

PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

BULLEAIN

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January 2007

The Board of Directors
and Bar Staff
wish you and your families
A Happy New Year!!

Mark your calendar for upcoming Membership Meetings

North County Section Dinner

January 11, 5:30 p.m.

The Riverhouse Restaurant, Palm Beach Gardens

Membership Luncheon with guest speaker U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito

January 26, 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Cohen Pavilion at the Kravis Center

North County Section Dinner and Casino Night

February 8, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., Bonnette Hunt Club

Membership Luncheon with guest speaker U.S. Supreme Court Clerk William Suter

February 13, 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Crowne Plaza Hotel

Joint Membership Luncheon with South County Bar with guest speaker Florida Bar President Hank Coxe

March 20, 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Delray Beach Country Club

Membership Luncheon with Guest Speaker Richard Lapchick, Human Rights Activist, Director, UCF's DeVos Sport Business Management Program

Co-Hosted with FAWL and Malcolm Cunningham Bar Association April 19, 11:45 - 1:00 Marriott West Palm Beach

Annual Law Week Judicial Reception

April 25, 5:30 p.m.

The Harriet at City Place

Annual Law Day Luncheon

May 4 (tentative date) 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

North County Section Annual Dinner

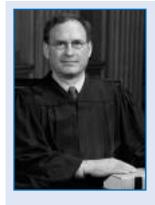
May 10, 5:30 p.m.

Ruth's Chris in North Palm Beach

Annual Installation Banquet at the Breakers

Saturday, June 16, 7:00 p.m.

The Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach



January Membership Luncheon to Feature Justice Samuel Alito

The Bar is pleased to present U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito as its guest speaker for its membership luncheon to be held on Friday, January 26 at the Cohen Pavilion at the Kravis Center. Reservation forms have been mailed to all members and reservations can also be made online at palmbeachbar.org. Deadline to make prepaid reservations is January 19. Cost is \$30/member, \$45/non-member.

Samuel A. Alito, Jr. was nominated as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court by President George W.

Bush and was sworn in on January 31, 2006. He previously served as a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, having been appointed by President George Bush in 1990.

He began his legal career as a law clerk for the Hon. Leonard I. Garth of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. From 1977 to 1981, he was an Assistant United States Attorney in Newark, New Jersey. From 1981 to 1985, he was an Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States, and in that capacity he briefed and argued numerous cases in the United States Supreme Court. From 1985 to 1987, he was Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel, which is responsible for providing legal advice to the Justice Department and other components of the Executive Branch. In 1987, Justice Alito was appointed by President Reagan as the United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey. He held this office until his appointment to the Third Circuit.

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Investiture Ceremonies Scheduled for New Judges

The investiture ceremonies scheduled to date for our newest judges have been scheduled as follows. All Bar members are cordially invited to attend:

Robin Rosenberg February 2, 4:00 p.m. Courtroom 11A
David French February 16, 4:00 p.m. Courtroom 11A
Ted Booras February 21, 4:00 p.m. Courtroom 11A

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BULLETIN

PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

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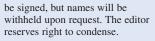
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The mission of the Palm Beach County Bar Association is to serve its members, foster professionalism and enhance the public's understanding and awareness of the legal system.

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



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

Nominating petitions available for Board of Directors

The annual election of officers and directors for the Palm Beach County Bar will take place in April. Persons seeking to run for a position on the Board of Directors will need to obtain a nominating petition and must be a member in good standing of the Palm Beach County Bar Association. The nominating petition must be signed by no fewer than 20 members in good standing of the Association. Petitions for President-elect are due back in the Bar office by 5 p.m. on January 17 and petitions for director-at-large are due back by 5 p.m. on January 31. Petitions may be obtained by calling the Bar office at 687-2800 or by sending an e-mail requesting one to pburns@palmbeachbar.org. For any of the positions, it is the candidate's responsibility to verify ahead of time through the Bar office that the members that are signing their petitions are members in good standing, otherwise, the petition will be deemed invalid.

Bar Seeks Nominees for Professionalism Awards

For the eighth year, the Palm Beach County Bar Association will be presenting the Annual Professionalism Awards to be given at the Professionalism Seminar which it sponsors every year. This year's Professionalism Seminar is presently scheduled for March 30, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. While the Professionalism Awards will be given at that time the nomination process for these awards is now. There will be three awards this year: individual lawyer award; law firm award and Judicial award.

Past winners of the law firm award include: Craig S. Bernard, Inns of Court; Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs; Law Week Committee; FAWL; Jani Mauer & Nova Law School; Carlton Fields; the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County and the State Attorneys Office. Past winners of the individual/judicial awards are: Jack Ackerman, Douglas Duncan, Judge Walter N. Colbath, Jr., D. Culver "Skip" Smith III, Judge Edward Rodgers, Judge Peter Blanc, Sidney A. Stubbs, Jr. David Ackerman. Judicial Award Winners: Judge Lucy Chernow Brown and Judge Ronald Alvarez

Application forms can be found on the Bar's homepage, www.palmbeachbar.org. Deadline to submit nominees is February 15.



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President's Message



Justice

By Manuel Farach,
President

The search for the meaning of justice is as old as the written word itself. When applied to individuals, Plato considered justice to be a human virtue that made people self-consistent and good. When applied socially, justice was a consciousness that made society harmonious and good. Justinian believed justice to be the habit of giving others their due with "constant and perpetual will." Edmund Burke believed justice to be a matter of self-determination and self-will: "Whatever each man can separately do, without trespassing upon others; he has a right to do for himself."

More recently, James Madison wrote in Federalist No. 51 that justice

Justice is the ligament which holds civilized beings and civilized nations together.

- Daniel Webster

was the desired goal of all civil societies, and was so important that it was to be pursued until achieved or until liberty was lost in the process. The debate continues to the present day as proponents define justice as either distributive justice (the proper distribution of good things such as wealth and power) or retributive justice (the correct response to wrongdoing), with proponents of one theory arguing the other theory lacks a moral foundation. The meaning of justice has, in effect, become a political football used to attack another's beliefs. Even more confusing, both present day theories of justice have theology and religion as their underpinnings. And to make the confusion worse, it is hard to argue with the concept that giving one person "justice" must necessarily deprive another person of some of some form of "liberty."

All of us can agree that justice is the ideal, morally correct state of government or law. We cannot agree, with any measure of precision, what constitutes this correct state. Justice is a complex personal concept, and accordingly, subject to flux. But in order to ensure democracy, one thing must always be constant: the obligation of lawyers and judges to seek justice. Webster was right when he spoke his words and Madison was prescient in his comments; it is the process of seeking justice that is as important as achieving justice itself. As we go about our too busy professional lives, we must keep in mind that one of our obligations, as members of the Bar and as members of society, is to continuously seek justice - whatever its meaning.

