



# INTER ALIA

MAY 2022

NEWSLETTER OF THE MANATEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

## Volunteers Welcome, Young and Old Manatee County Teen Court

*By, Aaron Crittenden, MCBA Director and YLD Past President*

For over two decades, Manatee County Teen Court, established under Administrative Order No. 2001-18.8, has been operating in Manatee County as a diversionary program designed to prevent the establishment of a pattern of delinquent behavior in our community's youth. This amazing program, supervised by Yantee Hines and supported by adult and youth volunteers, allows first-time juvenile offenders the opportunity avoid the juvenile justice system while holding them accountable for their actions. Qualifying offenders (most misdemeanor offenses) are screened on a pre-charge basis for determining eligibility for participation in the Teen Court program. If qualified, the youth offender is referred away from the juvenile court system pending successful completion of the Teen Court Program. Successful completion sees the youth offenders avoid permanent criminal records and offers a second chance at a clean slate.

While working through Teen Court program, the youth offender is required to plead guilty of the qualifying offense and is thereafter "tried" by a jury of their peers for the purpose of sentencing. The sentencing includes, but is not limited to, community service hours, participation as jurors in Teen Court, apologies to the family in open court, letters of apology to family and/or victim, counseling sessions, curfews, and no contact orders. The court proceedings are akin to the real deal. A Judge (who must be a lawyer in good standing with the Florida Bar) presides and young volunteers (or youths fulfilling their Teen Court sentencing obligations) act as



bailiffs, clerks, attorneys, and jurors. Opening statements from the youth attorneys begin the proceedings followed by the youth offender being placed under oath and taking the witness stand. Direct, cross, and redirect examinations commence followed by closing statements as well as an opportunity for the youth offender to make a statement on their own behalf. Afterwards, the jury of their peers proceeds to the deliberation room to elect a foreperson and reach a fair and just sentence. After sentencing, the youth offender and their parent(s) meet with a Teen Court Coordinator and the sentence is reduced to a contract.

Failure to meet the requirements of the contract may see the youth offender removed from the diversion program and sent back to the juvenile court system.

I have been honored to volunteer as a Teen Court Judge over the past 4 years and I encourage any Manatee County Bar Association Member who is looking to give back to the community and help promote the success of this extraordinary program to sign up for volunteering. Teen Court occurs most Tuesdays on the 4th Floor of the MCJC and typically runs from 5:45-6:45, but volunteering as a Judge requires only 1-hour monthly commitments. Additionally, if you have high school aged children who are looking for community service hours and/or are interested in the legal process, youth volunteers are needed to help fill out the roles of attorney, bailiff, Clerk of Court, and jurors. If interested, please contact Yantee Hines at 941-741-4027.



## Highlights Of The March General Membership Luncheon

The MCBA welcomed Matt Walsh, founder and CEO of Observer Media Group. The company's newspapers and websites serve Sarasota and Manatee counties, including the East County Observer, Longboat Observer, Sarasota Observer and Siesta Key Observer; the communities of Winter Garden, Windermere, Ocoee and Horizon West in Orange County; Palm Coast, Ormond Beach and Port Orange on the East Coast; Greater Jacksonville; and the Gulf Coast of Florida with the Business Observer. Altogether, the company's newspapers, websites and social media channels reach a weekly audience of more than 450,000 people.

Newly Elected Florida Bar President, and member of the MCBA, Scott Westheimer, was also featured at the luncheon. Scott becomes the first 12th Judicial Circuit attorney elected to the presidency of The Florida Bar.





## Welcome New Annual Sponsors to the MCBA!

*The association would like to welcome two new Annual Sponsors!*



The mission of Manatee Community Foundation is to partner with local citizens to strengthen and enhance our community through philanthropy, education, and service—now and forever. MCF values leadership, transparency, trust, integrity, loyalty, respect, and inclusivity in their work. Contact Susie Bowie at (941) 747-7765 for more information!



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# Chief Justice Canady Visits Bradenton Kiwanis!

