



INTER ALIA

OCTOBER 2020

NEWSLETTER OF THE MANATEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

NOTE:

The Manatee County Bar Association leadership has determined, based upon the updated CDC guidelines that all *in person* events are cancelled until further notice.

Has the Pandemic Changed Your Law Practice?

By: MCBA Director, Rebecca J. Proctor, Esq., Proctor Elder Law PA

So COVID-19 has brought to us numerous changes to our personal lives and our law practices. Not only have we seen physical changes and new safety precautions, but have experienced changes to the practice of law that were ordered by the courts, instituted by ourselves, or simply just as a byproduct of evolution. We have all had to adjust to a different perspective to account for the changes brought on by this global pandemic. For many of us, some practice changes will be temporary, others may be long lasting.

At this point with restrictions on social distancing and other requirements decreasing, we must figure out and decide on what changes that we were forced or voluntarily implemented, which we want to remain as a part of our practices.

Here are some of the areas in which COVID changed my practice and also the changes I will likely keep:

1. Remote Court Hearings - Zoom and Telephonic Hearings. Due to our Chief Judge's requirements, remote hearings, both by the Zoom platform and telephonic hearings are in widespread use. The remote hearings are the result of court closures due to executive orders limiting official and social functions, as well as restrictions on travel and public gatherings. A recent meeting with the Florida Bar President, Dori Foster-Morales confirmed that remote hearing practices will not end after the "COVID" restrictions are removed, but will definitely continue in the future.
2. Remote Discovery Practices and Remote Mediations. As we know, our Courts issued executive orders which allowed for depositions to be held by remote communications where possible, and also relaxed the identification and notarial requirements of witnesses and participants of these proceedings. Some of us have experienced the practice areas of Mediation and Arbitration that were greatly affected by the restrictions implemented. While myself and my clients initially resisted virtual mediation because of unfamiliarity with the technology, participation in a technology training session and other assistance available made it possible to overcome these concerns. In my practice I found remote mediation a little less than perfect, but when ordered by the Court, participants and mediators worked together to make the process quite effective. The Mediators I worked with seemed to have overcome certain obstacles thereby creating methods of conducting remote hearing rooms, separating participants and generally making it

possible to handle the review of documents and other physical restrictive issues presented. I believe that when we return to normalcy, there will be much greater use of remote mediation and arbitration, thus permitting participants to save time and money resulting from travel and lodging expenses.

3. Physical Work Environment. It has been proven through this trying time, that physical location has become less important as we found ourselves transitioning from working in our offices to working remotely. With the implementation of the various new technologies for the communication with clients, colleagues, office staff and others, it has allowed all of us to work from home, airports or other locations in which we can assure secure and effective communication for our stated purposes. Perhaps in the future it will become economically desirable for law firms to reduce overhead by downsizing its physical office spaces. Firms may be able to cut costs by looking at a smaller office space or by moving certain staff members to remote work totally. It appears, working from home, in some form or another, is going to be more normal if only because lawyers and staff will demand it and ... firms are going to want to cut back on costs to not pay for unused office space.

So the question becomes, "What is my new normal way of practicing law?" Inevitably, the COVID-19 pandemic created long-lasting changes in the practice of law. Work-related travel for discovery, depositions, mediations, meeting with clients and even conducting legal services in an office related work environment will be significantly changed. Most practitioners have come to realize that technology may be the most cost-effective substitute to travel and for the physical brick and mortar office.

As attorneys, we are admitted to practice in certain physical locations but this new normal has given us the ability to reach our clients and perform our legal duties that are not confining us to our physical location. There is no doubt that the courts and the Florida Bar will procure and adapt procedures to deal with our changing circumstances. In my humble opinion, some changes were long overdue, such as conducting remote hearings, remote notarization of



(continued on page 2)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – OCTOBER 2020



By Charles W. Telfair, IV., MCBA President

This month, Judge Gilbert Smith, Jr. and the Bradenton Kiwanis have invited the Manatee County Bar to share its thoughts with Kiwanis members regarding the Constitutional Amendments on this year's ballot. The Kiwanis luncheon will take place on October 20th, and MCBA members are invited to tune in. Our excellent director, Graceann Frederico, has created a simple MCBA Survey where you can cast your vote for each Amendment AND have a chance to leave your comments, thoughts, etc. for each.

Would you please be so kind to complete the survey by October 16th using the link that was emailed to you and can be found in your weekly News You Can Use Eblast?

