



THE RICHMOND BAR

Volume 22, Number 7

A newsletter for members of The Bar Association of the City of Richmond

March 2014

Wilson Flohr, Chief Executive Officer of Richmond 2015 to address members at Bar's March luncheon meeting

Wilson Flohr, Chief Executive Officer of Richmond 2015, will be the featured speaker at the Richmond Bar's luncheon on Thursday, March 20, 2014. The luncheon will be held at the Omni Hotel beginning at 12:30 p.m. Reservations may be made by returning the enclosed flier or by calling the Bar office at 780-0700. Additionally, you may make a reservation by visiting <http://www.richmondbar.org/events/luncheons/>. The deadline for reservations is 12:00 noon on Monday, March 17th. Cost to attend is \$28.00. **If you require a vegetarian meal or have a dietary restriction, please inform us at the time you make the reservation.**

The following members of the judiciary will be hosting Judges' Tables at the March luncheon: Hon. Randolph A. Beals, Hon. Melvin R. Hughes, Jr. and Hon. Phillip L. Hairston. At the time you make your reservation, please indicate if you would like to

continued on page 8



Wilson Flohr

John A. Merrick to receive Bar's Young Lawyer of the Year Award

John A. Merrick, an Associate at Harman Clayton Corrigan & Wellman, is the 2014 recipient of the Association's Young Lawyer of the Year Award. The award is presented annually to a member of the Bar's Young Lawyers Section who has excelled in the practice of law to date and who has shown the potential to become a leader in the legal profession. The Association will convey the award to Mr. Merrick on Thursday, March 20, 2014 at the RBA's monthly luncheon meeting at the Omni Hotel.

Mr. Merrick started working as a trial lawyer at Harman Claytor after law school. He has experience involving products liability, premises liability, consumer law, contract law, construction law, local government, property (cases involving homeowner's associations, easements, trespass, lodging), and personal injury cases. He has tried dozens of cases in the Courts throughout the Commonwealth and also handled trials in Federal Court (Eastern District of Virginia and the District Court for South Carolina) through summary judgment.

continued on page 9

Notice: Composition of Nominating Committee

The membership is hereby notified that the Nominating Committee is composed of the following members:

Craig T. Merritt, Chair
Tyler P. Brown
Thamer E. Temple III
Curtis M. Hairston, Jr.

Patricia C. McCullagh
Virginia H. Grigg
John W. Anderson

To be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Association, scheduled to take place on Wednesday, April 23, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at Willow Oaks Country Club, are a President-Elect, a Vice President, an Honorary Vice President, a Secretary-Treasurer and three new at-large members of the Board of Directors, and such other at-large members of the Board of Directors, if any, as may be necessary to fill any vacancies. The Committee will receive and review recommendations for all available positions.

Nominations should be in writing and addressed to Craig T. Merritt, Christian & Barton, 909 E. Main Street, Suite 1200, Richmond, VA 23219 and must be received by 12:00 noon on **Monday, February 24, 2014.**

Notice of RBA Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of The Bar Association of the City of Richmond will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2014 beginning at 5:30 p.m. preceding the Bar's Spring Cocktail Party at Willow Oaks Country Club. Members will be asked to elect new officers and directors and transact other such business as may properly come before the meeting.

Share the news

If you've recently landed a new job or plum promotion, share the good news with the Richmond Bar. Include your full name, your company's name and location, your new title and your areas of concentration in your letter, press release, fax or e-mail. Announcements can be e-mailed to lmartin@richmondbar.org or mailed to Lee Martin, at P.O. Box 1213, Richmond, VA 23218.

Lester C. Brock, III has been named a partner at Harman Claytor Corrigan & Wellman. Brock concentrates his practice in construction, premises and products liability litigation.

Troutman Sanders Strategies announces that **Heidi Dix**, a former assistant commissioner with the Virginia Department of Behavior Health and Developmental Services, has joined the group as a director, where she will represent clients on health and health care policy issues, both on a state and federal level.

Pat Satterfield, former CEO of the Virginia Association of Community Banks, has joined Williams Mullen as Community Bank Relationship Manager. She will work with small banks to help develop strategies and solutions to address the challenges that these institutions face.

