



PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

BULLE^TIN

www.palmbeachbar.org

February 2011

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Breyer to Speak February 16



The Palm Beach County Bar Association, along with the Forum Club of the Palm Beaches, is proud to announce that U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer will be the guest speaker at a joint luncheon to be held on **February 16**. The luncheon will be held at the Palm Beach County Convention Center from 11:15 – 1:00 p.m. Copies of his new book, *Making Our Democracy Work: a Judge's View*, will be available for purchase. Associate Justice Breyer was born in San Francisco and received an A.B. from Stanford University, a B.A. from Magdalen College, Oxford, and an LL.B. from Harvard Law School. He served as an Assistant

Special Prosecutor of the Watergate Special Prosecution Force, 1973; and as Special Counsel of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee. President Clinton nominated him as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and he took his seat August 3, 1994. Registration will be by pre-paid reservations only and can be made at www.palmbeachbar.org.

Deadline February 22 to Register for Bench Bar Conference

This year's Bench Bar Conference has been scheduled for **Friday, March 4** at the Palm Beach County Convention Center. The Bench Bar Conference is an opportunity for attorneys and judges to meet informally in a roundtable atmosphere to discuss issues of concern to both the Bench and Bar. Registration forms are available online. Last year, over 1,000 people attended throughout the day and unfortunately, due to space limitations, many attorneys were turned away. Be sure to register by the deadline of **February 22**.

Mark your calendar for upcoming Membership Events

Joint Luncheon with Forum Club

February 16, 11:30-1:00 p.m.
Speaker: U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer
Palm Beach County Convention Center

Bench Bar Conference

March 4, 8:00 – 5:00
Palm Beach County Convention Center

Joint Luncheon with South Palm Beach County Bar

March 22, 11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Benvenuto's in Boynton Beach
Speaker: FL Bar President Mayanne Downs

Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament

April 7, 5:30 - 8:30
Palm Beach Kennel Club

Annual Judicial Reception

May 3, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
The Harriet at City Place

Law Day Luncheon

May 6, 11:45 – 1:00 p.m.

Annual Installation Banquet

June 4, 7:00 – Midnight
The Breakers Hotel, Palm Beach

Board members from the Young Lawyers Section, along with Santa and his elf, hosted a holiday pizza party for foster care kids. Each member shopped for the kids and Santa handed out the gifts. Pictured standing L-R are: Ron & Liz Herman, Lee McElroy, Nick Johnson, Jason Lazarus, Jamie Gavigan, Melissa Devlin, Matt Ramenda, Noelle Page, Julia Wyda, Allison Kapner, Lindsay Demmery, Tim Grice, Marc Nichols and Jeremy Dicker. Sitting are Lou Delgado, Keri-Ann Baker, Grey Tesh, Santo DiGangi, John Whittles, Tim Stevens and Alana Zorilla-Gaston.



Investiture Ceremonies Scheduled

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming investitures for two of our newest judges:

The Honorable Marni Bryson:
Friday, February 11 at 4:00 p.m.,
Courtroom 11A

The Honorable Lisa Small:
Friday, February 18 at 4:00 p.m.,
Courtroom 11A

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THE
BULLETIN

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BAR ASSOCIATION

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www.palmbeachbar.org

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Views and conclusions expressed in articles and advertisements herein are those of the authors or advertisers and not necessarily those of the officers, directors, or staff of the Palm Beach County Bar Association. Further, the Palm Beach County Bar Association, its officers, directors, and staff do not endorse any product or service advertised. Copy deadline is the first of the month preceding publication.

The mission of the Palm Beach County Bar Association is to serve its members, foster professionalism and enhance the public's understanding and awareness of the legal system.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Palm Beach County Bar Association Bulletin welcomes your comments on topics relating to the law, the legal profession, the Palm Beach County Bar Association or the Bar Bulletin. Letters must be signed, but names will be withheld upon request. The editor reserves right to condense.



Send letters to:
EDITOR Bar Bulletin
Palm Beach County Bar Association
1601 Belvedere Road, #302E
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

BULLETIN: DIVERSITY INTERN

*****IMPORTANT/IMPORTANT/IMPORTANT/IMPORTANT*****

DID YOU KNOW?

- There is a Diversity Law Internship Program available to you for placement of a **summer** intern with a diverse background.
- For several years now, law firms in Palm Beach County have participated in the Diversity Law Internship Program, a program committed to diversity.
- Several local law firms were recognized by The Florida Bar for their commitment to diversity through its Diversity Law Internship program.
- The Diversity Law Internship program has even resulted in diverse law clerks being offered permanent positions based upon the quality of the clerk's work and the firms' hiring needs.
- Each year, more corporations and businesses are refusing to do business with law firms that do not reflect the diversity of their patrons, customers and clients.

**IF YOU DID NOT, DON'T MISS OUT AGAIN ON THIS OPPORTUNITY
TO BE INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE**

Join us! You can enrich your firm, expand your books of business and support the diversity of the Palm Beach County Bar Association by:

1. Agreeing to place a diverse intern at your firm.
2. Making a contribution to the program to help defray the costs of an internship.

Please contact Adrian Alvarez, Esq. for details on participation at (561) 615-5701.



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- J.D. Stetson Univ. College of Law (1976)
- Florida Bar Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer (1983-2003)
- Florida Bar Board Certified, Emeritus in Civil Trial Law (2003-Present)
- Florida Certified:
 - Circuit Civil Mediator (1991-Present)
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President's Message



Building for the Future

By Michael J. Napoleone, President

The Palm Beach County Bar Association is about to embark on one of the biggest projects ever undertaken in its 88 year history. On December 30, 2010, the Bar entered into a contract to purchase a building with the intent of relocating its offices within the next 18 months. Two years ago, your Board of Directors, under the leadership of then Bar president Richard Schuler, formed a committee to explore in earnest the feasibility of the Bar owning its own building. By the time this issue of the Bulletin is published, the Bar will be moving toward completion of our due diligence to determine whether to close on the contract and acquire the property.

For over 20 years there has been talk of the Bar owning its own building. This year, the current state of the real estate market, coupled with the Bar's financial situation, created the perfect situation for building ownership. There are many reasons to own a building which will benefit the Bar and our members. Perhaps the most basic reason is just simple economics. The cost of the Bar's current office space (excluding the additional leased space from which the Bar operates the Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program) is approximately \$140,000 per year; a figure that has been steadily increasing. A significant portion of the money presently allocated on rent could be better spent on more and better activities for the Bar and its members, and will enable the Board to keep dues among the lowest in the state. The Bar's present financial position is the strongest it has been in its 88 year history. Our current lease is set to expire in October 2012, which affords ample opportunity to renovate the new building and relocate the Bar's offices.

The property under contract is located a stone's throw from the Bar's current office: 1507 Belvedere Road (the site of a former Denny's restaurant). The Bar considered other properties in the past two years, but none satisfied our space needs and desire for sufficient free parking, while also

presenting a good value for the Bar; the current property appears to be a perfect fit on all levels. At 5,800 square feet and with over 60 dedicated parking spaces (and additional parking available), the location is perfect for what the Bar needs today and into the foreseeable future. The anticipated space plan for the new building includes a larger classroom for CLEs, additional conference rooms so that more committees can meet simultaneously, and additional offices for anticipated future staff hires.

Because the Board is still performing due diligence, there remains the possibility that the Board will decline to close on the current contract. You can rest assured that your Board will only close on the contract if all necessary conditions are met, including the ability to cost-effectively renovate the restaurant space into an office use.

This is a very exciting time for the Bar and I am proud and privileged to have the opportunity to shepherd the Bar through this process.

**Register
for Bar
Events
Online at...**



www.palmbeachbar.org

Board of Directors Meeting Attendance

	Retreat	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bowden	x	x	x	x	x	x
Bresky	x	x	x	x	phone	x
DiSalvo		x	x		Schwartz	x
Guari	x	x	x	x	x	x
Howe	x	x	x	x	x	x
Kapner	x	x	x	x	x	x
Kypreos	x	x	x	x	x	x
Napoleone	x	x	x	x	x	x
Pressly	x	x	x	x	x	x
Rabin	x	phone	x	x	x	x
Reagan		x	Ponzoli	x	x	x
Suskauer	x	x	phone	x	x	x
Weiss	x	x	x	x	x	x
Whittles	x	x	x	x	x	x

PBCBA Online Courses & Services



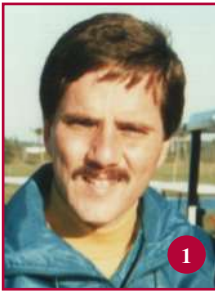
- Florida Notary Public
- Florida Online Traffic School
- First Time Driver (D.A.T.A.) Course
- Mature Driver Course
- Parent Education and Family Stabilization Course

www.palmbeachbar.org/online_courses.php

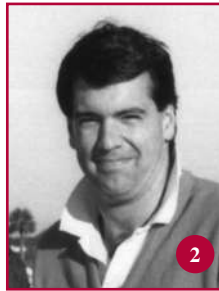
Historical Committee

Who are they?

Can you guess who these members are? Answers can be found on page 8. If you have old pictures of yourself or other members that you'd like featured, please send them to Patience Burns at the Bar Office.



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2



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Do You Need a Mentor?

