

Unsung Hero Award Nomination - Angela M. Cole

Name of Nominee: *	Angela Marie Cole
Firm or Organization:	Law Office of Angela Cole and Affordable Legal Care
Address:	2715 Ashman Street, Midland, MI 48640
Phone:	(989) 13-1260
Email:	angela@angelacole.com
Name of Nominator: *	Christopher G. Komara
Firm or Organization:	Christopher G. Komara, PLC
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Explain the merits of your nomination, submit any supporting materials for your nominee by email, fax, or mail. Give specific examples.

Fellow Representative Assembly member Angela Cole is a hero to countless people. Her heroism is quiet and personal. She is a bridge builder, facilitator, and coordinator in many ways including the services she offers to the clients through the 501(c)(3) non-profit Affordable Legal Care she founded in 2018, her child advocacy efforts and the work she has done for the Sanford community since the dam failures in 2020. More detail of each of these efforts is offered below:

Affordable Legal Care: In Angela's nearly 20-year legal career, she has worked in the court system, served in private practice, and as a corporate attorney for a Fortune 500 company. During that time, she witnessed first-hand the effects on people and their children who needed, but could not afford legal assistance. She saw numerous people go unrepresented in the courts because they earned too much to qualify for legal assistance provided by government programs and too little to afford the full price of a traditional attorney. Always generous with pro bono services, she searched for a way to increase her ability to help. After some research to determine the full scope of the need and securing donor support, she created the non-profit Affordable Legal Care. The organization allows attorneys to provide services on a sliding scale based on income and family size to individuals, families, seniors and children who fall between 125-300% of the federal poverty level. Fees are always below the market rate and set on each client's ability to pay. These services clearly benefit clients, but also gives Legal Aid and public defenders a place to send people who earn too much to qualify for their services, and provides traditional attorneys a place to send people who cannot afford their help. As a result, the courts have fewer people appear before them who don't have legal representation. Affordable Legal Care continues to thrive with strong donor support and an average of 5-10 people each month have access to legal services that would have otherwise gone without representation.

Sanford Dam Failure: In 2020, the Village of Sanford and the surrounding area was devastated when two dams failed in the region. Hundreds of homes and businesses were destroyed and thousands of people were left homeless. Angela immediately stepped in to assess victim needs and search for ways to fill them. The COVID-19 pandemic was in full swing at the time and increased the challenges people were facing during lockdown, social distancing and mask requirements. Two easy choices would have been to stay home where it was safe, warm and dry or to abandon caution while providing assistance. The harder choice was to dig in and do what was needed to help with cleanup and restoration while also following all COVID-19 safety protocols. Angela made the harder choice and hit the ground running on day one. Her efforts continue today. She ensures adherence to all safety protocols whether assisting victims with their legal needs, connecting them to social agencies and businesses who can help, connecting TV broadcasters to victims as they put together a documentary, or work to provide over 10,000 meals to those who would struggle to feed themselves. You would be hard-pressed to find anyone in the community who hasn't been touched by her efforts. She is often the quiet catalyst that creates possibilities and solutions. She stands behind or alongside the victims, never at the forefront. One example of her work done in the background is a recent PBS documentary, "BREACHED! The Tittabawassee River Disaster" where Angela was heavily involved in connecting victims with the documentary crew. The victims would not have necessarily trusted the crew, but they did trust Angela. The only place you see her or her name is in a one-line thank you at the end of the documentary. Her work is about service – never about accolades.

Child Advocacy: When you ask Angela about her child advocacy involvement, she is quick to tell you it's what she lives for. Detail on how she has worked to change legislation in regards to children is provided below, but it is what she does every day that makes a continual impact. Whether she is representing a child or their parents, her goal is to make sure the children's voices get heard, ensure they get what they need and are safe and warm. She fulfills many roles in regards to children. She may be working as a special prosecutor in various counties when their prosecutor has a conflict; serving as a private attorney for Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); as a court appointed attorney for parents or the children as the Guardian Ad Litem. No matter the role, her focus is on the best interests of the child. She says one of the most rewarding things in her life are the changes she witnesses when working with the children and families.

Angela was one of the forces behind "raise the age" legislation that went into effect October 2021. The new legislation means that 17-year-olds are no longer automatically treated as adults in the state's criminal justice system. Thousands of 17-year-olds now have access to treatment, programs and services that are age and developmentally appropriate for them. They will no longer be placed in a system that punishes them and rather now offers them rehabilitation tools and increases their ability to become successful adults and successful contributors to society.

Angela is known locally and statewide as a voice for the Michigan-School Justice Partnership which was created to form partnerships among the court, school administration, law enforcement and the community to keep kids in school and out of prison. In addition to guiding county teams across the entire state, her own local county team with more than 20 community leaders, she actively worked with legislators in both the Senate and House, the Governor's office, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Department of Corrections, Center for Educational and Performance Information, Prosecutors Association of Michigan, Michigan Supreme Court, numerous school organizations and many others to change the law so that all children can stay in school and receive the education they deserve. Angela also worked with Judge Dorene Allen to draft a bill proposal to reform the Michigan's Zero Tolerance Law that passed in 2016 and went into effect

August 1, 2017. Under this law, schools must consider a checklist to determine whether a lesser intervention is available before suspending or expelling kids. The reform eliminated the Michigan's overzealous zero tolerance law that had unintended consequences for many children.

Angela also worked with Judge Allen and the Michigan-School Justice Partnership to draft a bill package related to truancy and chronic absenteeism. The bill did not pass, but its tenets have been adopted by many school systems across the country. The package defines truancy and provides graduated interventions for chronically absent juveniles.

Angela also teaches Juvenile Law to Police Cadets as an Adjunct Professor for Delta College.

A detailed resume is attached.

Optional: List news, magazine, radio, and TV features about the nominee's accomplishments (do not submit actual articles or DVDs). Feel free to include any hyperlinks to these stories, if they are still online.

An optional list of news, magazine, radio, and TV features about Angela's accomplishments is attached.