Florida Chief Justice Charles T. Canady was in town on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 to speak at a very special Bradenton Kiwanis luncheon. Introduced by Senator Jim Boyd, Chief Justice Canady addressed the full house by providing an overview of the court system in Florida and how it navigated, and continues to navigate, through the changes caused by a pandemic. Not since 1916, when the Spanish Flu spread throughout the planet, has the court system been so affected. Chief Justice Canady also entertained questions and gave a special shout-out to the “Kiwanis Kids”, who were in attendance, for their many community projects in making Manatee County a better place. Several 12th Judicial Circuit judges were in attendance for the history making event. Bradenton Kiwanis is celebrating their 100th Anniversary this year.



*L to R: Judge Nicholas, Judge Brewer, Judge Doyle, Judge Dees, Judge Bonner, Chief Justice Canady, Judge Smith, Jr., Senator Boyd, Judge Moss, Judge Sniffen, Judge Gould, Judge Steele, Judge Inman and Judge Farrance.*

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 Year Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2014  
 Firm: Children’s Legal Services  
 Area(s) of Practice: Dependency

**Joe Campoli, Esq.**

Ohio Northern, 1995  
 Year Admitted to The Florida Bar, 1996  
 Firm: Office of Regional Counsel  
 Area(s) of Practice: Criminal Defense

**Autumn D. Carty, Esq.**

Barry University  
 Year Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2019  
 Firm: Roger D. Mason, II, PA  
 Area(s) of Practice: Consumer, Civil Litigation, Business

**Brooks R. Fusselman, Esq.**

Stetson University, 2017  
 Year Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2018  
 Firm: Barnes, Walker, Goethe, Perron & Shea, PLLC  
 Area(s) of Practice: Estate Planning, Probate, Guardianship

**Anna Marie Mitchell, Esq.**

University of Florida  
 Year Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2012  
 Firm: Anna Mitchell Law  
 Area(s) of Practice: Tax

**Christos Nicholoudis, Esq.**

Stetson College of Law  
 Year Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2018  
 Firm: The Law Firm of Christos Nicholoudis, PLLC  
 Area(s) of Practice: Civil Litigation, Criminal Law, Personal Injury



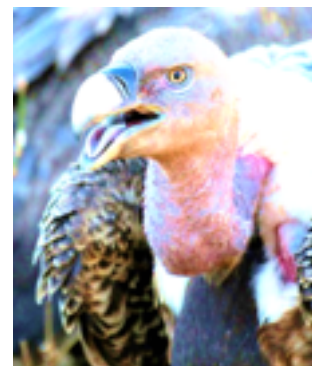
**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- May 11, 2022 MCBA YLD BOD Meeting
- May 25, 2022 LAW DAY Luncheon
- May 30, 2022 Memorial Day - Clerk CLOSED
- June 1, 2022 MCBA BOD Meeting
- June 8, 2022 MCBA YLD BOD Meeting
- June 14, 2022 TECH SUMMER SCHOOL – Free CLE
- June 29, 2022 Annual Luncheon Meeting
- July 12, 2022 TECH SUMMER SCHOOL – Free CLE
- August 9, 2022 TECH SUMMER SCHOOL – Free CLE

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

**SHOCKING DISCOVERIES AROUND THE BUZZARDS ROOST**

You cannot change history, but you can discover new people, facts and events which change the understanding of history. That is true of the legal community in Manatee County which evolved from pioneer days to the present. At one point in their career all Manatee County lawyers passed by the Buzzards Roost which holds the key to those discoveries. Join Judge Gilbert Smith, Jr. on May 25, 2022, at our Law Day Luncheon, when we visit the roost to uncover these new discoveries. Don’t be shocked but you better have your paintbrush ready!



## Is Your Firm a Threat to National Security? MCBA Member, Alvin K. Brown, Esq. Speaks at Bradenton Kiwanis Luncheon

On Tuesday, April 26th, Alvin K. Brown, a member of the MCBA and Chairman of the association's Diversity Committee, spoke at Bradenton Kiwanis. Al spoke on his expertise and knowledge regarding cybersecurity, especially for law firms. One shocking point of interest was that law firms could be a weak link in the chain of national security and targeted by countries and groups who profit by stealing sensitive information. Al briefly spoke regarding China, Russia and North Korea. 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.



