

# PGCBA NewsJournal

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

May 2011

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Dear Colleagues:*

The month of April was an exciting month for the Bar Association. We have had a record number of people apply to be on the Board of Directors. It will be quite an interesting election at the June 7th meeting. Please attend the meeting to vote. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please drop by the Bar Office to cast your ballot. Ballots will be available the week of April 25, 2011.

The April Bar meeting honoring the career of the Honorable James P. Salmon was a huge success. It was a wonderful opportunity to see friends and to catch up with each other, as well as celebrating the career of a great person. Many people worked very hard to get that meeting up and going. I would like to thank the committee – The Honorable Sheila R. Tillerson Adams, Denise Bowman, Jennifer Muskus, Iris Wyvill, Phil Zuber, and Erik Nyce. A special thanks to Phil Zuber and his wonderful wife, Janna. Janna was responsible for the beautiful floral arrangements. I would also like to personally thank Erik Nyce and his firm for the printing of the brochures. Additionally, I want to thank Planet Depos, who volunteered their audio visual expertise, to allow everybody to see and hear the meeting. Lastly a very special thank you to our talented master of ceremonies, the Honorable Glenn T. Harrell, Jr.

I also want to give every member advanced notice that the Board of Directors approved the creation of a new award to be given annually by the Bar Association, the Honorable James H. Taylor Award. This award will be given for outstanding commitment and dedication to the practice of law, to the community and to the State. This award will be presented at the Annual Meeting in June. This year's award will be given on June 7, 2011 at Newton White Mansion. Our first recipient will be the Honorable James H. Taylor. It is a much deserving award to a fine individual and a trailblazer in both Prince George's County and in the State of Maryland. Please plan to attend to support the Bar Association in its recognition of Judge Taylor.



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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Member Announcements**  
Page 4

**Court Announcement**  
Page 5

**Candidate Profiles**  
Pages 6 - 12

**Annual Meeting/Elections**  
Page 13

**History Corner**  
Pages 14 and 15

**Get Healthy Today**  
Pages 16 and 17

**Community Legal Services**  
Page 18

**Membership Meeting**  
Page 19

**Golf Classic**  
Page 20

**Golf Sponsorship**  
Page 21

**2011 Calendar**  
Page 22

**Classified Ads**  
Page 23

# PGCBA NewsJournal

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## The Prince George's County Bar Association

Established 1902

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## PGCBA Mission Statement

...to represent the legal profession and to serve its members  
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### 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 ..... 301-932-0700  
Robin Shell ..... 240-472-9919

### Ethics Hotline

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

John R. Foran ..... 301-441-2022  
Steven Rosen ..... 301-699-1400

### Designated Conciliator Program

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

I also want to remind members that when voting for future judicial vacancies, that the online voting is confidential. The only part that the Bar Association has access to, besides the totals, is the fact of who actually voted, not who people voted for.

So once again, if I can be of any further assistance to you please do not hesitate to contact the Bar Association. I would encourage all of our members to support the upcoming events and to be an active member of our Bar Association. Without the members, our Association is nothing. My door is always open as is that of all of our Board members. We welcome all concerns, comments, and ideas.

Sincerely,  
Nicholas E. Rattal

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Former Judge, Court of Special Appeals of Maryland



**Kenneth L. Thompson, Esq.**  
Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers

# MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

## *Ethics Hotline*

The Ethics Hotline for the Prince George's County Bar Association provides members with informal oral ethics opinions on issues faced by practicing attorneys. The oral opinions provided are intended to be a guide for inquiring attorneys and, since they are given without any formal research, they are not to be relied upon as formal advice that absolutely protects the inquiring party as a result of the conversation. Sometimes just discussing possible ethical situations can guide or assist an attorney in analyzing fact specific situations themselves since it is the individual attorney who is responsible for his or her own actions.

In the event a formal opinion is required on a specific topic, the inquiry should be made to the Maryland State Bar Association Ethics Committee who will respond in writing if deemed appropriate. Unlike the informal oral opinions provided by the Ethics Hotline of the Prince George's County Bar Association, those written opinions of the Maryland State Bar Association Ethics Committee do provide a basis for taking specific action consistent with the written opinions.

The Ethics Hotline is often presented with inquiries about conflicts of interest situations, obligations to clients regarding various legal or procedural matters, the propriety of the inquiring attorney taking specific actions, or perhaps the best way to handle a particularly difficult client. In many cases the inquiring attorney already has a good idea what the answer to the inquiry might be but just wants some reassurance that he or she is acting properly under the circumstances.

John Foran  
Steve Rosen

# THANK YOU!



*Thank you to Murray Zitver for manning the phones for our Legal Advice line on April 5, 2011 . Thank you to C. Todd Steuart and Dave Simpson for a successful Goldstein Seminar on March 26, 2011*

## *McNamee Hosea Announces New Additions To Their Law Firm*

DANIEL F. LYNCH –Practicing land use and zoning law  
MATTHEW C. TEDESCO – Practicing land use and zoning law  
LINDSEY K. ERDMANN – Practicing Domestic Law

DANIEL LYNCH is co-chair of the administrative law committee for the Prince George's County Bar Association and LINDSEY ERDMANN is chair of the family law committee for the Prince George's County Bar Association and is responsible for the Annual Family Law Seminar.

