

COMMUNICATOR

The Volusia County Bar Association Newsletter | November 2025



Join us for “Rules, Requirements & Access: Updates from the Clerk”!

Speaker: Laura Roth, Clerk of the Court

Date: Nov. 4

Time: 12:00pm- 1:00pm

Location: Zoom

Cost: FREE for VCBA Members

CLE: 1 Hour General

[REGISTER HERE](#)

UPDATES FROM THE CLERK

Rules, Requirements & Access



LAURA ROTH

Clerk of the Court

Webinar Agenda:

- eEverything Rules: SC2023-1401
- CCIS Updates: the future of statewide court record access
- Unified Family Court: date element requirement developments
- Proposed and Executed Orders: Volusia County practices



DATE

NOV 4, 2025



TIME

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

[REGISTER HERE](#)



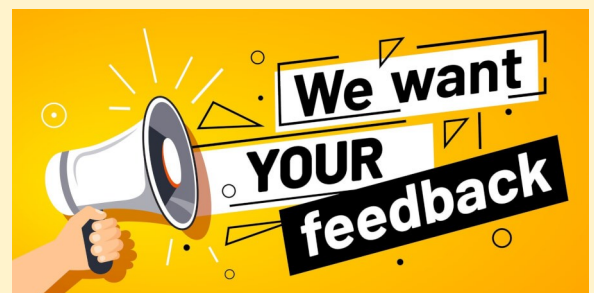
www.volusiabar.org

We Want to Hear From You!

Your feedback helps shape the programs, events, and resources we offer.

Please take a few minutes to complete the **Annual VCBA Member Survey** and share your thoughts on how we can better serve you in the year ahead. The survey only takes a few minutes and your input makes a big difference! Survey closes December 15.

[TAKE THE SURVEY HERE](#)



VCBA SECTIONS

ELDER LAW

Please join us for our VCBA Elder Law Section Meeting!
Lunch will be served!

Date/Time: Thursday, Nov. 20, 12:00pm

Location: Zinn Legal, 140 S. Beach Street, Suite #416,
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Speaker: Doug Reece, Senior Vice President, Commercial Banking at Intracoastal Bank

Please RSVP to Elder Law Section Chair, Victoria Zinn at victoria@zinnlegal.com.



SOLO/SMALL PRACTICE SECTION

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

Date/Time: Friday, Nov. 21, 2025 @ 1:00 pm

Location: Asahi Japanese Restaurant, Orange City, FL 32163

We look forward to meeting you.

Please RSVP to Julie E. Herring, Esq., julie@herringlawpa.com or
R. Shawn McBride, Esq. shawn.mcbride@rsmlawpllc.com



SAVE THE DATE!

The VCBA will be having a private tour of the [DeLand Naval Air Station Museum](#) followed by dinner and CLE. Please save the date! More information to follow.

Date/Time: Tuesday, Jan. 13, 5:30pm

Location: DeLand Naval Air Station Museum



CHILI COOK OFF RECAP

Thank You for an Amazing Chili Cook-Off!!

The VCBA Young Lawyers Division would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who came out to our Annual Chili Cook-Off at Ormond Brewing Company! We had an incredible turnout this year and couldn't have asked for better chili or better company.

A special thank-you goes to our wonderful judges for lending their expertise outside the courtroom to determine this year's top chilis.

Congratulations to our winners!

First Place: Cynthia Lane (Mara Law) – Smokey Bourbon Brisket Chili

Second Place: Brianna Faenza (Cobb Cole) – Fowl Play Chili

Third Place: Maria Indelicato (Franklin Legal Group) – Triple Jeopardy Chili

People's Choice Award: Michael Lyons (Coronado Law Group) and Spencer Hathaway (State Attorney's Office) – Justice Served Hot Chili Dogs

We also had a 50/50 Raffle where the kind winner donated his \$200 winnings back to the YLD! Together we raised \$580.

Thank you to all of our amazing chefs for your creativity, hard work, and delicious entries—and to everyone who joined us, donated, and made this event such a success.