2007 Court Holiday Schedule

Monday, January 1	New Year's Day
Monday, January 15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, February 19	President's Day
Friday, April 6	Good Friday
Monday, May 28	Memorial Day
Wednesday, July 4	Independence Day
Monday, September 3	Labor Day

Thursday, September 13	Rosh Hashanah
Monday, October 8	Columbus Day
Monday, November 12	Veteran's Day
Thursday, November 22	Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November 23	Floating Holiday
Monday, December 24	Floating Holiday
Tuesday, December 25	Christmas Day

Board of Directors Meeting Attendance

	July Retreat	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
Farach	X	X	X	Х	X
Sasser	X	X	X	Х	X
Poulton	X	X	X	X	X
Suskauer	X		X	Х	X
Murray	X	X	X	X	X
Bowden		X	X	X	X
Schuler	X	X			X
Napoleone	X	X	X	X	X
Pineiro	X	X		X	X
Pressly	X	X	X	X	X
Isaacs	X		X	X	

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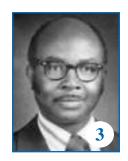
Who are they?

In continuing with a project started by the Historical Committee, we will continue to run old photos of some of our members. Can you guess who they are?

Answers on page 12











Minutes of the Young Lawyers Section June 7, 1968, Holiday Inn

Thirty-three members and guests were present.

Numerous judges were present both Republicans and those facing imminent retirement. Guests attending were Steve Davidson, Bob Hoadley, Joe Reiter and Charles Musgrove.

Our treasurer reported the unusually healthy balance of \$267.01 in our account whereupon there was an immediate and overwhelming demand for a party. Our president, rising to the situation, suggested that we should have a party and that Sid Stubbs and Ellen Van Andel should do all of the work.

Under the heading of "very old business," Gavin Letts advertised the upcoming June Senior Bar meeting and concluded that the speaker had to be good because he was so expensive. Someone suggested that the Senior Bar might be better off getting some cheap, liberal speakers to boo rather than expensive reactionaries to cheer.

Larry Klein introduced our speaker, Judge Bill Owen. Judge Owen broke a long-standing Junior Bar precedent by giving a talk that was not only brief, but also good.

On July 13, the Annual Junior Bar part was held. The cocktail party was bad because it ended too early; the dance was good because it ended so early.

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned. John F. Flanigan, Secretary

Historical PBCBA Facts

Judge Emery Newell, a member of the Bar's Historical Committee, compiled data by combing through old minutes of the Association. Some of the interesting facts that he discovered:

From 1953:

- New members of the Association: John Williams, Marshall Criser, Joel T. Daves III, Clyde Windham, Emery G. Newell, Robert C. Scott, Albert Sims, Lawrence Cooper, Richard Sorgini, John Remsen and William A. Johnson
- Motion approved to introduce a Bill making the office of the judge of Criminal Court Record a full time job and granting an increased salary of \$10,000 a year
- Motion approved that a resolution be adopted endorsing the use of fluoride in the drinking water of the City of West Palm Beach
- Judge Chillingworth introduced Judge John Holland who was holding the first session of the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida, in West Palm Beach
- Announced that a full day legal institute be held at the George Washington Hotel, with registration fee of \$3.50 being charged to include the institute, luncheon and cocktail reception. There would be an additional fee of \$1.50 if the member chose to bring their wife. (later reported that the Institute generated a profit of \$132 with 89 tickets at \$3.50

Visit the Bar's Website www.palmbeachbar.org

- and 22 tickets at \$1.50 being sold. Some of the expenses incurred were \$5 for the bartender and luncheon/cocktails \$195)
- The fee to attend the annual banquet was set at \$6 per person
- The treasury showed a balance of \$872.46 at the end of the year

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-Personal Injury Corner



Common Law Bad Faith

by Ted Babbitt

When an insured is sued by a third party for damages in excess of the insured's policy limits and the insurer fails in good faith to settle the claim and there is a resultant excess verdict, a potential common law cause of action exists because of the bad faith of the carrier. See Boston Old Colony Ins. Co. v. Gutierrez, 386 So. 2d 783 (Fla. 1980), Allstate Indem. Co. v Ruiz, 899 So. 2d 1121 (Fla. 2005).

This common law cause of action does not apply to first party bad faith actions where an insurer fails to settle in good faith with its own insured in the context of such claims as uninsured motorist, PIP claims or other types of first party benefits. See Fidelity & Cas. Co. v. Cope, 462 So. 2d 459 (Fla. 1985), Talat Enters., Inc. v. Aetna Cas. & Sur. Co., 753 So. 2d 1278 (Fla. 2000).

In 1982 the Legislature enacted Fla. Stat. 624.155 which extended bad faith actions to first party claims. That statute was amended in 2005 to include certain notice provisions, which are required as a condition precedent to bringing a suit against an insurer for bad faith. The statute also provides that if the insurer cures its bad faith within sixty days after filing of the notice, no cause of action for bad faith exists.

In Macola v. GEICO, 31 Fla. L. Weekly S690 (Fla. Oct. 26, 2006), the Florida Supreme Court was faced with questions certified by the Eleventh Circuit as to whether the tendering of policy limits within the statutory sixty day period not only precluded the statutory bad faith claim but also the common law bad faith cause of action. In that case, after suit had been filed, the defendant insured's attorney filed a notice under Fla. Stat. 624.155(3)(a) and the insurer offered its policy limits within the sixty day time limit. The case did not settle and the resulting judgment far exceeded the policy limits of the insured. The insured brought a cause of action both under the statute and under the common law theory of bad faith. The case was removed to Federal Court and the District Judge granted a summary judgment, holding that the insurer's action in offering the policy

limits within the sixty day period precluded both the statutory cause of action as well as the common law action for bad faith. On appeal the Eleventh Circuit posed the certified question referred to above to the Florida Supreme Court. The Florida Supreme Court answered the question so as to require reversal and reinstatement of the common law cause of action.

In concluding that only the statutory claim for bad faith is precluded by an insurer paying the policy limits within the sixty day statutory period, the Court cited from Fla. Stat. 625.155(3)(d) that:

"[t]he civil remedy specified in this section does not preempt any other remedy or cause of action provided for pursuant to any other statute or pursuant to the common law of this state. Any person may obtain a judgment under either the common-law remedy of bad faith or this statutory remedy, but shall not be entitled to a judgment under both remedies..."

The Supreme Court concluded that the statute clearly expresses a legislative intent to avoid double recovery but allow both the

common law bad faith action and the statutory action. In doing so, the Court made it clear at Page 692 that an insurer's cure of its bad faith within the sixty day period effectively eliminates the statutory claim:

"Because a cause of action for extracontractual damages for first-party bad faith was unavailable under the common law, we strictly construed the civil remedy statute and held that the tender of the policy limits within the sixty-day period cured any alleged violation of subsection (1)(b)(1). See *Talat*, 753 So. 2d at 1283-84. We explained that the only remedy was statutory and that the statute conditioned the remedy on notice by the insured and failure by the insurer to pay the damages within the cure period. See id. In other words, in the first-party context, "[t]he statutory cause of action for extra-contractual damages simply never comes into existence until expiration of the sixty-day window without the

Continued on page 14



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- Scott M. Dimond
- Jeffrey B. Kaplan
- David A. Rothstein
- Adam T. Rabin

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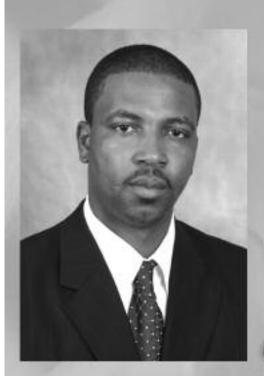
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Page 6 Bulletin

Technology

Why Am I So Blu?

by Bard D. Rockenbach, Chairman, Technology Committee

Why does everything in technology have to be so difficult? It isn't enough that they turned our televisions into "home theaters," complete with experts and "design teams." Now "they" (whoever they are) have taken the DVD and made it difficult. We already had to deal with optical disc technologies such as DVD, DVD±R, DVD±RW, and DVD-RAM, which use a red laser to read and write data, as if that wasn't enough. Now we have to deal with a new format which uses a blue-violet laser instead (with the colorful name Blu-ray), all in an effort to get high definition resolution out of our DVD players. Of course, that isn't the end of the story.