## *New Contact for Circuit Court Criminal Pleas*

In light of the promotion of former paralegal, Lee Cobb, to the State's Attorney's office, there will be a new contact regarding any Circuit Court Criminal Pleas to be scheduled or if anyone would like to discuss the possibility of a plea.

Please contact Jennifer Payne at 301-952-4173 and she will schedule things accordingly.

**Ashcraft & Gerel, LLP**  
mourns the loss and honors the life  
of our beloved remaining founding partner

## **Martin E. Gerel**

**October 27, 1918 – April 1, 2011**

Our partner, mentor and friend of many years, who along with Lee C. Ashcraft founded the law firm of Ashcraft & Gerel 58 years ago, was known as a leading expert in the field of Workers' Compensation. From a small DC walk up in 1953, Lee and Marty grew the firm to one of the largest personal injury law firms in the nation. He was known to all who dealt with him professionally as a tireless advocate and a relentless adversary, but to all of us at Ashcraft & Gerel he was "Marty" – dignified, fair, compassionate and uncompromising in his principles. He was a great lawyer, a great partner and a great friend. We will miss him.

The Lawyers & Staff of  
**Ashcraft & Gerel, LLP**

# COURT ANNOUNCEMENT

## *Modification of Process for Request of Interpreter*

The Circuit Court For Prince George's County, Maryland

**Effective June 1, 2011, the process for requesting an interpreter will be modified.**

1. **The interpreter request form should be included at the initial filing of the case.** The new process will link each interpreter request to a specific case and that request will follow the case until it is closed. No subsequent request will be needed. The Circuit Court Clerk's Office will accept either the State request form (CC-DC 41) or the Prince George's County request form (located on the Prince George's County Website Judicial Branch/Forms page).
2. **All interpreter request forms must be filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court in the specific division related to the case type.** Delivering the form to any other office or presenting the form in the courtroom will likely delay the scheduling process.
3. **The interpreter request form may still be submitted online (Prince George's County website). A formal order or motion is not required.** Selecting one of the four court divisions (Civil, Criminal, Family, and Juvenile) will direct the submitted form to the appropriate office within the Clerk of the Circuit Court.
4. **Interpreter request forms will only need to be completed once for each party in a case requiring an interpreter.** Interpreter request forms should contain specific information about which party requires an interpreter and the language needed.
5. Requests for Interpreters must be submitted no less than 30 days prior to the scheduled court date, absent extraordinary circumstances.

**For more information, contact the Circuit Court Interpreter Coordinator, Mr. David Fritz, at 301-952-3003.**

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

**AARON L. MEYERS**  
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OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY

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

# CANDIDATE PROFILE FOR THE POSITION OF SECRETARY



**Denise M. Bowman** — Ms. Bowman is a Managing Partner with the law offices of Alexander & Cleaver, P.A. in Fort Washington, Maryland. She has been a member of the Prince George’s County Bar Association for twenty (20) years, serving on the Executive Board 2010-2011; Board of Directors 2007 – 2011; holiday auction committee 2010; new admittee reception committee 2010 – 2011; long range planning committee 2007 – 2008; Law 101 committee 2007 – 2009.

Ms. Bowman was appointed to Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Commission for Commission District Thirteen – Prince George’s County and the Peer Review Committee of the Attorney Grievance Commission of the State of Maryland (2003 – present). In addition, she was an Alternative Dispute Resolution volunteer for the Prince George’s County District Court.

Ms. Bowman is also a Member of the District of Columbia and Maryland Bar Associations.

# CANDIDATE PROFILES FOR THE POSITIONS OF DIRECTOR



**Clayton A. Aarons, Esq.** — Clayton Aarons is currently employed as a Solo Practitioner in the Law Offices of Clayton A. Aarons, LLC in Largo, Maryland. Clayton was formerly employed by the State’s Attorney’s Office for Prince George’s County, Maryland as Chief of the Circuit Court Division. He had served as Assistant Chief of the District Court Division and as Chief of the Homicide Unit. Prior to his employment there, he was an Assistant Public Defender for Prince George’s County, Maryland from August 1987 to August 2000 and served on active duty in the US Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps from 1985 to August 1987.

His bar activities have included service on the Board of Directors of the Community Legal Services of Prince George’s County from 2002- 2010, as a member and as Secretary for two years. He has served on the Maryland State Bar Association’s, Board of Directors for the Pro Bono Resource Center in Baltimore, Maryland for three years. He has had the pleasure to serve for the past two years on the Board of Directors of the Prince George’s County Bar Association. Clayton has most recently served as a volunteer attorney assisting homeowners in battling mortgage foreclosures. In addition to his bar activities, he has served on the Maryland State Department of Education’s Parent Advisory Council Education Policy Subcommittee 2003 – 2004 and on the Board of Trustees for Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church, for the past eight years, as a member and as Chair of the 1444 Q Street Committee, which has successfully undertaken to renovate the old historic parsonage into a market rate rentable townhouse development. He intends to continue his service to the bar and the community. His service includes serving on the board and promoting fellow attorneys to participate in bar activities and in joining the bar as members of this organization.



**Tamal A. Banton, Esq.** — Tamal A. Banton is senior counsel in the Bowie and Baltimore offices of Funk & Bolton, P.A. and is a member of the firm’s Local Government Practice Group, concentrating in civil litigation, constitutional law, government and municipal law, and contract law. While serving as attorney in the Local Government Practice Group with Funk & Bolton, Mr. Banton has represented several counties and municipalities throughout the state of Maryland in various matters, including but not limited to the Prince George’s County Police Department and the Prince George’s County’s Department of Social Services.