The Honorable B. Waugh Crigler, retired Magistrate Judge of the United States District Court, Western Division of Virginia, has joined The McCammon Group. He will focus on civil disputes in the following areas: commercial, medical malpractice, personal injury, product liability, condemnation, construction, contracts, corporate disputes, defamation, disability issues, employment, real estate, government issues, intellectual property.

The Virginia Chapter of the Legal Marketing Association today announced the election of a new board of directors. Executive Committee members are:

Rebecca Edwards (McGuire Woods LLP), President
Darryl Cross (Lexis Nexis), President-Elect
Bill Varjabedian (Virginia Lawyers Media), Treasurer
Emily Krause (Allen, Allen, Allen & Allen), Immediate Past President



Spring Cocktail Party

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

at the Willow Oaks Country Club

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Cost to attend is \$45 per RBA member
First non-member guest - \$45
additional non-member guests - \$60

Includes an open bar and heavy
hors d'oeuvres

Attire is business casual

Invitations have been mailed



THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND

Office Address

Eighth and Main Building
707 East Main Street
Suite 1620
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 1213
Richmond, Virginia 23218-1213

www.richmondbar.org

Phone: (804) 780-0700

Fax: (804) 648-7118

Officers

Anne G. Scher, *President*
John K. Burke, Jr., *President-Elect*
Hon. David J. Novak, *Honorary Vice President*
J. Tracy Walker IV, *Vice President*
Vernon E. Inge, *Secretary-Treasurer*
Craig T. Merritt, *Immediate Past President*

Directors

Douglas D. Callaway, 2010-2014
Julie M. Cillo, 2010-2014
W. Benjamin Pace, 2010-2014
Terrence L. Graves, 2011-2015
Vanessa L. Jones, 2011-2015
Michael A. Montgomery, 2011-2015
Daniel E. Lynch, 2012-2016
G. William Norris, Jr., 2012-2016
Jennifer J. West, 2012-2016
Cassandra C. Collins, 2013-2017
T. O'Connor Johnson, 2013-2017
Barbara A. Williams, 2013-2017
John H. Maddock III, *Bankruptcy Section*
Gregory R. Bishop, *Business Law Section*
Ryan W. Boggs, *Corporate Counsel Section*
Justin L. Williams, *Environmental & Energy Law Section*
Patricia C. McCullagh, *Litigation Section*
Joseph A. Perini, *Real Estate Section*
Lauren M. Wheeling, *Young Lawyers Section*
Eric M. Page, *Virginia State Bar Council Representative*

Staff

Lelia N. Martin, *Executive Director*
Sharon R. Potter, *Administrative Assistant*

The views expressed in The Richmond Bar do not represent the policy or carry the endorsement of the Association unless specifically noted.

Edited by Lelia N. Martin

Luncheon Registration Form

Please reserve a place for me at the **Thursday, March 20, 2014** luncheon which will be held at the Omni Richmond Hotel at 12:30 p.m.

Name (please print): _____

Phone: _____

I would like to make reservations for the following guest(s): _____

Method of payment (check one):

- Firm billing. Firm: _____
- Check enclosed. (\$28.00 per person, payable to "Bar Association of Richmond")
- At the door.
- By credit card Visa or Mastercard (check one) _____
_____ card number _____ expiration date
_____ name on card
- Member of the Judiciary

If you require a vegetarian or special dietary meal, please inform us at the time you make the reservation.

Return this form to: Richmond Bar Association, P.O. Box 1213, Richmond, Virginia 23218-1213.

Reservations may be made by calling the Bar office at 780-0700 no later than noon on Monday, March 17, 2014.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Under the reservation policy, members who make reservations will be expected to pay whether or not they attend. No cancellations or refunds after noon on March 17th. Reservations made by credit card payment are subject to a 5% service fee if cancelled by the appropriate cut-off date.

Trust your transactions to the only merchant account recommended by over 60 bar associations!

ACCEPT

VISA MasterCard

GREAT CLIENT PAID ON TIME, INC.

Member Benefit

LAWPAY
CREDIT CARD PROCESSING

866.376.0950
affiniscape.com/RichmondBar

AdmPay is a registered ISO/NSP of VeriFi A., Chicago, IL.

The McCammon Group is pleased to congratulate one of our own



Hon. Dennis W. Dohnal (Ret.)

