



INTER ALIA

NEWSLETTER OF THE MANATEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

*News, invitations,
photos and more*

**PREPARING FOR
MEDIATIONS - THE
ADVOCATE**

100 Club

**OCTOBER LUNCHEON
HIGHLIGHTS**

*Judges Present
Professionalism Award
to Local Civil Attorney*

**COMING UP: MCBA
HOLIDAY PARTY**

HEINTZ LAW

A Law Firm Serving Accident Victims

941. 748.2916 • HEINTZLAW.COM

We welcome personal injury case referrals. Please look into the qualifications, credentials and experience of any firm before you make a referral.



Se habla Español

All of the awards above that our firm has attained are non-tested. Board certification is significantly more difficult to achieve than any of the above.

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



Super Lawyers



WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN YLD

By: Jenna Kyle Meltzer, Esq. and Taylor E. Falkner, Esq.

As current members and board members of the MCBA Young Lawyer Division (the “YLD”), we can think of many reasons why it would be beneficial for a young attorney practicing in Manatee County to join the YLD. The YLD was created to not only orient young and recently admitted lawyers to their responsibilities as member of the MCBA, but also to promote professionalism, provide opportunities for social and pro bono activities, and offer continuing legal education and professional development.

If we had to give just a few reasons why we believe the YLD is a valuable resource for young attorneys to take full advantage of, they would be as follows:

- 1) Networking with other attorneys in Manatee County.**
Each month, the MCBA hosts Membership Luncheons. These luncheons typically feature a guest speaker and provide an opportunity for members of the YLD and MCBA to network and connect. Additionally, there are multiple social events throughout the year that offer even more opportunities for members to connect.
- 2) Make connections with members of the Judiciary.**
Just like local attorneys, Judges are also members of the MCBA. Being a member of the YLD allows you opportunities to connect with Judges outside of the courtroom, be that at the annual holiday party, or by attending Java with the Judges, where you can enjoy your morning coffee with members of the local judiciary.
- 3) Give back to the local community.**
The YLD is very involved in giving back to the local community. A large portion of the grants we receive are for community service projects. Most recently, the YLD won the “Best Community Service Project” at the

2024 Florida Bar Affiliate Outreach Conference for their money drive for local anti-human trafficking non-profit organization, SELAH Freedom.

4) Access to CLE and Professional Development Opportunities

One of the YLD’s main purposes is to promote continuing legal education and professional development. Through the YLD’s partnership with the MCBA, members are provided with multiple opportunities throughout the year to earn CLE credits. There are three more CLE opportunities to take advantage of this year. On October 29th, Matt Jenkins will be presenting on intellectual property. On November 5th, Jesse Butler will be presenting on malpractice. And, on December 10th a former CIA Officer is set to present.

Upcoming events and ways to get involved

YLD, in conjunction with MCBA, have a lot of events in the works for this fall. On October 19, members of YLD and MCBA will be at the Arcadia All-Florida Championship Rodeo for the 11th Annual Fall Rodeo. This event includes a pre-rodeo tailgate party, and an unforgettable night of bronco riding, barrel racing, bull riding and more.

National Adoption Day event, November 15th at the Silvertooth Judicial Center in Sarasota. Volunteers at this event help with decorations and set up, photo booth, and assist with passing out food/drinks to celebrate the children and families on this exciting day.

YLD will be applying for a grant to help supply turkeys for Ray Bellamy’s annual Thanksgiving turkey drive. This turkey drive provides boxes full of Thanksgiving food to struggling Manatee County families, with local community leaders and volunteers preparing and delivering the boxes to those in need.





Please Join Us As We Give Back To Our Community!

On Tuesday, November 26th, we will be helping Ray Bellamy and the Manatee County Sheriff's Office assemble and pack Thanksgiving Meal boxes to be delivered to our local community.

Volunteers are asked to arrive between 6:30 – 7:00 AM to help. Packing will only take a few hours.

**Details are below – PLEASE SIGN UP and SHOW UP!
Many hands make light work.
Let's show our community that we care.**



When: Tuesday, November 26th, 2024

Where: Lincoln Middle School, 305 – 17th St. E., Palmetto

Time: Arrive anytime between 6:30 – 7:00 AM

Sign Up Using the link: [THANKSGIVING MEAL BOX PACKING](#)

MCBA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024..... MCBA Board of Directors Meeting
- Friday, Dec. 6, 2024MCBA HOLIDAY PARTY
- Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2024..... MCBA YLD Board of Directors Meeting
- Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2025 MCBA Board of Directors Meeting
- Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2025 MCBA YLD Board of Directors Meeting
- Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2025MCBA Membership Luncheon
- Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025MCBA Board of Directors Meeting
- Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2025 MCBA YLD Board of Directors Meeting
- Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2025MCBA Membership Luncheon
- Wednesday, March 5, 2025MCBA Board of Directors Meeting
- Wednesday, March 12, 2025 MCBA YLD Board of Directors Meeting
- Wednesday, March 26, 2025MCBA Membership Luncheon
- Wednesday, April 2, 2025MCBA Board of Directors Meeting
- Wednesday, April 9, 2025 MCBA YLD Board of Directors Meeting
- Friday, April 25, 2025 Annual Spring Beach Party Social
- Wednesday, May 7, 2025MCBA Board of Directors Meeting
- Wednesday, May 14, 2025 MCBA YLD Board of Directors Meeting
- Wednesday, May 21, 2025MCBA Membership Luncheon
- Wednesday, June 4, 2025MCBA Board of Directors Meeting
- Wednesday, June 11, 2025 MCBA YLD Board of Directors Meeting
- Wednesday, June 25, 2025MCBA Membership Luncheon
- Thursday, June 26, 2025 Westminster Senior Art Reception



Welcome New Members

Alec D. Taylor, Esq.