Mr. Banton currently serves as the town attorney for the Town of Eagle Harbor, a municipality in Prince George’s County. Mr. Banton is also a resident of Prince George’s County.



# CANDIDATE PROFILES FOR THE POSITIONS OF DIRECTOR



***Erin Hebert Cancienne*** — Originally from Louisiana, Erin was licensed in October of 2005, and clerked for the Honorable Anthony Ragusa, Jr. of the 25th Judicial District of Louisiana.

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. In the past 2 years, 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.

In addition to being a member of Prince George’s County Bar Association, she has also for the last two years served as a Board Member. She is also a member of the Marlborough Inn of Court, the Louisiana State Bar Association and the D.C. Bar Association.



***Sharon Christmas-DeBerry*** — Sharon is a member of the Maryland State Bar Association. She has been on the Prince George’s County Bar Association Golf Committee for 3 years.

Sharon is also a member of the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, where she has held the position of President, Recording Secretary & Treasurer, and Executive Officer. She has served in numerous committees there, including Scholarship Banquet, Golf Tournament, Judicial Nominating, New Admittee’s, Christmas in April, and the High School Oratorical Competition.

As a member of the National Bar Association, Sharon has held the position of Regional Director, Region IV (2010 – 2011), and Deputy Regional Director, Region IV (2009 – 2010). She took part in the National Bar Association’s Planning Committee - Annual Convention 2011, Sponsorship Committee - Annual Convention 2011 and participated in the MLK Drum Major for Justice Competition for 2010 and 2011.

Sharon has served as Chair-Mediation Committee, Prince George’s County Circuit Court Foreclosure Mediation Task Force. She was a Court Appointed Trustee for the Circuit Court Prince George’s County 2004 – present and she is a Pro Bono Foreclosure volunteer.



***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.

# CANDIDATE PROFILES FOR THE POSITIONS OF DIRECTOR



***Nakia V. Gray, Esq.*** — Ms. Gray has been an attorney in the Family Law & Estates/Trusts Practice Groups at Joseph, Greenwald, & Laake, P.A., since 2008. She represents clients in divorce, custody, child support, adoption and estate planning matters including probate and trust administration matters, as well as guardianship administration in both Maryland and the District of Columbia.

Ms. Gray has been a member of the Prince George’s County Bar Association Board of Directors (2009 – 2011) and member of the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association Board of Directors (2008 – present). In addition, she was a member of the Maryland Institute for Dance Board of Directors (2010), Treasurer, Friends of Joanne C. Benson (2009 – present), and Member, Leadership Prince George’s (Class of 2010).

Her Bar Association Activities include: Oratorical Contest, J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, Golf Committee, Prince George’s County Bar & J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, Family Law Committee, Prince George’s County Bar Association, Banquet Committee, J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, Young Lawyers Committee, Prince George’s County Bar Association, Liaison, Prince George’s County Bar Association Family Law Committee.

Ms. Gray also serves her community by donating over 100 hours each year to pro bono efforts.



***Janet Hart*** — For over 25 years, Ms. Hart has worked as an assistant public defender in Prince George’s County. 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. On two occasions she was named Public Defender of the Year for Prince George’s County. In 2006, she was given the Office of Public Defender, Death Penalty Defense Award and the Law Foundation of Prince George’s County, Fred R. Joseph Award.

Ms. Hart has served as the Chair of the Prince George’s County Pro Bono Committee since November of 2009 and has completed two years on the Board of Directors for the Prince George’s County Bar Association.



***Anthony D. Mayo*** — In November 2010, Anthony D. Mayo established the Law Office of Anthony D. Mayo, LLC, which is located in Largo, Maryland. He is also an adjunct professor in the Criminology and Criminal Justice Department at Virginia Union University. Prior to going into private practice, Mr. Mayo worked as an Assistant State’s Attorney for Prince George’s County, Maryland, for nearly six years. While employed in the State’s Attorney’s Office, Mr. Mayo was assigned to the Homicide Unit, Violent Crime Unit, Felony Trial Unit, Juvenile Unit, and the District Court Division.

Mr. Mayo retired as a member of the Senior Executive Service from the U.S. Government in 2005, having worked for several different federal government agencies. His last assignment was with the Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Commerce, where he served as Assistant Inspector General for Investigations (AIGI). As AIGI, he had overall responsibility for all criminal, civil, and administrative investigations involving the Commerce Department’s programs and operations throughout the continental United States, and abroad. In 1998, he was appointed and served as Special Assistant U.S.



# CANDIDATE PROFILES FOR THE POSITIONS OF DIRECTOR

Attorney for the District of Columbia, where he is also licensed to practice law. Mr. Mayo is a 1977 graduate of Wilberforce University in Ohio, and a 1980 graduate of the Howard University School of Law. While attending law school, Mr. Mayo was a student attorney in the D.C. Law Students in Court Program, where he represented indigent defendants in Small Claims and Landlord and Tenant Matters. After law school, Mr. Mayo served as law clerk in the Prince George's County Attorney's Office. Mr. Mayo looks forward to working with the Bar Association to fulfill its stated mission.

