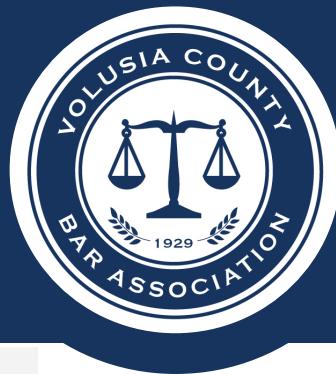


COMMUNICATOR

The Volusia County Bar Association Newsletter | February 2026



The Volusia County Bar Association

VCBA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

With CLE "The Sustainable Lawyer:
Systems, Strategies, and Ethics for
Modern Practice"

You will learn how to:

- ✓ Identify ethical risks caused by poor workflow management.
- ✓ Implement systems that protect competence, diligence, and communication.
- ✓ Strengthen professionalism through intentional practice choices.
- ✓ Use sustainable habits to meet obligations to clients, courts, and colleagues.



Paige Greenlee

Register Now

www.volusiabar.org

www.voteforpaige.com

Join us for the Spring **VCBA Membership Meeting** with CLE by Paige Greenlee "The Sustainable Lawyer: Systems, Strategies, and Ethics for Modern Practice "

Date: Friday, Feb. 20th, 2026

Time: 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Where: "The Daytona" Autograph Hotel, 1870 Victory Cir, Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Cost: Members \$30, Non-Member \$40

[REGISTER
NOW!](#)

2026 BENCH & BBQ



VCBA

BENCH & BBQ

APRIL 16, 2026

Brannon Center
105 S Riverside Drive
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168

AGENDA

- 6:00 pm Cocktail hour
- 7:00 pm 4Rs Dinner
- 7:30 pm Program

MORE INFO

\$30 Per Person
Cash Bar
Attire: Casual Western

HONOREES

Judge Robert Rouse
Random Burnett
C. Chobee Ebbets
J. Peyton Quarles
George Pappas

REGISTER NOW!

www.volusiabar.org

BENCH & BBQ CONTINUED

BENCH & BAR-BQ SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

This is the VCBA's largest event of the year! With an estimated attendance of approximately 150 legal professionals including strong presence of the judiciary. We are seeking sponsorships to support this signature event while providing valuable advertising and networking opportunities for individuals and businesses. Please note that sponsorship opportunities are limited, and the deadline to submit this form is Friday, **March 13, 2026**.

SPONSOR LEVELS

SILVER \$750	BRONZE \$500
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8 tickets to the event• 8 drink tickets• Logo displayed on digital rotating screen• Business card, flyer, or item on tables• Reserved table with signage and centerpiece• 3 months 1/4 page advertising in the VCBA newsletter• VCBA media recognition (e.g., Facebook, website)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 tickets to the event• 4 drink tickets• Logo displayed on digital rotating screen• 1 month logo and recognition in VCBA newsletter• VCBA media recognition (e.g., Facebook, website)

GOLD/TITLE SPONSOR

These sponsorship spaces will only be available to **one sponsor**, giving you highest visibility!

GOLD \$2,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Includes SILVER package• Includes 3 minute speaking slot at beginning of event• Have your logo displayed on the Bar and Buffet• 6 month 1/2 page ad in newsletter

SPONSOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Name

Company

Email Address

Phone Number

Names of Attendees

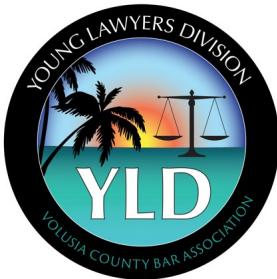
*TICKETS

\$30 per person (includes dinner, does not include bar drinks). Additional tickets can be purchased online.

DOWNLOAD THIS FORM HERE

If you have any questions or would like to discuss a customized sponsorship opportunity please do not hesitate to reach out! Contact Sarah at volusiabar@gmail.com.

YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION (YLD)



The VCBA Young Lawyers Division is hosting two upcoming **lunch events**, in Daytona and DeLand, offering YLD members and colleagues the opportunity to connect, network, and engage with one another. Attendees are welcome to join one or both events.



