As the Holidays seem like a distant memory and the spring of this new season is upon us, your MCBA Board of Directors is springing to action to plan the annual charity event and MCBA Bench & Bar CLE. While a date has not been set for the Charity Event, the Board selected the Montgomery County Bar Foundation as this year’s recipient. For those of you who do not know, the Montgomery County Bar Association established the Foundation, also known as the Volunteer Lawyers Program, to provide pro bono services for those in need regarding civil matters. The Montgomery VLP offers more than 25 services to low-income households, and it currently has more than 400 members of the Montgomery County Bar who donate their time to assist the clients of MVLP. This initiative, which was spearheaded by the MCBA, has blossomed over the last few years and we have reached hundreds of clients who otherwise would have had no legal representation in their civil matters. The VLP’s success is truly your success, and your support in the charity event will ensure its future success.

Work has already begun in planning our 2015 Bench & Bar CLE, and it is set for December 14-15 at the Middle District of Alabama Federal Courthouse. We are pleased to announce our partnership with the Montgomery Federal Bar Association in presenting the event this year. Last year we enjoyed presentations by judges from the Federal and State Bench. We expect to announce presenters for this year’s seminar over the coming months. Like last year, we will offer 12 hours of CLE with 1 hour of Ethics. To reserve your spot at the conference, please contact the MCBA’s office at (334)265-4793.

Finally, I encourage everyone to attend Faulkner Law’s 11th Annual Fred Gray Civil Rights Symposium on Friday, April 8, 2016, from 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Each year, the symposium, named in honor of civil rights icon Fred Gray, Sr., addresses an existing civil rights topic affecting communities across the country. This year the event will explore the following topics: (1) The discussion of specific racial and socioeconomic stereotypes giving rise to discrimination against communities of color; (2) An in-depth discussion of police brutality and its impact on the minority community; and (3) Issues of community policing and other alternatives to uniformed police in targeted communities. To register, visit https://www.faulkner.edu/events/fred-gray-civil-rights-symposium.

Royal
Dear Gentle Readers,

As I sat down to consider this month’s article, my thoughts drifted to the Women’s Section board. We’ve got 4 members (that’s ½ our board!) that are married to other lawyers. As I considered other members of our section, and the broader legal community, I realized something. Contrary to what you’d think, there are A LOT of us!

Being married is never easy, though; even less so when both parties are trained to argue. We could all use a little help sometimes. So, in the spirit of matrimonial harmony (and a little levity), and with Sean McTear’s full approval and support, I give you the following completely unsolicited advice:

**Nine Commandments for Lawyers Married to Lawyers**

1. Thou shalt remember that your spouse went to law school, too.
2. Thou shalt never tell a 3rd person, “Don’t worry. [Spouse] will handle that for you.”
3. Thou shalt demonstrate fairness and justice to your children in your treatment of one another.
4. Thou shalt not invoke the 5th Amendment. Plead guilty and throw yourself on the mercy of the Court.
5. Thou shalt engage in non-legal social events and community activities—both with your spouse and on your own.
6. Thou shalt not compete with your spouse over whose job is more demanding.
7. Thou shalt not require documentary proof of wrongdoing.
8. Thou shalt not practice trial skills on your spouse during arguments.
9. Thou shalt find time to relax.

We are so grateful to our Women’s Section sponsor, Baker RealTime, who brought you the St. Patrick’s Day Social (a rousing success) and will be bringing you Coffee with Judges on May 19. Keep your eyes peeled for more exciting events and news as the year rolls on.

-Kelly
SCENES FROM THE WLS/YLS ST. PATRICK’S DAY SOCIAL
I have written in the past about the satisfaction our volunteers receive by providing pro bono assistance to indigent clients facing civil legal needs. While our state bar’s Rules of Professional Conduct encourage attorneys to provide pro bono legal help, stating that “a lawyer should render public interest legal service” (Rule 6.1, Pro Bono Publico Service), this service is not without rewards, e.g., the fulfilment that comes from helping another in need.

