

Equal Justice Foundation

455 Bear Creek Road

Colorado Springs, CO 80906-5820



2016 Annual Report

Primary Web Site

Domestic Violence Against Men in Colorado:

Facebook

Email:

Help Desk Email:

Help Desk Telephone (voice only):

ejfi.org

dvmen.org

facebook.com/ejfi.org

comments@ejfi.org

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Equal Justice Foundation *2016 Annual Report*

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Equal Justice Foundation

2016 Annual Report

What is the Equal Justice Foundation?

The Equal Justice Foundation is chartered and steadfastly stands for:

- The defense of human and individual rights as secured by law;
- The elimination or reduction of prejudice and discrimination; and
- To promote equal treatment of both sexes in custom and under the law.

Toward these goals the Foundation undertakes charitable acts; develops, provides and disseminates educational materials; and initiates and publishes scientific studies.

The Equal Justice Foundation has no paid staff. Financially the Foundation is entirely supported by members dues and contributions and such funds are used solely for essential expenses, e.g., computers and office supplies, and in support of charitable efforts with veterans.

2015 was our fifteenth year of continuous operations.

Mission

The Equal Justice Foundation is a nonprofit organization of citizens from all walks of life incorporated in February 2001 and working to:

- Reduce family violence.
- Preserve families and marriages.
- Restore due process.
- Reverse the loss of our civil liberties.
- Ensure equality for all citizens before the bar, especially the disabled.
- Establish judicial accountability.
- Reestablish the rule of law.
- Preserve the secret ballot.
- Ensure transparent, fair, and honest elections.
- Make the Bill of Rights a living document in our time.

Our viewpoints and findings are presented by an eclectic array of *male* and *female* authors from a wide variety of fields, backgrounds, and positions on the issues, including many comments from EJP members.

Family and intimate partner violence

Help for abused men and women

As it has from its beginning in 1999 the Equal Justice Foundation (EJF) performs research intended to reduce family violence of all forms regardless of sex, gender orientation, age, religion, race, or ethnicity. Note that our objective is to fix the problem, not the blame. The results of our research are reported on our widely used [Domestic Violence Against Men](#) and [Global Domestic Violence](#) web sites.

We provide one of the very few programs offering succor to abused men, as well as women. The support we provide is primarily web based in order to reach the broadest possible audience with our very limited resources. Our flyers on domestic violence and protection orders are consistently downloaded well [over 3,000 times per month](#) and that has proven to be a more effective way to reach our intended audience than attempting individual assistance in most cases.

However, one or two individuals a week contact the Foundation seeking personal help. Usually they are having problems with domestic violence or other family issues associated with post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injuries (TBI), or other issues commonly related to their military service.

As an exception, and when possible, EJF members and both active-duty and discharged veterans from all branches of the Armed Forces were provided help when possible prior to late 2016. Such personal assistance requires time and patience. For over a decade the Foundation has been seeking an individual to man a separate help desk. In late 2016 Emilian Wojcik, a medically-retired sergeant first class, U.S. Army Special Forces, stepped up. Individuals can now reach the [EJF Help Desk](#) by telephone at (719) 640-8895 (voice only, no text) or by email at help@ejfi.org.

The Foundation frequently intercedes with police, district attorneys, courts, Veteran Administration, defense attorneys, or other veteran support groups on behalf of victims of partner and government tyranny.

The Foundation also conducts extensive research on the demographics¹ and other factors involved in intimate partner violence. Our research on intimate partner violence is extensively used in all 50 states and at least 26 other countries. For example, in 2014 the Maine Supreme Court ruled that their domestic violence laws violated the state constitution. The defense attorney writing the brief contacted Dr. Corry for assistance and research information, not the first or last time attorneys and their staff have contacted the Foundation for information, examples, and references.

Reducing family violence

Our objective is to fix the problem, not the blame.

Family violence seldom occurs in a vacuum. Typically there are many precursors, ranging from mental and emotional disorders, biological factors, family finances, substance abuse, the

1.Data and analyses for 1998 through 2010 are available at dvmen.org/dv-90.htm and following sections. Available resources have limited our ability to continue this tabulation past 2010.

stress of combat, and accidents or wounds such as a blow to the head, that negatively affect family relationships.

The Equal Justice Foundation seeks to identify these factors and minimize or eliminate the effects whenever possible in order to reduce family conflicts. It is of note that in our experience incarceration and criminal convictions have virtually always made problems worse, often completely destroying the family. Sadly, children suffer the most in these situations.

Our veteran arrest studies demonstrate that such arrests and convictions are criminogenic.

Individuals, both male and female, and families use EJF research to help them sort out their problems, show them how to protect themselves, direct them to appropriate agencies, find them competent legal counsel, etc. By reducing family violence we help to preserve families and marriages and keep children with their parents or close relatives, e.g., their grandparents, aunts or uncles, in most situations.

Often the personal stories of those who seek help from us are used, with their permission, to illustrate the problems and provide guidance to those with similar issues.²

The Foundation also advocates for reform with educational material and information with various groups, media, agencies, bar associations, attorneys, judges, district attorneys, and legislators.

Helping abused or disabled men and women

Our original mission, and a major portion of our continuing efforts, is to provide information and what assistance we are able to men and women, often disabled, who are abused by their intimate partners or are caught up in the nightmare of a dysfunctional legal system.

- *Most often the individual simply needs some information*, or an explanation of the situation they find themselves in, and what options they have. In most cases the information they need is available on our web sites and members simply need some guidance as to where to find what they need.
- *Help for disabled abuse victims.* In addition to our help desk, EJF VP Sheryle Hutter also works with the Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition and, together with her son Don who is also an EJF member, provides advice and help insofar as possible for disabled citizens sucked into the maw of the domestic violence, divorce, and child protection industries.
- *Help for disabled veterans.* When possible our [help desk](#) works directly with disabled veterans and their partners to assist them, when possible, with whatever problems they face.

The Equal Justice Foundation works with the Veterans Administration, psychiatrists, psychologists, domestic violence treatment providers, Army and Air Force officers on a number of military bases, and other community groups to find both active-duty and military veterans the help they need whenever possible.

