

LAW DEPARTMENT

John P. Gourley, Corporation Counsel and City Attorney

In throughout 2011, the Department of Law continued to provide effective legal assistance and counsel to Mishawaka and Mishawaka Utilities department managers. In addition, the legal staff advised and assisted numerous City boards, commissions and committees, including the following: Board of Public Works & Safety, Mishawaka Redevelopment and Community Development Commission, Mishawaka Board of Parks and Recreation and the Mishawaka Common Council.

*...effective legal
assistance and counsel*

The Legal Department participated in three code enforcement hearings in 2011. It also handled grievances filed by various collective-bargaining units as well as a Fire Department arbitration proceeding.

Collective-bargaining agreements with several employee groups will expire in 2012. The Department of Law will be actively involved in the negotiation of these new labor contracts.

The Department of Law recovered over \$135,000 in just its third year of enforcing payment of ordinance violation fines, emergency medical service fees, and unpaid ordinance violation fines.