



The Docket

SARASOTA COUNTY
BAR ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER 2018
VOL. 35, NO. 9

SCBA NEWS

Bar Association presents its Annual Awards

By **DANA B. KEANE, Esq.**,
*Chair, SCBA Annual Awards
Sub-Committee*

Our profession includes some of the most charitable and civic-minded people in our community. On September 20, 2018 the SCBA Awards Committee members had the privilege of helping recognize the men and women of our Bar Association and community who had set themselves apart for their work and achievement.

Judge Stephen Walker presented **James Dirmann** with the *C.L. McKaig Award* in recognition of his efforts to help start the Family Law Pro Bono Initiative for Veterans, for which he has recruited dozens of attorneys from many areas of practice to provide legal services to those
See AWARDS, Page 17



Award winners **James Dirmann** (left), **Jason Gaskill** and **Neil Lyons** join **Dana Keane**, chair of the SCBA Annual Awards Sub-Committee, at the SCBA Annual Installation and Awards Dinner. For more photos from the dinner, please see Page 18.

2018–19 Section Chairs announced

The Sarasota County Bar Association wishes to acknowledge and thank the 2018–2019 Section Chairs, listed below.

- **Alternative Dispute Resolution:** Adria Jensen: ajensen@slk-law.com
- **Appellate Law:** Meghan Serrano: mserrano@slk-law.com
- **Business Law:** James-Allen McPheeters: jamcpheeters@williamsparke.com
- **Civil Trial:** Austin Eason: aeason@wickersmith.com
- **Elder Law:** Kate Fall: kate@boyerboyer.com
- **Estate Planning and Probate:** Alisa Heedy: aheedy@fergesonskipper.com
- **Family Law:** Colleen Norman: colleen@manasotalawyer.com; Emily Garriott: egarriott@smrl.com
- **Labor & Employment:** Michael Siegel: msiegel@shutts.com
- **Real Property:** Andrew Conaboy: aconaboy@berlinpatten.com
- **Solo/Small Firm:** Teresa Bowman: tkbowman@tkbowmanpa.com

MENTORING

Make a difference in a student's life

Join the SCBA Diversity & Inclusion Committee's Booker High School Law Academy Mentor Team

The Diversity & Inclusion Committee is looking for volunteers to serve as student mentors for students enrolled in Booker High School's Law Academy. Spearheaded by Circuit Court Judge Frederick Mercurio, the Committee seeks to match every student with a mentor.

Seventy-seven new students have enrolled in the Booker High School Law Academy for the 2018-2019 School Year. This is a tremendous success for the Law Academy, shattering their previous enrollment record and is a testament to the Committee's efforts in supporting both the personal and educational pursuits of Sarasota's students. Judge

Mercurio has been working with his student for the past year. "It has truly been both eye opening and rewarding. The mentoring is needed. We are serving as a positive force in the student's life. We really can make a difference."

The Committee has partnered with Faces of Accomplishment, Inc., a non-profit sanctioned by the Sarasota County School Board, to handle all required pre-screening and the assignment of a lawyer mentor to each student. Once approved and assigned a student, the mentors meet regularly with their student at Booker High School during the students' lunch period, or at any other agreed and approved upon time. The mentors offer guidance, support and trust as the Law Academy students pursue their quest for a career in the law. They also serve as an example and role model for

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Registration: 8:00 a.m.

Program: 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

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petermichael associates

The Docket encourages submissions of interest to SCBA
members. Contact the SCBA office via e-mail ([scba@
sarasotabar.com](mailto:scba@sarasotabar.com)) or phone (861-8180) for further
information. The Docket is published 10 months a year.
Deadline is the first Friday of the month preceding the month
of publication.

Committees keep the Bar Association running

I would be remiss to not start this column with a big Thank You to all that joined me at the Installation Dinner on September 20th. Being installed by **Chief Judge Charles Williams**, as your President, in front of all of my colleagues, lifelong friends, and family was a very special moment in time, and an evening that I will never forget. As I highlighted at the Installation Dinner, this year's SCBA theme will focus on you, the SCBA Members, and what we can do to enhance your Membership experience and execute the mission of the SCBA.

The SCBA, of course, has a mission statement, which is as follows:

“As a leader of the local legal community, the Sarasota County Bar Association advances professionalism, promotes practice development, encourages public service, fosters fellowship and supports access to legal services for all.”

With this mission statement as our guiding star, your Board of Directors worked diligently over the past couple years to re-organize the structure of the SCBA Board functions, so we can most efficiently operate in a way that maximizes the benefits of your SCBA Membership and is consistent with our mission statement. To this end, the Board re-organized the Board's operational functions into five different standing Committees, each of which is chaired by a Board Member (and all of which have subcommittees, of course...) as follows: (1) Governance (2) Membership (3) Communications (4) Programs and (5) Finance. The Board created goals for each of the Committees and formulated action items to achieve these goals. The goals of these standing Committees are now all being integrated into an SCBA Long Range Strategic Plan, which will be developed and finalized this year. I look forward to the Docket article in which I can bring forth that Long Range Strategic Plan to our Membership.

Our focus now is to encourage SCBA Members to serve on our Committees, so they are full of Members that are engaged in our mission and will continue to help achieve our goals. For this article, I would like give you an overview of the goals of the SCBA Committee

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Nancy Cason, Esq.
Syprett Meshad Law Firm

that will be most active this year, our Membership Committee. Under the fearless leadership of **Jennifer Grosso**, the Membership Committee will focus primarily on the work of its two current subcommittees: (1) The Barristers' Ball and (2) Membership Benefits.

Mark your calendars now for the return of the Barristers' Ball!

This will be the signature event of the Membership Committee, which will be held at Selby Gardens on May 4, 2019. Since this is also the day of the Kentucky Derby, this gives us an easy and fun theme for what will most certainly be a fun and entertaining night for our Membership. The SCBA has not held a Barristers' Ball in over 15 years, so we are bringing back this longstanding, beloved tradition in a new and fresh way to be enjoyed by all of our Members: young, old, and everyone in between (like me!).

Membership Benefits will be the focus of the second Membership Subcommittee. It has been years since the SCBA has actively sought out and provided benefits from local establishments that are exclusive to our Membership. Although the Florida Bar has extensive membership benefits that are provided to all members of the Florida Bar, your Board is confident that there are local establishments that would embrace the opportunity to provide a special benefit,

savings, discount, or otherwise to our Membership. Just think of all of the legal-service vendors, retail establishments, restaurants, florists, dry-cleaning, auto-detailing, alterations, and the literally hundreds of service providers we all use in our day-to-day lives and in our law practices. Each of these individuals or business would most certainly benefit from having the SCBA Membership in their lives, and giving patronage to their various businesses. This year, the SCBA will be developing a Membership Benefits package that will be rolled out next fall. We will continue to add to the initial Membership Benefits package each year, with the ultimate goal of having our SCBA Members receive additional local membership benefits and have the savings provided by these new benefits be enough to pay for your SCBA Membership each year. I realize this is a lofty goal, but it is one that can be achieved, and that your Board is committed to achieving for the benefit of all of our Members.

I encourage anyone interested in being a part of any of the SCBA Committees to sign up to serve on the Committee that best suits your time and talent. Please contact **Holly Lipps** in the SCBA office, and she'll point you in the right direction. After all, Members, the SCBA is nothing without you, and I need your help to achieve our very worthy SCBA mission-based goals.

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome, new members!

The following represents each new member's name, law school, year of admission to The Florida Bar, and law firm association.