DAYTONA BEACH

Date: Friday, Feb. 6th, 2026

Time: 12:00 pm

Where: Stavro's Pizza House, 262 S Beach St, Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Cost: FREE

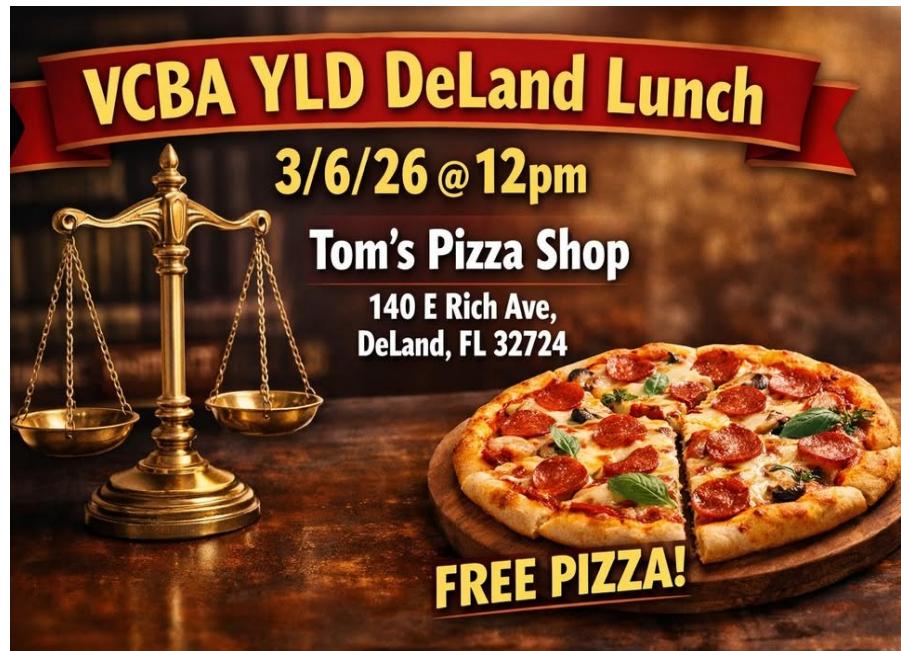
DELAND

Date: Friday, Mar. 6th, 2026

Time: 12:00 pm

Where: Tom's Pizza, 140 E Rich Ave, DeLand, FL 32724

Cost: FREE



You're invited to
VCBA
Social

5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Thursday, February 19th, 2026
Chart House
1100 Marina Point Dr
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Come out and join the VCBA for hors d'oeuvres and cocktails at our **Chart House Social** on Wednesday, February 19th, 2026, from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.. This informal gathering is a great opportunity for members to network, connect with colleagues, and enjoy a relaxed evening together.

No RSVP is required to attend, and there is **no cost for members**. We hope to see everyone there!

VCBA EVENT RECAP



The VCBA recently hosted a private tour of the [DeLand Naval Air and Space Museum](#), followed by dinner and a CLE presentation by Judge Heidt. The event provided a unique opportunity to learn about the history of the DeLand Naval Air Station while networking with colleagues.

Members enjoyed the museum tour and continued the evening next door at the DeLand Airport's "Perfect Spot" Restaurant for dinner and CLE. We thank Judge Heidt for sharing his valuable insights on the history of our legal community, the museum for offering such an engaging and educational experience, and all attendees for their participation, which made the evening both enjoyable and memorable. The VCBA extends sincere appreciation to everyone involved for making this event a success.



VCBA ARTICLE

Local Legal History and Lasting Legacy

The VCBA event on Jan. 13th, offered members a meaningful opportunity to step back in time and explore the rich legal history of our region, thanks to **Judge Heidt**, an experience that resonated deeply with attendees, including Greg Snell, who shared a personal and compelling connection to the evening's historical focus.

Greg reflected on the legacy of his wife's grandfather, **Claude Varn**, a member of Stetson University College of Law's Class of 1914. That graduating class itself was notable for its progressiveness, including the presence of a female graduate at a time when women in legal education were exceedingly rare. Claude Varn's own family continued that tradition: one of his daughters attended the University of Florida College of Law in the 1950s, finishing second in her class and becoming the first female Editor-in-Chief of the UF Law Review, a milestone that underscored the gradual evolution of the legal profession.

