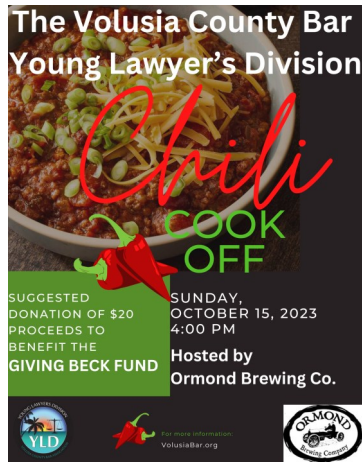




COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter of the Volusia County Bar Association ~ October 2023



CHILI COOK OFF

a benefit for the Giving Beck Fund for Veterans Court**

Sunday, October 15, 2023

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Ormond Brewing Company
301 Division Avenue, Ormond Beach

A suggested minimum donation of \$20.00 per person.
Friends & Family welcome!

REGISTER

** Judge David Beck created the Veteran's Court program in Volusia County. The Giving Beck Fund was started by Vince Faulker shortly after Judge Beck passed away as a way to help provide resources to our justice involved veterans in Veterans court. Money raised or donated is used to purchase bus passes and provide transportation to VA appointments and court dates. We also provide funding for SCRAM monitoring, court completion challenge coins and what we call Giving Beck Awards. The award is for defendants that exceed expectations with regard to completing court orders proficiently and with a positive moving forward attitude.

About Veterans Court: <https://circuit7.org/veterans-court/>

ELDER LAW SECTION MEETING

Topic: In-Home Health Care

Thursday, October 9, 2023
12:00 noon

Helping Hands
1635 S. Ridgewood Avenue, South Daytona

No change for VCBA members.

REGISTER

Community Legal Services ANNUAL PRO BONO WALK-IN CLINIC

Wednesday, October 18, 2023
3:00 - 7:00 p.m.

See page 6 for details

Volusia County Paralegal Assn.

Thursday, October 12, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.
3:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Houligan's on ISB

See page 8 for details



When I graduated from law school, I was so excited to finally be an attorney after years of hard work in study. My mother and grandmother took me shopping and helped me pick out a few professional looking suits and my friends and family came through with leather briefcases (which I still have and use), business card holders, engraved pens, and other congratulatory gifts, all befitting of a new attorney. My father gifted me a beautiful frame for my diploma so I could proudly hang it on my wall. I was ready to go!

Shortly after getting my first job, I began to realize; I knew the mechanics of the law well enough for a first-year, such as conducting legal research, and I could write a darn good brief. But when it came to the practical side of practice – not so much. The more I learned, the more I understood how much I didn't know about being a lawyer. By the time the anniversary of my first year in practice arrived, I had also realized; it could be downright scary out there.

To be clear, I wasn't completely on my own. The attorney I worked for was certainly available for me. But it was actually opposing counsel on one of my cases who did something utterly surprising. When the case wrapped up, he offered to meet with each week and answer my questions (while keeping client confidentiality of course). This lawyer took time out of his busy schedule each week for me for about a year. When I gratefully asked him why, he answered, "Someone did it for me and it made all of the difference in world." He was absolutely right.

I encourage our established attorneys to take a moment to consider mentoring. Equally as important, I encourage our newer attorneys to accept mentorship as part of beginning what I hope to be an exciting and rewarding career in law. Don't know where to start? Check out this link to for our Florida Bar's Counsel to Counsel program. <https://www.floridabar.org/prof/pmentor/counsel-to-counsel-mentoring-program/>

Catherine Taylor Lamb
Volusia County Bar Association President
2023-2024

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Chief Judge Leah Case

Practice Area: As a lawyer, my area of practice was Criminal. As a Judge, I have presided over Criminal, Civil, and Dependency/Delinquency dockets.

Birthplace: I was born in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. My family moved here when I was in elementary school. I attended Tomoka Elementary, Ormond Beach Junior High and Seabreeze High School

College & Law School: I graduated from the University of Florida with my bachelor's degree in 1990 and my law degree in 1993.

Best thing about practicing law: The best thing about practicing law to me – is the ability to help people and solve problems.

The Florida Bar just launched a new mentoring program for our attorneys new to practice. Did you have a mentor at any point in your legal career? What did it mean for you? Yes, I had several mentors during my legal career. I found people I respected and trusted and developed a relationship with them. When you have a mentor, you can speak to someone with more knowledge and experience in a particular area. That person can help you navigate through a difficult situation and if you have already made a mistake, can help you move on from it. My mentors helped me with all sorts of decisions, including ones related to cases, career moves, and family. I continue to be mentored to this day!!

Favorite sport teams: I am a double Gator. My husband went to UCF. My oldest son just graduated from FSU and my youngest son currently attends UCF. So...Florida college football is my sport and that includes all Florida teams, except Miami. Go Gators, Go Noles, Go Knights!!!!!!

