Presenter Profiles
A Life in the Law – Maintaining Work/Life Balance in the Legal Profession
Feb. 2, 2012

Robert A. Mines, Ph.D. – CEO, Mines & Associates

Robert A. Mines, Ph.D., is the CEO of MINES and Associates, a national business psychology firm and the sister company of BizPsych. Dr. Mines has published professional articles and presented at international and national meetings on topics such as organizational change and break through projects, succession planning, positive psychology and business performance, strategic alliances, work stress, impairment at work, and many others.

Daniél Kimlinger – Consultant, Biz Psych

Daniél C. Kimlinger, MHA, PHR serves as a Consultant for Biz Psych. Ms. Kimlinger has assisted with numerous organizational development projects including strategic planning, interviewing, and coaching. Ms. Kimlinger completed the Executive Leadership Program at Cornell University and is currently a Ph.D. student studying Organizational Leadership at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology.

Panelists

Ken Stern (Moderator) – Partner, Stern & Curray LLC

Ken Stern divides his time between practicing immigration law with Stern & Curray LLC and his consulting work with Linx Group LLC. Ken has been an immigration attorney for more than 30 years and has counseled thousands of clients.

Ken received his bachelor’s degree from Tufts University in 1974. He received the law degree from the University of Denver in 1978. Ken completed basic and advanced training programs accredited by Coaches Training Institute. Ken has been named “Best of the Bar” in immigration law by the Denver Business Journal, has been listed in Best Lawyers in America since the inception of that publication, and has been regularly listed in 5280 Magazine as one of Denver’s top lawyers in the field of immigration law.

Ken Stern has an active executive coaching and strategic planning practice. He works with individuals, professional service organizations, companies of different sizes, and non-profit organizations in a wide variety of areas, including executive and life coaching, leadership development, succession and transition planning, performance enhancement, team building, improving organizational culture, and conflict management and resolution.

Ken Stern is also the Chairperson of the Committee for Balanced Legal Careers, which is a Committee of the Colorado Bar Association. The Committee is a coalition of a number of legal organizations and its
mission is to investigate, analyze, create and implement new models and best practices for creating balanced hours programs and culture.

Ken is married to Linda Stein and has two children. He is very active in community work, including serving on non-profit boards and helping start Temple Sinai’s free English Language Acquisition Program.

Chantell Taylor – Attorney, Hogan Lovells

Chantell Taylor is an attorney in the Denver office of Hogan Lovells US LLP, where she advises clients on government regulation, legislative and political matters, and general litigation with an overall focus on public law. Prior to joining Hogan Lovells, Chantell served as in-house general counsel for a national network of nonprofit organizations, launched and directed a nonprofit, and worked at other national law firms. Chantell has worked with corporations, nonprofit organizations, elected officials, candidates, committees, and individual donors in various campaign finance issues, including committee formation, compliance, disclosure and reporting, contribution restrictions, and litigation.

In addition to her legal career, Chantell is a certified group fitness instructor, mother of two girls ages six and eight, serves on the board of Colorado Fusion Soccer Club, and is actively involved with political campaigns.

Culver Van Der Jagt – Attorney/Founder, Van Der Jagt Law Firm

Culver Van Der Jagt is a husband of three years to his wife, Kelly. They have a girl (age 2) and a boy (age 7 months). Culver earned his BA at the University of Colorado, then obtained a masters of International Business Administration at AGSB (Switzerland), he completed his PhD dissertation on the subject of Satellite navigation in France at AGS while attending his first two years of law school. Culver graduated in 2002 with the degree from AGS in Paris and, in 2003, he earned his JD and LLM in Taxation from the University of Denver. Finally, he graduated with an LLM in Banking Law from Boston University in 2004.

Culver started a real estate company in 2003 and married in March 2005, then within months after taking an 80 hour per week job with a local law firm, he went through a divorce which ended in July 2006. Since then, he has attempted to readjust his life to live more simply in terms of his work life, but is constantly struggling with the concept.

Culver started his own Law Firm in 2009, which has grown to a well-known firm of 8 attorneys and two paralegals in two years. The firm’s premise is that attorneys get paid for the work they do, but that they can schedule their own time (and as a result, reach the balance that they feel is appropriate for the month). The firm model has worked well for the contracting attorneys and for Culver as well. Culver is now a proud husband and father who generally has weekends and evenings and two one-week international vacations per year with his family. Nevertheless, the balance is still a struggle.
Sal Quintana – Attorney/Founder, Quintana Law Firm

Sal is a native of Denver, Colorado and enjoys spending time in the great outdoors with his friends, wife, and seven-year-old son. Sal is also an active member of the Minoru Yasui American Inn of Court, DU College of Law Mentor Program Advisory Board, and the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association’s pro-bono Latino Business Legal Nights. Sal has an extensive business background in addition to his legal experience.

Prior to starting the Quintana Law Firm, LLC Sal was an associate attorney at a mid-sized Denver law firm where he practiced in the areas of real estate law, foreclosures, evictions, and contracts law. Prior to that Sal served as in-house counsel for Mines & Associates, P.C. where he advised the corporation and its executive leadership on day-to-day business activities, effectively engaged in strategic planning, employment law issues, contract drafting and negotiation, and corporate compliance and governance. During law school Sal served as a law clerk for the Colorado Supreme Court, Office of Attorney Regulation. Sal also served as a legal analyst at First Data Corporation where he engaged in-depth strategic planning and analysis in the $26 billion acquisition of First Data Corporation (the largest corporation acquisition in Colorado history).