

Looking for Civil Jury Verdicts? They Can Be at Your Fingertips, Courtesy of MoBar Net

One of the newest additions to MoBar Net is civil jury verdict information for Iowa, Illinois and Missouri. The cases start in 2003 and go through 2007. The case information is provided to MoBar Net from Civil Litigator, Inc. 50 weeks of the year. The data is obtained from court clerks, jury commissioners and direct tracking of judges' dockets. Data is searchable by using any of the following criteria on the search template:

- State
- County
- Type of Case
- Case No
- Judge Name
- Plaintiff Attorney
- Defendant Attorney
- Expert Witness
- Damages/Injuries
- Verdict:
 - Date - from:
 - Date - to:
 - For: Plaintiff
 - Defendant

Free form inquiries can also be set up using any words contained in the decisions as well as a combination of words, i.e. "medical negligence" knee. This brings back eight cases of medical negligence involving some type of knee injury.

Jury decision information can be helpful in preparing your case, trying to find assistance in trying a case, or to find information on how cases are decided in an unfamiliar area.

Let's say you wanted to see all cases involving automobiles in Cole County that were decided for the plaintiff. You

would start with 14 jury cases, seven of which involved an automobile. Of those, four were decided in favor of the plaintiff.

If you wanted to see premises liability cases decided in Jackson County from 1/1/06 through 12/31/06, you would start with 308 jury cases in Jackson County, 81 of which were decided in 2006, and, of those, seven involved premises liability issues. Or to find the number of medical negligence cases decided in St. Louis County for the defendant vs. the plaintiff you would start with St. Louis County, select medical negligence as type of case, and then under the Verdict option choose plaintiff (20) and defendant (27).

You could also find expert witnesses for a certain kind of case – for example, medical negligence – such as Robert Shuman, a cardiothoracic surgeon from Long Beach, California, who testified in two cases. Looking for an attorney in the St. Louis area to defend with your firm against a medical negligence case? By using the defendant attorney search, and selecting Robert Rosenthal, you will see that all the medical negligence cases in which he was representing the defendant were decided in favor of the defendant.

If you are a current MoBar Net subscriber, you can find the jury decisions on MoBar Net by choosing the Legal Research button on the main menu. Then click on Jury Decisions. On the top menu bar, click on Search, SEARCH CIVIL LITIGATOR, and then input your criteria in the search template. For more detailed information on how to search for information, go to www.mobarnet.org and select User Guide, Appendix B or call the REJIS Help Desk at 314-535-9497 or 1-888-923-7255.

For more information on MoBar Net and the jury decisions, call Sue Baker at REJIS, 314-633-0240.

Nominations Still Open for Four Awards to be Presented at Annual Meeting

Nominations are still being accepted for four important awards presented annually by The Missouri Bar Foundation, The Missouri Bar, and the Young Lawyers' Section. The awards are:

- The Lon O. Hocker Awards, presented by the Missouri Bar Foundation;
- The Pro Bono Publico Awards, presented by The Missouri Bar;
- The Tom Cochran Community Service Award, bestowed by the Young Lawyers' Section of The Missouri Bar; and
- The Liberty Bell Award, another presentation of the Young Lawyers' Section.

LON O. HOCKER AWARDS

The Missouri Bar Foundation is seeking the names of nominees for this award. It is presented annually to three lawyers 36 years of age or younger – one each from the St. Louis, Kansas City and outstate Missouri areas – in recognition of outstanding trial work.

The outstate award is presented on a rotating basis based on Missouri appellate districts. This year, preference will be given to attorneys living in the Southern District of Missouri.

The deadline for receipt of nominations is June 1, 2007.

Anonymous committees in each of the three areas of the state recognized by this award will consider all nominations and other eligible young lawyers. The recommendations of these committees will then be forwarded to the Trustees of the Missouri Bar Foundation, who will select the award recipients.

