

COMMUNICATOR

The Volusia County Bar Association Newsletter | July 2025



Happy 4th of July!

As we celebrate the birth of our nation, may your Independence Day be filled with joy, reflection, and time with family and friends. It's a time to honor the values of freedom, justice, and community that unite us all.

This summer also marks one year since I joined the VCBA! I have learned so much and I'm so thankful for the opportunity to serve and grow alongside such a dedicated and inspiring group of professionals.



Proposed Bylaws Updates – Vote at Annual Meeting

Dear Members,

As part of our ongoing efforts to keep the VCBA's governing documents current and reflective of our membership, some updates to the Bylaws will be presented for a vote at the Annual Meeting on August 1.

Earlier this year, a Bylaws Committee was formed to review the existing document and recommend changes, and we extend our sincere thanks to the committee members for their thoughtful work. In accordance with our procedures, the proposed changes were reviewed and approved by the VCBA Board prior to being sent to the membership for a vote.

While most of the bylaws remain unchanged, the updates primarily focus on two areas:

- Article 1 - Classes of Membership: Providing clearer definitions and renaming the "Associate" member to "Retired" member, including being able to offer a reduced rate to retirees. Also inclusion of the Young Lawyers category which was absent previously.
- Article 7 - Special Committee and Sections: Clarifying and streamlining the language governing our Sections and committee.

These updates are intended to better reflect the current structure and evolving needs of our organization. We encourage all members to review the proposed changes in advance of the meeting.

- [Current Bylaws](#)
- [Proposed Bylaws](#)

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in the VCBA.

Warm regards,

Sarah Grover

Executive Director, VCBA



2025 VCBA Annual Meeting and Professionalism Symposium

Join us **Friday, August 1, 2025** at “The Daytona” Marriott. We’re hosting two separate events — attend one or both depending on your schedule and interests!

VCBA Annual Meeting

11:45 am – 12:45 pm (check-in 11:30 am)

Enjoy lunch while hearing updates from the VCBA and YLD Presidents and connecting with fellow members. This is a great opportunity to engage with your local legal community and learn more about what’s ahead for the VCBA. We will also be voting on proposed Bylaws updates as well as voting on and installing out new Board of Directors and YLD Board of Directors.

2025 Professionalism Symposium

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm (check-in 12:45 pm)

Earn up to 4 CLE credits while attending panels and breakout sessions led by local judges and experts. Afterwards, join us for Networking/Happy Hour at Rock Bottom Brewery 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

[Register Now](#)

Early bird discount **through July 11.**

| TICKET PRICING | Early Bird | After July 11 |
|---|------------|---------------|
| Annual Meeting Only (includes lunch) | | |
| Member | \$25 | \$30 |
| Non-Member | \$40 | \$45 |
| Professionalism Symposium Only (includes afternoon snack) | | |
| Member | \$80 | \$100 |
| Non-Member | \$120 | \$135 |
| BOTH EVENTS (includes lunch, snack, and 2 drink tickets to Networking/Happy Hour) | | |
| Member | \$105 | \$125 |
| Non-Member | \$140 | \$160 |

Hotel Block: We also have a room block for Friday night! Last day to book **July 10**. [Book here](#). Only \$186/night! Tax holiday ends 7/31, but if you purchase tickets for coming to the August 1st event, you receive the [tax savings](#)! There are some great events this weekend, [check them out here](#).

EVENT TIMELINE

| Time | Topic | Speakers |
|----------|---|---|
| 11:30 AM | Check-In | <i>Note: Multiple Registration Options (up to 4 CLEs)</i> |
| 12:00 PM | VCBA Annual Meeting (lunch included) | VCBA President, David Ellzey YLD President, Carleen Leffler |
| 1:00 PM | Panel: Professionalism / Ethics | Chief Judge Case, Judge Washington, Judge K. Miller |
| 2:00 PM | BREAKOUTS: A. Civil Rules B. Criminal Panel | A. Judge Myers, Judge Jolley B. Judge Blackburn, Judge C. Miller, Judge Feigenbaum |
| | BREAK | Lite bites |
| 3:10 PM | BREAKOUTS: A. Pleadings B. Cybersecurity | A. Judge M. Distler B. Cybersecurity Expert Robert Stines |
| 4:00 PM | Panel: Professionalism / Ethics | Judge Wallis, Judge Chris Kelly, Judge LeDonne |
| 5:00 PM | Networking/Happy Hour | @Rock Bottom Brewery (two drink tickets included with registration) |

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THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR STEWART

VCBA SECTIONS

SOLO/SMALL PRACTICE SECTION

Date/Time: Friday, July 18, 2025 @ 1:00 pm

Location: Asahi Japanese Restaurant, Orange City, FL 32163

The VCBA Solo/Small Firm section is meeting for lunch the third Friday of each month. This month at Asahi, casual attire, cozy atmosphere.

