

Justice Initiatives Announces New Board Member

(Charlotte, NC) January 3, 2014 – Justice Initiatives is pleased to welcome Andy Habenicht to its Board of Directors. Andy is a graduate of George Mason School of Law. Andy began his legal career in Charlotte with Kennedy, Covington, Lobdell & Hickman LLP, and continued his practice when the firm combined with K&L Gates LLP. In 2010, Andy joined TIAA-CREF in Charlotte, where he is currently Associate General Counsel with the firm’s Employment, Labor, and Benefits Law group. With TIAA-CREF, Andy counsels internal business clients on a broad spectrum of labor and employment issues and best practices. Andy is a current member of the North Carolina Bar Association Labor & Employment Section Council where he also serves as Co-Chair of CLE Committee. Andy has contributed his time to a variety of local and community groups in his career, and currently assists Legal Aid of North Carolina in its pro bono Lawyer on the Line program.

Tom Myrick, Board Chair, of Justice Initiatives stated: “Andy’s experience makes him perfectly suited for advancing the mission of our organization and overall justice system. His legal education, judicial branch internship and corporate experience allow him to see the inextricable link between a healthy court system and economic prosperity for businesses and the community at large.”

Justice Initiatives was formed in 2004 by a group of civic leaders, lawyers, business owners and concerned citizens in North Carolina who understand the rule of law is the bedrock of our civilized society, that a healthy court system is critical to safeguarding this foundation and that the effective and efficient administration of justice is essential to a strong, prosperous and vibrant community.

We develop programming to address the deficits in the public’s understanding and appreciation for the rule of law and the role of courts in our republican form of government. We demonstrate the interconnectedness between each individual’s and each community’s quality of life and the courts’ ability to fairly adjudicate legal rights. We seek to ensure that the judicial branch receives the funding it needs to provide timely access to justice for all and defend against policies that undermine the independence, fairness, or integrity of the courts. We raise money to use as seed funding to initiate smarter and innovative judicial programs and services that build public trust and confidence in our courts and we study new ideas about justice and our courts with our academic partners.

To learn more please visit www.justiceinitiatives.org or email administration@justiceinitiatives.org.