- **David Fugett:** University of Georgia; 1990; *New College of Florida*
- **Pamela Hernandez:** Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University; 2013; *Berlin Patten Ebling PLLC*
- **Joshua Moyer:** Florida State University; 2006; *Office of the County Attorney*
- **Rinaldi White:** Stetson University; Class of 2019; *Student Member*
- **Betsy Young:** Florida State University; 1999; *The Young Law Group*

Ceci Berman, Florida Super Lawyers Top 100 lawyers in Florida & Top 50 lawyers in Tampa Bay 2018 • **Steve Brannock**, Florida Super Lawyers Top 100 lawyers in Florida & Top 50 lawyers in Tampa Bay 2018 • Tom Seider, Florida Super Lawyers Rising Star in appellate practice 2018 • Celene Humphries, Florida Trend Legal Elite Hall of Fame • **Tracy Carlin**, Florida Super Lawyers in appellate practice 2018 • Ceci Berman, Chambers USA ranking for Florida appellate litigation 2018 • Celene Humphries,

in America for practice in • Tom Seider, Legal Elite Up & Steve Brannock, Legal Elite Hall of Humphries, Lawyers in practice 2018 • Florida Super

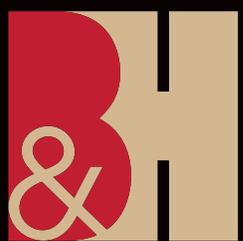
100 lawyers in Florida & Top 50 lawyers in Tampa Bay 2018 • **Sarah Pellenbarg**, Florida Super Lawyers in appellate practice 2018 • Steve Brannock, Florida Super Lawyers in appellate practice 2018 • **Tom Seider**, Florida Trend Legal Elite Up & Comer 2018 • Steve Brannock, Best Lawyers in America for appellate practice in Florida 2018 • Brannock & Humphries a Metro Tier 1 “Best Law Firm” for appellate

commercial Steve Brannock, Legal Elite in practice 2018 Humphries, USA ranking appellate

• Celene Humphries, Florida Super Lawyers Top 100 lawyers in Florida & Top 50 lawyers in Tampa Bay 2018 • **Maegen Luka**, Florida Super Lawyers in appellate practice 2018 • Sarah Pellenbarg, Florida Super Lawyers in appellate practice 2018 • **Joe Eagleton**, Florida Super Lawyers Rising Star 2018 • **Ceci Berman**, Florida Super Lawyers Top 50 women lawyers 2018 • Steve Brannock, Florida Super Lawyers Top 100 lawyers in Florida & Top 50 lawyers in Tampa Bay 2018 • Ceci Berman, Best Lawyers in practice in Florida 2018 Best Lawyers in America in Florida 2018 • Tracy

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America for appellate • Celene Humphries, for appellate practice Carlin, Florida Super practice 2018 •

Florida Bar offers LegalFuel to power your practice

LegalFuel, what is it?!?! No, it is not some performance enhancing drink that you can consume to become a better attorney. But if you take advantage of what all LegalFuel has to offer, then yes, you can perhaps become more efficient and successful in the practice of law.

In July, I was lucky enough to attend the Voluntary Bar Leadership Conference, which was held in Jensen Beach, Fla. While at the conference, attendees sign up for various breakout sessions, and during each session you listen to the topic scheduled to be discussed.

I signed up for “Sharks in the Water: The Latest in How Technology Is Changing The Landscape of the Practice of Law,” not only because the name of the session was pretty cool, but also because I am interested in technology and, specifically, technology and law. This is more true today, since we now have a requirement for three credits of continuing legal education in the area of technology.

My tech session was lead by our very own Board of Governors representative, **Scott Westheimer**, along with the President-Elect of the Florida Bar, **John Stewart**. I figured that if these heavy-hitters of the legal community are going to be talking to me about technology, they are probably going to have some excellent information to share. I was right!

During the session, Scott and John talked to the audience about the new and improved Florida Bar Lawyer Referral Service. They spoke about Technology Member Benefits. In my opinion, they saved the best for last, which is LegalFuel.

LegalFuel is the new practice resource center of The Florida Bar. It is the rebrand and upgrade to the Florida Bar’s Practice Resource Institute (PRI), which succeeded the Law Office Management Assistance Service (LOMAS). The Florida Board of Governors recognized that PRI was outdated and needed to be completely blown up and retooled. The result is LegalFuel.

Now, rather than having to visit multiple websites in order to answer practice-management questions, use forms, or participate in continuing legal education, LegalFuel puts everything in one convenient place. Many may ask, who is LegalFuel

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Erin Itts, Esq.
Itts Law, LLC

for? The answer is simple: each and every practicing lawyer in the State of Florida. LegalFuel is a service that is provided by The Florida Bar at no cost to its members. LegalFuel provides Florida attorneys with strategic tools, which are designed to help “fuel” their law practices with increased efficiency and profitability. So, whether you are a new attorney who has questions about marketing and networking, a mid-level attorney who has decided to start a new law firm, or a seasoned attorney who needs information on managing a practice or catching up on technology, you can learn all of this and so much more when you visit the LegalFuel website.

The LegalFuel website is designed to be user-friendly, and, it actually is! When you log on to the website, you are greeted with the LegalFuel banner and you can see below the banner a series of topics. As you scroll over each topic, drop-down menus appear with relevant sub-topics. The topics include: start a law firm, manage your practice, marketing, finance, technology, document library, free CLE (you read that right, it actually has 70+ hours of free CLE!), event calendar, and news and resources. In addition, the website includes podcasts, as well as the new LegalFuel Speaker Series, which are more free CLEs featuring well-regarded attorneys discussing relevant and useful topics that will be of interest to Florida attorneys. The August Speaker Series release is available now and features Attorney **Ethan Wall** on “How to Grow Your Practice and Career with Social Media.” Upcoming topics include “10 Ways to Avoid a Grievance” (which all attorneys should watch) and “Cybersecurity and the Everyday Lawyer.”

Certainly when this website was designed, there was a focus placed upon accessibility of information and the manners in which people are able to comprehend the information they access. For example, there is a document library of 100-plus important documents needed in the day-to-day practice of law and operation of a law firm. But if you had a question about one of those forms, then you also have the ability to post a question about that form, or anything else law related, on a

discussion board. By doing so, you are connected with other attorneys throughout the state, and those attorneys can post responses to your questions, or you can engage a LegalFuel expert via telephone or the website’s live-chat feature. That expert likely can provide you with a quick response to your question.

The goal of LegalFuel is to assist attorneys in running the business side of their law firms and to allow attorneys to streamline their daily business duties so that they can focus on their clients and the practice of law. From what I can see from the website and its content, LegalFuel will meet that goal. The best part, LegalFuel will be generating new and original content on a weekly basis, so hopefully the website will continue to be cutting edge and provide information and documentation that will be useful to Florida attorneys. I know I have you all excited about LegalFuel and what it has to offer, so feel the burning desire to check it out by logging on to www.LegalFuel.com.

As promised in last month’s article, each month I will be providing you with practice tips so that you may add them to your personal Practical Guide to the Practice of Law. This month’s practice tip is simply a reminder ... never forget the importance of the 3 P’s: be Prompt, Professional, and Prepared. Whether you are heading to Court, a meeting with opposing counsel, or a conference with a client, it is always best to be well-received. The easiest way to

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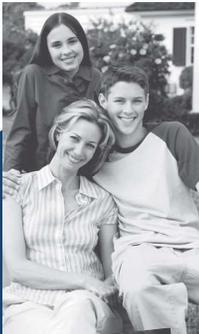
Membership Survey

We are grateful to all who participated in this year’s YLD Membership Survey.

The results are in and the Board is working hard to incorporate the wants of the membership into the Bar calendar. As a thank you for taking the time to participate in the survey, one lucky winner will receive a \$25 gift card. Drum roll, please ... and the winner is ... **Christine Messier**. Congratulations, Christine and thank you again to all participants!

