PGCBA NewsJournal

Newsletter of the Prince George's County Bar Association, Inc.

September 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to the 109th year of the Prince George's County Bar Association. I am honored to serve as your president for the 2011-2012 bar year. My journey to this point has been supported by many mentors over sixteen years of practicing law. I was introduced to many of them because of my membership with the bar association. These associations with fellow members of the bench and bar have made me a better attorney and a better person. Bar membership has laid the

framework for me to give back to the community by mentoring others. I have sponsored Law Links summer students, served as Mock trial Coach and have upheld many leadership positions. I am a Past-President of the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association and Graduate of the Maryland State Bar Association Leadership Academy. What makes the Prince George's County Bar Association unique in comparison to other Bar Associations, is our diversity, our bench/bar relationship and our commitment to uplifting the community in which we serve. That's why I joined and sought leadership in the organization. It is our job to ensure that our bar association will continue to be there to mentor and support all attorneys.

Our new Board is representative of the entire Bench and Bar community as well as a special effort to bring young attorneys into the fold. The Board has already met at its annual retreat and began planning for the upcoming bar year. The meeting was opened with introductions and personal reflections of why we decided to be members. We discussed fundraising ideas, holding membership meetings at Andrews Air Force base, taking the lead on providing mandatory CLE classes to our members, presenting a video/commentary history of the Prince George's County courthouse in conjunction with the Maryland State Bar Foundation and the Prince George's County Historical Society, increasing membership including new attorneys and younger bar members, and encouraging fellow members to use the lawyers' lounge. Generally we focused on ways to improve service to our membership, while growing and encouraging our members. We established a fundraising committee with several members of the Board. President-Elect Bryon Bereano has already secured sponsors for the September 27th meeting honoring Judge Thomas P. Smith and Judge A. Michael Chapdelaine at the Newton White Mansion. Secretary Denise Bowman has agreed to take the lead on fundraising for the Holiday Party on December 13, 2011. She needs your help with soliciting items to be auctioned at the event. Contact her if you have tickets to professional or college sporting events, summer vacation slots, or any other items you would



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The theme for this year is to build upon what we already do well and expand our services to our bar membership. Such programs as the Brown Bag lunches in the lawyers lounge at the Upper Marlboro courthouse, the young lawyers reception at the Old Town Inn in Upper Marlboro, the Alan J. Goldstein Criminal Practice Seminar, the Family Law seminar and the Law Links program to name a few are tried and true to the Bar association.

We continue to solicit newsletter articles. Board member Walter Green has agreed to write an article or maybe a series of articles about second and third generations of Prince George's County Bar members, stay tuned. I am sure he would appreciate your contributions. If you have ideas and/or newsletter articles, please forward them to the

Executive Director, Ms. Georgia Perry by the 15th day of the month.

Lastly, I have the honor of working closely with an extraordinary Executive Committee this year. Bryon Bereano, Jennifer Muskus, Denise Bowman. Hon. Nicholas Rattal, Joseph Wright and Robin Bright each bring their own individual talents to the committee. I am privileged to work with a group

of such hardworking committed individuals

We are off and running. Join us as we continue to build upon our strengths and explore new and innovative ways to uplift lawyers and our community as a whole.

Your President,

Debra M. Davis, Esq.

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MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hart Honored at MD State Bar Association Meeting



Our own Janet Hart from the Prince George's County Public Defender's Office and the Prince George's County Bar Association Board of Directors was honored at the Maryland State Bar Associations 115th Annual Meeting in Ocean City. The Pro Bono Resource Center presented her with an award for her commitment to Pro Bono Service. Janet's commitment to

equal access to justice is unmatched. She was chosen from a list of hundreds of nominees throughout the State of Maryland.

For over 25 years, Ms. Hart has worked as an assistant public defender. She has represented indigent individuals charged with crimes in both the District and Circuit Courts. She has had the opportunity to work on five death penalty cases, one of which is now pending. For two and a half years, Ms. Hart served as the District Court Supervisor and has now been a Circuit Court Supervisor for almost a decade.

Ms. Hart has served as the Chair of the Prince George's County Pro Bono Committee since November of 2009 and now sits on the Board of Directors for the Prince George's County Bar Association for a third year. Other Awards include being named Prince George's County Public Defender of the Year twice. In 2006, she was awarded the Office of Public Defender, Death Penalty Defense Award and the Law Foundation of Prince George's County, Fred R. Joseph Award.