**2013 Recipient
Richmond Bar Association
Hunter W. Martin Professionalism Award**

On February 20, 2014, the Richmond Bar Association presented Judge Dohnal with the Hunter W. Martin Professionalism Award in recognition of his exemplary adherence to high ethical standards of conduct, tolerance, respect, and civility.

We join the Richmond Bar Association
in saluting Judge Dohnal.

Dispute Resolution and Prevention

For a complete list of our services and Neutrals throughout VA, DC, and MD, call 1-888-343-0922 or visit www.McCammonGroup.com



Chief Judges of the Henrico Courts offer feedback to Bar's Administration of Justice Committee members

In its continued effort to promote the administration of justice in the Richmond area and to facilitate cooperation between the bench and the bar, the Bar's Administration of Justice Committee recently concluded its annual interviews with the Honorable Judges for the **Courts of the County of Henrico**. As in years past, the Judges were gracious with their time and spoke with candor to Committee members regarding the Court's work and the performance of the bar in their courtrooms.

The Honorable Lee A. Harris, Jr., Chief Judge of the Henrico Circuit Court

Chief Judge Harris was very complementary of the caliber of the lawyers practicing before the court and the way the bench and bar work together in Henrico County. He stressed how desirous he is of hearing from any members of the bar with suggestions or concerns about the court procedures, and attorneys are welcome to write or speak to him about such matters.

Judge Harris wanted to remind the bar of the following:

1. Be realistic in the amount of time you request for a hearing. If the other side has set the hearing and you want additional matters heard, don't just piggyback on their hearing date. Rather, talk with the judge's secretary about your interest in adding additional matters to the docket and see if additional time is available.

2. In civil cases, including domestic relations cases and appeals from Juvenile Court, hearings and trials can be set by telephone with the agreement of counsel where both parties provide their available dates. It is not necessary to wait for the docket call.

3. In criminal cases, if the Defendant waives a preliminary hearing and both the Commonwealth's Attorney and the Defense counsel agree, the case can be set for trial by calling the judge's secretary. This also can be done by telephone if there is a preliminary hearing in which for some reason an early trial date is not set at the hearing.

4. With regard to emergency hearings, make sure the matter truly is an emergency (such as a parent planning move with the child to another state before a custody hearing has been held). If it is, you can request an emergency hearing by letter or by setting a 5 minute hearing on a Monday morning to request it.

5. If you are unable to obtain available and avoid dates from opposing counsel in a reasonable amount of time, you can set a 5 minute hearing (usually on a Monday morning) and notice the other counsel that you will be setting the case for trial. In practice, this usually results in the other side providing dates and makes the 5 minute hearing unnecessary.

6. The court finds it helpful when attorneys, especially newer attorneys or attorneys who do not appear regularly before the court identify themselves to the judge at the beginning of the case.

Judge Harris discussed the requirement of pretrial orders in Equitable Distribution cases and the benefits to everyone involved of adhering to the deadline set forth in the orders. In family law cases set for an equitable distribution trial, the court finds it very helpful to have each side's proposed scheme of distribution in advance of the trial. This is important to the parties and the court, and a failure to adhere to the pretrial order may resort in sanctions appropriate to the particular case.

The court encourages use of judicial settlement conferences. Whenever both parties request it, the court will order a judicial settlement conference with a retired judge of the parties' choice, to facilitate settlement and potentially save the litigants considerable expense. It is hoped that the settlement conference will settle the case or at least narrow the issues.

One of the best things attorneys can do is communicate with each other. Judge Harris feels that face to face conversations are still very important. Judge Harris expressed appreciation for the bar association and its members.

The Honorable John Marshall, Chief Judge of the Henrico General District Court

Chief Judge Marshall has been on the bench since 2005 and has consistently worked to achieve better pay for the Clerks in the Henrico County General District Court. Because the Clerks are state employees and do not receive County supplements, they are among the lowest paid state employees. This fact makes it difficult to attract and retain good employees, and turnover is a very real problem. The solution to maintaining the quality of the Clerks and retaining them is salary relief.

Judge Marshall and the other Henrico Judges have been working through the County's legislators to have legislation introduced in both houses of the General Assembly to appropriate the funding necessary to increase salaries for District Court Clerks. They have the support of Justice Kinser and the Virginia Supreme Court, and he is hopeful that this may be the year in which some real progress is made.

