PGCBA NewsJournal

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

May 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Colleagues,

It's May, I am winding down my year as President of the Bar. Elections are the first week in June and then we have the summer hiatus. I would like to congratulate the four new Prince George's County District Court judges who were recently appointed, Robin Bright, Joseph Wright, Erik Nyce and Karen Mason. All of the appointees are members of our Bar

association, of note three whom currently sit on the Board of Directors for the Prince George's County Bar Association. I commend you all for your dedication to the Bar Association and your work in the community.

Past President Judge Nicholas Rattal established the James Taylor award to honor members of the Bar who have made significant contributions to the Bar and the community. In June 2011, the Bar Association honored the Honorable James Taylor as the first recipient. We are currently accepting nominations for the James Taylor service award. Please contact the Bar Office with any candidates you would like to recommend. The award will be presented at the June 5, 2012 annual meeting.

The March 15, 2012 happy hour at the Old Towne Inn was a success thanks to sponsors Alexander and Cleaver and the Law office of Bryon S. Bereano. If you haven't been to the lawyers lounge in the Duvall wing of the Courthouse, room 3003, please stop by and take advantage of the lounge area, conference room and television available to members only.

As a past Law Links sponsor for many years I want to encourage you and your law firm to make a lasting impact in the life of a young high school student by exposing them to your law practice. Finding placements for the students is crucial to a successful year. So please consider volunteering to place a young high school student in your law firm over the summer.



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Bar Association

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PGCBA Mission Statement

...to represent the legal profession and to serve its members and the community by promoting justice, professional excellence, collegiality and respect for the law.

Lawyers in Need

... an ad hoc program for members under some form of distress or disability which will assist in keeping files productive while help is obtained and assist with professional referrals. For help, call

James Flynn	
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Ethics Hotline

Any member wishing to obtain an informal ethics opinion may call the Ethics Hotline

John R. Foran	301-441-2022
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Designated Conciliator Program

Martin G. Oliverio 301-513-0613

The Prince George's County Bar Association 2012 Law Links Program is starting. Law firms or local agencies with a legal department within our county that might be interested in participating in this year's program by hosting a high school intern for the 2012 Summer, please contact Bridget Gazelle at 301-952-3766 or Geovanny Martinez at 301-952-3767.

Please join us at the Annual meeting and elections on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at the Newton White Mansion. Information and a picture of the candidates running for the PGCBA Board and Secretary are available on our website. Please take a few minutes to review this information to better prepare you to vote.

Your President, Debra M. Davis, Esq.

STEPHEN J. DUNN

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Member Announcements

The Prince George's County Bar Association 2012 Law Links Program is starting.

We are seeking to identify those Law Firms or Local Agencies with a legal department within our County that would be interested in participating in this year's program and in hosting a high school intern for this 2012 summer.

If you are interested or desire more information, please contact Mrs. Bridget Gazelle at: 301-952-3766, or Geovanny E. Martinez at: 301-952-3767. Thank you in advance. We look forward to your participation!

BALLOTS WILL BE AVAILABLE MAY 1ST AT THE BAR OFFICE

AND AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

ON JUNE 5TH, 2012.

A Special Thank You to the following individuals who have made the Law Practice 101 Programs a wonderful success:

JUDGE KRYSTAL ALVES JUDGE JOHN MORRISSEY JUDGE LAWRENCE HILL MICHAEL WINKELMAN TIMOTHY SMITH JENNIFER ROWLETT SUZANNE VETTER

The Bar especially wants to thank ERIK NYCE for the time and effort he has put forth in making this program a reality. Thank you to Anthony Keder, Sean Day and Olekanma Ekekwe for manning the phones for our Legal Advice Line scheduled the 1st Tuesday of every month.

WELCOME New Members!

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"The PGCBA is glad to have you as our new members!"



On behalf of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland 14735 Main Street, Upper Marlboro, Maryland

The Honorable Shelia R. Tillerson Adams, Seventh Circuit and Prince George's County Administrative Judge, Invites you to the

3rd Annual Veterans Appreciation Ceremony and Muster On the Court House Lawn In recognition of our veterans' dedicated service In the Armed Forces of the United States For our country and county.