WATCH THE KIWANIS MEETING on October 20, 2020!

Link to watch is in your News You Can Use eblast!

PLEASE PARTICIPATE!

(Has the Pandemic Changed Your Law Practice, continued from page)

wills and procuring remote signatures through various applications. Still other technologies and practices must meet the test of time and circumstances.

Practitioners of the law must continually adapt to remain competent and effective in our changing physical world. Remote work and flexible working hours have been pushed to the forefront of everyone's agendas and no matter what your practice area, having access to remote operations will now be imperative. Refusing to embrace new technology and move to a more remote meeting platform may no longer be an option. With the increase in use of applications such as Microsoft Teams, Duo Mobile and Zoom, remote legal work, communication and conferencing, along with hearings are going to be an important staple in our practices even after COVID-19 restrictions end.

No matter what changes in your law practice you choose to have remain, there is no doubt that your practice will inevitably be different in the future.



Does Your Firm Qualify to Receive the Distinction? Open Enrollment for the MCBA 100 Club!

The MCBA is proud to have such wonderful members! The "100 Club" is a special recognition within the MCBA reflecting our members' commitment to the advancement of the legal profession while enhancing the community. To become a member of the "100 Club", every attorney in your firm must be a member of the MCBA. Firms with 100% attorney participation will be:

Listed in *Inter Alia*

Listed on the MCBA Website

Sent a special "100 Club" badge to be used in their marketing materials

The MCBA's "100 Club" is open to renewal each year, as it does not automatically renew due to changes in firm rosters from year to year. Firms must renew each year to participate. Firms must have two or more attorneys to be eligible.

To become a member of the "100 Club" for the 2020-21 year, please submit your request via email to Executive Director, Graceann Frederico at MCBA@ManateeBar.com **no later than, October 31, 2020**. Include a listing of all attorneys in your firm. Once the names are verified as active members of the MCBA, and approved, your firm will be added to the MCBA 2020-21 "100 Club" listings and sent the official badge.



Find the gavel!

Somewhere in the pages of this issue of *Inter Alia*, is a gavel that looks just like the one in this ad. Find it, and you may just win a \$25 Gift Card! If you find it, send your name, email address, with this statement: "I found the gavel on page _____!" Your email must be received by November 1, 2020. Winner will be chosen from a drawing of all entries received and announced in the next issue of *Inter Alia*. One entry per person. Send your entry to Graceann at MCBA@ManateeBar.com

YLD News & Happenings

A Look at The Florida Bar Resource: Florida Lawyers Helpline

By Melissa R. Casanueva, Esq. of Butler Elder Law, P.A., a member of Ferrari, Butler & Moneymaker, PLLC

During our recent 12th Circuit Zoom meeting with current Florida Bar President, Dori Foster Morales, a poll was done to ask if attendees were feeling more or less stress during the Covid-19 pandemic. Over 70% of attendees answered they are feeling more stressed, with me being one of them. After the results were shared, Dori Foster Morales highlighted the Florida Lawyers Helpline, whose number is 1-833-FL1-WELL, as a resource even for any mental health issues, even feeling stressed.

This resource has been advertised through Florida Bar emails and also the #StigmafreeYLD campaign the Florida Bar Young Lawyers created. As an attendee who is feeling more stress through this pandemic, and hearing about this resource again during the 12th circuit meeting, I wondered why have I not called this number? I realized part of the reason I had not called previously is the fear of the unknown – how does the process work, what information will they want to know, how long do I need for an initial call, and is having more stress really a reason to call? Knowing I was writing the YLD article for this Inter Alia edition, I knew it was time for me to learn answers to these questions and share them with our readers to hopefully make it easier for someone else to make their first call.

When I looked up the Florida Lawyer's Helpline number, the Florida Bar states "The Florida Bar mental health helpline (1-833-FL1-WELL) is a free and confidential service that connects members with professional counselors. Calls are always free. You may be referred for up to three free telehealth counseling sessions per year to help you develop strategies to overcome life's challenges, balance priorities, and better handle both personal and professional pressures." While this is important to know, I was still anxious to dial the number and start this whole process.