Our clients, too, often express to us the gratitude they feel as a result of receiving assistance in resolving a vexing personal legal issue. Recently, a 73-year-old veteran appeared at one of our clinics after he lost his rural home to a fire. His late wife’s daughter had filed an insurance claim for the value of the contents of the home, leaving this widower barely able to survive, forced to live in a motel and unable to afford regular meals. Our volunteer lawyer successfully negotiated compensation for the client’s lost possessions, enabling him to vacate the motel room and purchase household necessities to furnish an apartment. Needless to say, his appreciation for this service was heartwarming.

Another client, a retiree in her 60s, had been convinced by her brothers to move to Alabama for health reasons. After residing in the state for some time, she remarried, only to be abandoned shortly thereafter. Unable to afford an attorney in order to seek a divorce, she continued to reside in Montgomery for several years, all the while wishing she could move back to Niagara Falls to be closer to her grandchildren. MVLP was able to provide her with the legal representation she needed, an uncontested divorce was granted, and she was exceptionally grateful to be finally free to move back to New York to be near family.

Our twice-monthly Advice and Counsel clinics are a great opportunity for local attorneys to provide walk-up civil legal aid to less fortunate clients with legal problems. We are appreciative of the commitment of those lawyers who volunteer a couple of hours to help staff the clinics, and invite you to join us on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Give us a call at 265-0222 if you’d like to help. Thanks this month is due for our clinic volunteers: Ashley Penhale, Tim Gallagher, Joel Caldwell, Matthew Ward, John Charles, Karen Laneaux, Joana Ellis, and Lee Russell.

HELP A CLIENT IN NEED – VOLUNTEER TODAY!

These clients are in need of your assistance. If you are willing to accept a case referral, please contact Barbara Ann Symington at 265-0222, ext. 2.

- **Uncontested divorce.** Both parties agree to sign documents and neither can afford an attorney. No assets, no debt and no children.

- **Guardianship.** Senior citizen seeking guardianship over her sister so she can better coordinate much needed medical care for her sibling.

- **Name change.** Single mother wishes to correct her child’s last name after paternity test challenged birth certificate paternity.

You can make a difference in someone’s life by becoming an active volunteer with MVLP. Not only will you be helping someone through a difficult civil legal issue, you’ll get the satisfaction that comes from giving of your time and expertise to another in our community. Please consider joining with us by volunteering at a clinic or by taking a case referral. Call us for details on how you can best serve.

Mike Martin, Executive Director, Volunteer Lawyers Program
The 11th Annual Fred Gray Symposium entitled "All Lives Matter? The Constitutional Role of Race in Policing" will be held the following day April 8th at Harris Hall on the campus of Faulkner University from 8 am until 12:30 pm. Speakers are the Honorable Fred D. Gray, the Honorable Kenyen R. Brown, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama and Professor Mitchell F. Crusto of Loyola Law School in New Orleans. Additional speakers will also be present to discuss law enforcement issues and the event will be moderated by News Anchor Valorie Lawson of WSFA.

This program has been approved by the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Commission of Alabama for 3.0 hours of credit.

Registration is $50 which can be paid at the door.

For additional information on either event contact Professor Melvin Otey at 334 386-7972 or motey@faulkner.edu. (Do not call MCBA for reservations.)
On Thursday, April 14th, the Young Lawyers Section is hosting its annual Spring party at the Pine Bar. As in the past, the event will feature a low country boil and of course, free refreshments. This year’s event is being sponsored by Ellis Pilgreen of National Land Realty. Ellis is a well-known real estate broker and we are happy to have his support. Check out his website at www.NationalLand.com or contact Ellis directly at epilgreen@NationalLand.com.

So, if you are a young lawyer (under 37 or practicing for less than 5 years), don’t miss this Spring party. It is one of the best opportunities to meet and build relationships with other young lawyers in the area. Your practice will benefit greatly when you have a rapport with others. The same goes for the overall practice throughout our local bar. Basically, it’s much easier to walk into a courtroom, deposition, or even make a phone call when you’ve already met the other lawyer(s) in a social setting. I hope all of you can make it. Again, please be sure to calendar Thursday, April 14th at the Pine Bar, right after work.