- *The Equal Justice Foundation is member supported and works as a cooperative with its members.* In many cases a member asking for help will be referred to another member who lives near them who has experience with the issues the individual is dealing with on a local

2.For examples see In Women's Own Words — Chapter 5 at www.ejfi.org/DV/dv.htm.

level. In such cases our members can often provide the needed advice and assistance on a volunteer basis.

Abused men

While not a statistically valid sample, the abused men we have helped over the years shows their problems tend to cluster into specific types. By identifying these patterns with our research it is sometimes possible to forestall their occurrence in current and future cases.

Abused men who contact us, or whose problems are brought to us by those close to them, have typically:

- *Lost their jobs, homes, and professional licenses.* This category includes cases where the men lost their security clearances or could no longer carry a gun (affects police, security guards, and military particularly in Colorado Springs). We also have many members who were medical doctors, school teachers, engineers, etc., whose lives have been destroyed by false and malicious allegations.
- *Are now destitute and often living on the streets, in their car, with relatives, or in friend's homes.*
- *Called the police because she attacked him, usually with a weapon, and the police came and arrested him, or made no arrest at all.* For revenge, she then commonly called the police and claimed he attacked her, and the police then arrested him. To add credence to her claim she will commonly scratch or bruise herself, or break things in the home before the police arrive.
- *Called the police because she was abusing the children and, when he tried to protect the little ones, she attacked him.* When the police were called they arrested him and the courts subsequently gave her full custody of the children she is abusing.
- *Found evidence his wife was having an affair.* She then charged him with domestic violence or got a restraining order to cover her adultery. By doing so she got possession of the kids, the house, the car, the checking account, and everything else he owned. For married men this is the largest single grouping with about 50% of married men who contact us falling in this category. More than half the men we've heard from were married or they were living together (common law).
- *Found he is being stalked by a former wife or girlfriend who is using the legal system to harass him with DV charges and restraining orders in addition to the phone calls, vandalism, visitation games, etc., she is playing.* Often when she finds him she uses her cell phone to call police and claim he has violated the restraining order and has him arrested. A variation on this are vindictive girlfriends who get a restraining order that keeps a man from his own home or apartment, which she then often trashes or steals everything out of.
- *Have lost all contact with their children for months and years.* Commonly they were arrested or harassed if they've tried to contact their children. Often the never see the children again until the kids reach age 18, if then.
- *Found the woman has an uncontrollable substance abuse problem, a mental disorder, or both, and is using the legal system, victim's advocates, and women's shelters to harass and charge him with various false allegations.*
- *Found that their military or police service is used against them in court and they are addressed as "trained killers."* Such *ad hominem* attacks seem to be most common against

men who have served in the elite branches of the military, e.g., Marines, Seals, Special Forces (Green Berets), and Rangers.

- *Have spent from three months to ten years or more in jail though they had no police record prior to meeting this woman and very often there is no evidence of violence whatsoever.* Includes cases where men lost their jobs because of the false allegations she made against them, were laid off, or the court “*imputed*” income they did not have and could not pay child support, and they were jailed for contempt of court (debtor’s prison).
- *Are suffering from one or more symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), virtually without exception.* Sleeplessness, paranoia, nervousness, nightmares, impotence, physical or mental breakdowns, etc., are so common we hardly even ask about them, and simply take them as a given and recommend treatment. Many men were, or have become physically disabled by the abuse and false allegations against them. Episodes of post traumatic stress (PTSD) are indistinguishable from domestic violence under current laws and all too often results in an arrest.

Abused women

Women who contact the Equal Justice Foundation for assistance are quite frequently suffering the same sorts of problems as tabulated above for men with simply the gender reversed. That is particularly true for problems women have with a dysfunctional legal system.

Shelters for abused women do not address these common issues and we have numerous examples where shelters and other advocacy groups have worsened the woman’s problems before they contacted us for help.³

The problems women face with current facilities can’t be fixed until they have been documented. Toward that goal the EJF has posted numerous vignettes from abused women who have contacted the Foundation for help. To further our efforts they then agreed to have their stories published [**In Women’s Own Words**](#) describing the nightmares they have been through.

Unbiased help to all men and women

The above is a fair summary of what many of the men and women who make up our clientele face. Apparently the EJF is one of the few groups that also offers unbiased help to homosexual men and women who are, in many cases given our location in Colorado Springs with five military bases, military veterans.

Making people aware of the problems

As there is very little help available for abused men, abusive women, or men and women and children whose families have been destroyed by the legal system and DV industry, the basic problem is to make citizens aware of what they need to do to help themselves. That is done in several ways:

3. With the help of volunteers the EJF has documented many of the problems with shelters for battered women. See Chapter 6 at ejfi.org/DV/dv.htm.

- *The EJF partners with members and groups* that have similar goals and missions. Referrals for abused men and women are frequently exchanged with other groups to ensure individuals receive the best care and advice possible.
- *Locations of shelters for men and women.* Links are provided to the few groups across the United States, and in other countries that provide direct assistance and shelter to *both* men and women.⁴
- *Encyclopedic web sites.* Our original web site, Domestic Violence Against Men in Colorado, at *dvmen.org* contains sixteen chapters on such topics as how to deal with domestic violence, extensive information on protection orders, etc., and is used by thousands of men and women every day.

In addition, the EJF parent web site, *ejfi.org*, contains additional research and information on domestic violence as well as five other books on problems as fundamental as preserving our civilization, families and marriage, courts and civil liberties, prohibitions and the war on drugs, and vote fraud and election issues. Additional sections on finding help, the saga of Dr. Timothy Emerson⁵ in defense of the Second Amendment, newsletters and press releases, and what people can do to help are also included.

- *Public presentations* are made before various groups, commissions, and committees; and through various media outlets, e.g., newspapers and radio talk shows, as a result of which personal contact is often made with abused men and women.
- *A newsletter is published* several times a year and these are widely reposted and forwarded to other groups and individuals.⁶
- *Word of mouth* has proven to be very effective in spreading our message and it is not uncommon for someone to contact us who has not seen our web sites, brochures, or newsletters.
- *Flyers on the facts about what to do if charged with domestic violence⁷ or placed under a restraining order⁸* are downloaded from our web site by more than 3,000 people a month.
- *EJF research is widely reposted.* In many cases EJF members, students, attorneys, or other groups use our research and information to produce handouts to fit their local situation or repost our research on their web sites. Such repostings are found on web sites all around the world and a number of attorneys link directly to our web sites.