State date/page and media e.g. 12/12/07, p. 12, Lansing State Journal, "Lawyer Begins TLC Program in Schools"

Attach Document (Optional)



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Attach Additional Document (10MB Limit)



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CHRISTOPHER G. KOMARA, PLC

Attorney & Counselor at Law

February 25, 2022

Ms. Carrie Sharlow
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend Street
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

RE: Unsung Hero Award Nomination

Dear Ms. Sharlow:

I would like to nominate Attorney Angela M. Cole for the Unsung Hero Award. Angela is an unsung hero not because of any single activity, but by the way she lives her life every day. She is a person that people trust and follow without question because of her work ethic and strong reputation. She is a person of high integrity and service at the 501(c)(3) non-profit Affordable Legal Care she founded in 2018, her child advocacy efforts and the work she does for the Sanford community since the devastating dam failures in 2020. Many people will see a need and move on. Angela tirelessly and selflessly works to respond to unmet needs repeatedly in a myriad of ways for individuals, communities, and organizations. She works hard herself and is often the catalyst in the background who makes connections between those who have needs and those who can provide for them.

Angela has served in the legal profession for almost 20 years. Her experience spans the court system, private practice and as a corporate attorney for a Fortune 500 company. She is a strong advocate for children, the underserved and the legal profession. On more than one occasion, Angela has stepped in to help people who had a negative experience with another attorney including an elderly lady referred to her by the Midland County Bar Association whose attorney stole \$100,000 from her. By helping those wronged by her own profession for free, Angela hopes to correct negative stereotypes toward her profession while, at the same time, providing people with the level of service they deserve.

She is a person who does all she can to right wrongs and ensure everyone has access to representation and justice. For example, when she witnessed first-hand the effects on people and their children who needed, but could not afford, legal assistance, she went to work to find a

solution. As a result, she founded the 501(c)(3) non-profit Affordable Legal Care in 2018. In the years since, through her own law firm and through Affordable Legal Care, Angela has dedicated 2,000 low and pro bono hours to 361 clients who would not have had legal services otherwise. 592 hours of that service were provided absolutely free. The State Bar of Michigan estimates 40–60 percent of those considered to be the middle class have legal needs that go unmet, which affects the quality of their lives and their children’s lives. Angela, through Affordable Legal Care, responds to this demographic by providing legal services on a sliding scale based on income and family size to individuals, families, seniors and children. Fees are always below the market rate and set on each client’s ability to pay. These services also extend to Legal Aid and public defenders who now have a place to send people who earn too much to qualify for their services. Traditional attorneys also have a place to send people who cannot afford their help. The courts benefit by having fewer people appear before them without representation.

Nowhere is Angela’s effort more evident than in the work she does for children. She not only notices when changes need to be made, she steps in and does the work. Her efforts, along with others, have resulted in changed legislation that reformed zero tolerance law in schools, raised the legal adult age to 18 and provides guidance to schools across the country in regards to truancy and absenteeism. She is so highly respected and trusted for her integrity that she is called upon by courts and many agencies to be an advocate for children and their families. It is this work she holds most dear, but she still finds time for others in need like those in the Sanford Community.

Since the horrific flooding that destroyed hundreds of homes and businesses and left thousands homeless in May 2020, Angela has been building bridges in the community. She has provided numerous hours of free legal services, sorted through mud, muck and debris, painted walls, made connections between homeowners and service providers, led an effort to provide over 10,000 meals and even assisted a PBS documentary crew in telling the devastation and recovery story. Her leadership continues to be so instrumental in the community’s recovery that she opened a second office in the village to make herself more accessible.

Angela Cole has a reputation for being a shining light. Her soft-spoken leadership and diligent service are an inspiration to all who have the privilege of serving with her. She is truly a quiet hero who does everything with a kindness and a smile that is palpable and contagious. No one is more deserving of an Unsung Hero Award than Angela Cole.

Very truly yours,



Christopher G. Komara

Angela M. Cole

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SUMMARY

Nearly 20 years of well-rounded legal experience across corporate law, private practice and in the courts often in leadership and management roles. Served as a corporate attorney with global responsibilities for a Fortune 500 company; a private practice attorney; and in the courts as a magistrate, attorney referee, and judicial law clerk.

Community advocate and tireless volunteer for nonprofit and civic organizations and individuals with limited resources with a strong focus on child advocacy. Well known across the state for leading and implementing change focused on the best interest of the child, preserving childhood and ensuring they receive the education they deserve.

EXPERIENCE

Affordable Legal Care, Midland, Michigan

Founder/Executive Director/Legal Counsel/Litigator, May 2018 to present

- Provide legal representation and counsel focused primarily in child protective proceedings, adoptions, juvenile law, family law, business law, and estate planning to low- and moderate-income people and non-profits.

Law Office of Angela M. Cole, Midland, Michigan

Legal Counsel/Litigator, March 2018 to present

- Provide legal representation and counsel focused primarily in child protective proceedings, guardianships, juvenile law, family law, business law, and estate planning.

Delta College, Saginaw, Michigan

Adjunct Professor, March 2018 to present

- Teach juvenile law to new police cadets.

42nd Circuit Midland County Court – Family Division, Midland, Michigan

Attorney Referee/Court Administrator/Magistrate January 2015 – March 2018

- Conducted delinquency hearings including preliminary hearings, pre-trials, adjudications, dispositional and various other types of hearings.
- Held abuse and neglect hearings including hearings to determine termination of parental rights.

- Assisted in the administration of non-judicial activities.
- Planned, developed and implemented policies to maintain compliance with statutes and court rules.
- Drafted and administered 5.5-million-dollar budget.
- Coordinated the implementation and management of the court's information systems.
- Served as Magistrate for District Court – handled hearings for traffic tickets, small claims, arraignments, performed marriage ceremonies and authorized warrants.

