

# **B**AR **B**ULLETIN

#### Volume XXXVIII Number 1

#### January – February 2013

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See Flyers Inside for Event Details and Registration Information

Preregistration required for all NPBA Events. Call 622-3152.



Gary Bryant

# **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

"Lawyers are now to a greater extent than formerly business- men, a part of the great organized system of industrial and financial enterprise. They are less than formerly the students of a particular kind of learning, the practitioners of a particular art. And they do not seem to be so much of a distinct professional class."

This quote appeared in a publication the year I began practicing law. It was featured in a 1986 study published by the ABA's Commission on Professionalism titled "In the Spirit of Public Service: A Blueprint for the Rekindling of Lawyer Professionalism." But the quote predates the

article by more than 80 years. Chief Justice Louis D. Brandeis made the comment in 1906 expressing concern about the migration of the practice from profession to business. What would he think today?

The Commission made a number of recommendations for "rekindling" lawyer professionalism. Members were urged to "resist the temptation to make the acquisition of wealth a primary goal of the law practice," to search for methods which "simplify and make less expensive the rendering of legal service," and to "increase their participation in, and recognize their obligation to provide, true pro bono services." For Virginia lawyers, the Commission's goals are not merely aspirational. They are specifically incorporated in our Rules of Professional Conduct. Rule 6.1 addresses pro bono service, and states that a lawyer "should render at least two percent per year of the lawyer's professional time to pro bono services" allowing for an option to provide "direct financial support of programs" as "an alternative method for fulfilling a lawyer's responsibility under this rule." For most lawyers, the rule translates into devoting 30 to 40 hours of time per year to pro bono activities.

My guess is that many of us do not meet the requirement, particularly when we properly define pro bono services to include "poverty law, civil rights law, public interest law, and volunteer activities designed to increase availability of pro bono legal services." Notably absent from the definition of true pro bono service is the representation of a client's son in Emporia traffic court, coaching your child's little league team or serving in your local church or synagogue, which are properly defined as marketing, family time and long term investment, respectively.

It is undeniable that the number of hours lawyers are devoting to true pro bono services is dropping. According to an online survey conducted by *The American Lawyer*, it is down almost twelve percent from its peak in 2009. There are two disturbing reasons for the drop. First, a firm's willingness to provide pro bono services seems to be linked to how well the firm is doing financially and firms have not been doing well lately. Second, since the vast majority of pro bono service is performed by associates, a firm's ability to provide pro bono hours diminishes as firms cut back on hiring.

(continued on page 2)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

NPBA Luncheon Thursday, January 17, 2013, 11:45 AM Hits at the Park, Harbor Park Speaker: Charles W. "Wick" Moorman Chairman, President & CEO Norfolk Southern Corporation

Breakfast With the Bench Tuesday, February 12, 2013, 7:30 AM Hon. Louis A. Sherman, Norfolk Circuit Court NPBA Luncheon Thursday, February 21, 2013, 11:45 AM W. David Harless, President, Virginia State Bar Hugh M. Fain, III, President, Virginia Bar Association

Bench Bar Conference Thursday, April 4, 2013 Keynote Speaker: General William K. Suter Clerk of the Court Supreme Court of the United States 999 Waterside Drive, Suite 1330 Norfolk, Virginia 23510

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Advertising Service Agency, Inc. Layout and Printing

#### (PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED)

Exacerbating the problem, the downturn in the economy has resulted in serious cuts to budgets for most legal aid offices. For example, the budget for the Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia has been slashed by 16 percent, or \$667,968 over the last three years, which translates into eight full time lawyers. Considering the fact that there is one legal aid lawyer for every 9,835 citizens in poverty in Hampton Roads, the cuts have had a dramatic effect on the availability of pro bono services for those who qualify. To make matters worse, economic decline pushes a greater number of people into poverty, which drives up bankruptcy, child custody, foreclosure and landlord/tenant cases—which represent the bulk of indigent legal needs.

Perhaps what is most disturbing about *The American Lawyer* survey is that, when the indigent need legal services most (during an economic downturn), firms are the least likely to provide such services, or financial support to those organizations that provide pro bono services. Even more disturbing is the admission that the vast majority of lawyers providing pro bono services in private firms are associates. The notion that we consider pro bono activities among those which veterans of the bar have "outgrown" or with which we cannot be bothered is troubling. The Norfolk and Portsmouth Bar Association is committed to rekindling our commitment toward pro bono services, recognizing that effective change must begin at the leadership level. In compliance with Rule 6.1, we encourage our members either to provide pro bono services directly, or to provide the financing necessary so that organizations like the Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia can fulfill our collective obligation to provide these services.