Stetson University College of Law, 2022
 Year Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2023
 Firm/Office: State Attorney’s Office
 Area(s) of Practice: Criminal Law

Rebecca Waterman, Esq.

Roger Williams University School Of Law, 2006
 Year Admitted to The Florida Bar, 2013
 Firm/Office: Manatee County Attorney’s Office
 Area(s) of Practice: City, County, Local Government

Special Thanks to Our Annual Sponsors

Matt Jenkins Hosts “Intellectual Property CLE”



On October 30th, MCBA Member, Matthew Jenkins, Esq. hosted a CLE entitled: Intellectual Property for the Corporate and General Practitioner” at the MCJC. Attendees received CLE credit and a delicious lunch sponsored by Matt Jenkins and Jacox, Meckstroth and Jenkins, Patent Attorneys.

Thank you, Matt! We are looking forward to your next visit!

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

Blackheart™ INTELLIGENCE

Private Investigators & Consulting Experts

Litigation Intelligence
ESI & eDiscovery
Computer Crime
Payment & Wire Fraud
Cyber Extortion
DarkWeb | Crypto-Currency



Criminal | Civil | Family Law
State & Federal Courts



Jeff Birnbach
jbirnbach@Blackheart.US

Blackheart Intelligence LLC
FL PI Lic A3400185 | 941.312.2201

We take an active role - We never give up!

DONNALUGAR MEDIATIONS - ARBITRATIONS - FLORIDA

HOLDING VIRTUAL SESSIONS FOR CASES PENDING IN ANY COUNTY



- Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Civil Mediator
- Florida Supreme Court Qualified Arbitrator
- Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer (1998)
- AV Preeminent Rating by Martindale Hubbell
- Has arbitrated and mediated 2,000+ cases to conclusion

Quality mediation and arbitration
services at a reasonable price



BOOK YOUR
APPOINTMENT ONLINE
DonnaLugar.com

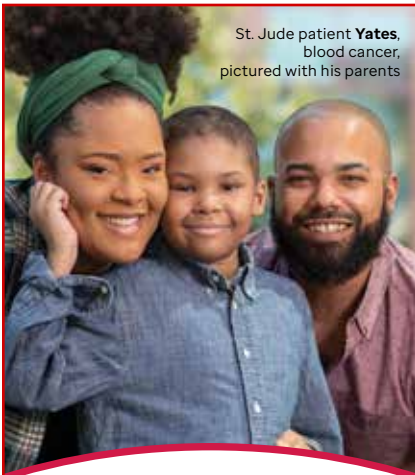
Visit our website for more information
on rates, travel, and other details

 941.600.9431

 DonnaLugar.com

 donna@donnalugar.com

 5020 Clark Road #514
Sarasota, FL 34233



St. Jude patient **Yates**, blood cancer, pictured with his parents

Every child deserves a chance to live their best life.

When Yates was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia at six years old, he was referred to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital® and airlifted the same night. Intensive chemotherapy did not destroy all his cancer cells, so St. Jude doctors tailored his treatment to include a bone marrow transplant. Through it all, the hardest part for Yates was being away from his dog, Yoshi. Thanks to St. Jude donors, he is now back home with his furry friend.



stjude.org

©2023 ALSAC/St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital (MCC-6383)

Members Out & About

Can you spot MCBA Director M. Brandon Robinson and YLD President Patrick Iyampillai? Hint: Brandon is dressed as an attorney and Patrick is wearing a big hat? They were spotted at the Westminster Communities of Bradenton Halloween Breakfast!



MCBA HURRICANE RELIEF




FOOD DRIVE

DRIVE

LET'S HELP MANATEE COUNTY!

WHAT WE NEED

- Canned Fruits & Vegetables
- Baby Cereal/Formula
- Mac N Cheese
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Boxed Rice & Boxed Pasta
- Canned Soups & Canned Meats
- 100% Fruit Juice
- Breakfast Bars
- Oatmeal & Healthy Cereals
- Powdered Milk
- Apple Sauce
- Dried Beans
- Trail Mix/Granola Bars
- Canned Soup

Drop off Nov 4 - Dec 6 at the following locations

- Manatee County Judicial Center, Main Entrance Lobby
 - Manatee County Historic Courthouse, Clerk’s Security Lobby
 - Najmy Thompson, 1401 8th Avenue West
 - Blalock Walters, 802 11th Street W.
 - Manatee Performing Arts Center, Main Lobby
 - Barnes Walker, 3119 Manatee Ave. W.
 - Hale Law, 2803 Fruitville Rd. Ste. 240
 - ComCenter Building, 9040 Town Center Parkway
 - Lakewood Ranch
- DROP HOURS ARE DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Email Graceann Frederico at mcba@manateebar.com



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE CIRCUIT CIVIL TOWN HALL NOVEMBER 21st!

THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER!

Due to ongoing disruptions from back to back hurricanes:

The Circuit Civil Town Hall has been moved
from October 17th to November 21, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

If you have already registered, there is no need to do anything else.
Your registration has been moved over successfully.

If you have not registered and would like to do so, please click on
the following link to be taken to the Sarasota Bar's Registration Page:

[CLICK TO REGISTER FOR CIVIL BENCH TOWN HALL](#)

Steele Williams, Esquire

Legal Expertise You Can Rely On

Sarasota & Manatee County

My Florida law practice is focused on assisting clients
in the following areas of the law:

Civil Litigation • Real Estate • Business Litigation
Securities Litigation • Estate & Trust Litigation

- ◆ 27 years of trial experience in court and arbitration.
- ◆ Referrals welcome, co-counsel business, commercial and estate litigation cases regularly.
- ◆ Very experienced with Florida Bar business and contract jury instructions.
- ◆ Board certified in business litigation over 10 years.

Steele Williams, Esquire

1381 Mc Ansh Square, Sarasota, FL 34236

(941) 378-1800

Email: SteeleTWilliams@comcast.net

Website: www.sarasotalitigation.com

Member:
Sarasota County Bar Association
Manatee County Bar Association





Judges Present Professionalism Award To Local Civil Attorney

The judges of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit are pleased to announce that Kim Bald is the recipient of the 2024 Lamar Matthews Professionalism Award in Civil Law. Chief Judge Diana Moreland presented the award to Ms. Bald on October 30th at a Manatee County Bar luncheon.

Lamar Matthews, an attorney considered a local “legal legend” among lawyers and judges in Sarasota, died on March 4, 2022. He practiced civil law for more than 50 years and received numerous honors and awards, including the Judge Lynn N. Silvertooth Award for Outstanding Service to the Judiciary. Mr. Matthews was involved in his community, supported many civic organizations, non-profit organizations, the performing arts in Sarasota and Manatee counties, and the in-demand Master of Ceremonies for almost all functions of the Bar, retirements, etc. He was unshakably a gentleman and consummate professional.

To honor Mr. Matthews’ legacy the Twelfth Judicial Circuit judiciary created the Lemar Matthews Professionalism Award to recognize a civil practitioner who exemplifies Mr. Matthews’ finest qualities of professionalism, civility, and community service, and who has shown a demonstrated commitment to fostering diversity and inclusion within the legal profession.

Chief Judge Diana Moreland had the honor of presenting the award to **Kimberly Bald** of the law firm Harllee & Bald, P.A.

At the award presentation, Judge Moreland said, “One of the many benefits of being chief is having a front row seat, or even podium, to experience much of what is good about our profession.”

Kim Bald has been practicing law as part of a self-described ‘boutique’ firm she helped found in 1984. This attorney and the law firm has represented individuals, companies, other legal entities, guardians, personal representatives, trustees, financial institutions, and beneficiaries in complex civil litigation matters in both state and federal courts.

Professionally, Ms. Bald has achieved the highest rating for legal ability and ethical standards, an AV rating with Martindale-Hubbell, and has received other state and national recognition in the legal field.

Throughout her career, Ms. Bald has lent her time and expertise to dozens of professional and community organizations, including the Manatee County and Sarasota County Bar associations, various legal committees, the Women’s Resource Center, and Junior League of Sarasota.

In addition to all these professional accolades Ms. Bald has mentored young attorneys and continuously interacted with the judiciary to make the legal community better; all while raising a family and being active in neighborhoods events.

“Like Mr. Matthews, Ms. Bald has spent years aggressively intersecting with judges, attorneys and litigants across a courtroom and left a trail of nothing but admiration and respect. Nothing says professionalism more than living it by example day to day,” Judge Moreland said.

-- Judge Moreland contributed to this article, reprinted with permission from the 12th Judicial Circuit

**MCBA
100 CLUB**

BARNES WALKER
CAHALL LAW FIRM
GALLACHER & HAGOPIAN
HALE LAW
HARLLEE BALD
HEINTZ LAW
LANCASTER & EURE
LEGLER MURPHY & BATTAGLIA

FIRMS WITH 100% MCBA MEMBERSHIP
OF TWO ATTORNEYS OR MORE, THANK YOU!



Jingle & Mingle
with the
Manatee Bar

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL
HOLIDAY PARTY

Friday, December 6, 2024
5:30 - 8:30 PM
Manatee Performing Arts Center - Kiwanis Hall
502 3rd Ave W, Bradenton, FL 34205

RSVP FOR YOU AND YOUR GUEST HERE



DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN?
MCBA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



1ST PLACE: \$300 AMAZON GIFT CARD
2ND PLACE: \$150 AMAZON GIFT CARD
3RD PLACE: \$50 AMAZON GIFT CARD

The top three members, listed on a New Member Application as "Referred By" will win! Just sign up new members between now and June 1st, 2025. Share with others the benefits of being an MCBA member - luncheons, CLEs, networking, mentoring, and more!