The Palm Beach County Bar Association's Mentor Program is designed to provide members with a quick and simple way to obtain advice, ideas, suggestions, or general information from an attorney that is more experienced in a particular area of law. The mentors provide a ten-to-fifteen-minute telephone consultation with a fellow attorney, at no fee. Any member of the Palm Beach County Bar, whether newly admitted or an experienced practitioner, can use the program. Call the Bar office at 687-2800, if you need a Mentor.





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* Retired Circuit Judge

The Palm Beach County Bar Association's Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee Presents:

"Maintaining ADR's Relevance in 2011"



Monday, February 14, 2011 8:30a.m. – 5:00p.m.
Bar Association Offices
1601 Belvedere Road, #302E, West Palm Beach, FL



Program Schedule

8:00a.m. – 8:30a.m.	Late Registration/Check In
8:30a.m. – 8:40a.m.	Welcome & Opening Remarks - <i>W. Jay Hunston, Jr., Esq., Certified Circuit Civil and Family Mediator, Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer Emeritus, Committee Chair</i>
8:40a.m. – 9:30a.m.	MEAC Opinions - Ethical Guidance for the Mediation Process - <i>Dr. Bernard H. Shulman, Esq., Certified Circuit Civil and Family Mediator</i>
9:30a.m. – 10:20a.m.	Arbitrators' Awards - Drafting Reasoned Awards & Dissents - <i>Rosemary Cooney, Esq., Sonneborn Rutter Cooney & Klingensmith P.A.</i>
10:20a.m. – 10:35a.m.	BREAK
10:35a.m. – 11:25a.m.	Practical Tools for Managing Diversity - It's Not Just Race and Religion - Moderator: <i>Robin Carol Shaw, Esq., Of Counsel to Shapiro Blasi Wasserman & Gora, P.A., Certified Circuit Civil, Family and County Mediator</i> Panel: <i>John P. Cohen, Certified County Mediator; Daniel R. Levine, Esq., Certified Circuit Civil Mediator, Board Certified Labor and Employment Attorney, Partner, Shapiro Blasi Wasserman & Gora, P.A.; Amber Elizabeth Borum McMichael, Esq., Certified Circuit Civil and Family Mediator; Elinor Robin, PhD, LMFT, LMHC; Certified Family, County and Dependency Mediator; and Amy S. Wolsky, Esq., Certified Circuit Civil, Family and County Mediator</i>
11:25a.m. – 12:00p.m.	Ethics and Professionalism: A Cut Above the Ordinary - <i>Representative from the Professionalism Committee of the Palm Beach County Bar Association</i>
12:00p.m. – 1:15p.m.	LUNCH - (On Your Own)
1:15p.m. – 2:05p.m.	Residential R/E Foreclosure Mediation in the 15th Circuit - <i>Meredith B. Trim, Esq., Director of Managed Mediation, PBCBA, RMFMP</i>
2:05p.m. – 3:00p.m.	Domestic Violence - Ten Tips and Differing Points of View - Moderator: <i>Robin Carol Shaw, Esq., Of Counsel to Shapiro Blasi Wasserman & Gora, P.A., Certified Circuit Civil, Family and County Mediator</i> Panel: <i>Susan F. Dubow, Certified Circuit Civil and County Mediator; Amy H. Eichman, Esq., Shapiro, Blasi, Wasserman, & Gora, PA; Amber Elizabeth Borum McMichael, Esq., Certified Circuit Civil and Family Mediator and Amy S. Wolsky, Esq., Certified Circuit Civil, Family and County Mediator</i>
3:00p.m. – 3:15p.m.	BREAK
3:15p.m. – 4:05p.m.	Evaluative Mediation Techniques - Pros and Cons - <i>Jeffrey S. Grubman, Esq., Jeffrey S. Grubman, P.A.</i>
4:05p.m. – 5:00p.m.	ADR Ethics: Recent Case Law & MEAC Update - <i>W. Jay Hunston, Jr., Esq., Certified Circuit Civil and Family Mediator, Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer Emeritus</i>

This course is expected to receive **8.0 CLER hours including 3.0 Ethics credits/ Certification credit, 1.0 Domestic Violence credit and 1.0 Cultural Diversity credits** are pending from The Florida Bar.

The cost of the seminar is **\$225 for PBCBA members/paralegals; \$265 for non-PBCBA members/paralegals** if registered by 2/7/11; add \$25 to registration fee after that date. **All refund requests must be made no later than 48 hours prior to the date of the seminar.**

"This course is eligible for up to 8.0 CME hours including 3.0 Ethics credit; 1.0 Domestic Violence; 1.0 Cultural Diversity credits. Mediators are required to self report those hours applicable to their areas of certification at the time of their renewal. For more info on the CME requirement, visit, www.flcourts.org, select Alternative Dispute Resolution/Mediation."

____ 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.

HOW TO REGISTER



BY CREDIT CARD
For security purposes, you must register online at www.palmbeachbar.org



Materials will now be emailed to all registrants prior to the seminar

Name: _____ Telephone #: _____

Address: _____ Email Address: _____

____ I will not be able to attend the seminar but would like to order the CD (allow 4 weeks for delivery) (2/14/11ADR) Cost is the same as listed above, in addition to \$10 for shipping and handling. **PAYMENT BY CHECK ONLY, WITH THIS FORM.** Palm Beach County Bar Association, 1601 Belvedere Road, Suite 302E, West Palm Beach, FL 33406.

At its December 10 meeting at Amelia Island, The Florida Bar Board of Governors:

- Heard from former Bar Director of Lawyer Regulation Tony Boggs on the importance of maintaining high standards in the Bar's grievance and admissions processes, and the importance of having a balance in the discipline process that both protects the public and respects individual rights.
- Heard Investment Committee Chair Ian Comisky report that Bar investments are at an all-time high and have completely recovered from the 2008 market decline. He said the investment committee is slightly adjusting its short-term fund investments to up the percentage in the bond market to get higher returns in the current low-interest market. The Bar's long-term fund earned 8.85 percent since the third quarter of 2010, and the new investments in managed futures and hedge funds have performed well and as expected. The board approved the committee's recommendation to replace Henderson International Growth with Harding Loevner as manager for part of the Bar's international fund investments.
- Heard that the Bar had a good audit for the 2009-10 fiscal year.
- Approved, on the recommendation of the Board Review Committee on Professional Ethics, a modified Proposed Advisory Opinion 09-1 on contacting government employees when they are represented by counsel. Chair Carl Schwait also reported the committee voted 9-0 to uphold the Standing Committee on Advertising that a group seeking to compile a directory of Christian lawyers would constitute a lawyer referral service. Schwait presented two PAOs that were drafted by the Professional Ethics Committee at the board's request.

PAO 10-2 advises that lawyers must take reasonable steps to preserve confidential client information that may be captured and stored on hard drives of scanners, printers, and other computer-related equipment when that equipment is sold or disposed. That opinion is final because the board received no comments on the opinion and board members did not suggest any changes. The second opinion, PAO 10-3, addresses disclosing confidential information of a decedent at the request of a personal representative, beneficiaries, heirs of the decedent's estate, or their counsel. Schwait said since comments had been received on this opinion, it will go back to the PEC at their next meeting.

- Approved the recommendation of the Program Evaluation Committee to create a new special committee to study lawyer referral services. Chair Greg Coleman also said the committee is continuing with its review of the Bar's professionalism and paralegal programs.
- Heard from Clients' Security Fund Procedure Committee Chair Greg Coleman that the committee is working with the Disciplinary Procedure Committee on developing forms and software to help attorneys meet Bar trust account regulations. DPC Chair Andy Sasso said the forms and software could reduce costs of the Bar's grievance operations by reducing the number of cases prosecuted because of inadvertent errors on handing trust accounts. The DPC is also looking at requiring lawyers to fill out the trust account compliance statement on annual fee statements, with those who fail being considered delinquent members.

Continued on page 16

Elect



C. Wade Bowden

**Palm Beach County
Bar Association
Board of Directors**

Re-Elect Proven Leadership

Palm Beach County Bar Association Board of Directors

- **Palm Beach County Bar Association Board of Directors 2005-07, 2009-2010**
 - 1916 Courthouse Fundraising Committee
 - Personally responsible for raising \$25,000
 - Current Chair of Investment and Finance Committee
- **The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Board of Governors**
 - Governor for 15th Judicial Circuit 2001-07
 - Currently Ex-Officio
- **PBC Bar Association Young Lawyers Section, Past-President**
 - Member, Executive Committee 1998-2005
 - Past-Secretary, Past-Treasurer
 - Chair: Holidays in January Belle Glade event 2001-06
- **Up and Comer, *South Florida Legal Guide* (listed 2006-09)**
- **Top Lawyer, *South Florida Legal Guide* (listed 2010)**
- **Shareholder: Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A.**
- **Florida Bar Board Certified in Business Litigation**



The Business Law Practice Committee of the
Palm Beach County Bar Association
presents:

“Funding a New Business Venture”

Friday, February 25, 2011 - 11:30am - 2:00p.m.
Bar Association Office, 1601 Belvedere Rd., Ste. 302E, West Palm Beach

Bar Offices - 1601 Belvedere Rd., Suite 302E, WPB



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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Program Schedule

- 11:30am - 11:55am **Buffet Lunch / Check In / Late Registration**
- 11:55am - 12:05pm **Welcome - Opening Remarks** - *James P. Curry, Esq., Curry, PL*
- 12:05pm - 12:35pm **SBA Loan Programs** - *Vincent LoPresti, Area Manager United States Small Business Administration*
- 12:35pm - 12:50pm **Angel Investment Forum of Florida**- *Mark Flomenhoft, Founder, Angel Investment Forum of Florida*
- 12:50pm - 1:20pm **Funding a New Business Venture - From a Legal Perspective** - *James G. Dodrill, II, Esq., The Law Office of James G. Dodrill II, P.A.*
- 1:20pm - 1:50pm **“Ethics and Professionalism: A Cut above the Ordinary”**- *Representative from the Professionalism Committee of the Palm Beach County Bar Association*
- 1:50pm - 2:00pm **Question and Answer/Closing Remarks/Conclusion/Adjournment**

This course is scheduled to receive 2.0 CLE including .50 Ethics credits from The Florida Bar.
The cost of the seminar, **including lunch**, is **\$60** for PBCBA members/legal assistants, **\$100** for non-PBCBA members/legal assistants. **After 2/18/11, add \$10.00 late fee.**

All refund requests must be made no later than 48 hours prior to the date of the seminar.