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**Isaac H. Marks, Sr., Esq.** — Mr. Marks is a shareholder with O'Malley, Miles, Nylan & Gilmore, P.A., Calverton, MD 20705 (3/99 – current). He is also the Director: 2007 – current. Mr. Marks chaired a committee to raise funds and restore the Lawyers' Lounge in the Duvall Wing of the Courthouse (to which a visit is a must for any attorney who has not yet utilized its wonderful functionality!).

He was a member of the Retirement Celebration Committee for the Honorable William D. Missouri as well as Coordinator, District Court of Maryland Mediation Program (September).

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**Erik H. Nyce** — Mr. Nyce has been a member of the Prince George's County Bar Association since 1987 and has served on the Board of Directors in the past for many years. He was Co-Chair of the Young Lawyers Committee and has served as Chair and member of numerous committees. Presently he is Co-Chair of Christmas in April. He has been a Member of MSBA since 1987 and is a member of the litigation section. He serves as the PGCBA representative to MSBA from 2009 to present.

Mr. Nyce practices civil and criminal law in the courts of MD, DC and VA. He is with the law firm of DeCaro, Doran, Siciliano, Gallagher & DeBlasis in Bowie MD.

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**Martin Oliviero** — Mr. Oliviero graduated *cum laude* from the University of Baltimore School of Law in 1998, and from the University of Maryland in 1993.

He is a member of the Calvert County Bar Association, the Prince George's County Bar Association, the Maryland State Bar Association and the National Italian-American Bar Association.

Mr. Oliviero served as Lieutenant at the Prince George's County Police Department from 1984-2004. In addition, he previously held a position at the Law Offices of Stanley S. Pickett as a Staff Attorney. His areas of practice include: Workers Compensation, Estates, Trusts & Probate, Family & Domestic Law (Divorce, Custody, Child Support), Criminal Law, Bankruptcy, and Personal Injury.

He has held the position of Co-Chair, Prince George's County Bar Association Fee Dispute Committee 2008 – present and Prince George's County Bar Association Board of Directors 2010 – 2011 Term.

# CANDIDATE PROFILES FOR THE POSITIONS OF DIRECTOR



**Judge Mark O'Brien** — Judge O'Brien has been a member of the District Court for Prince George's County since his appointment in August 2000. He is an elected member of the State's District Court Administrative Committee and is currently serving his second two year term. He is also a member of the State Judiciary's Civil Law and Procedure Committee, and serves on its Legislative Subcommittee. Additionally, he has served on the Judiciary's Public Awareness committee for the past several years.

Mr. O'Brien is a 1984 graduate of the University of Baltimore Law School. Immediately after admission to the bar in January, 1985, he had the good fortune to obtain employment as an Assistant in the County's State's Attorneys Office and to serve over 5 years in that office under both Bud Marshall and the Honorable Alexander Williams. He spent ten years in private practice, first as an associate with former Federal Magistrate George Burgess, and then as a partner with Patricia Nimmerichter Drummond in the firm of Drummond and O'Brien on Main Street. He also served one year on the Inquiry Panel of the Attorney Grievance Commission from 1999 to 2000 until joining the District Court. In addition to the Maryland State Bar, he held bar membership in the United States District Court for District of Maryland, the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces and the District of Columbia Bar. He is a long time member of the Prince George's Bar Association, a year 2000 recipient of the Bar's President's award, and in several past years a volunteer for mock trial competitions and Teen Court. He has been a member of the Bar's Board of Directors since 2007.



**Judge Michael R. Pearson** — Judge Pearson was appointed to the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland by Governor Martin O'Malley on August 5, 2009. A native Washingtonian, Judge Pearson obtained his undergraduate degree in finance from the University of the District of Columbia in 1994, and his law degree from the Catholic University of America in 1998.

After law school, Judge Pearson joined the Maryland Bar and went on to serve as an Assistant State's Attorney in Prince George's County. During his tenure in that office, he handled a wide variety of criminal matters, including several high profile homicide cases. In 2004, Judge Pearson joined the law firm Bennett & Bair, LLP where he continued to hone his trial skills in both state and federal courts. In 2008, Maryland's legal community recognized Judge Pearson in Baltimore Magazine as one of the state's top attorneys under the age of 40.

Throughout his career, Judge Pearson has been active in local civic and community organizations. Currently, he serves on the board of directors of the Prince George's County Bar Association and is an active member of Ebenezer A.M.E. Church in Fort Washington, Maryland. He resides in Bowie, Maryland with his wife and their two children.



**Carolyn Starks Saxon, Esq.** — Ms. Saxon has served an Assistant State's Attorney for Prince George's County from March, 2004 – present. Currently, she is assigned to the Grand Jury Unit. Her prior assignments include Assistant State's Attorney in Charge of the Circuit and District Court Drug Courts, Chief of the Handgun Unit, Senior Assistant in the Juvenile Court, Senior Assistant in the District Court and Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Attorney. She served as an Assistant State's Attorney in Baltimore City from October, 1983 to March, 2004. Her assignments included Traffic Court, Juvenile Court, District Court and the Felony Trial Team. From December, 1978 – September, 1983 she was a Senior Contracts Management Representative at the Defense Division of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation, Baltimore, Maryland. From

# CANDIDATE PROFILES FOR THE POSITIONS OF DIRECTOR

August, 1976 – November, 1978, she was a Staff Attorney for Westinghouse Electric Corporation in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. She worked in the Acquisitions and Divestitures Division and the Treasury Divisions of the Law Department. She is a member of the Maryland State Bar and the Pennsylvania State Bar.

