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Broward County Bar Association BARRISTER

APRIL 2010 • WWW.BROWARDBAR.ORG • 954-764-8040 • VOLUME 41, ISSUE 4

Broward County Bar Association Board of Directors Elections

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must be submitted by April 15, 2010

www.browardbar.org/vote

See Pages 7-11 for candidates' information

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Happy April Fools Day

PARTY!
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Thursday, April 1, 2010
5:30-7:30
VOLO's O-Lounge
317 East Las Olas Blvd.
(Back by popular demand!)

Legal Aid... It's no joke!
Cost: \$10.00 (non-members)
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Free to judiciary

What is NEXT?
For more information and to RSVP go to www.legalaid.org

RAISING THE BAR- Family Law Seminar

Friday, April 16, 2010

8:30AM-4:00PM

Hilton, Fort Lauderdale, Marina

Featuring Judges of the Family Law Division:

- The Honorable Susan Greenhawt
- The Honorable Susan J. Aramony
- The Honorable Marina Garcia-Wood
- The Honorable Arthur M. Birken
- The Honorable Ronald J. Rothschild

See page 3 for more information.

St. Thomas More Society of South Florida 21st Annual Red Mass, Reception & Dinner Wednesday, June 2, 2010

Red Mass Celebrated by Archbishop John C. Favalora,

6:00p.m.

St. Anthony Catholic Church

901 NE 2nd Street

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Complimentary Reception- 7:30p.m.

Dinner- 8:30p.m.

Marriott Harbor Beach Resort

3030 Holiday Drive

Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Guest Speaker: United States Senator George S. LeMieux

\$65 per person

Limited Seating/ Reservations only/ Reservation deadline is May 14, 2010

Mail Checks, made payable to "St. Thomas More Society", to:

Donald A. Wich, Jr. Esq.

2400 East Commercial Blvd., Suite #620

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

Professionalism Seminar- 3 Florida Bar CLE Credits

May 21, 2010

9:00 a.m – Noon

Gibraltar Bank Community Room, 450 East Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale

For more information about the St. Thomas More Society, visit the website at www.redmass.com

or call 954-776-1600.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL 2010

Thursday, April 1st:

BCBA's Professionalism Committee Meeting. 5:15p.m. Broward County Bar Association. Contact Jim Cobb for more information, 954-712-4961.

Thursday, April 1st:

Legal Aid Service of Broward County, Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida and NEXT, invites you to its Happy April Fools Day Party. 5:30p.m.- 7:30p.m. YOLO's O Lounge, 333 East Las Olas Blvd. Cost: \$10 for non-members; \$5 for members; FREE to Judiciary. For more information or to RSVP go to www.legalaid.org.

Friday, April 2nd:

BCBA Closed due to Good Friday.

Monday, April 5th:

17G Grievance Committee Meeting. 2:00p.m. BCBA conference room, 1051 SE 3rd Ave., Fort Lauderdale.

Tuesday, April 6th:

Solo/ Small Law Firm Networking Lunch. Noon. Bimini Boat Yard, 1555 SE 17th Street, Ft. Lauderdale (954) 525-7400. RSVP to: Beth Lindie (954) 765-5400 or blindie@lawyers.com.

Friday, April 9th:

Solo/ Small Law Firm Networking Lunch. Noon. Olive Garden in Coral Springs. 1555 N. University Drive, (954) 344-5226, RSVP to: Evan Ostfeld (954) 227-7529 or Evan@Attorney4life.com.

Friday, April 9

Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Training. Combined ON LINE and Live Seminar. 9am – 5 pm. \$249. Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 3003 North University Drive, Sunrise, FL 33322 Contact Christopher Shulman, 813-935-9922. Register online www.adrservices.biz

Saturday, April 10th:

4 Hour Minor Guardianship Class. 9:00a.m.- 1:00p.m. Norma B. Howard Bar Center, 1051 SE 3rd Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Cost: \$100. Attorneys welcome, approved by the Florida Bar for CLE Credits. To sign up please contact Tish at 954-764-8040 Ext. 200.

Tuesday, April 13th:

BCBA Board of Directors Meeting. 5:15p.m. Broward County Bar Association, 1051 SE 3rd Ave., Fort Lauderdale.

Thursday, April 15th:

The Puerto Rican Bar Association of Florida Scholarship Foundation presents: Nuyorican Network Bash. 6:00P.M. City National Bank of Florida, 450 East Las Olas Blvd. Fort Lauderdale. Admission \$15. Please RSVP by 4/12/2010 to Lisa@menendezlawfirm.com or call 954-963-7220.

Friday, April 16th:

Raising the Bar Family Law Seminar. Hilton, Fort Lauderdale Marina. 8:30a.m.- 4:00p.m. Cost: \$125 BCBA members; \$150 non-BCBA members; \$75 for attorneys willing to accept a Legal Aid pro bono case; complimentary to members of the Judiciary. For more information log on to www.browardbar.org or call 954-764-8040.

Friday, April 16th:

Solo/ Small Law Firm Networking Lunch. Noon. Champs, 6401 N. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale (954) 491-9335, RSVP to: Jane Bolin (954) 316-1339 or jane@peytonbolin.com.

Friday, April 16th:

A CLE presented by the NSU Law Alumni Association. 12:40- 5:30p.m. Topic: "2010 Timely Topics for All Lawyers". Registration fees are waived for paid lifetime members of the NSU Law Alumni Association, \$25 for NSU Law Alumni, and \$75 for all other online registrants. Payment at the door is \$100. Limited space is available. A complimentary reception will follow the CLE presentation. For more information, please contact Marilyn Eisler, Esq. Director of Alumni Affairs, Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center, 954-262-6303, eislerm@nsu.law.nova.edu.

Saturday, April 17th:

8 Hour Adult Guardianship Class. 9:00a.m.- 5:00p.m. Norma B. Howard Bar Center, 1051 SE 3rd Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Cost: \$180. Guardian for anyone over the age of 18. Attorneys welcome, approved by the Florida Bar for CLE Credits. To sign up please contact Tish at 954-764-8040 Ext. 200.

Tuesday, April 20th:

BCBA Bench and Bar Committee Meeting. Noon. Norma B. Howard Bar Center, 1051 SE 3rd Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Tuesday, April 20th:

17H Grievance Committee Meeting. 2:00p.m. BCBA conference room, 1051 SE 3rd Ave., Fort Lauderdale.

Friday, April 23rd:

Solo/ Small Law Firm Networking Lunch. Noon. Olive Garden in Plantation. 807 S. University Dr. Plantation (954) 424-7201, RSVP to: John Rizvi (954) 452-0033 or johnrizvi@ideaattorneys.com.

Tuesday, April 27th:

Solo/ Small Law Firm Networking Lunch. Noon. The Ark, 6233 Stirling Road, Hollywood (954) 584-3075, RSVP to: David Silverstone (954) 367-0770 or david@dsilverstone.com.

Friday, April 30th:

Solo/ Small Law Firm Networking Lunch. Noon. East City Grill, 1800 Bell Tower Lane, Weston, Weston Town Center, (954) 659-3339, RSVP to: Rick Woolf (954) 252-0043 or rwoolf@woolffinancial.com.

