

From: no-reply@weebly.com
To: [Sellmyer, Mary](#)
Subject: New Form Entry: 2022 young lawyerNEW nomination form
Date: Thursday, April 28, 2022 12:57:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

You've just received a new submission to your [2022 young lawyerNEW nomination form](#).

[Mark as Spam](#)

Submitted Information:

Young Attorney Nominee's Name

Erin Duncan

Nominee's phone #

309-433-0067

Nominee's Date of Birth

07/23/1985

Nominee's Email

eduncan@pslegal.org

Nominee's Law Firm, Company/Organization and Address

Prairie State Legal Services

201 W. Olive St.

Bloomington, IL 61701

1. Statement in Support of Nomination

Erin is new to our community. She moved from Oregon with her husband who is a professor at Eureka College. Erin started at PSLS in July 2021. She has taken a leadership role at PSLS. She is a leader in the community and wants to help improve McLean County and serve its residents.

We are lucky to have Erin at PSLS and in McLean County.

2. Employment History - written or upload resume

See attached resume.

3. Individual achievements in the practice of law

While Erin previously practiced with a private law firm, her commitment to community service started in law school and continued throughout her career in Oregon until she landed with Prairie State in Bloomington. She holds a certificate in public interest law with a civil rights specialization. She has volunteered with a tenants' rights hotline and a police accountability coalition, conducted Know Your Rights and Legal Observer trainings, helped nonprofits with formation and business development, and was the Legal Redress chair for the Linn and Benton County branch of the NAACP. In her interdisciplinary practice, primary focused on family law, she investigated, briefed and argued issues from interpersonal violence to interstate adoption, from advocacy for transgender children in schools to the development of parenting plans for families struggling with addiction. She assisted survivors of campus sexual assault and international students facing family discrimination for pursuing higher education. She took on many cases low bono or pro bono, including high-cost, high-conflict cases for low-income clients.

4. Service to the MCBA - community - pro bono service

Erin moved to McLean County in 2021. At PSLS she works on a community-wide effort to limit the number of evictions and homelessness in McLean County. The pandemic disrupted people's incomes. This disproportionality impacted lower-income people and renters.

In McLean County, Erin co-chairs the United Way of McLean County Housing Assistance Coalition, a coalition of 20+ non-profit agencies, municipalities, and churches. The goal of the coalition is to work together to make sure that tenants in need can obtain rental assistance and services that they need and qualify for to avoid homelessness.

Erin oversees our courthouse eviction project. The courthouse eviction project is a partnership with the judiciary, Prairie State Legal Services, rental assistance agencies, and the private bar. Through this program, PSLS and its volunteers provide legal assistance and access to rental assistance for tenants facing eviction.

Special State of Illinois and federal eviction funding is likely ending soon. As a result, Erin will soon be transitioning to a new Staff Attorney role at PSLS. In her new role, Erin will be assisting people on and around the Westside of Bloomington with their legal issues. The goal of the project is to help this community with their civil legal issues to help bring them out of poverty and build their trust in the legal system.

OPTIONAL: Your name and email.

Adrian Barr - abarr@pslegal.org

Submitted Files

2. Employment History - Upload Resume or CV

[duncan_resume_2022.pdf](#)