

BAR BULLETIN

September - October 2023

Vol. XLVII, No. 5

NORFOLK & PORTSMOUTH
BAR ASSOCIATION



President's Message

By Kellam T. Parks

I had the honor of being part of the investiture of Judge Erikka M. Massie on July 14. On behalf of the NPBA, I presented a gavel to Judge Massie and offered a few remarks as she was formally installed to the Norfolk General District Court. Judge Massie spent her legal career serving the citizens of Norfolk at the City Attorney's office assisting the Department of Human Services. In that role she handled difficult and challenging foster care and protective services matters. As attested by the sitting judges that spoke at her investiture, her excellent advocacy in that role will be missed; however, her talents will be an asset to our excellent bench.

The NPBA resumes the monthly luncheons on September 21 at the Norfolk Courthouse. Following the lunch is a CLE presented by Judge Martin on Rule 1:1. The luncheons and the CLEs following remain free for our members. We hope that you can join us.

The Young Lawyers Section (YLS) recently hosted an event on September 6 with a Tides game outing. The annual Fall Reception is on October 29, generously hosted again by Judge Hall. The YLS has many activities planned for the year, including the re-launching of the Mentoring Program.

The NPBA continues to provide informative CLEs throughout the year. A few upcoming topics just through the end of September include how to handle high-profile/media-heavy cases, the legal landscape of wetlands, the Corporate Transparency Act, and a discussion of conflict of interests presented by Tom Spahn. Be sure to make note of the weekly NPBA emails with the details or, check them out on the NPBA website's calendar.

The rest of the NPBA's Committees are hard at work on various projects, from pro bono initiatives to planning the annual Bench Bar Conference for 2024. We encourage our members to get involved -

<https://www.norfolkandportsmouthbar.org/Committees>.

I'll end my message this month as I'll end each month's, with an invitation to contact me directly if you have any ideas about Bar projects or anything else related to the NPBA. Our organization's history of excellence continues to be fueled by its engaged members.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

CLE Fall Reception | 10/10/23 3:00 pm

YLS Fall Reception | 10/29/23 1:00 pm

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Terry Baker
Breit Biniazan, P.C.

Wilfredo Bonilla, Jr.
Crenshaw, Ware & Martin, P.L.C.

Frank Driscoll, Jr.
Law Office of Frank J. Driscoll, Jr.

Cassandra Hargrave
C. Hargrave Law, LLC

Michael Moro
Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore, LLP

Michael Pirrello
Norfolk City Attorney's Office

Marvin Smith
Norfolk City Attorney's Office

Judicial Law Clerks:

Emma Postel
Olivia Robertson
Sophie Thornton
Jack Tiernan

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Rosie Bugarin, CMP
Meetings Director
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MONTHLY LUNCHEONS ARE BACK!

The NPBA luncheons are an opportunity to hear from local and state leaders while socializing with your peers. Luncheons are held on the third Thursday of the month at the Norfolk Courthouse, 8th Floor Rotunda, from 12 – 1 p.m. Luncheons are FREE to all NPBA MEMBERS. Registration is required!

September 21, 2023

Robert G. “Butch” Bracknell, Crenshaw, Ware & Martin, PLC

The Camp Lejeune Justice Act

<https://norfolkandportsmouthbar.org/event-5408388>

October 19, 2023

Katherine M. Lennon, Woods Rogers Vandeventer Black

Young Lawyers Section (YLS) Mentoring Program

<https://www.norfolkandportsmouthbar.org/event-5408703>

November 16, 2023

More details coming soon. Save the date!

January 18, 2024

Patrick J. McKenna, Esq., from Human Trafficking Justice & Freedom International

<https://norfolkandportsmouthbar.org/event-5408839>

February 15, 2024

More details coming soon. Save the date!

March 21, 2024

More details coming soon. Save the date!



CLE COMMITTEE

Chair: Kerry K. Stolz

Co-Chair: Gaela Normile



Attention, all procrastinators: Have no fear, free CLEs are almost here! The Norfolk & Portsmouth Bar Association's CLE Committee has several CLE presentations scheduled for this September and October. They are free to NPBA members only. The CLE Committee is offering programs on a wide range of topics, including how to handle high-profile/media-heavy cases, the legal landscape of wetlands, the Corporate Transparency Act, the Virginia Rule 1:1, a discussion of conflict of interests presented by Tom Spahn and much more. Attendees will receive up to 2 CLE credits per presentation. In-person CLE presentations will be in the first-floor training room of the City of Norfolk Courthouse (150 St Paul's Blvd, Norfolk, VA 23510), unless otherwise noted on the NPBA website. Keep a lookout for more information to come about dates and times!

In addition to the 2-hour CLE presentations, the CLE Committee has also coordinated 1-hour CLE presentations to follow the NPBA's monthly luncheons. As a reminder, the monthly luncheons are held the third Thursday of the month from 12 to 1 p.m.

