BY LEONARD F. AMARI

Anthony R. Licata, a prominent Illinois attorney, is multi-talented. He, along with his also talented daughter, do restaurant reviews and serve as food critics. Tony is the managing partner of the Chicago office of the nationally prominent firm of Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP. Now we learn that he is also quite accomplished as an author of fiction. I recently read his book, Hannibal’s Niece: A Tale of Love, Murder and Deceit in Ancient Rome.

For any lover of fictional mysteries, history or interest in Italiana, this is a must-read. The book is a riveting tale of war, romance and political intrigue on a grand scale. Set during the time of Rome’s second war against Carthage, the figures of the great Roman general Scipio and the brilliant Carthaginian Hannibal loom large over a landscape that sweeps from Spain to Rome to Africa, and back. Licata’s skillful narration thoroughly engages the reader from the beginning prologue—providing the necessary historical context for the period 200BC—through the twists and turns of a complex and deeply emotional storyline rich with fascinating detail. Licata displays a commanding knowledge of this period of history, carefully and masterfully bringing to life the characters and life in Ancient Rome. Mr. Licata takes clever liberties with the past and with many real-life historical figures, but the reader actually feels transported to this period of history, becoming emotionally invested in the lives of his characters. Anthony R. Licata’s Hannibal’s Niece is a powerhouse accomplishment that is an eye-opening, entertaining, and memorable epic literary feat. ■

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the acceptance; but you don’t need to attach it and instead keep it in your file; or (4) you should attach it and record with the deed.

I then reviewed the legislative history.

Legislative History

The legislative history includes a case, Estate of Mendelson v. Mendelson, 2016 IL App (2d) 150084, which is worth reading.

The facts showed that a 2005 joint tenancy deed was executed, but never recorded during the decedent’s life. This raised the question of whether delivery of the deed occurred.

Later, a 2006 deed was executed and recorded transferring the property to a 2006 trust, which was later revoked. In 2011, the decedent refinanced her mortgage and the loan documentation indicated that she was the sole owner of the property.

Finally, a new trust was executed in 2011, which referred to the joint tenancy deed and that the property shall “become the sole and exclusive property of my son, Michael Mendelson,” pursuant to the deed. However, the trust never gives the property to the son.

In affirming the trial court, the Appellate Court stated that:

On September 12, 2014, the trial court entered its ruling, determining that the decedent’s estate should be divided evenly among the four sons. The trial court explained that the 2005 deed did not validly transfer the property into joint tenancy, because the decedent did not intend to convey any present interest to Michael when she signed it. The trial court found that the 2006 trust was valid. The trial court further found that the estate had not presented sufficient evidence that Michael had exerted undue influence before or when the 2011 trust was made and executed. The trial court therefore determined that the 2011 trust was valid and that it effectively revoked the 2006 trust. However, because no deed was executed or recorded to transfer the Highland Park home into the 2011 trust, the 2011 trust did not include the Highland Park home. As the 2011 trust revoked the 2006 trust and the 2006 deed was now funding a revoked trust, the trial court found that the Highland Park home reverted to the decedent’s probate estate (which would be divided equally among the four sons according to the laws of intestacy).

There was also an issue outside this case: if the Settlor and the Trustee are the same, would it be necessary to transfer the property?

Practical Tips

1. An attorney should make an effort to confirm ownership. In McHenry County, the real estate tax bill lists the owner of record and the last recorded deed by document number. At the very least, get a copy of the tax bill or some other evidence of ownership if your county does not provide that information on the tax bill.

2. The deed should be recorded with the acceptance in all events. Paragraph (a) does not require a recording, but Paragraph (b) does, which discusses transferring from a trust to a trust.

3. Following the statute cures the issue of delivery.

Sample Trustee’s Acceptance:

TRUSTEE ACCEPTANCE

The Grantee(s), ______________, as Trustee(s) under the provisions of a trust dated the day of __________, 20__, hereby acknowledges and accepts this conveyance into the said trust.