Hat's off to Janet, we are honored to have you among our ranks. When you see Janet in the courthouse take the time to congratulate her. We all benefit from her work but most of all the spirit in which she goes about her work and service to our community. Congratulations, again Janet!

Debra M. Davis, Esq.

OFFICE RELOCATION

After 31 years of practicing in Prince George's County, Andy Nussbaum is relocating his office and will be a solo practitioner in Columbia, Howard County. 410-740-6666.

Andy@NussbaumLawLLC.com.



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HUMAN RIGHTS AT HOME | Nuri Heckler

Daltimore, MD- Americans are Barring to, me concerned about expanding human rights and democracy abroad, but domestic policy is more concentrated on civil rights. On a recent Thursday morning, a group of more than 130 lawyers, law students, and judges gathered at the University of Maryland School of Law to figure out why human rights discussions often focus on other countries, not our own. The "Protecting Human Rights and Justice for All Symposium" was part of the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau's 100th Anniversary celebration. For much of those hundred years, the idea of incorporating a human rights schema into the Maryland State court system has created controversy.

Professor Lisa A. Crooms of Howard University Law School told people gathered at the symposium that human rights were an American invention. The Declaration of Independence and the preamble to the Constitution both document a belief that human beings had rights simply because they were human. Crooms said, "Whether it was the four freedoms speech by Franklin Roosevelt, or Eleanor Roosevelt's signing of the Declaration on Human Rights at the first meetings of the U.N., the basic notion of human rights has been created and advanced by the United States."

But at the same time that American leaders were developing the modern notion of human rights with the help of the United Nations, there were others within the United States who were uncomfortable with the possibility that Jim Crow segregation

might be made illegal at home. Even as W.E.B. DuBois was beginning to garner international respect as a human rights leader abroad, Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin called him before the House Un-American Activities Committee.

University of Maryland Law Professor Barbara Olshanski calls this a symptom of the "deep ambivalence" that Americans have towards the concept of domestic human rights. American human rights leaders, according to Olshanski, asked themselves, "How do we design a system that would only enforce human rights outside the U.S.?"

After McCarthy, when Martin Luther King and his peers spoke about liberty, they spoke about "civil rights," which were a subsection of human rights dealing with people's right to govern themselves. These rights included the right to vote, to public places, and to equality under the law.

Wilhelm Joseph, the Executive Director of the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau loosely defined human rights as "that which promotes, safeguards human dignity." More specifics are most authoritatively provided through international documents such as the United Nations treaty on human rights called the "Universal Declaration on Human Rights." While this treaty and other international documents include many of the civil rights that we in America take for granted, they also include rights that are not recognized in the laws of the United States, such as the right to quality education, basic health care, nutrition, and housing.

When human rights were expanded to include these economic rights, conservatives like Roger Pilon of the CATO Institute said that the objective is to bring about a liberal agenda under a more politically correct name. They claimed that the difference between established human rights issues and progressive political agendas seemed to be shrinking. As Mr. Pilon said, "touting everything from stimulus spending to 'Obamacare' as promoting human rights... ...renders the idea boundless and therefore meaningless."

Susan Goering of the American Civil Liberties Union saw it differently. While there was no fundamental right to education according to federal courts, she decided to use the Maryland State Constitution to sue the State for more funding to the Baltimore City School District. Baltimore City school children were falling behind, despite per pupil spending that was roughly average. After an audit, it was determined that the Baltimore City Schools needed more money.

When Ms. Goering brought the case to her boss at the ACLU, he asked her, "Where's the civil liberties issue in educational reform?" She pursued the case despite his question and won a multi-billion dollar settlement, including another two billion dollars for Baltimore City Schools. After the money started to flow, Baltimore City students performed better on standardized tests. In 2002, the Maryland State Legislature agreed to follow the suggestions of a committee formed under the settlement. Since that law passed, Maryland State Schools have continued to improve with consistently increasing scores year-after-year.

Another example of the implementation of human rights in domestic law was sparked by a case about a woman named Deborah Frase who left her two-year-old son with Ms. Frase's mother while she served a short jail sentence. When Ms. Frase was released, the toddler was living with some neighbors. Instead of returning the child to his mother, the neighbors sued for custody.