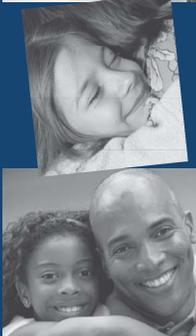


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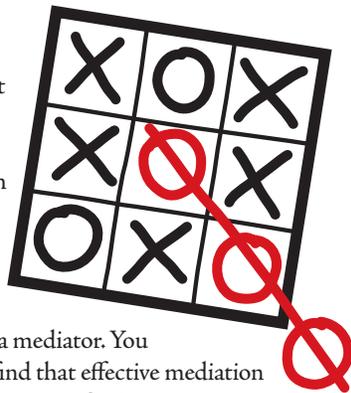
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Standing on the shoulders of giants

Our South County Division suffered the loss of four of its members this year. This loss was felt far beyond the Bar Association, and even more deeply within the communities these men served and amongst the family members and friends they loved.

John Joseph “Jack” Dulmer (April 7), **Robert William “Bill” Wellbaum** (April 13), **Robert “Bob” DeBoer** (April 17) and **Douglas “Doug” Grissinger** (August 25) all built thriving law practices, but they all devoted their lives to much more than just the practice of law. The stories shared at their memorial services were personal stories of family men, who spent hours upon hours laughing, coaching, reading, and playing with their children and grandchildren, stories of caring friendships and adventurous men who took on leadership roles in their churches and in their communities to help leave a legacy of service for others to build upon. Quite notably, their community activities and their willingness to assume strong leadership roles began early in their lives. Jack, Bill, and Doug were all Boy Scouts, and both Bill and Doug were presented with their Eagle Scout Badge (fun fact: Doug received his from **Neil Armstrong**).

Jack’s leadership roles continued in college where he was the President of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity and President of the Interfraternity Council, and into adulthood through his service with the Masons, Grace United Methodist Church, Teen Court, and Venice Little League. His family directed any legacy gifts to

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Susan H. Hines, Esq.
Sabal Trust Company

be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children in his honor.

Bill’s footprint of service to the Englewood community can be found in the Englewood United Methodist Church, Englewood Jaycees, Englewood Kiwanis Club, Englewood Community Hospital Board, and up to the national level in the Elks Club. His legacy is being honored through the Bill Wellbaum Leadership Scholarship/Englewood Elks.

Bob served endless hours with the Florida Bar Grievance Committee, was a founding member of the Bank of Venice, and spent many years on the Venice Hospital Board. His special request was for any donation in his honor to be made to the South County Special Olympics, a group that had touched his family’s life for many years.

Doug was an avid traveler and adventurer and, like the others, his family was his top priority. His son, Thomas, and our son, Preston, are the best of friends. I knew from past conversations with Doug that he had been the President of the North Port Area Chamber of Commerce and that he had served as President of his Rotary Club. What I didn’t know until I attended his Celebration of Life was that he continued to volunteer at his children’s elementary school, reading weekly with classes, and that he mentored a different “at-risk” teenager each year for the Big Brothers Big Sister’s program. He was looking forward to meeting this year’s match when he returned from his family vacation. Sadly, this wasn’t to be. It was through these “one on one” connections he made with

young people year after year that he helped secure the fibers of community all around him. His family asked that any gifts be directed in his honor to the Big Brother Big Sisters of the Sun Coast or the Appalachian Mountain Club.

The ripple effect of each caring word and action, large or small, that these men of character took is truly immeasurable in any one lifetime. My hope is that we all do our best to carry the torch and share our own time, talent, and treasure, in whatever large or small way we can, each and every day. The deeds of these caring, compassionate gentlemen will continue to impact our communities for many years ahead. For this, we are all blessed.

“Every man’s life ends the same way. It is only the details of how he lived and how he died that distinguish one man from another.”

—Ernest Hemingway

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

YLD Membership Social
Thursday, October 18, 2018
Pinkerton Wealth Management

Train Depot Social
Friday, November 2, 2018
Historic Train Depot

Sporting Clays Event
Friday, March 1, 2019
Sarasota Gun Club

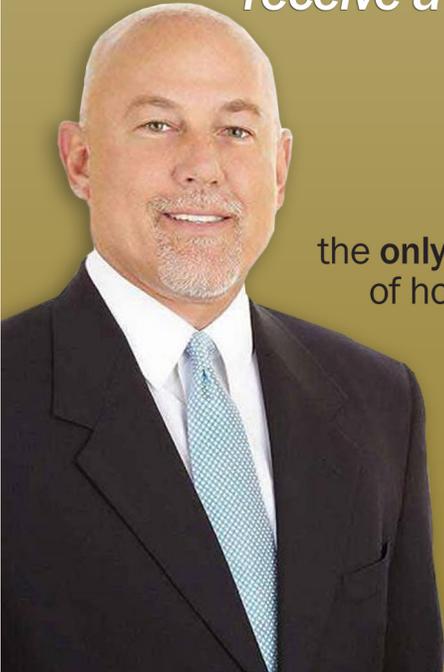


Chief Judge Charles Williams administers the oath of office to the SCD Board of Directors.



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Sarasota's Teen Court is a model for the nation

Interview of HEATHER TODD

Executive Director of Teen Court of Sarasota, Inc.

Teen Court in Sarasota celebrates 30 years of operation this year. It has had over 10,000 clients, and that number is closer to 12,000.

The history of Teen Court shows an organization that has changed the face of our community. In 1986, the Sarasota Chapter of the League of Women Voters approached the Junior League of Sarasota, Inc. with concerns that our community was experiencing an increase in juvenile crime. The Junior League determined the concern was worth researching.

Debbie McKay Gigliotti, chair of the Public Affairs Committee, realizing that minor offenders were not receiving meaningful or rehabilitative consequences and thus were often re-offending, learned about an innovative, successful youth jury program operating in Grand Prairie and Odessa, Texas. Debbie visited the Odessa Teen Court, which was operated by the Junior League, and returned to Sarasota with tremendous enthusiasm and optimism that this concept would deal constructively with the at-risk youth.

After a two-day symposium of all the parties involved in the local juvenile justice system, it was determined that the concept could have a positive impact on Sarasota County's youth. In early 1988, the Junior League of Sarasota committed to support the project for three years, making an annual financial commitment of \$10,000 to support the operational expenses of Teen Court, which included a volunteer staff of six members and two members of the local chapter of Florida Association of Women Lawyers (FAWL).

Teen Court of Sarasota, Inc., a 501 (c) (3) organization, was incorporated in 1988. The first Teen Court hearings were held in December 1988. It did not take long for the word to spread throughout Florida, and representatives of Sarasota County's Teen Court, along with students, traveled around the state helping other communities replicate the program's services. Sarasota County's Teen Court was noted as a model prevention



Heather Todd,
Executive Director
of Teen Court of
Sarasota, Inc.

program by the U.S Department of Justice.

In 1989, a full time director was hired to coordinate and strengthen the services provided. With the support of the local judiciary, county commission, law enforcement, and the Department of Juvenile Justice, the services quickly became recognized as successful, and the case load began to grow quickly. After five years, conclusive recidivism data was available showing a re-offense rate of 12% among first-time offenders, compared to 42% among youth handled in traditional juvenile court.

With this great data, the program continued to grow. By 2002, Sarasota County's program had a four-person staff and was receiving 700 cases annually. With successful completion of sanctions resulting in dismissal of charges instead of the stigma of a conviction, the state attorney's office and the Department of Juvenile Justice were taking full advantage of the opportunity for minor juvenile offenders, which also reduced their work load.

In the past few years, Teen Court has continued to grow and respond to changes in our community and in our Legislature. We sat down with **Heather Todd**, the Executive Director of Teen Court, to get an update on the current state of Teen Court.

Q: Can you describe the Teen Court process as it operates today?

So, Teen Court as a whole is when a young person tells their side of the story to a jury of their peers. The prosecuting and defending attorneys are teens. The clerk and the bailiff in the courtroom are teens. And an adult judge, or an adult attorney, volunteers his or her time with us and oversees the process. It is a sentencing hearing. That jury is going to decide the consequences.

Right off the bat, that young person's going to get between eight and 50 hours of community service, between one and six jury duties. They may have to write an apology letter, an essay, or a report. Sometimes the jury has them go to AA meetings or NA meetings.