My call was answered by an actual person – no push 1 for a language, then push 2 if you want to speak to someone. I was actually expecting 10 seconds of electronic dialogue and was surprised

to hear an actual person answer the call stating who they are. After stating why I was calling, the person confirmed I was looking for referral for assistance. The following information was then requested: 1) First Name, 2) Last Name, 3) Date of Birth, 4) Address, and 5) Best phone number, all while being assured all information is confidential. After giving the information, I was then asked to discuss with a little more detail for the reason for my call. I was asked a few questions to gauge severity of reason for call, I was asked about any severe mental health issues, any thoughts of hurting myself, or any abuse of drugs or alcohol. After this, I was told I can definitely be connected with a couple of counselors.

I was instantly given the name of two counselors and their phone numbers. Based on the area codes, one is local while the other counselor is in Hillsborough county. I was instructed when calling either one to tell them Corp. Care referred me and that is how they are billed instead of me personally paying. The Florida Bar covers three sessions at no expense to you. It was explained to me that if you scheduled a session and it was not helpful, you call them back and they will credit you the session so you can have three free productive sessions. Finally, I was told if I ever needed to vent or to talk, to call back anytime as the hotline is available 24/7. The call lasted 11 minutes.

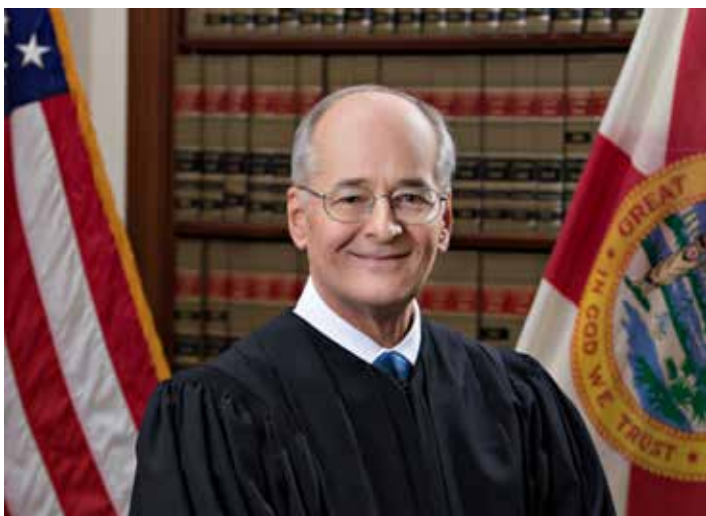
Overall, I was impressed by the entire experience. The person who answered the call was calming, personable, and did not make me second guess making the call. They also call the referred counselors right after the phone call ends to give them a heads up you might call them to schedule a call. I hope that this article pulled back the curtain on this process and helps you or another Manatee County attorney feel comfortable to reach out and call the Florida Lawyers Helpline.



Looking for Job Opportunities?
Check out our Job Openings page on
our website at www.manateebar.com

The Manatee County Bar Association supports diversity and inclusion in our membership and welcomes lawyers of all backgrounds, ethnicities, races, religions, cultures, sexual orientations and abilities. As part of this initiative, the Manatee County Bar Association has created the Diversity and Inclusion Committee (DAIC) and fully supports its mission to increase the diversity of our membership and the local legal community.





FL Chief Justice Charles Canady Visits the MCBA in September!

What a great virtual meeting it was! MCBA members were delighted to spend time with our Chief Justice at the September 30th virtual meeting. Chief Justice Canady updated the membership regarding Covid-19 and its impact on our court system, while taking questions from attendees. Just a nice visit, and a special honor – quite historical, in fact. If you missed it, not to worry! There is still time to view the meeting on our YouTube channel, and receive CLE Credit. Watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/NFR8S8rYGVA>

Special thanks to our annual sponsors: Ameris Bank, Bank United, CenterState Bank, LawPay, Gettel Automotive, Firkins Auto, Oak & Stone, and Lucente & Associates for their continued support of the MCBA!

Probate & Guardianship Section Holds Virtual CLE!

Many thanks to MCBA Member, Jeff Goethe, Esq., who presented the MCBA Probate & Guardianship Section with a special CLE entitled: Update on the Florida Probate & Guardianship Rules. Over 30 members attended the informative, and timely presentation. The CLE was full of information and attendees received 1 full CLE credit. Did you miss it? There is still time to view Jeff's presentation on our YouTube channel. Email Graceann at MCBA@ManateeBar.com for your link!