STEPHEN J. DUNN

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110 West Road, Suite 445 Towson, MD 21204-2364 Phone (410) 321-8368 Fax (410) 321-1599 208 East Market Street York, PA 17401-1249 Phone (717) 845-7301 www.sdunnlaw.com When Ms. Frase tried to find a lawyer at the local Legal Aid Bureau, she ran into the neighbor's attorney and so gave up. She requested a lawyer several times from the court, but was denied. Eventually, Ms. Frase was allowed to take her son home, but the neighbors were granted visitation rights which were clearly not called for under the law.

It was only at this stage that Ms. Frase was able to secure representation. Debra Gardner and the Public Justice Center managed to get the visitation rights thrown out, and sued to create a right to an attorney in cases involving basic human needs under the State Constitution. The Court of Appeals refused to consider the question of representation because the client eventually found a lawyer. The holding begged the question of how an unrepresented litigant would manage to create a precedent if they were truly incompetent to represent themselves.

Ms. Gardner was not deterred. She found a law that was implemented under King Henry VII and was documented in the early 19th Century which guaranteed a lawyer for anybody who swore that they owned no more than "five pounds sterling and the shirt on their back." She hoped that the courts or the legislature would recognize that law or draft a new law guaranteeing that a mother cannot lose access to her child unless she has access to adequate representation.

Many Americans assume that they are already guaranteed human rights, but many of the rights recognized by international treaties are not considered fundamental by American courts. The right to education, healthcare, housing and other "economic rights" are considered by many to be part of a political agenda. According to Wade Henderson, chairman of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a big part of the recently reclaimed American exceptionalism is a feeling of exemption from international human rights treaties because of a myth that America leads the pack in human rights enforcement. To Mr. Henderson, this myth resonates with the tones of the Jim Crow era when human rights were considered a foreign threat. "The saddest bi-product of American exceptionalism was the inability of Americans to face racial inequalities."

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NEW LAWS AFFECTING THE EVERYDAY PRACTICE OF LAW - Awrap-up of the 2011 General Assembly.

With the Maryland Legislature poised to return to Annapolis for a special session in October, it's a good time to look back at what changes occurred in Annapolis and how those changes affect the practice of law. There were several bills that were passed this year which greatly affect the everyday law practice for attorneys. This is by no means an exhaustive list but rather highlights of last year's legislative session. With many thanks to the Legislative District 27A team of Senator Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., Delegate James E. Proctor, Jr. and Delegate James F. Vallario, Jr. we have provided below a list of passed legislation from the 2011 Maryland Legislative Session of the General Assembly which touches on the day to day practice of law.

Peace Orders – Extension of Duration: Chs. 57 and 58 authorize a judge, for good cause shown, to extend the term of a final peace order for an additional six months after (1) giving notice to the petitioner and the respondent and (2) a hearing.

Family Law - Grounds for Absolute Divorce: HB402/SB139 reduce, from two years to 12 months, the required period of time the parties must have lived separate and apart without cohabitation and without interruption before filing the application for absolute divorce on the ground of involuntary separation. The bills also repeal the ground of voluntary separation.

Freedom of Speech - Picketing at a Funeral - Distance: SB 977 increases the distance within which a person is prohibited from engaging in picketing activities at a funeral, burial, memorial service, or funeral procession from 100 feet to 500 feet.

Criminal Law – Harassment – Penalties: HB510 increases the maximum penalties for a second or subsequent conviction for the crime of harassment to 180 days imprisonment and/or a \$1,000 fine. The current statutory penalties for stalking and harassment apply to a first violation.

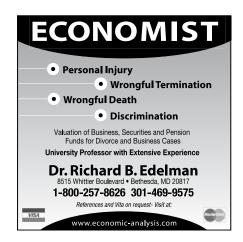
<u>Prince George's County - Orphans'</u> <u>Court Judges - Qualifications: SB281</u>,

a proposed constitutional amendment, requires an orphans' court judge in Prince George's County to be a member of the Maryland Bar who is admitted to practice law in the State.

Courts – Attorneys – Subpoena Procedures and Forms for Circuit Courts: HB22 authorizes an attorney or other officer of a court entitled to the issuance of a subpoena by a clerk of a court to obtain from the clerk of the court a subpoena that is signed and sealed by the clerk of the court. The attorney or other officer of the court may photocopy or otherwise copy the subpoena and use the subpoena for service. The bill takes effect June 1, 2011.

