

Class Notes

1956

Allen Saeks of Leonard, Street and Deinard received a 2008 Outstanding Service to the Profession award from *Minnesota Lawyer* for his longtime service to the local legal community and his years of distinguished work as a commercial litigator.

1968

Justice Paul Anderson was re-elected to the Minnesota Supreme Court, where he has served since 1994.



Edward Winer was named one of the Top 100 Attorneys in the U.S. by *Worth Magazine* for the third time.

1969



Thomas Chomicz has been recognized in *Best Lawyers in America* 2009 for non-profit/charities law.

1970

Thomas Johnson of Gray Plant Mooty received a 2008 Outstanding Service to the Profession award from *Minnesota Lawyer* for his years of service in the public and private sectors, including his nine-year leadership of the Council for Crime and Justice and his involvement in the investigation of the I-35W bridge collapse in Minneapolis.

1971

Michael V. Ciresi of Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi was named Minnesota Personal Injury Litigator of the Year for 2009 by *Best Lawyers in America*.

1972

Philip S. Garon of Faegre & Benson was named Minnesota Corporate Lawyer of the Year for 2009 by *Best Lawyers in America*.



John Hutson was invited to the Oval Office for the signing of President Obama's executive order closing the Guantanamo Bay detention center. An outspoken opponent of policies at the Cuba base, Hutson and 15 other retired admirals and generals who have lobbied for change through human rights were invited to attend the ceremony.

Charles Parsons Jr. was named one of the Top 100 Attorneys in the U.S. by *Worth Magazine*.

1973

John DeSanto was appointed to a Sixth Judicial District trial court bench vacancy in the city of Duluth, Minn., by Governor Tim Pawlenty.

Alan C. Eidsness of Henson & Efron was named Minnesota Family Lawyer of the Year for 2009 by *Best Lawyers in America*.

1974

Donan McAuley has retired from her work as a solo practitioner, effective February 2009. She recently published a mystery novel, *A Body to Bones* (www.abodytobones.com), using the pen name, Donan Berg.

Brad Thorsen accepted a position as executive director of We Can Ride, an organization committed to providing therapy through horseback riding for individuals living with disabilities.

1976

Robert Bennett was named one of *Minnesota Lawyer's* Attorneys of the Year for the second consecutive year. He was selected for his leadership in the profession, involvement in major cases, excellence in corporate and transactional services, and public service.

Fred Soucie was named a Super Lawyer by *Minnesota Law & Politics* in 2008, for the 15th consecutive year dating back to 1994. Also, *Minnesota Lawyer* selected him as an Attorney of the Year for 2008 for his work in obtaining multi-million dollar settlements for several injury and wrongful death cases.

Tom Wheeler of Wheeler & Engelhart continues an active private practice in the areas of estate planning and estate and trust administration. He enjoys teaching others about estate planning and is going into his second year as an adjunct professor at the University of St. Thomas School of Law in downtown Minneapolis, teaching estate planning and taxation of gifts. He is married and has six children. He invites former Law School classmates and attorney colleagues to get together any time to catch up.

1977

Judge Edward Cleary was appointed by the Secretary of State to serve on the State Canvassing Board for the Senate recount.

George Eck, a partner in Dorsey and Whitney's Minneapolis trial group, has been admitted to the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Judge Kurt Marben was appointed by Justice Alan Page to serve on the three-judge panel hearing the election contest that followed the Board's certification of results of the Senate recount.

Tom Shroyer was awarded the Minnesota Society of Certified Public Accountants' 2007-2008 Friend of the Profession Award, which recognizes individuals