Monday, May 3rd:

17G Grievance Committee Meeting. 2:00p.m. BCBA Offices in Fort Lauderdale.

Tuesday, May 4th:

BCBA Probate and Trust Section Seminar. 5:30p.m. Norma B. Howard Bar Center, 1051 SE 3rd Ave., Fort Lauderdale. 1 CLE Credit. Cost: \$15 for BCBA members and \$25 for non-members. For more information contact David Luber at 954-920-2886.

Thursday, May 6th:

Broward County Bar Association Young Lawyers' Section Judicial Reception. 5:30p.m.- 7:30p.m. New River Center Rotunda, 200 East Las Olas Blvd. (Sun-Sentinel Building- S.W. Corner of Las Olas Blvd. & SE 3rd Ave.) Cost: \$35 for BCBA members; \$45 for non-members. For sponsorship information or to RSVP please contact Shayna Reitman, Esq. smr@fowler-white.com or 954-377-8175.

Friday, May 7th:

Broward County Bar Association Law Day Luncheon. Noon. Speaker: Jesse H. Diner, President of The Florida Bar. Tower Club, Fort Lauderdale. Sponsorships available. Individual seats are \$35 per person, members of the judiciary are complimentary. E-mail questions to angel@hallrosenberg.com. or RSVP to Broward County Bar Association at 954-764-8040.

Saturday, May 8th:

4 Hour Minor Guardianship Class. 9:00a.m.- 1:00p.m. Norma B. Howard Bar Center, 1051 SE 3rd Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Cost: \$100. Attorneys welcome, approved by the Florida Bar for CLE Credits. To sign up please contact Tish at 954-764-8040 Ext. 200.

Tuesday, May 11th:

BCBA Board of Directors Meeting. 5:15p.m. BCBA Conference Room in Fort Lauderdale.

Tuesday, May 11th:

North Broward Bar Monthly Meeting. Speaker: Howard Forman, Clerk of Courts. Galuppi's Restaurant, located at the Pompano Municipal and golf course, 1103 North Federal highway, Pompano Beach, Florida 33062. For more information contact President, Tom Oates at toates@pompanolaw.com.

Thursday, May 13th:

BCBA's West Regional Luncheon. Noon- 2:30p.m. Jacaranda Country Club, 9200 West Broward blvd. Plantation. For more information contact the BCBA at 954-764-8040.

Friday, May 14th:

Legal Aid's 9th Annual "For the Public Good". Hilton Fort Lauderdale Marina. 6:00p.m.- 10:00p.m. Ticket price: \$150. To be a sponsor of this event or to purchase an ad in the program/journal contact: Kathy Thomsen, Director of Development, Legal Aid service of Broward County, Inc. 954-736-2429 or kthomsen@legalaid.org.

Saturday, May 15th:

8 Hour Adult Guardianship Class. 9:00a.m.- 5:00p.m. Norma B. Howard Bar Center, 1051 SE 3rd Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Cost: \$180. Guardian for anyone over the age of 18. Attorneys welcome, approved by the Florida Bar for CLE Credits. To sign up please contact Tish at 954-764-8040 Ext. 200.

MAY 2010

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The Broward County Bar Association, Broward County Bar Association Family Law Section and Legal Aid Service of Broward County Present

RAISING THE BAR - Family Law Seminar

Friday, April 16, 2010 • 8:30AM-4:00PM

Hilton, Fort Lauderdale, Marina, 1881 SE 17th Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Honorary Presenters:

The Honorable Susan Greenhawt
The Honorable Susan J. Aramony
The Honorable Marina Garcia-Wood
The Honorable Arthur M. Birken
The Honorable Ronald J. Rothschild

\$125 BCBA members; \$150 non-BCBA members
\$75 private attorneys willing to accept a Legal Aid pro bono case; Complimentary to the Judiciary

Register on line at www.browardbar.org and click on Upcoming Events.

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Contact Art Goldberg, Executive Director, Broward County Bar Association
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Gold Sponsorship \$500 includes:

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Name prominently displayed on signage at event
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For more information contact: Arthur Goldberg artg@browardbar.org (954) 764-8040 or Denise Jensen dlj@gwpa.com (954) 761-9994 or Kimberly Zaffere kzaffere@legalaid.org (954) 736-2426

Raising the Bar April 16

AGENDA

- 8:30 – 9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:05 – 10:15 Basic Immigration for Family Law
G. Yasmin Jacob, Esq.
- 10:15 – 10:45 Representing the Victim of Domestic Violence, Repeat Violence, Dating Violence or Sexual Violence
Mindy Jones, Esq., Marta Estevez, Esq.
- 10:45 – 11:45 Ethics for Family Law Attorneys
The Honorable Ronald J. Rothschild, Bruno Di Giulian, Esq.
- 11:45 – 1:00 Lunch Presentation:
Practice & Procedure Tips from the Bench
The Honorable Susan J. Aramony
The Honorable Arthur M. Birken
The Honorable Marina Garcia-Wood
The Honorable Susan F. Greenhawt
The Honorable Ronald J. Rothschild
- 1:00 – 1:15 Break
- 1:15 – 1:45 Sunbathing on the Molten Banks of Hell
A Divorce Survival Guide
Kenneth A. Gordon, Esq., Allyson Tomchin, LCSW
- 1:45 – 2:30 Surprise Presentation by General Magistrates
GM Melinda Kirsch Brown, GM Randi Glick Boven
GM Phoebe Francois, GM Nicholas Lopane
GM Giuseppina Miranda
- 2:30 – 4:30 5 Decades of Family Law – Where We Were, Where We Are and Where We Are Going
Moderated by Cynthia L. Greene, Esq.



 Judge Edward Rodgers
  Judge Wilter Colbeth (Ret.)
  Cathleen Scott, Esq.
  Michael Gelfand, Esq.

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  Deborah Baker, Esq.
  David Horvath, Esq.
  John Henneberger, Esq.

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  Louis Pfeffer, Esq.
  Richard Meehan, Esq.
  Maura Curran, Esq.
  Frederick W. Ford, Esq.

 Kolleen Bylcw, Esq.
  Connie Kerwick, Esq.
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  Judith A. Ripps, Esq.
  Donna Melissa, Esq.

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  Terry Watterson, Esq.
  Ryan Copple, Esq.
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Carlos M. Llorente

It seems that current events dictate what I may write in the President's Message these days. Many of you called or wrote to me expressing positive comments about last month's Message, and I thank you for those comments. This month I will briefly touch upon the other "elephant in the room" as I want to write about more important matters such as the upcoming LAW DAY events and the Kick-Off of The Florida Bar's ONE Campaign.

So what is the other "elephant in the room"? Some of you may have read a little bit about it in the Daily Business Review. During last month's BCBA Board meeting, I asked the Chair of our Professionalism Committee, Jim Cobb, to convene his committee and investigate issues of professionalism and ethics related to a local blog operated by a local attorney. I did not ask the Committee to focus on any one lawyer or group of lawyers but rather to look at and address all of it. After the committee completes its review, it will report to BCBA Board. Comments or action, if any, will follow a Board discussion and decision on the matter.