The ceremony will held in front of the Duvall Wing of the Prince George's County Court House on the 23rd day of May, 2012, at 9:30 a.m.

Following the ceremony, light refreshments will be served.

A CALL TO ALL VETERANS

Please register for this event and provide a picture of yourself (or unit/squadron/platoon) in uniform using the link below.

http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/judicialbranch

Select the <u>'Salute to Veterans'</u> link in the **Related Links** box on the right.

All registration information will be used to develop a video of our veterans. The video will be available for viewing on the website after May 23, 2012.

Pictures may also be submitted by mail (Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you wish to have your picture returned).

For additional information, please contact Ms. Joretta Meyer at 301-952-4140.



CANDIDATE PROFILE FOR THE POSITION OF SECRETARY



Joseph L. Wright – Joseph L. Wright is an Assistant State's Attorney for Prince George's County. Currently, he prosecutes cases in the Violent Crimes Unit which includes serious multi-defendant felonies, and high profile cases. He has prosecuted every type of case in the office. In his ten years in the office, he has first chaired roughly 100 jury trials.

Joseph is an active member of the MSBA and Prince George's Bar. For the Prince George's County Bar, he is currently on the Executive Board, and has been on the Board of Directors for the past three years. For the last five years, he has co-chaired the upcoming golf tournament for J. Franklyn Bourne and the Prince George's Bar. His past bar activities are too numerous to list but include participating in the Follies (which he misses greatly), and coaching a high school mock trial team, etc. He has been a member of the Prince George's Bar for the past 14 years roughly. Through the MSBA, he was a Co-Chair of the Leadership Academy and Member of the Local and Specialty Bars Committee. He is also on the Character Committee for the Fourth Circuit, and presents at the Professionalism Course for the MSBA.

Along with his formal duties as an Assistant State's Attorney, he is very involved within the community. He speaks at numerous schools every year in the County. He sat on the Prince George's County School Board Ethics Panel for the past ten years, and teaches as an adjunct faculty member at Prince George's Community College. He has been very active in political developments and campaigns in Maryland. He is married to a lawyer and has two little future lawyers ages 13 and 10.

CANDIDATE PROFILES FOR THE POSITIONS OF DIRECTOR



Erek L. Barron — Erek L. Barron is Counsel in the Litigation Section of Whiteford, Taylor & Preston, LLP where he focuses on appellate litigation, white collar criminal defense, and general civil litigation in state and federal courts. Erek has served in a variety of state and federal government positions, including as an Assistant State's Attorney for Prince George's County. His bar activities have been numerous, including serving as chair of the Young Lawyers' Section of the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) where he spearheaded the creation of the MSBA mobile app. He has served on the Executive Board of the MSBA board of governors and is the longest serving member of the MSBA Public Awareness Committee which plans an annual Law Day for children. Erek is also a member of the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association where he has served on the Annual Scholarship Banquet Committee. He is also an active member of the American Bar Association, having previously served in the ABA House of Delegates and in leadership positions in the ABA Criminal Justice Section. Erek lives in Mitchellville, worships at Reid Temple AME, and desires to further serve the county's legal community.



Arnold D. Bruckner — Mr. Bruckner was admitted to the D.C. Bar in 12/1971 and the Maryland Bar in 12/1972 and has practiced continuously since then. He has done extensive litigation and transactional work, having started three law firms ranging from solo practice to as many as 15 people. That experience taught him to be able to see other points of view and consider what might work more efficiently or effectively in many situations. During that time, he represented the Prince George's County Bar Assciation in their Judicare program, served over 12 years as chairman of the Bar Association's original Lawyer Referral Prgram, which won an award from the Maryland State Bar Assocication as the best in the state, served on the original Board of Directors for the first Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, the Maryland State Bar Association Travel Committee, twenty-seven years on the Attorney's Grievance Committee Inquiry Panel and subsequent Peer Review Panel, has taught and is still teaching the Maryland State Bar Association Professionalism Course for all but 4 of the sessions since its inception. He also helped draft and implement the Bar Association's Pro Bono Program, including making an integral part of the Lawyer Referral Program, and served on the Board of Directors of this bar association more times than he can recall. Mr. Bruckner also regularly volunteers for the Mock Trial judging and has participated

for many years on the "Ask A Lawyer" Program which has been held on Law Day. For the last several years he has been volunteering for the

Arnold D. Bruckner, con't

ADR in Prince George's and Howard County. He feels he is aware of the needs of the bar and its members and can be helpful in contributing ideas for continuing improvement and support.