_______________________
As Trustee as Aforesaid

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*Sorry, if you’re a licensed Illinois lawyer you must be an ISBA member to order.
View your mail before it is delivered

BY DON MATEER

Have you ever wondered what will be delivered by the mail carrier? Or have you been on vacation and wondered if a certain piece of mail has been delivered to your address? Wonder no more. The Post Office has an app called “Informed Mail.” When you download this app, you receive an email that links you to the mail that has been scanned for that day for your address. The app says no more than 10 pieces will be scanned, but that is not correct. I have received more than 10. However, this is only for normal size mail, not magazines or larger pieces. There is a separate part of the app for packages. You do not have to wait for the email. I have found that around 6:00am – 7:00am you can pull up the app and view your scanned mail for the day.

I was leaving for about two weeks and still had not received a Father's Day card from one of my children. The first day I was away I checked “Informed Mail” and there was the card. I texted thanks to my son for the card, letting him know that I got it but obviously had not been able to open it. I did not have to wait for two weeks to find out if I had received a card. If you receive an important piece of mail and have someone checking your home for mail, you can have that piece located and read to you. Even if you are at home, it is kind of fun knowing what will be in your mailbox that day.

Another helpful part of this app is the ability to notify the Post Office that a piece of mail that was scanned was not delivered. Under each scan is a box to check if you did not actually receive that piece of mail. I have not had an occasion to use this option, so I cannot say what happens when this is checked.

I hope you find this app as helpful as I have.

Illinois nursing homes reviewed; Survey said...

BY MICHAEL J. MASLANKA

Most general practitioners, and especially those that do estate planning work, will have come across clients who have complained about the care that a friend or family member has received in a nursing home or care facility. We even see ads on TV for lawyers who will consider taking up claims against nursing homes for abuse of patients and residents. Dealing with clients’ complaints regarding nursing homes or skilled nursing facilities can be difficult, as many local, state, and federal agencies could have jurisdiction over the facility and can become involved in pursuing and investigating a complaint. Clients will not be satisfied with the delays that many agencies produce in eventually coming to a resolution of a question or complaint. Reading the Seventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals opinion in Rosewood Care Center of Swansea v. Price, 16-3368, decided on August 22, 2017, will give you some information that you can discuss with your clients who come to you with this type of complaint.

Skilled nursing homes that are in the Medicare/Medicaid programs are under federal jurisdiction and many federal statutes and regulations apply. The U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services enforces those regulations and statutory provisions through an agency called CMS, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. That agency does surveys of nursing homes to see if they are in compliance with regulations. If CMS determines that a facility is not in substantial compliance, it can find a violation and impose various remedies, including monetary penalties. In the case of Rosewood, the facility was fined $6,050 a day for its failing to comply with certain regulations! Some penalties are minor, but some can be major if the non-compliance by the nursing home has caused or is likely to cause serious injury, harm, impairment, or death to a resident. Here, Rosewood Care Center of Swansea (near Bellville, IL) violated several rules and regulations and was heavily fined. The Illinois Department of Public Health was the agency that did the survey of Rosewood. The survey included results of inspections and interviews. After reviewing the survey results, etc., CMS determined that the action or inaction on the part of Rosewood placed residents in immediate jeopardy of injury. An administrative law judge affirmed the CMS determination and the department's appeals board also affirmed. Rosewood then petitioned for review to the U.S. Court of Appeals. The Seventh Circuit concluded that substantial evidence supported the agency's findings and, therefore, confirmed the agency's findings and denied the facility's petition.

This case presents an in-depth review of certain allegations against Rosewood and cites various regulations that Rosewood followed or did not follow.

Here are some of the salient points referenced in the Seventh Circuit's opinion:

1. A facility is to develop and implement
written policies and procedures that prohibit mistreatment, neglect, and abuse of residents and misappropriation of resident property.

2. All allegations of mistreatment, neglect, or abuse at the nursing facility must be reported immediately to the administrator of the facility and to other officials as required by state law.

3. The nursing facility is to undertake immediate steps to prevent further abuse while the investigation is in progress.

4. A facility’s own policies will be strictly construed, including a provision in a policy that requires an administrator to report immediately to appropriate state authorities, any and all allegations of abuse and misappropriation of property.

5. Facilities must have evidence that all alleged violations are thoroughly investigated and must prevent further potential abuse while the investigation is in progress.