What the Foundation accomplishes

Primary assistance is provided by information on our web sites and the many flyers provided thereon. Individuals needing personal help can now contact the help desk by email, telephone, personal contact, or office visits. Once contact is established notice is given that EJF membership is required for basic assistance. That requirement has proven a necessity both in terms of

4. See list of shelters that help both men and women at ejfi.org/Help/Help-3.htm#abusedmen.

5. Dr. Emerson's story is available at ejfi.org/emerson.htm.

6. Past newsletters and press releases are available at ejfi.org/Press_releases.htm.

7. See ejfi.org/PDF/Facts-Domestic%20violence.pdf

8. See ejfi.org/PDF/Facts-Restraining%20orders.pdf

supporting the Foundation. Dr. Corry also provides personal consultation if desired at an hourly rate.

- If an individual joins the Foundation some consultation is required to determine what their problems are, and what help, if any, we might be able to offer to our members and contributors. Otherwise they are referred to the public information and research available on the EJF web sites.
- *Help for disabled abuse victims.* The Foundation has extensive and personal experience dealing with disabled victims of abuse of many different kinds. In recent years conservatorship/guardianship fraud and associated elder abuse cases have absorbed a great deal of our efforts. Our experience dealing with disabled veterans subject to intimate partner and abuse by the justice system continues to increase. Issues with child abuse, or often the lack thereof and abuse of parents by child “*protective*” services (CPS) are always before us.
- *In many cases the person needs an attorney.* The EJF maintains an extensive published list of cooperating attorneys, plus a private list of less-than competent attorneys, to try and insure citizens receive informed and comprehensive legal representation. To ensure impartiality the Equal Justice Foundation receives no fees for attorney listings.

Many attorneys link to our web sites and often reproduce critical information and research we provide on their web sites.

The EJF also works with a number of prosecutors, criminal defense, and family law attorneys throughout Colorado.

It is also well worth noting that the Equal Justice Foundation has become the place attorneys turn to for expert advice when they are charged with domestic violence or subjected to restraining orders.

In other cases we help members find a private investigator or a paralegal to assist them, or in cases of paternity fraud, how, when, and where to get court-acceptable DNA genetic testing done.

- *Abused men and women often simply want their story to be heard.* Women and men have often told us that they simply want their stories to be heard, and their anguish known so that others understand they are not alone.

We publish many such stories in the hope that other men and women can avoid the trauma and heartbreak of an abusive relationship. Such stories also provide much needed information on how individual situations have been resolved and what mistakes to avoid.

- *And there are always the depressing cases where nothing can be done to help.* That is usually because the individuals have waited too long to contact us or our resources are simply stretched too thin. Time after time people contact the EJF after spending their life savings on incompetent, and all-too-often dishonest attorneys, with problems that could have been readily, or much more inexpensively solved or avoided.

Cases where men and women have been coerced into a plea bargain without any awareness of the dire and irreversible consequences to their families, children, and marriage are particularly frustrating.

It needs to be emphasized that, sadly, many of the problems brought to the Equal Justice Foundation have no solution that will save their children, families, and, all too often, their lives.

Marriage and families

Preserving families and marriage

It has always been a fundamental tenet of the Equal Justice Foundation, and substantiated in numerous research studies, that children need both parents in order to develop into healthy, educated, and productive citizens. We continue to work toward keeping children with their biological parents whenever possible or with close relatives, e.g., grandparents, when circumstances or disabilities make it impossible for parents to care directly for their sons and daughters.

However, it must be admitted that we are losing these battles. For years the EJF has pointed out that under current laws a man has to be functionally insane to marry and a drooling idiot to sire a child. As awareness spreads, more and more men are avoiding marriage and women are becoming single mothers, an unsustainable trend if our civilization is to survive.

For couples, both hetero- and homo-sexual who wish to live together in a permanent manner and acquire property and raise children, we advise drawing up a revocable living trust defining in advance how they will respond to the various contingencies and disasters that might occur in their relationship. Such a revocable trust gives each party a contract with defined, enforceable legal rights without putting them into the maw of the family “*justice*” system if the relationship dissolves.

Protecting children

The Foundation may be called on to help parents, particularly military families, who have come in contact with their county Department of Human Services (DHS), notably child protective services (CPS).

Such problems frequently arise as the result of domestic violence (often associated with PTSD/TBI), divorce, custody disputes, poverty, etc. Disgustingly, child abuse has become a standard add-on charge when domestic violence is alleged. That invariably gives CPS an opening wedge to interfere with a family’s children, often disastrously.

The EJF provides, advice and whatever assistance we can, and may intercede with DHS, county commissioners, state representatives, and other officials on behalf of the parents. But, as best we can tell, the situation has gotten worse with time and the laws and “*justice*” system are proving to be counterproductive if a solution to these problems is the objective.

CPS in many counties across America have become adoption rings using legalized kidnapping to steal children from parents over the least sign of trouble in the family, or simply inventing excuses, and even on no more basis than an anonymous phone call. And these disgusting practices are fueled by funding from an increasingly socialist/Marxist government that presumes the State can do a better job of raising children than biological parents.

The Equal Justice Foundation stands opposed to these practices and underlying ideology.

Paternity fraud

For well over a decade the Equal Justice Foundation has been fighting for the rights of men and women enslaved by paternity fraud wherein a court has ordered a man to involuntarily

support children he is not the biological father of, and who never or no longer reside in his home. This practice is a modern form of slavery under color of law.

Since DNA paternity testing has become readily available approximately 30% of these tests have consistently shown the man tested is not the father of the child, or children in question.

Often times paternity fraud makes it impossible for a man to support his biological children, and wives are often forced to help pay support for children who have no relation to their husband.

In many cases we help members find a private investigator or a paralegal to assist them in cases of paternity fraud, and how, when, and where to get DNA genetic testing done. But all too often non-payment of the court-ordered support costs them the loss of their drivers and professional licenses and lands men in debtor's prison.