But, before the young person even gets to that courtroom, a Teen Court case manager has interviewed that young person and their family

and looked at the big picture, which is so important today, because it's not just about that initial offense, but it's also what got them there. So often we have to look at the mental-health component, the substance-abuse component. Are there risky behaviors that they're exhibiting? Whether it's sneaking out, skipping school, etc. So, we're looking at the big picture. We're looking at how they're doing in their home, how they're doing in the community and how they're doing at school, with those restorative strategies.

We do Teen Court every other Wednesday in Sarasota, every other Monday in South County. One Monday in Venice, one Monday in North Port, and we definitely need more South County representation.

There are four full-time employees with Teen Court. We had over 400 clients last year. We saw over 4,000 students with our law related education piece, because we have the client piece, but then we go out to the community and we recruit volunteers. We also go around the community, and we share how not to get into trouble. It's a really important component.

Q: With Teen Court's legacy in Sarasota for so many years, what are your biggest challenges now going forward?

Probably the biggest challenge is still the negative stigma that comes along with making a poor choice. Does that choice follow you or doesn't it follow you? That can affect our organization. We are a 501(c)3. A good example is maybe the Giving Challenge. Charities like the Cat Depot do so well. Don't get me wrong. I love cats, too. And we do well for us, but we're talking about kids that have made a poor choice. They are the kids that maybe graffiti at the park. They are the kids that maybe stole from the store. They are the kids that maybe stole from a car. People have a hard time wrapping their head around the fact that if we donate to this program now, when these kids are still young and can be impacted, we will build fewer prisons. If we can stop substance abuse when it starts, we will build fewer treatment facilities.

So, I would say that's probably our biggest challenge. First of all,

See TEEN COURT, Page 11



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7. Is the attorney located in the 12th judicial circuit?
8. Will the attorney pay you a referral fee in accordance with the rules regulating the Florida Bar on every case no matter how big or small?*
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*Rules regulating the Florida Bar permit a 25% referral fee without any involvement of the referral attorney other than making the introduction to the client. Any additional fees require court approval and involvement of the referring attorney in the handling of the personal injury matter.

TEEN COURT

Continued from Page 9

sharing that we are a 501(c)3. Because it's Teen Court. So a lot of people think we're part of the judicial system. Although we hold hands really, really well with the judicial system, we aren't necessarily part of the judicial system. We offer it as a not-for-profit, and we are one of three Teen Court programs across the state that chose to do so when we opened our doors.

I think, we do a good job of getting out to the community and spreading the word that the kids that we work with are good kids that made a poor choice. An example of a young man that just came through comes to mind. He's in his 20s, and he's trying to be an EMT, and he needs to get that record. I want to beat my head against the wall, because it happened in 2013, so five years ago when he was in his teens. It was a petty theft. I just hate that he has to explain it, when he's in his late twenties and this happened five years ago. I hope it doesn't close that door of opportunity. The young people that we work with, I will say it again, are good kids that have made a poor choice. I feel so strongly about that. I've worked with Teen Court for 19 years, it will be 20 years next May.

I love these kids. We've all made poor choices. What we're going to watch is what they do after they complete the Teen Court consequences: meaningful consequences. What we're seeing so much of now is young people that need more than just that sentencing hearing.

Q: What do you think the bar association is doing well and what could we improve on?

I'm very fortunate to have several Sarasota County Bar Association members that I can pick up the phone and say, "I have this need, how can you help me? What can you do?" And, they answer the call. It's pretty cool.

I have to put a plug in because I love Holly Lipps. She came into her role when I came into mine. I've only been doing this executive director piece for a couple of years now. So I bounce ideas off of Holly and immediately when I reached out to her, I said, "What can we do together?" She put me in touch with some key people. And first of all she ran a story about Stefan Campagna, because I think it's nice to put a

"Last year, we saved this community over two million dollars keeping these cases out of juvenile court."

name with a face. What does success of this program look like? Well, it looks like Stefan. It looks like a poor choice when you're 16 and then what did you do with that. That's the perfect example.

So, I think certainly getting the word out, and then she's put me in touch with people like Judge Williams who will sit down with me, and share what I can be doing differently and certainly is an advocate in the community for Teen Court.

So, what can the Bar Association do? I always love new volunteers, as far as young attorneys here in town that will come and preside at Teen Court or come and volunteer. I have teens that think they want to be attorneys, and then they get there and they're like "I totally want to be an attorney" or "I totally don't want to be an attorney." But it's so important that they hear from you all, just firsthand.

Then, just paying it forward. When you think about at the end year your tax write off. That hundred dollars. I always say, "How many attorneys are here in town?" If each gave \$100, we could do amazing things.

We have other events to get the community involved. If you don't have a lot of time, then you can sponsor a tee sign for our golf tournament. We have a golf tournament once a year where one hundred percent of the proceeds go to our programs and services. Part of that is a scholarship fund that we give to the young people that graduate. They give their time. We have to have these young people volunteer. They're choosing us. There are so many volunteer opportunities these kids today. They're choosing to give back at Teen Court. We reward them with that scholarship. It's a super special night.

Q: How much does Teen Court save our community?

Last year, we saved this community over two million dollars keeping these cases out of juvenile court. Looking at the big picture, it's not a number I came up with. It's about \$500 to have a young person come through Teen Court. That's not what they pay, it's just between everything. For one visit in juvenile court it is \$5,000. And very rarely do they go to juvenile court one time. There's usually an arraignment. There's usually a first appearance. There's that kind of stuff. So the raw numbers show it. We're keeping

people out of juvenile court.

Q: There have been some changes since 1988 related to civil citation and the referral process being different than how it's been historically. Can you tell me a little bit about what changes have been made compared to that?

For 30 years, since 1988, cases came to Teen Court directly from law enforcement. Across the state, not everyone had the same system because they were run out of their court administration, or because they were run out of their school, or run out of their municipality through the sheriff's department or a police department in that community. We were really special and we were unique. But what's happening is young people across the state were being arrested for those offenses as opposed to being given a referral to a program like ours.

So, Tallahassee instituted civil citations. So the referral process looks very different, and it feels very different. Cases don't come from law enforcement directly anymore. They go through the Department of Juvenile Justice, then we get them. The great piece is that there's an order that Judge Williams wrote that said that all civil citations in the community come to Teen Court. But, the process is very, very different.

So instead of waiting for a civil citation, we have been proactive. How can we get that young person earlier, than that civil citation? Our schools have responded. We have a fantastic relationship with Sarasota County Schools. Currently we are half and half, civil citations and half school referrals, which is fantastic, and we're really excited that the schools have sent the kids here as soon as they see them getting off track.

For example, I just had a call from a charter school here in town where the teacher was pushed by a 12 year old. Well, that's a felony on a school board employee, if they chose to go that route. What they're doing is they're picking up the phone and saying, "Will you take this in lieu of that arrest or that charge?" The answer is "Yes." We're going to pile on a meaningful consequences and services to this 12 year old, because that's a really unusual behavior. You don't push a teacher. And things led up to it. That wasn't the only thing that happened that day. But our ultimate goal, and I love that this principal called, is that we're going

See **TEEN COURT**, Page 13

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Continued from Page 1

who have served our country and cannot afford legal representation.

Ed Ford presented **Neil Lyons** with the *Distinguished Community Service Award* in recognition of his dedication to helping the cause of the defenseless and oppressed through his countless hours of pro-bono legal services through Legal Aid of Manasota, providing representation to children and vulnerable persons needing guardianship services.

Roxanne Jerde, President and CEO of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, received the *Distinguished Service Award* in recognition of her tireless promotion and advocacy of the legal profession in conjunction with assisting individuals to achieve their philanthropic goals, as well as assisting the SCBA with its charitable endeavors.

Chip Gaylor presented **Jason Gaskill** and **Robert Lincoln** with the

President's Award for their service in assisting the SCBA advance the use of technology within the SCBA Strategic Plan. **Chief Judge Charles Williams** and **Charlie Ann Sypret** received a President's Award for the creation and production of *We Are Sarasota*, and **Daniel Tullidge** was recognized for his service as Docket Editor.