* New Members must not have been a member of the MCBA within the last 3 years. Applications are online at www.manateebar.com



Let's Start Banking Forward Together.

Our goal has always been to help meet yours. Today, we're here for you in more ways than ever. With more locations, more services, and more expertise to help you wherever life takes you.

This is banking at its best.
This is Banking Forward.



941.306.0100
SouthStateBank.com
Member FDIC



Chris Perkins
Regional President



Renee Brady
Premier Private Banker



Carla Cummings
Consumer Bank Market Manager



Preparing for Mediations - The Advocate

Part 2

By D. Robert Hoyle, Esq.

The litigious spirit is more often found with ignorance than with knowledge of law
Cicero

Mediation has been utilized for thousands of years by parties involved in a dispute to craft a mutually acceptable and voluntary resolution. In mediation, the decision-making authority rests with the parties, not a third party such as a jury, or a judge. Mediation provides the parties with the opportunity to avoid the costly gamble of litigation, control the method of resolution of the dispute, and bring timely closure to the matter. The attorneys, the parties and the mediator must each be prepared in order to reach a successful mediated resolution of the case.

The following suggestions will ensure you and your client(s) have a greater chance for a successful resolution through mediation:

- Know your alternatives to settlement:
 1. Know your risks and the range of results if you don't settle.
 2. Know how long and how expensive it will be to go to trial. Your client is entitled to know what to anticipate as a trial budget.
 3. Know what results are likely from the trial.
 4. Be aware of other options such as binding arbitration or binding summary trials.
 5. Know the strengths and weaknesses of your client's case and whether the likelihood of prevailing is offset by the expense and uncertainty of trial.
- Collect and organize all the documents that pertain to liability or damages. Make enough copies to hand out to each participant, including the mediator. Include copies of relevant statutes and cases.
- Review and confirm that the other side has all materials necessary to negotiate. Mediations often fail because one party could not prepare properly because an important document was not provided to them. Accurate information is the foundation for a successful mediation, and creates an atmosphere of cooperation. The exchange of enough information to permit the analysis of possible trial outcomes drives settlement consideration. Make certain you have everything you need from your client. Confirm your opponent has everything they should have from you, and make sure you have asked for and obtained the documents you need from them. Always read everything before you send it.
- If you are considering mediating before the Case Management Conference, analyze whether the case is

ready for mediation. Is there a genuine interest among the attorneys and the parties in mediating the dispute? Does each party have sufficient information to properly evaluate the benefits, risks, and costs of a court-ordered or jury-determined outcome of the case?

- Know your client well. Know what outcomes are acceptable to your client and what terms are unacceptable. Be prepared to consider your client's best alternative to a negotiated agreement and worst alternative to a negotiated agreement and share these with your client.
- Consider the following questions as part of your preparation:
 1. Does the dispute involve more than just money?
 2. Did the conflict arise from a breakdown in communication, a judgment error or poor performance?
 3. Does your client need or want to maintain a relationship with the other party?
 4. Can you deal with uncontested facts by way of stipulation at this stage of the dispute?
 5. Are the parties relatively equal in terms of resources including the endurance to go to trial or deal with an appeal?
 6. Is there any potential for an integrative solution to the dispute such as trade-offs?
 7. Does your client need a non-monetary remedy, or one a court cannot order?
 8. Are there external pressures on your client or the other party to settle quickly?
 9. Is a speedy resolution of the dispute important to your client?
 10. Are there tactical advantages in proceeding quickly to settlement discussions?
 11. Is a public precedent important to your client?
 12. Is a confidential resolution important to your client?
 13. Will the other side bargain in good faith?
 14. Is a positive resolution possible?
 15. Will an expert be helpful in resolving the dispute?

A high percentage of cases are resolved without the necessity of a trial. Mediation is an important resolution tool. While there can never be a guarantee of an agreement, adequate preparation by counsel will increase the chances that the parties will resolve the dispute through mediation.



FROM NOW UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2024, ECOSCRIBE WILL DONATE 20% OFF ALL COURT REPORTING PROCEDURES SCHEDULED WITH US TO THE MANATEE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Use code *ECOSCRIBEHELPS*

ECOSCRIBE'S SERVICES

- * Nationwide In-Person and Remote Depositions**
- * Arbitrations * Court Proceedings * Translation and Interpretation * Audio Transcription * Remote Notarization * Deposition Summaries**

[SCHEDULE HERE](#)

A personal note: I moved to Sarasota/Bradenton for the winter season in 2023 (EcoScribe has virtual since 2010) having never visited and not knowing anyone.

I spent every minute of my spare time exploring, meeting people, playing pickleball, shopping farmers' markets and getting to know small businesses. Seeing the devastation and hearing about the losses has broken my heart, and I look forward to being back down soon to put the to help however I possibly can. Until then, EcoScribe and I are here for our friends at the Manatee Bar whenever you need us.