____ 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.

HOW TO REGISTER	BY CHECK Return this form	BY CREDIT CARD For security purposes, you must register online at www.palmbeachbar.org	CLE	Materials will now be emailed to all registrants prior to the seminar
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Credit card registration payment not accepted by Fax to comply with PCI regulations.

Name: _____ Telephone #: _____

Address: _____ Email Address: _____

____ I will not be able to attend the seminar but would like to order the CD (allow 4 weeks for delivery) (2.25.11 Bus. Law) Cost is the same as listed above, In addition to \$10 for shipping and handling. . **PAYMENT BY CHECK ONLY, WITH THIS FORM.**

Palm Beach County Bar Association, 1601 Belvedere Road, Suite 302E, West Palm Beach, FL 33406. Telephone: (561) 687-2800

Holiday Party

More than 350 members attended our annual holiday party and silent auction at Frenchman's Reserve in Palm Beach Gardens. Special thanks to the North County and Young Lawyers sections for hosting the silent auction, which raised closed to \$10,000 for local charity programs.



Stan Klett and Michael Gelfand



Robert Ponzan and Kenyetta Haywood



Tim Gaskill, Jay & Jane Hunston and Steve Stinson



Judge Robert Gross and Julia Wyda



Magistrate Sara Alijewicz and Cathy Kamber



Kara Rockenbach and Judge Dorian Damoorgian



Theo Kypreos, Michael Napoleone and Lee McElroy



Judge Jonathan Gerber, Sherry Hyman and Judge Charles Burton



Greg Zele, Karen Terry and Jonathan Wald

additional pictures can be found on the Bar's Facebook page



State Held in Contempt for Attempting to Collect Past-Due Child Support

Submitted by: Marc P. Barmat

The United States Supreme Court has denied certiorari on an Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals ruling which found the State of Florida in contempt of a bankruptcy court's confirmation order. *In re Rodriguez*, 367 F. App'x. 25 (11th Cir. 2010) cert. denied, 131 S. Ct. 128 (U.S. 2010). In *Rodriguez*, the Florida Department of Revenue ("DOR") appealed a district court order which affirmed a bankruptcy court order holding the State of Florida in contempt for sending debt-collection letters to Rodriguez after Rodriguez filed for Chapter 13 bankruptcy and had his Chapter 13 plan confirmed. During the course of the bankruptcy, the DOR, acting in its capacity as a Child Support Collections Agency, sent three letters to Rodriguez. In response to these letters, Rodriguez filed a motion for contempt against the State in the Bankruptcy Court claiming that the letters violated the automatic stay provision of the bankruptcy code and seeking attorney's fees and punitive damages.

After a hearing on the matter, the Bankruptcy Court concluded that the State's actions violated the automatic stay and granted Rodriguez's motion for contempt. On appeal, the

District Court disagreed with the Bankruptcy Court's finding that the State violated the automatic stay. Nonetheless, the District Court found that the State violated the terms of the debtor's confirmed plan and therefore found that the Bankruptcy Court did not commit error in finding the State in contempt and awarding attorney's fees¹. *Id.* at 27.

In holding that the State did not violate the automatic stay, the District Court looked to § 362(b)(2)(B), which excepts from the automatic stay "the collection of a domestic support obligation from property that is not property of the estate." *Id.* The District Court found the 362(b)(2)(B) exception applied in the Rodriguez case because, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1327(b), after Rodriguez's plan was confirmed by the Bankruptcy Court, all of Rodriguez's property not necessary to fulfill the requirements of the plan was revested with Rodriguez personally as a matter of law. *Id.* citing, 11 U.S.C. § 1327(b); *Telfair v. First Union Mortgage Corporation*, 216 F.3d 1333, 1340 (11th Cir. 2000). Therefore, the District Court held, subsequent to confirmation, the property was "not property of the estate" and subject to the § 362(b)(2)(B) child support

Continued on page 14

Gordon & Doner Announces Addition Of Veterans' Benefits Division



Mr. Josh Stone will lead the new Veterans' Benefits Division. Mr. Stone is an Accredited Non-Attorney Claims Representative/Agent for benefits within the Department of Veterans Administration.

During his time in the U.S. Navy, Mr. Stone was deployed overseas on multiple occasions with the U.S. Marine Corps as a Combat Medic. He is also a current member of the National Organization of Veterans' Advocates (NOVA).

Personal Injury
Wrongful Death
Auto & Truck Wrecks

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Social Security Disability
Veterans' Benefits

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The Bankruptcy Law CLE Committee
of the Palm Beach County Bar Association
presents:

**“View From High Places -
Insights from the Courts and a Trustee”**
Wednesday, March 9, 2011 - 11:00pm - 2:00p.m.

Bar Offices - 1601 Belvedere Rd., Suite 302E, WPB

Program Schedule



- 10:30am - 10:50pm **Check In / Late Registration**
- 10:50am - 11:00am **Welcome - Opening Remarks** - *Julianne R. Frank, Esq., Frank, White-Boyd, P.A., Bankruptcy CLE Committee Chair*
- 11:00am - 12:00pm **View from the Chapter 13 Trustee** - *Robin R. Weiner, Esq., Plantation, FL*
- 12:00pm - 12:30pm **Buffet Lunch**
- 12:30pm - 2:00pm **View from the Bench: The Words and Wisdom of our Bankruptcy Judges** - *Honorable Paul G. Hyman and the Honorable Erik P. Kimball, United States Bankruptcy Judges Southern District of Florida - Moderated by Julianne R. Frank, Esq., Frank, White-Boyd, P.A., and Eric A. Rosen, Esq., Rosen & Winig, P.A.*

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This course is expected to receive 3.0 CLER from The Florida Bar.

The cost of the seminar, **including lunch**, is **\$75** for PBCBA members/legal assistants, **\$115** for non-PBCBA members/legal assistants. **After 3/2/11, add \$10.00 late fee.**

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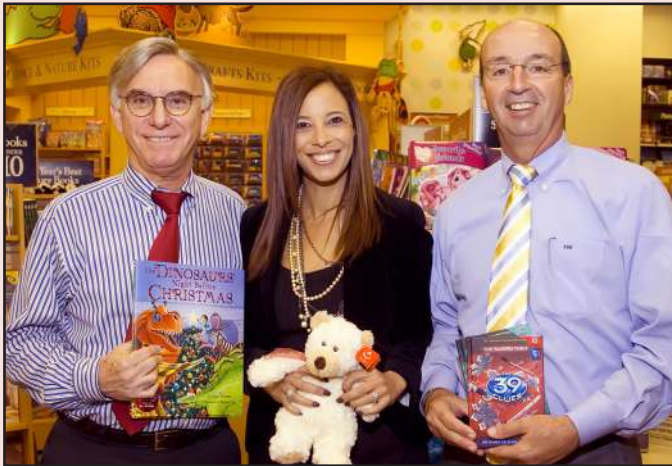
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Annual Legal Aid Bookfest

FAWL held its 8th Annual Bookfest and Luncheon at Barnes and Noble in City Place to benefit the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County. Over 130 people donated over 100 books and gifts for Legal Aid's silent auction to be held on Saturday evening May 7, 2011 at the Palm Beach Convention Center as part of the 23rd Annual Pro Bono Recognition Evening. The event honors those attorneys and other professionals in our community who performed outstanding volunteer work in 2010.

The Bookfest was hosted by the Florida Association of women Lawyers Palm Beach County Chapter; Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith, PLLC; F. Malcolm Cunningham, Sr., Bar Association; Palm Beach County Hispanic Bar Association; and Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A.



Bob Bertisch, Michelle Suskauer and Judge Peter Blanc



Judge Meenu Sasser, Michael Napoleone and Samantha Schosberg Feuer

Historical Committee

Who Are They?

From Page 4

1. Richard Gaunt
2. Jim Munsey
3. Anita Blakeslee
4. Brad Kaufman
5. Steve Radford



Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County SAVE THE DATES

Please join us for one or more of the events below for great socializing and fun!

--

Wednesday, February 9th, 2011 6-8 PM

An Evening of Cocktails, Hors D'oeuvres and Shopping at Brooks Brothers in the Gardens Mall

Suggested Donation: \$15

Enjoy a 15% savings on purchases made through the event.