Judge Gilbert Smith, Faith Brown, Alvin Brown, Graceann Frederico, and Steve Dye pose for a picture at Kiwanis luncheon

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**WE ARE PLEASED  
TO ANNOUNCE**

that effective May 16th, 2022

**Crystal D. Golm, Esq.**

of Golm Law Firm, P.A. will join

**Hamilton, Price & Marshall, P.A.**



Ms. Golm hails from New Mexico but has called Manatee County home for more than 20 years. She has been practicing law in Manatee County since 2005. She holds a Juris Doctor (J.D.) from NSU Shepard Broad Law and received a Bachelor of Criminal Justice (BCJ) from New Mexico State University. As a partner with our firm she will continue to focus on real estate transactions as well as providing estate planning, probate, corporate and business law counsel to our clients. Ms. Golm is licensed to practice in the states of Florida and Hawaii.



## Great News! The MCBA Member Directory is Underway....and so is the poster for the courthouse!

In celebration of our 120th year, the MCBA will be producing our own printed 2022-23 Member Directory and Resource Guide, as well as the membership poster! The Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve the directory and poster production at their May meeting. David Berube, of CG&B Publishing will be producing the directory and poster at no cost to the association. Ads to be included in the directory will be sold on a first come, first serve basis and space is limited! The poster is produced every 10 years and many hang proudly on the 2nd floor corridor of the Manatee County Judicial Center.

Members will receive notification on how to have their photo included in the Directory and on the poster. Members will also receive ad information.

The project will be undertaken during the 2022-23 Dues Renewal process, beginning in June, 2022. **ONLY THOSE WHO ARE MEMBERS, BOTH NEW AND RENEWED by JULY 30th WILL BE INCLUDED! ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS – SO RENEW EARLY!**

Look for your Dues/Membership Renewal Form in your email in June. We DO NOT mail them.

Be part of our 2022-23 Membership Directory and Poster - Just another great benefit to being a member of the MCBA!

**20th Judicial RECEPTION**

Wednesday, May 18, 2022  
5.30 - 7.30 pm  
Michael's Wine Cellar  
1283 S. Tamiami Trail  
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**Tickets**

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# Celebrating Our Membership - Beach Party 2022!

Caya Casa, on Holmes Beach, was the spot where over 80 members attended our annual spring social, aka “Beach Party” on April 29th. Members and guests enjoyed shrimp & oysters, steak sandwiches, corn on the cob, and more while beachfront on the beautiful Gulf of Mexico. New members and vintage members alike had fun dancing to DJ Lynch, playing ping pong, and just relaxing at the beach. Special thanks to the Beach Party Committee who always make this party a success! And a big thank you to the Grimes Family for providing the beautiful location, member Stacey Maloney for her delicious chocolate chip cookies from stacey’s sandcast cookies, and Gold Coast Eagle Distributing for the beverages!









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# LAW DAY LUNCHEON

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 25TH, 2022  
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## Searching for Will for Henry Lee Smalls, Jr.

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# JOB POSTINGS:



## Family Law Attorney Position

Gulfcoast Legal Services, Inc., a nonprofit civil legal aid provider, is seeking a full-time bilingual required, Family Law Staff Attorney to join our team in Pinellas County. This position includes remote work opportunities and weekly office hours at the InterCultural Advocacy Institute in Tarpon Springs and Clearwater, formerly the Hispanic Outreach Center.

This position involves a high degree of professionalism, advocacy, compassion, trauma informed care and independence. The successful candidate will provide a full range of high quality legal services to individual clients and to client groups, including representation in the Sixth Circuit Court. The position reports to an experienced Deputy Director for family law. Applicants should be comfortable working with survivors of abuse and trauma.

Gulfcoast Legal Services is an equal opportunity employer. Salary starting at \$50,000/yr DOE. We offer an excellent benefits package, 2% retirement match, generous paid time off, the opportunity to work partially remote hours, a 37.5 hour work week and professional development CLE payment assistance. Attorneys may also qualify for the Loan Repayment Assistance Program through the Florida Bar Foundation of up to \$5,000 yearly, as well as Public Service Loan Forgiveness programs. GLS requires all employees to be maintain full vaccination against COVID-19 unless an accommodation is legally required.

Interested applicants may send their resume to:

Tara Meyer  
Fiscal & Human Resources Meyer  
Taram@gulfcoastlegal.org

## Part-Time Family Law Attorney

Gulfcoast Legal Services, a nonprofit civil legal aid provider, is seeking a part-time Family Law staff attorney to join our team based out of our Bradenton office location. This position will require 20 hours/week. Occasional travel may be necessary in Manatee and Sarasota Counties. Remote work opportunities are available.