If you are going to write a letter to a facility on behalf of a client, or even if a client wishes to take up his own complaint against the nursing home, here are some of the points to be sure to address:

Ask the facility for a complete copy of its internal policies regarding the investigation of abuse, neglect, and theft.

Ask the facility for the results of the last survey conducted of the facility by the Illinois Department of Public Health or other state agency.

Ask the facility to report what it did in response to a client’s or a client’s family member’s complaint or allegation. Feel free to mention the Rosewood case and that you are aware that hefty penalties can be imposed against a facility for its failure to follow state and/or federal regulations, including failing to follow its own internal policies.

Finally, be sure to recommend to clients that they consider pursuing matters directly with the Illinois Department of Public Health, CMS, and other governmental bodies that have jurisdiction over the facility in question, i.e. city and county health departments.

Unlike the popular game show “Family Feud” where survey answers can produce great winnings for a participant, the survey answers obtained in the skilled care facility world will not produce any winnings; however, they may produce extremely high monetary penalties. As a further note, you can advise clients to visit the websites of CMS and IDPH to have them review comments and rankings of nursing home facilities which they are considering, if one of their family members is in need of such services.
Guide to Illinois Statutes for Attorneys’ Fees

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Illinois has a history of some pretty good lawyers.
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**Book review: Inside The Kingdom (my life in Saudi Arabia)**

**BY GARY T. RAFOOL**

Although the United States owes Saudi Arabia almost $120 billion, our relationship with that country has been kept at arms’ length since 2001 by both the Bush and the Obama administrations. A possible reason for this strained relationship was the disclosure that 15 of the 19 highjackers on September 11, 2001, were citizens of Saudi Arabia.

However, President Trump has recently attempted to form closer ties with Saudi Arabia. This was primarily through the sale of military aircraft to it, and by lending his support of Saudi Arabia leading the punishing moves against Qatar. By the way, Qatar hosts a U. S. Airbase with over 11,000 troops and 100 aircraft, which is one of the largest concentrations of military personnel in the Middle East.

Since it presently appears that Saudi Arabia may once again become an important player in our country’s commitments in the Middle East, I have chosen a 2004 book for this review which gives an up-close look into everyday life in Saudi Arabia, particularly for women.

This book is titled *Inside The Kingdom (my life in Saudi Arabia)* by Carmen Bin Ladin. It is available in soft cover (213 pages, which includes a 9 page 2005 postscript) and electronically.

The author was married a number of years to Y eslam Bin Ladin, who was an older brother of Osama Bin Ladin. According to the author, their father, Sheik Mahamed Bin Ladin, had 22 wives, and he died in an airplane crash on the way to marry his 23rd wife. Mohamed Bin Ladin also had 54 children (25 males and 29 females), and he built the most powerful construction companies in the Middle East. The Bin Ladin organization owned the only companies allowed to work in Mecca, which gave the family a very high status in Saudi Arabia.

The author’s mother came from an aristocratic Persian family. Her father was Swiss, and the author was Swiss born. She met her husband, Y eslam Bin Ladin, in 1973 in Geneva. She and Y eslam came to the United States in late 1973 to attend college at the University of Southern California, and, according to the author, she and Y eslam considered the United States their home.

However, they were married in Saudi Arabia in 1974, because Y eslam thought the family would lose respect if they were married in a foreign country. The marriage ceremony itself was described as requiring Carmen to have a male relative stand in for her, because the wedding was a male only religious ceremony, and because women could not step into a mosque (they could only pray in a public space outside of it).

After the wedding, Carmen and Y eslam moved back to the United States, where Carmen claims they were very happy. She learned to drive here, and she even took flying lessons.

In March of 1975, King Faisal of Saudi Arabia was assassinated, and Y eslam felt that he and Carmen had to return to Saudi Arabia to help with the family’s businesses. Therefore, after Y eslam graduated from USC in 1976, they returned to Saudi Arabia that fall.

Life for Carmen in Saudi Arabia proved very frustrating because, as she describes, a woman was not allowed to speak to any man in public. Women could not be seen unveiled by any man outside of the family. They could not shop, because men might see them. Saudi Arabia was always blazing hot, and it was utterly miserable for a woman under a veil and being clothed from head to toe outside of their home.