After law school, Claude Varn joined the firm of **Bert Fish**, who was already serving as a judge at the time. The two developed a lifelong friendship and business partnership, ultimately owning significant land holdings together. Claude went on to become a formidable lawyer and entrepreneur, at one point the largest owner of oceanfront property in Florida. His impact on the region is still visible today: his company successfully passed a bond and constructed the final remaining segment of A1A between St. Augustine and Daytona Beach, and the Matanzas Inlet bridge bears his name. He was also responsible for building the first pier in Flagler Beach.

Claude Varn's commitment to public service extended beyond infrastructure. He served as an honorary pallbearer at Bert Fish's funeral and remained on the **Bert Fish Foundation Board** for approximately 30 years. The Foundation played a vital role in building hospitals throughout the county to serve underprivileged communities, further cementing his legacy of civic involvement.

Greg shared that the event's emphasis on history made it especially engaging and meaningful, noting his own appreciation for learning more about the people and stories that shaped our local legal community.

Thank you to Greg Snell for sharing these remarkable insights and for helping bring our region's legal history to life.

Recounted by Greg Snell, written by Sarah Grover



VCBA MEMBER DUES - DUE!!

Dear VCBA Members,

It's that time of year, 2026 VCBA Membership Dues are due. VCBA Member Dues run on calendar year (Jan 1 – Dec 31) and **ARE NOW DUE**.

We continue to use JoinIt for our Membership Management Platform. This allows you to pay your membership dues securely online, update your profile information at your convenience, and access member benefits and resources effortlessly. To ensure uninterrupted access to your VCBA membership, please follow these steps to complete payment:

- [**Log in to the JoinIt platform here**](#)
- If you have any issues accessing your account, please reach out to us at volusiabar@gmail.com.
- Submit your payment for 2026 membership dues directly through the platform.

If you utilize the **Attorney Search feature** on our website, please note the following update intended to reduce confusion from last year:

- You have now received ONE combined invoice that includes both your 2026 member dues and the Attorney Search fee (which remains \$50 for the first category and \$10 per additional field).
- If you would prefer two separate invoices, you may go ahead and pay your dues, then you will receive the second invoice for the attorney search separately.

If you are part of a large firm and need one invoice for multiple attorneys, please reach out and I will be happy to assist. We are working to reduce physical invoice mailings due to rising costs of printing and mailing.

**Please note: we do still accept check payments! Mail to:

Volusia County Bar Association
1440 N. Nova Road, Suite 101
Daytona Beach, FL 32117

We appreciate your prompt attention and your continued support. If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us at volusiabar@gmail.com.

Warm regards,
Sarah Grover

Executive Director, VCBA

ATTENTION RETIRED OR SOON TO BE MEMBERS!!

We are pleased to introduce a new **Retired Membership** category for the Volusia County Bar Association. For just **\$50 annually**, retired attorneys can remain connected and engaged with the local legal community while continuing to share their valuable experience and expertise through VCBA programs, events, and service opportunities.

The VCBA Board of Directors

PARTNER EVENTS



Join St. JAWL for Lunch and Learn Board Certification Panel

February 9, 2026
Noon to 1:00 pm

Guest panelists:

Isabelle Lopez - City, County and Local Government, City Attorney, St. Augustine

Jennifer Akin - Elder Law, J. Akin Law

Daniel Hilbert - Criminal Trial Law, Canan Law

Tance Roberts - Tax Law, Matanzas Law Firm

The Columbia Restaurant
98 St. George Street, St. Augustine

RSVP by 2/4/2026 to
st.jwomenlawyers@gmail.com
for menus options

Members \$25.00

Non-Members \$35.00

Judges complimentary

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Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026
11AM - 1PM

Red Bug Lake Park, Pavillion A
3600 Red Bug Lake Rd.
Casselberry FL 32707

Thank you for being part of our story.