The Chairs of BCBA Standing Committees have the autonomy to decide how Committee meetings are conducted. The Professionalism Committee meeting is closed to all but Committee members and those the Chair, or the Committee, may invite. However, I have asked Jim to accept comments and opinions from duly enrolled members of the BCBA either before or after the meeting.

If you are a duly enrolled member of the BCBA and wish to comment, please send your comments to info@browardbar.org. Although comments and opinions may be shared without identifying the author, the Association will not accept or consider anonymous comments or opinions.

As I have publicly stated, I will not comment on the matter until the Committee has reported to the Board and the Board has acted upon the report and recommendations, if any. However, those of you who know me well will know why I feel compelled to write these two brief personal observations. This message is for all lawyers. If

you are going to write comments or opinions for the rest of the world to see, write to make an impact, not a scene. And for God's sake, write prose befitting the degrees bestowed upon you by colleges and universities and the education you, or your parents, may have paid for.

Now, on to more important topics: The Chair of LAW DAY events, Angel Petti Rosenberg informs me that this year's LAW DAY luncheon will be special. For one, the Keynote Speaker is the President of The Florida Bar, Jesse Diner. The Florida Bar will launch the ONE Campaign at the luncheon and you must attend to hear more about NEXT, a series of fun networking events. The luncheon is at the Tower Club at noon on May 7, 2010 - seating is limited, so please RSVP as soon as you can.

Another key LAW DAY event is the Speakers Bureau. BCBA members will put on a series of law related topics for the general public and present them at the libraries. There is still time to sign up to be a speaker or a sponsor. Anyone interested in being either a speaker or sponsor, should contact Art Goldberg at art@browardbar.org.

The perception of lawyers in the public's eye is not always accurate or fair. Oftentimes news events concerning lawyers focus more on the negatives than the positives and help shape those perceptions. Despite it all, the profession remains honorable, dignified and one of trust. LAW DAY is our day to show the public what we stand for: honor, trust, charity to name a few.

Law firms such as Kelley, Uustal and Berger, Singerman, have stepped up to host events or lead some of the wonderful initiatives that will be highlighted on LAW DAY. With those two firms having set the example, I will ask that each law firm, whether a sole practitioner or a 100 lawyer firm, either create, start or follow through on ideas or projects that will benefit the public or pledge to support any of the LAW DAY events or Campaigns. Also, please tell us about your project, event or pledge. I hope all of you will participate and I look forward to seeing everyone at the events.



A Message from Michael B. Gilden President, Young Lawyers' Section

This month I am going to start my message by relating a personal story that I think can be helpful to all lawyers, young and more experienced. I recently sat for The Florida Bar Board Certification exam in Marital & Family Law which was given this past March in Tampa. Board Certification exams were being administered at the same time for a wide variety of specialties. Practitioners from all over the state, of varying levels of years of practice and experience, were present to take exams in their individual areas of the law.

As I write this article, I do not know if I passed the exam, but I can say without a doubt that the preparation experience, although not fun, was well worth the time. Many of us get caught up in our day-to-day practices and we lose sight of some of the finer points of what we do for a living. While I cannot speak for any other specialty area, I would guess that as is the case with Family Law, the devil is in the details. By studying to become Board Certified, it is the details that make all of the difference. The Florida Bar encourages Board Certification, amongst other reasons, as a way to truly hone your craft. There is no doubt in my mind that there is no better way to become a better lawyer than by preparing for one of these exams. I strongly encourage anyone who focuses their practice in a particular area to consider applying for, preparing for, and sitting for a Board Certification exam. Even without knowing if I was successful or not, I can say that the experience alone has made me stronger at what I do each day.

On to YLS business... the YLS Judicial Reception scheduled for Thursday, May 6, 2010 at the New River Center Rotunda is drawing near. We have gotten a great response from our Judges and General Magistrates. There are still sponsorships available for this event and becoming a sponsor demonstrates your appreciation for all of the hard work put forth by our Judiciary. Flyers describing the sponsorship opportunities that are available, as well as how to purchase tickets for the event are available in the Barrister, as well as attached to our e-mails and posted in the courthouse. I encourage

you to contact the events co-chair, Shayna M. Reitman at (954) 377-8175 for more information.

Our next event up after the Judicial Reception is our Family Day which will be on May 23rd. Please be on the look out for more information coming soon on this fantastic event.

If anyone has any questions about how they can participate with or in the Young Lawyers Section, please feel free to call me at Kopelowitz Ostrow Ferguson Weiselberg Keechl at (954) 525-4100 or gilden@kolawyers.com.

Young Lawyers' Calendar

May 6, 2010- YLS Judicial Reception
June 6, 2010- YLS Family Day at TY Park, Hollywood.

The Broward Barrister is published by the Broward County Bar Association a part of our commitment to provide membership with information relating to issues and concerns on the local level. Opinions and positions expressed in the signed materials are those of the author and may not necessarily reflect the views of this publication or the Broward County Bar Association.

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BROWARD COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
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BCBA's West Regional Luncheon

Thursday May 13, 2010

Noon- 2:30p.m.

Jacaranda Country Club, Plantation

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St. Thomas More Society Ethics and Professionalism Seminar

The Service of Justice Through More Than Ethical Practice

An interactive discussion of timely issues relating to the service of justice through ethical and professional practices.

May 21, 2010

9:00 a.m – Noon

Gibraltar Bank Community Room, 450 East Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale

This presentation is free to members of the St. Thomas More Society

Non – Members: \$ 30 advance purchase, \$ 40 at the door

Lawyers admitted to practice for less than 5 years: \$ 5


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Send to: Attn: Thomas R. Tatum, 200 East Las Olas Boulevard, Suite 1900

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

For More Information Contact: Thomas R. Tatum at 954-522-2200 tom.tatum@brinkleymorgan.com

Submitted to The Florida Bar for 3.0 CLE ethics credits





2010 Election Calendar

Ballots will be E-mailed **Ballots to be submitted**
April 1 **April 15**
Results released
May 15

Office of Treasurer- One available seat to be filled in the 2010 Election
Central Area- Three available seats to be filled in the 2010 Election
Southeast Area- Two available seats to be filled in the 2010 Election
Southwest Area- One available seat to be filled in the 2010 Election

2010 Candidates by Geographical Area

Term of office: July 01, 2010- June 30, 2011



President - Unopposed Bruce Weihe

AV-rated Commercial Litigation attorney with Seiler Sautter Zaden Rimes & Weihe. Active in local and state Bar matters (Young Lawyers' Board of Governors, Professional Ethics, and Florida Bar Standing Committee on Professionalism) for over 30 years. B.A., Davidson College; J.D., U. Florida College of Law.