If a woman left the home, it was to be driven some place specific by a man. They could not go for a walk alone, nor could they legally drive a car. If a woman was attending classes at the University, it was through a video presentation by male professors, who were not permitted to teach directly in a segregated women only classroom.

Also, according to the author, women in Saudi Arabia must live in obedience and isolation. It became essential for a Saudi woman to produce male heirs, because if a husband dies and his wife only had daughters, the wife and minor or adult daughter(s) become dependent on the deceased husband’s closest male relative(s). This male relative then becomes their guardian, and has to approve even their basic decisions, such as travel, education or the choice of a husband.

In addition, if only a wife and daughter(s) survive a deceased husband, 50% of his estate reverts to his parents and siblings; the other 50% would then pass to the widow and daughter(s). The whole estate will only pass to the widow and surviving children if there is a surviving son or sons. Once the oldest son becomes an adult, he then acts as the guardian for his mother and sister(s).

No woman could leave Saudi Arabia or travel outside her city without the written consent of her husband, father, son or male guardian.

As can be expected, these rules did not sit very well with the author, particularly after the revolution in Iran in 1979, because the revolutionary changes in Iran caused the rulers in Saudi Arabia to become very tense, which, in turn, caused them to start enforcing more extreme ideas of religious behavior, particularly for women.

Even Mecca was taken over in November of 1979 by hundreds of Islamic extremists, and it had to be liberated by French paratroopers, who were called in by the Saudi Government.

After giving birth to three daughters, Carmen and Y eslam became estranged,
which ultimately led to a divorce in Geneva, where they had moved from Saudi Arabia just before their third daughter was born in 1987.

Their divorce, according to the author, was a bitter struggle, but the marriage did end in 1988. At the time the book was written, both Carmen and Y eslam lived in Geneva on a perceived unfriendly basis.

This book also presents a short history of Saudi Arabia from its establishment in 1932 by Abdel Aziz ibn Saud, with help from the British, and it became the only country in the world to take the name of its ruling kings (the al-Sauds).

As a side note, it was recently reported that Saudi King Salman appointed his 31-year-old son, Mohamid bin Salman, as Crown Prince. This places the young Prince as first in line to the throne, and it introduces a new and younger generation Saudi ruler for many years of the 21st century. He is also said to be very popular among the youth of Saudi Arabia.

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A senior woman’s travel through Iran

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

300,000 years and has preserved artifacts dating to 7000 BCE. The final stop of the day was the Carpet Museum. Each carpet was more gorgeous than the previous one. Back at the hotel, we had a delicious dinner of grilled lamb and literally piles of delicious accompaniments. Only problem, Iran is dry.

Iran is a Shiite country and on day two we visited a holy shrine, with dazzling mirror work – unbelievable. At this shrine and one other, a chador was required. On the days following, we visited sites related to Xerxes and the Tomb of Esther and Mordacai, and sites related to Alexander’s invasion. We saw synagogues and churches including one built by Armenian refugees escaping from the genocide in 1915.

We traveled over 3,000 miles. Much was rugged, mountainous terrain with occasional oases giving rise to wonderful farms and gardens. We visited Susa (5,000 BCE), the tomb of Daniel and on to Shiraz, historically known for the fine, dry red wine of the same name, but there was none to be had. However, there were stunning carpets. From Shiraz, we visited Persepolis. In Yazd, we saw the Tomb of Cyrus the Great and the fast disappearing Zoroastrian community with two abandoned Towers of Silence and an active Zoroastrian Fire Temple—with a fire which has burned for 1,500 years. Then on to Isfahan for three days of amazing historic bridges, waterwells, bazaars, and astonishing historic technological developments such as “badgirs” or a wind-catching system which provides air conditioning and water channeling systems. There were mosques, so many with magnificent architecture and tilework. One thing that was reinforced on this trip was the importance of water to civilizations, both past and present.

While the sites were endless and beautiful, the real charm of Iran is the people. The people of Iran were warm and friendly, engaging at every opportunity, speaking English and taking selfies. Cell phones and selfie sticks were commonplace. Iranians value education and take great pride in their culture. Surprisingly, Iranians openly discussed politics and the relationship between their country and ours and appear to hold no personal animosity toward the U.S. citizens in spite of the hardship imposed by the U.S. support of the Iraqis during the Iraq-Iran war. In the towns on the eastern Iranian border with Iraq, the main streets are lined with large photographs of the town’s young men lost in that war.