Michigan School-Justice Partnership, Midland, Michigan

Director, November 2013 – February 2015

- Drafted proposed amendments to current juvenile code.
- Developed statewide vision and objectives to keep kids in school.
- Assisted county teams to develop and implement action plans to achieve local objectives.
- Oversaw Review Board with varied expert backgrounds and perspectives for review and guidance to county teams.
- Coordinated yearly meetings with leadership and county teams.
- Collaborated with legislators, Governor's office, Michigan Supreme Court, State Court Administrative Office, Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Department of Human Services, The Center for Educational Performance and Information, Michigan State Police, Prosecuting Attorney Association of Michigan as well as many others, including judicial and educational representatives from county teams.
- Maintained website developed to share materials/resources.
- Directed video aimed toward legislative change.
- Managed communication and quarterly updates from each county team.

RightAnswer.com, Inc., Midland, Michigan

General Counsel, January 2012 – January 2015

- Overall responsibility for the corporate legal function and principal legal officer and adviser to the executive leadership team members and board members.
- Successfully transitioned the company through acquisition and subsequent litigation.
- Streamlined agreement processes, procedures and policies.
- Provided ongoing counsel and input regarding intellectual property, human resources, marketing, IT, security, antitrust, sales, commercial law, liability and risk assessment.
- Drafted, reviewed, managed, and negotiated licenses and agreements including, but not limited to, distributor, procurement, sales, intellectual property, consulting, secrecy, employment, real estate, and leases.

Law Office of Angela M. Cole, Midland, Michigan
Outside Legal Counsel/Litigator, January 2012 – January 2015

- Provided legal representation and counsel focusing primarily in family law, juvenile law, and estate planning.
- Provided legal representation, counsel and training for large and small corporate clients primarily in commercial, sales, intellectual property, social media, e-commerce, claim substantiation, advertisement and promotion law.

Cline Close Dyer, PLC, Midland, Michigan
Outside Legal Counsel/Litigator, January 2011 – January 2012

- Provided legal representation and counsel focusing primarily in family law, juvenile law, and estate planning.
- Provided legal representation, counsel and training for large and small corporate clients primarily in commercial, sales, intellectual property, social media, e-commerce, claim substantiation, advertisement and promotion law.

Dow Corning Corporation, Midland, Michigan
In-House Attorney, November 2005-January 2011

- Global legal counsel for Corporate Communications/Public Affairs/Sustainability, social media, Trademarks, Copyrights, Domain Names, E-Commerce, XIAMETER® Web-Based Business, IT Software/Asset Management, IT Procurement and U.S. Counsel for Acquisitions/Divestitures, Real Estate, Credit Collections, and Bankruptcy.

42nd Midland County Circuit Court, Midland, Michigan
Judicial Clerk, January 2003- November 2005

- Drafted judicial opinions
- Prepared motion summaries
- Legal research
- Managed juries and pro se litigants

EDUCATION

State Bar of Michigan Member # P66161

Michigan State University-College of Law, East Lansing, MI
Doctor of Jurisprudence, May 2003

Northwood University, Midland, MI
Bachelor of Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude, December 1999

Delta College, University Center, MI
Associate Degree in Arts, Pre-Law, Magna Cum Laude, May 1998

RECOGNITION

2021 Leader of the Year Award, Leadership Midland Alumni Association

Annual recognition from the Leadership Midland Alumni Association to honor leaders who provide significant, effective volunteer leadership for the purpose of community improvement beyond job responsibilities, demonstrate community leadership over a period of time, and is a community role model.

Midland Daily News Reader's Choice Award Winner, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

This annual recognition comes from Midland area residents who nominate and vote for award recipients. Voted best attorney in the area four years in a row. In 2021, also voted as best law firm, estate planning attorney, will and trust estate attorney, and divorce and family law attorney.

2021 Rotary Hero Award, July 10, 2021

Recognition by the Stewards of Rotary Committee and the Midland Noon Rotary Club Board for the district (includes 40 clubs). Awarded this honor for serving in many leadership capacities since joining Rotary in 2013, for chairing the Focus on Youth committee, helping with club programs, and most recently being elected to the board as president-nominee.

Michigan State Police - Certificate of Appreciation, February 1, 2021

Recognition and thank you by the Michigan State Police for support of the local community and the Michigan State Police Tri-City Post 31.

A Lawyer Helps Pro Bono Honor Roll, Top Tier, 2018, 2019, 2020

Annual recognition from the Justice Initiatives Committee of the State of Michigan to honor individual attorneys, solo practitioners, law firms, and corporations support access to justice efforts by providing legal services to low-income individuals and families throughout Midland.

Heroes and Hand Raisers, 2020

Recognition by the United Way of Midland County to shine a spotlight on those who impact the community by raising their hand to help meet the needs of their neighbors.

Everett N. Luce Community Champion, 2020

This annual award is presented by Midland County Senior Services annually to both an individual and organization for their leadership and contributions toward improving the quality of life for older adults in Midland County.

20/20 Vision Exhibit, Midland Center for the Arts, 2020

Included in this exhibit that showcased how women's contributions have been central to the past 100 years of national and local history. Each woman was represented by a large portrait banner that described why their contributions were important to history, how they were making a difference today and how they were the change makers of the future. The descriptive header on the banner read, "Angela Cole couples her legal experience (court, private practice, and the corporate world) with active community and volunteer experience (nonprofit and civic organizations)."

Excellence in Advocacy Award, November 2018

Recognition from the Department of Health and Human Services of commitment to a true partnership from 2013 – 2018 for Michigan's children.

The Liberty Bell Award, May 1, 2017

Recognition from the Midland County Bar Association for giving of time and energy to strengthen the effectiveness of the American system of freedom under law, in keeping with the spirit of our Constitution.

Paul Harris Fellow, June 2016

Recognition through a \$1,000 contribution to The Rotary Foundation from fellow Rotarians, Kevin and Jennifer Kendrick for leadership of the Midland Noon Focus on Youth committee.

VOLUNTEERISM

Volunteer activities are broad and span many years (see attachment). The following is a list of current volunteer service.

