

All information must be shown on this application form and on any additional sheets in the same format. Submit this form online, by facsimile, or mail to:

Attention: Ms. Anne Smith
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012
(517) 346-6374
Fax: (517) 372-2410
asmith@mail.michbar.org

The deadline for application is Friday, February 22, 2008. All applications must be received no later than this date.

This form may be downloaded from www.michbar.org. Click on Media Resources, then Events and Awards.

Criteria

This award will be presented to a lawyer who has exhibited the highest standards of practice and commitment for the benefit of others.

- The recipient must be a member in good standing with the State Bar of Michigan.
- The recipient's contribution may have been made during the past year or by virtue of cumulative effort or service.
- The recipient is selected by the State Bar of Michigan Representative Assembly Nominating and Awards Committee.

Name of nominee: Susan Spagnuolo Dal Name of nominator: Kathleen M. Koemke
Title: staff attorney Title: Attorney - Referee
Firm or organization: Legal Aid of South Central Mich Firm or organization: Friend of the Court
Address: 3490 Belle Chuse, Lansing, MI Address: 210 S Highlander Way, Howell MI
Phone: 517-394-2985 Fax: 517-394-4276 Phone: 517-540-7730 Fax: 517-552-2312
E-mail: _____ E-mail: Koemke@co.livingston.mi.us

- A. Please use the space provided to explain the merits of your nomination along with all supporting materials for your nominee where possible. Give specific examples. _____

Susan Spagnuolo brings to the practice of law a disarming sense of humor and an uncanny grasp of circumstances. Not only is she able to empathize with her clients, but she can persuade the opposite party to empathize as well. This leads to being able to resolve many conflicts that are involved in family law matters. Sue is a staunch advocate for her clients and is able at times to preserve the integrity of the client and resolve the problem.

Appearances are not Sue's strong point. She has problems with her feet and has worn unconventional foot gear. Sue's fashion sense is not exactly in a dress for success format, but her heart and mind are in prime condition to offer quality and practicality.

Due to her appearance at times, opponents take her for an unknowing country bumpkin; they soon discover that this presumption is incorrect. Sue never judges folks based on their appearance and genuinely evaluates her clients' positions. Sue provides straight talk and good advice for her clients and is a pleasure to have in hearings. She is prepared to proceed if a case cannot be resolved. Once the court has made a ruling, she continues to guide her clients appropriately with integrity.

Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

February 11, 2008

Dear Sirs and Madams,

Please consider Susan Spagnuolo Dal for the Unsung Hero Award.

Susan Spagnuolo Dal has worked as an attorney in the Livingston County Area for the last thirty years. While she was not always formally a legal aid attorney, she always considered the poor and underdog as her most prized clients. She has a reputation for being a straight talk attorney who gives her clients practical legal advice. She has worked in the rural areas of Livingston County representing those who can not afford traditional attorneys. Her primary area of practice is in domestic law. She represents her clients with dignity, assisting them in understanding the legal system, and preserving its integrity.

Sue has gone beyond the role of the traditional attorney by accompanying opposing counsel on home visits, opening her personal life to those in need, and impressing other legal professionals with the importance of representation for all.

In an area that is sometimes considered affluent, she took on the role of making sure the abused and disabled get their day in court.


Sue's former occupation is as a teacher. This is reflected in her work continually. She continues to educate her clients as to what the law can do and what it can not.

She is the proud mother of ten children. She has balanced her family and professional lives. The sensitivity she has developed with her family is evident in the way she treats her clients.

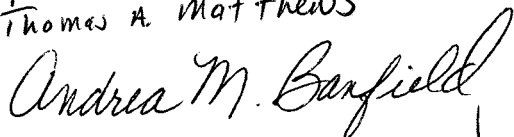
For her cumulative service to the citizens of Michigan and the State Bar, we the undersigned request that you consider Susan Spagnuolo Dal for the Unsung Hero Award.