President Elect - Unopposed Jordana Goldstein

Jordana Goldstein is Board Certified by the Florida Bar in Construction Law and is AV Rated by Martindale-Hubbell. Ms. Goldstein is a partner with Ferencik Libanoff Brandt Bustamante & Williams, P.A. where she has worked for the past thirteen years. Notable client work includes representation of owners, contractors, subcontractors, design professionals and other commercial entities in litigation, arbitration and contract negotiations. An active member of the legal community, Ms. Goldstein currently serves as the Treasurer of the Broward County Bar Association (BCBA) and has also served as the Secretary of the BCBA from 2008-2009 and has been a member of the Board of Directors of the BCBA from 2005 to the present. Ms. Goldstein served as the President of the Young Lawyers Section of the BCBA from 2003-2004. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the BCBA Committee Chair Award in 2007, Paul May Young Lawyers Section Professionalism Award in 2005, BCBA Outstanding Service Award in 2000, Outstanding Volunteer Service Award from Florida's Department of Children and Families in 2002, and the Public/Private Partnership Corporate Award from Florida's Department of Children and Families in 2000. She is also a member of the National Association of Women in Construction and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the B'nai B'rith Justice Unit #5207. Ms. Goldstein is licensed to practice law in the State of Florida and the District of Columbia as well as the U.S. District Court for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida. She graduated magna cum laude from The George Washington University in 1991 and obtained her law degree from The University of Miami School of Law in 1994.



Secretary Elect - Unopposed Alan Fishman

Law Firm: Fishman & Gentile, P.A.
Area of Practice: Family, Certified Family Law Mediator, Criminal
Year Admitted to The Florida Bar: 1978
Joined BCBA: 2000
Broward County Bar Association Board of Directors 2006-2010
Broward County Bar Association Membership Chairman 2009-2010
Broward County Bar Association Solo/Small Firm Liason 2009-2010
North Broward Bar Association President 2006-2008



Office of the Treasurer Candidate for the Office of Treasurer Deborah Poore FitzGerald

Law Firm: Walton Lantaff
Area of Practice: Professional Malpractice Defense
Law School: University of Kentucky
Year Admitted to The Florida Bar: 1979
Year Joining BCBA: 1979

I serve as Secretary (2009-2010) and previously as a Director for five terms, 1997-2001, 2002-2006 and 2007-2009. I serve on the Library and Building Committees and am Liaison to the Workers' Compensation Section and over the years have served on many other committees.

I am a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) (President-Elect, Ft. Lauderdale Chapter), the Federal Bar Association (Past-President, Ft. Lauderdale Chapter), the Defense Research Institute (DRI), and the Florida Defense Lawyers Association (FDLA) (ADR Committee).

I am also a member of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District's Mediation Selection Committee (2000-present) and the Federal Bench-Bar Steering Committee for the Court's 2010 Conference. On September 1, 2009, I was presented with the First Judge Jose A. Gonzalez, Jr. "Unsung Hero" Award by the Judges of the U.S. District Court, Southern District (Broward Judges).

I am committed to the continued vitality of the BCBA and its relevance to ALL its members. Last year I identified four broad areas of focus and believe they continue to be important:

- identify needed programs and benefits for our members;
- continue our efforts to provide networking opportunities to our solo and small firm members;
- provide a responsive staff to facilitate the programs in place and provide assistance;
- improve the appearance of our building facilities and transform into an inviting and usable space, including a dedicated area for our members; and
- provide more relevant CLE programs and tapes at low or no cost.

The BCBA has a tremendous legacy to uphold and continue. Whether as an officer or member, I will continue to contribute to ensure its lasting legacy.



Candidate for the Office of Treasurer

Morrie I. Levine

Law Firm: Law Office of Morrie I. Levine
 Area of Practice: Business Sales and Acquisitions
 Admitted to The Florida Bar: 1983
 BCBA Member: 1994 (previously practiced in Dade County)

I was asked to be a candidate for next year's Treasurer of the B.C.B.A. This is partly because I am one of the only current Directors who has a business background. I also have been a motivating force for the Board of Directors to seek financial responsibility. Although I am not currently an officer, I am recognized by the judiciary and the Broward County legal community as one of the leaders of the B.C.B.A.

Although I have a busy law practice, I am known for taking on responsibilities and new projects. For example, I am the Chairman of the newly created B.C.B.A. Publicity Committee. I currently also serve on the Budget Committee and the By-Laws Committee. I served as the 2009 B.C.B.A. Bench-Bar Conference C.L.E. Chairman and Coordinator. Previously, I was Chairman of the Parking Committee, Co-Chair of the Publications Committee, Liaison to the Solo/Small Law Firm Section, and served on the Nominating Committee. I also currently serve on the Executive Committee of Legal Aid Service of Broward County, Inc. and Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida, Inc.

If elected Treasurer, I look forward to carrying out my fiscal responsibilities. In addition, I will be an asset to the Executive Board of the B.C.B.A. during this time of crucial issues facing the legal community of Broward County (e.g., the negative publicity surrounding the legal profession and the judiciary, building the new courthouse, budget cuts, loss of sponsors for legal events/activities, etc.) and working to resolve these problems.



NORTHEAST AREA:

Thomas D. Oates - Unopposed

Law Firm: Law Offices of Oates & Oates, P.A.
 Area of Practice: Commercial litigation
 Law School: Stetson University College of Law
 Year Admitted to The Florida Bar: 2004
 BCBA Member Since: 2007

Attorneys should actively seek out ways to better their profession and show the public that we are leaders by example. Having spent the past four years serving on the executive board for the North Broward Bar Association and filling the shoes of many well respected attorneys before me, I now end my term as President this coming April 2010. This will also be my third year as a justice with the Broward County Teen Court Program. With no opposition, it is with honor and privilege that I accept the position as a member of the Board of Directors, and know that I will serve my profession and bar association well.



CENTRAL AREA CANDIDATES

Raymond G. Ferrero III, Esq. - Central Area Candidate

Law Firm: Raymond G. Ferrero III, P.A.
 Area of Practice: Nursing Home Negligence, Personal Injury, Mental Health, Labor and Employment Law.
 Admitted to The Florida Bar: 1995
 Joined BCBA: 1998

It has been my great pleasure to reside and practice law in Broward County over the past sixteen years. From 1994 to 1998, I worked as a trial attorney for the Broward County Public Defender's Office.

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Web Gems
Women's Law Initiative
<http://www.womenslaw.org/>

Women'sLaw.org was founded in February 2000 by attorneys, educators, advocates, and web designers, with the aim of using the internet to facilitate help for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. The language of the website is written in an accessible style, which is most welcome. The menu tab called "Know the Law", across the top of any page, has information available under state, federal, tribal, and religious law, and addresses common issues like "parental kidnapping", "restraining orders", "divorce", and "suing your abuser", in a question-and-answer format. Helpfully, the text of the laws of each state that aid or effect domestic abuse survivors can be found on this site, under the "Legal Statutes" tab, at the far right hand side of the menu across the top of any page. "State Statutes", "Federal Statutes", and "Tribal Statutes" are available. The "Helping Others" tab offers information on such groups as "Lawyers", "Doctors and Healthcare Workers", "Religious Leaders", and "Salon Professionals". The last group may come as a surprise, but visitors can read an article entitled "Enlisting the Aid of Hairstylists as Sentinels for Domestic Abuse", to learn about CUT IT OUT, which teaches salon professionals to recognize abuse in their clients.