Blu-ray has a competing format called HD-DVD. Both formats were created with the intention of bringing HD DVD content to home theater, but they go about it in different ways. The blue-violet laser in Blu-ray has a shorter wavelength than a red laser in HD DVD and can focus the laser spot more precisely. A more focused beam allows data to be packed more tightly and stored in less space, so it is possible to fit more data on the disc. As a result, one Blu-Ray disc can store 50-100 gigabytes of data. By contrast, HD-DVD uses dual-layer technology and can store about 30 gigabytes of data.

The primary difference between the two formats is a classic rabbit/hare situation. The HD-DVD can be implemented quicker because it uses technology that is similar to DVD so manufacturers can make them use the same tools, with some adjustments. On the other hand, Blu-ray will be slower to take off because it will require entirely new factories which will have to be built. The bottom line is, well, the bottom line. HD DVD is easier and cheaper to make initially, but Blu-ray has more staying power because of the greater storage capacity. In terms of storage capacity, HD DVD is nothing more than a band-aid, much like 40 GB hard drives were when all we had were 10 GB hard drives. We bought them thinking they were the end of the earth, only to buy 250 GB drives a few years later. HD DVD is similar in that you

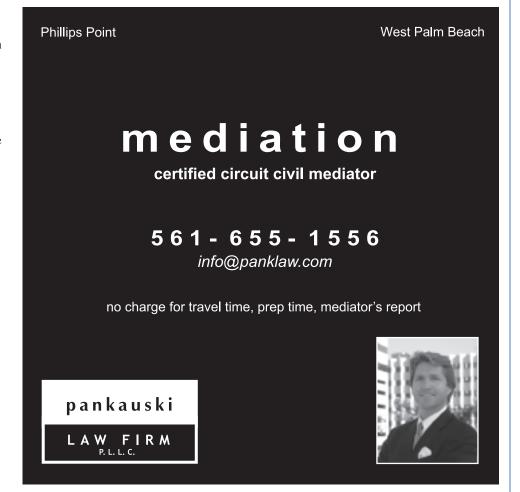
can buy it now and have the immediate gratification, but you will probably want the Blu-ray in a year anyway.

The problem is that other technologies are making a stealth attack on both Blu-ray and HD DVD. As more content s available for download over the Internet, there is a big question of whether consumers will want to buy discs – regardless of the format. Many people have had enough boxes hooked up to the television and are slow to buy yet another one. Wouldn't it be easier to just download the movie you want to see and watch it on the TV? That could be accomplished with a computer hooked up to the television. If DirecTV and the cable companies would create a USB key to allow the computer to decode the signal, then the computer could replace every box we now use. We could load the computer with a huge hard drive which stores movies, music and game software. This is probably just another one of my

dreams. (As a side note, however, in 1984 I proposed that personal computers with dial-up connections and the proper software could prepare tax forms and make April 15th jitters a thing of the past. Unfortunately, I left it to Intuit to create the product. Ever heard of Turbo Tax?)

As 2006 ends and 2007 begins, and as new titles are coming out in both formats, the central question remains: should I bother to buy either new technology? A new Blu-ray player will cost \$750-\$1500 (although the new Sony Playstation 3 plays Blu-ray discs and is only \$500), while an HD DVD player will cost about half that amount (although Microsoft's Xbox 360 HD plays HD DVD discs and is only \$200.) Past experience shows that when consumers are faced with competing technologies, the smart money sits on the sidelines and waits for a winner to emerge. If I had to bet, I would bet that Blu-ray eventually

Continued on page 9



Judicial Profile



JUDGE SANDRA BOSSO-PARDO

by Terry Resk, on behalf of the Judicial Relations Committee

Having been born in St. Mary's Hospital to a father who was a Palm Beach County attorney, Judge

Sandra Bosso-Pardo has not traveled far from either her geographical or professional family roots. The fourth of seven children, she and her siblings grew up playing "lawyer and judge" rather than "cops and robbers." Although she had not consciously decided at a young age to be a judge, she quickly realized which role in their games she preferred.

She attended Cardinal Newman High School and then Springhill College in Alabama, where she majored in English. She also spent a year in Rome with Loyola University. After graduation, she initially intended to attend graduate school in order to become an English professor but then changed her mind and worked in the customer service department of Sears while waiting to take the law school entrance exams.

Judge Bosso-Pardo met her future husband, attorney Angelo Pardo, in law school. He graduated before she did and began working for her father in his local law practice.

Upon graduating from Stetson University College of Law in 1978, the judge entered private practice here in Palm Beach County, spending most of the next twenty years as an associate and later partner with the firm now known as Paxton & Smith, P.A., and approximately four years at what was then Brackett, Cook, Sned, Welch & Scott.

In 2002, she was invited to join the Palm Beach County School Board to help establish its in-house litigation department. Before accepting the position, she disclosed her intentions of seeking a judicial appointment, but agreed not to apply for two years. True to her word, she later submitted her application and was appointed to the county court bench by Governor Jeb Bush in December of 2004.

Although her father passed away approximately 20 years ago, her oldest brother Bill and her husband both still practice law in the offices used by her father. She lives within ten minutes of her mother and five of her siblings.

With the demands of her professional life, she and her husband were nonetheless able to raise two children - Cristina, age 20 and Alex, age 18. Although still undecided, Cristina has expressed interest in taking the law school entrance exams.

After 20 years of practice, it seemed a normal progression for Judge Bosso-Pardo to assume the bench. She had found that, even while advocating on behalf of her clients, she could look at cases objectively and treat all litigants fairly.

Her favorite aspect of her position is being able to help people obtain immediate resolutions of disputes in the small claims cases which she can expedite. Her least favorite part of the job is evicting people who are obviously trying to make their rental payments but have been unsuccessful.

Upon assuming the bench, the Judge was surprised at the "astounding" amount of paperwork in the County Civil Division, and found that the transition from zealous advocate to neutral judge was more difficult than she had imagined. She is used to thoroughly researching cases, but when she became a judge, realized that it was difficult to be as thorough as she would like and still move her docket along. She therefore appreciates the attorneys in her division who are prepared and bring copies of cases on which they rely.

Although her family and friends had good-naturedly questioned her suitability for the "customer service" department of a retail store, it is obvious that Judge Sandra Bosso-Pardo has continued serving the public in a way that would have made her father very proud!

Attention Solos!

The next Solo & Small Firm Practitioners Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, February 28 from 11:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Bar Office. The topic will be on Attorney-Client Communications with guest speaker Thomas Sukowicz from Hinshaw & Culbertson, LLP.