Marriage fraud

Years of experience and data collected by federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) have shown that roughly one-third of marriages by American men to foreign women are fraudulent and used simply to gain immigrant or citizenship in the United States. But there are many variants on this con.

Typically marriage fraud involves a foreign bride coming to America and after six months or so filing charges of domestic violence against her American husband. Under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) ICE is then required to immediately issue her a Green Card granting her residency status and expedite her citizenship application.

Former EJF Director John Sampson is a retired federal officer formerly with ICE who investigated marriage fraud. Presently he operates [CSI Consulting and Investigations](#) helping men and women nationwide stung by such fraudulent marriages.

Work with the disabled community

EJF Vice President Sheryle Hutter, together with several other EJF members, works throughout the state to help disabled citizens. In 2008 her efforts were recognized by two statewide awards. Mrs. Hutter has also served on the board of the Colorado Cross Disability Coalition and has received a number of awards for her work with the Special Olympics.

Unfortunately her efforts have been carried forward at a considerably slower pace since 2014 due to family health issues but she continues to fight on.

Mental health problems

The EJF has extensive experience dealing with cases of PTSD and TBI in both military and civilians, as well as a number of personality disorders frequently associated with intimate partner violence. Research, described below, has shown that manifestations of PTSD and TBI are indistinguishable from domestic violence under current laws. Some studies suggest there is an 80% chance someone with moderate to severe PTSD will commit an act of violence against an intimate partner within a year without intervention.

The question for society is should that intervention be by the criminal justice system or should we treat the problem at its source? The EJF favors the latter but feminists and legislators have embedded the former in draconian and inflexible laws.

We also work with attorneys to help them recognize and deal with mental health problems in clients and opponents.

The Foundation also works with disabled veterans and active-duty military to help them find food, shelter, and physical and mental health care in cooperation with other agencies.

As a result of our work the Veterans Administration, defense attorneys, and military commands often refer veterans to the Equal Justice Foundation for assistance.

Dysfunctional courts

The more we look the worse the courts appear. Attorney Linda Kennedy's 2001 essay [Holodeck Law — Litigation Vortex](#), for which she was disbarred, is probably the best overall review of the chimera our courts have become. Unfortunately, the performance of our courts only seems to grow worse and dockets more crowded as ever more laws and regulations are imposed on an overburdened citizenry.

The most disgusting courts the Equal Justice Foundation has encountered are probate courts. To all outward appearances these courts are dedicated to fleecing the elderly and disabled in cahoots with a cohort of jackal attorneys and judges/magistrates. We have only been able to document a few of the many cases of slime that we have seen. We have provided a [cook book](#) on how a fraudulent guardianship/conservatorship commences and continues that may help some avoid the chasm and catastrophe that often result in going before a probate court.

In 2014 Boise, Idaho, law enforcement officer Doug Traubel and Dr. Corry published an extensive [treatise on social versus criminal justice](#) and the many pitfalls therein. They painted a portrait showing a judiciary that, on the whole, is dysfunctional, discriminatory, and tends to put social justice above the Constitution and criminal law.

We also reposted a warning by Columbia law professor Phillip Hamburger about [the danger of administrative law](#). In these cases the government agency both appoints and pays the judges chosen to sit in judgment of a citizen's violations of the rules and regulations of that agency. Prof. Hamburger argues convincingly that the rise of administrative law in the United States is essentially a re-emergence of the absolute power practiced by pre-modern kings. Rather than a modern necessity, it is a latter-day version of a recurring threat — a threat inherent in human nature and in the temptations of power.

Outraged citizens perennially contact the EJF about the [admission of perjury and hearsay](#) in the courts. Since judges virtually always ignore perjury, no matter how blatant, it often seems the first and best liar wins. And subornation of perjury isn't even considered criminal, at least in Colorado. As a result swearing an oath to tell the truth and nothing but the truth has become a sick joke.

[Jeff Berwick](#) points out that today a citizen, particularly a man, calls the police at great risk to their life, limb, and fortune. He notes that police no longer consider it their job to protect you. They used to at least pay lip service to "*keeping the peace*," but today it is clear their job is to enforce the law. In fascist-communist America, the law stopped being about serving and

protecting decades ago. The law now is about the expansion of state power and control. Since no one can know the multitude of laws, or understand most of them, enforcing the “law” becomes whatever the jackbooted thugs most police have become say it is. And warrants are quaint relics of the past with any objection or resistance by a citizen likely to get them shot.

The only vestige of justice a citizen is likely to find in a court today is trial by jury.

Attempting to reverse this trend, in 2015 the EJF began working with our local sheriff in El Paso County, Colorado, to reinstitute a **peace officer** <—> **public safety** approach rather than the current failed **law enforcement** —> **arrest** —> **convict** approach that destroys the lives of so many for so little and demonstrably fails to provide for public safety.

Rogue district attorneys

In just the new millennium the district attorneys from Colorado’s 3rd, 7th and 12th judicial districts have been caught out, although many would say these are just a few of the large chunks floating in the septic tank.

Myrl Serra — We have collected the news stories⁹ about the disgraceful and criminal behavior of 7th Judicial District Attorney Myrl Serra. For gross sexual harassment of three women in his office he was allowed to take a plea bargain and was sentenced to just two months in the county jail, four years probation, and disbarred.

Many commented that this light sentence was used partly by the courts to conceal judicial misconduct.

Frank Ruybalid — The news stories about the incredible incompetence of 3rd Judicial District Attorney Frank Ruybalid have also been assembled.¹⁰ The Colorado Supreme Court’s Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel, in one of the rare cases where it has been literally forced into disciplining an attorney, reached a settlement in its probe of complaints about Ruybalid’s office.

Illustrating the despicable state of the justice system, Colorado’s 3rd Judicial District Attorney Frank Ruybalid settled the state ethics investigation of his office by finally admitting that he mishandled a number of prosecutions that ended up being dismissed — cases ranging from theft and drugs to sexual assault and second-degree murder.