2017-Present, **Children's Grief Center of Great Lakes Bay Region**, Board Member, Secretary

2011-Present, **Leadership Midland Alumni Association**, Member

2013-Present, **Michigan School-Justice Partnership**, Planning Committee Member and former director (2013-2015)

2016-Present, **State Bar of Michigan**, Representative Assembly Member

2013-Present, **Midland 100 Club**, Member

2016-Present, **Midland Area Community Foundation**, Grants Committee, Scholarship Committee, Santa House Volunteer (since 2001)

2001-Present, **Midland County Bar Association**, Current Member; Have held all five board leadership roles for one year each – secretary, treasurer, vice president, president (2009-2010) and past president.

2014-Present, **Midland County Career & College Access Network**, Leadership Steering Committee

2013-Present, **Midland Noon Rotary**, Member, Served as Program Chair (2019-2020)

2015-Present, **Midland Noon Rotary – Focus on Youth Committee**, Chair 2015-2019 and 2020 to present

2017-Present, **Northwood University's Alumni Project 100**, Founding Member

2020-Present, **Sanford Area Chamber of Commerce**, Trustee

2019-Present, **Midland, Gladwin, Beaverton & Sanford after dam failures destroyed businesses homes**, Community Volunteer

Angela Cole's Volunteer Experience

Dates	Organization	Role	Summary	Service to and on behalf of the State Bar of Michigan	Other service to the legal profession	Service to the public
2003-2014	Ask a Lawyer Volunteer Program (United Way)	Pro bono Attorney				X
2021-present	Bay County Bar Association	Member			X	
2017-2020	Children's Grief Center of Great Lakes Bay Region	Board Member, Secretary				X
2014-2018	Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect - Child Protection, Well Being and Permanency	Member			X	
2015-2018	Health and Human Services Council of Midland County	Probate Court representative				X
2007-2014	Humane Society of Midland County	Volunteer				X
2008-2013	Law Day Committee	Chair			X	
2011-present	Leadership Midland Alumni Association	Member	See attached "Projects under Angela Cole's leadership"			X
2003-2014	Legal Services of Eastern Michigan	Pro bono Attorney				X
2003-2018	Meridian Public Schools	Quiz bowl reader (2003-2018)				X
2013-present	Michigan School-Justice Partnership	Planning Committee Member and former director from 2013-2015	A Statewide initiative bringing leaders from Michigan's 83 counties together to develop strategies for keeping children in school and out of court and subsequent incarceration.		X	X
2016-present	State Bar of Michigan	Representative Assembly Member				

Angela Cole's Volunteer Experience

2016-2017	State Bar of Michigan	Drafting Committee Member		X		
2013	Michigan Supreme Court	Chair of Court Community Connections Program in Midland County	While the Supreme Court normally hears oral argument at the Michigan Hall of Justice in Lansing, Supreme Court justices and staff travel to various communities as part of "Court Community Connections," which the Supreme Court started in 2007 as a public education program aimed principally at high school students. The goal is to help students understand the appellate courts and Michigan's judicial system.			X
2013-present	Midland 100 Club	Member				X
2016-present	Midland Area Community Foundation	Grants Committee				X
2016-present	Midland Area Community Foundation	Scholarship Committee				X
2001-present	Midland Area Community Foundation	Santa House Volunteer				X
2015-2018	Midland Co. Domestic and Sexual Violence Coordinating Council	Member				X
2014-2018	Midland County Baby Court	Leadership Steering Committee			X	X

Angela Cole's Volunteer Experience

2001-present	Midland County Bar Associaton	Current member. 2009-2010 President. Held all five board leadership roles for one year each - secretary, treasurer, vice president, president, and past-president.				X	
2014-present	Midland County Career & College Access Network	Leadership Steering Committee					X
2003-2017	Midland County Probate Court	Guardianship reviewer				X	
2002-2005	Midland High School	Mock Trial Team mentor and judge				X	
2019-2020	Midland Noon Rotary	Program chair					X
2013-present	Midland Noon Rotary	Member					X
2015-2019 2020-present	Midland Noon Rotary - Focus on Youth Committee	Chair January 2015 -May 2019, and March 2020 to present	See attached "Projects under Angela Cole's leadership"				X
2001-2009	Northwood University	Mock Trial Team mentor and judge				X	X
2017-2021	Northwood University's Alumni Project 100	Founding member					X

Angela Cole's Volunteer Experience

2003-2013	Shelterhouse	Volunteer	Various roles during that time: answered crisis phone, overnight volunteer, child care and activities, legal document/process training for staff, and provided pro bono legal services				X
2003-2014	Ask a Lawyer Volunteer Program (United Way)	Pro bono Attorney					X
2020-present	Sanford Area Chamber of Commerce	Trustee					X
2020-present	Community Volunteer in Midland, Gladwin, Beaverton and Sanford in response to dam failures that destroyed hundreds of businesses and homes and displaced thousands of residents	Volunteer	See attached "Projects led or greatly impacted by Angela Cole related to 2020 Dam failures"				X