Hosted by the following attorneys: Edrick Barnes, Flynn Bertisch, Lawrence Buck, Richard Benrubi, Jeffrey Devore, Joseph Galardi, Mariano Garcia, Bradley Harper, John Howe, Phillip Hutchinson, Hampton Keen, Ryon McCabe, Scott Murray, Ronald Ponzoli, Jr., David Prather, Grier Pressly, Adam Rabin, Cater Randolph, Heath Randolph, Grasford Smith, Carl Spagnuolo, Scott Suskauer, Matt Triggs, Colin White, Gregory Yaffa, and Gregory Zele, as well as, Hampton Beebe and Vincent Cuomo.

--

Saturday, February 12, 2011 8-10 PM

Decadent Desserts & Delicious Drinks Gift Gathering Gala*

at the home of Christine & Michael Hanley in West Palm Beach

--

Saturday, March 26th, 2011 6-8 PM

Wine Tasting Fun Gift Gathering Gala*

at the home of Jane & Michael Walsh in North Palm Beach

--

*Guests are asked to bring a gift or purchase a gift online for the Legal Aid Society's auction at...



Saturday, May 7th, 2011 6 PM

at the Palm Beach County Convention Center

--

For more information or to RSVP for any of the above events, please contact Devin Krauss, our Special Events Coordinator, at dkrauss@legalaidpbc.org or 561-822-9791.

Have a great time while helping Legal Aid continue to serve the less fortunate families, children and individuals living in our county.



Admissible Testimony In Will Construction Disputes

By David M. Garten, Esq.

In construing the provisions of a will, the primary consideration is to effectuate the testator's intent. A court must strive to discern the intent of the testator and give effect to his or her wishes. It sometimes becomes necessary that extrinsic evidence be resorted to for aid in the construction of a will because of uncertainty or doubt as to the meaning of some statement contained in the will. In such instance, it is generally recognized that evidence relating to the attendant facts and circumstances existing at the time of the execution of the will and of which the testator had knowledge may be admitted, not to vary nor to contradict any of the terms of the will, but to explain or resolve the ambiguity and so to enable the probate court to effectuate the dispositive intent of the testator.

Although the testimony of the drafting attorney is admissible in latent ambiguity cases, such testimony is limited to the surrounding circumstances of the testator when the will was made and the state and description of the testator's property in order to ascertain the testator's intention. The drafting attorney is prohibited from testifying as to his own interpretation of the terms of the will, i.e., his own intention in drafting the will. Finally, expert testimony may be admissible to assist the court in understanding and making an informed determination concerning complex and obscure legal issues such as complex federal estate tax questions.

In *Estate of Mullin*, 133 So. 2d 468 (Fla. 2nd DCA 1961), the lower court found that the codicil was ambiguous and that it was necessary to take extrinsic testimony as to the intent of the testatrix. The drafting attorney testified that "immediately prior to execution of the codicil, he had explained to testatrix that under the will and codicil, inasmuch as her sister had died, the trust would not come into effect but that the residue of her estate would be equally divided between the five remaindermen named in the same paragraph. After receiving this information, the testatrix immediately signed the codicil in the presence of subscribing witnesses." The court found that the testimony as to the knowledge possessed by testatrix at the moment of execution was pertinent and enabled the judge to fit himself more effectively into the "armchair" of the testatrix in order to ascertain her dispositive intent at the time she executed the codicil.

In *Marshall v. Hewett*, 156 Fla. 645, 24 So.2d 1 (1945), the testator was illiterate and had procured the services of a non-lawyer/friend to draft his will. The court found testimony concerning the testator's intent was admissible to resolve the ambiguity in the will. The court reasoned that "[i]f there are expressions in the will which are difficult to reconcile, then the situation of the testator at the time he made his will, the ties that bound him to the objects of his beneficence, the motives that prompted him to make the will he did make, and the influences that wrought on him at the time, will be considered in arriving at the purpose of the testator."

In *Dutcher v. Estate of Dutcher*, 437 So. 2d 788 (Fla. 2nd DCA 1983), the decedent, by a "do-it-yourself" will, attempted to devise the majority of her estate either to her son or to her grandchildren. The PR filed a petition for determination of beneficiaries based upon conflicting and ambiguous paragraphs of the will. At hearings held before the trial court, four witnesses testified that decedent and her son had a good relationship, and that decedent's intention had been to devise and bequeath her property to her son, with the property to go to son's children if he predeceased her. The court held that extrinsic evidence had been properly admitted to assist in resolving uncertainties contained in the will, and to aid in the determination of the intent of the testatrix.

COMPLEX LEGAL QUESTIONS:

In *In Re Estate of C. J. Lenahan*, 511 So. 2d 365 (Fla. 1st DCA 1987), the testator died leaving a will that created a marital deduction trust. A question arose concerning whether federal and state taxes should be paid from the trust. The attorney who drafted the will was qualified as an expert and permitted to testify as to his interpretation of the will and as to the testator's intent. The court, in discussing whether the expert witness should have been permitted to testify to his interpretation of the will, reasoned in part:

Appellees have asserted that one of the purposes behind admitting Grimsley's testimony was to assist the court in understanding and making an informed determination concerning the complex and obscure legal questions involved in the instant case, specifically concerning probate law, federal and state estate taxation, and will construction. Such questions certainly go beyond the ordinary understanding of the trier of fact and expert testimony on these questions would qualify under the standard enunciated in Section 90.702. Therefore, under Section 90.703, the fact that the expert's testimony may include an ultimate issue to be decided by the trier of fact will not generally render such testimony inadmissible.

* * * *

We conclude that while expert testimony which addresses the ultimate issues in a case is generally admissible as long as it assists the trier of fact, such testimony is to be rejected if it amounts to inadmissible parol evidence in a will construction proceeding.

In *Pouser v. Pouser*, 193 Ariz. 574; 975 P.2d 704 (Ariz. Sup. Ct. 1999), the trial court properly admitted the testimony of an attorney who testified as an expert witness on federal estate tax law because construction of the will required an analysis of a complex federal estate tax question.

The Palm Beach County Bar Association's Elder Law Affairs Committee presents:



"The 11th Annual View From The Bench"

Thursday, March 31, 2011 6:00pm - 8:30pm
The Colony Hotel, Palm Beach, 155 Hammon Avenue

Program Schedule

6:00pm - 6:30pm Registration and Cash Bar

6:30pm - 8:30pm Dinner and Presentation:

- *Honorable Martin H. Colin*
- *Honorable Jack H. Cook*



This course is expected to receive **2.0 CLER**. **Certification credits are pending** from The Florida Bar. The cost of the seminar is \$60 for PBCBA members/paralegals; \$100 for non-PBCBA members/paralegals if registered by 3/24/11; add \$25 to registration fee after that date.

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If you have an issue or question you would like the judges to address state here:

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_____ ***Chicken Scaloppini w/Shrimp Bechamel*** _____ ***Mushroom Ravioli w/Tomato Fondue***

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Improper Argument

by Ted Babbitt

Gianifasani v. Kowalski, 35 Fla. L. Weekly D1924 (Fla. 3rd DCA, Aug. 25, 2010) is a perfect

example of how not to argue a case. Kowalski had the misfortune of walking into an elevator and having one of the granite tiles separate from the wall and hit him on the head. The defendants, who owned and had constructed the elevator, wisely admitted liability. That admission did not stop the plaintiff's lawyer from making his central theme from opening statement to closing argument about the failure of the defendants to properly compensate his client and their "corporate arrogance and corporate greed" in creating the unsafe condition. Defendants objected over and over again to this kind of improper argument but their objections were overruled. There were times when Defendants simply did not object and ordinarily failure to object waives improper argument. Murphy v. Int'l Robotics, Sys., Inc., 766 So. 2d 1010 (Fla. 2000). Nevertheless, there comes a time when even unobjected to argument becomes fundamental error and this was one of those cases.

Among other things, counsel's argument included

"This is a case about, a company 420 Lincoln Road that wanted to make a couple of extra dollars."

"Why didn't they just send him to a doctor instead of just kicking him out on the road like a dog and telling him we're giving you nothing..."

"Is that doing the right thing? Giving him nothing and telling him to go away?"

And when someone got hurt, they said, you know what, yeah, we made a mistake but we're not going to give you anything.

They just did it. And afterwards we're giving you nothing. How is that doing the right thing? This is nothing more than

corporate arrogance.

What made these kinds of arguments worse was that defendants admitted liability. As the Court stated at Page 1925:

Indeed, because liability was admitted, This trial should have been a trial Solely on damages. Instead, it became A wide-ranging attack on the appellants Unrelated to the calculations of Kowalski's Damages.

To make matters worse, plaintiff's counsel made the following argument with respect to his client's damages.

Now, members of the jury, you've got to understand that the brain is what separates people from animals. It's what makes us human. I mean I'm sure you've all hear the expression, well, he may be old but he still has his mind or memories are what make us who we are. If that was a Picasso painting that was in the elevator and it got ripped, no one would

argue withpaying \$80 million to replace it. Why is it any different when it's a man's brain?

Clearly argument comparing plaintiff's pain and suffering to some valuable object have long ago been held to be improper. Pub. Health Trust of Dade County v. Geter, 613 So. 2d 126, 127 (Fla. 3rd DCA 1993) (an eighteen million dollar Boeing 747 or an eight million dollar SCUD missile.) Carnival Corp. v. Pajares, 972 So. 2d at 979 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2007) (Van Gogh painting). These kind of arguments have been characterized as "value of life" arguments and have consistently been held improper.