Estates and Trusts – Payment of Attorney's Fees – Contingency Fee: Ch. 80 allows payment of attorney's fees to be made without court approval if (1) the fee is paid to an attorney representing

the estate in litigation under a contingency fee agreement signed by the decedent or the current personal representative of the decedent's estate; (2) the fee does not exceed the terms of the agreement; (3) a copy of the agreement is on file with the register of wills; and (4) the attorney files a statement with each account stating that the scope of the representation by the attorney does not extend to the administration of the estate.



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GET HEALTHY TODAY | Edith Lawson-Jackson



How to Determine if You Have a Weight Problem that Could Lead to Health Risks

With clothing sizes being expanded to accommodate the

ever-increasing girth of our children, and adult clothing sizes being cut noticeably larger for the same size that used to be labeled a size smaller, many people can't really tell if they are overweight or if they just fall into the category of the "average sized" American. Unfortunately, you can't look to your clothing size or even your weight, in many cases, to tell if you are overweight and at risk for life-shortening health problems. What most of us don't know is how to tell when we're slightly overweight versus substantially overweight and/or obese, such that we are at serious risk for developing health issues. In this article, we will discuss the various measures for overweight and obesity classifications, and what to do to avoid and reverse carrying excess weight.

Regardless of your age, being severely overweight or obese significantly raises your risk for developing life-threatening ailments such as diabetes, high blood pressure, and heart disease. And especially important to note is that research has shown that excess fat around the waist, in particular, is linked to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and even cancer. So while it's extremely important to monitor your overall fat levels, it is particularly important to monitor and control fat levels associated with your waistline. How do you do that? Currently there are four measures that we primarily rely upon to determine obesity and risk for negative health conditions associated with obesity and being overweight. For all of these methods of determining your risk, you will need measuring tape.

Waist Circumference: One of the easiest ways for determining whether you are at risk for developing heart disease is by measuring your waist circumference. To determine this number, all you need do is use measuring tape to determine the circumference of your waist, measuring at the mid-point between your lowest rib and the top of your hip bone (known as the iliac crest). Be sure to take the measurement in between breaths, just after completely exhaling. For females, the risk for obesity related health issues substantially increases with waist measurements of 35 inches or more. For males, such is the case if your waist measures 40 inches or more.

Waist-to-Hip Ratio: another accurate measure for assessing whether you are classified as substantially overweight or obese is a measurement called "hip-to-waist ratio". To find your hip-to-waist ratio, you need to determine your waist circumference as indicated above, then take your hip measurement. For your hip measurement, you need to measure around the area of the greatest circumference (or the fullest area) of your buttocks. This measurement is most accurate when wearing either no clothing, or very close fitting clothing such as spandex pants, etc. Next, you divide the measure of your hip circumference by the measure from your waist circumference. A measure of .86 or greater in females indicates an elevated risk of heart problems for females. A measure of .95 or above indicates a similar risk for males.

BMI: This is probably the term you are most familiar with, especially if you have had a conversation with your doctor about your weight. BMI, or body mass index, refers to the relationship between your height and your weight, as a measure for calculating whether you are overweight or obese. There are many tools online that you can find by searching the phrase "calculate my BMI", or tools that you can download onto a smartphone, that will calculate your BMI for you. A BMI measurement determining one being overweight or obese is the same number for both men and women. A measurement between 25 and 29.9 signifies being overweight. A BMI greater than 30 is tied to obesity. This calculation for being overweight or obese has also proven to be a solid indicator of risk for developing heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, and sleep apnea. However, BMI can not be relied upon as

an accurate measure for being overweight/obese in some individuals with very muscular bodies, in particular, muscular athletes. For example, Shaquille O'Neal's BMI is 31.6 which would classify him as "obese" when such is not hardly the case. My BMI measures at 27.5 which would classify me as mid-range overweight, when my bodyfat measure indicates below average for women in my age group. So for muscular individuals, a more accurate measurement for determining your health classification and risk for weigh related health problems may be a bodyfat analysis or a BAI (Body Adiposity Index).

BAI: Body Adiposity Index is a relatively new measuring index which is an alternative method of measuring bodyfat, and the related risk of health-related disease, determined to be an accurate measure of bodyfat. It is calculated by measuring hip circumference in centimeters divided by height in meters, minus 18. Alternatively, bodyfat can be measured using electrical impedance devices or more available tools such as calipers. Measuring bodyfat is probably the best and most reliable determination of whether you are at risk for weight/fat related illnesses. For women ages 41-60, a healthy bodyfat measure is between 23 and 35% bodyfat. Above that is considered overweight, and over 39% is considered obese. For men in the same age category, between 11-22% is healthy, while 22- 27% is overweight and above 27% classifies a man in this age category as obese.