Favorite cookie: A homemade soft oatmeal raisin.

One thing others might be surprised to know about you: In high school, I had a huge interest in the legislature and the making of our laws. I applied for and was accepted to be a Senate Page for Senator Dunn my junior year in high school. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience in Tallahassee and the process was eye opening!



Elizabeth (Beth) King

Practice Area: Divorce and Family Law

Birthplace: Born in Del Rio, Texas- grew up in rural Pennsylvania and on beachside Daytona

College and Law School: FSU Bachelors in Theater 1976; Rollins College Masters in Literature 1997; Florida Coastal School of Law 2003

Best thing about practicing law: The Challenge!

The Florida Bar just launched a new mentoring program for our attorneys new to practice. Did you have a mentor at any point in your legal career and if so, what did that mean for you? My mentors have been among the venerable including but not limited to- James Foxman, Jim Smith, Tony Schoder, Kevin Bledsoe, Paul Rice and my late father Tim Barber.

What is has it meant? Everything

Favorite sports teams: Mr. King is a Gator fan, so.....

Favorite cookie: Girl Scout Thin Mints from the freezer

One thing others might be surprised to know about you: I am a competitive ballroom dancer, in case you haven't heard.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Michael Lyons, YLD President

Practice Area: Civil litigation, focused on real estate related cases

Birthplace: Born in Daytona Beach; Grew up in New Smyrna Beach

College and Law School: Stetson University Business Administration; Stetson Law 2016

Best thing about practicing law: New and different challenges come up every day, which leads to the opportunity to learn something new every day. Constant learning and the lack of repetition is my "best" thing about practicing law.

The Florida Bar just launched a new mentoring program for our attorneys new to practice. Did you have a mentor at any point in your legal career and if so, what did that mean for you? I am lucky enough to have several local attorneys who have been informal mentors. The legal community in Volusia County, and particularly New Smyrna Beach, is tightknit and welcomed me with open arms. A strong local bar allowed me to reach out to attorneys directly with questions, ideas, and concerns. The open and welcoming nature of the local bar has been, and continues to be, a tremendous asset to my career.

Favorite sports teams: Tampa Bay Bucs

Favorite cookie: Sugar cookie, with sprinkles

One thing others might be surprised to know about you: I love to be outdoors. Our area has a wide range of beautiful natural environments and enjoying those outdoor places is my favorite pastime.



Matthew Metz, Pubic Defender

Practice Area: Criminal Law

Birthplace: Born and raised here in Volusia County. Go Father Lopez Green Waves!

College and Law School: I graduated from the University of Florida for undergrad in 2008 and Florida State University College of Law in 2011. It was the best of both worlds.

Best thing about practicing law: Getting to help the next generation of lawyers learn the basics of trial practice has been extremely rewarding. It's easy to forget what it was like when you were first starting and constantly learning new aspects of the law.

The Florida Bar just launched a new mentoring program for our attorneys new to practice. Did you have a mentor at any point in your legal career and if so, what did that mean for you? I was extremely lucky to have numerous attorneys to bounce ideas off because I have spent my entire legal career in the Public Defender's Office. However, the judges I have practiced before have been the most influential in my legal career. Both retired Judge Belle Schumann and current Chief Judge Leah Case took the time to explain rulings in detail, provide critiques, and most importantly offer patience when my legal arguments got a little too "creative" for their own good.

Favorite sports teams: Go Gators! I may have split my time between Gainesville and Tallahassee for my postsecondary education, but Gainesville will always be number 1. I had the Tebow years. Between football and basketball it was like we couldn't lose!

Favorite cookie: Homemade Chocolate Chip. As an amateur baker I feel like not much can beat a fresh batch of chocolate chip cookies coming out of the oven.

One thing others might be surprised to know about you: I love good Sc-Fi and Fantasy books! From Frank Herbert to Ian Banks I have been burning up my library card with these amazing authors.



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ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY - NEW SMYRNA BEACH

Associate attorney needed in New Smyrna Beach. Wright & Casey, PA has an opening for a 1-4 year attorney to join our community association and litigation team. Experience in both condo/HOA law and civil litigation preferred. We offer competitive pay and benefits. Please send your resume and cover letter (or email), to bcasey@surfcoastlaw.com. All submissions will be held in the strictest confidence.

ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY - NEW SMYRNA BEACH

Associate attorney needed in New Smyrna Beach. The Preston Law Firm has an opening for an attorney to practice in the primary areas of Estate Planning, Probate, Trust Administration, Guardianship, and Elder Law. Founded in 1987 by Bill Preston, our firm has a deep understanding of the unique legal needs of our community. We are a firm that maintains professionalism and integrity, with compassion, while being dedicated to providing personalized, client-centered quality legal services for our clients. We offer competitive and incentive-based pay. Great opportunity to get in with an established active practice and grow your potential quickly. Please send your resume and cover letter to The Preston Law Firm, 605 S. Orange St., New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168, or email to bill@theprestonlawfirm.com.