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TEEN COURT

Continued from Page 11

to try this first. And then, the victim can always go back and have that young man charged if necessary. But, let's try this. And, that's what we used to be able to do with a direct referral, and what we can now do with direct referrals from schools.

Q: Are there any stories you can share about how you go above and beyond for kids in your programs?

A: Many. One example is that I had a kid who presented to our Camp XRAYD program, which is our substance-abuse program, on a Saturday. They're supposed to wear shorts, a tee shirt, socks, and sneakers. Our case manager noticed immediately that the young man's shoes were way too small. Our case manager wore the same size shoes and literally had sneakers that he had not even put on in the back of his car. We were able to help that young man at that moment.

But it was the first or second week in August and school started the thirteenth. If he can't afford new sneakers of Camp XRAYD, he doesn't have the school supplies. He doesn't have the school clothes. There's 800 things that are going on. So I sent out an email ... what can I do? I have these fantastic board

members that collectively we were able to give this kid \$300, and that's nothing. I have kids. I know that's nothing. But this dad is crying, and he's so thankful, and it was, hey does he have a bike, hey does he have this. It's just ... It's a beautiful thing.

Q: Any other things you think the Sarasota County Bar Association should hear about Teen Court?

A: Coming to a Teen Court session is such a feather in the cap of this community and such fantastic partnership with the 12th Judicial Circuit. I think everyone should attend a session. I think it would get them very excited about the young people in this community. These kids literally look up to you all. It's pretty cool. You are their super heroes. When the adult attorneys, particularly your age group, when they volunteer, when they show up, the kids are kind of strutting their stuff. It's really cute. I think to get the word out, we have new volunteer orientation October 1st in Venice, October 2nd, and October 3rd in Sarasota.

So I think seeing a session, seeing how you can get involved, sharing ideas, and then I think tapping those members that either participated with Teen Court in high school, or came through and having them get back involved.

Confidential information in court records: a Clerk's perspective

Pursuant to Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.420 a Notice of Confidential Information within Court Filing must be filed when a document containing confidential information, as described in Rule 2.420(d)(1), is filed within a court record. Because the Clerk relies upon this notice to direct the Clerk to the document, as well as the specific location within the document, it is necessary that the notice not only include title of the document containing the confidential information but the precise location of the information. The Rule requires the filer to specify the following:

- title/type of document
- date of filing (if known)
- date of document
- docket entry number
- whether the entire document is to be made confidential or only a portion of
- if not the entire document, the precise location of the information to be made confidential



Karen E. Rushing
Clerk of Court
and County
Comptroller

When the Notice of Confidential Information within Court Filing does not adequately comply with the Rule, the Clerk will notify the filer in writing that we are unable to determine the location of the information as the notice lacked proper direction pursuant to Rule 2.420(d)(2). If this is the case, this will require the filer to resubmit the notice. An example that the Clerk regularly receives is a notice form stating an entire document is confidential when in actuality it is only an account number or bank number that falls within the rule.

When the Clerk receives a Notice of Confidential Information within Court Filing that is compliant with the Rule but the information sought to be made confidential appears to fall outside of the twenty two records listed under subdivision (d)(1)(B) the Clerk will notify the filer in writing within five days. The filer will then have ten days to file a motion before the information is *no longer* held as confidential by the Clerk. This Clerk notification is being provided to prompt strict compliance with the rule as we have noted filings that lacked specificity and clear direction.

Please note that the rule does not require a notice be filed if an entire court file is maintained as confidential.

Compliance with the rule ensures the information sought to be protected is processed timely and in adherence to the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration.



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The rule that counts — Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.514

By **PATRICK McARDLE, Esq.**
Grossman Roth & Partridge

For lawyers, timing can mean everything.

To figure out deadlines in Florida state court, understanding one rule is critical. That rule is Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.514. It has lived with us since October 2012, and since then it has been the center of the Florida legal universe when it comes to counting time. As the First District put it:

In fact, in addressing the computation of time, the current rules of procedure governing particular classes of cases for the most part simply cross-reference rule 2.514. See Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.090(a); Fla. R. Crim. P. 3.040; Fla. R. Civ. P. — S.V.P. 4.090(a); Fla. Prob. R. 5.042(a); Fla. R. Traf. Ct. 6.350; Fla. R. Juv. P. 8.180(a); Fla. R. Juv. P. 8.240(a); Fla. R. Juv. P. 8.630(a); Fla. R. App. P. 9.420(e); Fla. Fam. L. R. P. 12.090.

—*McCray v. State*, 151 So. 3d 449 (Fla. 1st DCA 2014).

It is rare to find a rule, outside the Rules of Professional Conduct, that impacts civil trial, criminal trial, probate, traffic court, juvenile court, family court, and the District Courts of Appeal, but this Rule manages to connect these silos of law. As a Tolkien fanatic would say, this is one Rule that rules them all. So this article will walk through this Rule, step by step, and should be helpful as either a refresher or a guide to a Rule that can become extremely important at critical times in your practice.

The Rule states its dominance up front:

Computing Time. The following rules apply in computing time periods specified in any rule of procedure, local rule, court order, or statute that does not specify a method of computing time.

—Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.514(1)(a).

This emphasizes the fact that this is the place to look unless you have a more specific rule on point.



Patrick McArdle, Esq.
Grossman Roth & Partridge

Next, the Rule begins to explain the process of figuring out a deadline. It tells you to:

exclude the day of the event that triggers the period . . .

—Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.514(1)(b)

For example, if an event occurs on a Thursday and that is a trigger, you start by counting Friday as “one.”

Next, the rule takes you through the one type of math even lawyers are confident in accomplishing: counting. It tells you to count all the way to the number of days specified:

count every day, including intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, and (C) include the last day of the period . . .

—Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.514(1)(b)(c)

Once you are on that final day, the Rule has one final trick up its sleeve. It asks you whether it is a normal business day or not. In the Rule’s language:

if the last day is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, or falls within any period of time extended through an order of the chief justice under Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.205(a)(2)(B)(iv), the period continues to run until the end of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday and does not fall within any period of time extended through an order of the chief justice.

So, before you truly know whether you have found your deadline, you must know the legal holidays that apply in your Circuit and any local orders that have extended the clock. This is particularly true in hurricane season.

If it is not a normal business day, then keep counting until you find one and then you have arrived at the deadline you seek in almost every case.

But because there are always exceptions in the law, there is an exception here, too. And that exception, once thought of as the Mailbox Rule, is now more of an inbox rule. For rules triggered by a

date of service, other than proposals for settlement, Rule 2.516(b) adds more time when delivery occurs via snail mail or email. The process is explained in *McCray v. State*, 151 So. 3d 449 (Fla. 1st DCA 2014):

[C]omputing the additional time allowed after service by mail is now a two-step process. The first step involves determining when the original period would have expired under subdivision (a) of the rule. . . In the second step, five days are added to the result of the computation under subdivision (a)[.]

If the result of adding these final five days is not a normal business day, “rule 2.514(a)(1)(C) is again implicated” and the practitioner needs to keep counting until the next normal business day. *Id.*

While many times these timing issues will not matter, sometimes they can have significant consequences for practitioners. Here’s an example from the civil-trial side. Summary judgment requires the filer of the motion to not only serve the motion 20 days before the hearing but to also “serve at that time a copy of any summary judgment evidence on which the movant relies that has not already been filed with the court.” Fla. Rule. Civ. P. 1.510(c). Let’s assume you have chosen to serve summary-judgment evidence via email, or through the e-Portal. In either event, under rule 2.514(b), that means as the filer you actually must file 25 days before the hearing date because 5 extra days are tacked on to the 20 day deadline.

What do you do as a practitioner if you want to keep that hearing time and you are 24 days away? I’d recommend using an otherwise useless piece of technology: the fax machine. Because faxes are considered the same as hand delivery under Florida law, you will avoid the Inbox Rule and be able to keep your hearing time.