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adults and one-third of American children are either overweight or obese, and the number is rapidly climbing. Between 1960 and 1980, only fifteen percent of all Americans fell into this category. This sharp increase in obesity rates is due to the overabundance in unhealthy foods (i.e. fast food and theme restaurants), increased portion sizes at dining establishments, and the decrease in physical activity – probably due to decreased leisure time and increased time spent with technology. So how do we remedy this problem and decrease our risk for increased weight/fat related health problems? Well, the first step is knowing whether or not you have a weight problem. Find out your risk by using one of the methods established above. If you determine that you are at risk or are nearly at risk for having a weight related health problem, then address the issue head on.

The simplest steps you can take to remedy a rendezvous with weight related health risks are engaging in physical activity and monitoring your food consumption. Increase the amount of fresh fruits and

vegetables in your daily diet, while decreasing the amount of processed and unhealthy (i.e. fast food and junk food) food you eat. This means having an apple and a turkey breast sandwich for lunch instead of pizza and chips. The more veggies and fruit you eat, the easier it will be to establish a healthier eating pattern. So aim for 5 servings of natural unprocessed fruits and vegetables daily in place of packaged snacks and processed sides to your meals. And take small steps to increase your physical activity on a daily basis. Take the stairs whenever available, instead of the elevator. Park in that available parking spot that's further away from the mall or entrance to where you're going. Just three ten-minute bouts of exercise daily can provide you with the benefits that will get you on track towards a healthier lifestyle. So taking the stairs twice a day plus a brisk ten minute walk each morning and evening, three times per week will make a difference. Also, including a minimum of two sessions per week of strength training with weights, so that all major muscle groups are exercised, will add to the fat burning effects of your modified diet and cardiovascular exercise routines. Keep in mind that being active adds so much more to the equation for rapidly increasing fat loss and loss of excess weight than dieting alone. Case in point: for every pound of bodyweight lost through dieting alone, the body loses both fat and muscle – approximately ³/₄ pounds of fat is lost and ½ pound of muscle tissue. However, when exercise and diet are combined to lose weight, each pound of bodyweight lost is represented by 1 and ½ pound of bodyfat lost and ½ pound of muscle being added. So while the net difference in bodyweight is the same, there is a greater loss of fat and an increase in muscle tissue when dieting is combined with exercise. Thus, the combined method of addressing issues of increased risk for obesity result in more rapid results. Find out today whether you are overweight or obese such that you are at risk for serious weight related health problems. If so, you have the tools to get started addressing your concerns immediately. Knowing that you have a health issue is the first step to addressing it.

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Annual Meeting Honoring Judge James H. Taylor

June 7, 2011































Annual Meeting Honoring Judge James H. Taylor

June 7, 2011











Alexander & Cleaver is proud to announce N THEIR attorney Matthew J. Youssef is named as one of 20 in their Twenties by The Daily Record



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The Daily Record created the 20 in Their Twenties awards, to recognize young professionals in their 20s who are already contributing to a new energy in Maryland with their creativity and entrepreneurial spirit. Winners were selected on the basis of their professional accomplishments, community involvement and the impact of their achievements.

"Matthew J. Youssef is an amazing individual who stands out as a leader and is well on his way to lead Maryland companies and organizations to new heights. Matthew's commitment to making a difference and leaving his mark not just professionally but socially is very impressive. We celebrate Matthew's accomplishments and hope that by telling his story, other young professionals will be inspired," said Suzanne Fischer-Huettner, publisher of The Daily Record.

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PASS THE BAR? | Hon. Albert Northrop

Ever wonder the origin of the phrase that admits us to our profession? Well, let's go back to 1381 and the Peasants' Rebellion.

There was an area in London between Fleet Street and the Thames River. The property had been leased in part for inns and lawyers who came to London to appear in the King's court. Lawyers preferred that area because it was adjacent to a gate to Westminster. That gate was a checkpoint and to pass through, one had to pay a toll.

The gate was called the Barrière du Temple which eventually became the "Temple Bar." Lawyers appearing before the King's court would have to pass back and forth through the gate several times a day and could not be expected to pay the toll every time so they were allowed to pass without paying the toll, a very valuable privilege.