He notes that the ultimate responsibility of the dispositions handed down by the Court is in the hands of the Clerks. The Henrico County General District Court hears over 120,000 cases each year and hears cases five days a week. On some days, Henrico Judges will hear in excess of 300 cases per judge. The Clerks cannot leave for the day until disposition in each case is entered into the Court's system. While some of the work may be redundant, it is important that the disposition in each case be entered accurately. This requires quality personnel in the Clerk's Office.

Judge Marshall notes that "we have a wonderful Bar." Members of both the criminal and civil Bars are collegial. He also reports that he is hearing more personal injury cases because of the increase in the jurisdictional limit. He is also aware of the economic climate and is mindful of people's circumstances in his rulings in small claims cases and apartment rent cases. He particularly notes that Henrico is fortunate to have very good Court-appointed attorneys. Henrico County does not use a Public Defender's Office.

His one consistent piece of advice to attorneys is to always let the Court "know where you are." He was in private practice prior to going on the Bench and knows that counsel will frequently have to be in more than one Court on the same morning. All he asks is that counsel let the Court know if he or she is held up in another Court and will be late.

The Honorable Margaret W. Deglau, Chief Judge of the Henrico Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court

Chief Judge Deglau joined the Henrico County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court as a presiding judge in 2006, and is currently serving her second term as chief judge.

Continuing Legal Education courses

Voir Dire: Strategies and Techniques for Selecting a Jury

Choosing the individuals who will decide your client's fate is arguably the most critical part of every trial. This presentation will touch on tactics and techniques that can help influence trial outcome by improving the quality of juror selection. Two experienced trial attorneys, Stephanie E. Grana of Cantor Stoneburner Ford Grana & Buckner and Edward J. McNelis, III of Rawls, McNelis & Mitchell, will discuss methods for successful jury selection from the vantage point of both plaintiff and defense. Hon. John A. Gibney, Jr., United States District Judge, Eastern District of Virginia, will also be on hand to provide perspective from the bench and will give special insights into Federal voir dire.

DATE: Wednesday, April 9, 2014
TIME: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION: 2nd Floor Conference Room, 707 E. Main Street
COST: \$50 for members (\$60 after April 2)
 \$65 for non-members (\$75 after April 2)

MCLE CREDIT: THIS PROGRAM HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE VIRGINIA MCLE BOARD FOR **2.0 HOURS** OF CREDIT

Not a Minor Matter: Issues Regarding Juveniles in J&DR Courts

Whether you are representing a juvenile or representing a parent in a divorce that involves children, there are many issues that you need to consider to get the best result possible for your client. Three important topics will be discussed in this presentation: (i) Education law issues and how they impact your case, (ii) a juvenile's mental health issues and how to present such evidence in delinquency, CHINS and custody/visitation cases, and (iii) how the Guardian Ad Litem can help or hurt your case. Judge Carr of Chesterfield, Judge Johnson of Henrico and Judge Roberts of Richmond J&DR Courts will discuss their thoughts and experiences on these topics. This will be a very interactive CLE with these Judges. Therefore, please bring stories of your experience with these topics and your questions for the Judges panel.

DATE: Wednesday, April 10, 2014
TIME: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION: 2nd Floor Conference Room, 707 E. Main Street
COST: \$50 for members (\$60 after April 3)
 \$65 for non-members (\$75 after April 3)

MCLE CREDIT: THIS PROGRAM HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE VIRGINIA MCLE BOARD FOR **2.0 HOURS** OF CREDIT

Straight from the Bench: A Panel Discussion with Our Federal Judiciary

This seminar represents a unique opportunity to listen to and interact with the judges of the Richmond Division's Federal District and Magistrate Courts. The presentation will concentrate on federal court practice in the "Rocket Docket" of the Eastern District of Virginia and will be followed by a social hour in which attendees can network, while continuing to discuss practice pointers with the panel members.

DATE: Tuesday, April 29, 2014
TIME: 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with a reception (beer/wine and hors d'oeuvres) to follow
LOCATION: Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr. Federal Courthouse, 701 East Broad St.
COST: \$80 for members (\$90 after April 21)
 \$90 for non-members (\$100 after April 21)

MCLE CREDIT: THIS PROGRAM HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE VIRGINIA MCLE BOARD FOR **2.0 HOURS** OF CREDIT

The Bar's annual Legislative Update, featuring presentations by members of the General Assembly, will also take place this Spring. Information on this program will appear in the April/May newsletter.

