

INTER ALIA

SEPTEMBER 2021

NEWSLETTER OF THE MANATEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Clerk Of The Court Liaison Committee Begins

By Dustin Wagner, Esq.; MCBA Director, YLD President



The MCBA Board of Directors formed a new Clerk of the Court liaison committee recently. Andre Perron, Faith Brown, and I will lead this committee for the 2021-2022 term. We will monitor changes to our Florida laws or rules that impact our Clerk's office and legal community. More importantly we

want to expedite communications and updates between our Clerk's office and MCBA members monthly.

As you know, our Clerk's office has been hit hard by the pandemic. The current Clerk of the Court, Angelina "Angel" Colonesso, has been fighting to course-correct issues that were created in the wake of Covid-19. Initially, our Clerk's office had to navigate around restrictions that limited employees/ services from the start of the pandemic. Thereafter, the Clerk's Office was confronted with a significant decline in revenues, which contributed to employment shortages, and inevitably created delays in filings. However, we believe filing delays are only temporary, and the Clerk has been working overtime to get caught up.

As the Clerk's office continues to proceed through this difficult time, they are still dealing with a shrinking pool of employee candidates. The Clerk adjusted the hourly pay from \$12.95 to \$15.00 dollars, which helped to attract more candidates. Yet, some of the new hires, such as a deputy clerk, can take up to a year to train and earn signature authority. Thus, if you know of hard-working individuals, including highly motivated high school individuals, looking for an opportunity to try a different career path, let them know they should consider applying to the Clerk's office.

Tackling other issues (like funding) may require all-handson-deck from the community to maximize impact. MCBA members are encouraged to contact local legislators to press for more funding towards our Clerk's Office. Once matters have returned to normal and funding is adequate, the Clerk intends on implementing changes to the training process. The Clerk would like to obtain modern training modules that educate and test employees faster.

Next, do not forget about the change that occurred with Fla. R. Jud. Admin 2.420 effective July 1, 2021. Currently, the Clerk's office is no longer required to designate and maintain information as confidential unless the filer follows the notice procedures. Thus, filers are solely responsible for ensuring any confidential information contained in court records filed with the Clerk is appropriately/precisely identified for redaction. This means that filers will need to 1) file a notice of confidential information 2) identify the precise location(s) of confidential information, and 3) identify they type of confidential information or provision that is applicable. These changes apply to small claims cases, county court civil cases, and most circuit court civil cases. So, if you are filing documents with Social Security numbers, bank account numbers, or other non-public information, you need to be aware of these changes.

Lastly, you can read updates directly from the Clerk of Court by checking out Clerk's News at https://www.manateeclerk. com/clerks-news/. Subsequently, if any member has a concern or suggestion to relay with the Clerk's office, feel free to contact a committee member and we will bring it to the Clerk's attention. That is all for this inaugural committee article. We look forward to keeping you informed as we proceed.

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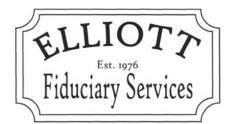


Annalisa Costanzo, Esq. Joins Lancaster & Eure, PA

Lancaster & Eure, PA is pleased to announce the addition of Attorney Annalisa Costanzo to the Personal Injury section of the firm. Ms. Costanzo has been practicing law for over 5 years, with a focus on auto accidents, slip and falls, premises liability, wrongful death, products liability and catastrophic injuries.







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Robert M. Elliott Certified Master Guardian robb@elliottfiduciary.com

Matthew Elliott, Esq. matt@elliottfiduciary.com

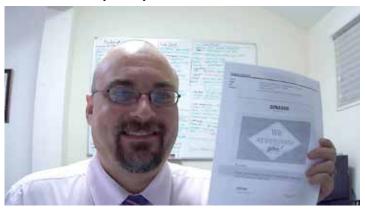
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MCBA member, Brandon Robinson, is smiling because he won a \$50 gift card to Amazon just for sending his dues in by our early renewal deadline. Keep reading Inter Alia and your eblasts – you never know what you may be able to win!