As a member benefit to our solos, this luncheon is just \$10.00 and includes 2.0 CLER hours from The Florida Bar. If you would like to attend, please register on line at www.palmbeachbar.org.

A seminar will also be held immediately following this luncheon entitled "Legal Malpractice, Ethics and Risk Management Update" (see flier in this issue of the Bulletin). Attend both the luncheon and this seminar for the special price of \$100.

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Young Lawyers News

The Young Lawyers Sections of the Palm Beach and Martin County Bar Associations recently held a happy hour at Abacoa in Jupiter.

Members brought canned goods that were donated to a local food bank for the holidays. Pictured above are Greg Weiss, Erica Lester, Shaun Plymale, Mike Dixon, Brett Barner, Robert Arzonetti, Bill Abel, Stefanie Shelley, Mark Pateman and Grier Pressly.



Adam Myron, Mark Greenberg, Carl Wald and Scott Zappolo





Natasha Rose of Palm Beach Copy Service and Brett Barner



Adrienne Fleming, Wes Harvin, Shaun Plymale and Darren Steele

Why Am I So Blu?

from page 7

comes out the winner in this battle, but only for a little while. The end game is still a total online environment where everything (movies, television and games) are downloadable on demand. We are already heading there with TiVo and on demand services from cable companies. All we need is more bandwidth. When will they bring optic fiber into my house? I want my optic fiber!

My conclusion is that I have enough to worry about already. I don't need HD DVD or Blu-ray. I'll wait a while for a winner. Where is Sea Biscuit when you need him? Email me. bdr@flappellatelaw.com

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Suskauers and Triggs to Co-Chair "Woodstock" Event



The Legal Aid Society is proud to announce that Michelle and Scott Suskauer of the Suskauer Law Firm together with Matthew Triggs of Proskauer, Rose LLP and his wife Amy have graciously agreed to cochair the Annual Pro Bono Recognition Evening. The event which is now in it's 19th year will be held on Saturday evening, May 12, 2007 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center.

Last year's event was a huge success netting over \$200,000 for Legal Aid's fifteen (15) projects which provide free legal assistance to over 5,000 disadvantaged children, families, elders and individuals residing in our community.

As in past years, the event will honor all the attorneys, law firms and other professionals in our community who provided pro bono services in 2006. Special recognition will be given to those individuals and firms whose volunteer services in 2006 went "above and beyond" all expectations.

The theme of the evening will be "Woodstock" and will include a silent auction, cocktail reception, dinner buffet, awards ceremony and exciting entertainment.

For information regarding how you can participate in the 19th Annual Pro Bono Recognition Evening, please contact Director of Development Harreen Bertisch at 561-655-8944 x 257 or Development Associate, Suzanne Foley at x 279.

Pro Bono Attorneys Who Closed Cases in November 2006

Kathryn M. Beamer Robert T. Bergin, Jr. Sara Blumberg **Lawrence Caplan** Daniel F. Carbone Thomas H. Dougherty Joseph D. Farish, Jr. **Alvin Goldstein** Robert C. Groelle Stephen M. Kapral, Jr. Dennis P. Koehler Lawrence E. Moncrief Linda L. Perrv John E. Peterson **Kimberly Rommel-Enright** Peter S. Sachs Tana R. Sachs-Copple Shannon J. Sagan **David Schmidt** F. Kendall Slinkman W. Trent Steele Wendi S. Weisman Sheryl G. Wood T. Robert Zochowski

Total Number of Hours: 549.29



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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FIRM

Elisha D. Roy Receives The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award



The Fifteenth
Judicial Circuit Pro
Bono Committee is
pleased to announce
that Elisha D. Roy
was awarded the
2007 Florida Bar
President's Pro
Bono Service Award
for the Fifteenth

Judicial Circuit. This award was established in 1981 and its purpose is twofold: "to further encourage lawyers to volunteer free legal services to the poor by recognizing those who make such public service commitments, and to communicate to the public some sense of the substantial volunteer services provided by Florida lawyers to those who cannot afford legal fees."

Although Elisha has only been practicing for five years she has a long history of service to the community and to the poor. In law school she did over 300 hours of pro bono service through various law school clinics both on site and at the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County. As a result she was awarded the Gold Award for Pro Bono Hours in her last year at Nova Southeastern University.

Through her pro bono work in law school and continuing with her pro bono work for the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County she has represented numerous children in dependency and

family law issues and she has logged almost 200 hours in the representation of these children. It is also our belief that she has underestimated those hours. She currently has nine open pro bono cases that she is working on (not included in those 200 hours). In 2004 Elisha was honored by the Legal Aid Society for her work in a complicated case involving four children. The case involved issues in both Juvenile and Family court. It concerned issues of placement, mental health counseling and sexual abuse. Agreeing to take this complex matter at the last minute, Elisha spent countless hours representing her clients.

As a member of the Young Lawyer's Division Board of Governors she has consistently promoted and supported pro bono work especially through her support of the Lapel Pin Project (a joint project of the YLD, the Supreme Court and the Florida Pro Bono Coordinators Association). Her support of this project on the YLD Board ensures that pro bono recognition and service will be promoted statewide.

It is wonderful to think that she has many more years of practice ahead of her and many years of pro bono service. For her ongoing and selfless dedication to Pro Bono work and the children and families of Palm Beach County, Elisha is the deserving recipient of The Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Florida Bar President=s Pro Bono Service Award.

Bar Launches Dyslexia Program

Illiteracy is an issue of public health and public safety. Approximately 47% of our population is functionally illiterate. Eighty five percent (85%) of our juvenile delinquents have reading problems, and many read below a fourth grade level.

A principal cause of illiteracy is undiagnosed dyslexia. National Institutes of Health researchers at Georgetown University Medical Center, Yale University, Johns Hopkins and other sites have identified dyslexia as a neurobiological condition for which effective intervention is available.

The Palm Beach County Bar Association Literacy Speakers Bureau ("LSB") is an interdisciplinary volunteer effort to educate the community about the scientific and medical research on dyslexia, and about appropriate assessment and intervention. Participating professionals include federal and state court judges, attorneys, psychologists, physicians, educators, reading therapists, and law professors. The lawyers and judges on the team have been trained by clinical and school psychologists in the basics of reading research, and are familiar with the consequences of reading failure on the rate of juvenile delinquency and adult crime.

A two person or three person LSB

Gordon & Doner Wins 6th Annual Cup of Justice Golf Classic

The Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County's 6th Annual "Cup of Justice Golf Classic" presented by City Place Tower raised \$35,000 to support it's Educational Advocacy Project. The project works to ensure positive educational outcomes for disabled children attending Palm Beach County's lower performing schools.

Attorney Bob Shalhoub chaired the October 9th tournament at BallenIsles Country Club. The presenting sponsors of the event were The Related Companies and Crocker Partners building developers for the new City Place Towers. Additionally, Searcy, Denney, Scarola, Barnhart & Shipley and Florida Crystals Corporation were respectively lunch and dinner sponsors of the tournament. The golf tournament committee members included Harreen Bertisch; Rick Collier; Joyce Conway, Esq.; Suzanne Foley; David McClymont; Scott Murray, Esq.; Linda Norris; Grier Pressly, Heath Randolph, Esq.; Michael Spillane, Vicky Vilchez, Esq.; Gary Woodfield, Esq. and Bob Bertisch, Esq. Tim Byrd the "Byrdman" was the emcee.