POSITION AVAILABLE: GENERAL COUNSEL FOR THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Position Requirements:

An individual respondent or a specified attorney of a law firm respondent is required to have an earned Doctor of Jurisprudence from an accredited law school, be a current member in good standing of The Florida Bar, have significant experience in educational, governmental and/or administrative law, and have ten (10) years of experience practicing as an attorney.

Salary Range (based on experience):

Individual Respondent: \$180,000 to \$216,000 annually, plus benefits, including pension contributions, health insurance, and other benefits as negotiated

Respondent Law Firm: \$234,000 to \$270,000 annually

Application Procedures:

Letter of Interest and Resume must include documentation specified in the Request for Letter of Interest (RLI), Section III: Submittal Requirements. Be advised all applications are subject to the Florida Public Records Law. Specify in your application your interest in full time employment as the in-house General Counsel to The School Board or a specified attorney from a Law Firm interested in providing the services to serve as the full time General Counsel while remaining an employee/member of the law firm.

To review the Request for Letter of Interest (RLI), job qualifications and application procedures, access The School Board of Broward County's website: www.browardschools.com, Employment, Administrative. **Submissions must be received no later than 5:00pm on May 15, 2010.** The School Board of Broward County, Florida is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SEND ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND SEVEN (7) COLLATED COPIES OF YOUR LETTER OF INTEREST AND RESUME TO:

Ms. Gracie M. Diaz
Acting Associate Superintendent of Human Resources
600 SE Third Avenue, 10th Floor
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 • (754) 321-1840

Since my departure in 1998, I worked in private practice handling both criminal and civil cases. Most recently co-founding, Addiction Recovery Legal Services, LLC, which serves individuals and their families, who become involved with the courts due to severe substance abuse and mental health related issues. Outside of my legal career, I lecture to medical and doctorate students on Substance Abuse and Behavioral Medicine at NSU. I sit on the Board of Governors for both the United Way of Broward County Commission on Substance Abuse and the Florida Drug Policy Advisory Committee as appointed by the Honorable Governor Charlie Crist. In 2008, I was elected to serve the members of the Broward County Bar Association. I am honored to have been nominated again to continue to serve the lawyers of Broward County.



Samantha FitzGerald - Central Area Candidate

Law Firm: Fowler White Burnett P.A.
Area of Practice: Tax & Estate Planning
Law School: Nova Southeastern University
Year Admitted to The Florida Bar: 1999
BCBA Member Since: 4/00

I have been a member of the Broward County Bar Association since April 2000. During that time period, I have attended many seminars and receptions, and encouraged local attorneys to join the Association. I have enjoyed the benefits of membership, and now feel that it is time for me to take an active role in order to give back to the Association and its membership.

It would be an honor to serve on the Board of Directors of the Broward County Bar Association. It is a challenging time for the legal industry and I would welcome the opportunity to make a positive impact. After significant involvement with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce and the Plantation Junior Woman's Club, I eagerly turn my attention to the legal community.

As an experienced transactional attorney with Fowler White Burnett, I was fortunate to be mentored by bright and capable attorneys. It would be a fulfilling experience to give back to the legal community. I am able to contribute my unique legal skill-set, in addition to my talent for event planning, organization and negotiation.

If elected, I promise to contribute fresh ideas, time and the resources necessary to further the goals established by the Broward County Bar Association.



Edwina V. Kessler - Central Area Candidate

Law Firm: Catri, Holton, Kessler, Kessler, P.A.
Area of Practice: Civil Litigation Defense
Admitted to The Florida Bar: 1994
Joined BCBA: 1994

I have been a member of the BCBA since I began practicing law in 1994. I became a Member of the Board of Directors of the Young Lawyer section where I chaired the Judicial Reception from 1995 to 2003. I also served as the President of the Young Lawyer section from 2002-2003. Upon ending my tenure as a Young Lawyer, I have continued to serve as an active member of the BCBA and am currently as a Board of Director. While serving on the Board throughout the years I have been involved with the building, social and publicity committees. In recent years, the BCBA has worked hard to expand the benefits and programs for its members. I am committed to helping in expanding those benefits and would be privileged to serve on the Board again.



Jay Kim - Central Area Candidate

Law Firm: WardKim LLLP
Area of Practice: Commercial litigation
Law School: University of Florida
Year Admitted to The Florida Bar: 1998
BCBA Member Since: 2005

To do anything effectively, we must do it with the goal in mind. The goal of the Broward County Bar Association is to serve its members as well as the legal profession in general by, among other things, promoting professionalism, supporting an independent judiciary, and establishing a network of support. While I am sure that no lawyer in Broward County would dispute that these are worthy goals, I am not so sure that we as lawyers give these goals the priority they deserve.

With my past and current service to The Florida Bar and the local bars, I have shown my commitment to furthering the goal of a noble and well-respected legal community. In addition to the Broward County Bar Association's Professionalism Committee, where I chair the Mentoring Subcommittee, I have been a member of The Florida Bar Grievance Committee and currently serve on the Judicial Administration and Evaluation Committee. I also serve on the boards of directors of several organizations, namely, the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of South Florida, Legal Aid Service of Broward County, and Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida.

I look forward to continuing to serve the legal community of Broward County as a member of the BCBA's board of directors.

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CO-COUNSEL PARTICIPATION IN CRIMINAL MATTERS AS PROVIDED BY THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE FLORIDA BAR



Todd R. McPharlin - Central Area Candidate

Kelley Uustal PLC

Partner/Trial Attorney: concentrating in wrongful death, personal injury and products liability. Admitted to Admitted to the Florida Bar in 1997

Joined BCBA in 1999

Married to Kimberly since 1994 and has two children.

I am proud to say that I have spent my entire career as a lawyer in Broward County. After leaving the Public Defender's Office, I have diligently represented individuals in Broward County and across the country, in personal injury, wrongful death and products liability cases, in both state and federal court, with integrity, competence and professionalism.

For last few years, it has been my privilege to work alongside many of the dedicated attorneys in Broward County who have devoted their time and effort to making Broward County a stronger legal community and a better place over all for all of us to work. I have been impressed with my fellow Board members' devotion to the Broward County Bar and the mission of improving our legal community and providing services to not only the attorneys who practice here, but the individuals and families who live here. If elected for another term, I will strive to improve our legal community with the same effort and devotion, work to increase its membership and represent the diverse interests of the lawyers in Broward County. The Broward County Bar Association has done and continues to do great things for our community. It is my hope to continue to serve on the Board and contribute to the work of the Broward Bar. I ask for your vote in April. Thank you.

WEST AREA

Robin Sobo Moselle - Unopposed

Law Firm: Jacobson, Sobo & Moselle

Area of Practice: Commercial Litigation, Collections

Law School: Nova Southeastern University

Year Admitted to The Florida Bar: 1991

BCBA Member Since: 1991

I am pleased to have the opportunity to continue serving as a director of the Broward County Bar Association. During my first term I was appointed Sponsorship & Exhibitor Chair of the 2009 Bench & Bar Convention, our most successful Bench & Bar Convention to date and I am honored to have been asked to serve as Chair of the 2013 Convention. I am also vice chair of the Bench & Bar Committee and I sit on the Publicity Committee in addition to acting as a liaison between the BCBA and Legal Aid Services of Broward County. It has been a wonderful experience working with my colleagues on the board. I look forward to assisting the BCBA during the next term.