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Calendar availability and full bio at floridamediators.org/Robert Hoyle



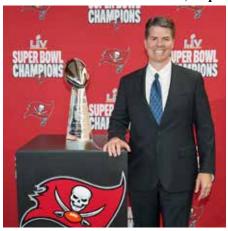
34 YEARS EXPERIENCE

- Harvard College B.A., 1975
- Capital University Law School, J.D., Cum Laude, 1986
- Harvard Law School Mediation Training Program
- Chaiman, Flonda Bar Alternative Dispute Resolution Section 2015-2016
- Chairman, Florida Bar Council of Sections 2018-2019
- Certified Circuit Civil Mediator
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Get to Know Our Members:

Solo/Small Firm Section Chairman: Steele Williams, Esq.

Steele Williams grew up all over the nation. He can legitimately say he is from Jacksonville, New Orleans, Rochester/Detroit, or New York/New Jersey. He went to the University of Florida for college where is mother's side of his family went to school. While at Flori-



da, Steele studied finance, economics and Greek and Roman history, literature and thought, graduating with high honors. He is a double Gator and earned his law degree with honors from Florida also.

Since college, he has been practicing civil and commercial litigation for over 25 years in the area. He has tried over 150 matters in court and arbitration involving a variety of matters. For over 10 years now he has been Board Certified with the Florida Bar in Business Litigation. Presently, Steele is on the Florida Bar Business and Contact Jury Instructions committee and the Florida Bar Board Certification committee for Business Litigation.

Steele is married to his lovely wife Traci, and they have 4 children, 2 of which are in high school, 1 in middle school, and 1 who is looking to go to college. Steele's family are long-time members of Sarasota Baptist church, where Steele and his wife Traci have taught 4 and 5 year-olds for almost 20 years.

Diversity & Inclusion Committee Chairman: Alvin K. Brown, Esq.



Alvin K. Brown is an attorney and data protection and privacy consultant with over 20 years of Department of Defense (DoD) and Intelligence Community (IC) experience working on National Security, Cybersecurity, Data Protection, and Privacy matters. During his career, Alvin has served in operations, management, policy, compliance and legal positions at the Central Intelligence Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, Office of Naval Intelligence, U.S Special Operations

Command, U.S. Central Command, and U.S. Special Operations Command Central.

Alvin earned a Juris Doctorate (JD) and Master of Law (LL.M) in International Law from Stetson University College of Law and a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Interdisciplinary Social Science from the University of South Florida.

The Department of Defense designated Alvin as an Information Warfare Dominance Officer, Intelligence Officer, Counterintelligence Investigator and Special Operations Intelligence Officer.

Additionally, Alvin holds several private sector certifications, to include being a Certified Information Privacy Professional, Certified Fraud Examiner, Certified Financial Crimes Investigator and Certified Compliance and Ethics Professional.

Probate & Guardianship Section Chairman: Jeffrey S. Goethe, Esq.



Jeffrey S. Goethe is a partner with the Bradenton law firm of Barnes Walker, Goethe, Perron & Shea, PLLC. Mr. Goethe is a graduate of Maryville College in Tennessee and the University of Tennessee College of Law. He is board certified by the Florida Bar as a specialist in wills, trusts and estates law and a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel. Mr. Goethe is a member of the Executive Council of the Florida Bar's Real Property

Probate and Trust Law Section and serves as Chair of the Section's Homestead Issues Study Committee. He is a two-time past chair of the Florida Bar Probate Rules Committee and a current member of the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee.

Real Property Section Chairman: Joseph B. Battaglia, Esq.

Joseph Battaglia has been licensed to practice law since 2008 and has practiced in the areas of bankruptcy, real estate, and civil litigation. Joe established Battaglia Law, PLLC in January, 2020 with a heavy focus on the practice of real estate, including residential and commercial closings.





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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.

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Build your law practice network by attending our luncheons, events, meetings, and socials. Your lunches at our General Membership Meetings are included in your dues!

INTERACT WITH YOUR JUDGES

Our judges often can be found teaching or participating in our CLEs, and attending our various events!

ONLINE DIRECTORY LISTING

Your membership includes a basic listing in our searchable online directory. The public can find you when they search our online directory for a local attorney!

REFERRALS & MENTORING

MCBA attorneys are known for their professional manner and willingness to assist other attorneys with referrals and mentoring!

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Welcome New Members

Erin Brosious, Esq. Barry School of Law Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2017 Firm: Kallins, Little & Brosious; Palmetto, FL Area(s) of Practice: Criminal Law, Person Injury, and Family Law

David Constantino, Esq.