Conversations were the highlights of the trip. One of my first conversations was with a man who stated that he would not hold our government against us if we did not hold theirs against them—this comment set the tone. The election for President of Iran was in progress and was totally different from ours - much shorter for one thing - and the candidates are controlled by the Islamic Council who determined who could and could not run.

All in all, it was an amazing visit to a country filled with history and beautiful monuments, exquisite shopping, lovely music, poetry, art and science but, most of all, congenial people. A journey of discovery, surprise and welcoming. I recommend this experience to all. And, no, I was never afraid.

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It’s Campaign Season for the 2018 Election

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  - Area 6 (Circuits 7, 8 and 9) (1)
  - Area 8 (Circuits 3 and 20) (1)
- Assembly:
  - Cook (22)

The 2018 Notice of Election is now available. Find out more at www.isba.org/elections.

November

Wednesday, 11-01-17 – ISBA Chicago Regional Office—Anatomy of a Medical Negligence Trial. Presented by Tort Law. All Day. 8:45 - 5:15.

Thursday, 11-02-17 - Webinar—Introduction to Legal Research on Fastcase. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association – Complimentary to ISBA Members only. 12:00-1:00 pm.

Friday, 11-03-17 – NIU Naperville—Real Estate Law Update – Fall 2017. Presented by Real Estate. 8:15 am – 4:45 pm.

Thursday, 11-09-17 - Webinar—Advanced Tips for Enhanced Legal Research on Fastcase. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association – Complimentary to ISBA Members only. 12:00-1:00 pm.

Friday, 11-10-17 – Chicago, ISBA Regional Office—The Causes of Stress in the Legal Profession and How to Better Cope. Presented by Civil Practice and Procedure. 8:50 am-4:45 pm.

Tuesday, 11-14-17 – Webinar—Speech Recognition. Practice Toolbox Series. 12:00 -1:00 p.m.


Thursday, 11-16-17 - Webinar—Fastcase Boolean (Keyword) Search for Lawyers. Presented by the Illinois State Bar Association – Complimentary to ISBA Members only. 12:00-1:00 pm.

Friday, 11-17-17 – Webcast—Obtaining and Using Social Media Evidence at Trial. Presented by Young Lawyers Division. 12:00-1:30 pm.

Tuesday, 11-28-17 - Webinar—Ethics Questions: Multi-Party Representation – Conflicts of Interest, Joint Representation and Privilege. Presented by Labor and Employment. 2:00-4:00 pm.

Tuesday, 11-28-17 – Webinar—Understanding Process Mapping. Practice Toolbox Series. 12:00 -1:00 p.m.

Thursday, 11-30-17 – Webcast—Nuts and Bolts of the Tax Tribunal. Presented by SALT. 9am – 12:45 pm.

Thursday, 11-30-17 – ISBA Chicago Regional Office—Nuts and Bolts of the Tax Tribunal. Presented by SALT. 9am – 12:45 pm.

December

Wednesday, 12-06-17 - Webcast—Defense Strategies for Health Care Fraud Cases. Presented by Health Care. 12:00-1:30 pm.

Tuesday, 12-12-17 – Webinar—Driving Profitability in your Firm. Practice Toolbox Series. 12:00 -1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, 12-12-17 – ISBA Mutual—E-Filing in Illinois. Presented by ISBA and ISBA Mutual. 1-2:30 (lunch from 12-1).


Thursday, 12-14-17 – Chicago, ISBA Regional Office—Vulnerable Students: A Review of Student Rights. Presented by Education Law. 9:00 am – 12:30 pm.


January

Wednesday, 01-10-18 – LIVE Webcast—On My Own: Starting Your Solo Practice as a Female Attorney. Presented by WATL. 12-2 PM.

Thursday, 01-11-18 – ISBA Chicago Regional Office—Six Months to GDPR – Ready or Not? Presented by Intellectual Property. 8:45 AM – 12:30 PM.