Nominations for this award should be sent to: The Missouri Bar Foundation,

c/o Keith A. Birkes, P.O. Box 119, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

PRO BONO PUBLICO AWARDS

The Missouri Bar's Delivery of Legal Services Committee is seeking nominations for the 2007 Pro Bono Publico Awards. The Board of Governors of The Missouri Bar annually recognizes three lawyers who have rendered outstanding pro bono or judicare service to low-income or indigent persons in need of legal assistance. Recipients are named for each of the St. Louis and Kansas City areas, as well as for outstate Missouri.

The deadline for submission of nominations is June 1, 2007.

Nominees for this award should meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Demonstrated dedication to the development and delivery of legal services to the poor through a pro bono program; or
- Contributed significant work toward developing innovative approaches to the delivery of volunteer legal services through a pro bono program; or
- Participated in an activity that resulted in satisfying previously unmet needs or in extending services to underserved segments of the population; or
- Successfully litigated pro bono cases that favorably affected the provision of other services to the poor; or
- Successfully achieved legislation that contributed substantially to legal services to the poor.

A letter stating why the nominee is particularly deserving of the award should accompany nominations of persons meeting one or more of the criteria.

Nominations should be sent to the chair of The Missouri Bar's Delivery of Legal Services Committee, Richard F.

Halliburton, at Legal Aid of Western Missouri, 1125 Grand Avenue, Suite 1900, Kansas City, MO 64106-2230.

TOM COCHRAN COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD/LIBERTY BELL AWARD

The Tom Cochran Community Service Award is presented to a member of The Missouri Bar whose community service and professionalism have significantly enhanced his or her community.

The Liberty Bell Award is presented to a non-lawyer or non-legal organization engaged in public service activities enhancing the legal community or dedicated to the advancement of justice.

The nomination deadline for both of these awards is June 1, 2007.

To nominate a person or organization for either the Cochran or Liberty Bell awards, contact Aaron D. Jones at 2060 E. Sunshine, Springfield, MO 65804.

Nominations should include the name of the person or organization, the award for which the person or organization should be considered, and a brief description of the activities of the person or organization.

Fee Dispute Resolution Committee Dedicates New Award

The Missouri Bar's Fee Dispute Resolution Committee has created a new award to recognize the volunteer service of two dedicated individuals who recently passed away.

The Thompson/Evans Fee Dispute Resolution Award was initiated in memory of James A. Thompson, Sr. of Springfield (a non-lawyer volunteer) and Craig V. Evans of Jefferson City (a lawyer volunteer). Both men died last year, resulting in the loss of two dedi-

cated program volunteers.

The award reads: "In recognition of their unprecedented contributions to The Missouri Bar Fee Dispute Resolution Program, a public service offered by The Missouri Bar to lawyers and clients, this honor is dedicated to the memory of James A. Thompson, Sr. of Springfield, MO and Craig V. Evans, Esq. of Jefferson City, MO. It will be bestowed on those who have carried on their legacy of dedication and service to the program."

Present for the award's dedication ceremony was Evans' 13-year-old daughter, Jessica, from Jefferson City and his mother, Elizabeth, from Paris, Missouri. Thompson's widow, Lenore Thompson, and his daughter, Pat Thompson, attended from Springfield.

The award plaque will permanently hang in The Missouri Bar Center in Jefferson City.

IOLTA Grant Applications Available June 1

If you belong to, or know of, an organization that engages in activities that improve the administration of justice for the citizens of Missouri, that organization may be eligible to receive funds from the Missouri Lawyer Trust Account Foundation for 2008.

To obtain a copy of the Foundation's public policy statement and grant application, interested parties should write to: Glenn L. Baker, Executive Director, Missouri Lawyer Trust Account Foundation, P.O. Box 63, Jefferson City, MO 65102, or call 573-634-8117.

The deadline for submission of a grant application is October 12, 2007 for proposed activities to be initiated during the 2008 year.