Western Michigan University Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2004 Firm: Najmy Thompson, PL; Bradenton, FL Area(s) of Practice: Civil Litigation, Real Estate, Securities

Annalisa M. Costanzo, Esq.

Stetson University Admitted to The Florida Bar: 2016 Firm: Lancaster & Eure, PA; Sarasota, FL Area(s) of Practice: Personal Injury

Natalya Evans, Esq.

Stetson University Admitted to The Florida Bar: 2009 Firm: Your Family Matters, PA; Sarasota, FL Area(s) of Practice: Family Law, Estate Planning, Elder Law

Michelle Grantham, Esq.

Stetson University Admitted to The Florida Bar: 2018 Firm: Najmy Thompson, PL; Bradenton, FL Area(s) of Practice: Civil Litigation, Appellate Practice, Personal Injury

Kate Halvorsen, Esq.

Stetson University Admitted to The Florida Bar, 1993 Firm: Kathi B. Halvorsen, PA; Sarasota, FL Area(s) of Practice: Family Law, Workers' Compensation, Social Security Disability

Whittni M. Hodges, Esq. Stetson University Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2012 Firm: Manatee County Government; Bradenton, FL Area(s) of Practice: Civil Litigation, Admiralty & Maritime, Government

Jennifer D. Joynt Sanchez, Esq. University of Florida Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2001 Firm: Office of the Public Defender, 12th Judicial Circuit Area(s) of Practice: Criminal Law

Shaun R. Koby, Esq.

University of Florida Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2008 Firm: Lydecker, LLP; Tampa, FL Area(s) of Practice: Civil Litigation, Personal Injury, Litigation/Trial Advocacy Leslie W. Loftus, Esq. John Marshall University Admitted to The Florida Bar, 1994 Firm: Loftus Law; Sarasota, FL Area(s) of Practice: Family Law

Christopher McDonagh, Esq.

University of Southern California Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2020 Firm: Raven & McDonagh, PC; Sarasota, FL Area(s) of Practice: Civil Litigation, Contracts, Bankruptcy

G. Robert McLain, Jr., Esq.

George Mason University Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2010 Firm: Schipani, Norman & McLain, PA Area(s) of Practice: Civil Trial/Litigation, Family Law, Business Litigation

Monika Miljkovic-Jenkins, Esq.

Barry University Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2021 Firm: Hamilton, Price & Marshall, PA; Bradenton, FL Area(s) of Practice: Insurance, Construction, Personal Injury

Bonnie Lee Polk, Esq.

Stetson University Year Admitted to The Florida Bar, 1994 Firm: Williams Parker Harrison Dietz & Getzen; Sarasota, FL Area(s) of Practice: Litigation/Trial Advocacy, Trusts & Estates

Cynthia A. Riddell, Esq.

Stetson University Year Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2008 Firm: Riddell Law Group; Sarasota, FL Area(s) of Practice: Real Estate, Estate Planning, Bankruptcy

Nicholas K. Sato, Esq.

Western Michigan University Year Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2016 Firm: Lutz Bobo & Telfair, PA; Sarasota, FL Area(s) of Practice: Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice, Litigation/Trial Advocacy



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September General Membership Luncheon

WELCOME!

Dr. Robert V. Barylski Former Dean of USF-Sarasota An expert on civil-military relations in Russia and Russian policy.