SOUTHEAST AREA CANDIDATES

Andrea R. Gundersen, ESQ. - Unopposed

Firm: Law Offices of Andrea R. Gundersen, P.A.

Area of Practice: Family Law – Litigation & Mediation

Law School: Nova University Law School

Yr. Admitted to FL Bar: 1992

Year Joining BCBA: 1995

For over 13 years I have enjoyed serving the Broward County Bar Association as a long time member of the Professionalism Committee and the Family Law Section of the BCBA. While a member of the Professionalism Committee I have held several positions including Co-Chair of that committee and for the past two years, Chairperson of the Speaker's Bureau subcommittee. I was actively involved with the development of the Peer Review Council guidelines and pilot project in the 17th Judicial Circuit which was an effort to improve professionalism within the local legal community. Additionally, as a member of the Speaker's Bureau subcommittee I was involved in developing and presenting a CLE program on professionalism at the Bench & Bar Conference in 2005.

As chairperson and also a member of the Speaker's Bureau of the Professionalism Committee of the BCBA for the past several years I have enjoyed the opportunity to speak to law students on the importance of professionalism in the legal field and enhance the spirit of cooperation as professionals. Unfortunately, recent events in the media have painted lawyers in a negative light and tainted the image of our profession in general. It is my sincere hope that by reaching out to law students, legal professionals and the local community we can reinforce the importance of professionalism and rebuild our profession's reputation as being one of honor and integrity. I look forward to serving as a member of the board of the Broward County Bar Association.



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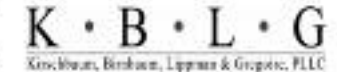
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Honorary Co-Chairs:



Bob and Kerry Kelley



John and Jennifer Uustal

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Belinda Keiser, Vice Chancellor Community Relations & Student Advancement Keiser University

ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR: Robert W. Murphy, Esq., Law Offices of Robert W. Murphy

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY AWARD: Junior League of Greater Fort Lauderdale / FLITE Center Project

COMMUNITY ADVOCACY AWARD: WFOR-TV accepted by Chief Investigative Reporter, Michele Gillen

CONSUMER LAW AWARD: Steve M. Glerum, Esq., Steve M. Glerum, P.A.

HOUSING LAW AWARD: Steven J. Gutter, Esq., Steven J. Gutter, P.A.

IMMIGRATION LAW AWARD: Vene M. Hamilton, Esq.

INNOVATIVE PROJECT: NEXT (Next Executive Team)

LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR AWARD: KELLEY/UUSTAL

TAX LAW AWARD: Ira L. Zuckerman, Esq., Ira L. Zuckerman, P.A.



Broward County Bar Association Law Day Luncheon

** Make reservations early as seating is limited

LAW DAY LUNCHEON

DATE: Friday, May 7, 2010
TIME: 12:00 Noon
SPEAKER: Jesse H. Diner, Esq.
President of The Florida Bar
LOCATION: Tower Club, 1 Financial Plaza
100 SE 3rd Avenue, 28th Floor

LEVELS OF SPONSORSHIP

LIBERTY SPONSORSHIP.....\$1,000.00 (8 lunch tickets)
JUSTICE SPONSORSHIP.....\$500.00 (4 lunch tickets)
FREEDOM SPONSORSHIP.....\$250.00 (2 lunch tickets)

All sponsors will also receive:

- Name and sponsorship level in the Law Day Program.
- Name displayed on signage at events.
- Recognition in the BCBA monthly newsletter, the *Broward Barrister*, which will be distributed to all Broward County Bar Members.

- ** Additional seats for luncheon are \$35.00 per person
- ** Members of the Judiciary - complimentary entrance

Please make checks payable to "The Broward County Bar Association" and mail to:

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Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316
e-mail questions to: angel@hallrosenberg.com
R.S.V.P. to Broward County Bar Association at (954) 764-8040



Edward Holodak - Unopposed

Law Firm: Edward F. Holodak, P.A.
Area of Practice: Commercial and Civil Litigation, Association Law, Personal Injury
Law School: University of Florida
Admitted to The Florida Bar: 1995
BCBA Member: 1995

I am seeking to serve another term as Southeast Area Representative for this year's Board of Directors for the Broward County Bar Association. I have been a member of the Association since becoming an attorney. In years past, I have served on the Bench/Bar Committee, the Technology Committee and am currently chair of the Membership Committee. As a commercial litigation attorney, I know the importance of the relationship between the bench, the bar and the clerk and believe that to be an area of importance, along with a new courthouse, that the BCBA need concentrate on in the coming years. It has been a privilege to represent the Southeast Section of the Association and I would be honored to continue to do so.



SOUTHWEST AREA CANDIDATES

Kenneth P. Hassett - Southwest Area Candidate

Law Firm: Hassett & Associates, P.A.
Area of Practice: Criminal Defense
Law School: St. Thomas University School of Law
Year Admitted to the Florida Bar: 1991
Year Joining BCBA: 1999

As a practicing attorney since 1991, first with the Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office, then in private practice with two partners and finally as a solo practitioner I recognize the importance of being involved in local bar associations. I have dedicated many years of service including serving as president of various voluntary bars such as the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers-Miami Chapter 2003-2004, the Coral Gables Bar Association 2004-2005, and the South Broward Bar Association 2008-2010. I am also currently serving as Vice President of the Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. It would be my honor to serve as a director of the Broward County Bar Association.



David Israel - Southwest Area Candidate

Law Firm: The Law Offices of David Ben Israel, P.A.
Area of Practice: Construction, Commercial and Business Litigation
Law School: Nova Southeastern University
Year Admitted to The Florida Bar: 1993
BCBA Member Since: 2009

It is my profound hope to have an opportunity to serve the Broward County Bar Association and its Members through election to its Board of Directors. I come to this position in my life after numerous years of practice and legal experience. I believe that service to one's profession and community is the highest level of service that one can provide. It is my hope to help the Broward County Bar Association grow and provide new and expanded services to its Members. My candidacy for the Broward County Bar Association's Board of Directors is based on my deep knowledge that through hard work a single person can make a difference. Although my experience serving in the Broward County Bar Association is limited, I intend to devote my time and efforts to make the Broward County Bar Association better for all its Members. I hope that I can count on your support, and together help the Broward County Bar Association advance the cause of the law in our community.



Boost Your Search Engine Rankings with Meta Tag Tips

By Margaret Grisdela

A few very simple lines of HTML code have the power to help or hinder your website's search engine performance. Known as "meta tags," these short commands describe the contents of a web page. Google, Yahoo, Bing, and other search engines use meta tags to find and display your web site to interested searchers.

This article describes the title tag, description tag, and keyword tag to help you optimize your Internet marketing efforts.

How to Write Winning Title Tags

The title tag is one of the most critical factors in achieving high search engine rankings. Despite its importance, it is often overlooked by webmasters and others working to optimize website content for search engine results.

Located in the top left corner of a web browser, the title page tells readers about the content of the page. Title tags are also used by search engines to categorize your web page, and typically appear in the first line of your listing when shown on the search engine results page.