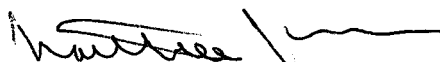
Sincerely,

Members of the Livingston County Bar Association

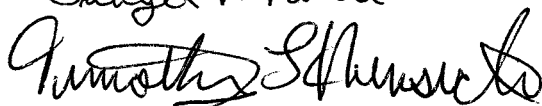

Mitchell J. Perrault


Thomas A. Matthews

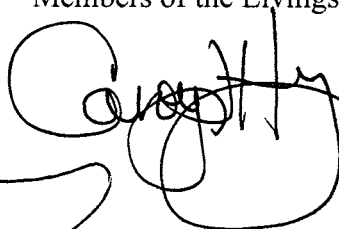


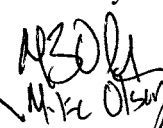

Matthew J. McGuire

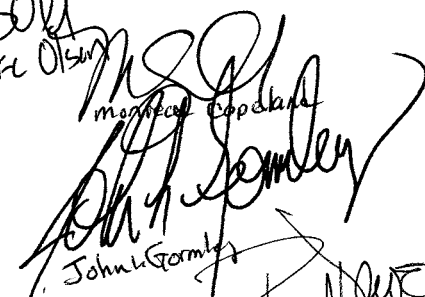
Bridget P. Parsi








Mike Olson


Margaret Copeland





Page 2
Signature page
Susan Spagnuolo Dal nomination for Unsung Hero Award

February 20, 2008

We the undersigned adopt the request made in the attached letter.

Members of the Livingston County Bar Association

Linda C. Walker

James Skene
Honorable Carol S. Rector
William Radicecourt

Dennis Perkins

Theresa M. Brennan
Honorable Theresa M. Brennan

Kyle Butler

Hon. Dan Keeler

Neal Nielsen

Kyle Butler

Kathleen Goetsch

Mike P. Hatty
Jeri Janning

Laura Mitchell

Melinda A. Schauer
Melinda A. Schauer

Wendy K. Turner

Thomas A. Hill

Donald A. Eids

David Park

Robert J. Hotchkiss



Livingston County Circuit Court

204 South Highlander Way, Suite 5 • Howell, Michigan 48843

STANLEY J. LATREILLE
Chief Circuit Court Judge

TELEPHONE
(517) 546-3060

FAX
(517) 552-2512

February 11, 2008

Dear Livingston Bar Association,

RE: Unsung Hero

It gives me great pleasure to nominate Sue Spagnuolo-Dal for an "unsung hero" award for the bar. Ms. Spagnuolo-Dal has dedicated herself to serving people who lack the means to protect their legal rights. I shudder to think of what would happen to our legal system if we did not have people like her.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stanley J. Latreille".

Stanley J. Latreille
Chief Judge of the 44th Circuit Court

P.O. Box 313
Howell, Michigan
48843

Michigan State Bar Association
Townsend Street
Lansing, Michigan

February 12, 2008

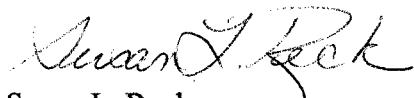
Dear Sir or Madam:

Please accept my heartiest recommendation for the nomination of Sue Spagnuolo-Dal for the Bar Association's "Unsung Hero Award". I have had the privilege of working with Ms. Spagnuolo-Dal for many years as a practicing attorney and later, for eighteen years as Livingston County's Judge of Probate.

I always found Ms. Spagnuolo-Dal to be an attorney who tries her best to resolve issues in a manner that will most benefit her client. In her position as a legal aide attorney, she did not have the ability to pick and choose her clients but had to represent all those persons who qualified for her services. No matter how difficult the issue or the client, she represented them all with a positive attitude. She always gave a voice to those who were without education, resources, or power and without expecting very much in return.