In situations like that one and others, this Rule that counts is an important tool to protect yourself from missing deadlines, keeping hearing time, and allowing you to know with certainty the timing involved in your cases.

Remaining neutral can be like walking a high wire

By **ADRIA JENSON, Esq.**
Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP

Candidly, it was not until I went through all the steps to become a Supreme Court certified mediator that I became aware of the many misconceptions that litigators have about mediation, and particularly about the role of the mediator. It was only then that I realized the distinction between making the parties settle and getting the parties to a resolution. To most, this will seem like a very subtle distinction, but this distinction is of utmost importance and the crux of two of the three fundamental tenets of mediation: confidentiality, neutrality of the mediator, and the parties' absolute right to self-determination. It is the latter two that we examine here.

The idea that a mediator must remain neutral seems obvious and a simple rule for the mediator to uphold. However, one need only peruse the opinions published by the



Adria Jenson, Esq.
Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP

Mediation Ethics Advisory Commission (MEAC) to find case after case where well-intentioned and competent mediators violated requirements of neutrality and the parties' self-determination. It seems a bit strange that it would be all that difficult for a mediator to remain neutral. After all, the mediator has no dog in the fight and no personal connection to either party's version of the case. However, neutrality in mediation is much broader than simply not picking favorites.

Remaining neutral requires that the mediator, among other things, refrain from giving legal opinions or commenting on the merits of either side's position. Further, ensuring that the settlement reached upholds the parties' right to self-determination and that neither side could be deemed to have gotten a "worse" deal (suggested by the mediator) requires that the parties, and not the mediator, make specific suggestions regarding settlement options. Thus,

being proactive and effective, while remaining neutral, is a walk on the high wire.

In our results-driven world, mediators looking to expand their practice, to get repeat customers, and to earn a good reputation are no doubt under pressure to get the case settled. A mediator's efforts to restrain his/her desire to inject legal analysis and personal opinion into the case could be easily, albeit erroneously, construed as ignorance of the subject-matter and/or a lack of confidence. So if the mediator is not going to opine on the case or tell the parties what to do, how can a practitioner decide on the right mediator for a case, especially a contentious one, assuming that the mediator will strictly adhere to the principles of neutrality and self-determination?

First of all, practitioners must realize that mediation, just like litigation itself, is an art, not a science. It is important to note that even where

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TAX LAW

Cryptocurrency: Know your potential tax implications before going too far

By **PHOEBE TRUMPLER, CPA**
Kerkering, Barberio & Co.

Cryptocurrency, or virtual currency, has been in the news a lot lately due to its rapidly increasing popularity as an investment. There are currently more than 1,500 known virtual currencies, with some of the most popular being Bitcoin, Ethereum, and Litecoin. For early investors in Bitcoin, if \$100 was purchased in 2010, it would have been worth over \$4.3 million dollars in early 2018.

Despite this performance, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority has deemed cryptocurrency a highly speculative investment. Investors also need to know that earnings and capital gains and losses must be reported by U.S. tax filers. If virtual currency is held in an online exchange outside the U.S., there are also foreign-disclosure reporting requirements for U.S. people.



Phoebe Trumpler, CPA
Kerkering, Barberio & Co.

How does cryptocurrency work?

Cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin have an equivalent value in real currency. These currencies can be digitally traded between users and exchanged for real currencies. The most common way to obtain Bitcoin or other virtual currencies is through an online exchange. As the popularity of virtual currency increases, a growing number of businesses are beginning to accept Bitcoin payments. This trend is expected to continue as cryptocurrency becomes more mainstream.

How does the IRS view cryptocurrency and how is it handled for tax purposes?

The IRS does not view virtual currency as real currency; it is treated as property for U.S. federal tax purposes. (See IRS Virtual Currency Guidance at IRS.gov.) Because it is treated as property, the rules for disposition of capital assets apply. Dispositions include but may

not be limited to sales, exchanges, bartering, and transfers.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) has also caused some changes for cryptocurrency. Previously, there were different thoughts on whether exchanging one virtual currency for another could benefit from the like-kind exchange rules under Section 1031 of the tax code. Under this code, exchanges of certain types of property could be tax-deferred provided the Section 1031 rules were met. Investors hoped Section 1031 rules would be applicable for exchange of virtual currencies. However, many experts disagreed. Going forward the question is moot as the TCJA has now eliminated all tax-deferred like-kind exchanges, except for exchanges of real estate, for 2018 and beyond.

For U.S. tax purposes, capital gains and losses are recognized when you exchange cryptocurrency for other virtual currencies or for real currencies, goods, or services. If the

See **CRYPTO**, Page 18

■ Icard Merrill is pleased to announce that six of the firm's attorneys have been selected for the 2019 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*, the only purely peer-review guide to the legal profession. Icard Merrill attorneys selected to the list of 2019 *Best Lawyers* are **Charles J. Bartlett, Michael J. Furen, Thomas F. Icard, Jr., Robert G. Lyons, William W. Merrill III, and Jaime L. Wallace.**

■ **Mark A. Sessums** of Sessums Law Group, P.A. has been included in the 25th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* for 2019. Recognition by *Best Lawyers* is based on peer review and consensus of leading attorneys in the same geographic and legal practice area.

■ Williams Parker is pleased to announce several of its attorneys have been selected for inclusion in the 25th Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. The attorneys named to the 2019 list include **Charles D. Bailey, Jr.** (Land Use and Zoning), **John T. Berteau** (Trusts and Estates), **Ric Gregoria** (Trusts and Estates), **Michele B. Grimes** (Real Estate Law), **J. Michael Hartens-tine** (Real Estate Law), **Patrick W. Ryskamp** (Real Estate Law), **William M. Seider** (Real Estate Law), **James L. Turner** (Real Estate Law and Trusts and Estates), and E. John Wagner, II (Tax Law). Additionally, **Mr. Bailey** and **Mr. Wagner** have been recognized as 2019 "Lawyer of the Year" recipients.

■ **Elizabeth P. Diaz**, a trusts and estates attorney with Williams Parker, has been selected to participate in the Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Sarasota County Class of 2019.

■ The Million Dollar Advocates Forum is pleased to announce that attorney **Damian B. Mallard** has been certified as a member of the *Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum*.

■ **Amy L. Sergent**, Attorney-Arbitrator, has recently been accepted to the American Arbitration Association's Panel of Labor Arbitrators. Ms. Sergent also serves on the Employment Law and Consumer Law Panels for the AAA.

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Wanted: News items

Have you or a member of your firm achieved professional recognition?

Have you hired a new attorney? Any other news of note? If so, we would like to hear about it. Email your "News of Note" items to scha@sarasotabar.com.

H. Rush is now Florida Bar Board Certified in Wills, Trusts and Estates. Board certification is the highest level of evaluation by The Florida Bar of competency and experience. Board certification helps consumers identify specialists in various areas of law.

■ **Gail E. Farb**, a labor and employment attorney with Williams Parker, recently presented "What's a Business to Do in the Age of #MeToo: Preventing, Recognizing, and Responding to Harassment in the Workplace" at the Hospitality Financial & Technology Professionals Association's Florida Regional Conference.

MEDIATION

Continued from Page 16

a settlement is not achieved, the mediation process can be instrumental in narrowing the issues, exploring alternatives, and gauging the parties' resolve to stay in the fight. Effective mediators tackle the resolution and do not get bogged down by the disputes; they focus on the people, not on the problems. Thus, the style, demeanor, and personality of the mediator should be appropriate in light of the people and challenges involved. Next, practitioners should recognize that the mediation process, when executed properly, facilitates communication and encourages the free flow of ideas. Thus, a mediator's communication skills and dispute-resolution strategies can prove much more valuable than his/her subject matter expertise, trial experience, or years of practice. Even when the parties do not walk away with a signed agreement, an effective mediator can certainly plant the seed from which a resolution may ultimately blossom.