While some but not all of these arguments were not objected to by the defendants, the Court finds at 1926 that:

Although "a single improper remark or argument might not be so prejudicial as to require reversal," Pajares, 972 So. 2d at 979, we find here that the cumulative effect of

Continued on page 14

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The Palm Beach County Bar Association's PI Wrongful Death CLE Committee Presents:

“Back to the Basics: The Nuts of Bolts of Litigating Auto Negligence & Premises Liability Cases”

Friday, February 11, 2011 - 8:30 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.
Bar Association Office, 1601 Belvedere Road, Suite 302E, WPB, FL
This Program is open to all Attorneys and Paralegals, Plaintiff and Defense

Program Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. - 8:50 a.m. **Late Registration/Check In**
- 8:50 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. **Welcome & Opening Remarks** - *Sia Baker-Barnes, Esq., Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley, P.A., Committee Chair*
- 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. **Presuit Preparation -**
Plaintiff: Lake H. Lytal, III, Esq., Board Certified Civil Trial Attorney, Lytal & Reiter, and Steve Sanchez, Paralegal, Lytal & Reiter
- 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. **Filing and Responding Suit -**
Plaintiff: Salesia V. Smith-Gordon, Esq., Salesia Smith-Gordon, P.A.
Defendant: Stephanie H. Luongo, Esq., Powers McNalis Torres & Teebagy
- 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. **Discovery -**
Plaintiff: Gary S. Lesser, Esq., Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith, PLLC
Defendant: Benjamin L. Bedard, Esq., Roberts, Reynolds, Bedard & Tuzzio P.A.
- 10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. **BREAK**
- 10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. **“Ethics and Professionalism: A cut above the Ordinary”** - *Representative from the Professionalism Committee of the Palm Beach County Bar Association*
- 11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. **Mediation** - *James B. Chaplin, Esq., Mediation, Inc.*
- 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. **Bad Faith/Common Pitfalls in General Negligence Cases -**
Plaintiff: Todd S. Stewart, Esq., Board Certified Civil Trial Attorney, The Law Offices of Todd S. Stewart, P.A.
Defendant: Robert D. Moses, Esq., Wiederhold & Moses P.A.
- 12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. **LUNCH**
- 1:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. **Trying Your Case -**
Plaintiff: Darryl L. Lewis, Esq., Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley, P.A.
Defendant: TBA



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The cost of the seminar is **\$110** for PBCBA members/paralegals;

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Clean Up Your PC in 30 Minutes

By Christopher Hopkins, Chair, Law Practice Technology Committee

Whether you picked up a new PC during the holidays or if you question whether your current machine is bogged down, an investment of thirty minutes will fine-tune your computer. You do not need to spend money or be a computer expert (yes, even a lawyer can do it). Take advantage of a few free downloads and run several computer scans to avoid most common computer problems.

■ **Know what's inside your PC:**

download a small program called "Belarc Advisor" which inspects your PC and tells you, in detail, about the hardware inside your computer. Under RAM, you should have at least 2 gig for netbook/laptops and ideally 4-6 gig for desktops (or laptops running Trial Director or Powerpoint). If you do not have enough RAM, that may be the one upgrade worthy of \$50-\$100 investment. Other critical information

about the processor, size of your hard drive, and installed software is outlined in the Belarc report.

■ **Uninstall What You Don't Need:**

download "PC Decrapifier" and analyze your computer for marketing, demo or otherwise un-used software which you can delete. Better still, download "Revo Uninstaller" which will provide a list what software exists on your computer so that you can weed out unnecessary programs (this application also allows you to fix problems associated with old files and outdated programs).

■ **Update:** allow Windows to perform a complete update to ensure you have the latest security protections (in most versions of Internet Explorer, you can find "Windows Update" under "Safety"). If you run Office or other Microsoft programs, these will also be updated.

■ **Battle Viruses:** there are a number of expensive anti-virus programs which

work well however there are likewise a number of free anti-virus programs which provide the same services. Do a Google search for "Free AVG 2011" and, after installing, allow it to update its virus definitions and run a full computer scan (you do not want to have run than one anti-virus program running on the same machine). This will protect your machine – even inspect your emails –at no charge.

■ **Battle Spyware:** spyware and other "malware" comes in various forms and no single free anti-spyware program will solve the problem. The solution is not spending money – just download and periodically run more than one anti-spyware program such as Spybot Search and Destroy, SuperAntiSpyware, and Malwarebytes Anti-Malware (unlike anti-virus applications, it is OK to install more than one anti-spyware scanner). Spybot is especially helpful since it will clean up your PC's registry (a haven for spyware and software glitches) as well as immunize your PC from thousands of common invaders. Run these programs every 1-3 months or as needed.

■ **Run a Tight Ship:** download and install WinPatrol which will run each time you start your computer. Use WinPatrol to turn off programs which start up automatically this will hasten your startup time and likely make your PC run faster. Likewise, download and run the latest version of Ccleaner, which will rid your hard drive and system of temporary files, outdated extensions, and a host of other potential problems which develop over time and slow down your PC. Run Ccleaner every 1-3 months.

■ **Undelete Files / Fix Stalled Printer:** finally, be prepared to recover accidentally deleted files and to clear your printer queue when printer problems arise. Use Google to find "Recuva64" which you can install and save for when you need to "undelete" a file. Likewise, search and download "StalledPrinterRepair" and save it until the next time your printer jams and you need to reset the printer queue.

Christopher B. Hopkins is the chair of the PBCBA Technology Committee and a shareholder at Akerman Senterfitt. Christopher.Hopkins@Akerman.com.

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The Palm Beach County Bar Association's
Law Practice Technology Committee Presents:

***Dueling Smartphones:
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Friday, March 11, 2011 - 11:30a.m. – 2:10p.m.

Bar Association Offices 1601 Belvedere Road, #302E, WPB, FL

**SPONSORED BY: Akerman Senterfitt
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Program Schedule

- 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Late Registration / Check In / Lunch**
- 12:00 p.m. - 12:10 p.m. **Welcome & Opening Remarks** - *Christopher B. Hopkins, Esq., Committee Chair, Akerman Senterfitt*
- 12:10 p.m. - 2:10 p.m. **Panel Discussion / Presentation: best law, business, travel, and productivity Apps for three Smartphone platforms** - *Marc S. Dobin, Esq., Marc S. Dobin, P.A.; Christopher B. Hopkins, Esq., Akerman Senterfitt; and Joel B. Rothman, Esq., Board Certified Intellectual Property Law Attorney, Arnstein & Lehr LLP*

This course is expected to receive **2.5 CLER from The Florida Bar.**

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The Palm Beach County Bar Association's Real Estate CLE Committee presents:

"Real Estate Transactions A - Z"

Friday, March 25, 2011 - 8:00a.m. - 12:30p.m.
Bar Association Offices, 1601 Belvedere Road #302E, WPB



Program Schedule

- 8:00am - 8:20am **Late Registration/Check In**
- 8:20am - 8:30am **Welcome and Opening Remarks** - *Deborah Boyd, Esq., Real Estate Committee Chairperson, Board Certified Real Estate Attorney, First American Title Insurance Company*
- 8:30am - 9:20am **The Deal Begins: FR/Bar Contract and Ethical Considerations** - *John R. Banister, Esq., Board Certified Real Estate Attorney, Rutherford Mulhall, P.A., and Gerald R. Pumphrey, Esq., Gerald R. Pumphrey, P.A.*
- 9:20am - 10:10am **It Hits a Snag: Contract Disputes, Breach of Contract, and Ethical Considerations** - *Steven D. Rubin, Esq., Board Certified Real Estate Attorney*
- 10:10am - 10:20am **A Brief Word from our Sponsors: Break & Sponsor Raffles**
- 10:20am - 11:10am **Oh Happy Day (Almost): Closing and Post-Closing Issues, with Ethical Considerations** - *Deborah Boyd, Esq., Board Certified Real Estate Attorney, First American Title Insurance Company*
- 11:10am - 12:00pm **So What's Going on in the Market? BRING YOUR QUESTIONS on Current Market Issues, including Short Sales, Foreclosures, Commercial Transactions, etc. -**
Gregory R. Cohen, Esq., Board Certified Real Estate Attorney, Cohen, Norris, Scherer, Weinberger & Wolmer
- 12:00pm - 12:30pm **Ethics and Professionalism: A Cut above the Ordinary** - *Representative from the Professionalism Committee of the Palm Beach County Bar Association*

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2. Improve professionalism throughout The Florida Bar by working closely with local professionalism committees to continue to expand these committees' effectiveness
3. Work with government attorney offices and associations to advance the interests of government attorneys in The Florida Bar
4. Continue to address the impact of new technology on the practice of law

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Welcome New Members!

