



**VIRGIN ISLANDS BAR ASSOCIATION
MIDYEAR CLE
FRIDAY MAY 30, 2014**

**DIVI CARINA BAY RESORT
ST. CROIX, VIRGIN ISLANDS**

AGENDA

7:30 – 8:30 **Registration and Continental Breakfast in Lobby**

8:30 – 8:45 **Welcome**

8:45 – 9:45 ***Client Trust Accounts***
Presenter: Donovan Hamm, Esq.

What you Need to Know.... Now! This presentation will review the recent changes in the Model Rules dealing with Trust Accounts and other client property, including the new record keeping requirements applicable to trust account and other client property. It will also include suggestions on how best to ensure that you are in compliance with your new obligations.

Credit: 1.0 (Ethics)

9:50 – 10:40 ***Mediation Matters: Practical Tips for Mediation Success***
Presenters: Henry Smock, Esq. (moderator), Andrew Capdeville, Esq. and Wilfredo Geigel, Esq., Pamela L. Colon, Esq., and Micol Morgan, Esq.

Description: Because the vast majority of litigated disputes are resolved in the mediation process, it is essential for advocates to approach mediation with the same level of preparation as they would a trial. Taking the time to evaluate the case and prepare the client thoroughly will result in better resolutions and more efficient, productive mediations. The panel presentation will explore various aspects of mediation such as deciding whether and when to mediate, getting the most out of your mediation, how to effectively use your mediator as well as maximizing your client's chances for settlement.

Credit: 1.0

10:40 – 11:00 ***Break***

11:00 – 11:50 ***The Effective Deposition: Techniques and Strategies That Work***
Presenter: Robert Vaughan, Esq. (NITA)

Description: This presentation will provide practitioners with tools to successfully take, defend, and use depositions to its greatest advantage. Particular focus will be directed towards working with clients to prepare them both substantially and emotionally for their deposition, knowing when and how

to make proper objections and when to instruct not to answer, and coping with obstreperous counsel.

Credit: 1.0

11:50 – 12:30

Lunch

12:30 – 1:20

Avoiding Legal Malpractice: Practical Steps for Staying Out of the Line of Fire
Presenter: Charlotte Perrell, Esq.

Description: This presentation will outline practical steps that can be taken to avoid a claim for malpractice in the first place, to safeguard against risk both to reputation and financial well-being as well as to manage a claim before a suit is ever filed. As members of a profession as opposed to merely a commercial enterprise, these steps serve dual interests, safeguarding not only the attorney but clients as well.

Credit: 1.0 (Ethics)

1:25 – 2:25

Judicial Panel

Hon. George W. Cannon, U.S. Magistrate Judge
District Court of the Virgin Islands
Hon. Harold W. L. Willocks, Judge
Superior Court of the Virgin Islands
Hon. Robert A. Molloy, Judge
Superior Court of the Virgin Islands

The Judges will primarily discuss courtroom issues and practice in their respective courtrooms. The panel presentation will also discuss new and anticipated changes in procedure before the Courts (particularly in the District and Superior Courts of the Virgin Islands). Additionally, attention will be directed towards issues associated with creating and securing the record.

Credit: 1.0

2:30 – 3:20

Use of Expert Witnesses in Litigation

Presenters: Charlotte Perrell, Esq. and Robert Vaughan, Esq.

Description: When it comes to questions about the use of expert witnesses, there's no shortage of expert advice. In selecting and using experts, you will notice that in many instances, there are no clear-cut, absolute, right or wrong answers, but rather choices to be made that should be based on a careful consideration of the pros and cons.

Credit: 1.0

3:25 – 4:00

Second Quarterly Membership Meeting