Wednesday, September 29th, 2021 12 Noon Pier 22

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Mediation Arbitration



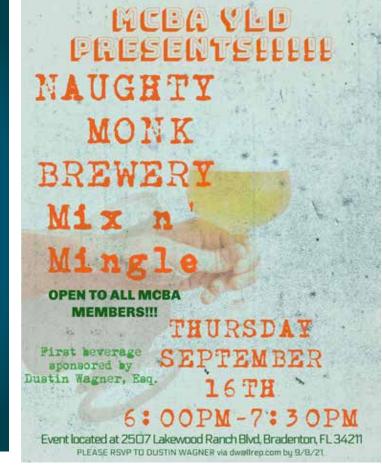
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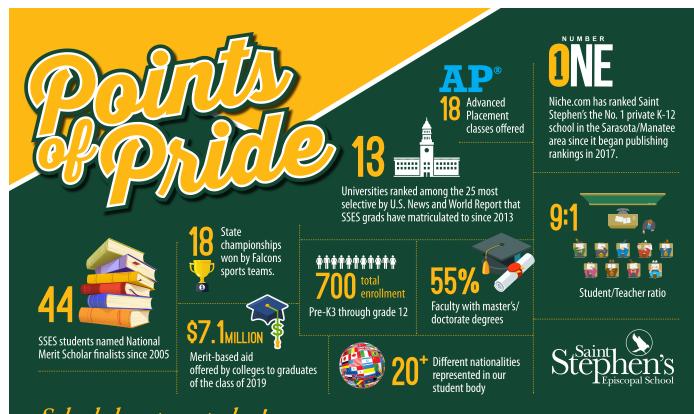
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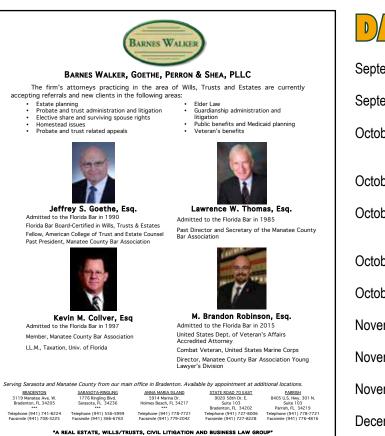
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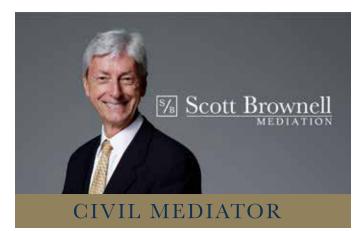
Schedule a tour today! f 😏 🚥 🖸





September 16, 2021	YLD Mix & Mingle at The Naughty Monk
September 29, 2021	General Membership Luncheon
October 5, 2021	Probate & Guardianship Virtual CLE – What's New in 2021
October 6, 2021	MCBA BOD Meeting
October 12, 2021	Solo/Small Firm Virtual CLE – QuickBooks for Law Firms
October 13, 2021	MCBA YLD BOD Meeting
October 27, 2021	General Membership Luncheon
November 3, 2021	MCBA BOD Meeting
November 5, 2021	Investiture of Judge Bruning
November 10, 2021	MCBA YLD BOD Meeting
December 1, 2021	MCBA BOD Meeting
December 8, 2021	MCBA YLD BOD Meeting

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



- Personal Injury Matters
- REAL ESTATE LITIGATION
- MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
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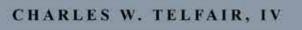
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Presenter: Carrie Kane

Carrie is a QuickBooks Certified Pro Advisor, and holds and MBA in Accounting. She is a Professor of Accounting with Florida Southwestern State College and had extensive experience with global corporation, regional, mid-size and small businesses.





Tuesday, October 12th, 2021 Noon -1 pm on Zoom

Only \$10 for MCBA Members \$20 Non MCBA Members Register by October 7, 2021 Approved for 1 General/.5 Technology Credits To register email: mcba@manateebar.com

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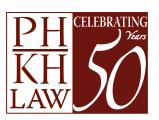
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Applications are online at <u>www.manateebar.com</u>

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MCBA Virtual CLE

What's New in 2021 for Probate & Trust Attorneys?

The Uniform Directed Trust Act

Florida "Steps it Up" with New Community Property Trust Act

Presumed Reasonable Fees in Probate and Trust Proceedings Florida Homestead and Revocable Trusts (and Cooperatives)



JEFFREY S. GOETHE, Esq. Barnes Walker, Goethe, Perron & Shea, PLLC Bradenton, FL



J. GRIER PRESSLY, III, Esq. Pressly, Pressly, Randolph & Pressly, P.A. Palm Beach, FL



JENNA G. RUBIN, Esq.. Gutter Chaves Josepher Rubin Forman Fleisher Miller, P.A., Boca Raton, FL



M. TRAVIS HAYES, Esq. Grant Fridkin Pearson, P.A Naples, FL

Tuesday, October 5th, 2021 Noon -2 pm on Zoom

Free for MCBA Members Non MCBA Members: \$10 Register by October 1, 2021 Approved for 2.5 Credits For more info email: mcba@manateebar.com

