



news

Colorado Judicial Branch
Michael L. Bender, Chief Justice
Gerald Marroney, State Court Administrator

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Nov. 4, 2011

Contact: Robert McCallum or Jon Sarché
303-837-3633
303-837-3644
robert.mccallum@judicial.state.co.us
jon.sarche@judicial.state.co.us

Colorado Supreme Court Advisory Committee appoints Barbara A. Ezyk to head Colorado Lawyer Assistance Program

DENVER – The Colorado Supreme Court Advisory Committee is pleased to announce that Barbara A. Ezyk has been appointed to serve as the director of the newly-created Colorado Lawyer Assistance Program (COLAP).

“Ms. Ezyk brings a wealth of legal and peer assistance experience to this position,” said Supreme Court Advisory Committee Chair David W. Stark. “This new program is an integral part of the Supreme Court’s mission to ensure that Colorado’s attorneys maintain their high professional standards and have access to the resources necessary to do so.”

During her 16 years as a Colorado attorney and 28 years as a licensed Registered Nurse, Ezyk has worked with professionals in need of assistance due to substance use and/or mental health issues. Ezyk has held the position of Substance Use Education Director for a peer assistance services program, has managed the Colorado Drug Abuse Task Force, has served on the Colorado Lawyers Helping Lawyers (CLHL) Board of Directors since 2004, and has been an active participant in the ABA Commission on Lawyers Assistance Programs since 2005.

As the Director of COLAP, Ezyk will help lawyers, judges, law firms, law schools, courts and others to identify and intervene with impaired and/or struggling legal professionals and law students, and assist those individuals in recovery.

COLAP was adopted by the Supreme Court as an official program on June 16, 2011. The goal of COLAP is to protect the interests of clients, litigants and the general public from harm caused by impaired attorneys or judges; assist impaired members of the legal profession to begin and continue recovery; and educate the bench, bar and law schools to the causes of and remedies for impairments affecting members of the legal profession.

In addition to Stark, members of the Supreme Court Advisory Committee who interviewed candidates and appointed Ezyk include Alec Rothrock, Rich Hennessy, Dan Vigil and Art Nieto.