Most sincerely, Jen Fogelson

jen@ecoscribesolutions.com Direct: (617) 517-0077



H HALE LAW
NIGHTMARE
BEFORE CHRISTMAS


GET READY FOR A FRIGHTFULLY FUN HOLIDAY PARTY
 YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN THE CELEBRATION!
 DECEMBER 13TH, 2024 AT 6 PM

COCK & BULL
 975 CATTLEMEN ROAD
 SARASOTA, FL 34232

RSVP TO SABRINA AT MARKETING@HALELAW.COM

Mediation Services

BOB HOYLE



36 YEARS EXPERIENCE

- Probate matters
- Will and trust contests
- Real estate
- Homeowner and condominium associations
- Foreclosures
- Commercial and residential leases and tenancies
- Business and commercial litigation
- Personal Injury

D. ROBERT HOYLE P.A.
 941-745-1124
bhoyle@hoylefirm.com

6707 35th Avenue West
 Bradenton, FL 34209

Calendar availability and full bio at floridamediators.org/RobertHoyle

- 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
- Certified County Civil Mediator

MCBA CARES

Members and Sponsors,

As you are aware, our little paradise was pummeled by several hurricanes, Debbie, Helene and Milton. Each with varying degrees of severity and intensity, but together, devastating for many.

Through these trials, we have seen our share of goodness and the community coming together to help each other through.

We would like to feature what our members are doing to aid our community, whether it be through a food drive, cleanup efforts, form clinics, the list of needs is quite vast.

If you would like to be part of our MCBA project, send me a brief description of your participation and a photo or two. Include the names of those in the photo, location, etc. We will share this in the Inter Alia and if we have enough participation, perhaps a historical video collage to document this unprecedented season, at least of our lifetimes.

Deadline for Submissions is December 1st.

GRIMES GALVANO
 Grimes Hawkins Gladfelter & Galvano, P.L.
 Attorneys at Law | Est. 1922

Caleb J. Grimes • Bill Galvano • Derin Parks • Kyle W. Grimes
 Jack Hawkins • Leslie Horton Gladfelter • Neil G. Taylor
 Bill Clague • Mickey Palmer • Stephen Josephik
 Chad Manausa • Gianna M. Tomeo • Paola Stay

Land Use & Project Development • Commercial Real Estate
 Government • Trial Practice • Construction/Design
 Mediation • Marital & Family Law • Wills, Trusts & Probate
 Corporate & Business • Criminal Defense • Licensing

100
 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Sarasota Office
 50 Central Ave., Suite 920
 Sarasota, Florida 34236

Bradenton (Main) Office
 1023 Manatee Ave. West
 Bradenton, Florida 34205

West Palm Beach Office
 420 Columbia Dr., Suite 100
 West Palm Beach, FL 33409

(941) 748-0521
www.grimesgalvano.com



Jack Hawkins, Esq.

Certified Circuit Court Mediator & Certified Family Law Mediator
Over 40 years' experience in Civil Trial, Family & Business Law Practice

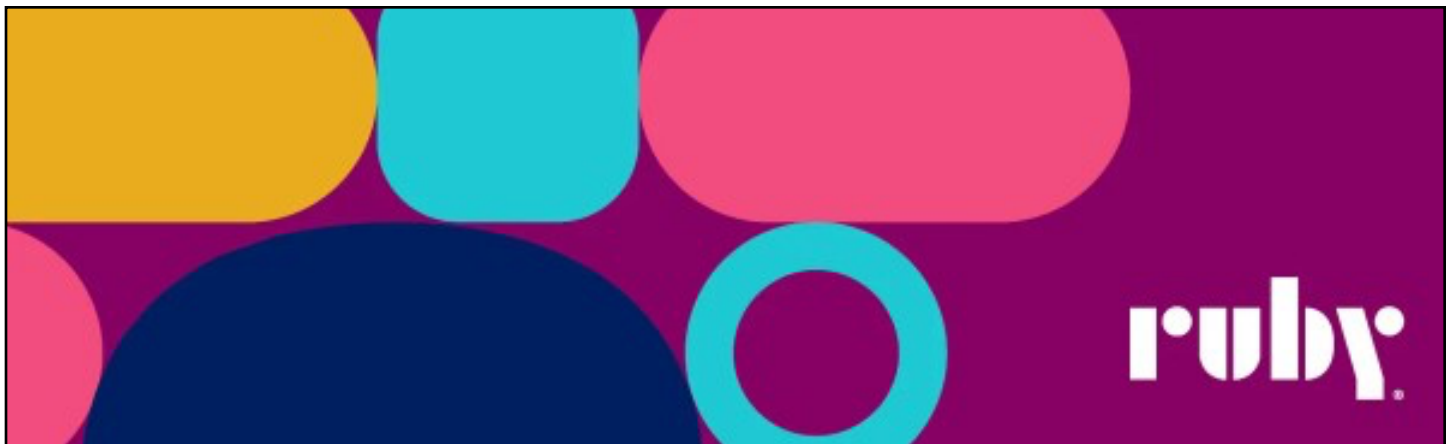
JackHawkinsMediation.com

In-person, Zoom, or hybrid of in-person and Zoom



Bradenton (Main) Office
The Professional Building
1023 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, FL 34205

Phone: 941.748.0151
Fax: 941.748.0158
Email: Info@JackHawkinsMediation.com



We've been following the news regarding the hurricanes in the southeast, and wanted to reach out to let you know we're thinking about you. We hope you and your loved ones stay safe.