Have The FLSA Auditors or OSHA Inspectors Knocked On Your Client's Door Lately? Be Sure You Know What to Do When They Do

Join Betsy Davis of Spotts Fain and Courtney Malveaux of ThompsonMcMullan as they walk you through how to counsel, advise and represent clients when the U.S. Department of Labor comes knocking about your client's wage and hour practices or the Occupational Safety and Health Administration or state counterpart inspects your client. This seminar will focus on audits and retaliation claims related to both federal laws, including common FLSA overtime errors, misclassification of employees and the danger of improperly classifying workers as independent contractors, as well as OSHA inspections, citations, settlement and litigation. It will also cover how to avoid retaliation claims that might arise from employee complaints that trigger these audits. Sign up to gain valuable insight so you can advise your clients when they answer the knock at the door.

DATE: Tuesday, May 8, 2014
TIME: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION: 2nd Floor Conference Room, 707 E. Main Street
COST: \$50 for members (\$60 after May 1)
 \$65 for non-members (\$75 after May 1)

MCLE CREDIT: THIS PROGRAM HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE VIRGINIA MCLE BOARD FOR **2.0 HOURS** OF CREDIT

CLE Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

<u>Date</u>	<u>Seminar Title</u>	<u>CLE Hours</u>	<u>Members</u> <u>(Registration/Late Registration)</u>	<u>Non-Members</u>	
April 9	Voir Dire	2.0	\$50/\$60	\$65/\$75	\$ _____
April 10	Juveniles in J&DR Courts	2.0	\$50/\$60	\$65/\$75	\$ _____
April 29	Discussion with the Federal Judiciary	2.0	\$80/\$90	\$90/\$100	\$ _____
May 8	FLSA/OSHA	2.0	\$50/\$60	\$65/\$75	\$ _____
				Total	\$ _____

Payment:

_____ I participate in the CLE Discount Program. Please deduct _____ hours from my balance.

_____ I wish to pay by credit card:

Visa or Mastercard _____
 (check one) card number expiration date

_____ I have enclosed a check or money order.

Cancellation of registration for continuing legal education seminars is allowed up to one week prior to the seminar. Reservations made by credit card payment are subject to a 5% service fee if cancelled by the appropriate cut-off date. Refunds or credits to a member's discount program account will be given up to one week prior to the date of the seminar.

Detach and send form and check to: Richmond Bar Association, P.O. Box 1213, Richmond, VA 23218-1213.

Visit <http://www.richmondbar.org/cle/registration/> to register online.

Wilson Flohr to speak in March

continued from page 1

be seated at a judge's table.

Wilson Flohr has spent a large part of his career in the tourism industry working at Walt Disney World and the theme park group of Taft Broadcasting. During his tenure with Taft he was the marketing director at Carowinds in Charlotte, N.C. and Kings Dominion in the Richmond area. Flohr then became EVP and general manager of both parks and held the position at Kings Dominion for 15 years until his retirement from the industry in 1998. During his tenure at Kings Dominion he was active in the Richmond business community serving as the Chairman of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, the Metro Richmond Convention & Visitors Bureau and for the Governor's Tourism Advisory Board.

He came out of retirement to be President & CEO of Richmond Region 2007 the non-profit organization responsible for the development and implementation of the celebration of Richmond Region's 400th Anniversary.

In April of 2012, Flohr was appointed CEO of Richmond 2015, the non-profit organization that is responsible for the planning, organizing, managing and implementation of the 2015 UCI Road World Championships, cycling's premier world-wide event.

Judges are invited to attend the luncheon free of charge as guests of the Association. Judges who would like to be picked up at either the John Marshall Courts Building or the Supreme Court Building are asked to notify the Bar office by 1:00 p.m. on the day before the luncheon.