YLD

Continued from Page 5

do that is to be timely for the hearing or meeting (prompt), be professional in your presentations, conversations and demeanor, and be prepared, whether its to argue a motion, conduct a trial, or merely engage in a discussion, know what is expected for the occasion and be appropriately prepared.

MENTOR

Continued from Page 1

giving back to their community.

How to join the Mentor Team

■ Pre-registration with the SCBA Diversity & Inclusion Committee;

■ A pre-screening interview with Kathy Chamberlain, Director of Faces on Accomplishment, Inc.;

■ Fingerprinting and a background check.

The Diversity & Inclusion Committee invites all members of the Sarasota County Bar Association to join the Team. To sign up or for more information, register with the Diversity & Inclusion Committee on the SCBA website and then contact **Kathy Chamberlain** at (941) 468-7582 or email westcoastkath@aol.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

Hartlee & Bald, PA, an AV rated Bradenton Law Firm is seeking a full-time legal assistant experienced in litigation. Candidates must be skilled in MS Office software (Word, Excel, and Outlook) and have excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Candidates must take initiative, have strong writing, editing and proofreading skills, be organized and maintain exemplary computer skills. The position includes benefits such as health, life and disability insurance. Salary is commensurate with experience. Please e-mail resume and cover letter to jel@hartleebald.com

Receptionist/Legal Assistant wanted for Sarasota law firm. Duties include answering phones, greeting clients, opening files, word processing, scheduling and calendaring appointments and general administrative duties. Law firm experience preferred. Compensation commensurate with experience. Please send resume to srqlawgroup@yahoo.com.

Part time probate paralegal wanted for Sarasota law firm. Experience required. Must be comfortable utilizing technology and be able to work independently. Ability to work remotely. Compensation between \$30 and \$50 per hour depending on experience. Please send resume to srqlawgroup@gmail.com.

OFFICE SPACE

Downtown Venice office. Turnkey. Collegial group of Lawyers. No lease required. Available immediately. Great opportunity for new lawyers or new lawyers to the area. Call (941) 485.9626 for details.

Placing a Classified ad

To place a classified advertisement, call

the Bar office or send an email to

scha@sarasotabar.com.

Scenes from Installation and Awards Dinner



CRYPTO

Continued from Page 16

virtual currency has been held for under a year, the gain is taxed at ordinary income tax rates. Long-term holdings are taxed at capital gains rates. To calculate the gain or loss, investors must use the U.S. dollar equivalents of the price of the cryptocurrency when it was acquired and the price on the date of the exchange. This applies whether the virtual currency is held in the U.S. or outside the U.S. To minimize the gain on the sale, taxpayers should choose an exchange that allows specific identification of which virtual currency “lots” are to be sold.

For example, in 2018 John purchases a television set for \$2,000 using Bitcoin. He originally acquired the Bitcoin used in the purchase for \$1,200 back in 2016. In this instance, John would report an \$800 long-term capital gain on his tax

The penalties for not properly reporting cryptocurrency transactions can be harsh. Taxpayers can be audited for those transactions and subject to penalties and interest.

return.

Where things become increasingly more complicated is when the Bitcoin is acquired at different dates and prices. Unlike securities, there is no authority currently tracking cryptocurrency for investors, so it is up to the investor to use software tools to help with tracking, which can become very complicated.

If there is no tracking, why do I need to report?

The IRS has been relatively slow to provide guidance and rules around virtual currency, but due to its rapid rise as an investment tool, it is now being looked at more closely as a potential source of additional tax revenue.

In February 2018, Coinbase, one of the largest cryptocurrency exchanges, announced to its customers that it would be turning over the data of over 13,000 “higher-transacting” users to the IRS as the result

of a court order, signaling that the IRS is on the verge of ramping up compliance in this area.

Unfortunately, many taxpayers are unaware of the requirements for reporting virtual currency transactions. Additionally, because cryptocurrency transactions can be difficult to trace, some taxpayers may be tempted to hide this taxable income from the IRS. This is not a good idea. The penalties for not properly reporting cryptocurrency transactions can be harsh. Taxpayers can be audited for those transactions and subject to penalties and interest. Regardless of where you purchase your cryptocurrency, it is clear that the IRS has defined Bitcoin and other virtual currencies as property. If you are considering cryptocurrency as an investment, contact the tax professionals at Kerkerling, Barberio & Co. with your questions and let us assist you with the proper income tax and foreign disclosure reporting.

Young Lawyer Division

SPEED NETWORKING

Thursday, October 11, 2018
5:30-7:30 p.m.
Mandeville Beer Garden
428 N. Lemon Avenue

Join us as we SPEED NETWORK at this fun, fast-paced, exciting event! Speak one-on-one with young lawyers in and out of your practice area. This event is specifically designed to help you lay the foundation to build relationships and effective referral Relationships—all while having a great time at this Oktoberfest themed event!

Appetizers included.
Each attendee receives one free drink ticket.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our sponsor:



YLD “Quick Chat” Networking Event
Thursday, October 11, 2018
Mandeville Beer Garden
\$10.00/person

Name: _____ Email: _____

Register online at www.sarasotabar.com

Deadline for reservations: Thursday, October 4, 2018

Mail with payment to: SCBA, P.O. Box 507, Sarasota, FL 34230
or register online at www.sarasotabar.com

“No Shows” and reservations cancelled within 48 hours of event will be invoiced.

____ Please check here if you have a disability that may require special attention or services. To ensure availability of appropriate accommodations, attach a general description of your needs. We will contact you for further coordination.



Alternative Dispute Resolution, Business Law & Civil Trial Joint Meeting

“Mediations—The Real World”

Tuesday, October 16, 2018
12 noon to 1:30 p.m.
Sarasota Yacht Club

Approved for 1.0 CLER

Course Presenters:

Scott Carter, Esq.
Dunlap & Moran, P.A.

John Chapman, Jr., Esq.
The John Chapman Law Firm, P.A.

William Christopher, Esq.
Maglio, Christopher & Toale, P.A.

Adria Jensen, Esq.
Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP

Join us for a mediator panel discussion on the practitioner’s misconceptions regarding the role of the mediator. Attendees will learn about the practical applications of the concepts of neutrality, self-determination and the Do’s and Don’ts that mediators must grapple with in ensuring that these concepts are upheld while still being effective.

ADR, Business & Civil Trial Joint Meeting

Tuesday, October 16, 2018
Sarasota Yacht Club
\$30.00 per person

Name _____

Check # _____

Email _____

Amount _____

Please indicate if you require a vegetarian meal _____

To pay by credit card visit: www.sarasotabar.com

Deadline for reservations: Tuesday, October 9, 2018

Mail with payment to: SCBA, P.O. Box 507, Sarasota FL 34230

“No Shows” and reservations canceled within 48 hours of event will be invoiced.

APPELLATE & REAL PROPERTY SECTIONS PRESENT

“The Metes and Bounds of Land-Use Appeals”

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
12 noon to 1:00 p.m.
Sarasota Yacht Club

Presented by:

Christopher Donovan, Esq.
Roetzel & Andress

Attorney Christopher Donovan will give an advance primer on seeking appellate review of a local government’s land-use decision by first-tier and second-tier certiorari relief. The presentation will include an in-depth discussion of the various types of local government decisions and which qualify for certiorari review, the technical requirements for seeking appellate review of a land-use decision and the common procedural defects that are often costly for litigants, a comprehensive analysis of first-tier certiorari review’s three standards of review and offers tips on bettering the odds of success, and the cold realities of what a litigant’s best day will look like in these type of appellate proceedings and how litigants seek further appellate review when their worst day happens.

**Approved for 1.0 Appellate; 1.0 Real Estate; and 1.0 City, County
and Local Government Law Certification Credits**

Appellate & Real Property Section Meeting

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Sarasota Yacht Club
\$30.00 Per person

Name: _____ Email: _____

_____ Please check here if you require a vegetarian selection

To pay by credit card visit www.sarasotabar.com

Reservations must be received by Tuesday, October 16, 2018

Mail with payment to: SCBA, P.O. Box 507, Sarasota FL 34230

“No Shows” and reservations canceled within 48 hours of event will be invoiced.