We had a fantastic time and can't wait to see you all again next year!



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Judge Robert Pickens

Division 03 - Family

Judge Pickens was born in Palatka and raised in Crescent City, Florida. A dedicated student and athlete, he went on to play college football while earning his degree from Jacksonville University in 2014, before completing his Juris Doctor at Florida Coastal School of Law in 2017.

Early in his career, Judge Pickens found invaluable mentorship from several attorneys who shaped his professional path. During his time at the State Attorney's Office, Jason Lewis played a key role in his development as a young attorney. Later, in private practice, George Young and Don Holmes were instrumental in helping him grow and ultimately reach the bench. "Without them, I don't think I would be in the position I am in today," he shared.

When he's not in the courtroom, Judge Pickens enjoys exploring DeLand's great dining scene—his top picks are BakeChop and Santorini. And if he hadn't pursued law, he says he might have become a high school teacher and coach.

The VCBA thanks Judge Pickens on his continued contributions to the legal community, most recently he was a judge for our YLD Chili Cook Off!



Brooke McCormick

Smith Bigman Brock

Brooke McCormick is a dedicated civil trial lawyer whose practice focuses on insurance defense including personal injury defense and contract and coverage disputes. Brooke represents both individuals and insurance companies and also serves as counsel for NICA, the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Association, before the Division of Administrative Hearings.

A proud DeLand native, Brooke briefly lived in Colorado and Texas before returning home during law school and she's been here ever since. She earned her B.A. in Political Science from the University of Central Florida and her J.D. from Barry University School of Law.

Brooke's career has been shaped by her longtime mentor, Jeffrey Bigman, whom she's worked with since 1999. From her early days as a billing clerk to becoming a paralegal, and ultimately an attorney, Brooke credits Jeff's mentorship and guidance as instrumental to her success and professional growth: *"His guidance, support, and encouragement through the years have meant everything to me and continue to today."*

When she's not practicing law, Brooke enjoys fueling her adventurous side; she's a self-described adrenaline junkie, who once skydived and still loves snowboarding, skiing, climbing, and more recently, lifting weights, hot yoga, and running.

If she weren't an attorney, Brooke says she might have followed another passion: owning and running a small, eclectic restaurant—and given her love for DeLand's Parva, a local favorite for Colombian food, we have no doubt it would be a hit!



WEST VOLUSIA FAWL

Seventh Circuit Judicial Reception

The West Volusia Chapter of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers (FAWL), in partnership with Arwani Law Firm, cordially invites you to attend the **Seventh Circuit Judicial Reception** — an evening dedicated to honoring the judges, attorneys, and community leaders who uphold the values of justice and service across Florida.

Please join us for an elegant evening of connection, recognition, and inspiration as we celebrate the strength of our legal community. This year's reception will feature guest speaker **Christy Martin**, former world champion boxer and advocate, whose remarkable story of resilience continues to inspire audiences nationwide.

Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Location: Venue 142, DeLand, FL 32720

Dress Code: Business or Cocktail Attire

For all invitees, [RSVP HERE](#). The deadline is **November 15, 2025**.

Potential sponsors, please contact Dana Weiss Arwani at office@arwanilawfirm.com or 407-254-0060



FREE DESK & CABINET

FREE Desk and Cabinet!! Currently stored in the VCBA storage unit, temperature controlled. Located in Ormond Beach on Granada, you will need to pick up and help load. Contact Sarah if interested and to schedule a pick up time at volusiabar@gmail.com.



FLALGER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

The Flagler County Bar Association will be hosting a **Lunch and Learn CLE** on Wednesday, November 5, 2025 at 12:00 PM with Judge David Wainer presenting "Dependency for Dummies". This event will be hosted via ZOOM. If you wish to attend the CLE, please RSVP to me via this email.

I will send out the ZOOM link prior to the event. If there are any questions, please let me know. We look forward to seeing you all there!