Under the terms of the agreement, Ruybalid admitted to thirteen violations of the state’s rules for professional conduct of attorneys. Presiding disciplinary judge William Lucero ordered that Ruybalid’s law license be suspended for six months — then suspended the suspension, on the proviso that Ruybalid complete a 23-month period of probation. The probation conditions include a “*robust audit*” of Ruybalid’s office and ongoing monitoring and review of his caseload. Ruybalid will also be required to pay \$23,000 in court costs and **attend a one-day ethics course**. In exchange for his admission of misconduct, numerous other claims of violations by Ruybalid in several other prosecutions were dropped.

9.Stories about Myrl Serra available at dvmen.org/PDF/Myrl_Serra_7th_JD_DA.pdf.

10.Documentation of DA Frank Ruybalid’s incompetence is collected at dvmen.org/PDF/3rdJD-DA_Ruybalid_final.pdf.

The remaining admissions include ignoring court orders and failing to turn over discovery to the defense in seven criminal prosecutions that were later voluntarily dismissed by Ruybalid or tossed by judges; in one, a theft defendant pled guilty to a misdemeanor but several felony charges were dropped. In nine other cases that were handled — make that mishandled — by inexperienced deputies, Ruybalid admitted that he failed to properly supervise his employees.

These are not the best of times for the criminal justice system in Trinidad near Colorado's southern border. The city and two of its police detectives are being sued by the ACLU of Colorado, claiming the detectives fabricated and misrepresented evidence in a 2013 drug investigation that led to the arrests of forty people — a misbegotten operation involving fake drugs and unreliable informants that resulted in all forty cases being dismissed.

All of the cases in the original complaint against Ruybalid predate the drug roundup of 2013 that's now the target of the ACLU lawsuit, but they are not unrelated. Three of the cases that involve violations by Ruybalid were drug cases in which key information about the confidential informant — that theft charges against him had been dropped, that he was using heroin while working for the police, that law enforcement was paying his rent during the sting operation — were not properly disclosed to the defense.

Despite his outrageous incompetence, Ruybalid was left in office to complete his second term as district attorney, which ends in January 2017.

Veteran arrests, trauma courts, homelessness, suicide

In 2008 the Equal Justice Foundation helped pioneer a veteran court in Colorado's Fourth Judicial District (El Paso and Teller counties) to support the thousands of veterans and active-duty military in the area who become involved with civilian courts as a direct or indirect result of their military service and stress, e.g., PTSD and TBI. In 2010 the Foundation worked to pass enabling legislation for veteran courts statewide and in 2010 the first veteran court in Colorado was stood up.

Veteran treatment courts (VTC) have continued to be added throughout Colorado since then. Denver added a VTC in 2011, Douglas County in 2013; Adams and Jefferson counties in 2014; and Pueblo County in 2015. However, in all these courts a veteran is required to plead guilty to whatever fanciful charge(s) the district attorney comes up with before they can be admitted. While the VTC may arrange for treatment and keep the veteran out of jail, they are still left with a criminal conviction and all the pains and penalties thereof.

In our experience these veteran courts have proven to be little more than a dog-and-pony show that exist more for propaganda purposes than actual help to veterans in general.

Implementation of functional veteran courts is critically dependent on accurate demographic information. However, at the beginning no one had any idea how many veterans were being arrested or on what charges. In July 2010 we began tabulating veteran arrests in El Paso County based on daily arrest reports provided by the sheriff. In February 2011 we completed an initial analysis of the first 1,000 veteran arrests,¹¹ and in 2012 we prepared a report on the veteran arrests in El Paso County based on data from the entire year of 2011. After review by a number of

11. The report is available at ejfi.org/PDF/EPSO_vet_arrest_report.pdf.

combat veterans we published that report in April 2013. In January 2015 we published a five part series on why veterans can't get jobs.¹²

Daily tabulation of veteran arrests in El Paso County, Colorado, continued through 2016. By the end of the year data on some 10,000 veterans who had been arrested some 17,000 times had been accumulated. Current plans are to continue veteran arrest data collection through 2017 and issue a report then on what we have learned.

Having tabulated veteran arrest data since July 2010 what we are finding is a cycle of **PTSD/TBI** → **Arrest** → **Conviction** → **Homelessness** → **Suicide**. We regard "Suicide" as early death of a veteran from any of many causes, e.g., drinking themselves to death, driving into a tree or embankment at speed, drug interactions from prescription drugs, suicide by cop, etc., as well as cases where the coroner rules death by suicide. There is also correlation between traumatic brain injuries and suicide.

A major objective of our efforts is to try and stop this downward spiral into alcoholism, homelessness, incarceration, and suicide many veterans are enduring in the present "justice" system.

We find that 30% of veteran arrests are for domestic violence and another 30% are in jail on traffic violations. While the number of veterans arrested who are simply common criminals is unknown, a reasonable estimate would suggest only 20% to 40% of those arrested fall into that category. The rest appear to be getting arrested primarily as a result of injuries and trauma suffered during their military service as best we can determine.

We continue to attempt to document how many veterans have been admitted to the El Paso County veteran trauma court, not an easy task. Unfortunately, as best we can determine only about 350 veterans had been admitted out of some 10,000 known veterans arrested, or just 3.5%. An effective veteran court in El Paso County would have admitted between 6,000 and 8,000 veterans by the end of 2016.

In 2014 we also began integrating the arrest data with the El Paso County Coroner's data in an attempt to track how many veterans are first arrested and then end up in the morgue, as well as from what causes. In December 2015 we published a Preliminary Investigation of Veteran Deaths in El Paso County¹³ documenting the known manner of death of 83 veterans known to have previously been incarcerated in the county jail. It is assumed there is at least a five-year lag between the time a veteran is first arrested and their demise. If that assumption is valid we are just beginning to see the effects of a veteran arrest on their mortality.

The objective of our research is to find means that supersede the ineffective crime and punishment procedure currently used with a system that provides for public safety while preserving civil liberties, and providing effective treatment for veterans, and others, suffering from trauma and injuries.

Not an easy task!