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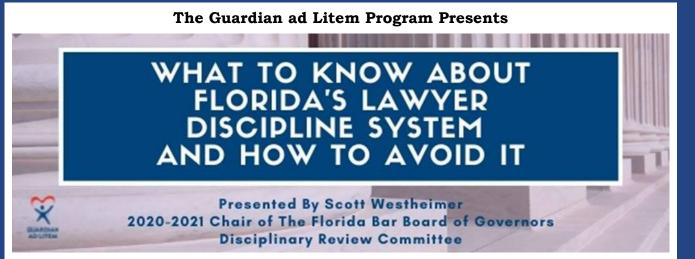
Steven Heintz is in the less than 1% of Florida lawyers that are board certified by the Florida Bar. Less than 1/2 of 1% are board certified by the National Board. Steve is certified by the National Board of Trial Advocacy











Please join us for *What to Know About Florida's Lawyer Discipline System and How to Avoid It*, September 17 from 12 P.M. to 1 P.M. virtually via GoToWebinar.

Scott Westheimer, 2020-2021 Chair of The Florida Bar Board of Governors Disciplinary Review Committee, shares his experience as a member of the disciplinary review committee. Westheimer will discuss The Florida Bar's disciplinary process, including possible sanctions. He will provide attendees with the Top Ways to Avoid a Bar Grievance and will discuss ethics and professionalism, including the ethics of technology and social media use.

The webinar is approved for 1 Ethics and 1 Technology credit with The Florida Bar. After completion, the presentation will be added to the GAL YouTube Channel, <u>www.FreeFloridaCLE.com</u>. The channel has a variety of CLE courses designed to assist you in your legal practice. Please <u>subscribe here</u> to receive updates on new CLE course as they become available.

Please register for the webinar below. If you have any questions, please email thomasina.moore@gal.fl.gov.

Thank you and hope to see you virtually!

Register here for What to Know About Florida's Lawyer Discipline System and How to Avoid It

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6048909759072967438 or www.joinwebinar.com

Webinar ID: 809-789-291

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.





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Rebecca L. Hunt Magistrate/Hearing Officer, Sarasota



Hon. Teresa Dees Circuit Court Judge, Manatee



Paul Hudson Magistrate/Hearing Officer, Manatee



Hon. Maria Ruhl Circuit Court Judge, Sarasota



Mary Floyd Magistrate/Hearing Officer, Sarasota

As the nation ages and baby boomers reach retirement, we are all facing a new wave of gray divorce. This year's live conference will focus on helping seniors through the trials and tribulations of premarital planning and dissolution. Presentations will include 2021 Family Case Law Review, the Annual Judge's Panel, and discussions of competency, ethics, and planning issues. Eldercaring Coordination will be presented by Judge Michelle Morley, 5th Circuit and Linda Fieldstone, M.Ed. Attendance is open to family law professionals, including but not limited to, judiciary, attorneys, mediators, mental health professionals and financial specialists, who work in both litigation and collaborative family law matters. Do not miss this opportunity to hear directly from the Twelfth Circuit Court Judges, Magistrates, Hearing Officers, and court staff.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2021 - 8:00 A.M - 5:00 P.M. THE GROVE, LAKEWOOD RANCH, FL

To Register Go Online to: https://conta.cc/3AWb2x8

The FCPC has applied for 5.5 from CEs Florida Psychological Association. The Florida Psychological Association (FPA) is approved by Florida Department of Health, Board of Psychology and Board of School Psychology to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Florida Psychological Association is approved by the Florida Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, and Mental Health Counseling as a provider of continuing education. FPA maintains responsibility for this program and its contents." "Florida Psychological Association is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Florida Psychological Association for psychologists. Florida Psychological Association maintains responsibility for this program and its content." FCPC has applied for CLEs. **CME approval**: 9.1 CME overall for Family Mediators with 5.2 of the hours being Diversity/Cultural Awareness, those hours apply to all mediators. Masks and social distancing as recommended by the CDC.