The Flagler County Bar Association will be holding their **2026 Annual Meeting** at the Hilton Garden Inn in Palm Coast on Friday, December 12, 2025 starting at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails (cash bar) and dinner to follow.

The cost is \$55 per person. The dinner choices are:

- 1) Chicken Marsala (Chicken breast dusted in flour and seared, finished with a mushroom, marsala and wine sauce);
- 2) Herb Crusted Tilapia (Panko and herb crusted with a roasted fennel cream sauce)
- 3) Grilled Pork Ribeye (Grilled pork ribeye finished with a garlic Dijon sauce)

Vegetarian dinners available with advance payment.

Please RSVP with your dinner choice(s) and number attending by no later than December 1, 2025. Please make your check or money order payable to the Flagler County Bar Association and send it to P.O. Box 353783, Palm Coast, Florida 32135.

**If you could also write your dinner choice on your form of payment we would greatly appreciate it.

We look forward to seeing everyone on December 12 and if there are any questions, please let me know. Thank you!

Regina Ranier-Sprague, Executive Director

Executive Director

Flagler County Bar Association

Post Office Box 353783

Palm Coast, Florida 32135-4750

Telephone: 386-235-2679

flaglerbar@gmail.com

www.flaglerbar.org

COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES

On Friday, November 7, 2025, our annual Sealing/Expungement Legal Aid Clinic is coming back to Daytona Beach at the John H. Dickerson Community Center!

This clinic is a full-service clinic, or a "one-stop-shop." Meaning, we take the application process and simplify it by bringing all the components to our clinic. If you are an attorney that doesn't practice Criminal Law or isn't familiar with the requirements to have a criminal case Sealed or Expunged in the State of Florida, we will train you. These are skills that you can then use in your own practice.

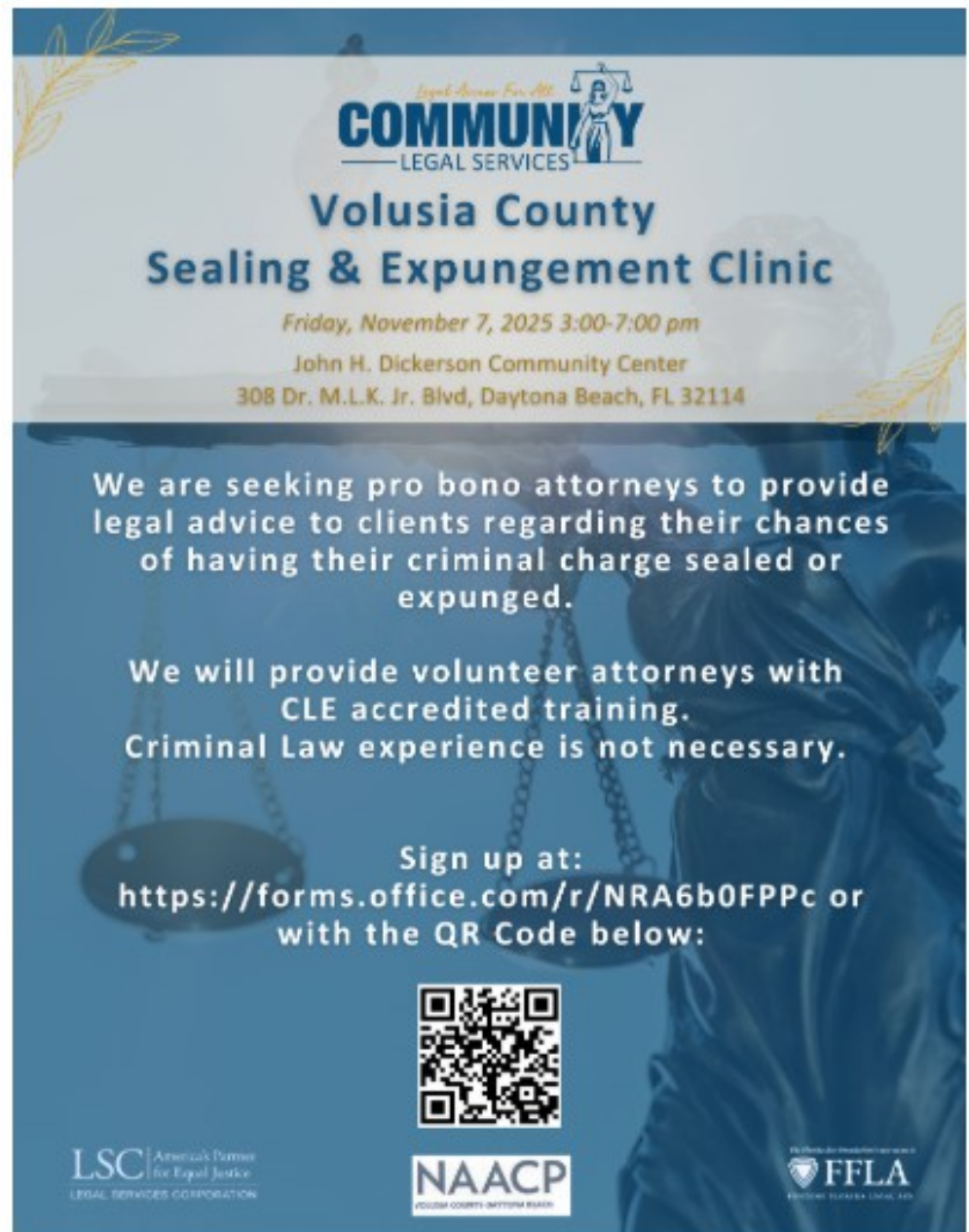
The result is truly life-changing for those that qualify.