Another upcoming event is the Young Lawyers Charity Clay Shoot. It will take place on Friday, June 3rd at 2PM at the Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club. This is the 3rd year that we have held this fundraiser. It has been a successful event… and a great excuse to knock off early on a Friday. The proceeds from the event will go to support the Montgomery County Volunteer Lawyers Program. If you have been a part of the clay shoot in the past, we look forward to your continued support; if not, we encourage you to participate as a shooter and/or sponsor. More specific details will be sent out through email. If you have any questions, you can contact me at janderson@hillhillcarter.com or Ali Hawthorne at alison.hawthorne@beasleyallen.com.

Jesse Anderson
YLS President

Mouth-watering…

YLS Low Country Boil Social

At the Pine Bar 5:00-7:00
Thursday, April 14th

Thanks to our sponsor,
Ellis Pilgreen, National Land Realty
## CLE OPPORTUNITIES

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic/Speaker</th>
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<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>11:00-1:00</td>
<td>Using Grit and Growth Mindset to Advance Women in the Law/Christina Crow, Hon. Sharon Yates, Danielle Mason, Brittney Bucak</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/7</td>
<td>11:00-12:00</td>
<td>The St. Louis Jury Sent Johnson &amp; Johnson a Strong Message/Jere Beasley</td>
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<td>5/6</td>
<td>10:00-11:30</td>
<td>Key Elements in Supervising the Mental Health Client in a Community-based Corrections Program/Paul Brown, Exec. Dir. Montgomery County Community Corrections</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/14</td>
<td>10:00-11:00</td>
<td>Uninsured Motorist Coverage-What You Need to Know/Ron Davenport</td>
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To preregister, email dotrobinson@mc-ala.org or call 265-4793.

*These programs have been approved by the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Commission of Alabama for the stated number of hours’ credit.*
Member News

Welcome to our new members:

Adrian Crittenton       Montgomery Public Defenders Office
Marianalyn Dennis      Montgomery Public Defenders Office
Madison Grantham       Foundation for Moral Law
Anne Gunter            State Banking Department
Phyllicia Hill         Montgomery Public Defenders Office
Matthew Kidd           Foundation for Moral Law
Ben Wallace            Montgomery Public Defenders Office, paralegal

♦ Hill, Hill, Carter, Franco, Cole, & Black, PC announces that James E. (Jim) Beck, III is a shareholder. Jim represents governmental entities, corporations, and insurance companies in federal and state courts. His practice focuses on general and complex civil litigation as well as administrative law matters.

♦ The Alabama State Bar announced that these MCBA members have been selected as members of the 2016 Leadership Forum Class 12: Mary Margaret P. Carroll, Fine Geddie & Associates, LLC; Brent Hargett, Sasser, Sefton, & Brown PC; and Parker Miller, Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis, and Miles, PC. Participants in the Leadership Forum undergo a rigorous education and training process focusing on servant leadership, ethics and career development.

♦ Congratulations to Tim Gallagher and wife, Rachel, upon the birth of their daughter, Catherine, born March 28.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Apr. 5  Women’s Section Symposium at Faulkner 11-1:00
Apr. 7  CLE – Jere Beasley speaking about Johnson & Johnson trial – 11-12:00 at Courthouse
Apr. 14 YLS Low Country Boil Social at Pine Bar 5-7 p.m.
May 6   CLE– Paul Brown-Mental Health and Community Corrections 10-11:30 at Courthouse
May 19  Coffee with the Judges 7:30-8:30 a.m.
June 3  YLS Clay Shoot  2:00
Aug. 4   CLE– Ron Davenport-Uninsured Motorist
Dec. 15 MCBA Holiday Gala at Wynlakes

Deepest sympathy to the family and friends of
Roger S. Morrow
02/27/2016