



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Peoria County Announces Two New Board Members

Peoria, IL, March 17, 2010—Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Peoria County recently announced the appointment of Valerie E. Clark and Dr. Nancy E. Sherman to its board of directors.

"The addition of Ms. Clark and Dr. Sherman to CASA of Peoria County's Board of Directors ensures CASA will continue to benefit from a diversity of knowledge and opinions. Valerie and Nancy are perfect fits for CASA because of their strong leadership skills and extensive experience," said Pamela Perrilles, Executive Director of CASA of Peoria County.

Clark is founder of Clark Marketing, a Peoria-headquartered marketing and communications agency that provides a full range of services, including public relations, campaign development, employee communications, training and competitive analysis. Her firm has worked with a wide variety of clients, including A.G. Edwards, Caterpillar, Humana, Midwest Green Energy and The Excel Leadership Group. Clark earned her MBA from Bradley University and B.S. from Eastern Illinois University. She also sits on the board of local National Public Radio affiliate, WCBU-FM.

Sherman is a professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Human Development at Bradley University. After six years as Director of the Counseling Research and Training Clinic, Sherman assumed the role of Clinical Coordinator for the Human Development Counseling program. Among others, her research interests include clinical supervision, caregiving and older adults and vocational identity. Sherman is a National Certified Counselor, Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (Illinois) and an Approved Clinical Supervisor. She earned her Ph.D. in Counselor Education from The Ohio State University, M.A. from Bowling Green State University and B.A. from State University of New York at Oswego.



In addition to Clark and Sherman, the 12 member CASA of Peoria County Board of Directors includes:

- Tony Bartlett - RSM McGladrey, Inc.
- Greg Birkland - BSC Medical
- Caroline Borden - Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP
- Mike Crompton - The Excel Leadership Group, LLC
- Thomas Harrington, III - Coldwell Banker Commercial Devonshire Realty
- Paris McConnell - Illinois Department of Transportation
- Jennifer Morris - Quinn, Johnston, Henderson, Pretorius & Cerulo
- Lisa Mullins - Central Illinois Bank
- Shital Shah - Caterpillar Inc.
- Melanie Spurgeon - Design Built Homes

About CASA of Peoria County (www.casapeoria.org)

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Peoria County is a nonprofit, volunteer organization that advocates for the best interests of abused and neglected children within the Juvenile and Probate Court systems. Its existence is based on the belief that every child has the right to a safe and permanent home allowing them the chance to reach their full potential in life. The organization has been serving abused and neglected children since 2005.

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