Thus a man (and only men in those days) who was qualified to appear before the court earned the privilege to "pass the bar" and they were known as "barristers" because they could go through the "Barrière." And from all of this we also form our associations known as "bar associations." *

*Adapted from "Born In Blood" by historian John Robinson.

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HONORED GUESTS:

Judge Thomas P. Smith Judge A. Michael Chapdelaine



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Membership Meeting, Tuesday, September 27, 2011

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Return form, with check, to: Prince George's County Bar Association, 14330 Old Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772, Phone: 301-952-1442, Email: gperry@pgcba.com

COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES NEWS | Nora C. Eidelman, Deputy Director



Over 10,335 Clients Were Assisted in Fiscal Year 2011 by CLS Through Our Various Services!!

Te express our deep gratitude to our staff and volunteer attorneys

who made it possible to bring legal assistance to over ten thousand low income individuals in Prince George's County. Our staff Neal T. Conway, Charles Ashurst (no longer with CLS), Karin Dalichow, Linda Gantt, Angela Richardson Green, Edith Coral Johnson, Darlene Wright Powell, Juan Coral, Omar Gonzalez, Darielys Pinto, Michael Udejiofor and Angela Wright worked tirelessly to ensure each of our clients received the best legal assistance possible. Thank you!

We are equally thankful to the following volunteer attorneys who provided legal representation to our clients in family, foreclosure and bankruptcy matters.

Alan Burke, Alicia D. Lewis, Amy Brennan, Angela Dawkins, Anthony Hayes Davis II, Anu Kemet, April M. Urban, Ayo M. Stevens, Barry Tapp, Bennie Brooks, Bernard Coleman, Bert Kapinus, Bill Shelton, Caleb Solomon, Camilla McFarlane, Charlene Dukes, Charles Ashurst, Christopher Daniels, Craig Stewart, Crystal Curry, Darlene Wright Powell, David Davenport, Donna Crary, Dontrice Hamilton, Donya Zimmerman, Edoghogho D. Omoruyi, Eric B. Torgeson, Evan V. Goiten, Gidean Obi, Grant Murchison, Gregory Milton, Gregory Schwartz, Harold Boyd, Harry Ezratty, Janel Bell, Jibril Brown, Jill Pogach Michaels, John Brennan, John C. Fredrickson, John Gable, John Green, John Harrison, John Hopkins, Joseph A. Thomas, Joseph Laumann, Joy Robinson, Jumoke Oladapo, Karin Dalichow, Keith Asher, Kimberly Taylor Logan, Kwaku Ofori, Latosha Cooper, Linda Gantt, Maria Patente, Mark Hunt, Martin Oliverio, Martine Jean, Megan O'Connor, Melodie Shuler, Michael Brown, Michelle Davy, Moges Abebe,

Monica Shepherd, Monifa Bailey, Myra Frazier, Omid Azari, Orlando Barnes, Paul Kurth, Phillip Diamond, Raymond Vanzego, Reginald Sealey, Rosa Sobhraj, Sandra Guzman, Sharon Christmas-DeBerry, Sherrie Smith, Sidney Reid, Stephen Stair, Steve Sturgeon, Steven T. Greenblat, Tamal Banton.

Two of Our Foreclosure Success Stories

Oxon Hill homeowner fell behind on mortgage payments in November 2009. She experienced a loss of employment and her monthly mortgage payment increased due to a modification in 2006 which changed the loan terms from a fixed rate to an adjustable rate mortgage. Her payments to Ocwen Financial Services were \$1086 in 2006, but increased to \$1300 per month. The homeowner worked with a housing counselor at Unity Economic Development Corporation, but was unsuccessful in negotiating an affordable loan modification. The homeowner found employment working two part time jobs and continued to look for full time employment. This family of two contacted CLS and our volunteer attorney, John Gabel, negotiated a loan modification and helped the homeowner stay in her home.

A Riverdale homeowner with two children fell behind on mortgage payments due to a serious illness, numerous medical expenses and loss of income. The homeowner attempted to resolve the default and believed she had received a modification with the 1st lender. However when the loan was transferred, that agreement was ignored. An Order to Docket was filed and later a sale date was set. The homeowner contacted CLS and our pro bono attorney, Gregory Schwartz negotiated a permanent loan modification. The homeowner was delighted...her home was saved from foreclosure.

