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Editorial Board Member: Jane Langan

“I framed one of my law school graduation cards,” Jane Langan says. “It still sits in my office. It reads:

‘I hope my achievements in life shall be these:
that I will have fought for what was right and fair,
that I will have risked for that which mattered,
that I will have given help to those who were in need,
that I will have left the earth a better place for what I’ve done, and who I’ve been.’”

Jane Langan is a partner of Rembolt Ludtke LLP in Lincoln, Nebraska, and chairs its litigation section. “I came as a clerk, and never left,” she says. Her practice includes business and individual litigation, including insurance regulatory work and insurance insolvencies.

TIPS provides Jane with valuable contacts and resources that help with her

everyday work, she says. Currently, Jane and her firm are counsel for Nebraska’s director of insurance in two surety company liquidations. In those liquidations, she primarily handles processing claims against the insolvent estates and litigation with the liquidation estate as plaintiff, including actions against former agents of the insolvent companies. She also represents other insurance companies in various litigation matters. “TIPS provides a ready network of experts on a variety of topics,” Jane says. “When clients need an out-of-state attorney, they are always reassured when I can confidently name one or two people right away.”

Jane attended the University of Nebraska College of Law from 1992-1995, where she was an editor of the *Nebraska Law Review*. She received her JD with highest distinction, graduating second in her class in 1995, and is now an



adjunct professor of pretrial litigation at her alma mater. She also has taught paralegal courses at Nebraska Wesleyan University and presented at a number of seminars.

The Young Lawyers Division (YLD) was Jane’s portal to the ABA. She served as chair of Nebraska’s Young Lawyers Section in 2000-2001, and then as the district 19 (Nebraska and Iowa) representative to the YLD in 2003-2005. As a YLD district representative, she participated in policy and governance decisions of the division. Pursuant to the YLD’s relationship with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Jane helped establish a disaster plan and set up a legal aid hotline after a tornado struck

a small Nebraska village in May of 2004.

She was one of nine members appointed to the YLD Special Project Team in 2003. That team developed the One Child, One Lawyer program, a child advocacy-based initiative to provide lawyers with skills and contacts to make an actual difference in the life of a child. The program included training and materials to enable lawyers to serve as guardians ad litem or to handle pro bono adoptions and guardianships. The team also developed a program to create school-based legal clinics, in which lawyers help students in middle and high school with a variety of issues from dating violence to homelessness. The project received the Meritorious Service Award of the ABA Section Officers Conference, an honor given to the best public service program of an ABA division or section.

Jane also serves on the TIPS Law in Public Service Committee, which also adopted the One Child, One Lawyer program as its public service project in 2004.

In the YLD, Jane met a number of members who were involved in TIPS. “It was well known that YLD leaders could ‘graduate’ into one of the other ABA sections, and most gravitated toward TIPS, the Section of

Litigation, or the General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Division,” Jane says. “TIPS did a great job of recruiting. Most of my YLD colleagues ended up in TIPS—members like Dale Weppner, Cliff Stubbs, Pedro Bajo, Vic Rawl, Dave Barber, Amie Martinez, Jaci Tessendorf, and others. The TIPS NOW! program offers a great opportunity to advance into leadership roles.” Jane became a TIPS NOW! Fellow in 2003.

Her first appointment to a TIPS publications editorial board happened somewhat accidentally for Jane. Originally slated for the TIPS Membership Committee, Jane could not attend the first day of that committee’s meeting in Savannah, Georgia, at the ABA 2004 Annual Meeting because she was overseeing the Nebraska State Bar Association’s annual meeting. Another TIPS NOW! fellow offered to switch committees with her so she could attend in Savannah. Accordingly, Jane was appointed to the *TortSource* editorial board, serving for two years under Judi Goodman as chair. She was appointed to *The Brief* editorial board in 2006.

In December 2004, Jane was admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court as part of the fifth annual TIPS U.S. Supreme

Court group admissions ceremony. “I really felt lucky to be there—it was a tremendous opportunity, and an unforgettable weekend,” she says.

Jane was selected as a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation in 2005. Membership in The Fellows is limited to one-third of 1 percent of the lawyers licensed to practice in each U.S. jurisdiction, or about one if every 300 lawyers. The organization is recognized as the premier sociolegal research institute in the country.

In 2007, Jane was elected to the Nebraska State Bar Association’s House of Delegates. She is involved in several Nebraska State Bar committees, including the legislation committee and the annual meeting committee. Jane is a member of the American Inns of Court and served on the executive committee of her local Inn.

She participates in several state bar activities and serves on the local board of the American Red Cross. She enjoys reading and travel and keeps busy with her two daughters, Allison and Grace. She can be found on the Web at www.remboltludtke.com and reached via e-mail at jlangan@remboltludtke.com.