We look forward to meeting you. Please RSVP to Julie E. Herring, Esq., jherringlaw@gmail.com or R. Shawn McBride, Esq. shawn.mcbride@rsmlawpllc.com



FAMILY LAW SECTION UPDATE

There have been some updates to the Family Law Forms and to the Rules.

1. Updated Forms

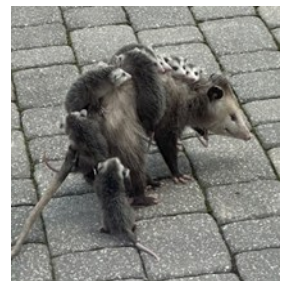
Most notably, the **Long Form Financial Affidavit** has been updated. Several new expense line items and new asset and debt categories have been added. The updated forms are listed below.

- Notice and Consent to Limited Appearance
- Termination of Limited Appearance
- Agreement Limiting Representation
- Joint Petition for Simplified Dissolution of Marriage
- **Long Form Financial Affidavit**
- **Child Support Guidelines Worksheet**
- Notice of Service of Standard Family Law Interrogatories
- Standard Family Law Interrogatories for Original or Enforcement Proceedings
- Standard Family Law Interrogatories for Modification Proceedings
- **Certificate of Compliance with Mandatory Disclosure**

2. New Requirement: Notice of Issuance of Subpoena is to be served and filed with the Court

Florida Family Law Rule of Procedure 12.410 has been amended to include the following:
A party who issues a subpoena through an attorney of record or clerk of court must, on the same day the subpoena is issued, serve each party to the proceeding with a notice of issuance of subpoena and file the notice with the court.

Thanks to all who attended the Section meeting! To those of you that could not attend, you missed a great exchange of ideas and this possum with her “joeys”.



Sara Glover, Cobb Cole
Family Law Section Chair

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Mike Sznajstajler

*2025 Chairman of the Board, Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce
Shareholder, Cobb Cole, Attorneys at Law*

Mike Sznajstajler is a dedicated community leader and environmental law attorney who is currently serving as the Chairman of the Board for the Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce. Mike's legal practice focuses on environmental law, with a focus on the redevelopment of brownfield sites. Originally from Miami, Mike also grew up in Fort Lauderdale and Franklin, Massachusetts. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Miami in 2005 and graduated from Stetson University College of Law in 2008.

Mike credits much of his professional growth to mentorship, particularly from Tom Leek at Cobb Cole. "Tom taught me the business of practicing law and emphasized the importance of always being the most prepared person in any room," he shared.

While he has made a name for himself in the legal world, he's not all work—Mike played volleyball on the University of Miami's club team and later coached middle school volleyball at St. James when he first moved to the area. When he's not leading initiatives or representing clients, you might find Mike enjoying a meal at his favorite local restaurant, 63 Sovereign.

As Chamber Chair, Mike is championing a mission to connect businesses and strengthen community ties, with a focus on advocacy, economic development, education, and civic engagement. His leadership and vision are helping to shape a more vibrant future for Daytona Beach and the greater region.

Thank you, Mike, for your service to our community!

LEGALLY BLONDE

Calling VCBA Ladies!

Legally Blonde is coming to Athens Theatre in DeLand! We have a box Saturday, July 19th at 7:30pm.

Tickets are limited, only 6 left! \$50 each, RSVP to Sarah at volusiabar@gmail.com

We will meet for dinner/drinks at De La Vega, 6:00pm.



Missed a CLE?

Recordings of our last three virtual CLEs are now available on the VCBA membership platform (JoinIt) —free for members! Watch at your convenience and self-report CLE credit. These sessions cover a range of timely topics and are a great way to stay current and earn credit on your own schedule.

CLEs Include:

- “Who has the power”
- “Being a Lawyer: Civility, Ethics & Professionalism”
- “Preparing for 2025: Understanding the New FinCEN Regulations”

[View the CLE Library in your membership portal here!](#)



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MIKAELA M. NORDMAN

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FLAGLER BAR ASSOCIATION

The Flagler County Bar Association will NOT have a monthly luncheon in July, but we will resume in August. Our August monthly luncheon will be held on **Friday, August 22, 2025** at The Landing Strip in Palm Coast from 11:30-1:00. We have reserved their party room in the back.

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 that may be interested in attending, please feel free to forward this email to them.