Erin Hebert Cancienne — Originally from Louisiana, Erin was licensed in October of 2005, and maintains a membership in the Louisiana Bar Association.

During the summer of 2007, she moved to Maryland and began working in a general litigation firm, DeCaro, Doran, Siciliano, Gallagher & DeBlasis, LLP. She was elected to the Prince George's County Bar Association Board of Directors in June 2009 and served until June 2011. During that time, she has answered the phones on Law Day, attended the Young Lawyer's Summit by the Maryland State Bar Association, and attended both general membership and board meetings.

Stating that she has enjoyed the time spent as a Member of the Board of Directors, she adds that she hopes to continue and expand her involvement with the PGCBA and serve for many years to come.



Alyssa W. Chang, Esq – Alyssa Chang is a member of the Maryland Bar Association (since 1996), the Washington D.C. Bar Association (since 1997), the Virginia Bar Association (since 2002) and the Illinois Bar Association (since 1996).

Her firm, the Law Offices of Alyssa W. Chang, LLC, was established in November 2003 and is located in Upper Marlboro. She has experience Representing clients in all aspects of civil and criminal litigation in the District and Circuit Courts of Maryland and Virginia, and the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. Her main areas of practice include commercial litigation and landlord and tenant law; administrative law, construction law, creditor's rights in bankruptcy courts, personal injury, criminal law, family law, and appellate practice in both state and federal appellate courts. She has served as Panel Attorney for the Office of the Public Defender in Calvert County and Prince George's County and as the Best Interest Attorney in the Circuit Court for Prince George's County; providing pro bono legal services as a domestic attorney for the Bar Foundation of the Montgomery County Bar Association.

Her personal interests include volunteering at the St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church and School. She is a supporter of the Boys Southern Maryland Youth Lacrosse Association and of the Girls Rebels Elite Club Lacrosse.





Manuel R. Geraldo – Mr. Geraldo maintains Bar Memberships in the States of Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, and in the District of Columbia. He is a member of the Maryland Court of Appeals Standing Committee on Pro Bono Service, is a current Board Member and President of the Pro Bono Resource Center, is former Chair of the Prince George's County Local Pro Bono Committee, has served as Commisioner of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, and is a member of the National Bar Association, Maryland Hispanic Bar Association, and the Maryland Association of Justice. He is a past president of the Greater Washington Ibero American Chamber of Commerce, was a past Director, Secretary, and Counsel of Leadership Washington, has served as Director of the Portuguese American Leadership Council, was on the Board of Consultants for Riggs National Bank and has been Director of the Portuguese Heritage Scholarship Foundation.

He currently practices in Fort Washington at Robinson & Geraldo Law Offices.



Giancarlo M. Ghiardi – A civil insurance defense attorney for the past 20 years, with most of his cases in Prince George's County and Southern Maryland. Mr. Ghiardi has tried over 200 personal injury lawsuits to verdict. He has had experience with most of the insurance companies in Maryland having worked in the private sector with Sasscer, Clagett & Bucher and Decaro, Doran, as well as staff counsel for Nationwide and State Farm.

Mr. Ghiardi is presently a Senior Attorney with Timothy Smith & Associates, assisting Timothy Smith with the management of a 16 attorney office for State Farm.

He has been an active member of the Prince George's County Bar Association for 20 years, and is currently a Co-Chair of the Tort Law Subcommittee. He has had experience presenting seminars on Voir Dire, the use of defence IME's, Expert discovery, obtaining Impeachment Evidence and Medical Evidence and Causation issues.



Walter W. Green – Walter W. Green has been a member of the Prince George's County Bar Association since 2001 and has served on the Prince George's County Bar Association Board of Directors since 2010. Mr. Green is the Co-Chair of the Estates, Trusts & Probate/Elder Law Committee for the Prince George's County Bar Association and also serves on the holiday auction committee.