Please check here if you have a disability that may require special attention or services. To ensure availability of appropriate accommodations, attach a general description of your needs. We will contact you for further coordination.

ALL BAR MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

**Privilege for Some or Right of the Masses?
A History of Voting in America**

Where We Were, Where We Are, and What Happened In Between

presented by the Solo/Small Firm Section

Tuesday, October 30, 2018

12:00 to 1:15 p.m.

Sarasota Yacht Club



**A presentation by Thomas Shults, Esq.
Kirk-Pinkerton, P.A.**

This presentation has been approved for 1 hr. CLE/1hr. Civil Trial Certification credit

**Solo/Small Firm Meeting
Tuesday, October 30, 2018
12:00-1:15 p.m. | Sarasota Yacht Club | \$30.00**

Name: _____

Email: _____

Check No: _____ Check Amt: _____

Please indicate if you require a vegetarian meal _____

Deadline for reservations is Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Mail with payment to: SCBA, PO Box 507, Sarasota FL 34230

"No Shows" and reservations canceled within 48 hours of event will be invoiced.

____ Please check here if you have a disability that may require special attention or services. To ensure availability of appropriate accommodations, attach a general description of your needs. We will contact you for further coordination.

You are cordially invited to the

10th Annual RED MASS

*At the Red Mass,
special prayers are held for those
who serve in law and public service.*

Wednesday, October 24, 2018 @ 5:30 PM
St. Martha Catholic Church
200 N. Orange Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34236

Celebrated by: Most Rev. Frank J. Dewane

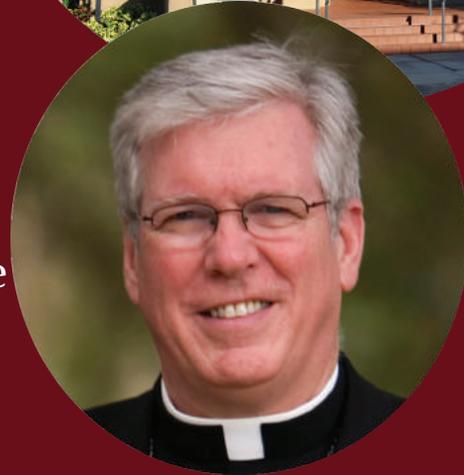
A reception hosted by the Planning Committee of the
Catholic Lawyers Guild will follow at the Fr. Fausto
Parrish Hall at St. Martha

Please send your RSVP for the Mass and/or reception to:
Deacon Paul Consbruck (paul@adoptfla.com)
941-966-6706
Before October 10, 2018

For inclusion in the online Directory of Catholic Lawyers,
please send your business card and \$50 membership fee
payable to "Catholic Lawyers Guild" before October 10, 2018

Catholic Lawyers Guild
c/o Paul Consbruck, Esq.
871 Venetia Blvd, Ste. 202
Venice, FL 34285-8049

For Sponsorship Opportunities, please contact
Jeanne M. Bennett, Esq. (Jeanne@obrienbennett.com)
941-316-9200





**TOGETHER, WE CAN END
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE.**



Have you or someone you know been affected by **Alzheimer's Disease?**

Join Sherry Ellis at the Walk to End
Alzheimer's on November 17th at
Nathan Benderson Park as we search
for the First Survivor

Visit act.alz.org/goto/sherryellislaw
or text **ALZWALK** to 51555 to
register today!



2018 SURVEY RESULTS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

SMCALA INVITES YOU TO PURCHASE OUR NEW & IMPROVED SALARY & BENEFITS SURVEY

The Sarasota • Manatee Chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators is providing your firm with the opportunity to purchase the new and improved **2018 Salary and Benefits Survey**. The survey provides interested firms in the Sarasota, Manatee and Venice areas with statistical information pertaining to salary levels and law firm benefits for staff and associate positions. The Chapter solicited information from law firms in the Sarasota, Bradenton and Venice areas in an effort to provide as much information as possible. A copy of the final survey with compiled data and statistical analysis is available for purchase and will be sent out in **October 2018**. Do not miss this opportunity to provide you and your management team this powerful resource when hiring new employees and for determining compensation packages.

ALL DATA WAS SUBMITTED TO AN INDEPENDENT RESEARCHER TO BE USED FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF COMPILING THE AGGREGATE REPORT. THE DATA SUBMITTED TO THE RESEARCHER WAS DESTROYED UPON COMPLETION OF THE REPORT.

Please go to <https://smcala.regfox.com/local-salary-benefits-survey-results> *
to purchase the **2018 Salary and Benefits Survey results today.**

*This link will be active until December of 2019

WHY YOU SHOULD PURCHASE

Competitive Advantage

Valid, up-to-date law firm-specific, local compensation information provides a clear competitive advantage. Armed with current market data, you don't pay more or less than you need to remain competitive. You have a clear oversight of the local market and can be assured you are making competitive offers.

Decision Making Using the Whole Picture

Law firm compensation data informs the full range of decisions regarding compensation, benefits and rewards. Without it, decisions are made without the benefit of knowing what is trending in our market. Competitive industry data becomes a key element in your firm's decisions for hiring, promotions, salary adjustments and other benefits.

Consistent Pay Levels

Comprehensive compensation data on most legal positions ensure that pay is consistent in your firm, even when pay rates differ by job function.

Knowledge of Local Current Trends

Sarasota-Manatee Chapter of the Association of Legal Administrator's survey provides trend information by position in our community. Law firms are constantly changing and developing and this survey data enables you to understand what is trending in our local market.

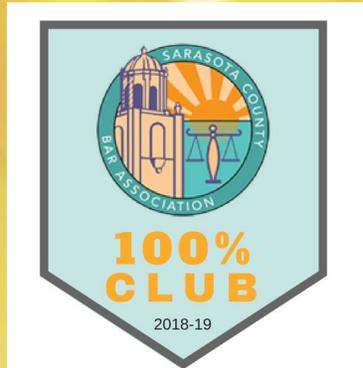
Please contact a member of the Salary & Benefits Survey Committee if you would like to receive more information about this opportunity.

Laura Calderon: 941.365.2304

Janet Danziger: 941-748-0151

Sandy King: 941.954.4691

Angela Koehler: 941.408.8008



We recognize our 100% CLUB MEMBERS:

Adams and Reese, LLP
Band Gates & Dramis, P.L.
Bentley & Bruning, P.A.
Berlin Patten Ebling, PLLC
Bowman, George, Scheb, Kimbrough, Koach & Chapman, P.A.
Boyer & Boyer, P.A.
The Byrd Law Firm, P.A.
Dickinson & Gibbons, P.A.
Dunlap & Moran, P.A.
Ferguson Skipper
Ferrari, Butler & Moneymaker, PLLC
Grossman Roth & Partridge
Horlick & Corbridge, P.A.
Hutton & Dominko, PLLC
Kirk-Pinkerton, P.A.
Lancaster & Eure, P.A.
Loftus Law
Icard, Merrill, Cullis, Timm, Furen & Ginsburg, P.A.
Mack Law Firm, Chartered
Maglio Christopher & Toale, P.A.
Matthews Eastmoore
Muirhead, Gaylor, Steves & Waskom. P.A.
Norton, Hammersley, Lopez & Skokos, P.A.
O'Brien & Bennett
Shutts & Bowen LLP
Syprett, Meshad, Resnick, Lieb, Dumbaugh, Jones, Krotec & Westheimer, P.A.
Williams Parker Harrison Dietz & Getzen

The Sarasota County Bar Association 100% Club is a special category of membership that demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to the legal profession and our community from law firms, law departments and legal organizations that enroll 100 percent of their attorneys (two or more) as members of the Sarasota County Bar Association. If you think your firm qualifies, email a list of your associates to scba@sarasotabar.com.