Lawyers Helping Lawyers support groups available to assist attorneys

Lawyers Helping Lawyers provides non-disciplinary assistance to members of the legal profession in Virginia who experience professional impairment as a result of substance abuse or mental health issues. Support groups meet weekly; attendance and everything that occurs in this group is confidential. For confidential assistance, call (804) 644-3212 or 1-877-LHL IN VA (877-545-4682)

2014-2015 luncheon dates announced

Mark your calendar! The RBA luncheon dates and the Holiday Cocktail Party date for the upcoming Bar year are:

Luncheons - held at the Omni Hotel beginning at 12:30 p.m.:

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Thursday, October 23, 2014 (Bench-Bar Conference)

No luncheon in November due to renovations at the Omni Hotel

Thursday, January 22, 2015

Thursday, February 26, 2015

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Friday, May 1, 2015 (Law Day)

The Holiday Cocktail Party will be held at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2014.

Get involved - serve on a RBA committee

Members who volunteer to serve on Committees and participate in events are the lifeblood of the Association. The new Bar year will begin on June 1, and President-Elect John Burke will be making new appointments to the Committees listed below. If you are interested in serving on a Committee, please contact him at 377-1263 or jburke@setliffholland.com.

Administration of Justice
Communications
Finance
Membership

Bench-Bar Conference
Continuing Legal Education
Judiciary
Pro Bono



The family of Benjamin R. Lacy IV was on-hand at the Bar's January luncheon to receive the John C. Kenny Pro Bono Award in his honor. Pictured left to right are his daughter, Callie Brackett, his wife, Sandy Lacy, his son-in-law, Alex Brackett, and RBA President Anne Scher.

John Merrick to receive award

continued from page 1

Mr. Merrick was nominated for this award by numerous colleagues from a variety of law firms. Nominations include the following statements:

"The bottom line is that John is a very fine trial lawyer with a ton of potential, but he is more than that. He has sought to be involved in many other aspects of life -some related to the legal profession and others related to the community. He gravitates to leadership positions in every organization in which he is a member. People like him and respect him. He contributes to each organization to which he belongs. If you are looking for a well-rounded candidate, you will do no better than John."

"In addition to being an outstanding attorney, having tried dozens of cases, including eight jury trials, Mr. Merrick is not only active in several organizations, but has taken on leadership roles within those organizations. Mr. Merrick is a member of



John A. Merrick

the Richmond Bar Association Membership Committee, Bench Bar Conference Committee, and is currently the Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Young Lawyer's Section. Additionally, Mr. Merrick served as the Chair of the Auto & Transportation Liability Section of the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys. Not limiting his roles to the Richmond Bar Association and the VADA, Mr. Merrick was the 2011 Chairman of the Virginia State Bar Orientation and Admission Ceremony for the Virginia State Bar."

"In addition to his dedication to local bar associations, John has also been involved as a Model Judiciary Attorney Advisor with local high schools. He has also graciously offered his time and insight by speaking to my students at the University of Richmond, School of Law for the last several years. Each semester, my students are inspired by John's passion for the practice of law and the value he places on becoming involved in the community."

YOUR BUSINESS IS UNIQUE.
YOUR BANKING
RELATIONSHIP SHOULD
BE NOTHING LESS.

First Capital Bank
Let's Make It Work

tccapitalbank.com 804.273.1160 FDIC

Take advantage of the Association's CLE Discount Program and save money! Purchase 6 hours of credit for \$100 or a 12 hour block for \$180, and then register for any RBA seminars (excludes some Section-sponsored CLE and Bench-Bar Conference) conducted through October 31, 2014. Visit <http://www.richmondbar.org/cle/cle-discount-program/> or call 780-0700 for more details.

Residence Inn
Fairfax City
3565 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030

Your home away from home when visiting Fairfax Courthouse

Award-winning hotel opened in May, 2011
1.3 miles from Fairfax Courthouse
Ranked #1 Residence Inn in the country in 2013

Special rates available for lawyers and Courthouse visitors!
Go to www.residenceinnfairfaxcity.com
and use promotional code 75FJ

RBA Committee members visit Henrico judges

continued from page 5

Judge Deglau considers the introduction of a mediation coordinator, employed by Henrico County, the most significant administrative change in 2013. When matters are referred for mediation, the mediation coordinator screens the files and arranges for appointment of guardians ad litem and/or involvement of the Department of Social Services. More successful mediations have resulted in a dramatic increase in how quickly matters settle and a resulting decrease in congestion on the court's docket. That means that a preliminary hearing can often be held in a custody case within one month of the case being filed.