Mr. Green was born and raised in Prince George's County and resides in College Park, Maryland with his wife and four children. Mr. Green is the principal of the Law Offices of Walter W. Green in College Park, Maryland. Mr. Green concentrates his practice in real estate litigation, estate and probate litigation, appellate practice, insurance claims litigation, and business litigation. Mr. Green is appointed to the Peer Review Committee of the Attorney Grievance Commission of the State of Maryland and has served as a volunteer Alternative Dispute Resolution Mediator in the District Court of Maryland for Prince George's County. Mr. Green is a member of the American Inn of Court of Southern Maryland and is a mentor in the Court of Appeals of Maryland Mentoring Program for New

Admittees. Mr. Green is a graduate of the University of Maryland and the University of Baltimore School of Law and is a member of the Maryland State Bar Association.



Jeffrey L. Harding – Mr. Harding first served on the PGCBA Board of Directors in 1986 and is a current member. He was an Assitant State's Attorney from 1984 to 1991, serving as Senior Trial Attorney in the Homocide Unit.

He has been with Sasscer, Clagett & Bucher since 1991. Mr. Harding is married with three children, served in the United States Marine Corps and is a black belt martial arts instructor.



Randall S. Herriott — Mr. Herriott has been a member of the Prince George's County Bar Association since 1998. He also maintains memberships in the Charles County Bar Association, the Maryland State Bar Association, and the Collaborative Professionals of Southern Maryland. He is currently with the Law Firm of Sasscer, Clagett & Bucher located in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Previously, he practiced with the Law Firm of Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.

Mr. Herriott has resided in southern Prince George's County with his wife and children since 1998. His area of practice is focused in family law. He regularly attends continuing legal education seminars, and has received advanced training through the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. He is a recent contributor to the Family Law News, Maryland State Bar Association.

In addition, Mr. Herriott also performs pro bono services for deserving clients. He adds that he has a strong desire to become more involved in the Prince George's County Bar Association.



William Renahan — Mr. William Renahan is a veteran of the Vietnam War and is a 1980 graduate of the Potomac School of Law, Washington, D.C. and has been practicing law ever since. He is at present a trial attorney for the office of Vallario and Collins located in Suitland, Maryland. Before that he worked in the Offices of the Public Defender for Charles, St. Mary's and Prince George's County. In addition to his practice of law, Mr. Renahan is an Adjunct Professor at St. Mary's College of Southern Maryland where he teaches Business Law and is an instructor in the Paralegal program.

He is a member of the Maryland State Bar, Charles County Bar Association and the Prince George's County Bar Association. He is also active in the Maryland Criminal Defense Attorneys Association, Alan Goldstein Memorial Inn of Court and the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. Mr. Renahan would like to become more active in the Prince George's County Bar Association and welcomes the chance to serve on the Board of Directors.



Benjamin E. Rupert – Mr. Rupert has been employed by the Office of the State's Attorney for two years. He tries criminal cases on a daily basis and has had a total of eight jury trials.

Mr. Rupert is an active member of the PGCBA. He organized the Brown Bag Lunch seminars that began in December 2011 and has continued on a monthly basis to date. He is a member of the Long Range Planning Committee with Judge Rattal. In addition, he is currently in the process of organizing a long term pro-bono project for the bar association that would involve members volunteering their time to help underprivileged County residents expunge their criminal records, thereby improving their chances of finding gainful employment.

He was appointed to the Prince George's County Bar Association Board of Directors in June 2011 by President Deborah Davis and chosen to Chair the Young Lawyer's Section. He attended the Bar Presidents' Conference and the Young Lawyers' Summit in Lancaster County, PA from September 22-24 where he

met MSBA President Henry Dugan, and was appointed to the MSBA Special Committee on Law Reform.

Mr. Rupert's extracurricular activities include organizing the basketball and softball teams for the State's Attorney's Office, training police officers in court room procedure and testimony with Judge Nichols, and serving as the State's Attorney's Office's liaison with the MSBA on legislative issues.