Projects under Angela Cole's leadership

Date	Project	Organization	Summary	Service to and on behalf of the State Bar of Michigan	Other service to the legal profession	Service to the public
2013	Therapy dog for children in juvenile facility	Midland Leadership Class of 2011	Raised and donated \$500 to the Juvenile Care Center towards expenses for their support dog, Dory.			X
2014	Car seats for children	Midland Leadership Class of 2011	Raised and donated \$500 to Safe and Sound Advocy Center towards car seats the organization provides to families in need.			X
2015	Diaper Drive	Midland Noon Rotary's Focus on Youth Committee	Partnered with the Diaper Alliance and five other local service clubs (Morning Rotary, Midland Kiwanis, KIWASSEE Kiwanis, Lions Club, and Zonta) for the Diaper Downpour project to set up community stations and events to collect diapers for babies and families throughout Midland County. The kickoff event was a Diaper Derby at the Midland Mall. As a result, the committee led an event that facilitated the collection of 77,000 diapers.			X
2016	Children in Foster Care	Midland Noon Rotary's Focus on Youth Committee	Collaborated with several local organizations and businesses in the Midland Community, and with the help of a District grant, the Duffels of Love project raised almost \$9,000 dollars worth of basic need items for the Department of Health and Human services to provide to foster care children when they are removed from their homes and placed in foster care.			X
2017	Children's grief	Midland Noon Rotary's Focus on Youth Committee	Partnered with the Children's Grief Center (CGC) to focus on meeting the needs of grieving children (and their surviving family) because many Rotary members serve families touched in some way by grief, especially children whose mother or father have died or a brother or sister. The committee knew in that process, they would be helping some of the Midland Noon Rotary members deal with their own grief, too. Rotarians attended grief training, volunteered at the Children's Grief Center and raised over \$10,000 in art supplies and money through collaboration with the Midland County Sheriff's Office, Greater Midland Community Center, Greater Midland Tennis			X

Projects under Angela Cole's leadership

2018	Literacy	Midland Noon Rotary's Focus on Youth Committee	<p>Raised awareness regarding literacy needs in Midland County. The committee developed and provided three micro-series trainings to all the Noon Rotary members during the regular lunch meetings. The training helped our members learn how to read with children so children can learn how to read. The training was developed as a collaboration between Big Brothers Big Sisters and The Legacy Center and covered the following areas: (1) Building Trust & Positive Relationships, (2) Praise, and (3) Site Words.</p> <p>After attending the trainings, the Focus on Youth Committee had a wonderful experience reading with second graders at Siebert Elementary. The hour-long "try-it" over the lunch hour helped volunteers experience the impact of reading to a child—the “right way”. The volunteers and children enjoyed lunch together while they read books and each child was able to take three books home with them. Some of our volunteers enjoyed it so much they volunteered for longer commitments.</p>			X
2018	Tampons and pads for young ladies	Midland Leadership Class of 2011	<p>Teamed up with the other class alumni and The Diaper Alliance to bring a free supply of pads/tampons to all the area schools. The need was identified by school officials because young ladies missed 3-5 days of school per month because they can't afford them. The group packaged 2.5 pallets of donated pads and tampons and then delivered them to all the local schools.</p>			X
2019	Expungement of Juvenile Records	Affordable Legal Care	<p>Obtained a grant on behalf of Affordable Legal Care for funding to assist 25 individuals with the hard costs associated with the application to set aside their juvenile records: fingerprints, background checks, certified copies, postage, and application to Michigan State Police</p>			X
2019	Children's grief	Midland Leadership Class of 2011	<p>Raised and donated \$500 to the The Children's Grief Center towards expenses for art supplies.</p>			X
2020	Bikes for foster children	Individually	<p>In 2020, Angela Cole raised over \$2,000 to purchase 16 bicycles and helmets for children in foster care.</p>			X

Projects led or greatly impacted by Angela Cole related to 2020 Dam failures

Date	Project	Organizations involved	Summary	Service to and on behalf of the State Bar of Michigan	Other service to the legal profession	Service to the public
2020	It takes a Village fundraiser		Raised almost \$30,000 for local businesses towards rebuilding in the Village of Sanford			X
2020	Hot meal program	Partnered with over 65 organizations and 200 individuals	Organized and distributed more than 7,000 hot meals in a drive up line to residents impacted by the flood and the volunteers helping the residents			X
2020	Flood Response Grant	Midland Business Alliance	Contacted and encouraged numerous businesses to apply for grant funding			X
2020	E-Fund Subcommittee	Meridian Public Schools	Reviewed applications from residents for \$500 vouchers			X
2020	Flood Fund Subcommittee	Sanford Area Chamber of Commerce	Reviewed applications from businesses for monies to rebuild			X
2020	Pre-cooked Thanksgiving dinners	Partnered with Michigan State Police and Kroger	Identified and contacted 40 households in the Village of Sanford impacted by the floodwaters for the Michigan State Police and Kroger; Assisted the Michigan State Police to distribute 40 pre-cooked Thanksgiving dinners			X
2020	Thanksgiving dinner baskets with all the fixings	Consumer Energy Gas Construction Group	Distributed over 185 Frozen turkeys and all the fixings for Thanksgiving dinner			X
2020	Christmas food baskets	Elks Club	Identified and provided a list of 70 households impacted by the floodwaters to Elks Club; Distributed 70 cart loads of groceries for Christmas to the families			X
2020	Children's bicycles and helmets	Michigan State Police	Identified children who needed bikes after they lost theirs to the floodwaters and distributed donated bicycles and helmets			X
2020	Pizza	Representative Annette Glenn, Michigan State Police, and Village of Sanford President	Communicated and distributed 150 donated pizzas to area residents			X

Projects led or greatly impacted by Angela Cole related to 2020 Dam failures

2020	Kroger gift cards	Michigan State Police	Distributed gift cards donated from Kroger to area residents with a state trooper			X
2020	Christmas stockings		Identified and distributed homemade Christmas stockings to families and individuals impacted by the flood			X
2020	Christmas toys, homemade quilts and games	Partnered with Sadie's Dream and Children's Grief Center	Set up a "free" store for grandparents, parents and guardians to shop for toys, homemade quilts and games for their grandchildren and children			X
2020	School supplies	Partnered with Midand Area Interfaith Community	Organized school supply distribution			X
2020	Sanford Shines 2020		Rode on the Northern Star Train with Santa Claus and his wife to livestream the parade and Santa			X
2020	Little Red House Project	Partnered with numerous individuals and organizations	Advocated for and coordinated the building of a brand new house and shed for free for a Sanford resident			X
2021	Book Drive	Partnered with Christie McDonald, Meridian High School, Sanford Hardware, Cole's Wrecker Service, Coldwell Banker Professionals, and Midland Recylers	Organized a book drive to collect new and gently used children's books and financial contributions to replace children's books for more than 100 grandparents and children who had their books destroyed by the floodwaters			X
2021	Operation Easter	Partnered with Christie McDonald	Organized and distributed personalized Easter baskets to more than 40 children and ham dinner baskets to more than 60 families			X
2021	School supplies and clothing	Partnered with Christie McDonald	Organized school supply and clothing distribution			X
2021	Buttons	Individual	Made over 600 "I love Sanford" buttons and distributed to the community			X
2021	Picnic	Partnered with Christie McDonald	Hosted a picnic for families			X
2020-2021	Halloween	Partnered with Christie McDonald	Handed out hot chocolate to families and children; Wore a unicorn costume to encourage people to stop on their way through rebuilding town			X