Ms. Saxon currently serves as the Chair of the History Committee for the Prince George’s County Bar Association. She served on the Board of Directors for the Prince George’s County Bar Association for one term between 2006 – 2007. She has also served as Treasurer of the Prince George’s Chapter of the Women’s Bar Association. She has been a member of the Prince George’s County Bar Association since 2001. Her past bar memberships include the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, The Marlboro Inn of Court, Black Women’s Bar Association of Suburban Maryland, The Baltimore City Bar Association, The Monumental Bar Association, The Maryland State Bar Association and The National Bar Association.

Ms. Saxon graduated from the School of Law of UCLA in June, 1975 and Stanford University with a BA Degree in Political Science in June, 1972.



**Ayo M. Stevens** – Mr. Stevens is the owner of the Law Offices of Ayo M. Stevens, LLC, a practice located in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. He is a 1992 graduate of Duquesne University where he received a B.A. in journalism. In 1995, Mr. Stevens received a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Maryland School of Law.

For over 15 years, Mr. Stevens and his firm have provided dedicated service to the citizens of Maryland in the area of Family Law. Mr. Stevens is a board Member of Community Legal Services of Prince George’s County, Inc. and is guest lecturer for the Self-Represented Litigant Orientation Program offered by the Family Division of the Circuit Court. He is a member of the Maryland State Bar Association, Prince George’s County Bar Association, J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association and the District of Columbia Bar Association. Mr. Stevens resides in Upper Marlboro, Maryland with

his wife and three 3 children.



**Ann Wagner-Stewart** – Ms. Wagner-Stewart has been a prosecutor in the Office of the State’s Attorney for Prince George’s County since January, 1994. She is currently the Assistant Deputy State’s Attorney with direct oversight of several criminal units within the SAO, including District Court, Juvenile, Grand Jury, Community Prosecution, and Domestic Violence. Previous to this position, she was the Chief of the Domestic Violence Unit within the office from its inception in June 2003 to January 2011.

Ms. Wagner-Stewart is also the current Vice Chair of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team for Prince George’s County. She has been an adjunct lecturer for Catholic University’s Columbus School of Law and a Faculty Advisor for Trial Advocacy I training conducted by the National District Attorneys Association.

Ms. Wagner-Stewart is a member of the Prince George’s County Bar Association in good standing. Her and her husband have lived in Prince George’s County for the past 17 years and are raising three school aged children.

# CANDIDATE PROFILES FOR THE POSITIONS OF DIRECTOR



**Eric J. Wexler** — Mr. Wexler is both an attorney and a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and is currently an associate of the firm McChesney & Dale located in Bowie, Maryland. Earning his bachelor’s degree from the University of Maryland in College Park, Eric is a fan of all things Terrapin. Earning his JD from the George Washington University did nothing to change that.

As an attorney, Mr. Wexler has been a judge for the Maryland Statewide High School Mock trial Competition for a number of years and has been regularly involved with the District of Columbia Bar Pro Bono Program Advice & Referral Clinic. As a CPA, he is a member of the Practitioners Conference Committee of the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants and has participated in its annual “CPA Day” with the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis, Maryland.

Mr. Wexler is the Treasurer of his Condominium Association and spends the remainder of his time with his beautiful wife and adorable 11 month old daughter.



**Joseph L. Wright** — Mr. Wright is an Assistant Chief for the Prince George’s County State’s Attorney Office. He recently prosecuted cases in the Violent Crimes Unit which includes serious multi-defendant felonies, gang cases, murder cases and high profile cases including the prosecution of Keith Washington, the police officer that shot the furniture delivery men. He has prosecuted every type of case in the office. In his ten years in the office, he has first chaired nearly 100 jury trials.

Mr. Wright is a proud graduate of Prince George’s Community College (1989) and attended Howard University (Class of 1992) where he met his wife, Shawn Wright. After Howard, Joseph attended Tulane Law School. They have two children, Jalen and Joie, ages 11 and 8.

Along with his formal duties as an Assistant State’s Attorney, he is involved within the community. He is on the Prince George’s County School Board Ethics Panel, and an adjunct faculty member at Prince George’s Community College and Columbia Union College. He addresses students regularly on topics ranging from criminal issues, improving schools, and personal development.



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**Board Elections**

**Judge James H. Taylor Honored Guest**

**June 7, 2011**



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*The History Corner is a feature of the Prince George's County Bar Association's newsletter. It contains information related to the history of Prince George's County.*

## **"Histories make men wise..."<sup>1</sup>**

*The series regarding the life and contributions of Arthur A. (Bud) Marshall, Jr., who served as the State's Attorney for Prince George's County from 1963 - 1986 will resume in the June issue of the PGCBA NewsJournal.*

*The following article was contributed to "The History Corner" by Walter E. Laake, Jr. Esq. Mr. Laake served as President of the Prince George's County Bar Association for the 1996 - 1997 term. He is a founding partner in the law firm of Joseph, Greenwald & Laake, P.A. He completed his undergraduate and law school education at the University of Maryland. He is a recognized expert in the practice of personal injury.*

### **A Brief History of the Birth of the Prince George's County Bar**

#### **Introduction**

Thirty-four years ago in its first "Pictorial Register", the Prince George's County Bar Association provided "A Brief Account of its Origin and Growth". The author is anonymous and the source of this material is unknown, but it sounds true and is so very interesting...