When confronted with their lack of participation in pro bono activities, most lawyers state that their expertise is not well suited to the needs of the indigent. Others indicate that, while they are willing to participate, they are generally unaware of pro bono opportunities that may be available. The NPBA has created a standing Pro Bono Committee specifically designed to address these concerns. In cooperation with the Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia, the Committee will offer training to individuals interested in providing pro bono services. These training sessions will help prepare any practitioner for handling matters like simple landlord/tenant disputes or uncontested domestic relations cases. In addition, the Committee will be partnering with the Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia and other organizations providing pro bono services to act as a clearinghouse for notifying members of pro bono opportunities. Most importantly, the Pro Bono Committee is a *standing* committee, the primary purpose of which is to encourage members to participate and/or support pro bono activities on an *ongoing* basis.

Of course, the success of such a program depends entirely on the willingness of NPBA members to be involved. After the holidays, NPBA will be circulating a survey among our members specifically designed to determine the extent to which our membership is participating in pro bono activities, and to help understand and overcome potential barriers that might discourage participation. We encourage all of our members to participate in the survey to provide the information necessary to make the program work.

The business of law is important, and few of us would practice for long if we ignore it. But "law as a business" cannot supplant "law as a profession," with rules of professional conduct. The rules, however, did not *create* the obligation to provide pro bono services, but merely remind us of our obligation as officers of the court who have been granted the privilege of practicing law.

# **NPBA** Foundation News

By Greg E. Summy, President, NPBA Foundation • Greg.summy@nscorp.com • 533-4890

Welcome to 2013 to all of you! I hope your Holiday Season was pleasant and restful.

Most of you know about NPBA Foundation scholarships for deserving high school seniors and second-year law students. Another aspect of the

Foundation's mission is to provide financial support to "projects that enhance the image of and build trust in the legal system" and "philanthropic endeavors in the public interest which promote and relate to the administration of justice and related activities". In the past, the Foundation has supported projects



such as the Magna Carta tour and debate, the Law School for Journalists and, most recently, *The Triumph of the Rule of Law Over Massive Resistance: A Community Forum*.

The Foundation continues to be

Greg Summy

**mmy** interested in supporting projects consistent with its mission. We welcome and indeed encourage ideas and suggestions for projects that the Foundation could support. Please feel free to contact any of our Board members or me at **greg.summy@nscorp.com** with your ideas.

# LIBRARY LINES

#### Norfolk Law Library staff: Donna Bausch, J.D., M.S.L.S., Law Librarian, dbausch@norfolklawlibrary.org David Knight, M.S.L.S., Assistant Law Librarian, dknight@norfolklawlibrary.org

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# Message from the Young Lawyers Section

#### By Bonnie P. Lane, Chair

The YLS has been busy over the holiday season giving back to the community. There were two ForKids work days, both of which had fantastic turnouts. I want to thank everyone who showed up



**Bonnie Lane** 

and volunteered their time at both of these events. A lot of great work was accomplished. The first work day was in November preparing grocery bags of non-perishable Thanksgiving dinners for 275 families helped by ForKids. The second work day was on December 1, where we worked to set up the ForKids' Holiday Shop. This is set up for the ForKids' families to be able to "shop" for toys for their children, who would otherwise not have gifts during the holidays. Over 1000 children in Norfolk will receive toys from the Holiday Shop this year. I would also like to thank everyone who contributed to the ForKids' Holiday Toy Drive. I am proud that we were able to donate so many wonderful toys. ForKids has expressed their gratitude to the NPBA for all of the help this holiday season.

Upcoming events include a Breakfast with the Bench planned for Tuesday, February 12th at 7:30 a.m. at the Brick House Diner. Judge Sherman will be the featured guest. I would encourage everyone to RSVP for and attend this Breakfast. Additionally, the YLS is working on setting up more volunteer opportunities with ForKids, so please be on the lookout for those events.

Planning for the annual golf tournament will begin early next year. Several sponsorship opportunities are available for the tournament, and I would ask that any firm interested in sponsoring the tournament please reach out to David Crain or Johnnie Pearson, both of Willcox & Savage, for more information.

The NPBA has several new members who are eligible to be in the YLS, that is, those lawyers who are under the age of 36 or who have been in practice for 5 years of less. I would encourage the new attorneys to get involved in the NPBA and the YLS, as it is a very rewarding experience. As 2013 begins, I welcome anyone who is interested in being on the YLS committee to contact me at blane@clarkedolph.com for more information on getting involved.