If your business has been affected by the recent disasters, Ruby wants to help. We'd like to offer you a \$200 credit towards any Ruby plan that has at least 100 minutes, through November 30, 2024. As always, our service is month-to-month and you can cancel at any time. Click on the link below or give us a call at 844-311-7829 to get started. Simply mention promo code: **RUBYHELPS**.

Ruby provides live, remote receptionist service dedicated to creating personal connections with your callers—building trust with every call and giving you peace of mind.

Get started at ruby.com/ruby-helps.

We would love to support your inbound calls during this hectic time. Ruby is here to help!

LAWYERS, LEGENDS.....AND MORE!

The October 2024 General Membership Luncheon

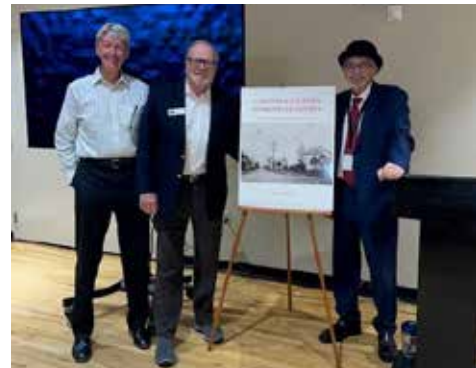
At the October 30th General Membership Luncheon, Judge Gilbert Smith, Jr. stepped up to the plate to fill in for our scheduled speaker. We had prepared for several months for our special guest to be with us, but alas, a trial was called most unexpectedly. What to do? Well, we called our special historian and local author to the podium and wow, did Judge Smith deliver!

Adorning his turn of the century lawyer suit, and accompanied by his JA, Donna McCammond, Judge Smith gave a fun and delightful sneak peek into his upcoming book, *Lawyers & Legends 2*. The presentation featured historical photos, stories, trivia and games which all attendees thoroughly enjoyed. We are not going to reveal too much here because the book is set to be released in Spring 2025 and Judge Gilbert Smith will be back with us in February for a featured presentation and proper reveal. If it is anything like the nibble we just received, you are not going to want to miss it! No spoiler alert, here.

At this meeting, we had another surprise! Chief Judge Diana Moreland presented long time member and Past President, Kimberly Bald, with the 2024 Lamar Matthews Professionalism Award in Civil Law. The Twelfth Judicial Circuit judiciary created the Lemar Matthews Professionalism Award to recognize a civil practitioner who exemplifies the “finest qualities of professionalism, civility, and community service, and who has shown a demonstrated commitment to fostering diversity and inclusion within the legal profession.” For more details, please visit the article on the 12th Judicial Circuit website.



Retired Judge Brownell, Retired Judge Farrance, MCBA YLD President Patrick Iyampillai, Judge Smith, MCBA President Elect James Lynch, MCBA Secretary Brian Iten



Retired Judges Brownell and Farrance with Judge Smith



Judge Smith discussing his new book and the history train



Judge Smith and Pat Iyampillai



Kim Bald receives Lamar Matthews Professionalism Award from Chief Judge Diana Moreland



Refer your clients to our Life Plan Community in Bradenton with two great locations



**THE MANOR
NEIGHBORHOOD**

1700 21st Avenue West • Bradenton, FL



**THE POINT PLEASANT
NEIGHBORHOOD**

1533 4th Avenue West • Bradenton, FL

Feel confident in referring your clients to our trusted Life Plan Community in Bradenton with two great locations. They'll love the active, maintenance-free lifestyle, great services and amenities, and the assurance of a plan for the future with our not-for-profit faith-based family, like:

- Delicious, chef-prepared dining
- Housekeeping
- Fitness center
- Outpatient therapy services — physical, occupational and speech
- A full continuum of healthcare services right on campus
- And more!

Call (941) 368-3518 today to learn more or to schedule a personal tour!



**Westminster
Bradenton**

WestminsterBradentonFL.org



Westminster Communities of Bradenton Hosts Young Lawyers Division “Table for 8”

Recently, the Young Lawyers Division of the MCBA held a TABLE FOR 8 dinner at Westminster Manor in Bradenton. Attendees enjoyed a fabulous steak dinner prepared by the Westminster Manor culinary team and participated in inspiring and delightful conversation with 12th Circuit Judge Gilbert Smith, Jr. All in all, a lovely event sponsored by our friends at Westminster Communities of Bradenton!

Pictured: (Sitting) Hon. Gilbert Smith, Jr., (Standing l to r) Simone Taitano, Esq., Abigail Galati, Esq. YLD Secretary, Lauren Ravazzoli, Esq., Chad Manausa, Esq. YLD President Elect and 12th Circuit YLD Board of Governors Rep., Patrick Barnes, Esq. YLD Past President, Matthew Unzicker, Esq. YLD Treasurer, and Patrick Iyampillai, Esq. YLD President



The Manatee County Attorney's Office Is Growing!