The history of the Prince George's County Bar extends over the years virtually since the founding of the colony in 1634. An Act of the General Assembly creating the County was passed on May 8, 1695, and the new Prince George's County Court met at Mount Calvert (Charles Town) and was probably convened in Mr. Thomas Hollyday's store. The docket was made up of cases transmitted from the Charles and Calvert County courts. (Prince George's County having been carved from those counties.) In August 1696, the first Clerk of the Court, William Cooper, died and Joshua Cecell, an attorney, was appointed in his stead. The billing for the funeral charges submitted to the administrator of Mr. Cooper's estate, at a cost of 1,445 lbs. of tobacco, included 11 pints of brandy, 10-½ gallons of cider, 10 gallons of boiled cider with spirits. These refreshments were used in expressing grief at the departure of our Court's first Clerk.

In 1718, the General Assembly authorized the removal of the Courthouse from Charles Town to the Town of Upper Marlborough.

On March 28, 1721, the justices met at Charles Town and immediately adjourned to meet at Marlborough. Charles Town was no longer the Prince George's County seat.

The events recorded about the year 1730 indicate that the site for the Courthouse had been obtained earlier from Henry Darnall, Esquire, but Daniel Carroll had obtained title to the land and proceeded to convey one lot which included the Courthouse, jail, stocks and pillary. Later it was discovered that dower had attached to the land, and it cost 9,600 lbs. of tobacco to clear the title of the claims of Mrs. Anne Darnall (wife of Henry) and her daughter Eleanor (wife of Daniel Carroll).

John Rogers, Esquire (described as a well known attorney in the County), was chosen moderator of a meeting in November 1774 convened at Upper Marlborough. Eighty-four men were named to a Committee of Inspection to carry into execution the Association of the American Continental Congress. A Committee of Correspondence was also named. In April 1775, the year of the Battle of Lexington, a Maryland Convention was held in Annapolis, and Gabriel Duvall of Prince George's County was named clerk. Mr. Rogers was elected as delegate to the Continental Congress and is reported to have voted to support the resolution to express the Declaration of Independence. Illness prevented his returning to Philadelphia and Charles Carroll of Carrollton (Rogers' successor to the Congress) became one of Maryland's

four signers. John Rogers served as Chancellor of the State of Maryland from March 20, 1778, until his death, September 23, 1789. There is a monument to his memory erected near the south entrance to the County Administration Building in Upper Marlboro. Gabriel Duvall became Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and his home "Marietta" in Prince George's County is considered a landmark of early United States history.

More than two centuries have elapsed between the time mentioned above and the handwritten records of Judge Alan Bowie, longtime secretary of the Bar Association, which reveal names of former prominent members of the Bar that include: Louis B. Arnold, Ceasar Aiello, A. Gwynn Bowie, W. G. Brooke, Waldo Burnside, T. Van Clagett, Sr., T. Van Clagett Jr., T. Howard Duckett, Bird M. Dolby, Robert E. Ennis, Adrian P. Fisher, John Fletcher, Frank M. Hall, A. R. Hassall, W. E. Hutchinson, John B. Hackett, Thomas Jones, Arthur Keefer, Ignatius Keane, John F. Lillard, Sr., Thomas P. Littlepage, Isadore Levine, Oliver Metzertott, Robert W. McCullough, G. W. Musgrave, M. H. Magruder, Ogle Marbury, George B. Merrick, S. M. Peach, LeRoy Pumphrey, Frank M. Stephen, Bert Sager, William Stanley, John Torvestad, R. Lee Van Horn, Vance Vaughn, Ernest Volberg, H. Winship Wheatley, Sr., and Jr., T. Hammond Welsh, John W. White, Charles T. McKay, William Copenhaver, Cornelius Whalen, George McLeish, Oscar Duley, Floyd B. Mathias, Cary Ewer, Woodrow Shriver, H. Robert Venables,



Theodore L. Miazga, Ross G. Porter, and Robert Bowie Clagett, among many others.

To those of us who look upon the pages of this publication to identify our brothers at the Bar, there will be memories stirred by the recollection of those names recorded above. In those memories will be stored the contributions made to the history of Prince George's County by its practicing lawyers. The limitations of space, time, and research has made this presentation one which is designed to stir the memories of those who will recall the personages mentioned above and encourage those members of the Bar who did not know of them to reflect upon the precedents, good and bad, which have emanated from their participation in the systems of business, government and justice in this historical Prince George's County.

*- Edited slightly from the 1977 Prince George's County Bar Association Pictorial Register of 579 Members*

1 Essay. Of Studies by Francis Bacon (1625)

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## *Losing that last 10 pounds*

If you've been on a weight loss campaign and you've been making pretty consistent progress you likely have noticed that it's gotten more and more difficult as you've become closer to your goal. And if you started your weight loss campaign with say, only ten to twenty pounds to lose, then you've probably experienced a fair amount of difficulty almost from the start. This is because weight loss isn't as cut and dry as it may seem. The general rule is that if you decrease your calories by a certain amount and increase your energy expenditure, you'll lose weight. The reality is that there IS more involved than just that. Yes, you do need to burn 3500 calories or reduce your food intake by 3500 calories to equal approximately one pound of fat loss. And typically, one can accomplish a one pound loss weekly by reducing calories by 500

a day or a 2 pound a week loss can be realized by combining the 500 calorie daily deficit with an aerobic activity that burns 500 calories per day (like 50 minutes of jogging). Initially, following a program like this will probably yield consistent results of about 2 pounds lost per week, maybe even more during the first week or two. However, somewhere around that third or fourth week, you'll probably notice that the weight is no longer coming off consistently even though you are following the same program and implementing the same caloric deficit. This is because the calories in versus calories out theory is essentially accurate, there are nuances and variables that also come into play when it comes to consistent weight loss. And this is especially true when it comes down to the last ten pounds or so.