It would be most appropriate if Ms. Spagnuolo-Dal were to receive this award for her dedicated services over more than two decades to the less fortunate citizens of this state.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan L. Reck

Law Offices of
HALM, CHRISTIAN & PRINE, P.C.
2130 W. Grand River Avenue
P.O. Box 686
Howell, Michigan 48844-0686

Thomas A. Halm
Stewart A. Christian
David E. Prine

Phone: (517) 548-5310
Fax: (517) 548-5650
E-mail: hcppc@sbcglobal.net
www.halmchristianprine.com

2/11/08
Date

State Bar of Michigan
Representative Assembly

Re: Michigan's Unsung Hero Award

Dear Sir or Madam:

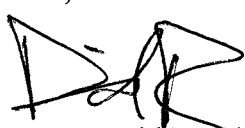
I am writing with my heart-felt support for the nomination of Susan Spagnuolo-Dal for Michigan's Unsung Hero Award. I have known Ms. Spagnuolo-Dal for twenty years and count her as one of my dearest friends and colleges with whom I am ultimately proud to associate with. I attribute much of the familiarity and friendliness of the Livingston County Bar Association to the likes of Ms. Spagnuolo-Dal who has always maintained the very high legal and ethical standards for our local bar, while always avoiding any offensive personalty.

As an attorney working for legal aide, Sue has diligently represented those who have no ability to help themselves. She has done this with selflessness and professionalism which are unmatched in my eyes by any other attorney in Livingston County. In pursuing the best interests of her clients, Sue has forsaken her right to both riches and other recognition, which she so certainly deserves.

I speak for every member of the Livingston County Bar when I give my full support to Sue Spagnuolo-Dal for Michigan's Unsung Hero Award. Thank you for your consideration in this regard.

Yours very truly,

Halm, Christian & Prine, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Prine', written over a horizontal line.

By: David E. Prine (P-40590)
Attorney at Law

DEP/lml/letter for sue spag

Bonnie J. Miller
Attorney at Law
3000 Char Ann Dr.
Howell MI 48843

February 11, 2008

Members of the
State Bar of Michigan

RE: Unsung Hero Sue Spagnuolo-Dal

She is one of a kind and kindness is her mode of operation. She is the Legal Aide attorney serving Livingston County.

I have known Sue "Spag" for nearly 30 years. We were new attorneys together taking every court appointed indigent case we could get. She was a natural at understanding the plight of those who had no resources to engage in a legal matter. Her life experiences as a teacher and raising 10 children made her both thick skinned and tender to others. She has never approached the practice of law as a way to live an affluent life style. To Spag the practice of law is to serve those who are lost in unfamiliar territory and need a guide and an understanding ear. Her service in Legal Aide has been her life calling and she has been a hero to many.

I join with many others of the Livingston County Bar in recommending Sue Spagnuolo-Dal be recognized as an Unsung Hero by the State Bar of Michigan at its annual awards ceremony.


Bonnie J. Miller
Attorney at Law
Howell MI

MOLLISON LAW OFFICE, PLC

William R. Mollison P32442
731 S. Grand Avenue, PO Box 456
Fowlerville, Michigan 48836
Phone: 517-223-1333
Fax: 517-223-0352
Email: mollisonlawoffice@yahoo.com

DATE: February 11, 2008
TO: Kathleen M. Oemke
FROM: Mollison Law Office, PLC
William R. Mollison, J.D.
RE: Sue Spagnuolo-Dal

I whole heartedly concur with your nomination of Sue Spagnuolo-Dal for the unsung hero award. I have known Sue for over 25 years and the service she has provided to the poor families in Livingston County. I have met many of Sue's former clients and they all speak highly of her legal representation. She is well respected by all of Livingston County's legal community.

Sincerely,



William R. Mollison
Attorney at Law

WRM/jld

11

Barley & Bittner, P.C.
Attorneys at Law

James F. Barley
(1946-2003)

213 E. Grand River Avenue • Howell, Michigan 48843
(517) 546-7363 Fax (517) 546-5860
Email address: barleync@msn.com

David T. Bittner
Marcus Wilcox
(of counsel)

February 12, 2008

Kathy Oemke, Esq.
Referee, Livingston County FOC
210 S. Highlander Way
Howell, Michigan 48843

Re: Sue Spagnuolo-Dal

Dear Ms. Oemke:

Please accept this correspondence as my endorsement for Sue Spagnuolo-Dal for Michigan's unsung hero award. I have known and practiced with Sue in the courts here in Livingston County for approximately 15 years. I have used her as a mentor and sounding board as have many other attorneys in the area. Her knowledge of the law, common sense approach and practicality are attributes that I most admire.