Recently, the Office was approved to add two additional Assistant County Attorneys to our legal team. The County Attorney's Office comprehensively serves the legal needs of the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners, as the governing body of Manatee County, and renders legal advice to the Board, the County Administrator, and to departments and agencies under the jurisdiction of the Board. Assistant County Attorneys perform a variety of highly responsible and often complex work. Candidates with at least three years of experience in any combination of these practice areas will be considered: appellate practice, city/county/local government, contracts, eminent domain, labor and employment, land use/planning/zoning, litigation, procurement, public finance and bonds, public utilities, procurement, and real estate. Manatee County offers a comprehensive benefits package including a Telecommuting Program. A cover letter and resume may be submitted to patricia.nolan@mymanatee.org. Positions are open until filled. Writing samples and references may be requested. Manatee County is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer.

Thank You, Jesse Butler!



Recently, Jesse Butler, Esq. taught a very informative CLE, “Minimizing Risks of Legal Malpractice”. The FREE event was held on Zoom and provided information and insights regarding topics such as “Legal Malpractice Coverage Concerns”, “How the Rules of Professional Conduct Intersect with Malpractice” and “Advice on Avoiding Malpractice”.

We look forward to having Jesse back again next year! Until then, feel free to reach out to MCBA member Jesse Butler with any questions.

LUTZ, BOBO & TELFAIR

TRIAL LAWYERS

BRADENTON | SARASOTA | PUNTA GORDA | TALLAHASSEE

PERSONAL INJURY COMPLEX CIVIL LITIGATION

*15 lawyers with over 350 years of
collective legal experience*

**REFERRALS & ASSOCIATIONS
WELCOME**



CHARLES W. TELFAIR, IV PAST MCBA PRESIDENT

(941) 951 - 1800

WWW.LBTLAW.COM



S/B Scott Brownell
MEDIATION

CIVIL MEDIATOR

- PERSONAL INJURY MATTERS
- REAL ESTATE LITIGATION
- MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
- BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL LITIGATION
- LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT ISSUES
- PRODUCT LIABILITY
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISPUTES
- PROFESSIONAL FEE DISPUTES

Scott Brownell
scott@brownellmediation.com
941.447.3701

WWW.BROWNELLMEDIATION.COM

Hale Law Welcomes Patrick Barnes, Esq.!



Hale Law is excited to welcome Trial Attorney Patrick Barnes to the Hale Law team!

Patrick is a proud graduate of the Leadership Tampa Bay program, class of 2023, and recently served as President of the Manatee County Bar Association Young Lawyer Division. His leadership and passion for advocacy make him the perfect addition to the Hale Law firm.

When Clients Seek Resolution, Attorneys Seek Chapman Mediation.

Your clients deserve the least stressful and most practical path to resolution. John Chapman is an experienced, creative mediator who brings patience, persistence and a passion for helping disputing parties achieve common ground.

- 25 years as a Florida Board-Certified Business Litigation attorney
- 12 years as a Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Civil mediator
- Florida Supreme Court Approved Arbitrator
- FINRA Dispute Resolution Arbitrator

Let my experience and know-how resolve your client's civil dispute, via Zoom or in person at your office or mine.



CHAPMAN MEDIATION
BUSINESS AND ESTATE MEDIATION

1515 Ringling Blvd, Suite 870
Sarasota, FL 34236

Office: (941) 404-4616
Fax: (941) 404-4605

Jchapman@johnchapmanlaw.com
Book your mediation online at: ChapmanMediation.com



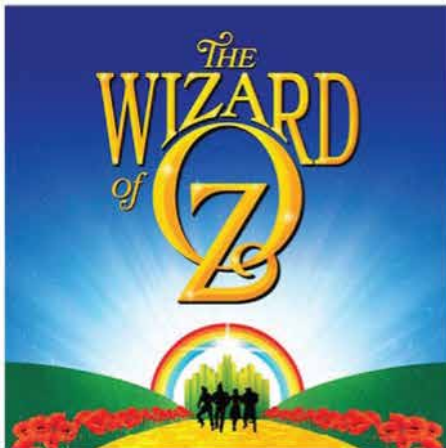
Why refer a personal injury case to Hale Law?

1. Personal injury law is all we do.
2. We have paid hundreds of thousands in attorney referral fees.
3. Give us a call, and we will make it easy for you and the client.

The next time you get a personal injury case, call Hale Law:
1-800-800-1414

*All fee sharing is in compliance with FL Bar Ethics Rules
Main Office: Sarasota; Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch by appt only*

Musicals, Concerts, and More!



The Wizard of Oz
Dec. 5 - 15, 2024




Brand New Day Tribute Band
Nov. 12, 2024 - 2 & 7 PM




Matt Stone as Elvis
Dec. 10, 2024 - 2 & 7 PM



ManateePerformingArtsCenter.com
502 Third Avenue W | Bradenton
Box Office (941) 748-5875




Barnes Walker, Goethe, Perron, Shea, & Robinson, PLLC




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
- Member, The Florida Bar Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration Committee
- J.D., The University of Tennessee College of Law



M. Brandon Robinson, Esq.

- Admitted to the Florida Bar in 2015
- Combat Veteran, United States Marine Corps
- Volunteer Judge, Manatee County Teen Court
- J.D., Stetson University College of Law



Kevin M. Collver, Esq.