Family Court Professional Coalition - 2021 Annual Conference -HYBRID **"As Time Goes By: Divorce in the Golden Years"**

Wher	When: Friday, October 1, 2021 Time: 8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m. e: The Grove, 10670 Boardwalk Loop, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202 or Virtual (Zoom)
8:00 a.m 8:30 a.m.	Registration/Check-in; Continental Breakfast, Welcome: Judge Maria Ruhl, Chris Wailand, FCPC President
8:30 a.m 10:30 a.m.	It Was a Very Good Year": Cases, Statutes, and Rules Update 2021- Sharon O'Day, Esq., Valerie Fisher, MA, LMHC, NCC, CCMHC, and Chris Wailand, CPA, ABV, CFF, CFE
10:45 a.m11:50 a.m.	"When I'm 64": Assessing Capacity and Accommodating Capacity Issues: Brad Broeder, PhD
	"Help the Aged": Florida Enacts Statute on Eldercaring Coordination: The Time has Come for You to Learn More! Linda Fieldstone, M.Ed. and Judge Michelle Morley, 5th Circuit Court
1:15 p.m 2:30 p.m.	"When You Are Old and Gray": Estate Planning and Elder Law Issues with Prenuptials, Divorce, and Special Needs Trust: R. Lynette Mancuso, Esq. and William Shaffer, Esq.
2:45 p.m 4:00 p.m.	"Both Sides Now": Eldercare Ethics Issues Panel: R. Lynette Mancuso, Esq., William Shaffer, Esq., Judge Hunter Carroll, Josh Sankes, CDFA, AWMA, WMS, and Brad Broeder, PhD
4:00 p.m 5:00 p.m.	"Old Friends": Judge's Panel: 12th Circuit Judiciary, moderated by Brad Broeder, PhD
	TO REGISTER ONLINE: https://conta.cc/3AWb2x8
Name:	Firm:
Address:	
Phone:	E-mail:

Profession: _____ Registration Options:

- Attendance: In person OR Virtual Zoom
- **Membership Renewal:** Early-bird 9/02-9/16: \$225 9/17 09/24: \$250 (2021 Members renewing for 2022: Price includes Membership fee, Conference attendance, CLEs, CMEs, CEs)

Phone: (

- New Membership Applicant**: 9/02 9/16: \$225 9/17 09/24: \$250
- CE's included in price, do you want CEs? Yes **CE's for School Psychologists, Psychologists, LCSW, LMFT and LMHC License Number:
- Support Staff: Early-bird 9/02 9/16: \$175 9/17 09/24: \$200. (Includes 2022 FCPC Membership (per By-Laws), Conference Attendance, CLEs, CMEs and CEs)
- Judiciary & Court Admin/Staff: 🗖 No Fee
- Support Staff, Non-Profits & Government Agencies: 550 Conference Attendance Only

• **FPA Members:** S150 Conference Attendance Only S195 Conference Attendance & FCPC Membership ***Registration & Membership is open only to professionals practicing in the areas of Law, Mental Health & Finance and qualified for membership in FCPC as per the By-Laws.*

Return form & check payable to FCPC, mail to: Michelle Cross at Mariner Wealth Advisors, 240 S. Pineapple Ave, Suite #200, Sarasota, FL 34236 Registrations will be cancelled should payment not be received on or before September 24, 2021. **Inquiries:** Call Shaun Hoyle at (941) 807-0836 or email: <u>Circuit12FCPC@Outlook.com</u> *Cancellation policy: Written requests for a refund only due to emergency must be submitted prior to September 24, 2021 via email to: Circuit12FCPC@outlook.com (FCPC membership \$75 - if renewing and processing fees deducted; balance refunded). In person attendance: Masks / Social Distancing as recommended by the CDC.*

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Contact Graceann Frederico for more information! mcba@manateebar.com

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Website: www.MANATEEBAR.com

Mailing address: P.O. Box 796, Bradenton, FL 34206 Phone: (941) 741-4091 Email: MCBA@manateebar.com

Executive Director: Graceann Frederico E-mail: MCBA@manateebar.com Layout & Design: Teledrex, Inc. (941) 723-5003

Inter Alia, the newsletter of the Manatee County Bar Association, is published 8 months annually and is circulated electronically to local attorneys, judges and law office staff. Issues are later posted to the association website: www.manateebar.com. Rates show are for one issue. Discounts apply to multiple issues on a prepaid basis. Ads should be submitted as high resolution pdf files. Deadline for submission: First of the month.

For information, please call Graceann Frederico, Executive Director at (941) 741-4091 or email mcba@manateebar.com. For ad specifics or variations, contact: Joan at Teledrex: joan@teledrex.com.

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