Annual Pro Bono Walk-In Clinic

Wed, Oct 18th | 3PM-7PM

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VOLUSIA COUNTY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION

Mailing Address: 125 N. Ridgewood Ave., Suite 100, Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Email: volusiaparalegals@gmail.com - Website: volusiacountyparalegal.com



OUR FIRST MEMBERSHIP MEETING

OCTOBER 12, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

Our presenter will be the Honorable Chief Judge Leah R. Case. You will receive 1 NALA CLE for the presentation. (The Florida Bar recognizes NALA CLEs)

Menu Options:

(All options come non-alcohol beverage i.e., soda, coffee, or tea).

Alcoholic beverages are available at cost

◦

10 Wallie Wings

(choice of Buffalo or Houligan's Wally Style)

Choose from our 11 Signature Sauces: Mild • Hot • X-Hot • Teriyaki • Honey BBQ, Mild Garlic • Hot Garlic • Teriyaki Garlic • Cajun • Sweet & Bold BBQ • Sweet Chili

◦

Houligan's Burger

(with or without cheese)

(with choice of side)

◦

Southwest Salad

(ranch dressing and topped with a grilled chicken breast, avocado, Pico de Gallo, black bean & corn salsa, mixed cheeses and garnished with tortilla straws.)

- Membership Cost with dinner: \$ 20.00
- Membership cost without dinner: \$7.00
- Non membership cost with dinner: \$25.00
- Non membership cost without dinner: \$10.00

Please RSVP by October 6, 2023, indicating your choice of meal to volusiaparalegals@gmail.com. Payment will be taken at the door. You will be able to pay via credit card, check or cash. Anyone ordering a meal and canceling after October 6, 2023, will be responsible for the meal cost.



VOLUSIA COUNTY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION

Sponsorship

Dear Sponsor,

We have been working diligently to establish a new paralegal association in Volusia. Our Association is being established to promote the paralegal profession through student and professional scholarships, offering educational opportunities to enhance the professional growth of paralegals and providing a network for not only advanced-level professionals, but students just entering the career field. Our Association will also be very involved in supporting our community.

We are asking for your help with this startup effort by becoming a sponsor for an upcoming Association. To that end, we have developed a list of opportunities and benefits for your information and consideration. We thank you for your consideration as your sponsorship is important in helping to ensure the success of our events and the continuing efforts of our Association.

Advertising Opportunities

\$200.00 for large block advertisement on the Association's website for one (1) year and Recognition on our Association's Facebook Page

\$100.00 for small block advertisement on the Association's website for one (1) year and Recognition on our Association's Facebook Page

\$50.00 for advertisement and recognition on our Association's Facebook page

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or e-mail. Thank you for your support!

Heather Bragg
Vice President
Volusia County Paralegal Association
125 N. Ridgewood Avenue, Suite 100
Daytona Beach, FL 32112
(386) 295-8974
volusiaparalegals@gmail.com

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Volusia County Law Library

CLE Rentals

- 2023 Annual Guardianship (Credit Hours: 7.5 Gen - 1.0 Ethics)
- 42nd Annual Legislative & Case Law Update (Credit Hours: 8.5 Gen - 1.0 Ethics)
- Divorce Mortgage Planning - Better Outcomes for Divorcing Clients (Credit Hours: 2.0 Gen)
- Elder Law Essentials 2023 (Credit Hours: 8.0 Gen - 1.0 Ethics)
- Introductory Evidence 2022 (Credit Hours: 7.0 Gen)
- Probate Law 2022 (Credit Hours: 8.0 Gen - 1.0 Ethics)
- Professionalism: Competency with Electronic Presentation of Evidence (Credit Hours: 1.5 Gen - 1.5 Tech)
- Show Me The Money! Litigating Financial Issues in Family Law Cases (Credit Hours: 8.0 Gen - 1.0 Ethics)
- Survey of Florida Law 2023 (Credit Hours: 14.5 Gen - 2.5 Ethics - 3.0 Tech)

For a list of available CLE titles to borrow, visit us at www.vclawlib.org. Rental policy applies.

The Communicator is published by the Volusia County Bar Association as a part of its commitment to information relevant to issues and concerns at the local level. Opinions expressed or positions taken are those of the author and may not reflect the views of the publication of the Volusia County Bar Association. Articles for publication should be sent via email to volusiabar@gmail.com no later than the 15th of the month. Rates are listed on the Advertising Opportunities page on www.volusiabar.org.

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Volusia County Bar Association

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