We Have Funding Available to Pay for Attorneys Fees!

CLS continues to refer cases under our Family Law Judicare funding project made available by Maryland Legal Services Corporation. Attorneys receive \$80.00 per hour up to \$1,600.00 per case. Payment is made after the case is concluded.

Due to increased funding from Maryland Legal Services Corporation, CLS is temporarily able to suspend our requirement of accepting one pro bono case for each <u>Judicare case</u>. This is temporary, so please contact Darielys Pinto at 301-864-4907, ext. 11 to get on the list!

Community Legal Services of Prince George's County, Inc. is a non-profit organization established to provide quality civil legal services to low-income persons in Prince George's County. It does this through the generous contribution of legal advice and legal representation by members of the private Bar. Additionally, CLS operates free legal clinics in the County. They are located in the in Circuit Court House and Langley Park. For more information about our services, please contact Nora C. Eidelman, at 301-864-4907, ext. 12.

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COMMUNITY SERVICES SECTION

Law Day

Coordinates annual Law Day USA programs.

Hon. Sherrie L. Krauser 301-952-5285

Law Links

Works through PGCBA to provide placement for summer jobs with area law firms for local high school students.

Hon. Sheila R . Tillerson Adams	301-952-3766
Abigale Bruce-Watson	301-731-0005

Law Related Education/Mock Trial Program

Coordinates with school systems in conducting mock trial programs in area high schools and providing team coaches and judges from Association membership

Hon. Sherrie L. Krauser	301-952-5285
Hon. Tiffany H. Anderson	301-699-2777

Lawyer Referral

Coordinates Association's Lawyer Referral Service and provides information to public re: availability of legal services.

Gerald C. Baker	301-577-4600
John M. McKenna	301-474-0044
Perry Becker	301-262-4400
Arnold Bruckner	301-441-3600

Christmas in April Program

Encourages positive perception of the legal professional as well as Association involvement in activities reaching out to less fortunate members of the community.

Maurene Epps Webb	301-952-5181
Erik H. Nyce	301-352-4950

Prince George's Pro Bono Committee

Coordinates with the State Pro Bono standing committee.

Janet Hart......301-952-2122

Public Service Projects

Administers and oversees grant applications and funding.

Susan L. Bayly......301-405-4943

Speakers Bureau

Receives requests from community groups, organizations and schools for information on law-related topics and provides a speaker based on the interest, background and experience of the attorney.

Traffic School

Oversees the operations of PGCBA's Traffic School.

Hon. C. Philip Nichols Jr......301-952-3907

MEMBER SERVICES SECTION

Cooperative Guidance Program

Coordinates attorneys volunteering to provide special legal assistance to other attorneys in specific area of concentration.

John F. Calabrese......301-699-1400

Fee and Dispute Conciliation Program

Mediates and conducts hearings resolving disputes between Bar members and their clients upon request and agreement of the parties, pursuant to By-Laws; Volunteers intercede upon request as conciliators with other members of the bar and encourage amicable resolution of a discovery and minor disputes.

Martin G. Oliverio	301-513-0613
Gerald Baker	301-577-4600

Lawyers In Need

Provide a confidential source of assistance for attorneys experiencing a personal or professional crisis.