The Gordon & Doner Team comprised of Adam Doner, Steven Alman, Rick Freedman and Russ Seger was awarded the "Cup of Justice" for the year. Other winners included Gordon & Doner (Flight 1- 1st Place); Auslin Legal Staffing (Flight 3- 1st Place); Team Shalhoub (Flight 1- 2nd Place) and Jones Lang LaSalle (Flight 3- 2nd Place).

Congratulations to Larry Abramson who got a hole in one.

team (comprised of professionals from at least two of the fields named above) is available, free of charge, to speak to community groups of 25 or more persons. Presentations can be tailored to meet the time constraints of short breakfast, luncheon or other meetings.

Should you know of an organization that would be interested in an LSB presentation for an upcoming meeting, please contact Tracy Bem at 561-719-4653.

North County Section News

Members of the North County Section recently enjoyed a cocktail reception at the PGA Members Club. Many thanks to Merrill Lynch for underwriting the event.







Ann and Steven Harris



Rafael Roca and Jerry Beer



Scott Wortman and Nellie King



Jamiee Peirce, Adam Doner, Bob Gordon, Michael Slavin and Keith Campbell





Photo Answers:

From Page 4

- I. George Bush
- 2. Jayne Barkdull
- 3. F. Malcolm Cunningham, Sr.
- 4. Scott Murray
- 5. Diego Asencio

Christine A. Klepp, M.D.

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Page 12 Bulletin

Family Law

Florida's New Relocation Statute

By: J. Mark Maynor, Board Certified Marital & Family Attorney, on behalf of the Family Law Practice Committee

Recently there have been significant changes in the family law statute governing parental relocation with a child. Due to problems that arise after people have gone through a divorce, the Florida legislature has amended Florida §61.13 to provide for definitions and specific procedures to follow when a parent wants to relocate with the child without notice to the other parent.

Without specific guidelines or procedures addressing this issue, emergency situations abounded. As a solution, the legislature enacted F.S. §61.13001, effective October 1, 2006, which requires that any parent wishing to relocate with the child must first serve the other parent with the proper notice of intent to relocate, giving the other parent thirty days to file an objection to the relocation.

If the parent does not file any objection within thirty days, it is presumed that the relocation is in the best interest of the child, and the court will enter an order allowing the parent to relocate with the child. In a situation such as this, where there is no objection to relocation, the parties are not only spared the Clerk of Court's standard "reopen fee," but also, the parties are spared the emotional and financial drain involved with having to go back to court to request that the Judge make the final decision. In essence, the parties are given the chance to agree on their own, as they would in mediation, and bypass the Judge.

On its face, the new statute appears to be a great way for parties to achieve a modification to their court order without having to spend obscene amounts of money on attorneys and litigation, but only if *both* parties agree to the relocation. The reality, however, is that most parties after a divorce are not willing to agree on issues as important as relocating with a child. In effect, the new statute will be extremely helpful for a handful of parties after a divorce, but most parties will be unaffected, as they will head back to court for the standard modification proceedings when the

objecting parent files his or her objection to the notice of intent to relocate.

When the non-relocating parent files his or her objection, the parent wishing to relocate with child will have the burden to initiate court proceedings to obtain permission from the court to relocate with the child. The new statute maintains the old rule that there shall be no presumption in favor of or against a request to relocate with a child; however, there are many new factors for the courts to consider in addition to the old factors. The factors as set forth in the new statute that the court must consider include the following:

- 1) The nature, quality, extent of involvement, and duration of the child's relationship with the parent proposing to relocate with the child and with the nonrelocating parent, other persons, siblings, half-siblings, and other significant persons in the child's life;
- 2) The age and developmental stage of the child, needs of the child, and the likely impact the relocation will have on the child's physical, educational, and emotional development, taking into consideration any special needs of the child;
- 3) The feasibility of preserving the relationship between the nonrelocating parent or other person and the child through substitute arrangements that take into consideration the logistics of contact, access, visitation, and timesharing, as well as the financial circumstances of the parties; whether those factors are sufficient to foster a continuing meaningful relationship between the child and the nonrelocating parent or other person; and the likelihood of compliance with the substitute arrangements by the relocating parent once he or she is out of the jurisdiction of the court;
- 4) The child's preference, taking into consideration the child's age and level of maturity;
- 5) Whether the relocation will enhance the general quality of life for both the parent seeking the relocation

and the child, including, but not limited to, financial or emotional benefits or educational opportunities;

- 6) The reasons of each parent for either seeking or opposing the relocation;
- 7) The current employment and economic circumstances of each parent or other person and whether or not the proposed relocation is necessary to improve the economic circumstances of the parent or other person seeking relocation of the child;
- 8) That the relocation is sought in good faith and the extent to which the objecting parent has fulfilled his or her financial obligations to the parent or other person seeking relocation, including child support, spousal support, and marital property and marital debt obligations;
- 9) The career and other opportunities available to the objecting parent or objecting other person if the relocation occurs;
- 10) A history of substance abuse or domestic violence as defined in s. 741.28 or which meets the criteria of s. 39.806(1)(d) by either parent, including a consideration of the severity of such conduct and the failure or success of any attempts at rehabilitation;
- 11) Any other factor affecting the best interest of the child or as set forth in s. 61.13.

It is important to understand that although the main goal of the new legislation is to benefit parties who can amicably resolve issues that arise when one parent wants to relocate with the child, the new statute contains very specific requirements, which if not followed precisely, may backfire, causing the parties to spend more time and money correcting mistakes. Therefore, in the event that a party intends to relocate with their child, it is extremely important for both parties to be familiar with the new legislation, or seek the counsel of an experienced family law attorney.

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.

SIMON L. BLAUMAN – New York City; New York University, 1958; Solo Practitioner in Boca Raton.

SAL F. BOHSALI – Vero Beach; University of Florida, 2003; Associate with Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs in West Palm Beach.

SUZANNE Q. BURKE – Affiliate Member; Mineola, NY; St. John's University, 2001; Solo Practitioner in Jupiter.

HAYLEY B. COLINA – Manhattan; University of Miami, 2004; Partner with Colina & Beaulieu Law Group in Delray Beach.

GLENN M. COOPER – Norwalk, VA; Nova Southeastern, 1998; Partner with Glen M. Cooper & Associates in Plantation.

DAVID S. GOLD – San Juan, PR; University of Florida, 1992; Partner with Luks, Santaniello, Perez, Petrillo & Gold in Fort Lauderdale.

MICHAEL L. GREENWALD -

Miami; Duke University, 2004; Associate with Lerach Coughlin Stoia Geller Rudman & Robbins LLP in Boca Raton. STEPAHIE N. HEW – Miami; University of Notre Dame, 2006; Associate with Gunster Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. in West Palm Beach.

JOSHUA PARIENTE KOEHLER-

West Palm Beach; University of Florida, 2006; Associated with the City of West Palm Beach, Office of the City Attorney.