This position involves a high degree of professionalism, advocacy, compassion, trauma informed care and independence. The successful candidate will provide a full range of high quality legal services to individual clients and to client groups, including representation in Manatee and Sarasota Circuit Courts and outreach services. The position reports to an experienced Deputy Director for family law. Applicants should be comfortable working with survivors of abuse and trauma.

Gulfcoast Legal Services is an equal opportunity employer. Pay is \$25.00/ hour. We offer paid time off, ability to work from home and flexible schedules. GLS requires all employees to be maintain full vaccination against COVID-19 unless an accommodation is legally required. GLS is a non-profit agency and relies on grants to sustain its programs. Employment is contingent upon continued funding.

Interested applicants may send their resume to:

Tara Meyer  
Fiscal & Human Resources Coordinator  
Taram@gulfcoastlegal.org



## MCBA Member, Stacey Maloney, is Helping Disadvantaged Children, “one chip at a time”!

What were those fantastic chocolate chip cookies that were served at the association’s annual beach party? Were they little pieces sent from heaven, just like your grandma would make? They were the lifelong dream, created by our very own member, Stacy Maloney! For many years, she dreamed of building a company to help those in need while doing what she loves: baking cookies. Maloney donates 10% of net income to groups like Boys & Girls Club, Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, and Roots & Wings.

It’s not every day that you get the chance to change the world by eating cookies. So, what are you waiting for? Get yourself a box (or five) today! They are available for corporate giving, too! Check out stacey’s sandcastle cookies at [www.staceysandcastlecookies.com](http://www.staceysandcastlecookies.com).

As Stacey Maloney says, “Every child deserves a castle!©”

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Calendar availability and full bio at [floridamediators.org/Robert Hoyle](http://floridamediators.org/Robert_Hoyle)

- 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
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**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. Colver, 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  
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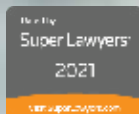
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1. The Special Magistrate must meet the following qualifications
  - a. A Special Magistrate must not be an elected or appointed official of the county.
  - b. A Special Magistrate must not be an elected or appointed official or employee of a taxing jurisdiction or of the State.
  - c. During a tax year in which a Special Magistrate serves, her or she must not represent any part before the board in any administrative review of property taxes.
  - d. All Special Magistrates must meet the qualifications specified in Section 194.035, F.S.
  
2. A Special Magistrate appointed to hear issues of exemption, classifications, and portability assessment difference transfers shall be a member of the Florida Bar, with no less than five years experience in the area of ad valorem taxation and having received training provided by the department, or with no less than three years of such experience and having completed training provided by the department.
  
3. A Special Magistrate appointed to hear issues regarding valuation of real estate shall be a state certified real estate appraiser with not less than five years experience in real property valuation and having received training provided by the department, or with no less than three years of such experience and having completed training provided by the department. A real property valuation Special Magistrate must be certified under Chapter 475, Part II F.S.
  - a. A Florida certified residential appraiser appointed by the Value Adjustment Board shall only hear petitions on the just valuation of residential real property of one to four residential units and shall not hear petitions on other types of real property.
  - b. A Florida certified general appraiser appointed by the Value Adjustment Board may hear petitions on the just valuation of any type of real property.
  
4. A Special Magistrate appointed to hear issues regarding valuation of tangible personal property shall be a designated member of a nationally recognized appraiser's organization with no less than five years experience in tangible personal property valuation and having received training provided by the department, or with no less than three years of such experience and having completed training provided by the department.
  
5. All Special Magistrates shall attend or receive an annual training program provided by the department. Special Magistrates substituting two years of experience must show they have completed the training by taking a written examination provided by the department. A Special Magistrate must receive or complete any required training prior to holding hearings.
  
6.
  - a. The Value Adjustment Board or Board legal counsel must verify a Special Magistrate's qualifications before appointing the Special Magistrate.
  - b. The selection of a Special Magistrate must be based solely on the experience and qualification of such magistrate, and must not be influenced by any party, or prospective party, to a board proceeding or by an such party with an in interest in the outcome of such proceeding. Special Magistrates must adhere to Rule 12D-9.022 F.AC., relating to disqualification or recusal.

Please note that hearings will take place October, November and December of 2022 and January 2023. Availability for these dates is necessary for consideration of appointment.