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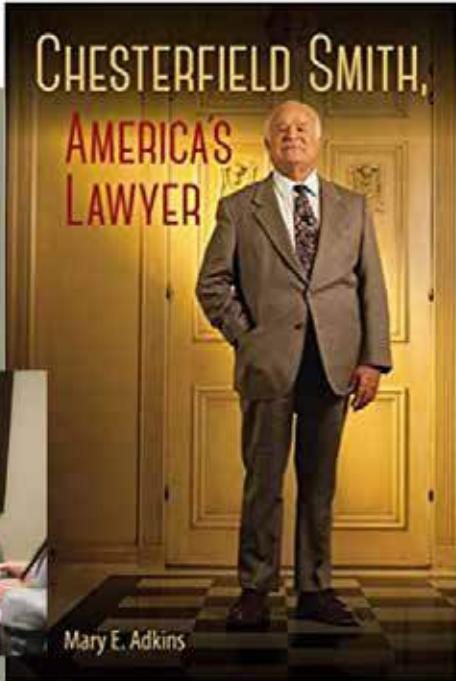
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Bradenton based law firm is seeking an associate attorney with 1-3 years' civil litigation experience preferably in the area of Construction Defect and/or Personal Injury. Must be an active member of the Florida Bar with strong communication, writing and interpersonal skills. A successful employment history is also required. Salary is commensurate with experience and benefits are provided. Send resume to Hamilton, Price & Marshall, P.A., 2400 Manatee Ave West, Bradenton, FL 34205 or via email to belinda@hamilton-pricelaw.com.

The MCBA is very excited to announce our upcoming event!

SAVE THE DATE!


Professor Mary Adkins, UF, Levin College of Law, will be returning as the main speaker for our January General Membership luncheon. Many of you will recall the excellent presentation Professor Adkins gave at the MCBA March 2017 luncheon regarding Making Modern Florida which analyzed the 1965 Constitution Revision Commission. Mary has just published, "Chesterfield Smith: America's Lawyer" and will be sharing her research and knowledge with us. We may have a few special guests and surprises in store, so make sure you have it on your calendar now! If you would like to learn more about Chesterfield, his connection to the MCBA, and more, please consider obtaining a copy of Mary's book on Amazon.com.



SAVE THE DATE!

PROF. MARY E. ADKINS WILL BE WITH US ON:

January 27, 2021 NOON



Housing Justice

By Greg DeMeuse, Esq., YLD Director

What is your conception of the American dream? For many, it starts with a house. They visualize a home with a yard, inhabited by their loved ones—family, pets, or whomever they are closest to in this world. The home means more than a just roof over their head. It often represents a sense of belonging in the community, an achievement of status with their peers, a significant financial investment in their future, or a feeling of being rooted in a stable environment where their loved ones can flourish and grow.



Manatee County Habitat for Humanity strives to enable homeowners in our community to attain their dream of owning a home and realize the myriad benefits of home ownership. To be clear, homes are not given away to Habitat for Humanity homeowners. The homes are earned. The homeowners work diligently prior to the purchase by participation in financial literacy courses, the homes are paid off over several years through zero interest loans, and the homes are sustained through community leadership programs and involvement in the neighborhood associations that the homeowners' residences belong to.

The benefits of having a stable home in a quality neighborhood are wide-reaching. A historical analysis of housing for low-income individuals bears out this concept well known by community activists, especially those in the affordable housing arena. In the past, segregation in housing resulted in enclaves of concentrated poverty, which was perpetuated by the structures of public housing subsidies and welfare programs that tend to tie low-income persons to their current residences. But a novel housing experiment in Chicago from the late 1970s demonstrated that relocating families from urban areas blighted by poverty to suburban neighborhoods led to drastic improvements in employment and educational achievement.

Here in Manatee County, although a far cry from Chicago geographically and demographically, we still suffer from a severe shortage of affordable housing for a significant percentage of the population. 2016 figures from the Florida Housing Data Clearinghouse estimated that in our neighboring county to the south, Sarasota, 42.2% of all households are dealing with an unaffordable living situation. High rental rates in housing throughout Sarasota and Manatee counties leads to families spending a disproportionate amount of their income on housing, rather than allocating precious resources to necessities such as food, transportation, and insurance. It's no surprise that people who are less concerned with how to pay rent each month are also able to focus more of their time and effort

on other significant life pursuits, including advancement in education and employment.