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


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

- Estate Planning
- Probate and trust administration
- Homestead issues
- Elective share and surviving spouse rights

Serving Manatee and Sarasota Counties from our main office in Bradenton.
3119 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida
(941) 741-8224

Available by appointment in Lakewood Ranch, Parrish, Sarasota, and Holmes Beach

NOW SERVING SARASOTA AND MANATEE COUNTIES



REACHING ACROSS THE AISLE FOR OVER 40 YEARS


As a real estate investor, Michael Bennett has spent over 30 years building companies, properties – and relationships.

- Gulfcoast Builders Exchange Chairman, 2020-2021
- Owner and operator of four construction companies

As an elected leader, he served as one of the chief negotiators between political parties.

- Florida Senate, 2002-2012
- Florida House of Representatives, 2000-2002

And now, he is available for Business, Construction and Real Estate mediation in the Sarasota-Bradenton areas.



mbennett@xcelmediation.com
941-773-2335

Proud Sponsor of the MCBA!

DHK

**DYE HARRISON KNOWLES
KIRKLAND PRATT & DEPAOLA, PLLC**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Established 1920 www.dyeharrison.com




Our Office Locations
 Bradenton
 Sarasota
 Parrish
 Lakewood Ranch
 Anna Maria Island

Abigail Holmes Galati, Esq. Andre R. Perron, Esq. Simone A. Taitano, Esq.





agalati@barneswalker.com aperron@barneswalker.com staitano@barneswalker.com

Business Trial Group

Providing professional services in the following practice areas:

- Complex Business Disputes
- Real Estate Disputes
- Trust and Estate Disputes
- Corporate/Partnership Disputes
- Collections
- Employment Disputes

For more information please visit our website at www.barneswalker.com

Telephone: (941) 741-8224 www.barneswalker.com

*Referral fees paid in accordance with Florida Bar Rules

Tampa Bay



SINGLE GAME TICKETS


- 4 great infield seats, on aisle, 7 rows behind the visitor's dugout
- VIP parking!



Contact Ed Sobel
 (941) 746-1203
ed@sobelattorneys.com


FROM SAINT STEPHEN'S TO NASA

JANELLE COUTTS CLASS OF 2004




"The passion of my AP chemistry teacher inspired my love of the subject and led me down the path of pursuing it as a career. Without the dedication Saint Stephen's puts into choosing staff that have a love for teaching and passion to develop students, I don't think I would have ended up where I am now."

- Dr. Janelle Coutts, NASA Analytical Lab Branch Technical Lead



Scan the QR Code To schedule a campus tour.



315 41st Street West • Bradenton, FL 34209 • www.saintstephens.org



will be know and every
 STEPHEN'S
 1970
 INSPIRING EXCELLENCE





DICKINSON & GIBBONS, P.A.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

(941) 366-4680 | dglawyers.com

Jesse R. Butler
*Board Certified in Business Litigation
& Appellate Law*



Appeals | Legal Malpractice

- Board certified in both business litigation and appellate practice, bringing experience, expertise, and reputation to bear in a wide variety of complex cases.
- 25% referral fee upon the successful conclusion of legal malpractice matters referred in accordance with the Rules Regulating the Florida Bar.



ARE YOU A YOUNG LAWYER?

**Under 40 years of age,
or less than 5 years
of practice?**

*If you answered YES,
then you are eligible
to join our MCBA
Young Lawyers Division!*



**Contact Pat Iyampillai, our YLD President at:
patricki@halelaw.com for more information.**

MANATEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

PROFESSIONALISM • FELLOWSHIP • SERVICE

2024-2025 OFFICERS

President..... *Dustin Wagner, Esq.*..... Lightning Law
 President Elect *James Lynch, Esq.* Harlee & Bald
 Secretary *Brian A. Iten, Esq.* Manatee County Sheriff’s Office
 Treasurer *David W. Wilcox, Esq.* Law Offices of David Wilcox

2024-2025 DIRECTORS

Hon. Robert Farrance (Ret)..... 12th Judicial Circuit
Erica Dine, Esq...... Dine Elder Law
Daniel VanEtten, Esq. Blalock Walters
Joseph Battaglia, Esq...... Battaglia Law
Kari Martin, Esq. Najmy Thompson
M. Brandon Robinson, Esq...... Barnes Walker

YLD PRESIDENT:

Patrick Iyampillai, Esq. Hale Law

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT:

Aaron Crittenden, Esq...... Harlee & Bald

DISCLAIMER: The views and opinions expressed in each Inter Alia article are solely those of its respective author and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the MCBA or its Board of Directors.

Advertising in the Inter Alia

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

MCBA@ManateeBar.com

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:

Bus. card \$40 members/\$45 non members
1/4 page \$60 members/\$70 non members
1/2 page \$90 members/\$100 non members
Full page \$150 members/\$175 non members

EBlast

Will Search \$30 members/\$40 non members
Job Posting* \$30 members/\$40 non members

*Job posting includes listing on

www.manateebar.com

Inter Alia, the newsletter of the Manatee



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

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 shown 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: Valerie at On Trac Publishing: Valerie@ontracnewsletters.com.