The mediation process does not cost the parties anything. Some mediators are lawyers, although mediators are not required to be lawyers. The primary benefit of mediation is that the parties reach an agreement rather than having one imposed

by the court. Counsel can request mediation or decline to participate in the process. The parties' lawyers usually do not attend mediations, which saves the parties money. When a mediated agreement is reached, the matter is put on the court's docket for the following Friday.

Another way in which Henrico County is assisting citizens in juvenile matters is by paying for parties who file petitions to attend parenting classes at St. Joseph's Villa. The classes have been very well received. The parenting classes, as well as the mediation coordinator, are examples of how Henrico County has helped bridge gaps in services due to state budget cuts by providing supplemental funding.

While the court is generally pleased with the preparation of counsel in delinquency matters, the judges do want lawyers to talk to their clients while they are incarcerated, especially in matters where bond is

an issue. To facilitate conferences with juveniles held in the Henrico County Jail East in New Kent, Sheriff Mike Wade has made video conferencing available at the Henrico County Jail West, so that lawyers do not have to drive out to New Kent to meet with their clients.

A national and statewide issue that impacts juvenile proceedings is the small number of inpatient facilities for juveniles who have mental health issues. Judge Deglau indicated lawyers who handle juvenile delinquency matters need to understand mental health disorders, including the symptoms and diagnoses, because mental health issues directly impact recommendations to the court and could constitute mitigating evidence with respect to some defendants' *mens rea*.

While each presiding judge on the Henrico Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court may tweak the pretrial order entered in custody, visitation and support matters, every judge's pretrial order provides for dismissal of the matter if the parties are unable to settle their differences following a failure to comply with the pretrial order. Judge Deglau carefully explains to parties why providing their lawyers the information necessary to respond to interrogatories, requests for production and requests for admission in a timely manner is essential and even gives them a copy of the pretrial order.

Judge Deglau emphasized that every judge on the court is acutely aware the court's decisions impact many lives. She and the other judges depend upon lawyers to help the court reach the right decision. Judge Deglau is impressed by the lawyers who appear before her and their collegiality, notwithstanding the very contentious nature of their clients' matters.

* * * *

*Principle of Professionalism #10
To be mindful that the law is a learned profession; that the practice of law is a privilege as well as an honorable means of livelihood; and that every lawyer has the obligation to preserve and protect the high ideals of liberty and due process of law.*

Announcements Bankruptcy Section to host Spring Social on March 20th at Sands Anderson

The Bankruptcy Section's "Spring Social" will take place on Thursday, March 20, 2014 from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the offices of Sands Anderson PC, 1111 E. Main Street, Suite 2300. Parking is available at the Bank of America Center visitor lot on Cary Street. And yes, March Madness will be on the big screen.

Cost to attend is \$35 per person. Register with a credit card by visiting the Bar's website (see link at the bottom of this page) or by calling 780-0700. Payment can also be made by returning the form on the flyer that was sent to all Section members. Reservations must be received by March 17th; no refunds will be issued after this date.

Business Law Section's Annual Meeting set for May 8th at Pasture

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the Business Law Section's Annual Meeting set for Thursday, May 8, 2014 at Pasture, 416 E Grace St, Richmond, VA 23219. Additional details will be sent to all Section members shortly.

Real Estate Section to hold dinner at Buckheads on April 3rd

Save the date! The Real Estate Section will host a dinner at Buckhead's Restaurant & Chop House, 8510 Patterson Avenue, Richmond, VA 23229 on Thursday, April 3, 2014. Additional information will be sent to Section members soon.

YLS: Notice of Appointment of Nominating Committee

Pursuant to Section 4.07 of the Bylaws of the Young Lawyers Section of The Bar Association of the City of Richmond, notice is hereby given that a Nominating Committee has been appointed to consider candidates and nominate officers and Executive Committee members for election at the Section's Annual Meeting. The members of the Nominating Committee are as follows:

Nicole Hardin Brakstad
Allison P. Monger
Kimberly A. Skiba

Rebecca Herbig
Will D. Prince IV
Lauren M. Wheeling

Any group of 10 or more members of the Section may make nominations by submitting the name of any nominee to the undersigned Secretary of the Section by February 26, 2014. In addition, any member of the Section may suggest candidates for consideration by the Nominating Committee. Suggestions for consideration shall be made by notifying the undersigned.