The opportunities to "do good" and contribute to bettering the community in which you work are plentiful in Manatee County, an area that abounds with worthy causes and has an array of exceptional non-profit organizations. Habitat for Humanity is an organization that I've had the privilege of serving as a board member for since last summer, and the need has never been greater during these unusual times to support local non-profits such as Habitat for Humanity that make a tangible impact in Man-

atee County. Because we, the Manatee County Bar Association, are influencers and well-connected in the community, we can, through our collective efforts and outreach, help people from all walks of life realize one of the most elemental components of the American dream, owning a home. In doing so, we enhance the lives of our community members and make great strides in bringing housing justice to Manatee County.



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Nomination Deadline For The Annual Pro Bono Service Awards Is October 22

Nominations are still being accepted for the annual pro bono service awards, which honor lawyers, judges, law firms, and associations that have contributed extraordinary pro bono service. The nomination deadline for all categories is Thursday, October 22, 2020, no later than 5 p.m.

Every year, in a ceremonial session of the Florida Supreme Court, more than two dozen lawyers and judges are honored by the court and The Florida Bar for the free legal assistance they have provided. For each of these members of The Florida Bar, as well as a law firm and a voluntary bar association, this honor underscores a professional commitment to service and acknowledges the many hours of pro bono work performed to help children, victims of human trafficking, the elderly, refugees, the poor and countless others who wouldn't be able to afford the legal assistance they so badly need.

The 2021 pro bono service awards ceremony will be held at the Florida Supreme Court at 3:30 p.m., Thursday, January 28, 2021.

The road to this annual ceremony begins now, with the call for nominations.

The Florida Bar and the chief justice of the Supreme Court invite nominations from legal aid groups, civic organizations, fellow lawyers, and regular citizens who know of a special lawyer, judge, law firm or voluntary bar that has freely given of time and expertise in making legal services available to the poor.

Nominations must be received by Thursday, October 22. The online nomination forms are available on The Florida Bar's website at for the following award categories:

THE TOBIAS SIMON PRO BONO SERVICE AWARD

Presented annually by the chief justice to a lawyer to recognize extraordinary contributions in ensuring the availability of legal services to the poor. Named for the late Miami civil rights lawyer Tobias Simon, the award represents the Supreme Court's highest recognition of a private lawyer for pro bono service. All current recipients of The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Awards are considered for this prestigious award, as are direct nominees who have demonstrated exemplary pro bono service over the course of their careers.

THE FLORIDA BAR PRESIDENT'S PRO BONO SERVICE AWARD

This award is given to an outstanding attorney for each of the state's 20 judicial circuits and to an outstanding attorney among the out-of-state Florida Bar members.

THE LAW FIRM COMMENDATION

This statewide award, presented by the chief justice, recognizes a law firm that has demonstrated a significant contribution in the provision of pro bono legal services to individuals or groups that cannot otherwise afford the services. This award recognizes extraordinary commitment on the part of a law firm to provide access to the courts for all Floridians.

THE VOLUNTARY BAR ASSOCIATION PRO BONO SERVICE AWARD

Presented by the chief justice, this award recognizes a voluntary bar association that has demonstrated a significant contribution in the delivery of legal services on a pro bono basis to individuals or groups that cannot otherwise afford the services. This award recognizes an extraordinary commitment to provide access to the courts for all Floridians.

THE DISTINGUISHED JUDICIAL SERVICE AWARD

Presented by the chief justice, this award is given for outstanding and sustained service to the public, especially as it relates to support of pro bono legal services.

DISTINGUISHED FEDERAL JUDICIAL SERVICE AWARD

This award, presented by the chief justice, recognizes an active or retired federal judge for outstanding and sustained service to the public, whether through legal or civic service or a combination of them, especially as it relates to the support of pro bono legal services.



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REMEMBERING RICHARD "DICK" GADSDEN GROFF

JANUARY 25, 1944 - AUGUST 30, 2020

On August 30, 2020, the Manatee County Bar Association lost one of its long-time members, Richard Gadsden Groff. He was born on January 25, 1944 in St Louis, Missouri. Since his father was in the Army, Dick lived in various places around the world including Japan, Roanoke, New Orleans, Macon, Colorado Springs, Jacksonville, FL and finally Bradenton. While living in New Orleans, he used his musical talent to lead a folk band and liked to mention he became friends with the members of Peter, Paul, and Mary. Dick also enjoyed participating in community theater at that time.