Many individuals starting a new diet and exercise campaign are amazed that during the first week or so, they can lose as much as seven to ten pounds! They believe that if they continue to follow the exact same plan, they'll continue to lose weight at

the same pace and reach their weight loss goals in virtually no time. But then, after a few weeks, these "gung-ho" weight loss warriors realize that their weight loss has dramatically slowed, over several weeks, and they become extremely frustrated to the point of wanting to abandon their programs. What these folks don't realize is that during the first week or so of starting a new exercise and nutrition plan, several things occur that skew the results of your weight loss. First, the body is experiencing something totally new and different and therefore reacts out "shock". By this, I mean that the body reacts to this dramatically different change by responding immediately. It releases that extra fat very easily the first week or two simply because this program is something the body isn't used to. The body responds rapidly to things it's not used to. So you may experience rapid weight loss the first week that you cut out bread, sugar, sodas, and fried foods if those foods have been your staples for the past 5 years. Second, during the first couple of weeks of your weight loss program, your body is going through a "purge", and one of

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the things being purged is subcutaneous water. People walk around carrying large amounts of water trapped under their skin or trapped within the fatty tissue of their bodies. You can easily lose up to 5 pounds of water weight in just one week when you start a nutrition and exercise plan that includes eliminating high- sodium foods and consuming adequate amounts of water (which actually flushes water out from your system when consumed in large quantities). Finally, most weight loss nutrition plans advise that you consume large amounts of fiber-rich foods as your dietary staples, and this combined with the large amounts of water can flush yet another 5 pounds of “old waste” from your stomach and intestines. Yes, most Americans walk around with five to ten pounds of undigested waste (especially red meat) in their intestines. Add all of this up and you can see how one might easily lose up to seven pounds their first week or even twelve pounds the first two weeks of starting a new diet and exercise campaign. But these results won’t continue as the weeks progress.

Once you realize the benefit of the “jump start”, you can pretty much expect that the 3500 calorie per pound deficit/expenditure rule to govern. That will generally be pretty precise until your body starts to notice that a substantial change has occurred. At such point, consuming 3500 fewer calories per week may not net you the weight loss of a pound of body fat. That’s because the body has a steady state weight that it tries hard to maintain. If this weight has been established (because you’ve maintained it for years) as 40 pounds over your “ideal weight”, then your body will fight you when it realizes you have moved too far away from this steady state weight. It will try to gain weight back to get back to the old weight. The body does this by decreasing your metabolism and increasing your hunger levels. Yes...your body has a mind of its own! And this is precisely why those last ten pounds are so, so difficult to lose. However, with some consistent effort, and methods that aid in “tricking” your body, you achieve a new steady-state weight which your body will eventually adapt to and accept.

body to work hard to burn every meal you eat! There’s a couple of ways to do this. One, eating several small meals a day as opposed to 3 large “squares”. Every time you eat, a metabolic response is elicited causing you to burn calories. While you want to benefit from this metabolic burn as often as possible, it’s only a benefit if you are eating healthy, nutritious foods. In other words, don’t go out and have a donut five times a day to increase your caloric response burn....this will definitely backfire on you! But if you consume the same total calories that you have allotted yourself as part of your reduced-calorie nutrition plan over six meals rather than three meals, you will burn more calories. Along the same lines, if you alter or rotate the types of food you eat, you will keep your body guessing and so that it can never become efficient at burning calories. So for example, if you’ve been eating daily meals that include a reduced amount of say, 150 grams of total carbohydrates each day, eventually your body will figure this out and the benefit of reduced carbs won’t be so great. What you need to do is, after a few weeks of this program, change your macronutrient intake so that you consume 150 grams of carbs for a 2 day period, then do a couple days with perhaps only 50 grams of carbs, then back to 150 for 2 days then add one day of virtually no carbs. You can use this formula and rotate the days for several months without your body ever being able to figure it out. And this, my colleagues, will help you to conquer that elusive last ten pounds!

How do you “trick” your body into burning more calories, you might ask? Well, first you have to change up your routine when you see that you are no longer getting the results you want. This means changing up the way you eat as well as the way you exercise. For example, if you had been walking for an hour a day the first 3 weeks with wonderful results until week three, then what you may need to do now is swim for 40 minutes a day or jog for 40 minutes a day, or even better walk 2 days, swim one day, and then jog three days (allowing for one day off). This confuses the body so that the body doesn’t have time to adjust to your exercise routine and perform it more efficiently. When your body performs an exercise more efficiently, it can burn fewer calories to perform the activity because it’s found a way to get the job done with minimal energy expenditure. That’s what happens when you do the same thing over and over again...the body becomes more and more efficient at getting the job done. In the same manner, you have to rotate your nutritional plan so that your body doesn’t become too efficient at processing the calories you consume. You want your

Just remember, adding strength training to your exercise program at least 2 days per week will always support and enhance weight loss. Finally, remember that reaching your goal will take time and some thought. Don’t get frustrated when you hit a plateau after experiencing a rapid weight loss. Just change things up, and continue to tell yourself that slow and steady wins the race. It’s not about being the first one done, it’s about having the strength, endurance, and knowledge to successfully cross the finish line.