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For more information, email development@clsmf.org

UWWM Mediation Group

CLE: Emotional Intelligence in Mediation

Join us for our free Florida CLE & CME Webinar at noon ET Wednesday, February 18, 2026

[**REGISTER NOW**](#)

Emotional Intelligence in Mediation is a 50-minute instructional program presented by Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Civil Mediators April Walker and John Jopling. It focuses on the practical skills every advocate and neutral should utilize in every mediation. The presenters discuss the four domains of emotional intelligence ("EI") and demonstrate how emotional self-awareness and self-control, adaptability, teamwork, and other EI competencies impact preparation, opening sessions, caucus meetings, and negotiations. Using scenario-based discussion and professional anecdotes, the course teaches participants how to improve communication and promote better outcomes by recognizing and managing emotions at every stage of their mediation conferences.

The Florida Bar has approved this Webinar for 1.0 credits of General Continuing Legal Education (CLE) and 0.5 credit of Professionalism CLE.

After [registering](#), you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.



Proud Sponsors of This Webinar



PARTNER EVENTS

FLAGLER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

FEB. 9: CLE

The Flagler County Bar Association has the honor of hosting a CLE opportunity next month on the topic of Interpreters which will be presented by Judges Lauren P. Blocker and Robert W. Pickens III, as well as Angie Afanador, a seasoned court interpreter with over 25 years of experience. Please join us on Monday, February 9, 2026 from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM at the Flagler County Courthouse in the first-floor jury room. There is no cost for this event and it will be worth 1 general CLE credit.

FEB. 27: Luncheon

The Flagler County Bar Association will have its February monthly luncheon on Friday, February 27, 2026 from 11:30-1:00 at the Landing Strip in Palm Coast. You are welcome to come at any time during that time frame, and all attendees will pay for themselves. This is a chance to socialize and have some down time during your busy schedules Judges, as always, please feel free to bring your Judicial Assistants and if there is anyone that I may have missed in this email or someone that you know is interested in attending, please forward this email to them. If there are any questions, please let me know. We look forward to seeing you on the 30th!

MARCH 27: Luncheon

The Flagler County Bar Association will have its March monthly luncheon on Friday, March 27, 2026 from 11:30-1:00 at the Landing Strip in Palm Coast. You are welcome to come at any time during that time frame, and all attendees will pay for themselves. This is a chance to socialize and have some down time during your busy schedules Judges, as always, please feel free to bring your Judicial Assistants and if there is anyone that I may have missed in this email or someone that you know is interested in attending, please forward this email to them. If there are any questions, please let me know. We look forward to seeing you on the 27th!

Please let me know if you plan on attending and if there are any questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

Regina Ranier-Sprague
Executive Director
Flagler County Bar Association
Post Office Box 353783
Palm Coast, Florida 32135-4750



NOTICES

OFFICE FOR SALE

A lawyer with 50 years' experience is retiring and selling his office in Daytona Beach, Florida. The law office is perfect for one or two lawyers and paralegals. It is a first-floor condominium within an 8-office building.

The unit is an upscale boutique setting with two private offices; a large library conference room; a mini conference room; a reception area; a large area that accommodates two large desks for paralegals; and two bathrooms. There is a large area in the rear of the office that contains a full kitchen, minus a stove and oven. There is a sink, kitchen counter, microwave and refrigerator. The rear area also contains a supply cabinet, dead file storage area and a storage room. The unit is 2,002 sq. ft. A full Appraisal is available.

This is a Probate and Real Estate practice with hundreds of Wills and client files available to the Buyer.

Attorney Jerry B. Wells

(386) 253-3676

WILLS SEARCH

We are in search of a will for:

Jacqueline A Jamison

DOB 10/22/1941

Last known address: 2390 Overlook Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101

*moved to PA from FL and said she had a will prepared here.

If you have any information please contact:

John Sciarrino at jsciarrino2003@yahoo.com, 386-956-9601

JOB POSTINGS

Smith Bigman Brock, P.A. is Hiring | Insurance Defense Associate

Smith Bigman Brock is seeking a dedicated and experienced attorney with 3 – 6 years' experience to join our insurance defense practice group. The ideal candidate will have a strong background in insurance defense. Trial experience is preferred but is not required. We provide our employees with a stellar work environment, excellent compensation, commensurate with experience, and full benefits package including, but not limited to, Health, Dental, Life, AD&D insurance; 401(k) and 401(k) employer matching; Bar Dues and CLE expenses; Professional Development; Generous PTO; Paid, private parking.