In one small step to help homeless veterans at the [Crawford House](#) in Colorado Springs, in cooperation with the [Colorado Institute of Massage Therapy \(CIMT\)](#) and the Veterans Administration the Equal Justice Foundation has established a program providing free massages

12. See Why Veterans Can't Get Jobs at ejfi.org/Courts/Courts-49.htm.

13. For veteran deaths in El Paso County, Colorado see ejfi.org/Courts/Courts-50.htm.

for homeless veterans in a substance abuse program at the VA Clinic. On Tuesday afternoons the veterans are taken for a free massage at CIMT as part of their therapy. Additionally, working with CIMT and very generous donations from an EJF member, we were able to purchase a high-end massage chair for use by veterans whose injuries and trauma don't permit a human massage. In 2017 we hope to expand this program for more homeless veterans and also allow those who have completed the substance abuse program to continue receiving free massages as CIMT students use these as part of their professional training.

Colorado judges — Citizens review

The Equal Justice Foundation continues to review the conduct of Colorado judges and publish reviews of misconduct as well as recognizing exemplary service.

In many cases an EJF officer, director, or member attends court hearings with those needing assistance to provide reassurance, act as witnesses, and document judicial behavior. Other EJF members do courtwatching as their time and interest permit. The Foundation provides a standard form for evaluating courts and child protective services that has been widely adopted in Colorado and across the United States.¹⁴ When appropriate, completed forms are published and linked to the responsible judge.

Colorado has judicial review commissions in each of the 22 judicial districts as well as for the Supreme and Appeals courts. State judges are required to submit to a review by these commissions at intervals fixed by statute if they intend to remain on the bench. Reviews of all judges standing for retention during a given election cycle are published several months prior to the election. These reviews include a survey of attorneys in the district who vote Retain or Do Not Retain for each judge being reviewed.

Using the attorney reviews as a basis, prior to the November 2012 election the Foundation published a review of judicial performance in Colorado state courts.¹⁵ That review was well received and we repeated the process for the [November 2014 election](#) and again in the [2016 election](#).

What we do is distribute a table showing how both the judicial review commissions and the EJF/attorneys voted to retain or not retain all judges standing for retention in that election to all Colorado residents on our mailing list. Using the same standard of how attorneys voted we went back and updated our chapter on [Colorado Judges — Citizen's Review](#) to reflect all available judicial performance reviews.

It is reasonable to question how effective this method is as only one judge, Ben McClelland in the 14th Judicial District, was voted off the bench in the 2014 election. In the 2016 election citizens again only voted one judge off the bench, Jill-Ellyn Straus in the 17th Judicial District, although by the criteria used by the EJF 34 of the 108 judges should not have been retained. However, of the 46 district judges who stood for retention in 2010, 19 (41%) did not stand for retention in 2016, their next mandatory review period.

14.A courtwatching form is available at [ejfi.org/PDF/Courtwatcher form.pdf](http://ejfi.org/PDF/Courtwatcher_form.pdf) that is known to be used across the country, as well as in Colorado.

15.This table is available at dvmn.org/PDF/2012_CO_judicial_performance.pdf.

We also worked with another group, [Clear The Bench](#), who publish additional information on Colorado judges.

The expectation is that as familiarity with this effort grows we will have a greater impact in future elections. And given the publicity a number of judges simply decide not to stand for retention, which we document on our [Colorado Judges — Citizen's Review chapter](#).

Amicus curiae briefs

A recurring issue are requests that the Equal Justice Foundation provide amicus curiae briefs in court cases related to our mission. This question was presented and debated with the EJF Board at the November 4, 2006, fall meeting and our position remains unchanged.

As a result of the discussion and prior experience the following criteria and policy for amicus curiae briefs has been agreed to by the EJF Board:

1. The requester must have been an EJF member for at least one year prior to making the request.
2. There must be clear-cut circumstances defining why this is an exceptional case that merits the support of the EJF.
3. The case should be in federal court although state court cases might be considered.
4. Member must present their case for consideration by the entire EJF Board.

Prohibitions and the War on Drugs

Since its inception the Equal Justice Foundation has stood in opposition to the War on Drugs and, in fact, all prohibitions. Mala prohibita laws seldom work and since the ratification of the 21st Amendment in 1933 repealing prohibition there has been no constitutional basis for such laws in the United States.

In addition to our stand for individual freedom, our opposition to Nixon's 1972 arbitrary and capricious initiation of the War on Drugs provided the basis on which many of the actions later undertaken in the name of stopping violence against women (VAWA) were put in place.

It is of interest to note that the 21st Amendment is the only amendment to the federal Constitution to have been ratified by state ratifying conventions as provided for in Article V. It appears that ending the War on Drugs is also being done by the several states. With Colorado leading the way for the legalization of recreational use of marijuana, by the end of 2016 four other states and the District of Columbia had done so as well. In addition medical marijuana is available in 23 other states.

The issue of the use of medical marijuana is close to home as Colorado Springs has become a mecca for parents of children with severe epilepsy. A strain of marijuana containing high levels of cannabidiol (CBD), known as [Charlotte's Web](#), has proven effective in treating many cases that did not respond to more conventional medicines. As a result parents from all over the United States have come here seeking help for their children.

Many other medical benefits of marijuana have long been known but insane power and control freaks in our malfunctioning government have refused to accept the facts. The EJF is particularly

supportive of the use of marijuana to help veterans with post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other injuries resulting from military service.

Rather than attempt to keep our web site current on this fast evolving problem we are using the EJF page on Facebook¹⁶ to post current information and articles. If you haven't already, please Like our Facebook page and follow us.

It is to be hoped that the repeal of the insane laws against marijuana that is in progress will lead to a collapse of the whole house of cards upon which the War on Drugs is built.

Vote fraud and election issues

The Equal Justice Foundation has worked to preserve Constitutional rights embodied in open, honest, and fair elections using secret ballots, a battle that appears to have been lost in Colorado.

To little avail Dr. Corry worked with election officials and activists both statewide and nationally for over a decade attempting to preserve a secret ballot, insure ballots are tabulated accurately, provide for adequate standards and testing of electronic voting machines, document and attempt to correct the problems with the statewide voter registration database, and point out and, hopefully, correct the problems with mail ballots. In doing this Dr. Corry testified as an expert witness on election issues in court and many times before state committees and the legislature. He also published in newspapers statewide on election issues and appeared on both local and national radio talk shows concerning election problems.