Benjamin Rupert con't

He adds that he takes his job and profession very seriously, and does his best to make sure victims of crime in Prince George's County see justice brought to the criminals who wronged them. He hopes to continue serving the PGCBA.



Benjamin J. Woolery – Mr. Woolery has served twenty-three years in The Law Offices of McGill & Woolery as a general practice, including several independent contracts to Prince George's County government (particularly Counsel to the Prince George's County Board of Zoning & Administrative Appeals 1995-2003) and panel Public Defender 1989 - 1996. He was the President of the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce from 2003 to 2004. From 2009 to 2011 he was a member of the subcommittee of the Maryland Rules Committee "Guardianship forms in the Orphans' Court" and related lectures to Maryland Association of Orphans' Court Judges and the Maryland Association of Registers of Wills. He is a member of PEACE Coalition [Preventing Elder Abuse & Criminal Exploitation].

Mr. Woolery has been a member of the Prince George's County Bar Association from 1988 to present; Chair of the PGCBA Probate, Estates and Trusts Committee 2006 to present; member of the Maryland State Bar Association's Elder Law Section Council 1995 to present (Chair: 2002-2003); member of the Maryland Attorney Grievance Commission's peer review panel 2010 to present. He has contributed numerous articles

for the Prince George's County Bar Assocation NewsJournal 1988 to present; member of the Prince George's County Bar Association Board of Directors 2010 – 2012; admitted to: United States District Court for the District of Maryland, United States Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, United States Supreme Court, Court of Appeals of Maryland, and District of Columbia Bar.





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



Our 5K Fun Run / 3K Fun Walk was a success!

We are grateful to all the participants. We congratulate the winners of the 5K Race, **Robert**

Rowlett at 26.14 minutes, and Jennifer Rowlett at 26.22 minutes. We thank the following sponsors for their support: MACK-CALI Realty Corporation, JOSEPH, GREENWALD & LAAKE, P.A., McNamee Hosea, Robinson & Geraldo, PC, Train Printing Co. Inc., Muskus & Muskus, L.L.C., O'Malley, Miles, Nylen & Gilmore, P.A., HomeSource Real Estate Solutions, DeCaro, Doran, Siciliano, Gallagher & DeBlasis, LLP, Johnson Pediatric Dentistry, Atrium at TREETOPS, Valerie Adeyeye, Esq., Shortcake Bakery, Michele LaRocca, Esq., TLC Pediatrics.

Our special thanks go to the members of our Board of Directors charged with organizing this race: Lindsay K. Erdmann, Jennifer L. Muskus, Wanda Ramos and Monise A. Stephenson. Great job!! We look forward to hosting this race yearly. Below we share some photos of the race. Community Legal Services of Prince George's County, Inc. is a non-profit organization established to provide quality civil legal services to lowincome 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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Jonathan R. Oates is an attorney with Jezic, Krum & Moyse, LLC; with offices in Prince George's and Montgomery County.

Mr. Oates regularly practices criminal law in all Northern Virginia counties, including *Fairfax, Arlington,* <u>Alexandria, Prince William</u>, and <u>Loudoun</u>

Contact Jon with your Virginia referral/questions:

in Virginia at (703) 763-7708

or in Maryland at (240) 292-7200





The Most Important Meal of the Day Made Easy

The most important meal of the day is also the one that people most often skip. There's plenty of time

at the end of the day to relax and eat, but busy professionals tend to find themselves rushing out of the door each morning and forgetting to consume anything more than a cup of coffee. This is a bad habit that many of us fall into all too easily. I've been guilty of it myself. However, skipping breakfast is the worst way to start your day. You don't give your metabolism the boost that it needs to get going in the morning and your blood sugar levels can become unstable due to your lack of having consumed a healthy, balanced meal. No one has time to cook an elaborate breakfast or to go out to eat on weekday mornings. But all you really need is a maximum of 10 minutes and you can prepare a healthy meal that will give you a great balance of macronutrients, while fueling your body for a good 3 hours or so. Everyone has 10 minutes. If you don't have 10 extra minutes in the morning before you head out, set your alarm to give yourself the few additional minutes it takes to improve your energy levels and metabolism for the balance of your day. It's worth it. Next: several options for a quick morning meal.