In the HTML coding for a web page, the title tag may look something like this:

Typical: <title>Your Law Firm Name Here</title>
Recommended: <title> Fort Lauderdale Personal Injury Lawyers | Auto Accidents</title>

To maximize the number of visitors to your site, title tags should:

- Be less than 80 characters, with no special characters
- Accurately describe the page's content
- Include keywords specific to your product, service and/or geographic area
- Be different for each web page

Take a look at the title tag on your web pages and see if they pass these tests. Unfortunately, it's not unusual for the title tag to simply consist of the law firm name without any supporting keywords.

Getting the Most of Your Description Meta Tag

Following the above example, once a prospect searches for a local personal injury attorney, what makes them decide to click on www.attorney#1.com versus www.attorney#2.com? Chances are it is the description meta tag, or the information that appears below a website's title on the search engine results.

Meta tag descriptions are important not only because they inform readers of a web page's content, but search engines may use them as a "snippet" to describe the content of a web page when displayed on the results page. In this regard, the description tag serves as a kind of "advertisement" for your site. In HTML code, a description meta tag may look something like this:

< META NAME ="description" content="The Broward County personal injury law firm of ABC & XYZ offers free consultations for auto accidents, motorcycle accidents, slip and fall, medical malpractice and wrongful death." >

For the best results, the description meta tag should:

- Be less than 200 characters because search engines do not display more than that number
- Accurately and concisely reflect content on a web page
- Include keywords relevant to your product, service or

- geographic location
- Be different for each web page

The description meta tag is not used as a factor by Google in determining page rank.

Writing Meta Tag Keywords that Maximize Visibility

The right keywords are essential when optimizing your law firm website. They are the words or phrases that an average person might type into a search engine when trying to find a personal injury lawyer or a divorce attorney. If a web user types one of the keywords from your website into a search engine, an ideal situation is that your website will be among the first to appear on the search engine results page.

While the keyword meta tag is not used as a factor by Google in determining web search rankings, it is still recommended for inclusion on every web page. Here are a few rules for writing keywords:

- Meta tag keywords should have fewer than 10 words
- Every keyword should appear somewhere in the body of the website
- Be careful about using a keyword more than twice, or the search engine may view the site as spam and delete it from its index
- Keywords should be page-specific, with no two pages having the same keywords

HINT: Search for an automated "meta tag analyzer" online to evaluate your own meta tags.

IMPORTANT: New Florida Bar Website Rules take Effect July 1, 2010

Attorneys licensed and/or promoting their services in Florida may now provide information about the law firm's past results and testimonials on their website. First, however, the law firm must add a new "disclaimer" page to their website so that this information is considered to be "on request," and therefore not subject to the lawyer advertising rules under Rule 4-7.1(f).

Site visitors should not be required to provide personal identifier information in order to access the page. Also, the page with regulated information must be accessible only via the disclaimer page, and not through a general search engine or site search.

Websites are still not required to be filed with The Florida Bar. These rules can be a bit complicated, so visit www.floridabar.org to familiarize yourself with the new guidelines, or call the Ethics and Advertising Department at (800) 235-8619.

About the Author: Margaret Grisdela is the president of Legal Expert Connections, a national legal marketing agency. She is available to conduct CLE marketing seminars approved by The Florida Bar in the convenience of your office. Reach her at 561-266-1030 or mg@legalexpertconnections.com.



JUDICIAL RECEPTION

(Complimentary for all Members of the Judiciary)

Thursday, May 6, 2010

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

New River Center Rotunda

200 East Las Olas Boulevard

(Sun-Sentinel Building – S.W. corner of Las Olas Blvd. & SE 3rd Ave.)

A special thanks to the Title Sponsor of the 2010 Judicial Reception

Fowler White Burnett
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

LEVELS OF SPONSORSHIP

SUPREME CONTRIBUTOR	\$1,000.00 (includes 8 tickets)
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All sponsors will also receive their name displayed on signage at event and recognition in the BCBA monthly newsletter, the *Broward Barrister*

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

BCBA Members	\$35.00
Non-Members	\$45.00

Entrance tickets include complimentary hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and desserts

For sponsorship information or to RSVP, please contact:

Shayna M. Reitman, Esq.
Judicial Reception Chairperson
Fowler White Burnett P.A.
100 SE 3rd Avenue, 21st Floor
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394
smr@fowler-white.com
(954) 377-8175

Checks should be made payable to: Young Lawyers Section.

**BROWARD COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
INVITES YOU TO BENEFIT FROM
PARTICIPATION IN THE SOLO / SMALL
LAW FIRM NETWORKING GROUP**

Next Dinner:

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Future dates:

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

* For Attorneys in Firms with Four or fewer Lawyers

WHAT WE OFFER:

- Functions Foster Interactive Networking
- Promote Your Law Firm / Enhance Visibility
- Development of Referral Relationships

WHY WE'RE DIFFERENT:

- No Outside Speakers
- You and other Participants of the Solo / Small Law Firm Networking Group are our "Guest Speakers"
- Pre-meal Business Card Exchange Session

LOCATION:

Dave & Buster's 3000 Oakwood Blvd. Hollywood, FL 33020

When reserving at least 48 hours in advance: \$35 for

Broward County Bar Association members and

\$40 for non-members.

At door, \$5 more on a space available basis. Credit card and check payments accepted. For further information contact Broward County Bar Association (954)764-8040. Or log on to www.browardbar.org/events to RSVP

HOLD THE DATE...

Broward County Bar Association Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner

Thursday, June 10, 2010

**Marriott Harbor Beach
in Fort Lauderdale**

**Sponsor tables available
Contact Art Goldberg at 954-764-8040 Ext.
204 or artg@browardbar.org**



Tax Season Greetings from the IRS Criminal Investigation Division

By Rick Woolf

April 15th each year brings a little nostalgia as I reflect back on my years as a Special Agent with the IRS Criminal Investigations (CI) Division. My first words to the subject of a tax fraud investigation typically ruined his day and often at least a few years of his life. Two agents are always present when the interviews are conducted, and these agents are among the most knowledgeable, educated, well trained and sophisticated in the law enforcement community. Don't let your day began like this.

"My name is Rick Woolf, and I'm a Special Agent with the Criminal Investigations Division of the Internal Revenue Service." After displaying my badge and ID, I would continue, "I've been assigned to investigate your federal income tax liability for the years... I'd like to ask you some questions, but before I do, I want to advise you that you have the right to remain silent..." (The IRS Special Agent's Manual requires that the subject of the investigation be given a Miranda warning even though the interview is non-custodial.)

CI is responsible for the enforcement of tax, money laundering and Bank Secrecy Act laws. The elite and highly trained CI Special Agents fill a unique niche in the federal law enforcement community. Today's sophisticated schemes to defraud the government require the analytical ability of financial investigators to wade through complex papers and computerized financial records. Special Agents are trained to recover computer evidence and use specialized forensic technology to recover financial records that may have been encrypted, password-protected or hidden by other electronic devices.