Silvia "Stefani" Lopez Smith

Staff Attorney – Pro Bono Development

Office. (386) 222-0307

Email. silvial@clsmf.org



The poster features a blue background with a faint image of a person in a graduation cap and gown. At the top, the logo for 'COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES' is displayed, with the tagline 'Legal Advice For All' above it. Below the logo, the text 'Volusia County Sealing & Expungement Clinic' is prominently shown. The date and time 'Friday, November 7, 2025 3:00-7:00 pm' and the location 'John H. Dickerson Community Center 308 Dr. M.L.K. Jr. Blvd, Daytona Beach, FL 32114' are listed. The poster includes three main bullet points: 'We are seeking pro bono attorneys to provide legal advice to clients regarding their chances of having their criminal charge sealed or expunged.', 'We will provide volunteer attorneys with CLE accredited training. Criminal Law experience is not necessary.', and 'Sign up at: https://forms.office.com/r/NRA6b0FPPc or with the QR Code below:'. A QR code is located at the bottom center. At the bottom, there are logos for 'LSC America's Partner for Equal Justice LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION', 'NAACP VOLUSIA COUNTY (NTP) FLA', and 'FFLA FLORIDA FUTURE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION'.

Legal Advice For All
COMMUNITY
LEGAL SERVICES

Volusia County
Sealing & Expungement Clinic

Friday, November 7, 2025 3:00-7:00 pm
John H. Dickerson Community Center
308 Dr. M.L.K. Jr. Blvd, Daytona Beach, FL 32114

We are seeking pro bono attorneys to provide legal advice to clients regarding their chances of having their criminal charge sealed or expunged.

We will provide volunteer attorneys with CLE accredited training.
Criminal Law experience is not necessary.

Sign up at:
<https://forms.office.com/r/NRA6b0FPPc> or
with the QR Code below:



LSC | America's Partner for Equal Justice
LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

NAACP
VOLUSIA COUNTY (NTP) FLA

FFLA
FLORIDA FUTURE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

COMMUNITY EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 4th Annual Harold V. Lucas, Jr. Foundation Gala

I would like to personally invite you to join us as we honor one who has been a mentor and friend to many of us, **Retired Judge Hubert Grimes**. Judge Grimes and other Community Icons will be celebrated during The 4th Annual Harold V. Lucas, Jr. Foundation Gala six o'clock in the evening on **Saturday, November 8, 2025** at the Halifax River Yacht Club, 331 S. Beach Street, Daytona Beach, FL 32114.