Dick was a U.S. Air Force veteran, serving in Vietnam and earning the rank of Captain. After Richard was discharged, he graduated with his bachelor's degree from Loyola University in New Orleans before graduating with his Juris Doctorate degree from the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. After he moved to Bradenton, Dick practiced law with several firms including Dye, Deitrich, Petruff & St. Paul, P.A. for over 12 years. Dick was a member of the Georgia, Colorado, South Carolina, and Florida Bars. He primarily practiced labor and employment law and was one of the first attorneys in Manatee County to specialize in that area. Later, Dick established his own firm where practiced until he retired.

Dick loved sailing and golf. He loved golf so much, that he created a golfing history and rules website that still exists today. He even travelled to St Andrews, Scotland several times to play the Old Course.

An interesting fact is that Dick's middle name was a tribute to a direct relative of his family, American general and politician Christopher Gadsden (1724–1805), who designed the famous "Gadsden Flag" in 1775 during the American Revolution. So whenever you see that flag, which has become quite popular again, think of Dick Groff.



Local Government/Community Association Attorney

PERSSON, COHEN & MOONEY, P.A., a small boutique law firm with offices in downtown Venice and Lakewood Ranch, seeks an attorney to assist with its expanding local government and community association collections practice. The ideal candidate would have an established clientele to contribute to the firm while at the same time having enough availability to assist the current attorneys with their workload. However, the firm is also open to candidates with a strong desire to develop a practice in local government law. Must be an active member of the Florida Bar. Experience with municipalities, special districts and/or community associations preferred. Please forward cover letter and resume to agilmore@swflgovlaw.com.

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AFTER MUCH CONSIDERATION, THE MCBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS CHOSEN TO CANCEL THIS YEAR'S HOLIDAY PARTY DUE TO COVID-19 CONCERNS. HOWEVER, ADDITIONAL VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND CREATIVE EVENTS ARE BEING PLANNED. IT WAS A HARD DECISION, BUT THE HEALTH AND WELL BEING OF OUR MEMBERS IS A TOP PRIORITY.

*2020 Holiday Party
is Cancelled*



THE MCBA PROUDLY
PRESENTS

A SALUTE TO BRAVERY

MEDAL OF HONOR
RECIPIENT,
GARY BEIKIRCH

Exclusive Virtual Event
for MCBA Members!
Thursday, November 19, 2020
NOON on Zoom
More details to come!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

October 15, 2020	Diversity & Inclusion Committee Virtual Meeting
October 28, 2020	General Membership Meeting
November 4, 2020	Board of Directors Meeting
November 11, 2020	YLD Board of Directors Meeting
November 12, 2020	Date Change, Diversity & Inclusion Committee Virtual Meeting
November 19, 2020	Special Meeting with Medal of Honor Recipient
November 19, 2020	POSTPONED: Judge Farrance Retirement Party - TBD
December 2, 2020	Board of Directors Meeting
December 9, 2020	YLD Board of Directors Meeting
December 17, 2020	Diversity & Inclusion Committee Meeting
January 6, 2021	Board of Directors Meeting
January 13, 2021	YLD Board of Directors Meeting
January 14, 2021	Diversity & Inclusion Committee Meeting
January 27, 2021	General Membership Meeting
February 3, 2021	Board of Directors Meeting
February 10, 2021	YLD Board of Directors Meeting
February 18, 2021	Diversity & Inclusion Committee Meeting
February 24, 2021	General Membership Meeting
March 3, 2021	Board of Directors Meeting
March 10, 2021	YLD Board of Directors Meeting
March 18, 2021	Diversity & Inclusion Committee Meeting
March 31, 2021	General Membership Meeting
April 7, 2021	Board of Directors Meeting
April 14, 2021	YLD Board of Directors Meeting
April 15, 2021	Diversity & Inclusion Committee Meeting
April 16, 2021	Spring Social at the Beach!
May 5, 2021	Board of Directors Meeting
May 12, 2021	YLD Board of Directors Meeting
May 20, 2021	Diversity & Inclusion Committee Meeting
May 26, 2021	LAW DAY General Membership Meeting
June 2, 2021	Board of Directors Meeting
June 9, 2021	YLD Board of Directors Meeting
June 17, 2021	Diversity & Inclusion Committee Meeting
June 30, 2021	Annual Meeting: General Membership Meeting

*dates are subject to change – check your weekly News You Can
Use email for updates

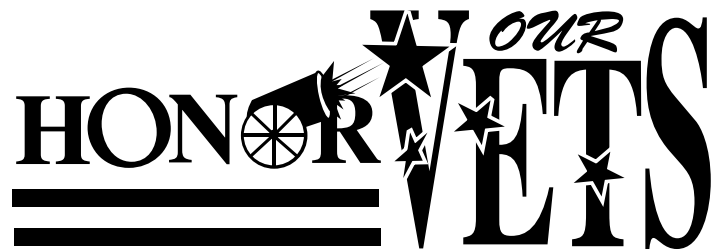
Welcome New Member

SARAH E. WARREN, ESQ.