My Option #1 - My favorite morning meal. I prefer starting my day with a healthy serving of protein since I know that this is the best way to maintain muscle mass, help my body burn calories, and rev up my metabolism. So, I usually have a breakfast sandwich made of 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ servings of egg beaters, 4 slices of thin shaved Oscar Meyer Deli Selects chicken breast, 1 slice of 33% reduced fat sharp cheddar cheese, and a 100 calorie Arnold Sandwich Thin (i.e. low-cal thin sliced bread). I start by spraying my frying pan with zero calorie Pam, then measuring out my egg beaters. A 1/4 cup and a half of a 1/4 cup is only 45 calories but makes a pretty substantial sized omelet. Next, I throw the sandwich round into the toaster oven and set it for 2 minutes. I then start preparation of my omelet, adding 1 slice of reduced fat 60 calorie cheddar cheese. Just before the omelet is done, I throw in the 4 slices of thin sliced

sandwich meat to cook along side of the eggs. Within 5 minutes from when I started, my bread is ready to come from the toaster nice and warm, and my omelet and meat are ready to complete my breakfast sandwich. After putting it all together, I grab an orange, slice it in quarters, throw half of it into a sandwich bag, and wrap my sandwich in foil. In less than 10 minutes total, I've got a very filling, protein packed meal with 26 grams of protein, 31 carbs, and 6 grams of fiber, all for about 250 calories! And, it's so filling, I can barely eat it all at once! (Nutritional info on this meal: $\frac{1}{2}$ orange – 30 calories, 2 grams fiber, 8 carbs, 1 gram protein; egg beaters – 45 calories, 9 grams protein, less than 2 carbs; reduced fat cheese: 60 calories, 6 grams protein, 0 carbs; sandwich thin/bread- 100 calories, 4 grams protein, 22 carbs, 5 grams fiber, sandwich meat-33 calories, 6 grams protein, 1 carb)

My Option #2 – This is a great winter time breakfast that keeps you feeling full for a long time. It's good old fashioned oatmeal, with some modern day additions. Today, because we now realize the value of protein and how it's important to prevent muscle wasting as we age, what used to be plain old oatmeal is now like oatmeal on steroids! You can find Quaker oatmeal in low sugar varieties and in carb control varieties that boast additional protein and fiber, while carrying decreased amounts of sugar. One of my favorites - Quaker Weight Control cinnamon- contains 7 grams of protein, 29 grams of carbs, 6 grams of fiber, only 1 gram of sugar, and is only 160 calories. Plus, it only takes about 5 minutes to boil hot water to prepare your meal. With my oatmeal, I'll typically also throw in a banana for good measure(which only adds 72 calories) and still have a meal containing less than 235 calories.

My option #3 – when you're really pressed for time, and you need something that can be prepared and consumed entirely on the run, I go for a protein shake. My choice is Muscle Milk Light. Leave a few of these in your fridge and all it'll take is about 60 seconds to grab it on your way out of the door. In your car, you just shake and then drink. That's it. Vanilla Creme is one of my favorite flavors and it boasts 20 grams of protein, 6 grams of carbs, only 2 grams of fat, 2 grams of sugar, and only 140 calories. This is probably the best nutritional bang for your buck when you don't have time to cook a meal like the one described as option 1.

My option #4 -this is for when you have just a few more minutes of time on your hands. A fruit smoothie and lean turkey bacon or turkey sausage links. I like this combination because you get a variety of nutrients from the various fruits in your smoothie, but you also satisfy your desire to actually chew and consume a portion of your meal. I also like the fact that I address both the sweet and salty cravings I experience. The key to keeping your preparation time down with this meal combination is to start your sausage or bacon cooking prior to mixing your smoothie ingredients in a blender. So while your meat is cooking, you want to measure out 8 ounces of orange juice, cubes of ice, 1 cup of frozen mixed berries (I like blueberries, blackberries and strawberries), 1/2 banana, 2 tablespoons of honey and 1 pack of Splenda. Start the blender and let it do all of your work while you finish up cooking your meat. It'll take about another couple minutes to ensure your breakfast meat is completely cooked, and by then, your smoothie is all done and waiting for you. The good thing about this meal is that it's pack and go also. It takes about twelve minutes in total and packs a ton of vitamins, and fiber. The smoothie contains approximately 315 calories. The orange juice, containing 100 calories, is the most calorie dense component of the drink. So to decrease the calorie content, you can substitute flavored zero calorie iced tea or a similar low calorie beverage. If you opt for turkey bacon as your meat choice, you'll add an additional 70 calories and 4 grams of protein for 2 slices.