CI investigates Legal Source Tax Crimes, Illegal Source Financial Crimes, Narcotics Related Tax Crimes, and also focuses on Counterterrorism. Special Agents are part of a bigger law enforcement team including a network of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. They work closely with the Department of Justice, US Attorneys, the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security, DEA, and the list goes on. Many federal agencies rely on CI to uncover criminal activities by tracking the money. Special Agents are skilled forensic accountants searching for evidence of criminal conduct. This conduct often leads to other related financial crimes and criminal offenses such as corruption, embezzlement, extortion and even murder.

Harry Markopolos is the whistle-blower who uncovered Bernard Madoff's Ponzi scheme 10 years before the rest of the world learned of the biggest financial crime in history. He shared his story in his book "No One Would Listen". I will always believe that had he gone to IRS CI rather than the SEC, CI would have listened and Madoff's crime would have been discovered many years earlier.

As a result of the globalization of the world economy, the IRS emphasizes international enforcement. More than 200 current cases involve an international connection to over 90 countries. CI has 11 attaches in foreign posts of duty including Colombia, Australia, Hong Kong, Beijing and Iraq as well as others around the world.

The worldwide scope of CI's investigative activity is a dramatic departure from the 1970s when I was a Special Agent. During that time I conducted a joint investigation with a DEA undercover agent of an international heroin dealer residing in Miami. The scope of the defendant's drug cartel required my traveling to a number of foreign destinations including Istanbul, Beirut and Tripoli. In order to obtain approval for this travel, I had to clandestinely obtain the endorsement of an attorney in the Department of Justice Tax Division who would ultimately prosecute the case against the defendant for evading the taxes on his illicit heroin gains. Today, a joint investigation with DEA and the associated foreign travel would not have the uniqueness of my investigation in the early 1970s.

A high profile and well-publicized CI investigation concerns the identification of Americans hiding money in offshore Swiss bank accounts at UBS. A few years ago an IRS Revenue Agent (auditor) in Los Angeles identified activity during a routine audit that warranted referring the taxpayer to CI for potential fraud. The referral of Igor Olenicoff proved to be anything but routine. Olenicoff was a wealthy real estate developer in Los Angeles and was using an offshore Swiss bank account at UBS to conceal money from the IRS. As part of his eventual cooperation with the IRS, he pleaded guilty and paid \$52 million in back taxes. He also provided the name of his Swiss Bank Account Manager, Bradley Birkenfeld. Olenicoff told IRS Special Agents that Birkenfeld made several trips to the United States to assist him in getting his money to UBS in Switzerland. When Birkenfeld entered the US on a flight, he was detained by Special Agents. He agreed to cooperate with the IRS and eventually pled guilty and provided invaluable information about UBS. Several months later UBS was indicted for conspiracy to defraud the IRS. UBS signed a Deferred Prosecution Agreement and paid the US government \$780,000,000 in addition to giving the IRS the identities and account information of certain US clients who allegedly committed tax fraud. The IRS issued a John Doe summons for the names of 52,000 accounts of US citizens. The Swiss Government subsequently signed an agreement with the US government to provide the IRS with secret financial data of 4,450 US taxpayers. Birkenfeld was sentenced to 40 months in prison. The investigation continues into other US taxpayers who may be using Swiss bank accounts to evade federal income taxes. A number of them have already been prosecuted and convicted.

About the Author: Rick Woolf is a former IRS Special Agent and former Assistant US Attorney. He has an MBA in Finance and is a Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC) and a Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU). Rick has been a Financial Planner in South Florida for the past 30 years. He is the incoming president of the West Broward Estate Planning Council. Email him at rwoolf@woolffinancial.com.

SOLO SMALL / LAW FIRM NETWORKING APRIL 2010 LUNCH DATES!

Tuesday, April 6th: Solo/ Small Law Firm Networking Lunch. Noon. Bimini Boat Yard, 1555 SE 17th Street, Ft. Lauderdale (954) 525-7400. RSVP to: Beth Lindie (954) 765-5400 or blindie@lawyers.com.

Friday, April 9th: Solo/ Small Law Firm Networking Lunch. Noon. Olive Garden in Coral Springs. 1555 N. University Drive, (954) 344-5226, RSVP to: Evan Ostfeld (954) 227-7529 or Evan@Attorney4life.com.

Friday, April 16th: Solo/ Small Law Firm Networking Lunch. Noon. Champps, 6401 N. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale (954) 491-9335, RSVP to: Jane Bolin (954) 316-1339 or jane@peytonbolin.com.

Friday, April 23rd: Solo/ Small Law Firm Networking Lunch. Noon. Olive Garden in Plantation. 807 S. University Dr. Plantation (954) 424-7201, RSVP to: John Rizvi (954) 452-0033 or johnrizvi@ideaattorneys.com.

Tuesday, April 27th: Solo/ Small Law Firm Networking Lunch. Noon. The Ark, 6233 Stirling Road, Hollywood (954) 584-3075, RSVP to: David Silverstone (954) 367-0770 or david@dsilverstone.com.

Friday, April 30th: Solo/ Small Law Firm Networking Lunch. Noon. East City Grill, 1800 Bell Tower Lane, Weston, Weston Town Center, (954) 659-3339, RSVP to: Rick Woolf (954) 252-0043 or rwoolf@woolffinancial.com.

**BCBA Commercial Law Section Happy Hour
March 4, 2010 YOLO in Fort Lauderdale**

Judge John Luzzo, Kathy Rentas,
Lawrence Bassuk



Ken Joyce, Gary Rosen



Judge Edward Merrigan, Ken Joyce



Carlos Llorente, Claudia Estrada,
Judge Matthew Destry

**Worker's Compensation Seminar
February 26, 2010 Riverside Hotel**

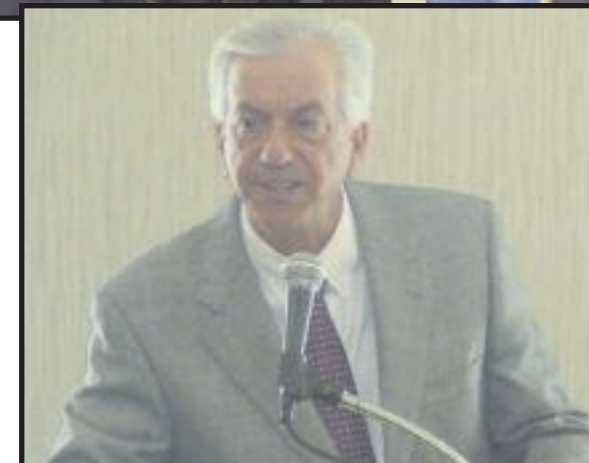


Rich Wagenheim, Judges of
Compensation Claims
Geraldine Hogan,
Kathryn Pecko, &
Daniel Lewis

Attorneys John Kelley,
Frantz Vital (recipient of
award for his military
service in Haiti),
Rich Wagenheim



(Attorneys/Committee Members) Diana
Castrillon, Mike Riedhammer, Mal
Steinberg, Neal Falk, Rich Wagenheim,
Judge of Compensation Claims Daniel
Lewis, Barbara Wagner, Seth Abrams,
James Price



Attorney John Kelley (making presentation to
Frantz Vital)