

CLASSMATE UPDATES



KYLE LONG

Hanging in there. Still in DC. About to start my second year teaching grad students at the George Washington University. I also advise higher education administrators as a consultant for a research and analytics firm.

The pandemic has kept us home most of the time, but Stacie and I have been fortunate to hang with Mark Shreve '04 and his husband Ryan Kiernan here and there. This picture was taken during our Hamilton watch party on the 4th of July.

DANIEL PETRIE

(From The Journal Review in Crawfordsville)

Local attorney Daniel Petrie is set to replace outgoing Judge Peggy Lohorn following a decisive victory over fellow Republican Aaron Spolarich on Tuesday in the state's Primary Election. Petrie won 58 percent of votes cast, defeating Spolarich by nearly a thousand in total.

"I'd like to say thank you to all the people who supported my campaign and all the voters in Montgomery County," Petrie said after the final tally was in. "I have the utmost respect for Spolarich. He ran a strong campaign."

In May, Petrie said the biggest issues facing Crawfordsville are economic viability and drug abuse. A strong supporter of rehabilitation and treatment, he looks to use these methods to bolster the workforce in the next six years if elected judge in the fall.

Petrie is a partner of Henthorn, Harris, Weliever and Petrie law office in Crawfordsville. He has practiced law in Montgomery County since 2010.



ADAM KIRSCH

COVID postponed our wedding (previously scheduled for April 18, 2020) to a date as yet unknown. We were sad, but look forward to celebrating when (gestured broadly) all of this is over.

Did get to spend a bachelor party weekend in Cabo with fellow 2007 Brandon Ehrie as well as Elliot Vice (2006) and Sean Clerget (2009).

Karen and I did get a chocolate lab puppy during all of this (the dog was planned for 2021, but 2020 isn't the year for plans). She's great and a bright spot in a otherwise dark year. (This is when I'm supposed to say she's on Instagram at @Tails.Of.Remi).

Just celebrated the 7th anniversary of Sourced Strategies. We've now worked in 41 states on races from the White House on down. It's been quite a run but always looking for a new challenge (getting as many Democrats elected as possible being the immediate one).

PROFILES

BRANDON EHRIE - PARTNER, LEWIS WAGNER LLP



Ehrie '07 was recently named as a member of the 2020 Class of Up and Coming Lawyers by The Indiana Lawyer as part of their annual Leadership in Law recognition. Excerpts of the interview with Ehrie are below.

Brandon Ehrie's first decade in practice has been marked by several landmark cases dealing with issues from the Right to Farm Act to a niche practice in dram shop law he developed at his firm. He's risen to co-chair Lewis Wagner's Tort Practice Group and is active in ensuring an inclusive workplace through his involvement in the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. He also is active in organizations that support the arts in central Indiana, aim to address the problem of food deserts in the community, and offer nutrition education, cooking classes and inspiration for young people in Indianapolis Public Schools.

How do you balance your legal career with raising two young boys?

It's not easy. Being a father is the hardest and absolutely most rewarding thing I've ever had the privilege to do. Most days, it feels like I'm just trying to manage my career with the day-to-day of raising two young boys. I'd say time management is key, and I make a sincere effort to prioritize quality time with my family. I'm thankful that I have some flexibility in my job — I don't punch a clock like some. It's not uncommon that I have to leave the office early, but I will almost always plug back in from my home office in the evening. Also, as a litigator in private practice, I have some control over my calendar and I'm able to schedule in a way that allows me to be an involved parent.

What do you most like to do when you have free time?

Most of my free time is spent with my family, which I love. My oldest is almost 4, so it's been fun acting like a kid again with him and seeing his reactions as he experiences new things. We like to stay active, and I tend to find myself at various parks, the Children's Museum and the Indianapolis Zoo. I enjoy spending time outdoors and playing sports. I really like to golf, and I've made it a point to play more rounds this year. Otherwise, I'm waiting on warmer weather so I can find a patio downtown and enjoy drinks with colleagues and friends.

You've carved out a niche in dram shop litigation. How did you get interested in that area of law?

About six years ago I had a client come to me needing dram shop defense. To provide adequate representation, I entrenched myself in studying Indiana's dram shop laws, and the rest is history. I discovered what I perceived as a need and opportunity to become an authority in a fairly specialized area of statutorily regulated law.

If you hadn't pursued a legal career, what do you imagine you might be doing?

I would probably be teaching high school history/social sciences and coaching (football, basketball, baseball). I was drawn to history at a young age, which ironically led me to my career path. When I was 14 years old, I was lead counsel for a mock trial in my eighth-grade social studies class. I made up my mind right then and there about law. If I hadn't gone this direction, I would have most likely picked a profession where I could teach and mentor kids and coach student-athletes.

Where do you see yourself professionally in another 10 years?

I see myself continuing to build and manage my firm's ever-evolving tort practice with an eye always toward further developing professional and personal relationships. In addition to maintaining a busy litigation caseload, I see myself completing the registered civil mediator certification and hope to serve as a mediator down the road. I see myself continuing to take on leadership roles and speaking engagements within local and national professional organizations. I hope to be in a position to educate and mentor young lawyers. I'd like to leave the profession in better shape than I found it.



ZOOM TO THE FUTURE

'07 HOLDS FIRST VIRTUAL REUNION



RYAN STEPHENS



JAKE LUNDORF



DANIEL PETRIE

SMITH, DILLARD, JARED, PETRIE, STEPHEN, KIRSCH



DREW WEINTRAUT



PEMBERTON, CALDWELL, MEARA, CLAYTON, CALDWELL



ZAC BENEDICT

GIVING UPDATE

TAZ AHMED	JAMES JARED	ADRIAN STARNES
DANIEL ALBRECHT	ADAM KIRSCH	ASHLEY STEPHEN
JON ARBUCKLE	FRANK KNEZ	RYAN STEPHENS
ZAC BENEDICT	KYLE LONG	GREG STRODTMAN
JOSH BLAZEK	JAKE LUNDORF	JARED TARNEY
DON JUAN BROWN	JOHN PAUL MANALO	ADAM VAN ZEE
TONY CALDWELL	ANDREW MCKONE	GEOFF WALKER
ALLEN CHATT	JOHN MEARA	KYLE WEAVER
KEITH CLAYTON	RANDY MENDOZA	DREW WEINTRAUT
BEN CUNNINGHAM	PATRICK MILLIKAN	KAY WIDDOWS
KAIZAD DARUWALA	NATHAN MULLENDORE	TED WILLIAMS
ROSS DILLARD	SETH NUNAN	MICHAEL ZIELINSKI
BRANDON EHRIE	JOSHUA OWENS	
BEN ESBAUM	KEVIN PAZOUR	
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MATT FEIPEL	DANIEL PETRIE	
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BRETT GANN, JR.	RYAN PRITCHARD	
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CHARLIE HOOGLAND	GABE SMITH	

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