Projects led or greatly impacted by Angela Cole related to 2020 Dam failures

2020-2022	Media contact		Cole has an incredible ability to bridge many relationships between the residents and media and organizations who wanted to help			X
2020-2021	Grant for forgivable mortgage to rebuild for homes and businesses	Midland Business Alliance	Provided research and free legal representation to residents and businesses being offered "forgiveable" mortgages by local foundations to rebuild their homes and businesses			X
2020-2021	Hot meals on holidays	Partnered with St. Brigid Catholic Church, Red Oak Restaurant	Picked up hot meals on holidays and delivered to area residents who still did not have kitchens or appliances or supplied gift certificates for families to eat at a restaurant together on the holiday			X
2020-2022	Sanford Heart	Partnered with Midland Area Community Foundation, Village of Sanford, and Children's Grief Center	Assisted in bringing a large metal memorial heart to the Village of Sanford and with access to residents for decorating little wooden hearts to attach			X
2020-2022	Quilts	Donated by numerous individuals or organizations	Distributed more than 200 adult and children's quilts and afghans			X
2020-2022	Research and information gathering		Spent countless hours to research and gather information for other leaders and organized numerous volunteers.			X
2020-2022	Basic needs/supplies	Partnered with numerous individuals and organizations	Personally provided or worked directly with donors and organizations to provide residents with water, meals, heat, medicine, eye glasses, clothing, blankets, cleaning supplies, air conditioning, electricity, fresh fruits and vegetables, non-perishable food, dog food, generators, fans, dehumidifiers, power washers, RV batteries, drywall, insulation, power cords, housing or money towards housing/mortgage payments, OSB board, flooring, dishes, towels, cleaning items, mold remover, undergarments, washers and dryers, refrigerators, stoves, lawn mowers, vehicles, bedding, carbon monoxide detectors, gift cards for groceries, gas, meat bundles and more.			X

Projects led or greatly impacted by Angela Cole related to 2020 Dam failures

2021-2022	ReGrow Midland	Partnered with Christie McDonald, Midland Business Alliance, ReGrow Midland and Red Oak Restaurant	Advocated for a Sanford location utilizing a restaurant that rebuilt due to the dam failures. Communicated the program and distributed almost 5,000 low cost or free meals to the community from September 2021 through end of March 2022. The program generated \$72,000 grant income for the restaurant			X
2020-2022	Legal Services		Provided numerous hours of free legal services and replaced estate planning documents and other legal documents lost to floodwaters			X
2021-2022	Wishes Project	Partnered with Sisters on the Fly and Christie McDonald	Helped to identify and fulfill wishes of impacted residents or business owners to directly replace items lost to the floodwaters or something else that would help them cope mentally, physically or financially from the disaster			X

Midland Daily News Articles 2002 – 2022 / Search by D. Cull 2/22

[Attorney Angela Cole receives 2021 Rotary Hero Award](#)



July 10, 2021 | Midland Daily News

This year, the Midland Rotary Club nominated Angela Cole with the Rotary Hero Award for 2021. ... "Angela is truly one of a kind and we are so honored to have her in our club and in our community." ... The ...

[Heroes and Hand Raisers honors Angela Cole](#)



October 17, 2020 | Midland Daily News

Angela Cole, a Midland attorney, recently participated in the following Q&A: Q: In what ways have you and/or your team donated time, talents or resources? ... Angela Cole Angela Cole News

[Midland attorney recognized by State Bar for pro-bono contributions](#)



November 26, 2021

Angela Cole has law offices in Midland and Sanford Attorney Angela Cole was recognized for the third year in a row for her dedication to providing access to legal services. ... Cole has well-rounded experience ...

[Sanford meal serving continues](#)



January 8, 2022 | Tereasa Nims

“There is still a great need in our community,” said Angela Cole, who has been working with Christie McDonald to serve meals on Thursdays behind the Red Oak Lounge through the ReGrow Midland program. ...

[Photos: Anonymous donor purchases 150 pizzas for Sanford residents - Feb. 21, 2021](#)



February 22, 2021 | Katy Kildee

Annette Glenn, Sanford Village President Dolores Porte, Michigan State Police officers and attorney Angela Cole passed out free pizzas to Sanford residents after they were purchased with a donation from an ...

[Senior Services is nominating champions](#)



September 1, 2021 | Midland Daily News

Past winners have included Cliff Miles, Midland Community Center, Yvonne Corbat, Midland Daily News, Joseph Lubbehusen, Gene Susalla, Creative 360, Laura Kubit, The Diaper Alliance, Coffee Chaos, Midland Fire ...

[Daily News unmask Masked Readers](#)



February 12, 2021 | Midland Daily News

We held a drawing to award a \$100 Visa gift card to one of the winning entries, and the winning reader is Angela Cole. ... The Daily News congrats Angela Cole for being the grand prize winner, and thanks everyone who cast votes in this contest.

[Mobile food pantry set for June 10](#)



May 29, 2021 | Midland Daily News

Angela Cole passes hot meals to a recipient during a food distribution event Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020 at Cole's Wrecker Service and Garage in Sanford.

[Neighbors helping neighbors focus of long-term flood recovery meeting](#)

April 6, 2021 | Midland Daily News

Presenters for April's session are Angela Cole, Lisa Hall, and Chris Moultrup. Angela Cole, a community volunteer who has been active in Sanford's recovery, will share personal stories.