### **Liberty Bell Award Nominations Now Open**

Nominations are being sought for the NPBA Liberty Bell Award to recognize a non-lawyer who, by extraordinary efforts and selfless contributions to the local community, has strengthened the effectiveness of the American system of justice.

The Liberty Bell Award will be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association in May to an individual:

- who promotes a better understanding and appreciation of the rule of law
- who encourages a greater respect for law and the courts
- who stimulates a sense of civic responsibility
- who contributes to the effectiveness of our institutions of government

Nominations by letter should be submitted to the NPBA office by February 28, 2013.

#### **COURT NEWS**

The Norfolk Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court will be closed or hearing only emergency cases on the following dates. January 18, 2013 Lee-Jackson Day January 21, 2013 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day February 18, 2013 President's Day



# JANUARY LUNCHEON MEETING

#### **Thursday, January 17, 2013** Hits at The Park, Harbor Park 11:45 AM



Charles W. "Wick" Moorman Chairman, President & CEO Norfolk Southen Corporation

Wick Moorman, Chairman, President and CEO of Norfolk Southern Corporation, is a native of Hattiesburg, MS, and a graduate of Georgia Tech and Harvard Business School. He started his railroad career as a co-op student in 1970, and early in his career worked in the maintenance of way and transportation departments, so he has firsthand knowledge of railroad operations. Wick has served Norfolk Southern in numerous leadership capacities. He was assistant vice president stations, terminals and transportation planning; vice president personnel and labor relations; and vice president information technology. Before being named president of Norfolk Southern in 2004, Wick also served as president of Thoroughbred Technology and Telecommunications and as senior vice president of corporate planning and services. He was named president and CEO in 2005, and chairman, president and CEO in 2006.

Wick serves on the boards of the Association of American Railroads, Chevron Corporation, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the University of Virginia Medical College Operation Board, and The Nature Conservancy of Virginia. He is a member of the American Society of Corporate Executives, The Business Council, and The Business Roundtable. Wick and his wife Bonnie reside in Virginia Beach and have two children.

# **FEBRUARY LUNCHEON**

#### **Thursday, February 21, 2013** Hits at The Park, Harbor Park 11:45 AM



W. David Harless, President Virginia State Bar



Hugh M. Fain, III, President Virginia Bar Association



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#### Announcements

**Clarke, Dolph, Rapaport, Hull & Brunick** is proud to announce that **Cyrus A. Dolph IV, Robert A. Rapaport, Timothy S. Brunick** and **Caryn R. West** have been named in the 2012 edition of Virginia Super Lawyers.

**Clarke, Dolph, Rapaport, Hull & Brunick** is proud to announce that partner **Cyrus A. Dolph IV** has been selected for the 2013 Best Lawyers in America in the Trusts and Estates practice area. U.S. News & World Report "Best Law Firms" also awarded its highest First Tier Ranking to **Clarke Dolph** law firm for Trusts & Estates in Norfolk.

Crenshaw, Ware & Martin, P.L.C. is proud to announce that the firm received a Tier 1 Metropolitan Ranking in both Admiralty & Maritime Law and Real Estate Law. The firm also received a Tier 2 Metropolitan Ranking in Employment Law – Individuals, Litigation - Bankruptcy, and Municipal Law. Eight lawyers from Crenshaw, Ware & Martin, P.L.C. were selected by their peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America 2013. They are **Delphine G. Carnes** for Project Finance Law and Public Finance Law; James L. Chapman, IV for Admiralty & Maritime Law; Timothy A. Coyle for Municipal Law; Howard W. Martin, Jr. for Real Estate Law; W. Ryan Snow for Admiralty & Maritime Law: Donald C. Schultz for Bankruptcy, Credit-Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, and Litigation - Bankruptcy; Ann K. Sullivan for Employment Law - Individuals, Employment Law - Management, and Labor Law - Management; and Guilford D. Ware for Admiralty & Maritime Law.

Kaufman & Canoles, P.C. is pleased to announce that Laura Dickson Rixey has joined the firm's Norfolk office as an associate where her practice will focus on commercial transactions. Rixey received her B.S., with highest honors, from the University of North Carolina and her J.D., with honors, from the University of North Carolina School of Law.

Kaufman & Canoles, P.C. is pleased to announce that Lauren Tallent Rogers has joined the firm's Norfolk office as a litigation associate. Prior to joining the firm, Ms. Rogers served as a law clerk to The Honorable Mark S. Davis, U.S. District Judge, Eastern District of Virginia. Ms. Rogers received her B.S. from The University of Kansas and her J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Washington and Lee University School of Law.

