



# PEI

**PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS OF IOWA**

October 17, 2016

## Orlando Savings!

## Sunshine Ahead!



Are you planning an Orlando adventure for this year? One of your many PEI benefits is discounted travel in the Orlando area! Theme parks, vacation rentals and packages are just a click away! For more information, visit:

<http://bit.ly/2d9VSu4>

## Quick Links...

[www.peiowa.org](http://www.peiowa.org)

[info@peiowa.org](mailto:info@peiowa.org)

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50324

(515) 221-2330

In this edition of our newsletter you will find valuable advice if you ever need to use the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) for illness, adoption, or military use. FMLA is a great service, but it has limitations. Many times a person is in the midst of a stressful issue before they realize their need of FMLA. Knowing before hand what is covered and what is not, can alleviate some of the disappointments when your district refuses what appear to be your benefits.

We also believe it is important that our members are familiar with the many aspects of our services. Jim Gilliam has proven to be sound legal counsel for years. Although most of you have met him at our conferences, we'd like everyone to be assured should you ever need to use the PEI legal assistance.

And finally, we have a MAJOR announcement below from the Orpheum Theater in Sioux City.

As always, if there is ever anything you should need, please contact me!

Thank you,  
Jodie Nation

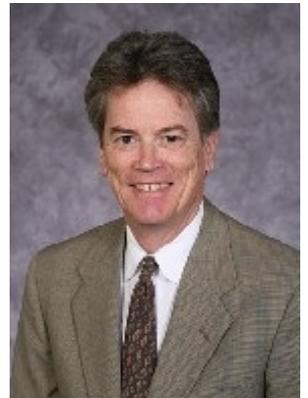
## Meet James Gilliam, Attorney

*"I busted a mirror and got seven years bad luck, but my lawyer thinks he can get me five."*

~Comedian Steven Wright

It is unclear whether Jim Gilliam can get you a lighter "bad luck" sentence, but PEI members can rest a little easier knowing one of the state's best employment and labor attorneys is in their corner. Jim has been serving the needs of PEI and our members across the state for more than a decade! His labor and employment litigation experience spans over 30 years.

Jim presents a legal segment during the PEI annual conference addressing the top 10 legal issues affecting educators from that year. His advice in protecting the careers of teachers state wide has been invaluable to PEI members and staff! He has represented educators in wrongful termination, wage issues, breach of contract, unemployment issues, and challenges before the BOEE against their licenses.



He is experienced in negotiating collective bargaining agreements in both the public and private sector. He is also a mediator for the Polk County Mediation Program. Jim's expertise extends into the area of human resources and he speaks extensively in workshops and seminars around the state.

Mr. Gilliam is currently with Long & Gilliam in Des Moines. He is a former Captain in the United States Army Judge Advocate General's Corp, former General Counsel to the Iowa Public Employment Relations Board and was an associate and member of the Brown Winick firm in Des Moines.

"I hope I never need a lawyer, but if I do, I am glad Jim Gilliam represents PEI members," says Bryce Abbas of North Union Community Schools.

We agree! It is our hope you will never need to use Mr. Gilliam's services, but should you find yourself needing assistance, you'll be glad that you know PEI and we know Jim Gilliam!



## FMLA

### What You Need to Know Before You Need to Know!

The Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) has been utilized by several PEI members, however, there are questions and issues regarding the legal provisions you need to be aware of for your own protection before accessing this benefit.

FMLA allows up to 12 weeks unpaid leave within a year's timeframe. To some school districts that may imply January 1 to December 31, to other school districts it pertains to their fiscal year, July 1-June 30. Should you find yourself in need of this federal service, contact PEI and we will advise you through the process. (click here to read more: <http://bit.ly/2dYrJ1H>)

### Upcoming PEI Benefits!

**PEI GAMEDAY**

 vs. 

**SATURDAY, OCT 22 | 2:00 PM**  
COWNIE SOCCER COMPLEX | DES MOINES, IA

**\$2 TICKETS**

Join other PEI members for a fun afternoon of Drake soccer! Purchase tickets online or at the gate with a valid PEI membership card.

Purchase online at [www.DrakeTix.com/pei](http://www.DrakeTix.com/pei)



## NEW! SIOUX CITY ORPHEUM THEATER EXTENDS DISCOUNTS FOR PEI MEMBERS!



We received notice just this week from the Orpheum Theater in Sioux City that PEI members can save **10% on all Broadway tickets!** Discounted ticket prices can be accessed by clicking here: <http://bit.ly/2eqNDde>

Shows include *Once*, *Chicago*, *Rain*, *Annie*, and more! Thank you Sioux City Orpheum!!!

## Des Moines Performing Arts



**November 15, 2016 - January 7, 2017**



**November 25-27, 2016**

Click here to access Group E-Ticket! <http://bit.ly/2drMDVc>