The Foundation was also active in requiring and monitoring security and operational standards for electronic voting equipment. We were also actively documenting the problems with fraud in mail ballot elections.¹⁷

Since its inception in 2001 until mid-2015 Dr. Corry served on Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) voting equipment standards committees attempting to set workable national standards for electronic voting equipment.

Sadly, our efforts have largely been a failure. The IEEE P1583 voting equipment standards committee voted to disband in mid-2009 without agreeing to any standards for electronic voting machines. The IEEE P1622 group is working on common data formats for election equipment and may, someday, produce such standards. But it is an open question whether any such standards will have significant impact on election integrity and in mid-2015 Dr. Corry resigned from the IEEE P1622¹⁸ committee due to age and available time.

Nonetheless, the Foundation has compiled and published a great deal of information on vote fraud and election issues. That book¹⁹ comprises thirteen chapters containing more than 100 essays and examples of election fraud, corruption, and incompetence. A tabulation of problems with electronic voting machines in forty-one states is also included.

16.If you have a Facebook account simply type in "*Equal Justice Foundation*" in the header bar to access the EJF page.

17.See the February 24, 2014, EJF newsletter Mail Ballots and Elections — What We Have Lost at ejfi.org/News/Voting-February-24-2013.htm.

18.Available at grouper.ieee.org/groups/1622/

19.Vote fraud and election issues ejfi.org/Voting/Voting.htm.

In the interim voting equipment manufacturers in concert with the Colorado legislature, among others, have destroyed virtually every protection and procedure evolved over more than a century.

In some sense it appears that the [February 24, 2013, EJF newsletter](#) describing what we have lost with mail ballot elections was used by the Colorado legislature as a guide to destroying election integrity. As a result on February 26, 2014, we published an essay by Al Maurer on [Colorado's Wild West "Roll Your Own" Election Rules](#) documenting some of the current problems with Colorado elections.

Unfortunately, the integrity of our elections continues to decline. We note that other states are rarely far behind Colorado in their destruction of election integrity, and some are worse. Unfortunately, this bulwark of democracy is rapidly descending into a charade as well illustrated in the 2016 elections.

Publications

The results of our studies are widely distributed by use of the World Wide Web, newspaper and magazine articles, radio talk shows, scientific meetings and journals, via our newsletter, and to legislative bodies and individual legislators. One measure of the fact that our studies and research are being widely used is the fact that page views on our web sites drop by about 50,000 per month when schools and universities are not in session.

Newsletters

An EJF newsletter is distributed several times a year to a general list of subscribers. These individuals are located in every state of the United States, many of its territories, and at least forty five other countries.

EJF newsletters published in 2016

- [March 19, 2016](#) — Lessons learned from veteran arrest data by Charles E. Corry, Ph.D.
- [April 2, 2016](#) — What does any nation owe to those who serve to defend it?
- [October 15, 2016](#) — 2016 review of Colorado judges

The EJF mailing list includes media representatives, academics and graduate students, legislators, attorneys, judges, medical practitioners, engineers, scientists, psychiatrists and psychologists, social workers including DV treatment providers and victim's advocates, election activists, housewives, active-duty military, veterans, all the hundreds of abused men and women who contact us, as well as many others.²⁰

Experience shows that our newsletters are widely reposted and forwarded across the Internet. That nets us new subscribers and members as well as greatly expanding the exposure of our work. In 2016 it is again estimated that EJF newsletters are seen by upwards of 200,000 readers around the globe.

20. Note that about one third of all email users change their address each year and updating the EJF mailing list represents a major effort.

Web sites

In addition to our newsletters and public presentations, a principal means used to communicate with the public are two web sites: a parent site at *ejfi.org* and our original site, Domestic Violence Against Men in Colorado at *dvmen.org*. Experience has shown these sites to be the most effective method of communication given our resources and budget.

It should also be noted that nearly half the authors on our sites are women in a deliberate attempt to provide diverse and balanced viewpoints on the issues we work on. However, that should not be taken to mean we only accept, or promote a “*politically correct*” view. **Far from it!**

Our work is not for the easily offended or the dogmatic ideologue. Our interest is with truth and equal justice as best we can determine those goals through research, logic, and reason.

Equal Justice Foundation web site

The *ejfi.org* site currently contains six books:

- **Families and Marriage** — *www.ejfi.org/family/family.htm*.
- **Global Domestic Violence** — *www.ejfi.org/DV/dv.htm*.
- **Civilization** — *www.ejfi.org/Civilization/Civilization.htm*
- **Prohibitions and War on Drugs** — *www.ejfi.org/Prohibition/Prohibition.htm*.
- **Courts, Veteran Courts, and Civil Liberties** — *www.ejfi.org/Courts/Courts.htm*.
- **Vote fraud and Election Issues** — *www.ejfi.org/Voting/Voting.htm*.
- **Six additional supplemental sections** — The war against veterans, Emerson story, newsletters, introduction, what an individual can do to help, and an extensive list of related sites:

*Links to more than 1,000 related web sites are provided covering:*²¹

- Men's And Women's Resources — By state.
- Issues of Public Interest — Sites in the United States for fourteen issues.
- Issues of Public Interest — Countries other than the United States.
- Women's Issues.
- Children, Family, Marriage, And Elder Abuse.
- Veterans Issues and Resources
- Mental Health.
- Gay And Lesbian Issues.
- Authors, Columnists, Institutes, and Newspapers.
- Surveillance Hardware And Software.
- Law Research And Legal Help.
- State of Colorado.
- United States Government.

21.URL is *ejfi.org/Help/Help.htm*

The fact that we constantly receive requests from other groups and companies to be added to our Help lists is evidence that this feature is widely used.

Domestic Violence Against Men In Colorado web site

This web site includes sixteen chapters with more than one-hundred-fifty essays by thirty-four male and female authors, as well as numerous vignettes outlining the experience of abused and murdered men in Colorado.

During 2012 the many stories told in women's own words of the horrors visited on females as well by the DV industry grew to the point that they were expanded into a [separate chapter](#) and moved to the Global Domestic Violence book.

Web site usage through 2016

After several years of rapid growth, usage of our web sites has leveled off since 2006. 2010 was the first complete year for which unique visitor data was available.