The Harold V. Lucas, Jr. Foundation is a Daytona Beach based not-for-profit my father formed in 2020. The Gala (a.k.a. Lucas Fall Ball) is our annual fundraiser to help fulfill the Foundation's vision to "Honor the Past, Enhance the Present, and Contribute to the Future." Our namesake, and visionary leader, Harold V. Lucas, Jr., is a lifelong resident of Daytona Beach, Korean War Veteran, and former educator, coach, and college administrator. As he reflects over his 92 years of life, he is excited to know that The Foundation will carry on his powerful legacy of education, service, athletics, and contribution perpetually. To date we have provided \$27,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors in Volusia County, given away back packs to K-12 students, contributed financial support to The Chiles Academy, the Pace Center for Girls and the Volusia Flagler Boys & Girls Club, received a Florida Historical Marker for a site in Midtown Daytona Beach, and more.

For more information about all of the Community Icon Award honorees, the event details, and to purchase individual tickets visit <https://www.hvlucas.org/fall-ball-1>.

Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions and I hope to see you in November!

D'Lorah Anderson, Esq. (formerly D'Lorah Butts-Lucas)

Vice President, The Harold V. Lucas, Jr. Foundation, Inc.

admin@hvlucas.org



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.

EXCEPTIONAL WORK-LIFE BALANCE, ENCOURAGES AND SUPPORTS COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, AND OFFERS A PREMIUM BENEFITS PACKAGE

"AV Preeminent" rated law firm with offices in Daytona Beach and DeLand

SUBMIT YOUR RESUME IN STRICT CONFIDENCE TO RESUME@COBBCOLE.COM.
COBB COLE | 386.255.8171 | COBBCOLE.COM

THANK YOU SPONSORS



SCAN TO INQUIRE



Complimentary Signature Cocktail

Book your holiday party with BakeChop Events and enjoy a complimentary signature cocktail for all your guests!



Crafting Unforgettable Event Experiences.



Proud Partner

of the Volusia County Bar Association

At Stewart, we are proud supporters of the Volusia County Bar Association. We believe in the power of community and the importance of building strong connections within our industry.

Let's make a difference together.



www.stewart.com

© 2025 Stewart. All rights reserved. | STO4282025



*Does your to-do list always
seem never ending?*

OPTIMIZE WORKFLOW & SIMPLIFY TASKS WITH OUR VIRTUAL ASSISTANT SERVICES

- Administrative Support
- Customer Service
- Project Management
- Calendar Management
- Bookkeeping & Accounting
- Specialized Projects

386-227-7309



Jennifer Barnes
Owner

jennifer@prevailtechconsulting.com



THANK YOU SPONSORS

Mikaela M. Nordman, Esquire

**Florida Supreme Court
Certified Family Mediator**

*Zoom and In-Person Mediations.
No Cancellation Fees. No Travel Costs.*

**NEW CONTACT
INFORMATION**

Email: mikaela@nordmanlaw.com

Phone: (386) 597-3073

(Call or Text)



**TIRED OF SPENDING TOO
MUCH ON YOUR
MARKETING BUDGET?**

**LET US HELP YOU
CUT IT IN HALF**



**Southern Cross
Media**

DELIVERING MORE FOR LESS

**CALL TOM FOR YOUR QUICK ANALYSIS AT: (407) 377-7530
WWW.SOUTHERNCROSSMEDIA.COM**

THANK YOU SPONSORS



WRIGHT & CASEY P.A.
SURFCOASTLAW.COM

Mediation and Arbitration Services

R. Brooks Casey- \$350/hr., Circuit and Appellate

Francis X. Rapprich, III- \$350/hr., Circuit

Jeff DeRosier- \$350/hr., Circuit (with an LLM in Taxation)

