



THOMAS LAW OFFICES
WHERE CLIENTS COME FIRST

9418 NORTON COMMONS BLVD
SUITE 200
LOUISVILLE KY 40059
PHONE: 877-955-7001
THOMASLAWOFFICES.COM

August 29, 2016

Dear AAJ Family:

To whom much is given, much is expected. I have had the privilege of being a member of this organization since I joined as a law student and participated in ATLA's Student Trial Advocacy Competition. Since then, my membership in ATLA and AAJ has been one of the most valuable assets of my career. I have enjoyed the benefit of the collective wisdom of thousands of lawyers with much to teach, much to share, and an unwavering willingness to do so. I have been privileged to be protected by the advocacy efforts of a legislative team that is unparalleled and an organizational staff that goes above and beyond. I have enjoyed the comradery, friendship, and support of lawyers across the country who believe what I believe - if the public's access to the courts is diminished, we become a lesser nation.

In 2005, I travelled to Toronto to attend my first AAJ convention. At the time, I didn't know a single person in the organization. I only recognized some names from listserv emails or seeing their pictures in the New Lawyers Division Newsletter and *Trial Magazine*. On arrival, my only plan was to show up at the NLD's Friday night reception, try to meet people, and go from there. Making that trip turned out to be one of the best decisions I've ever made, not only for my career, but my personal life as well. The first two people I met that night were NLD leaders at the time, Chris Gilreath and Elise Sanguinetti. As I am sure most of you can imagine, there are no two better people to welcome someone to the AAJ family than Chris and Elise.

That was the start of my AAJ journey. Since then, I have participated in phonathons, public service projects, fundraising efforts, served on the Board of Governors, the Executive Committee, the Budget Committee, and many more. I have adopted AAJ's mission of education as my own and, for the last several years, I have flown all across the country teaching CLE's to state and local trial lawyers associations. With each opportunity I have to serve this organization, comes the desire to do more, and go a step further.

It is with this in mind—and after many hours of deliberation, calls to my AAJ family, discussions with the lawyers in my firm, and most importantly, getting the support of my own family—I have made the decision to declare my candidacy for Parliamentarian next year in Boston.

As I work to become an officer of our esteemed organization, I do so with a few priorities in mind. First, I want to make sure AAJ holds true to its roots. This organization was

founded as a fellowship of lawyers dedicated to sharing knowledge with one another in order to better serve our clients and our communities. As a new lawyer, and even today, I benefit from the knowledge of lawyers who celebrate the educational aspect of AAJ. Thanks to the knowledge I have gained through the organization, I returned from three years of public service to restart my private practice as a solo with no business and no employees, and, in only five years, I have since grown into a firm of five lawyers, with cases all across the country. My passion for education and sharing information is what drives me to travel the country educating lawyers on ways to improve their practices with technology.

Second, I believe our collective efforts would be well served with a renewed effort to coordinate with our affiliated state organizations. At its roots, our organization also facilitated a strong relationship between the states to assist in legislative fights. Today, some of the state associations see AAJ as a competitor instead of a partner. I believe this must change if we are going to combat large organizations, like the Chamber of Commerce, in protecting our clients' interests in legislative chambers across the country. Finally, I want to see AAJ continue its efforts to update the way it communicates with its members and potential members. We can work to improve our communications in online and other digital marketing. Improving in this area will benefit AAJ by growing membership, adding to our advocacy and fundraising efforts, increasing education program attendance, and much more.

Below, you will find the names of more than 100 lawyers who have already allowed me to list them as supporters. I'm sure you will see more than a few people you know. These are lawyers from big firms and small firms, big cities and small towns, mass tort firms and single event firms, leaders in sections and litigation groups, board members and former board members, and leaders in the Minority Caucus, Women's Caucus, LGBT Caucus and the New Lawyers Division. It is this sort of diversity that is celebrated in our organization, and represents the kind of leader I aspire to be - one who brings together lawyers from all walks of life, from all practice areas and from all sizes of firms for the good of our organization and the benefit of our clients.

I look forward to spending the next eleven months not just talking about what I've done in the past as a small firm lawyer, public servant, and member of this organization, but what I aspire to achieve as an AAJ officer. Thank you for your dedicated service, and I hope to earn your support.

Sincerely,



Tad Thomas

Thank you to the following lawyers who have graciously agreed to support my candidacy:

Janet Abaray	OH	Chris Glover	AL
Morgan Adams	TN	Saul Gruber	NJ
Lori Andrus	CA	Corban Gunn	MS
Vance Andrus	CO	Penny Hendy	KY
Rick Barrera	TX	Steve Herman	LA
Lloyd Bell	GA	Javier Herrera	TX
Marisa Bellair	CT	Priscilla Jimenez	PA
Jesse Bernheim	FL	Ron Johnson	KY
John Bey	GA	Marty Kardon	PA
Paula Bliss	MA	Krisi Kastl	TX
Mike Bonamarte	IL	Walter Kelley	MA
Michael Brown	SC	Brian Kent	PA
Sandy Bryant	IN	James Kessel	VA
Paul Byrd	AR	Sabah Khalaf	OK
Vanessa Cantley	KY	Casey Kimble	KY
Paul Casi	KY	Mark Kosieradzki	MN
Rick Circeo	KY	Mike Krzak	IL
Robert A. Clifford	IL	Tim Lange	KY
Mark Clore	SC	Ken Laska	CT
Greg Coplan	IL	John Leighton	FL
Alexa D'Amato	NJ	Ken Levinson	IL
Bob Daley	MI	Adam Levitt	IL
Sindu Daniel	TX	Donna MacKenzie	MI
Roger Fenderson	IN	Brennen Maki	CT
Trudy Fenster	VI	Adam Malone	GA
Amanda Francis	CO	Ricardo Martinez-Cid	FL
Frank Frasier	OK	Danielle Mason	AL
Courtney French	AL	Tom McGrath	AL
Joe Fried	GA	Phillip Miller	TN
Keith Fuicelli	CO	Paul Miller	CA
Brenda Fulmer	FL	Matt Miner	KY
Mike Gallant	DC	Jamie Moncus	AL
Brian Galligan	IA	Jennifer Moore	KY
Brandi Gatewood	MS	James Morgan	CA
Sid Gilreath	TN	Will Nefzger	KY
Maria Gloriso	LA	Deborah Nelson	WA
Vince Glorioso	LA	Brian Nettles	NV

Jackie Olinger	MO	Matt Sill	OK
Sach Oliver	AR	Thomas Sims	TX
Roger Orlando	GA	Jared Smith	KY
Jeff Padwa	RI	Melissa Smith	TX
Cade Parian	GA	Carl Solomon	SC
Jessica Pride	CA	Layne Stackhouse	TX
Adam Pulaski	TX	Jay Stefani	IL
Emily Railey Mills	AL	Ernest Tosh	TX
David Rheingold	NY	Calvin Tregre	OH
Jason Richards	FL	Jay Urban	WI
William Ricigliano	NY	Jay Vaughn	KY
Ken Riley	AL	Bobby Warner	WV
Bill Robins	CA	Kevin Weiss	KY
Frank Rodriguez	NY	Chris Welsh	NE
Matt Rosenberg	PA	David Wenner	AZ
Joe Satterley	CA	Keith Williams	TN
Rick Schulte	OH	Robyn Wishart	Canada
Fred Schultz	IN	Mark Zamora	GA
Paul Scoptur	WI	Genevieve Zimmerman	MN
Parag Shah	GA		