Stetson University, 1994

Year admitted to the Florida Bar: 1995

Ms. Warren is an Assistant County Attorney with the Manatee County Attorney's Office, 1112 Manatee Ave. W, Bradenton, FL 34205. Area(s) of practice: Labor & Employment Law, City, County & Local Government Law.



Veteran's Day November 11



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2020-2021

MCBA YOUNG LAWYER OF THE YEAR

Points:

- 2 Points - Social Media Engagement with Manatee YLD
- 5 Points - Participation in YLD Virtual or Live Events
- 5 Points - MCBA General Membership Luncheon

WINNER WILL RECEIVE AN ADVERTISING
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The young lawyer that has accumulated the most points by May 2021 will be announced as the 2020-2021 Manatee Young Lawyer of the Year.

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OCTOBER VIRTUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Welcome!

Diana Shoemaker

President and CEO of
Manatee Habitat for
Humanity



Wednesday, October 28, 2020
12 Noon on ZOOM

WITH THANKS TO OUR ANNUAL SPONSORS:



All Attendees will be entered to win a \$20 Gift
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**Divorce: What Every Advisor Should Know About
the Latest Trusts & Estates Developments***

*2 credits pending approval for Attorney, CPA, CFP, and Trust Officers.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2020

Live Webcast via Zoom

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

Whether advising clients before, during or after marriage, professional advisors should be aware of important tools, techniques and other considerations in order to advantageously position their clients in the event of divorce. With the increasing overlap among professional disciplines, advisors have much to gain from having cross-disciplinary fluency.



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The firm's attorneys practicing in the area of Wills, Trusts and Estates are currently accepting referrals and new clients in the following areas:

- Estate planning
- Probate and trust administration and litigation
- Elective share and surviving spouse rights
- Homestead issues
- Probate and trust related appeals
- Elder Law
- Guardianship administration and litigation
- Public benefits and Medicaid planning
- Veteran's benefits



Jeffrey S. Goethe, Esq.

Admitted to the Florida Bar in 1990
Florida Bar Board-Certified in Wills, Trusts & Estates
Fellow, American College of Trust and Estate Counsel
Past President, Manatee County Bar Association



Lawrence W. Thomas, Esq.

Admitted to the Florida Bar in 1985
Past Director and Secretary of the Manatee County Bar Association



Kevin M. Colliver, Esq.

Admitted to the Florida Bar in 1997
Member, Manatee County Bar Association
LL.M., Taxation, Univ. of Florida



M. Brandon Robinson, Esq.

Admitted to the Florida Bar in 2015
United States Dept. of Veteran's Affairs
Accredited Attorney
Combat Veteran, United States Marine Corps
Director, Manatee County Bar Association Young Lawyer's Division

Serving Sarasota and Manatee County from our main office in Bradenton. Available by appointment at additional locations.

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bhoyle@hoylefirm.com

1401 Manatee Avenue West, Ste. 900
Bradenton, FL 34205

Calendar availability and full bio at
floridamediators.org/RobertHoyle



34 YEARS EXPERIENCE

- Harvard College B.A., 1975
- Capital University Law School, J.D., Cum Laude, 1986
- Harvard Law School Mediation Training Program
- Chairman, Florida Bar Alternative Dispute Resolution Section 2015-2016
- Chairman, Florida Bar Council of Sections 2018-2019
- Certified Circuit Civil Mediator
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November 11th is Veterans Day



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If you are interested in advertising in the *Inter Alia*, please contact Graceann Frederico at (941) 741-4091 or at

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Copy deadline is the 1st of the month.

Payment is expected at time of publication.

Checks may be made payable to MCBA, P.O. Box 796, Bradenton, FL 34206.

Ad rates are as follows:

Business card	\$40.00
1/4 page	\$60.00
1/2 page	\$90.00
Full page	\$150.00
Ad Layout	\$25.00



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