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

KERRY BARON – Brooklyn Law School; United States Attorney Southern District of Florida, West Palm Beach

LUISA H. BERTI – Pennsylvania; Catholic University, 2009; Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, West Palm Beach

MICHAEL J. BREVDA – Florida; University of Florida, 2010; Associate in Wicker Smith O'Hara McCoy & Ford, P.A., West Palm Beach

THOMAS CHAPMAN – Illinois; University of Florida, 2010; Associate in Wicker Smith O'Hara McCoy & Ford, P.A., West Palm Beach

STEVEN GRANT – Washington, DC; Florida Coastal, 2010; Law Office of Steven Grant, Boynton Beach

JENNA FORTGANG – University of Miami, 2007; Associate in Rutherford Mulhall, P.A., Boca Raton

GILMER HEITMAN – Georgia; University of Alabama, 2005; Associate in Peterson Bernard, West Palm Beach

KAREN A. KINSLEY – Paralegal Member; Lytal & Reiter, West Palm Beach

MONICA MILLER – New Jersey; New York Law School, 2005; Delray Beach

STEVEN D. MUSCATELLO – New York; Florida State University, 2010; Associate in Gunster, West Palm Beach

ROBYN H. PARET – Law Student Member; Nova Southeastern Law School, Boca Raton

MICHAEL STEWART – Connecticut; University of Florida, 2010; Associate in Wicker Smith O'Hara McCoy & Ford, P.A., West Palm Beach



State Held in Contempt

Continued from page 7

exception. *Id.* at 27. Accordingly, the District Court found that the State did not violate the automatic stay provision of § 362(a). In affirming the District Court, the Eleventh Circuit agreed that the State violated the terms of Rodriguez' confirmed plan and, therefore, the Bankruptcy Court's finding of contempt and award of attorney's fees was appropriate. *Id.* at 30

In agreeing with the lower court's finding of contempt, the Eleventh Circuit considered 11 U.S.C § 1327 which addresses the effects of the confirmation of a bankruptcy plan. § 1327 provides in part:

(a) The provisions of a confirmed plan bind the debtor and each creditor, whether or not the claim of such creditor is provided for by the plan, and whether or not such creditor has objected to, has accepted, or has rejected the plan. 11 U.S.C. § 1327(a)

The Eleventh Circuit found that under the provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 1327(a), once a bankruptcy plan is confirmed, the debtor and each creditor are bound by its terms. Accordingly, the State violated the confirmation order by asserting an interest other than those provided for in the plan after confirmation and therefore the bankruptcy court did not err in granting Rodriguez' motion for contempt. *Id.* at 28 citing, *In re Gellington*, 363 B.R. 497, 502 (Bankr. N.D. Tex.2007).

Finally, in response to the State's argument that the Eleventh Amendment immunity protects it from liability, the Eleventh Circuit agreed with the District Court's rejection of this argument and held that once the State filed its proof of claim², pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 106(b), it waived its sovereign immunity as a matter of law. *Id.* at 29.

This article was submitted by Marc Barmat, Furr and Cohen, P.A., One Boca Place, Suite 337 West, 2255 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33431; mbarmat@furrcohen.com

¹ The Bankruptcy Court did not address the issue of a violation of the confirmed chapter 13 plan in its Order Granting Debtor's Motion for Contempt. This issue appears to have been raised for the first time at District Court level.

² The State of Florida filed a Proof of Claim in the amount of \$7,686.06, representing Rodriguez' pre-petition child support delinquencies.

Improper Argument

Continued from page 11

Kowalski's counsel's numerous improper comments and arguments operated to deprive the appellants of a fair trial. *See Muhammad v. Toys "R" Us, Inc.*, 668 So. 2d 254, 259 (Fla. 1st DCA 1996) ("[T]he collective import of counsel's personal injections, and irrelevant and inflammatory remarks, was so extensive as to have prejudicially pervaded the entire trial, precluding the jury's rational consideration of the evidence and resulting in an unfair trial.") Accordingly, a new trial is warranted.

A party cannot fail to object to improper argument and expect an automatic reversal. That practice was put to an end in *Murphy v. Int'l Robotic Sys., Inc.*, 766 So. 2d 1010 (Fla. 2000). Nevertheless, tossing out the window all caution and steaming ahead with clearly improper arguments unsupported by any part of the evidence puts at risk a successful verdict.

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Alan Crane Receives the Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award

The Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committee is pleased to announce that Alan Crane was awarded the 2011 Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit. The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award was established in 1981. Its purpose is twofold: "to further encourage lawyers to volunteer free legal services to the poor and to communicate to the public a sense of the substantial volunteer

services provided by Florida lawyers to those who cannot afford legal fees." The award is given at a ceremony before the Florida Supreme Court in January.

This year's recipient, Alan Crane, a Partner at the law firm of Furr & Cohen, P.A. in Boca Raton is actively engaged in a state and federal litigation and appellate practice. Although Alan primarily represents debtors, creditors and bankruptcy trustees in all bankruptcy related matters, Alan also practices in the areas of family and real estate law. Alan received his undergraduate degree from the University of South Florida in 1987 and his Juris Doctor from Nova Southeastern Law School in 1992.

In 2000, Alan was the recipient of the Pro Bono Award for Child Advocacy from the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County. In 2010, Alan was the recipient of the Pro Bono Award for Bankruptcy for his work on a complicated adversarial bankruptcy case. Through countless hours of representation Alan was able to save the client's home. Over the years Alan has donated almost 350 hours of pro bono service to clients in the area of bankruptcy and family law. Alan never hesitates to answer a question from Legal Aid Society staff, mentor an attorney, or take on a client's case. In addition to his direct representation, Alan volunteered to assist in training the FPL attorneys for the Mortgage Foreclosure Project.

For his dedication to Pro Bono work and the less fortunate citizens of Palm Beach County, Alan is the deserving recipient of The Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award.

Board of Governors Report

Continued from page 5

- Approved a \$50,000 budget amendment for the Bar's diversity grant program and heard Dori Foster-Morales and Arnell Bryant-Willis, co-chairs of the Special Committee on Diversity, note the approval of money for diversity program grants earlier in the meeting. They asked board members to help get the word out to local bars that the money is available to support initiatives and programs which encourage diversity, diversity training and dialogue among lawyers in Florida through financial support of conferences, seminars, summits and symposia planned and hosted by local and specialty bar associations. The first deadline for grant applications is January 18.
- Approved on the recommendation of the Legislation Committee, a reauthorization of 13 legislative positions from the 2008-10 biennium for the 2010-12 biennium. The board withheld action on requested legislative positions from the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section and the Business Law Section on potential legislation addressing the Florida Supreme Court's recent Olmstead decision affecting multi-member limited liability corporations. The delay will allow the Trial Lawyers Section, the Family Law Section, and possible other groups to review the issue.
- Heard Steve Metz, the Bar's chief legislative counsel, discuss the upcoming session. Metz warned there are many uncertainties, including a larger than expected budget deficit, a new governor, and criticisms by some legislative leaders of recent Supreme Court rulings. He also warned of a trend by business and other outside interests mounting expensive and last minute campaigns against appellate judges up for merit retention and said that could happen in Florida in 2012.
- Heard a report on the updating of the Bar's strategic plan from President-elect Scott Hawkins. Bar goals remain protecting the judicial branch and its funding, building public confidence in the profession and the legal system, ensuring access to the courts and legal services, and enhancing the value of a Bar membership for lawyers.

Should you have any questions, please contact one of the Circuit's four representatives: Greg Coleman, Michelle Suskauer, Lisa Small or David Prather

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Professionalism Council Letter

Editor's Note: Per Administrative Order 2.105-9/10 In re: Fifteenth Circuit Professionalism Council, an attorney can be referred to the Council if their conduct is in a manner inconsistent with the PBCBA's Standards of Professional Courtesy or The Florida Bar's Ideals and Goals of Professionalism. Following the action of the Council, a letter is to be printed in the Bulletin redacting the name of the attorney. What follows is a recent letter.

Re: Professionalism Council

Dear _____,

As you are aware, I am the Chair of the Palm Beach County Bar Association's Professionalism Committee. On November 29, 2010, a Professionalism Council met with you to discuss a Judge's written referral to the Council of October 20, 2010. This letter summarizes the Council's discussions on November 29, 2010.

The case before the Judge concerned a foreclosure on residential property. You were hired to defend the homeowner in the foreclosure proceeding. The Judge referred you to the Council as a result of your failure to attend the hearing scheduled on Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment. Though you did not appear at the hearing, your client did appear. When the Court asked your client why her counsel was not present, she told the Court that you called her the day before and advised that you "had done all that [you] could do for her and accordingly [you] would not be attending the Summary Judgment Hearing." Your client also told the Judge she was current with her attorney fees, as she had paid a flat fee for your representation. Thereafter, the hearing proceeded in your absence and the Court entered a summary judgment of foreclosure against your client.

When you appeared before the Council, you quickly apologized for your failure to attend the Summary Judgment hearing, acknowledging that your tactical decision not to appear was a mistake you will not repeat. You also emphasized that in your decades of practice, this was the first and only hearing for which you failed to appear. The Council appreciated your apology and the sincerity in which it was made. You explained to the Council that you believed it was in your client's best interest not to oppose the Summary Judgment Motion for both strategic reasons and to minimize further expense to your client. You told the Council that you spoke with your client the day before the hearing and advised her that you would not attend the hearing; you explained that this decision was agreed to by your client.

The Florida Bar Ideals and Goals of Professionalism ("Ideals") provides in section 4.1 that "A lawyer should endeavor to achieve the client's lawful objectives as economically and expeditiously as possible." Mindful of the Ideals' goal to keep legal representation economical, under section 6.9 of the Ideals, "A lawyer should be punctual in attending all court appearances." Additionally, under section V(1) of the Palm Beach County Bar Association Standards of Professional Courtesy ("Standards") "Attorneys...should refrain from actions which cause unnecessary expense or delay." Therefore, though your strategy of not attending the Summary Judgment Hearing appears to have been born at least in part out of your appreciation of the responsibility to keep the representation economical, you failed in your professional obligation to timely appear in Court at the Summary Judgment Hearing and failed in your professional obligation to avoid the waste of judicial resource.