Combined usage for both EJF web sites in 2016 averaged an estimated 365,500 page views, up from an average of 290,000 in 2015, and 60,825 unique visitors per month or ~2,000 per day in 2016, up from 56,760 per month in 2015. Usage of our [ejfi.org](#) site somewhat exceeded that for our [dvmen.org](#) site although our ISP lost the usage data for November and December 2016 that site so an accurate comparison isn't possible.

Student queries and usage data during the school year demonstrate that our sites continue to be widely used by schools and universities. We know of no other way it would be possible to reach such a broad audience at such a low cost.

Facebook

Beginning in 2010 the [EJF established a Facebook page](#) where links to articles of interest are posted. Also pictures of EJF events, members, directors, and officers are posted, as well as discussion items regarding topics of interest.

EJF members and others are encouraged to Like and post on the EJF Facebook page.

EJF bumper stickers

We also have [removable bumper stickers](#) for the Foundation available. Bumper stickers are one of the best ways of advertising the Foundation known and it helps us greatly if you display these on your vehicles. Note that these are high-quality and can be easily removed without damage from virtually all surfaces and paint. Please help the Foundation by displaying these stickers on your vehicles, or elsewhere where they can be seen.

Other public service

Bear Creek Park, Colorado Springs, Colorado

The Equal Justice Foundation headquarters are located adjacent to Bear Creek Park on the west side of Colorado Springs. One part of the park is owned and operated by the city and the

other part by El Paso County with the EJF located basically on the dividing line between the two parks.

Several years ago Dr. Corry and Ms. Vaughn took on litter control on Bear Creek Road that follows Bear Creek up the canyon to Pike National Forest. However, health and age issues, as well as personal issues with Dr. Corry's disabled Marine son, required us to give up this effort in 2016.

However, EJF members are encouraged to adopt local roads and parks and seek similar recognition for the Foundation in their localities as such advertising is invaluable for our efforts.

Board members and meetings

The affairs and management of the Foundation are under the control of a Board of Directors consisting of three members who serve staggered three year terms without compensation.

Board meetings are usually held twice yearly, one in the spring and one in the fall although directors and officers often meet informally more often. Correspondence between officers and directors by email or telephone typically occurs several times a month. In addition, significant events and information about the Foundation and its activities are also sent to all EJF members several times a year via email.

Meetings and the agendas are announced in advance to all Foundation members, who are welcome to and do occasionally attend. Visitors to these meetings are also welcome.

2016 formal meetings

The spring meeting, the twenty-ninth biannual meeting of the Equal Justice Foundation directors, officers, and members convened on Sunday, May 1, 2016, at the Golden Public Library, Golden, Colorado.

The fall meeting, the thirtieth biannual meeting, convened on Sunday, November 13, 2016, at the Lakewood Public Library, Lakewood, Colorado

Minutes of the board meetings are distributed to EJF members in order to keep our far-flung constituency aware of the Foundation's goals and functions.

Board of Directors

Under its Article of Incorporation Directors of the Equal Justice Foundation serve staggered three year terms. Terms expire as of the spring meeting of each year.

As of the end of 2016 the board members were:

Dr. Charles Corry (term ends in spring of 2016)

LaRae Musselman (term ends in spring of 2017)

Fred Bibik, Esq. (term ends in spring of 2018)

Dr. Corry and Mr. Bibik have been working together since June 1997 on issues of domestic violence and related problems and will continue to do so. However, after the November meeting Mr. Bibik indicated he felt the Foundation had become principally oriented toward veteran issues, an area where he has little experience or interest. As a result he resigned as a Director and former EJF Director Robert Alvarez has agreed to finish Mr. Bibik's current term. Dr. Corry and Alvarez,

both former Marines, worked together in 2008-2010 to help pioneer veteran courts in Colorado when Alvarez was previously on the board.

In addition, Mrs. Musselman, who has been a Director for over a decade indicated she would like to stand down at the end of her current term in the spring of 2017. However, she has agreed to continue to help with requisite IRS filings and some other issues. Col. Hal Emick, U.S. Army, retired, has agreed to replace her. Col. Emick has served in combat from Vietnam up through the Iraq invasion, where he was wounded for the third time and then retired.

Officers

The officers of the Equal Justice Foundation serve from year-to-year at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. According to the bylaws, one of the officers must also be on the Board of Directors.

The current Foundation officers are:

Dr. Charles Corry, Colorado Springs — President and Founding Director.

Sheryle Hutter, Aurora — Vice President

Paulette Vaughn, Colorado Springs — Treasurer

Sharall Kinnison, Brighton — Secretary

Officers receive no compensation for their time and efforts on behalf of the Foundation and their many years of devoted service to the Foundation is deeply appreciated.

Treasurer's report

Income

As in all previous years, during 2016 the Foundation was entirely supported by members and contributions. On January 1, 2016, our total assets amounted to \$4,343.

Dues from new and renewing members amounted to \$1,424, and contributions totaled \$4,280. Total income was thus \$5,704, as compared to \$9,602 in 2015.

Our assets as of December 31, 2016, were \$1,666.

Operating expenses

Program expenses for legal, accounting, advertising and promotion, supplies, postage, shipping, and printing totaled \$2,896 in 2016 as compared to \$2,285 in 2015.

Information technology continued to be the major expense again in 2016 and totaled \$3,627. Those expenses involve Internet connection (includes VOIP telephone), web site maintenance, computer repairs and replacements, as well as software and upgrades without which the Foundation could not function in a technological world.

In 2015 the Foundation began a program for providing massage therapy to homeless veterans in cooperation with the [Colorado Institute of Massage Therapy](#) and the Crawford House for homeless veterans operated by the [Colorado Veterans Resource Coalition](#). That program was continued through 2016.

In addition the Foundation supplied disabled veterans with used computers, software, and help with medical expenses for a total cost of \$2,255.

Management costs

Accounting costs, legal, and corporate registration, totaled just \$73 and therefore our overhead ratio was a minuscule 1.3%.

As a public charity we receive a substantial discount in fees on dues and contributions submitted via PayPal and that payment method has proven a great boon to our fundraising efforts. However, checks are still most welcome!

Total expenses

Total Foundation expenses for 2016 were \$8,866.