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MBF UPDATE February 2010

New MBF Officers and Trustees Elected for 2010

At the MBF's 2010 Annual Meeting that immediately preceded the Anniversary Gala on Jan 14, the MBF Fellows elected their new slate of officers, as well as five trustees, to serve on the Board:

2010 MBF Officers:



President: **Joseph P. J. Vrabel, Esq.**
Endurance Asset Management, Framingham

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Welcome New MBF Fellows!

The MBF offers thanks and a warm welcome to our newest Fellows:

Brandeis Fellow:

William "Mo" Cowan, Esq.
Office of the Governor of MA
Boston, MA

Foundation Fellow:

Dennis M. Lindgren, Esq.



Vice President: **Jerry Cohen, Esq.**
Burns & Levinson, Boston



Treasurer: **Robert V. Ward, Jr., Esq.**
Southern New England School of Law, North
Dartmouth



Secretary: **Antoinette E. M. Leoney, Esq.**
US Attorney's Office, Boston

2010 New Trustees:



Janet F. Aserkoff, Esq.
Rappaport, Aserkoff & Gelles, Boston

Pierce & Mandell, P.C.
Boston, MA

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. [Click here](#) to view a video about the work of the MBF and its Grantees.

Thank you to our friends at



for donating countless hours to the pro-bono production of this video.

Did you know that one of the best ways to support the MBF takes just a few minutes and doesn't cost you a cent?

Recommend a Colleague to Join the MBF Society of Fellows!

[Click here](#) to recommend a new Fellow today.

MBF Funds in Action: Grantee Spotlight

The MBF awarded a 2009/2010 IOLTA grant to the **Franklin County Bar Association** to support the **Bar Advocates for Elders** Program. Director **Katie Schendel** recently shared this story about an ongoing case with us:



Bernard J. Bonn, III, Esq.
Dechert, Boston



Lawrence J. Farber, Esq.
Law Office of Lawrence J. Farber, Amherst



Hon. Anne M. Geoffrion (2nd Term)
Hampden Probate & Family Court, Springfield



Harvey Weiner, Esq.
Peabody & Arnold, Boston

MBF officers will serve a one year term and trustees will serve a four year term.

MBF Fellows: Volunteer for the IOLTA Grant Review

This year, the MBF hopes to award approximately \$4 million in grants to

"A woman contacted the FCBA regarding her mobile home association, which oversees the trailer park in which she lives and for which she serves as treasurer. The trailer park is home for over 40 elders, all of whom are on Social Security or live on low-incomes.

The caller had just discovered that the manager of the trailer park had not been paying any of the taxes, insurance, or utilities for the past year for the park, and is also being accused of taking funds from the association's bank account. As a result, the residents were faced with having their water and heat turned off within weeks - a terrible prospect made worse by the cold of the winter months.

FCBA staff reached out to one of the attorneys who participates on their reduced fee panel as part of the Bar Advocates for Elders Program. The attorney is now in the process of securing a lien against the manager's trailer, and is exploring options on how best to help the elders rectify the loss of their funds in the association account in order to pay for their utilities. Without this program, these elders would have no one to turn to for assistance with this terrible situation."

Thank you, Katie, for sharing this story with us!

nonprofits across the state. We are pleased to invite MBF Fellows to participate in the 2010/2011 IOLTA Grants Program as a member of a Grant Advisory Committee.

If you haven't already done so, please volunteer today by completing our [online response form](#). The deadline to volunteer is **March 5, 2010**.

PLEASE NOTE: We will not be mailing volunteer forms this year. Please visit our website to volunteer today!

Law Students: 2010 Legal Intern Fellowship Program Applications Due March 12th.

Applications for the MBF's Legal Intern Fellowship Program (LIFP) are due to the MBF on **March 12, 2010**. Founded in 1996, the LIFP seeks to encourage careers in the law that further the goals of social justice, while contributing valuable legal support to organizations serving the under-represented in Massachusetts.

Law students selected to be Legal Intern Fellows will receive a stipend of \$6,000 to volunteer for ten (10) weeks during the summer months at a nonprofit organization that provides civil legal services to low-income clients in Massachusetts. The Massachusetts Bar Foundation expects to award up to six (6) fellowships for the summer of 2010. All current law students are eligible to apply. The internship must be conducted at a nonprofit organization in Massachusetts that has been in operation for at least one year and has programs dedicated to providing civil legal services to the indigent in Massachusetts.

[Click Here](#) for detailed information about the program, including application forms.

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