One solution to the tension that developed between keeping your client's costs down while still properly representing her

interests in the Summary Judgment Motion would have been for you to attempt to reach an agreement with Plaintiff's counsel regarding the Motion. Section V(2) of the Standards provides "Attorneys should, whenever possible, prior to filing or upon receiving a motion, contact opposing counsel to determine if the matter can be resolved in whole or in part. This may alleviate the need for filing the motion or allow submission of an agreed order in lieu of a hearing." The Council was troubled by your comments that resolution of matters with opposing counsel in foreclosure cases has proven to be difficult if not impossible. You recounted instances where you repeatedly tried to contact opposing counsel in foreclosure matters, with no success in either reaching your opposition or in securing agreements on matters as common as rescheduling hearings to accommodate scheduling conflicts. The Council appreciated your expressed level of frustration.

Nevertheless, section I of the Standards and section 2 of the Ideas require all attorneys to work together when scheduling matters, drafting court orders, and when requests are made for reasonable extensions of time. Built into the rules of professionalism is an expectation that attorneys will promptly communicate with one another (see section I(2) of the Standards). Therefore, the Council reminds you and your colleagues that the apparent overcrowded legal environment of foreclosure work does not excuse an attorney's failure to adhere to the continuing duty of professionalism owed to the Court, clients, and opposing counsel. With so much recent public attention being drawn to foreclosure cases, attorneys practicing foreclosure work must be even more vigilant in adhering to the rules of professionalism so as to build confidence in the legal system and the hard work being done in the foreclosure division.

We wish you much success in your continued practice in Palm Beach County.

Very truly yours,

Ronald P. Ponzoli, Jr.
As Chair of the Palm Beach County
Bar Association Professionalism Committee

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Gary S. Lesser

for

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- **The Florida Bar Foundation** - Former Board Member, 2005-2008
- **Florida Justice Association** - Eagle Member and Member of the Continuing Legal Education Committee
- **Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce** - Trustee Member, 2008-present
- **Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County** - Current Executive Board Member and Chair of Campaign Outreach; Former Chair of the Attorneys Division & Former Chair of the Business and Professional Division
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- ★ Former President of The Florida Bar
- ◆ President-Elect Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- ◆ Past President Palm Beach County Bar Association
- ▲ Past President Florida Justice Association (FJA)
- Past President Martin County Bar Association
- Past President PBCJA
- President-Elect PBCJA
- Current President PBCJA
- ▲▲ President-Elect Florida Justice Association (FJA)
- ◆ President Palm Beach Chapter ABOTA
- ◆◆ Past President Palm Beach Chapter ABOTA
- ◆◆◆ President-Elect Palm Beach Chapter ABOTA
- Past President Florida Association for Women Lawyers
- Past President, FAWL, Palm Beach County Chapter

Miles A. McGrane, IV

Candidate for the The Florida Bar Young Lawyer's Division
Board of Governors Seat 3



Proven Commitment to Bar Service

Young Lawyer's Division Board of Governors, Ex-Officio Member, 2010-2011
Member of the Executive Committee of the Palm Beach County Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section
Member Palm Beach County Bar Association, North County Section
Florida Young Lawyer's Division Representative to the ABA Young Lawyers Division, Annual Meeting 2010
Vice Chair, The Florida Bar, Federal Court Practice Committee.
Member, The Florida Supreme Court Historical Society

Dear Palm Beach County Young Lawyers:

I have been honored, this past year, to serve as an ex-officio member of The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Board of Governors. I respectfully seek your vote to return for a full two year term.

Following law school, I returned home to South Florida beginning my legal career in the West Palm Beach office of Cole, Scott and Kissane. From day one I sought to serve the Palm Beach County legal community. I first became involved with the Palm Beach County Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section, and now serve on its executive committee. I am a member of the North County Section and am actively involved with the Young Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association. I have enjoyed serving on the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar's Young Lawyers Division in my ex officio capacity. When I learned that Elisha Roy could no longer seek reelection, I decided to run for that position.

I do not take this election lightly nor am I doing it for selfish reasons. I am seeking this position to serve you and to continue the work I have already begun on the YLD. One of the issues I have already commenced working on is the development of a program that will forgive student loans for young lawyers working in the public sector. I would like to continue this work as I believe many young attorneys either do not seek careers in public service or cannot stay in public service due to the crushing burden of their student loan debt.

Another vital issue that needs to be addressed is increased diversity at all levels of bar leadership. I commit, that if elected, I will continue my work with the voluntary bar associations in Palm Beach County to insure that this goal is accomplished. Additionally, I would like to convince the "big board" of The Florida Bar to lower the practice requirement for lawyers to serve on grievance committees from five years to three years and create a young lawyers seat on The Florida Bar Foundation.

The unique needs and concerns of young lawyers in Palm Beach County, and across the State of Florida, can be overlooked and ignored. That is the reason I write this letter. That is the reason I seek this office. I would like to be the voice for the young lawyers of Palm Beach County. I want to be your voice. I hope you will grant me the privilege to speak loud and clear on your behalf. If you would like to contact me regarding any issue that concerns you, feel free to email me: miles.mcgrane@csklegal.com

My friends, today is a great day to be a Florida lawyer. I am proud to be one. You should be too.

Sincerely,

Miles A. McGrane, IV
Board of Governors, Ex-Officio Member, 2010-2011
The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division

PLEASE JOIN US IN SUPPORTING MILES

Steve Zack 1, 6, 9	Lee McElroy 13	Noelle Page 12	Russell Ferraro 8	Kimberly Gustafson 8	Hunter Carroll 8
Daryl D. Parks 2	Julia Wyda 13	Elisha Roy 7, 8, 16	Samantha Schosberg Feuer	Jacob Speicher 8	Stephanie Bolton 8
Francisco Angones 9, 14	Matthew Welch 8	John Whittles 5, 11	Christine Davis Graves 8	Scott Westheimer 8	Paige Greenlee 8
Greg Coleman 3, 6, 10	Melissa Devlin 12	Theo Kypreos 5, 11	Cissy Proctor 8	Sue-Ann Robinson 8	Adam Myron 8
David Prather 8, 10	Mike Pike 18	Jason Guari 5, 11	Jennifer Kuyrkendall 8	Victor Smith 8	Marc Lyons 8
Michelle Suskauer 3, 7, 10	Wade Bowden 5, 8	Adam Rabin 5	Kimberly Law 8	Louis Ursini 8	Joshua Myron 8
RJ Haughley 6	Kerri Anne Baker 15	Bill Lazarchick 12	Michael Fox Orr 8	Melanie Shoemaker Griffin 8	Alan Raines 8
John Howe 4	Louis Delgado 12	Liz Herman 12	Gordon Glover 8	Cristina Alonso 8	Adrian Alvarez 19
Jason Lazarus 13	Daniel Zuniga 17	Michael Feiner	Peter Sartes 8	Ed McCarthy 8	Grasford Smith 20
					Nick Johnson 12, 21

(Endorsement list as of December 16, 2010 to meet publication deadline)

1. President of the American Bar Association
2. President Elect of the National Bar Association
3. Past President of the Palm Beach County Bar Association
4. President Elect of the Palm Beach County Bar Association
5. Board of Director of the Palm Beach County Bar Association
6. Past President of the Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Board of Governors
7. Past President of the Palm Beach County Chapter of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers
8. Current/Past Governor to The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Board of Governors
9. Past President of the Florida Bar Association
10. Board of Governor to The Florida Bar Association
11. Past President of the Palm Beach County Bar Association Young Lawyer's Section
12. Executive Committee of the Palm Beach County Bar Association Young Lawyer's Section
13. President Elect/Treasurer/Secretary of the Palm Beach County Bar Association Young Lawyer's Section
14. Past President of the Cuban-American Bar Association
15. American Bar Association, 11th Circuit Young Lawyers Representative
16. Secretary of the Family Law Section of the Florida Bar
17. Treasurer of the Palm Beach County Hispanic Bar Association
18. Executive Board of the Palm Beach County Justice Association
19. President of Palm Beach County Hispanic Bar Association
20. President of F. Malcolm Cunningham, Sr. Bar Association of Palm Beach County
21. Palm Beach Association for Criminal Defense Lawyers, Board Member.

North County Section seeks new Board members



(Left to right:) Keith Campbell, director; Greg Yaffa, secretary; Spencer Kuvin, director; Ken Johnson, director; Todd Stewart, director, Debra Jenks, immediate past president; Ned Reagan, president; Rosemarie Guerini and Ron Ponzoli. (not pictured: Jerry Beer, Larry Buck & Dante Weston)

Elections for the North County Section's Board of Directors will take place next month. Come and be a part of this great group of attorneys!

Petitions will be available beginning Tuesday, March 1 for four (4) director positions (for a two year term), plus president-elect.

The Board meets once a month during lunch to plan various networking programs and events.

To apply for a position, you must submit a completed nomination form to the Bar Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25. If there is a contested election, voting will take place online in April and winners will be announced online in May.

The current Board includes President, Ned Reagan; President-Elect, Ron Ponzoli; Secretary, Greg Yaffa; and Immediate Past President Debra Jenks.

Directors are Jerry Beer, Larry Buck, Keith Campbell, Rosemarie Guerini, Ken Johnson, Spencer Kuvin, Todd Stewart and Dante Weston.