Qualified individuals wishing to apply should submit a resume on or before Friday, June 9, 2022, at 4:30 p.m., to:

Angelina "Angel" Colonnese  
Value Adjust Board  
Attn: Vicki Tessmer  
P.O. Box 25400  
Bradenton, FL 34205  
(941)741-4058  
Or  
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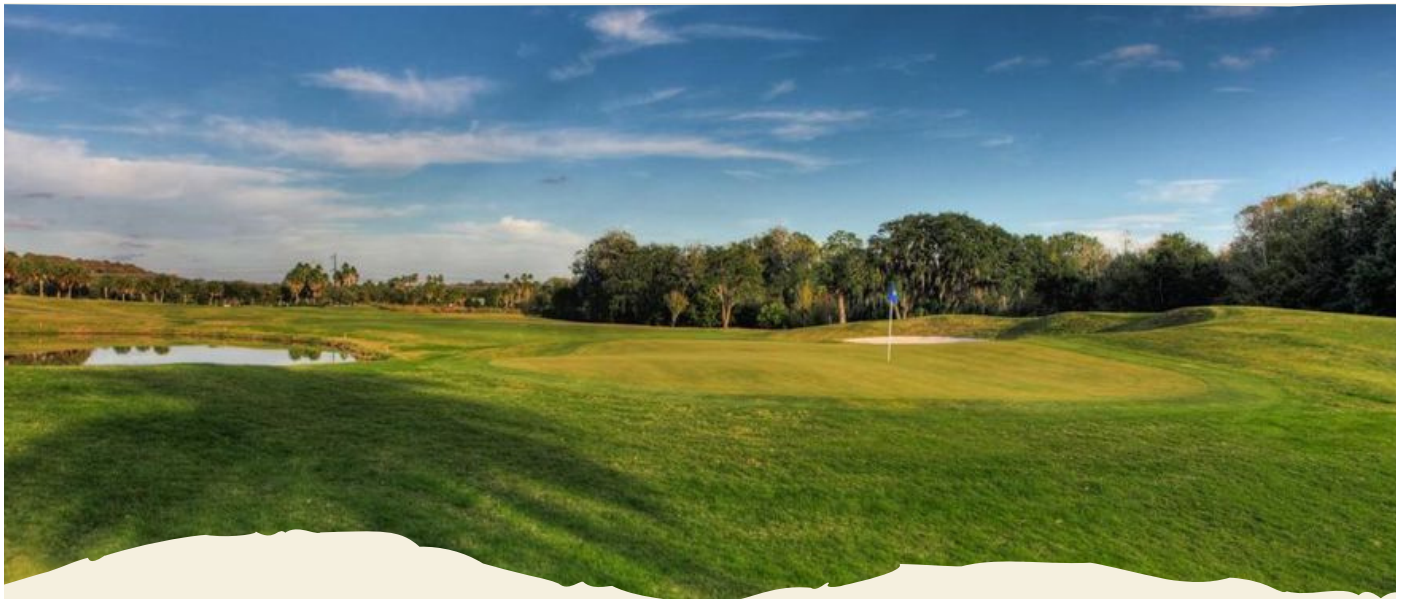
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For more information, contact Graceann at

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at a glance

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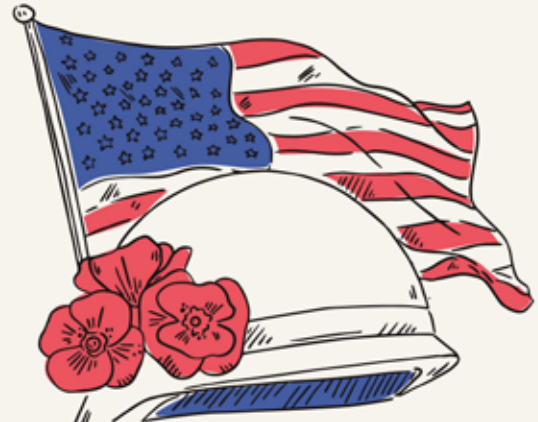
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*Inter Alia*, the newsletter of the Manatee County Bar Association, is published 8 months annually and is circulated electronically to local attorneys, judges and law office staff. Issues are later posted to the association website: [www.manateebar.com](http://www.manateebar.com). 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.

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