Everyone has ten to fifteen minutes or can make fifteen minutes to get their day started right. If not every day, shoot for a minimum of 4 days a week. You'll notice that you have more energy throughout the day and with these four options I've included, you know you'll be getting in a healthy balance of micro and macro nutrients. Starting your day on the right foot makes it more likely that you'll end it with healthier eating habits. Why drive through McDonald's or Dunkin Donuts when you can make it yourself healthier, for less cost, and in about as much time as it takes to wait in line at a drive through?

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LAW 101 APRIL REPORT | by Erik Nyce

L aw 101 was originally a joint project between the judiciary of Prince George's County and the Prince George's County Bar Association as a method of educating attorneys in the highest standards which have come to be known in Prince George's County. In 2011, the Board of Directors reinstituted the program for 2012. Two successful programs have been held thus far.

On Thursday, March 1, 2012, the first program was "Ask a Proper Question, Fact Witnesses and Expert Witnesses". The handout, which is available on the Prince George's County Bar Association's website was provided which outlines a number of the rules applicable to testimonial evidence. The Honorable John P. Morrissey of the District Court of Maryland for Prince George's County gave his perspective as to testimonial evidence from the standpoint of the District Court. The Honorable Krystal Quinn Alves of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, provided her insight as to the testimonial evidence from the perspective of the Circuit Court. Erik Nyce, Esquire, of DeCaro, Doran, Siciliano, Gallagher & DeBlasis, LLP, in Bowie, Maryland, presented a brief discussion of various important rules of evidence, followed by a mock direct and cross examination of a witness to an automobile accident. Jennifer Rowlett, Esquire, of DeCaro, Doran, Siciliano, Gallagher & DeBlasis, LLP, in Bowie, Maryland, participated as the witness. During the presentation, a number of questions were fielded from the audience. The Prince George's County Bar Association wishes to present it's thanks to Judge Morrissey, Judge Alves and Jennifer Rowlett for their informative presentation.

The second installment of Law 101 was held on April 5, 2012. The topic was "District Court Mock Trial". The subject of the mock trial was an automobile accident which occurred at the intersection of Route 301 and Route 725 in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. The defendant's vehicle struck the plaintiff's vehicle in the rear. The defendant raised the "sudden stop" defense.





Both the Andrade v. Housein and Toufell v. O'Dell cases were argued. The handout, which included copies of the cases, was provided and is available on the Prince George's County Bar Association's website. Exemplar medical records which had been redacted to remove references to the patient, parties and treating physicians were provided to counsel and the Court. The Honorable Lawrence V. Hill, Jr., of the District Court of Maryland for Prince George's County, served as the judge. Michael Winkelman, Esquire, in private practice in Bowie, Maryland, served as plaintiff's counsel. Timothy Smith, Esquire, State Farm house counsel, served as defense counsel. Jennifer Rowlett, Esquire, of DeCaro, Doran, Siciliano, Gallagher & DeBlasis, LLP, in Bowie, Maryland, served as Plaintiff. Susan Vetter, Esquire, of the Jaklitsch Law Group, in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, served as the defendant. Erik H. Nyce, Esquire, of DeCaro, Doran, Siciliano, Gallagher & DeBlasis, LLP, in Bowie, Maryland, acted as the moderator. After a spirited trial, the court found in favor of the Plaintiff and awarded the medical bills and pain and suffering. The court declined to award "estimated costs" of an MRI bill and the property damage deductible. A question and answer session was held and the second session of Law 101, District Court of Maryland was adjourned. Our thanks to the attorneys and witnesses, particularly Judge Hill, for their participation in this interesting and informative program.