[Northwood alumni organize Easter giveaway](#)

April 20, 2021 | Midland Daily News

Angela Cole and Christie McDonald help collect gifts for people impacted by dam breaches Midland Daily News Northwood University alumni/local attorney Angela Cole and Northwood's associate director of financial ...

[Community leaders help flood victim return home](#)



January 19, 2021 | Katy Kildee

One person who agreed to help paint was Midland attorney Angela Cole, who has been a part of Sampier's recovery journey from the beginning. ... Angela Cole paints a wall in the home of Shelly Sampier Thursday, ...

[Senior Services honors Everett N. Luce Community Champions](#)



November 13, 2020 | Victoria Ritter

Angela Cole received the Individual Community Champion Award and Deb Weese of Weese Project Motivations received the Organization Community Champion Award. Senior Services received the nomination of Angela Cole ...

[Community organizations donate meals for flood victims and volunteers](#)

July 29, 2020 | Victoria Ritter

If you have any questions, contact Umbareen Jamil of the Islamic Center of Midland and Midland Area Interfaith Friends at 989-948-1012, or Angela Cole of the Law Office of Angela Cole at 989-513-1260, or ...

[Free hot meals in Sanford expanded](#)

September 14, 2020 | Victoria Ritter

The hot meals will be distributed beginning at 5 p.m. in the parking lot of Cole's Wrecker Service, 323 W. ... If you have any questions or need information, contact organizer and local attorney, Angela Cole of ...

[Midland attorney Cole organizes gift giveaway](#)

December 28, 2020 | Victoria Ritter

Victoria Ritter, vritter@mdn.net Midland and Gladwin County grandparents, parents and caregivers impacted by the floodwaters in May were able to pick out Christmas gifts for their grandchildren and children ...

[Midland attorney recognized for providing pro bono legal services](#)



September 16, 2020 | Victoria Ritter

Victoria Ritter, vritter@mdn.net Midland attorney Angela Cole was recognized a second year in a row by the Access to Justice Committee of the State Bar of Michigan for her work to support access to justice ...

[Business Matters: Omni Tech International, Ltd.](#)



March 27, 2021 | Ron Beacom

I think of Sanford Strong, churches, Angela Cole, Dolores Porte, women who amaze me.

[For those impacted by flooding: Virtual meeting to discuss federal tax returns](#)

January 15, 2021 | Victoria Ritter

Local attorney Angela Cole will host Kellie Bos, CPA and partner at Andrews Hooper Pavlik PLC, to provide information about deducting a casualty loss on federal tax returns. ... Cole has well-rounded experience ...

[Fundraiser aims to help Sanford businesses](#)



June 11, 2020 | Victoria Ritter

For Angela Cole, a Midland attorney, this loss is personal. ... "Anyone who knows me knows my passion for children," said Cole. ... "So far, we have raised just over \$6,600," said Cole.

[Coming together to feed Sanford flood victims](#)



October 1, 2020 | Dan Chalk

"Angela Cole knows tons of people (in the area). ... EDITOR'S NOTE: Anyone interested in volunteering or making a donation for the meals in Sanford should call Angela Cole at 989-513-1260 or Umbareen Jamil at ...

[Midland gives thanks](#)



November 25, 2020 | Emily Davis

Fourth row: Paige Needham, Lisa Thompson, Zachary Schultz and Kenneth Larson, Angela Cole, Lola McDuff, Marina Nadobny, Craig Finkbeiner, Maureen Acker. ... Angela Cole: "I'm really thankful for my close family ...

[Flood relief update: 'It takes a whole community \(to help everyone recover\)'](#)



February 12, 2021 | Dan Chalk

"When we were still in the clean-up phase, we had some stand-up residents, such as Angela Cole and Christie McDonald, who helped provide hot meals to people who needed them," Quintana said.

[SVSU's Marsh Institute continues legacy of leadership](#)



December 24, 2019 | Midland Daily News

The 2019 graduating class includes the following 12 individuals: • Brad Blanchard, of Auburn; an environmental, health, and safety specialist at SK Innovation • Moira Branigan, of Bay City; director of YWCA ...

[One year later: Neighbors helping neighbors](#)



3

May 15, 2021 | Kate Hessling

"Angela Cole brought us quilts and other assistance.

[2020 Readers' Choice Awards winners - Other](#)



September 12, 2020 | Tony Lascari

RC Angela Cole.JPG Attorney: Gold: Angela Cole. ... Silver: Cole's Wrecker Service.

[Mid-Michigan families still living in RVs, campgrounds after flooding](#)



July 11, 2020 | Mitchell Kukulka

This week, Midland attorney Angela Cole began compiling a list of local residents across mid-Michigan -- particularly those in Midland and Sanford -- currently living in RVs, campers and campgrounds after being ...

[Sanford surprise: local flood victim to get new home](#)



June 24, 2020 | Mitchell Kukulka

Angela Cole, a Midland attorney, helped organize Tyler's surprise, and had previously helped Tyler's living situation by bringing her hot meals, water, personal hygiene items, groceries and other necessities. ...

[Annual Rotary Pancake Supper at H. H. Dow High School](#)



February 21, 2020

Angela Cole, right, serves pancakes to Mary Kay Brandt, bottom, and David Flock, left, during the annual Rotary Pancake Supper Thursday, Feb. 20, 2020 at H.

[2020 Readers' Choice Award winners](#)



September 12, 2020 | Tony Lascari

Midland Daily News readers pick their favorites Tony Lascari, tlascari@mdn.net Midland Daily News readers selected their favorite business people and companies from around the region in the 2020 Readers' Choice ...

[County discusses staff changes and mosquitoes](#)

April 16, 2018 | John

He would replace Angela Cole, who resigned her position.

[County board OKs two agreements](#)



January 20, 2018 | John

Because the Child Care Fund specialists were in the process of clarifying the handbook regarding these expenses, we were asked to remove the items from our proposed Child Care Fund budget and told we could file ...