James F. Flynn	.301-932-0700
Robin Shell	.240-472-9919

Memorial Coordinates tributes and service for departed members.	MSBA Liaison John Fredrickson
Hon. William D. Missouri	Member Meeting Programs Arranges topics, programs and speakers for membership meetings.
Solo Practitioner Addresses areas of concern for attorneys in sole practice or small partnership.	Maurene Epps Webb301-952-5181
Jennifer Muskus	Membership & Admissions Encourages membership and participation in PGCBA; reviews applications for membership for conformance with
Technology Provides an evenue for enegialized againtance in gross of	By-Laws.
Provides an avenue for specialized assistance in areas of computerized court procedures, office management, legal research, and electronic communication.	Isaac Marks 301-572-3234 Alison Leonard-Leach 301-580-6830 Clayton Aarons 877-308-3250
Jay Creech410-260-1330	
Young Lawyers	Newsletter
Coordinates professional and social activities of interest to new practitioners and newly admitted members.	Advisory board for topics and contributors for monthly newsletter.
Benjamin E. Rupert 301-952-5158 Denise M. Bowman 301-292-3300 Nakia Gray 301-220-2200	Hon. Albert W. Northrop301-952-3814
	Nominations & Elections Publishes vacancies for officers and directors; reviews qualifications of candidates; recommends nominees in compliance with By-Laws; oversees elections.
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION	•
By-Laws/Parliamentarian	Hon. Nicholas E. Rattal301-952-3227
As required, reviews By-Laws of Association and recommends	Chanacyahin
and drafts changes to be submitted to membership; acts as Parliamentarian for all Association meetings.	Sponsorship Arranges for sponsors to support membership meetings and other special events.
Hon. Gerard Devlin301-262-1696	Bryon Bereano301-502-1972
	C. Todd Steuart301-322-2006
History Carolyn Starks Saxon301-952-3239	Alison Leonard-Leach301-580-6830
Community Legal Services Liaison Hon. Cathy Hollenberg Serrette301-952-3132	SOCIAL & SPECIAL COMMITTEES
	Golf Tournament
Long Range/Strategic Planning	Robin D. Bright
Provides a forum for review of activities and goals of PGCBA; oversees implementation of Association's Strategic Plan.	
Elveta M. Martin301-780-7853	Hospitality Suite Board Officers

Sports Leagues Jeffrey R. DeCaro301-352-495	Juvenile Law O Gregory Powell
LITIGATION SECTION William C. Brennan, Jr301-474-004	Labor & Employment Sheldon L. Gnatt
Committees within this section provide avenues for practitioners to improve their knowledge, quality an efficiency in matters relating to various aspects of the law; many of these committees present practice seminar	d Erik Nyce301-352-4950
and manuals and provide articles of general interests to publication in the monthly newsletter.	
Administrative Law Daniel F. Lynch	
Alternative Dispute Resolution Open	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES SECTION
Appellate Practice Michael A. Wein301-441-115	Alter Ego Program Designated member of Bar acts as a liaison for each Judge and Master to communicate matters of a sensitive or critical nature to a member of the bench in a confidential manner. List published periodically in newsletter.
Bankruptcy Law John D. Burns301-441-878	, , ,
Criminal Law Alan Wolfe	professional conduct; recommends amendments to Rule 1230, Maryland Rules of Professional Conduct. Provides "Hotline"
Estates, Trusts & Probate/Elder Law Benjamin J. Woolery	as a profession and as a member of the Association. Steve Rosen
Family Law Lisa Hesse	
Federal Practice Robert C. Bonsib301-441-300	Alexander Williams, III301-982-8600
Immigration Law Joseph Trevino301-441-313	1

Judicial Nominating Commission

Oversees and coordinates interviews of potential candidates.

Legislative

Monitors legislation; refers bills of particular concern to Board of Directors for adoption of position to be communicated to Legislature.

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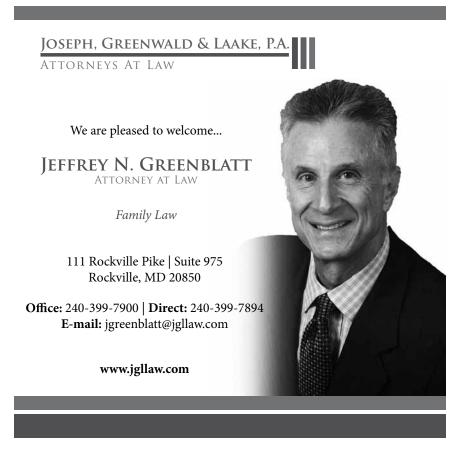
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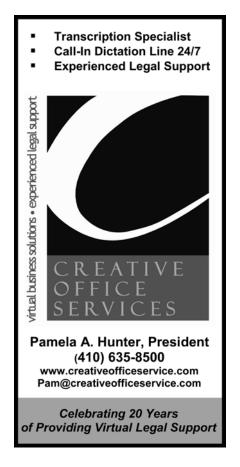
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2011 CALENDAR

SEPT. 27, 2011 MEMBERSHIP MEETING - NEWTON WHITE MANSION

OCT. 27, 2011..... JOINT MEETING MSB APPELLATE COMMITTEE

NOV. 17, 2011...... MEMORIAL SERVICE

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SEPTEMBER 27, 2011

BAR ASSOC. MEETING
Honoring Judges
Thomas P. Smith
& A. Michael Chapdelaine

OCTOBER 27, 2011
JOINT MEETING MSB &
APPELLATE COMMITTEE
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