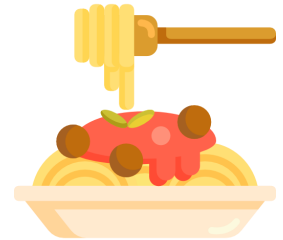
If there are any questions, please let me know. We wish everyone a fun and safe summer and we look forward to seeing you on August 22!

Regina Ranier-Sprague, Executive Director

Flagler County Bar Association

flaglerbar@gmail.com

www.flaglerbar.org



VOLUSIA COUNTY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION



LUNCHTIME WITH OUR CLERK!



**"Rules, Requirements &
Access: Updates from
the Clerk"**

Lunchtime Zoom CLE

Laura Roth, Clerk of the Court

Volusia County

July 23, 2025, 12:00 p.m.

CLICK HERE TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT

<https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/volusia-county-clerk-of-the-court>

**Free to VCPA members and \$5.00 for non-members who want
1-hour CLE credit**

NOTICE



**STATE OF FLORIDA
SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**
Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns & Volusia Counties
Steven C. Henderson Judicial Center
125 E. Orange Ave., # 200
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

Mark A. Weinberg
Court Administrator

Phone: (386) 257-6097

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 27, 2025

TO: Circuit and County Judges
Judicial Assistants
Clerks of Court
General Magistrates / Hearing Officers
Mediators
Staff Attorneys
County Bar Associations

FROM: Mark A. Weinberg, Court Administrator

RE: **Interest Rate on Judgments or Decrees Effective July 1, 2025**

Section 55.03(1), Florida Statutes, requires the Chief Financial Officer of the State of Florida to set the interest rate payable on judgments or decrees quarterly.

Please be advised that the interest rate for the quarter beginning July 1, 2025, has been reduced to 8.90% per annum or .0243836% per day.

Pursuant to section 215.422(13), Florida Statutes, the interest rate for payments to health care providers remains at 1% per month.

For more information, contact the Bureau of Accounting of the Department of Financial Services at (850) 413-5511.

RE: **2026 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

Judges and court staff of the Seventh Judicial Circuit Court will observe the following holidays during 2026. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Thursday | January 1 | NEW YEAR'S DAY |
| Monday | January 19 | MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY |
| Monday | February 16 | PRESIDENTS DAY |
| Friday | April 3 | GOOD FRIDAY |
| Monday | May 25 | MEMORIAL DAY |
| Friday | July 3 | INDEPENDENCE DAY |
| Monday | September 7 | LABOR DAY |
| Friday | September 11 | ROSH HASHANAH |
| Monday | September 21 | YOM KIPPUR |
| Wednesday | November 11 | VETERANS DAY |
| Thursday & Friday | November 26 & 27 | THANKSGIVING |
| Thursday & Friday | December 24 & 25 | CHRISTMAS |

JOB POSTINGS



Attorney - Part-Time (remote)

General Civil Litigation

Central Florida

5 Years Court Experience Required

Inquire at: cvega@charlesvegapa.com

CORPORATE TRANSACTIONS ASSOCIATE

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.

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

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LAND USE ASSOCIATE

Cobb & Cole, P.A. is seeking a land use attorney with a minimum of 3 years' experience.

Requirements:

- Must have experience reviewing and drafting development agreements, attending local government meetings and hearings, and coordinating applications for zoning and land use changes, including Planned Developments.
- Experience in the formation and representation of Community Development Districts is preferred but not required.

Thank you sponsors!



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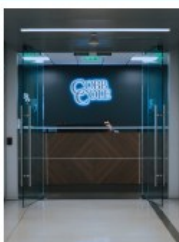
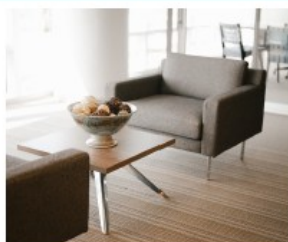
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Managing Attorney

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Volusia County Law Library

FLSSI Forms

New **2025** Florida Bar approved FLSSI forms for Guardianship and Probate are available on the Computers in the DeLand and

Westlaw

Available at the DeLand and Daytona Beach Law Libraries and on the VCLL legal research computers the Deltona, New Smyrna Beach, and Ormond Beach Public Libraries.

vclawlib.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024-25

2024-25 VCBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Lori Sandman, *President Elect*
Tonya Cromartie, *Treasurer*
Michael Ciocchetti, *Secretary*

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SECTIONS & COMMITTEES

Solo/Small Firm Section - Lori Sandman, Chair
Family Law Section - Sara Glover, Chair
Elder Law Section - Victoria Zinn, Chair
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VOLUSIA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Sarah Grover, Executive Director
1440 N. Nova Road, Suite 101
Daytona Beach, FL 32117
Phone: 386-253-9471
volusiabar@gmail.com
www.volusiabar.org