KATHERINE F. LEBER – West Palm Beach; University of Florida, 2005; Associate with Freeman & Supran, P.A. in North Palm Beach

JHAN T. LENNON – Baltimore, MD; New England School of Law, 1997; Associate with Rutherford Mulhall, P.A. in Boca Raton

MARCO MASULLO – United Kingdom; St. Thomas University School of Law, 2006; Solo Practitioner in Delray Beach.

ALLISON MILLER-BERNSTEIN – Miami; Nova Southeastern University,

Miami; Nova Southeastern University, 2000; Associate with Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA in West Palm Beach.

BRUCE REINHART – New Brunswick, NJ; University of Pennsylvania, 1987; Associated with United States Attorney's Office in West Palm Beach.

DAVID B. SCHEIRICH – NJ; St. Thomas University School of Law, 2006; Solo Practitioner in Delray Beach.

MEREDITH L. SCHULTZ- New York City; University of Chicago, 2006; Associate with Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A.

STEVEN E. SEWARD – Houston, TX; University of Miami, 1978; Associated with US Bankruptcy Court in West Palm Beach.

ROGER B. SHUTT – Bluefield, WV; Nova Southeastern University, 1994; Associated with City Attorney's Office of Delray Beach.

SABRINA E. TIRABASSI – Cortland, NY; Nova Southeastern University, 2006; Associated with Fourth District Court of Appeal.

RICHARD S. TOLBERT – CA;

Mississippi College of Law, 1991; Solo Practitioner in West Palm Beach.

THOMAS F. WALKER – Washington, DC; Nova Southeastern University, Associate with Dominic L. Grosso, PA. lin Boca Raton.

JULIA WYDA LEDIS - NY:

Washington & Lee University School of Law, 2006; Associated with Fifteenth Judicial Circuit in West Palm Beach.



Common Law Bad Faith

from page 5

payment of the damages owed under the contract. Id. at 1284.

The Court was equally clear, however, that the elimination of the statutory claim in no way affects the ability to bring the third party bad faith claim under common law. At Page 692 the Court holds:

Accordingly, we answer the rephrased certified question in the negative. We hold that an insurer's tender of the policy limits to an insured in response to the filing of a civil remedy notice under section 624.155 by the insured, after the initiation of a lawsuit against the insured but before entry of an excess judgment, does not preclude a common law cause of action against the insurer for third-party bad faith."

While GEICO's tender of the

policy limits may be used by GEICO as evidence of its good faith (or conversely by Quigley and Macola as further evidence of bad faith), the tender of the policy limits after the filing of the civil remedy notice did not eliminate the underlying tort action, which gave rise to the common law third-party bad faith cause of action against the insurer." <u>Id</u>. at 693.

The distinction between a third party claim and a first party claim in the context of bad faith is an important one. With the advent of Thompson v. Commercial Union Insurance Co., 250 So. 2d 259, 264 (Fla. 1971), an injured third party could maintain a bad faith action directly against the insurer rather than it being brought by the insured. It is, thus, easy to confuse the line between first and third party actions. Nevertheless, the distinction exists for a reason. Bad faith actions against insurers in the third party context existed under common law. First party actions did not. When the Legislature enacted Fla. Stat.

624.155, it created that cause of action for first party claims and codified the Supreme Court's holding in Thompson which permitted a third party action to be brought by the injured plaintiff without going through the defendant insured. What the Legislature gives, however, the Legislature can take away and the creation of the sixty day cure period did just that for first party actions. It did not, however, eliminate third party actions or the holding in Cunningham v. Standard Guar. Ins. Co., 630 So. 2d 179 (Fla. 1994) that permitted the plaintiff to bring those third party actions directly.

Thus, where a carrier fails to settle a claim when good faith demands a settlement and a resultant excess verdict is rendered, a common law cause of action for bad faith may be brought either by the insured or the injured third party even though the carrier has cured its bad faith under the statutory cause of action.

NOTE: BECAUSE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE HAVE REQUESTED COPIES OF PAST ARTICLES, A COMPILATION OF THESE ARTICLES IS NOW AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION, FREE OF CHARGE, BY CALLING (561) 684-2500.

Rainmaking 101



by Mark Powers
Rainmaking Lesson Two

Hopefully you have read Lesson Number One and have started to identify the "ideal" client types for each of your practice areas. Though it may sound simple, recognizing whom you best serve is an important first step in building a successful practice. Here's why: the quality of your practice – and how much you enjoy working

in your practice – is directly correlated to the quality of your clients.

If you, like many of your colleagues, have stocked your practice with clients that aren't a good fit – you'll spend much of your career feeling frustrated and unappreciated. In addition, you'll never realize your income potential. Our research has shown that if you were to apply Pareto's Principle, also known as the "80/20 rule" to your client base, you would probably find that 80% of your income comes from 20% to 40% of your clients! In this lesson you will learn the power of this principle and how to apply it to your practice.

Most of you know from your own experience that all clients are not created equal – but haven't yet learned to trust your instincts during the intake process. You may recognize that the client that darkens your door with a page ripped out of the phone book is not quite the same as those sent by your best referral source – but you give everyone the benefit of the doubt. Don't. Become more rigorous in your screening procedures. Carefully selecting the clients you work with not only improves your morale, it minimizes collection problems and has the added benefit of protecting you against malpractice problems in the future.

The Four Client Types

There are four levels of client types. We call them "A", "B", "C" and "D" clients. Each level is judged on certain general criteria: the ability to pay; having needs consistent with your expertise; their ability to cooperate; their opinion of attorneys in general; whether they are high or low maintenance; their ability to be satisfied with services rendered; and the likelihood of sending more work or quality referrals. In addition, practice specific criteria should also be developed that relate to the viability of the prospective client's case.

In this ranking system, which you can custom fit to your particular practice areas, "A" and "B" matters are the good, "C" matters are the bad, and "D" matters are downright ugly.

Who Are Your "A" and "B" Clients?

Our studies show that the "A" and "B" clients for most practice areas typically comprise 20% of your client base. Hidden among the other clients you serve, they are usually a small, quiet, but vitally important group. How important are they? As mentioned before, they will generate a hefty 60% - 80% of your revenues and only take up 20% - 40% of your time. In addition, they pay their bills; appreciate the value of the work you do for them; cooperate with you; show up on time and send quality referrals. In short, these are the clients you actually enjoy working with! They are the low maintenance clients that bring you the kind of matters that fit your expertise. They are not-crisis driven and they trust your opinion. These are the clients that tend to get lost in the shuffle as you scramble to handle the constant demands of your "C" and "D" clients.

The Next Step

If you find you have stocked your practice with "C" and "D" clients – conduct a "housecleaning." Most attorneys are appalled to discover how many problematic clients they work with. But there is a solution – follow the steps listed below to conduct your own "housecleaning". If you have any doubt during this process and begin to vacillate on whether or not a client is appropriate for you – ask your staff. "C" and "D" level clients often treat your staff poorly or take up an unreasonable amount of their time.

Rank your current clients and consider referring out, closing, or letting go of all the "D's" and most of the "C" clients.