Sue relates to and represents her clients in both a personal and professional manner. Her willingness and fortitude to represent impoverished citizens in this county is beyond admirable. Without her dedication to these less fortunate individuals, many would suffer the inequities of representing themselves in an unfamiliar and sometimes harsh justice system.

I feel comfortable knowing that the interest from my IOLTA account is being used to fund programs and staff attorneys such as Sue. If every attorney were as dedicated and conscientious as Sue, the world would be a better place.

Professionally,



David T. Bittner

RECEIVED AT THE CLERK'S
FEB 13 08

From: Tony Paruk
To: Kathleen Oemke
Date: 02/15/2008 9:52:33 AM
Subject: Unsung hero nomination

Please accept this e-mail as my letter of nomination of Sue Spagnuolo for the unsung hero award. I'm not quite sure what the award is, but I do know if anyone should receive it, Sue is the logical choice.

I've known her for 20 years now and have handled countless cases with her over that time. She certainly has more virtues than health. Not only does she have an impeccable knowledge of the legal system, but she also understands the people who are-enmeshed in it, and even more importantly, life itself.

Integrity and honesty are what you get when you deal with Sue, and when you add in her own unique sense of humor, you get an attorney who is a pleasure to deal with. She knows the legal issues and she works hard at protecting her client's rights. But she does so in a professional manner. There is no ego, there is no greed, there is a genuine concern to help a low income person receive the same legal help obtainable by those with more economic means.

When Legal Aid lost financial resources I tried to ensure her office space in the county. When her office closed, this county lost a very valuable resource. Oftentimes, the young, poor and old are those who need help going through the legal system the most. She was always there for them. And despite the travel distance from her current office and her health, she still is there for the less fortunate of Livingston County.

Without any reservation and with much happiness for her, I wholeheartedly nominate Sue Spagnuolo for the unsung hero award.

So; Michigan Bar association

JOHN PURAL
2308 BOWEN RD,
HOWELL MI. 48855
517-546-6146

13

This letter is in regards to recognition of the dedication and compassion of a sincere lady who has earned her wings in helping so many struggling individuals and families in Livingston county for a great number of years.

Sue Spagnuolo-Dal has been a beacon of hope for many in a time of emotional confusion and need in their lives. Seeking little personal gain and always willing to go the extra mile in helping and guiding someone back to stable ground, Sue has been there.

When most people in someone's life in need turn into fair-weather friends, Susan Spagnuolo puts on a rain coat and carries the umbrella for a new friend she just met.

Sue has helped me several times in the capacity of good friend and legal aid since I was first referred to her in 1997.

If I truly do have a guardian angel their name is not Clarence it is Sue Spagnuolo and this individual~~ly~~ would truly like to hear the bells ringing for Sue. ~~just one time~~

Sincerely, John Matthew Pural
Feb 12TH, 2008

Thank you Sue for all you do,

Via Cor Dios, Buenitta Seniorita

DENNIS L. BREWER
Attorney at Law
2000 Grand River Annex Ste 200
Brighton, MI 48114
(810)227-7878

February 22, 2008

Dear State Bar Assembly,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Sue Spagnola-Incc. I have known Sue for almost fifteen years. I first met her when I was a law clerk in the 53rd District Court. It was always a pleasure to work with Sue in that capacity. She was always pleasant to deal with and it seemed that she always went the "extra mile" for her client's.

I have also had the pleasure to have numerous cases with her as a practicing attorney. She is always cordial and professional. My observations of her going the "extra mile" have been confirmed in my dealings with her now. She works hard for her client's and it is always a pleasure to work with her. I believe that she is an excellent candidate for the "unsung hero" award and she justly deserves this honor.

Sincerely,



Dennis L. Brewer
Livingston County Bar Association President