

January 11, 2019

Northwest Herald
7717 S. Route 31
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
Attn: Editor in Chief

Dear Editor Styf:

Your publication recently ran a series of articles which suggest to me and my neighbors that attorney Robert Hanlon has negligently missed deadlines, ignored and/or overbilled his clients and otherwise committed professional malpractice, while mentioning nothing of the doings of any opposing parties. This is not the Rob Hanlon I have known for the past 20 years.

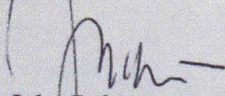
As a fellow Illinois attorney who is generally familiar with Mr. Hanlon's work, I can attest that he is in fact very responsive and exceedingly competent. He vigorously represents clients who have been wronged or otherwise pushed around by large, monied, politically-connected individuals and organizations.

Your "articles", which exude an obvious personal and political hatred toward Hanlon, are in many ways factually incorrect, and leave the clear impression that he should not be practicing law at all. For example, as a recent article by Illinois Leaks/ Edgar County Watchdog points out, you seem to ascribe conduct to Mr. Hanlon at points in time when he was not even engaged by the subject client!

I would submit that you need to research these "gotcha" pieces more carefully. And recognize the justice that Hanlon is trying to bring to critical situations that exist in our declining county.

If you are familiar with Harper Lee's work *To Kill a Mockingbird*, you will recognize that Hanlon is a modern-day Atticus Finch—a lawyer hero. At a minimum, you owe him and the readership a sincere, thorough and unqualified apology.

Sincerely,



John Polster
Harvard, Illinois