**LeClairRyan** announced the attorneys selected for inclusion in the 2013 edition of the Best Lawyers in America. NPBA member attorneys are: **Alan D. Albert**, commercial litigation, criminal defense: white-collar, government relations practice, litigation – intellectual property, litigation – patent, trademark law; **Ray W. King**, corporate law, litigation – real estate, real estate law; **Kelvin L. Newsome**, employment law – management, litigation – labor and employment. **Alan D. Albert** has also been recognized by Best Lawyers as "Lawyer of the Year" for 2013 in Norfolk, Litigation – Patent Lawyer of the Year.

E. Diane Thompson has been named a Best Lawyer for the 20th consecutive year in Trusts and Estates and was also voted "Lawyer of the Year" in her practice area by her peers. Diane is a Pender & Coward shareholder specializing in Estate Planning, Trust and Estate Administration, Fiduciary Income Taxation, Federal Estate and Gift Taxation and Post-mortem Tax and Disclaimer Planning. She has been listed as a Super Lawyer since 2006 and has been recognized among the Legal Elite by Virginia Business. Richard E. Garriott, Jr. has been selected for the 2013 Best Lawyers list for his practice in Family Law and Domestic Relations. Also a Virginia Super Lawyer (2011 & 2012), Garriott is a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and was selected for Virginia's Legal Elite by Virginia Business Magazine in 2011.

**Phillips & Peters, PLLC** is pleased to announce that **B. Caitlin Walters** was selected as a member of the Board of Directors for the Hurrah Players. **Sarah J. McCoy** was selected as a member of Norfolk's Court Appointed Special Advocates ("CASA") board.

**Poole Mahoney PC** is pleased to announce **Andrew Richmond** has been promoted to the position of Principal. Mr. Richmond is a member of the Divorce/Family Practice Group and has experience resolving complex divorces involving equitable distribution, support and custody both through contested litigation and negotiated agreements. Mr. Richmond also handles a variety of other family-related matters, including Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court cases, paternity actions and Department of Human Services issues. Mr. Richmond earned his bachelor's degree from Missouri Western State University and his J.D. from Regent University School of Law.

**Tavss Fletcher** is pleased to announce that **John A. Heilig** and **Robert E. Moreland**, of The Heilig Firm, have joined **Tavss Fletcher** effective December 1, 2012, and that Mr. Heilig and Mr. Moreland will continue to welcome medical malpractice referrals and co-counsel relationships.

**Willcox Savage** is pleased to announce **Ashley W. Winsky** has joined the firm as an associate and practices in our Norfolk office. She was previously with Williams Mullen. Her practice focuses on personal injury defense, railroad industry defense, general civil litigation and maritime law. Ashley is a 2009 graduate of George Mason University School of Law and received a B.A., *summa cum laude*, from Virginia Tech in 2006.

Willcox Savage is pleased to welcome four new Associates. G. Blake Christensen is in the Catastrophic Loss and Tort Defense practice group. He is a 2012 graduate of the College of William and Mary School of Law and earned his B.A. degree from Brigham Young University in 2009. Michele B. Fanney is in the Asbestos Defense, Products Liability and Transportation practice group. She is a 2012 graduate of the University Of Richmond School Of Law and earned her B.A. from Davidson College in 2009. Amber R. Randolph is in the firm's Corporate Section and will primarily support its Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation practice group. She is a 2012 graduate of the University of Virginia School Of Law and earned her B.A. from Virginia Wesleyan College in 2005. Monica A. Stahly is in the Labor and Employment practice group. She is a 2012 graduate of the University Of Richmond School of Law and earned her B.A. from Bowdoin College in 2006.

The following **Willcox Savage** litigators have been recognized in the latest edition of *Benchmark Litigation: the Guide* to America's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys. **Bruce T. Bishop, Susan R. Blackman, Patrick D. Blake, Gary A.** 

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

#### Bryant, William M. Furr, Kevin L. Keller, David A. Kushner, Conrad M. Shumadine and Brett A. Spain.

Williams DeLoatche, P.C. is pleased to announce that Melissa Bailey has joined the firm as an associate. Ms. Bailey received her B.A. from the University of Virginia and her J.D. from Regent University School of Law. Ms. Bailey's areas of practice include insurance defense, general civil litigation, collections and traffic defense.

