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**To:** [Sellmyer, Mary](#)  
**Subject:** New Form Entry: 24 Lincoln Award of Excellence Nomination  
**Date:** Friday, March 8, 2024 4:02:37 PM

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You've just received a new submission to your [24 Lincoln Award of Excellence Nomination](#).

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#### **Submitted Information:**

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#### **Lincoln Award of Excellence Attorney Nominee's Name**

Brian Shoemaker

#### **Nominee's phone #**

309.766.0317

#### **Nominee's Law Firm, Company/Organization and Address**

State Farm

#### **Statement in Support of Nomination**

I've had the pleasure of working with Brian in his capacity as a State Farm pro bono volunteer and the Chair of State Farm's Pro Bono committee.

Brian has led the development of Prairie State and State Farm pro bono clinics, recruited pro bono lawyers and paralegals from State Farm's Law Department, and been one of the most active State Farm pro bono volunteers in accepting pro bono cases.

Brian is intelligent, nice, and hard-working. He embodies the attributes of this award.

#### **Individual achievements in the practice of law**

Brian is an attorney within State Farm's Corporate Law Department. In addition to providing excellent legal services, Brian has earned three insurance designations: CPCU (Charter Property Casualty Underwriter), ChFC (Chartered Financial Consultant), and CLU (Chartered Life Underwriter).

Brian has been published by The Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel (IDC) and The Chicago Bar Association Tort Reporter. Within the State Farm Corporate Law Department, Brian has been the Chair of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee in 2014; Chair of the Corporate Law Orientation Program 2015, and Co-Chair of the Topics Knowledge Bank Committee 2015-Present.

**Employment History - written or upload resume**

2012 - Present - State Farm Ins.

2006-2012 - Bruce Farrel Dorn & Associates - Attorney

2005-2006 - Krohn & Mohn - Attorney

**Service to the MCBA-the Community-pro bono service**

Brian is a dedicated pro bono attorney for Prairie State Legal Services, representing poor persons with legal problems, for free. He has represented 80 pro bono Prairie State clients.

His most recent work with Prairie State has been to assist individuals facing eviction at Prairie State's courthouse eviction clinic. Brian helped recruit other State Farm attorneys and paralegals to help Prairie State handle the backlog of evictions that were filed after the eviction moratorium was lifted after 1.5 years. Brian also assists Prairie State clients in receiving legal assistance and consultations for their options for criminal records relief when eligible and prepares petitions to expunge or seal their records. In Illinois, the sealing law was recently expanded so thousands more people are eligible to petition the court for relief. Brian assists in analyzing criminal records and prepares petitions to expunge or seal criminal records for eligible participants. Most of the time, this expungement program allows participants the opportunity to find employment they might not otherwise qualify.

Brian is active with Bloomington-Normal Sunrise Rotary.

Brian has served as the Youth Services Chair for the Bloomington-Normal Sunrise Rotary where he oversaw a large network of youth-focused activity supported by Sunrise Rotary. As Youth Services Chair, Brian also provides consultation and support for Interact, Earlyact, RYLA, and Friends Forever. Brian also served as a co-chair of Brats & Bags 2019, Sunrise Rotary's annual fundraiser. This event brought in over \$25,000, which went to support Midwest Food Bank and the Boys and Girls Club of Bloomington-Normal.

Brian graduated from the McLean County Chamber of Commerce Leadership McLean County program and now volunteers with that program.

**OPTIONAL: Your name and email.**

Adrian Barr - [abarr@pslegal.org](mailto:abarr@pslegal.org)