John A. Merrick, Secretary
Harman, Claytor, Corrigan & Wellman
P. O. Box 70280
Richmond, Virginia 23255
jmerrick@hccw.com

Reservations for all RBA Section events may be made online using a credit card:

<https://richmondbar.org/sections/section-events-registration/>

Welcome new members

The Richmond Bar Association welcomes the following new members:

Andrew Armentrout
James T. Bailey
Andrew C. Baird
Jennifer A. Barnes
Christopher P. Bernhardt
Kelly J. Bundy
Nancy H. Davidson
Patrick F. Dillard
Christopher K. Dorsey
Matthew D. Fender
Diane P. Flannery
Jacob L. Glasser
Angela T. Isabell
Nicole D. Irwin
Denise M. Letendre
Jerry J. Liu
Edward P. Osowski
Bradford C. Schulz
Elizabeth C. Southall
Brandt H. Stitzer
William J. Van Thunen
Eric J. Wallace
Roderick C. Young

Pro se education pamphlets available

The latest version of the RBA's pro se education pamphlets, "Your Guide to Civil Litigation in General District Court" and "Your Guide to Landlord-Tenant Disputes," are now available. These pamphlets, which were produced by the Bar's Pro Bono Committee, are available in both English and Spanish and are designed to help a pro se litigant understand the basic rules and procedures of civil litigation in the General District Court.

The pamphlets are provided free of charge to court personnel, law enforcement officials, legal aid societies, libraries, and other not-for-profit organizations. They are also available on the RBA website at www.richmondbar.org under "Publications."

The Association appreciates Williams-Mullen for its generosity in providing the printing of the pamphlets.

The Richmond Bar appreciates the patronage of its 2013-2014 Select Sponsors:

- First Capital Bank
- Halasz Court Reporting
- Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company
- Protiviti, Inc.
- Superior Document Services
- Tranzon Fox

CALENDAR

March

- 3 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., Bar office
- 6 Board of Directors meeting, 12:30 p.m., Hunton & Williams
- 10 Pro Bono Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., 2nd floor conference room
- 11 CLE Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., 2nd floor conference room
- 17 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., Bar office
- 19 Hudson-Peters event, 5:30 p.m., Williams Mullen
- 20 RBA Luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Omni Hotel
Speaker: Wilson Flohr, CEO of Richmond 2015
- 20 Bankruptcy Section Spring Social, 6:00 p.m., Sands Anderson
- 31 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., Bar office

April

- 1 Bench-Bar Conference Committee meeting, 5:30 p.m., 2nd floor conference room
- 3 Board of Directors meeting, 12:30 p.m., Hunton & Williams
- 3 Real Estate Section Dinner, time TBA, Buckhead's Restaurant
- 9 CLE seminar: "Voir Dire: Strategies and Techniques for Selecting a Jury," 4:00 p.m., 2nd floor conference room
- 10 CLE seminar: "Issues Regarding Juveniles in J&DR Courts," 4:00 p.m., 2nd floor conference room
- 14 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., Bar office
- 23 Annual Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Willow Oaks Country Club
- 23 Spring Cocktail Party, 6:00 p.m., Willow Oaks Country Club
- 28 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., Bar office
- 29 CLE seminar "Straight from the Bench: A Panel Discussion with Our Federal Judiciary, 3:00 p.m., Federal Courthouse

May

- 2 RBA Luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Omni Hotel
Speaker: Justice S. Bernard Goodwyn, VA Supreme Court
- 3 Board of Directors meeting, 12:30 p.m., Hunton & Williams
- 6 Bench-Bar Conference Committee meeting, 5:30 p.m., 2nd floor conference room
- 8 CLE seminar: "FLSA Auditors/OSHA Inspectors, 4:00 p.m., 2nd floor conference room
- 8 Business Law Section Annual Meeting, time TBA, Pasture
- 12 Pro Bono Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., 2nd floor conference room
- 13 CLE Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., 2nd floor conference room

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
RICHMOND, VA
PERMIT NO. 2929

The Bar Association of the
City of Richmond
P.O. Box 1213
Richmond, Virginia 23218-1213