Williams Mullen is pleased to announce that Michael Steele has joined the firm as an associate in its Labor and Employment practice. Steele will be based out of the Virginia Beach and Norfolk offices. He joins the firm from Jackson Lewis. Active in the community, Steele serves as Adjunct Professor at the College of William & Mary School of Law in the legal practice program, and is on the Board of Directors for the Chesapeake Humane Society and the Program Committee for Hampton Roads Business Outreach (HRBOR). He has a B.A. from Mary Washington College, an M.P.A. from Virginia Commonwealth University, and a J.D. from Boston College Law School.

# Seventh Annual Model Judiciary Program

The NPBA Public Relations Committee is looking for volunteer attorneys to assist in the 7th Annual Model Judiciary Program for Norfolk Public Schools. The program was started at Blair and Meadowbrook Middle Schools, where students were taught basic trial skills and conducted mock trials in Norfolk Circuit Court. The program has been a great success due to the enthusiasm and hard work of the students and participating attorneys and has grown to include all Norfolk middle schools. The program has garnered attention from local and national media. It is scheduled to be an eight to ten week program starting in mid-February 2013. Students will receive instruction one day a week for approximately an hour to an hour and a half after school between 3:00 and 4:30 p.m. The trials matching one school's team against another's are tentatively scheduled for Friday, April 19, 2013 in Norfolk Circuit Court. At least 25-30

attorneys are needed so that a minimum of 4-6 attorneys can be assigned to each school. With that many attorneys at each school, the commitment can be minimal, one hour a week every other week. Previous volunteers have commented on how well the students have done and on their enjoyment of watching the students' growth throughout the process. The experience of working with the children is very rewarding as they are so appreciative of being able to work with real attorneys. For those interested, please e-mail the Bar office at npbamail@gmail.com or call the Bar office (622-3152) so that scheduling details with the schools can be completed and to ensure proper support of the program. If there are any questions please contact the coordinator of the program, Wayne Williams at twwilliams@wd-law.com. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this worthwhile program.

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Willcox & Savage	30	Union Mission
Williams Mullen	11	Samaritan House
Total	280	

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Melissa Bailey** Williams DeLoatche, P.C.

> **Doug Barber** Navy JAGC

Amanda Blair Stackhouse, Nexsen & Turrietta, PLLC

> Jeremiah A. Denton. IV Jeremiah A. Denton, III, P.C.

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**Ariel Leo Stein** Levin and Levin, P.C.

Michael Stultz

Ashlev Winsky Willcox & Savage, P.C.

Jennifer Dilworth William & Mary law student

**Diana Galinis** Regent University law student

Natalya Merkuryeva-Dennett Regent University law student

Kurt Mondlak Regent University law student

Jeanne Noonan William & Mary law student

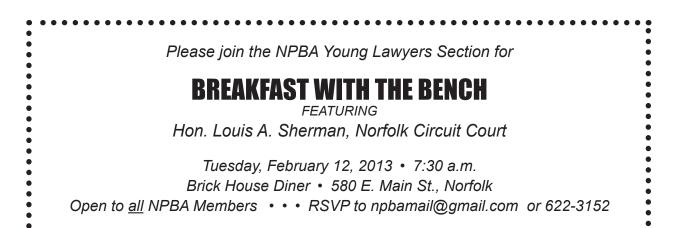
**Scott Rattigan** William & Mary law student

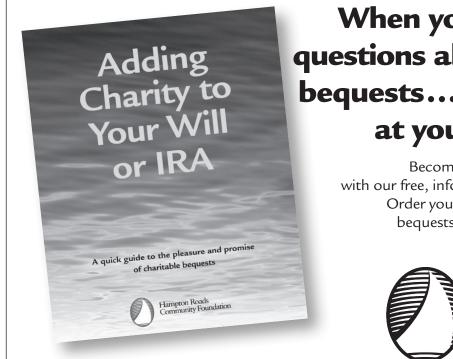
# SAVE THE DATE FOR BENCH BAR 2013!

Mark your calendars for the 2013 Bench Bar Conference! The 2013 Bench Bar Conference will take place on Thursday, April 4, 2013 at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott Convention Center and feature keynote speaker General William K. Suter, Clerk of the United States Supreme Court. General Suter is the 19th Clerk of the Supreme Court and has served in that capacity since 1991. He is an unparalleled expert on the Supreme Court's functions and traditions. We will maintain the popular afternoon conference format and offer sessions of interest to all members, as well an opportunity to learn more about the new Norfolk Combined Courthouse Project scheduled to open in December of 2013. We look forward to seeing you there! See enclosed flyer.



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