North County to host Annual BBQ & Casino Night

Join the North County Section for its annual BBQ & Casino Party on **Thursday, February 17** from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the Bonnette Hunt Club in Palm Beach Gardens.

The evening includes blackjack, roulette, craps tables, plus drinks, live music and prizes.

The cost is \$45.00 for NCS members; \$55.00 for lawyers who are not NCS members and \$55.00 for spouses. Judges are complimentary. Please register online by 2/15 to avoid a \$5.00 late fee.

Sponsors to date include Sabadell United Bank, LexisNexis, Bob Greenberg CLTC Torrington, Romagnolo & Goldberg Wealth Consulting Group at UBS Financial Services and Richman Greer, PA and Ron Ponzoli.

*(*tables are for entertainment purposes only)*



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Bud Osborne, Executive Vice President,
or Donn Londeree, Vice President at (561) 750-0075
or Vincent Cuomo, Vice President at (561) 688-9400



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Bulletin Board

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES: TO PLACE AN AD: 1) Please fax all ads to 561/687-9007 by the 25th of the month. 2) Upon receipt you will be notified of cost. 3) Send payment by the 25th of the month. 4) Cost: 50 words or less \$50, 50-75 words \$65, up to 75 words \$75. 5) Members receive one free classified ad per year (excluding professional announcements). Web-site advertising is also available for a cost of \$50 for a two week run. Payment must be received prior to publication and renewable only upon receipt of next payment.

The Palm Beach County Bar Association, its officers, directors, and staff do not endorse any product or service advertised.

The PBCBA is committed to equal employment opportunity and does not accept employment ads which imply a preference based on race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, familial status, sexual orientation, age, marital status and gender identity or expression.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

RICHMAN GREER is seeking a 2-4 year commercial litigation associate for its West Palm Beach office. Candidates should have a strong academic background and federal court experience. Please email resumes to jvernier@richmangreer.com.

LITIGATION ATTORNEY: Florida Homeowner Insurer seeks litigation attorney with 5 years experience in First Party/Property Coverage. Set-up, operate and manage In-House Claims Litigation Department. For consideration, submit resume to hrdirector2010@yahoo.com EOE

PARTNERS WANTED: New York law firm with offices at CityPlace Office Tower in West Palm Beach desires to expand its Florida office with additional partners. Individual attorneys or small firms with portable businesses are encouraged to contact Allan Samuels at asamuels@mclaughlinstern.com.

PROFESSIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The following announce their availability for referral, assistance and consultation.

SCOTT SUSKAUER: "AV" rated, Board Certified Criminal Trial Lawyer. Over 20 years of experience. All criminal matters in State and Federal Court including

felonies, misdemeanors, DUI, juvenile and traffic matters, 1601 Forum Place, Ste. 1200, WPB, FL 33401; (561) 687-7866. www.suskauerlaw.com.

GREGORY TENDRICH, Esq.: FINRA Arbitrator, Certified County Court Mediator & Former Series 7 licensed VP & Asst. General Counsel to Wachovia Securities and other local NYSE/FINRA brokerage firms, is accepting referrals and is available to co-counsel, provide trial/arbitration consultation or assistance in stock loss and investment related disputes, including prudent-investor, suitability, churning and misrepresentation claims in addition to SEC, FINRA, NYSE and other regulatory enforcement matters. Please call (561) 417-8777 or visit www.yourstocklawyer.com.

OFFICE SPACE:

SUBLEASE: Attorney's office with secretarial station. Internet, phone and file space included. McCabe Rabin, P.A. Centurion Tower, 1601 Forum Place, West Palm Beach. \$1,500/month. Call Beth (561) 659-7878.

LAKE WORTH OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE: 450 square feet, two offices, private entrance. Conference room available for use. Office connected with other attorneys. \$850 per month. Contact Sean (561) 642-3000.

CLASS "A" EXECUTIVE WINDOW OFFICES: Located on Intracoastal waterway in North Palm Beach for rent. Share office space with our prestigious law firm. Each office includes a secretarial station, a staffed receptionist desk, use of law library, conference rooms, your own direct dial numbers, free parking, fax & copier use available (must bring your own server & computers). 24hr access/secure building. \$2,500 per month per office. Pam (561) 684-6600; email mcbride@bobolaw.com.

WEST PALM BEACH: Multiple law offices with secretarial areas available in prestigious lakefront office building. Rent includes receptionist, use of conference room(s), telephone system, DSL service and kitchen facilities. Copier/scanner and garage parking available. Call (561) 659-6457.

PBG LAW FIRM in prime PGA Boulevard location has two furnished offices and secretarial space to sublease. Reception, kitchen and conference room privileges included. Please call (561) 478-5353 for more information or email wsilverstein@visabank.com.

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE CONDO for sale in North Palm Beach. US Hwy 1. Four story professional office building. 3rd floor suite, 1,050 sq. ft. \$232,000. 3 offices, conference room, reception area, kitchen, covered parking. Ready to move in. Call Jeff (561) 714-0660.

LAWYER'S OFFICE \$800/MONTH: I-95/Southern. Includes electric, water, garbage and cleaning. One lawyer's office room, one secretarial space. Access to conference room, fax machine and free parking. Phone and internet T-1 line \$60/month. Shared scanner/copier /printer 14 cents/page. Call Grey Tesh (561) 686-6886.

HEARSAY

Joel D. Kenwood, of the law firm of Sachs Sax Caplan, P.L., has been certified by the Florida Supreme Court as a Circuit Court Civil Mediator. Mr. Kenwood is Florida Bar Board Certified in Business Litigation Law and in Civil Trial Law.

Law Office of Amy L. Cosentino, P.A. has moved to 6801 Lake Worth Rd. Suite 350, Greenacres, FL 33467. (561) 537-3019 Telephone; (561) 537-3018 Fax.

Kapner & Kapner, P.A. is pleased to announce that **Catherine S. Eaton** has joined the firm.



William D. Zoeller has become a partner with Schuler, Halvorson & Weisser, P.A. Also, **David M. Kerner** has become an associate with the firm.



1615 Forum Place, Suite 4D, West Palm Beach 33401. www.shw-law.com. The firm's primary practice areas are personal injury and wrongful death.

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PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

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*** DECEASED, FLORIDA BAR PRESIDENT, SUPREME COURT JUSTICE
**** DECEASED, FLORIDA BAR PRESIDENT
***** DECEASED, FLORIDA BAR PRESIDENT, FEDERAL COURT JUDGE

CALENDAR
February 2011

Wednesday, February 2, Noon - 1pm
Professionalism
Committee Meeting
Bar Association Office

Wednesday, February 2,
5:30pm - 7:30pm
Palm Beach Co. FAWL Annual
Judicial Reception
Norton Museum of Art

Tuesday, February 8,
11:45am - 1pm
SPBCBA Membership Luncheon
Boca Raton Marriott

Tuesday, February 8, Noon - 1pm
YLS Board Meeting
Bar Association Office

Wednesday, February 9, Noon - 1pm
NCS Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 9, 6pm - 8pm
Legal Aid
Brooks Brothers Event

Thursday, February 10, 5:30pm - 7pm
YLS Happy Hour
Location TBA

Friday, February 11,
8:30am - 9:30am
ADR Committee Meeting
Bar Association Office

Friday, February 11, 9am - 3pm
PI Wrongful Death
CLE Seminar
Bar Association Office

Friday, February 11, 4pm - 5pm
Investiture Ceremony for
Judge Marni Bryson

Saturday, February 12, 7pm - 8pm
Legal Aid Gift
Gathering Gala

Monday, February 14, 8:30am - 5pm
ADR CLE Seminar
Bar Association Office

Monday, February 14, Noon - 1pm
Bench Bar Conference
Committee Meeting
Bar Association Office

Wednesday, February 16, 11am - 1pm
PBCBA Joint Luncheon
with Forum Club
Speaker: U.S. Supreme Court
Justice Stephen Breyer

Wednesday, February 16, 5pm - 6pm
PBCBA
Board of Directors Meeting
Bar Association Office

Thursday, February 17, 11:45am - 1pm
Judicial Luncheon
North end of Cafeteria,
Main Courthouse

Thursday, February 17, 5:30pm - 8pm
NCS BBQ
Bonnette Hunt Club,
Palm Beach Gardens

Friday, February 18, 11am Reception,
Noon Luncheon
Cunningham Bar Assn.
Holland Scholarship Luncheon
National Croquet Center
Contact Farah Lologne at
farah.lologne@frls.org for more
information

Friday, February 18, 4pm - 5pm
Investiture Ceremony for
Judge Lisa Small
Courtroom 11A, Main Courthouse

Monday, February 21
Court Holiday - President's Day
Bar Office Closed

Tuesday, February 22, 11:45am - 1pm
Judicial Relations
Committee Meeting
Judicial Conference Room,
Main Courthouse, WPB

Tuesday, February 22,
5:30pm - 6:30pm
Legal Aid Board Meeting
Bar Association Office

Wednesday, February 23 - 25
FL Justice Assn.
Workhorse Seminar
Orlando

Wednesday, February 23, 9am - 10am
Mediator Training
Bar Association Office

Wednesday, February 23,
3:30pm - 4:30pm
Corporate Counsel
Committee Meeting
Bar Association Office

Thursday, February 24,
11:30am - 1pm
Solo Luncheon
Bar Association Office

Friday, February 25, 11:30am - 2pm
Business Law CLE
Lunch Seminar
Bar Association Office