[Midland 100 Club reaches some new milestones](#)



September 28, 2018 | Midland Daily News

Such strong community support will make a real difference in the lives of many individuals who otherwise would not have access to important legal help," said Angela Cole, executive director, Affordable Legal Care.

[Cole OK'd as magistrate for Midland County District Court](#)



March 4, 2016 | John Kennett

John Kennett jkennett@mdn.net The 75th District Court will have additional backup for nights, weekends and holidays after Midland County Commissioners unanimously approved the appointment of County Probate and ...

[Five months later: Flood victims still in temporary housing, RVs as winter approaches](#)



October 7, 2020 | Ashley Schafer

Angela Cole, attorney, Sanford resident and volunteer coordinator, said she sees the need for viable housing is still rampant in the communities affected by flooding. ... "Winters coming and some of them don't ...

[Courthouse Clyde: Probate court gets therapy dog in training](#)



June 1, 2017 | Kelly Dame

exclaimed Angela Cole, probate and juvenile court referee, as Clyde scampered between herself, Allen and Katy Mishler, deputy probate register. ... Allen, left, and Angela Cole's feet Tuesday morning.

[New Sanford home unveiled for flood victim](#)



September 23, 2020 | Ashley Schafer

Community celebrates with Penny Tyler Ashley Schafer, Ashley.Schafer@hearstnp.com For weeks Penny Tyler imagined over and over what the inside of her new home in Sanford would look like. She knew it would be red ...

[Judge Allen leads state team at National Leadership Summit](#)

October 7, 2014 | the Midland Daily News

A number of milestones have been achieved including the convening of a statewide summit in September 2013, the naming of an executive director (Angela Cole) for the initiative, the development and vetting of ...

[District Court 8-12](#)

August 12, 2017 | Midland Daily News

(AC) is for Magistrate Angela Cole. ... Angela Jane Wildfong, 50, North Saginaw Road, driving with a high blood alcohol content on March 16, 180 days in jail with all but 14 days suspended and credit for two ...

[Cole OK'd as magistrate for District Court |](#)

March 4, 2016 | John kennett

John kennett jkennett@mdn.net The 75th District Court will have additional backup for nights, weekends and holidays after Midland County Commissioners unanimously approved the appointment of County Probate and ...

[2019 Readers' Choice Award winners](#)



September 7, 2019 | Midland Daily News staff

Midland Daily News staff The results are in! Midland Daily News readers have picked the top businesses and local employees of 2019, highlighting their picks for the best-of-the-best. Click through the gallery to ...

[Midland County Bar Association seeks essay contest entries](#)

April 11, 2012 | the Midland Daily News

Submit essays no later than 5 p.m. on April 25 to be eligible for the contest to Angela Cole by e-mail at amcole1@aol.com. ... Check with your school guidance counselor or contact Angela Cole, past president of ...

[Day treatment students shine at photo exhibit](#)



June 16, 2017 | Kelly Dame

Allen and Angela Cole, probate and juvenile court referee.

[The best Midland-area businesses and services, as picked by readers](#)



September 17, 2019 | Tony Lascari

(Tony Lascari/tlascari@mdn.net) RC Angela Cole.JPG Angela Cole poses for a photo in front of the Midland County Courthouse. Cole was picked as best attorney in the 2019 Readers' Choice Awards.

[2019 Readers' Choice Award winners](#)



September 7, 2019

Renee Pinnow, left, and Andy McGee, right, pose for a portrait inside Circle Quality Shoes, which was named the 2019 Readers' Choice best place to buy shoes. Second place went to Kohl's and third place went to ...

[Celebrating with Courthouse Clyde](#)



April 4, 2018 | Kelly Dame

Allen, left, and Angela Cole's feet Tuesday morning.

[District court news](#)

May 15, 2016 | the Midland Daily News

(AC) is for Magistrate Angela Cole.

[District court news](#)

May 15, 2016 | the Midland Daily News

(AC) is for Magistrate Angela Cole.

[Candidates' web sites](#)

October 28, 2002

SANFORD VILLAGE COUNCIL Angela Cole GOVERNOR Jennifer Granholm, Democrat Dick Posthumus, Republican Douglas Campbell, Green ATTORNEY GENERAL Mike Cox, Republican Jerry Kaufman, Green Gary Peters, Democrat STATE SENATE Andy Neumann, Democrat U.S.

[County contracts with Arizona youth academy for juvenile](#)

December 19, 2015 | John kennett

That situation has recently occurred, prompting Probate and Juvenile Court Referee Angela Cole along with Midland County Probation Officer Tom LeBrun to come before the Midland County Board of Commissioners ...

[Bar Assoc. seeks essay contest entries |](#)

February 21, 2013 | the Midland Daily News

Submit essays by no later than 5 p.m. on March 25 to be eligible for the contest to Angela Cole by e-mail at angela@angelacole.com - students will receive a confirmation e-mail within 48 hours of submission. ...

[Courthouse renovation will improve access, increase security](#)



July 25, 2016 | John Kennett

Interior The offices of Clerk Ann Manary and Probate and Juvenile Referee Angela Cole are two of the most vulnerable areas in the courthouse. ... Security issues are also a serious issue for Cole, whose staff ...

[Three children find forever families on Adoption Day](#)



November 21, 2017 | Kelly Dame

Jaylen's case was open for a long time, Attorney Referee Angela Cole said, adding she would never forget the day his uncle from Ohio came to court with plans to adopt. "It makes my heart very happy to be here for your adoption today," Cole said.

[District court news](#)

April 10, 2016 | the Midland Daily News

(AC) is for Magistrate Angela Cole.

[District court news](#)

April 10, 2016 | the Midland Daily News

(AC) is for Magistrate Angela Cole.

[Midland County Courthouse renovations may include Main Street entrance](#)



January 5, 2016 | John Kennett

The potential of an ugly situation is especially high in the hearing room of Probate and Juvenile Court Referee Angela Cole.