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trial examination and cross examination of a financial statement. Among the presenters were Barbara Jorgenson, Nakia Gray, and Hughie Hunt. It was presided over by Master Paul Eason.

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# SAVE THE DATE



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Display signage at sign-in & dinner
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<b>GOLD \$2,500.00</b>
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Embroidered Golf Towels/Hats*
(1) Tee Sign
Special Recognition

<b>SILVER \$1,500.00</b>
(1) Foursome
Golf Balls with Logo*
(1) Tee Sign

<b>GENERAL SPONSORSHIP</b>		
\$350.00	\$200.00	\$150.00
(2) Golfers	(1) Golfer	(1) Tee Box Sign
(1) Tee Box Sign	(1) Tee Box Sign	-----

**\*Sponsor must provide Logo**

**Contact: Georgia Perry, 301-952-1442, [gperry@pgcba.com](mailto:gperry@pgcba.com)  
Joseph Wright, 240-472-4533, [crimlawyer@yahoo.com](mailto:crimlawyer@yahoo.com)**

# 2011 CALENDAR

MAY 2, 2011..... NATURALIZATION CEREMONY – COURTHOUSE

MAY 7, 2011..... FAMILY LAW SEMINAR – COURTHOUSE

MAY 31, 2011..... GOLF CLASSIC – LAKE PRESIDENTIAL

JUNE 7, 2011 ..... ANNUAL MEETING – NEWTON WHITE MANSION

SEPT. 27, 2011 ..... MEMBERSHIP MEETING – NEWTON WHITE MANSION

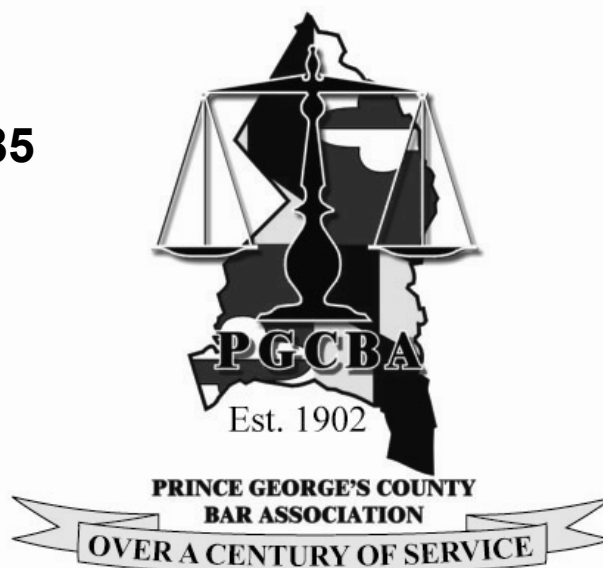
## LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE REPORT: 03/15/11-04/15/11

**NUMBER OF CALLS: 892**

**NUMBER OF REFERRALS: 585**

### TOP 5 AREAS OF LAW:

1. FAMILY LAW
2. REAL ESTATE
3. TORTS
4. EMPLOYMENT
5. CONSUMER



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### Non-Members:

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Internal Box Responses \$5 add'l.

Post-publication billing;  
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Deadline for Submission: 15th of  
month preceding publication.

## CONFERENCE ROOM RENTALS

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**THE LAW FIRM OF JOSEPH, GREENWALD & LAAKE, PA** is looking to expand its business, tax and transactional practice in Suburban Maryland. The firm, now in its fifth decade of operation, has experienced steady growth over the

last decade from its primary location in Greenbelt, Maryland, and in its new offices in Rockville, Maryland. The Firm is seeking partner-level attorney(s) with practices that provide the full array of transactional services to business clients. Ideal candidates will have annual portable business of \$500K+. This is an attractive opportunity to join a growing, successful law firm that is committed to the development of this practice area. All replies will be strictly confidential. Call or e-mail David Bulitt at (301) 220-2200 or [dbulitt@jgllaw.com](mailto:dbulitt@jgllaw.com).

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PGCBA *NewsJournal*  
14330 Old Marlboro Pike  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

<p><b><u>MAY 31, 2011</u></b> <b>GOLF CLASSIC</b> <b>Lake Presidential</b> <b>\$125 per person/ \$450 foursome</b></p>	<p><b><u>JUNE 7, 2011</u></b> <b>ANNUAL MEETING/ELECTIONS</b> <b>JUDGE TAYLOR HONORED</b> <b>Newton White Mansion</b> <b>6:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b><u>JULY 1, 2011-2012</u></b> <b>MEMBERSHIP DUES</b></p>
<p><b><u>JULY - AUGUST 2011</u></b> <b>NO NEWSJOURNAL</b></p>	<p><b><u>AUGUST 13, 2011</u></b> <b>BAR ASSOCIATIONS OF MD</b> <b>19th ANNUAL BASEBALL</b> <b>TOURNAMENT</b> <b>Watkins Regional Park</b> <b>9:00 AM</b></p>	<p><b>SAVE THE DATE</b> <b>SEPTEMBER 27, 2011</b> <b>BAR ASSOC. MEETING</b> <b>Honoring Judges</b> <b>Thomas P. Smith</b> <b>&amp; Michael A. Chapdelaine</b></p>



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