Available Via Zoom or In-Person

Convenient Modern Conference Facilities

No Travel Fees

No Cancellation Fees

administrator@surfcoastlaw.com

386.428.3311

340 N. Causeway, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169



WRIGHT & CASEY P.A.
SURFCOASTLAW.COM

Board Certified Specialist in Condominium and Planned Development Law



Wright & Casey, P.A. is pleased to announce that **Barbara C. Reid, Esq.** has achieved board certification in the area of **Condominium and Planned Development Law.**

Attorneys at Wright & Casey, P.A. have represented community associations in Volusia and Flagler Counties for over 40 years in a wide range of legal matters, including covenant amendment and enforcement, statutory compliance, litigation, appeals, and more.

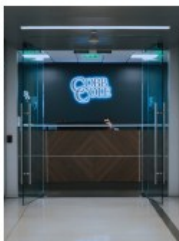
Wright & Casey, P.A.

340 North Causeway, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
(386) 428-3311

SCOTT W. CICHON CERTIFIED MEDIATOR

Mr. Cichon has been a Certified Circuit Civil Mediator since 1994. He concentrates his mediation practice on commercial, real estate, construction, contract, condominium, and collection disputes.

- Conference rooms in DeLand & Daytona Beach
- No mileage or travel fees for off-site mediations
- No cancellation fee



DAYTONA BEACH & DELAND
COBB COLE.COM | (386) 255-8171



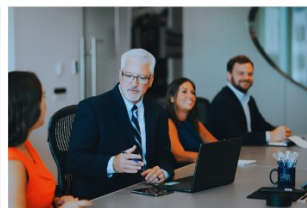
THANK YOU SPONSORS



EDWARD H. THOMPSON CERTIFIED MEDIATOR

Mr. Thompson is a Florida Supreme Court Circuit Civil Mediator. He mediates personal injury, product liability, premises liability, and insurance disputes statewide.

- Conference rooms centrally located in Downtown DeLand & One Daytona
- No mileage or travel fees for off-site mediations
- No cancellation fees



DAYTONA BEACH & DELAND
COBBCOLE.COM | (386) 255-8171



KISTEMAKER
BUSINESS LAW GROUP

*Experienced Globally,
Serving Locally.*

Our Practice Areas

- *Business Law and Litigation*
- *Condo/HOA Law and Litigation*
- *Construction Law and Litigation*
- *Corporation and LLC Creation*
- *Real Property Law and Litigation*
- *Landlord and Tenant Law*



DaytonaBusinessLawyers.com
386.310.7997

Erum S. Kistemaker
Managing Attorney



DaytonaBusinessLawyers.com | 386.310.7997 | 120 E. Granada Blvd., Ormond Beach, FL
Licensed to Practice in Florida | New York | England | Wales
Since 2007

VOLUSIA COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

From the Volusia County Law Library

50% Off CLE Rentals!

The entire month of November



For a complete list of available titles, visit vclawlib.org.



Rental policies applies.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025-26

VCBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lori Sandman, *President*
Tonya Cromartie, *President Elect*
Mike Ciocchetti, *Treasurer*
Mel Stack, *Secretary*

VCBA Directors

Charley Vega	Mark Cressman
Maria Indelicato	Sundria Ridgely
Maria McCorkle	Tammy Jaques
Sara Glover	Erika Barger
Dillon Andreassi	

YLD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hunter Morrill, *President*
Sydney Cichon, *President Elect*
Jeffrey Bauer, *Treasurer*
Christy Earls, *Secretary*

YLD Directors

Taylor Carley	Kelsey Hansen-Walter
Daniel Hill	Nicolas Garcia
Jena Conley	Sean Livingston
Lauren M. Wilmot	

SECTIONS & COMMITTEES

Solo/Small Firm Section - R. Shawn McBride, Chair
Family Law Section - Sara Glover, Chair
Elder Law Section - Victoria Zinn, Chair
State & Local Government Section - Carly Meek, Chair
Workers Comp Section - Clay Meek, Chair
Philanthropic Chair - MaryCatherine Crock

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