Thursday, 01-18-18 – ISBA Chicago Regional Office—Closely Held Business Owner Separations, Marital and Non-Marital. Presented by Business and Securities. 9AM - 12:30 PM.

Wednesday, 01-24-18 – ISBA Chicago Regional Office—Mentoring Luncheon.

Thursday, 01-25-18 – ISBA Chicago Regional Office—Starting Your Law Practice. Presented by General Practice. 8:50 AM – 4:45 PM.

February

Monday, 02-05 to Friday, 02-09—ISBA Chicago Regional Office—40 Hour
Mediation/Arbitration Training. Master Series, presented by the ISBA—WILL NOT BE ARCHIVED. 8:30 -5:45 daily.

Feb 6 - June 26—Fred Lane’s ISBA Trial Technique Institute.

Monday, 02-19-18 – Chicago, ISBA Regional Office—Workers’ Compensation Update – Spring 2018. Presented by Workers’ Compensation. Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.


March

Thursday, 03-08-18 – ISBA Chicago Regional Office—The Complete UCC. Master Series, Presented by the ISBA. 8:30-5:00.

Monday, 03-12 to Friday, 03-16— Pere Marquette Lodge, Grafton IL—40 Hour Mediation/Arbitration Training. Master Series, presented by the ISBA—WILL NOT BE ARCHIVED. 8:30 -5:45 daily.

Friday, 03-16-18 – Holiday Inn & Suites, Bloomington—Solo and Small Firm Practice Institute. All day.

Friday, 03-23-18 – ISBA Chicago Regional Office—Applied Evidence: Evidence in Employment Trials. Presented by Labor and Employment. 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Friday, 03-23-17 – LIVE Webcast—Applied Evidence: Evidence in Employment Trials. Presented by Labor and Employment. 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.

June

Friday, 06-01-18 – NIU Naperville, Naperville—Solo and Small Firm Practice Institute. All day.

The legal profession has some of the highest suicide rates, job dissatisfaction, substance abuse, and depression cases in the country. Don't miss this full-day seminar that explores the causes behind these statistics and how to cope in a high-stress environment. Topics include:

- The stresses faced by both lawyers and judges;
- Why asking for help is important when the stress gets to be too much;
- What law schools are doing to prepare students for a stressful career;
- How stress affects us physically, psychologically, and emotionally;
- The crisis facing the legal profession and how to cope with it;
- Trends in lawyer discipline;
- The Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism’s role in the wellbeing of Illinois attorneys; and
- The causes of stress, depression and mental illness in this profession.

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A senior woman’s travel through Iran

BY EUGENIA C. HUNTER

Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one’s lifetime.

—Mark Twain, Innocents Abroad

Late last year, I was exceedingly fortunate to receive an invitation to join a small group of women for a cultural trip to Iran. It took me ten minutes to decide to accept. Preparation for this 19-day trip was unlike any other. In January, there was the travel ban, listing Iran as a banned country, and a quick reciprocal ban of U.S. citizens visiting Iran. This drama continued into April with deadlines for cancellations and promises of visas which were then delayed. By Palm Sunday (April 9 – I was scheduled to leave on April 18), I had given up. The next morning when I got to my office, there was an email saying our visas had been granted. I received my passport with the Iranian Visa on April 13.

The second challenge was wardrobe. For us, this meant accumulating both hot and cold weather clothes that cover everything except hands, feet and face and did not reveal the curvature of the body. The challenge included opaque headscarves. That done, I was ready to go.

Mostly, the trip was long (St. Louis – Chicago – Doha - Tehran). The Iranian gentleman sitting next to me on the Doha-Tehran segment was informative and interested in the reason for my visit. Before deplaning, I dutifully put on my black headscarf. My seatmate urged me to buy one with a bright color saying it is now permitted. The customs and immigration process was lengthy. I was separated from non U.S. travelers—and told to stand to the side. Shortly thereafter, I was given the okay.

The next morning, I looked out the hotel window to see a wonderful view of Tehran with mountains in the background. I changed dollars to rials and set out with over 18,000,000 bucks in my purse. We met our licensed guide – U.S. citizens must be accompanied at all times – and headed for a day of museums and historic overview of Persia. Persia has been occupied for

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