

# Reflections on an Evening of Enlightenment

By Martha D. Burkett and Maya McElroy

**S**pectacular! Outstanding! Wonderful! Exciting! Informative. These are some of the adjectives that have been used to describe the first annual Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program fundraiser, “An Evening of Enlightenment,” featuring keynote speakers Jeff and Debra Jay.

State Bar President Ed Pappas, President-Elect Charles Toy, and Executive Director Janet Welch were just a few of the many esteemed Bar members among the 130+ guests in attendance at this very special event.

Internationally known authors and interventionists Jeff and Debra Jay spoke about the importance of early identification and intervention in cases of compromised functioning due to aging, stress, mental health, and substance use among lawyers and their

families, highlighting issues specific to substance use and brain functioning.

Proceeds from this event totaling over \$17,000 have been designated to the Brighton National Addiction Foundation Richard Steinberg Memorial Treatment fund. Monies from this fund will be allocated for lawyers who are financially challenged and seeking needed treatment or related expenses for substance use and other mental health issues.

To see video excerpts of “An Evening of Enlightenment,” visit Brighton Hospital’s website at [www.brightonhospital.org/home/resources/lawyers-and-judges](http://www.brightonhospital.org/home/resources/lawyers-and-judges).

**Save the date:** April 15, 2010 marks the date of the second annual “Evening of Enlightenment,” featuring keynote speaker William Cope Moyers. ■

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*Martha D. Burkett is the program administrator for the State Bar of Michigan Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program. Ms. Burkett holds master’s degrees in public administration as well as counseling education and counseling psychology. She is a licensed professional counselor and nationally certified counselor. She completed graduate certification in holistic health and is a master addictions counselor, a certified auricular acudetox specialist, and an advanced-level board certified interventionist.*

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*Maya McElroy is the manager of major gifts and special events at St. John Health Brighton Hospital. Previously, she spent 10 years working with local and national organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area raising funds for medical research and substance abuse treatment. Before her fundraising career, she was a counselor with probationary youth in the substance abuse arena.*





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**The Lawyers and Judges Assistance Committee (LJAC) and the Brighton National Addiction Foundation would like to thank the following for their support of the Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program fundraiser:**

- Kevin Anderson
- Denise Bertin-Epp, Brighton Hospital
- Bruce Conybeare, Conybeare Law Office PC
- Candace Crowley
- Beverly Curtiss
- Julie I. Fershtman, Zausmer, Kaufman, August & Caldwell, PC
- Mary Gaughan, Hall Render Killian Heath and Lyman, PC
- Victoria Green, LJAC
- Tom Harp, LJAC
- Jeffrey Heuer, Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss
- Nkrumah Johnson-Wynn
- Gary Krochmal
- Hon. Renee McDuffee, 36th District Court, LJAC
- Joseph Nuyen, Jr., Nuyen, Tomtishen and Aoun, PC
- John F. Runcie, LJAC
- Rex E. Schlaybaugh, Jr., Dykema Gossett, PLLC
- Lee Silver, Silver and Van Essen PC
- Marie Stevens

**Opposite:** Panel, L–R: Cynthia Bullington, Martha Burkett, Dr. Charles Gehrke, Jeff Jay, and Debra Jay. 1. Jeff Jay discusses how to conduct a successful intervention within a firm. 2. L–R: John Ross; Denise Bertin-Epp, president of Brighton Hospital; and Frank Iacobell, president, DMC Surgery Hospital. 3. Debra Jay explains the science behind addiction. 4. L–R: Dr. John Lehtinen, Marquette Hospital; Lee Gough; and Donald Walter, chair of the Lawyers and Judges Assistance Committee. 5. L–R: Sean Siebigteroth, The Williams Firm; Jade Edwards, The Williams Firm; and Jennifer Burnett. 6. Joseph Nuyen, Jr., Nuyen, Tomtishen and Aoun, P.C., chair of the Brighton National Addiction Foundation and sponsor of the Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program. 7. L–R: John Nussbaumer, associate dean, Thomas M. Cooley Law School; Ed Pappas, SBM president; and Charles Toy, SBM president-elect. 8. Denise Bertin-Epp greets the crowd. 9. L–R: Elias Escobedo, SBM board member; Evan Callahan; Haiki Hirtata; Paula Cole; and SBM Executive Director Janet Welch.