Responsibilities

- Represent clients in court or before government agencies
- Prepare and draft legal documents on behalf of clients
- Negotiate settlements for legal disputes
- Comply with all legal standards and regulations
- Perform administrative and management functions related to the practice of law

Qualifications

- Licensed member of the Florida Bar, in good standing
- Previous insurance defense law practice experience
- Strong working knowledge of Florida & Federal civil practice
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills
- Excellent research, writing and organizational skills
- Familiarity with case management software

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and references via email to dkowalski@daytonalaw.com.

At Smith Bigman Brock we are proud of our commitment to excellence in all that we do! If you have what it takes, don't miss this opportunity to join our team and grow with us.

WE ARE HIRING!

CORPORATE TRANSACTIONS ATTORNEY

Cobb & Cole, P.A. is seeking a corporate/business law attorney with a minimum of 5 years' experience to support a shareholder with 30+ years' of corporate and business law practice.

Requirements:

Must be capable of independent work in basic contract review and drafting, mergers and acquisitions, entity formation and structuring, and general business advice.

COMPENSATION IS COMMENSURATE WITH EXPERIENCE. A BOOK OF BUSINESS IS NOT REQUIRED.



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Certified Family Mediator**

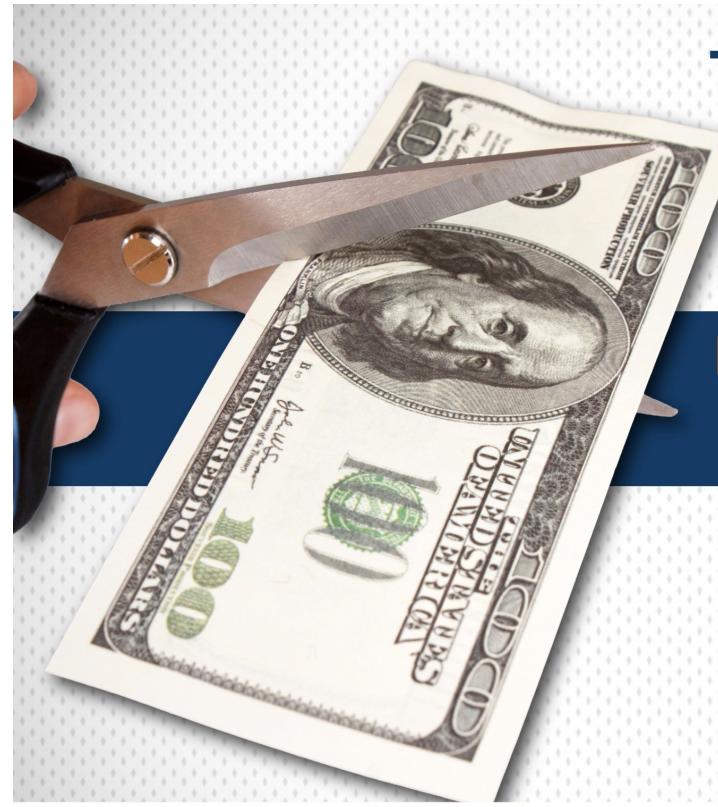
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**NEW CONTACT
INFORMATION**

Email: mikaela@nordmanlaw.com

Phone: (386) 597-3073

(Call or Text)



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EDWARD H. THOMPSON CERTIFIED MEDIATOR

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VOLUSIA COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

Volusia County Law Library

RESOURCES	WESTLAW	CLE COURSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Case Law & Statutes- Form Books- Practice Manuals- Desktop Resources- Law Practice Collection	Free access to Westlaw online research in the DeLand and Daytona Beach courthouse law libraries and public library satellite locations.	Visit the Law Library's website to view a complete list of CLE course titles available to rent at the Daytona Beach and DeLand Law Libraries.

vclawlib.org

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VOLUSIA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

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