You can do this in person, over the telephone, or by letter. Your bar will typically have sample disengagement letters that you can use. If the issue is nonpayment, you are not ethically bound to continue work for a client that is not paying you. (*Litigators must be careful here – confer with your trial judge.*)

3. Avoid working with more "C" and "D" clients! Refine your intake selection so you don't admit them in to your practice in the first place!

Fortunately, "C" and "D" clients don't sneak into your practice unannounced. They usually arrive waving several red flags. And you welcome them in. Often because you need the money – hoping that uneasy feeling you felt upon meeting them was just heartburn. Ironically, the client that you take because you need the money ends up taking your time and not paying you for it. Begin to trust that uneasy feeling – it might be trying to tell you that you are getting involved with the wrong kind of client.

Mark Powers is the President of Atticus, Inc. and a regular contributor to the SBA Rainmaker Section. Mark co-authored "The Making of a Rainmaker: An Ethical Approach to Marketing for Solo and Small Firm Practitioners" and founded RainmakersTM, a simple process for attorneys at all levels to stay focused on marketing, creating fresh ideas, and on-going accountability to marketing. To learn more about Atticus or RainmakersTM, please visit the Atticus website at www.atticusonline.com or contact the Atticus office at 407-644-1572.

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The Palm Beach County Bar Association has created a "100 Club". The 100% Club is a special category of membership that demonstrates a commitment to the legal profession and our community from law firms, law departments and legal organizations with more than three attorneys who enroll 100% of their attorneys as members of the Palm Beach County Bar Association. The 100 Club listing will be published quarterly in the newsletter as well as posted on our website.

Show your firm's support in the Palm Beach County Bar by becoming a member of the 100% Club. It's easy! If you think your firm is eligible, fax a copy of your firm's letterhead and a contact name to (561) 687-9007, Attn: Nancy Reidler and we'll let you know!

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Bulletin

Bulletin Board

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PROFESSIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

SCOTT SUSKAUER: Board Certified Criminal Trial Lawyer. All criminal matters in State and Federal Court including felonies, misdemeanors, DUI and traffic matters, 1601 Forum Place, Ste. 1200, WPB, FL 33401; 561-687-7866.

GREGORY TENDRICH, Esq: Former Series 7 licensed VP & Asst. General Counsel to local & national (First Union & Wachovia) NYSE/NASD brokerage firms, and current NASD Arbitrator and Florida Supreme Court Certified County Court Mediator, is available to mediate investment-related matters, including prudent-investor and commercial disputes. Mr. Tendrich also accepts referrals and is available to co-counsel or consult in investment-related matters, SEC, NASD, NYSE and other regulatory enforcement matters. Please call 561-417-8777 or visit our website www.yourstocklawyer.com.

MARK R. HANSON: All admiralty and maritime matters, including personal injury actions, boating accidents, cruise line injuries and insurance claims. 240 Tenth Street, West Palm Beach, FL 33401, (561) 833-7828 Mhanson@PalmBeachInjuryLawyer.com.

W. GREY TESH: aaacriminaldefense.com, Criminal Defense Attorney. Over 50 jury trials. Former assistant public defender experience in felony, misdemeanors, juvenile, and appeals. Federal and State cases. Past Director, Palm Beach Association Criminal Defense Lawyers, 1610 Southern Blvd. WPB, FL 33406. greytesh@aaacriminaldefense.com (561) 686-6886.

MICHAEL J. MCHALE: Board Certified Admiralty and Maritime Lawyer. All maritime and admiralty matters in State and Federal Court including personal injury, seizures of vessels, limitation of liability, purchase and sale of boats, cruise ships injuries, longshore claims, and BUIs. (561) 835-3660, admar1@earthlink.net and www.admiraltyatty.com.

CHRISTOPHER HOPKINS: Appellate counsel for appeals in state and federal courts. Mr. Hopkins focuses on state appeals, particularly personal injury and malpractice. Cole, Scott & Kissane, P.A., 1645 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., 2nd Floor, WPB, FL 33401; Email: Hopkins@csklegal.com.

MICHELLE MIGDAL/JUDITH B. MIGDAL-MACK: Over 20 years experience- defense against DCF, Juvenile Law, Mediation and Family Law. 1903 S. Congress Ave, Suite 320, Boynton Beach, Florida 33426. (561) 364-0670 migdal@bellsouth.net.

OFFICE SPACE:

DOWNTOWN WPB: Space for 1 attorney and secretary. Use of conference room, library, phone system, DSL line, copier, etc. Furnished or unfurnished. Please call 683-4000.

AVAILABLE DECEMBER 1, 2006:

Two executive suites in the Via Jardin Building, located at 330 Clematis Street. \$500/month (short/long term). Receptionist service and use of two conference rooms included. Use of phone lines, fax, copier, high speed internet, Westlaw and secretarial spaces also available. Possible referrals. Call 721-0192.

LAKE WORTH: Office space available in a well established law firm for an attorney and secretary. Includes receptionist, conference room, copier, DSL line, and phone system. US 1 & Lucerne area. Possible referrals. Harvey, Waddell, Monahan & Layton. Call Dan at 561-585-4640.

OFFICE SPACE, EAST BOCA RATON:

Downtown private office, furnished conference room, secretarial area, waiting room, and complete office equipmentshare with established law practice. Call Art D'Almeida P.A. @ 561-368-4674. 105 East Palmetto Park.

Bulletin Board

BOCA RATON: One private windowed office with separate secretarial area in 5 attorney prestigious office. Sanctuary Centre (Yamato Road and Federal Highway). Class "A" office building, close to I-95. Includes covered garage parking, use of office facilities (conference room, kitchen, etc.). Contact Steve at (561) 367-7785 or sgmatty@aol.com.

OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE in Royal Palm Beach. 1,250 sq.ft. in almost new, free standing, Spanish style building adjacent to Urgent Care Medical Center corner Okeechobee Blvd. and Ponce. Space is comprised of one executive office, waiting area, several larger rooms, plus bathroom. Parking front and rear. Perfect for attorney who is just starting up a practice. \$23.00 per foot- gross (\$2,395.83/month). Available immediately. Annual lease. Contact Jim at 954-415-5208 or email jim@intermedhealthcare.com.

HEARSAY

The Shavitz Law Group is proud to announce its move to South City Plaza located at 1515 South Federal Highway, Suite 404, Boca Raton. The firm has consistently earned the distinction of an "AV Rating" by Martindale Hubbell.

The law firm of Rutherford Mulhall, P.A. is pleased to announce that **Charles Rutherford** has been elected to the Executive Committee of the Economic Council, **John Banister** was recently named 2007 Chairman for the Gulfstream Goodwill, and **Tracy Mitchell** was recently appointed as the Committee Chair for the Newsletter Committee of the T. Malcolm Cunningham Sr. Bar Association.



John Romano, senior partner in the West Palm Beach law firm of Romano, Eriksen & Cronin was selected as a Florida Super Lawyer in the "Florida

Super Lawyers 2006." Mr. Romano is an AV rated, board certified civil trial attorney practicing in the areas of commercial litigation, personal injury and wrongful death, medical malpractice, toxic torts, products liability and criminal defense.



The law offices of Shapiro, Blasi, Wasserman & Gora, P.A. is pleased to announce that Matrimonial Law Attorney **Brenda Abrams** has joined the firm under its Family Law practice

area. Ms. Abrams, a member of The American Academy of Matrimonial

Lawyers, has consistently been listed as one of the Best Lawyers in America.

Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs, P.A. announced that the 2007 issue of the South Florida Legal Guide named Jones Foster as a *Top Law Firm*. The following lawyers were named *Top Lawyers*: Larry Alexander, David Bowers, Margaret Cooper, Scott Hawkins, John C. "Skip" Randolph, Sidney Stubbs and H. Adams Weaver. Also, the following lawyers were named *Top Up and Comers*: C.Wade Bowden, Joanne O'Connor and Roberto Vargas.

Scott N. Richardson, Esq. is pleased to announce the formation of his own firm, **SCOTT N. RICHARDSON, P.A.**, specializing in the area of criminal defense effective January 1, 2007.

James Beasley, Jr., the senior partner of the law firm of Beasley Hauser Kramer Leonard & Galardi, P.A. was listed as one of the *Top Lawyers* in South Florida 2007 Annual Edition of the South Florida Legal Guide. Patricia Leonard, a partner at the firm, was listed as one of the *Top Up and Comers* and the entire law firm was listed as one of the *Top Law Firms*.

MISCELLANEOUS

FSBO Siena Oaks CBS Lake Waterfront 3/2/2 Bright spacious split floor plan home. Vaulted ceilings, Sliders, French doors, Big closets & shower. Friendly neighbors, convenient to shopping, WPB & private schools, walk to Allamanda Elementary. Low HOA incl. Lawn care & cable. Community Tennis & Htd Pool. \$425M neg. 561-762-5039.

IN SEARCH OF A WILL: If you or anyone you know, has written a will for the late Betty Jane Dean, other than the one filed with the Clerk of Courts, contact the office of Richard Bagdasarian 561-998-7808.



Sherry L. Hyman, Esquire Arbitrator/Mediator



- J.D.-University of Florida College of Law (1975)
- Board Certified in Real Estate
- Certified Circuit Mediator
- Qualified Florida Arbitrator
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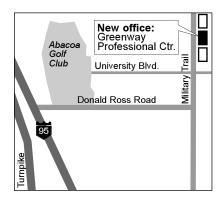
THE LAW OFFICE OF SHERRY L. HYMAN, PLLC 3801 PGA Blvd., Suite 107 / Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410 561-744-7231 / 561-329-2990 / Fax: 561-744-3140 / slhyman@aol.com

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In orraine O'Hanlon Rogers will be the Managing Member of the Firm's Northern Palm Beach County office. She focuses her practice on employment law defense, including Title VII, ADA accommodation, Family and Medical Leave Act and Fair Labor Standards Act litigation. Both her undergraduate and law degrees are from the University of Florida. She is admitted to practice in Florida, before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit and all federal courts in Florida.

E-mail: lrogers@schwarzberglaw.com

rerry A. Raleigh and Larry A. Strauss will join Ms. Rogers at the Northern Palm Beach County office. Ms. Raleigh focuses her employment practice on counseling and commercial litigation, including Title VII, ADA accommodation, Family and Medical Leave Act and Fair Labor Standards Act litigation. Mr. Strauss focuses his practice on civil and commercial litigation, including real estate,

bankruptcy (creditors), health care, trademarks and Internet matters. Prior to becoming an attorney, he worked as a journalist for nine years. Both are admitted to practice in Florida. Raleigh is also admitted in Ohio. Strauss is admitted before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit, the U.S. Supreme Court and all federal courts in Florida.

E-mail: larry@schwarzberglaw.com or kraleigh@schwarzberglaw.com

ABOUT THE FIRM

We are a litigation boutique focused on complex commercial litigation and employment law defense.

OUR ATTORNEYS

Steven L. Schwarzberg Lorraine O. Rogers Larry A. Strauss David I. Spector Ellen M. Leibovitch Scott W. Atherton

Christopher S. Duke Arlene K. Kline Venus A. Zilieris Timothy W. Schulz Kerry A. Raleigh Justin A. Kaplan*

* Florida Bar admission is pending.

OUR PRACTICE AREAS

- Appellate practice
- Administrative law
- Bankruptcy (creditor)
- Commercial litigation
- Employment law defense
- Health care litigation
- Insurance litigation
- Intellectual property litigation
- Probate litigation
- Real estate litigation

Main Office

Esperanté Building 222 Lakeview Avenue, Suite 210 West Palm Beach, FL 33401 Phone: (561) 659-3300 Fax: (561) 659-1911

www.schwarzberglaw.com



Monday, January 1 **Court Holiday – Office** Closed

Wednesday, January 3, 12:00 p.m. North County Section Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 9, 12:00 p.m. **South County Membership Luncheon** Muvico, Boca Raton

Contact Stephanie Ginsburg at (561) 482-3838

January 9, 12:00 p.m. **Young Lawyers Section Board Meeting** Bar Association Office

January 10, 12:00 p.m. Small Firm & Solo Practitioners Luncheon Bar Association Office

January 11, 8:30 a.m.

The Florida Bar Basic Real
Estate 2006 Video-Seminar
Bar Association Office

January 11, 5:30 p.m. North County Section Dinner River House in Palm Beach Gardens

January 12, 8:30 a.m. **ADR Committee Meeting**Bar Association Office

January 15 **Court Holiday – Office Closed** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 16, 12:00 p.m. Family Law Practice Committee Meeting Law Library

January 16, 12:00 p.m. **Historical Committee Meeting**Bar Association Office

January 17 - 19 **The Florida Bar Midyear Meeting** Miami, FL January 17, 12:15 p.m. Juvenile Practice Committee Meeting

January 17, 1:00 p.m. **Legal Aid Family Law Seminar** Legal Aid Office

January 17, 6:00p.m.

Small Claims/Mediation Clinic
Library on Summit Blvd.

January 19, 8:00 a.m.

Real Estate CLE

Committee Seminar

Bar Association Office

January 19, 12:00 p.m. **Federal Bar Luncheon** Colony Hotel, Palm Beach

January 19, 12:00 p.m. Cunningham Bar Association Meeting Law Library

January 19, 12:00 p.m. **Real Estate CLE Committee Meeting** Bar Association Office January 20, 8:00 a.m. Young Lawyers Section Holidays in January Distribution

January 23, 12:00 p.m.

Independence of Judiciary
Committee Meeting
Bar Association Office

January 23, 12:00 p.m. Membership Committee Meeting Bar Association Office

January 25, 5:00 p.m. **PBCBA Board Meeting** Bar Association Office

January 26, 12:00 p.m.

Membership Luncheon
Guest Speaker:

The Honorable Samuel Alito
Cohen Pavilion at the Kravis
Center

January 29, 8:30 p.m. **Employment Law CLE Seminar** Bar Association Office



PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

1601 Belvedere Road, Suite 302 East, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

PAST PRESIDENTS...

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* DECEASED

FLORIDA BAR PRESIDENT

*** DECEASED, FLORIDA BAR PRESIDENT, SUPREME COURT JUSTICE
**** DECEASED, FLORIDA DAD DECIDENT

**** DECEASED, FLORIDA BAR PRESIDENT

DECEASED, FLORIDA BAR FRESIDENT, FEDERAL COURT JUDGE

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