

Julie E. Nichols

Pro Bono Counsel

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Julie E. Nichols is Bodman's full-time Pro Bono Counsel. In conjunction with the Pro Bono Committee, she coordinates all aspects of the firm's pro bono program and manages the firm's relationships with numerous legal clinics and referring organizations.

Julie has extensive experience representing pro bono clients and coordinating the activities of volunteer pro bono counsel. Before joining Bodman, she worked for seven years as a supervising attorney and pro bono manager with Legal Services of Eastern Michigan where she handled all manner of civil cases, assisted clients, prepared pleadings and court documents, supervised outside attorneys, and coordinated civil cases with the private bar.

She also spent many years in private practice, most recently as a Partner in the Insurance Coverage Group of a highly respected Michigan-based business law firm.

Julie served as a law clerk to Judge Cornelia G. Kennedy of the U.S. Court of Appeals and to Justice Patricia Boyle of the

education

Wayne State University
Law School, J.D., *magna cum laude*

Wayne State University,
M.A.

University of Michigan, B.A.,
cum laude

admissions

Michigan

Michigan Supreme Court. She was the Executive Editor of the *Wayne Law Review* and earned several academic honors, including the Ira J. Spoon Award and Scholarship, the Board of Governors Scholarship, and the Dean's Scholarship.

Julie is a member of the State Bar of Michigan's Access to Justice Policy Committee.

PRO BONO

- State Bar of Michigan 2024 A Lawyer Helps Pro Bono Honor Roll (100+ Hours of Service)
- **Julie Nichols Helps Transgender Pro Bono Client in Name Change**

Julie Nichols counseled Ms. M., a pro bono client in their successful name change process. Ms. M., who is transgender, had a criminal record and the court set the name change matter for an evidentiary hearing. Julie filed a brief in support of the name change and worked with a leading advocate and expert to present evidence at the hearing. The name change was granted thanks to Julie's hard work, and Ms. M. is ready to start her new life.

- **Julie Nichols Successfully Files and Litigates Divorce for Pro Bono Client**

Julie Nichols recently finalized a divorce for Ms. C., a pro bono client referred from Legal Services of South Central Michigan. Ms. C. was previously married to an abusive husband who had a history of violence, stalking, and incarceration. Due to her personal situation, Ms. C. was without employment or safe housing. Julie assisted with the filing and litigating of the divorce and the Court granted the divorce last month. Ms. C. is now able to obtain housing, benefits, and employment easily and safely on her own,

starting a new chapter in her life.