Attendees at Law 101 maybe able to self-certify 1.5 hours of continuing legal education credits for attending the program.

Prince George's County Bar Association also wishes to thank our Chief Administrative Judge, Sheila Tillerson Adams for allowing Law 101 to use Courtroom M1404 for the program.



The next session of Law 101 will be presented in May (date to be announced) at 4:00 p.m. The topic is: **Client to Courthouse** - **Do I take the case and what next?** A follow-up notice will provide the date and location.

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BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES: TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE **COURTROOM LITIGATION** | by Judge Michael R. Pearson



Recently, I was asked to conduct a "brown bag" lunch discussion with members of the PGCBA about any topic that I desired. The first thing that popped into my head was, "The Do's & Don'ts of Effective Courtroom Litigation," because as a judge, I have a bird's eye view of what works in court and what doesn't.

However, after some thought, I decided against highlighting the "don'ts" for a couple of reasons. The easiest, yet least productive, thing a judge can do is to focus on what a lawyer does wrong; it creates a negative foundation for the case and often hampers objectivity. Moreover, I wanted the discussion to be more of an inspiration than a reprimand. Below is an outline of the "do's" that we highlighted during our lunch. Certainly, it is not an exhaustive list of what you can do to be an effective litigator, but I am confident that if you employ a few of these tips, you'll be able to quickly elevate your courtroom "game."

1. KNOW THE RULES OF YOUR CRAFT

In order to be a good litigator, you must know the rules that control the courtroom, court proceedings, and the law relevant to your case; otherwise, you are operating with a handicap. Therefore, at minimum, you must repeatedly review and familiarize yourself with the following resources: Maryland's Rules of Evidence, Courts & Judicial Proceedings, the Trial Handbook (for civil litigators), the Criminal Trial Manual (for criminal litigators), and recent judicial opinions. Additionally, have quick access to these materials when you are in court.

2. HONE YOUR CRAFT OUTSIDE OF THE COURTROOM

To be good in court, you must practice your craft outside of court. As often as possible, you should attend bar sponsored update sessions and be quick to talk shop with fellow litigators. Additionally, do not hesitate to go and watch other litigators at work—who knows what tricks you might pick up.

3. DO YOUR HOMEWORK

- It may sound cliché, but "the separation is in the preparation." In other words, the difference between a good attorney and an outstanding attorney is the level of preparation. Never let anyone win because they outworked you. If you are venturing into unfamiliar territory, do some reconnaissance on the judge that will handle your case; find out his/her pet peeves and preferences. Along those same lines, if you are going to an unfamiliar jurisdiction, find out about the culture of the court. Trust me-- you will be doing a service to yourself and your client.
- Know the facts of your case better than anyone else. No one should ever know your case better than you. If they do, you will likely lose---plain and simple.
- Always go to the scene. If your facts have a scene of occurrence, visit the location and test your theory of the case...is it possible that the auto accident happened the way your client alleges? Could the cops have really seen that hand-to-hand transaction from the specified point



of observation? Make sure you know what is and is not plausible.

- Be organized. When dealing with heavy caseloads, devise a systematic approach to handling your cases. Create a system that permits you to work quickly and efficiently without compromising thoroughness.
- Do not be afraid to prep your witnesses. Often, trial attorneys shy away from preparing their witness because they do not want an opponent to assert that a witness has been "prepared" to testify. I say hogwash! As a litigator, I'd rather deal with the "she's been prepared to testify" argument, as opposed to being stuck with a "Homer Simpson" response to a critical question. However, never, never, never tell a witness what he or she needs to say!



Merely make sure they are reminded of what they have said on previous occasions and alert them to any potential "landmines."

4. BE PREPARED TO PUT ON A SHOW

Putting on a trial before a jury is a performance. Therefore, be prepared to make an organized presentation. Script out your case—devise a logical sequencing to the witness order. Lay it out as if you are telling a story. Additionally, clearly identify each witness's purpose and the key points that you want to highlight through that witness. Do the same for your opponent's case, so that you know what to expect and develop a plan for dealing with it.



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