If you are interested in joining the CLE Committee or giving a CLE presentation, please reach out to the CLE Committee's co-chairs, Kerry Stolz (kstolz@pendercoward.com) and Gaela Normile (Gaela.Normile@wrvblaw.com), or fill out a committee volunteer application online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NPBACommitteeVolunteers>.

Upcoming CLE Courses - Register today at <https://www.norfolkandportsmouthbar.org/events>.

Tips and Strategy for Handling High-Profile and Media-Heavy Cases - Windsor police case study – 2 CLE Credits *Pending*

Presenters: Anne C. Lahren, Atty and Richard H. Matthews, Shareholder with Pender & Coward, P.C.

September 14, 2023, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Wetlands in Virginia: regulations, permits, and enforcement – 1.5 CLE Credits *Pending*

Presenter: Bryan S. Peeples, Atty, with Pender & Coward, P.C.

September 15, 2023, 3:30 – 5 p.m.

Final Orders, Rule 1:1, and How to Try to Avoid Finality in Civil Cases – 1 CLE Credit *Pending*

Presenter: Hon. Everett A. Martin, Jr., Presiding Judge

September 21, 2023, 1:15 – 2:15 p.m. (Post-Luncheon CLE)

The First Question: Who is Your Client? – 2 (Ethics) CLE Credits Approved

Presenter: Thomas E. Spahn, McGuireWoods LLP

September 26, 2023, 1:15 – 3:15 p.m.

Family Law Topic TBD – 2 CLE Credits

Presenter: Vania M. O'Keefe, Morris, Crawford & Currin, P.C.

September 27, 2023, TBD

Employment Law 101 and Latest Developments – 2 CLE Credits *Pending*

Presenters: Deborah Yeng Collins, and Melissa A. Hamann, Yeng Collins Law, PLLC

October 4, 2023, 1 – 3 p.m.

Ethics: Implications for Chat GPT and Artificial Intelligence – 2 (Ethics) CLE Credits

Presenters: Joy Malbon-Griffin, Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company and Mary Morgan, Infinity Law Group, PLC and Adjunct Professor with Regent University

October 10, 2023, 1 – 3 p.m. with reception afterward, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Appellate Law and Court of Appeals Implications – 1 CLE Credit

Presenters: W. Thomas Chappell and F. Nash Bilisoly, Woods Rogers Vandeventer Black

October 19, 2023, 1:15 – 2:15 p.m. (Post-Luncheon CLE)



YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

By Garry D. Hartlieb, Chair
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757-441-3173

YLS activities are in full swing. Thank you to all who attended the YLS Summer Social at Luna Maya on August 17 for our annual informal networking event. A special thanks is in order for the judges who joined us: Hon. Everett A. Martin, Jr. and Hon. David W. Lannetti of the Norfolk Circuit Court as well as Hon. Jamillah D. LeCruise of the Norfolk General District Court. We greatly appreciate the Bench making itself available to get to know and speak with our members. We also express thanks for the Judges bringing law clerks as guests (we hope they will join us for other events, stay in Norfolk after their clerkships, and join our ranks in the future).

Over the past few months, we held monthly planning meetings at Coach House, along with Saltine and Varia, to cater to our members who work in Downtown Norfolk. We gathered socially for a Norfolk Tides game on the evening of September 6, which also doubled as our September planning meeting.

We are often asked, "Who is considered a young lawyer?" It is generally lawyers under the age of 36 or who have been practicing five or fewer years. But if you are new to the area or want to join us, please do not hesitate to get involved.

Our next large event is our annual Fall Reception, which Hon. Mary Jane Hall of the Norfolk Circuit Court has graciously agreed to host again this year. The Fall Reception will be extra special this year as it will also serve as the kickoff event for the mentoring program we will launch. Stay tuned for further information, and watch for our invitation to those who would like to be either a mentor or mentee. Food from the always-delicious Yummy Goodness and drink will be complimentary courtesy in large part of our generous sponsors. In return, we ask that you bring a check or cash to help us raise funds for our philanthropic support of ForKids.

ForKids is a nonprofit that provides emergency shelter to families and children, along with providing related education and critical services solutions for children. While this is an event hosted by YLS, we always value the opportunity to get to know members of the bench and more senior lawyers. So I want to reiterate that all NPBA members are welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.



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LIBRARY LINES

CONTACT NORFOLK LAW LIBRARY AT (757) 622-2910
WWW.NORFOLKLAWLIBRARY.ORG

*Ashley Reed,
Norfolk Library Law Librarian
areed@norfolklawlibrary.org*

Norfolk Law Library Position Open

Associate Law Librarian

Under the supervision of the Law Librarian of the Norfolk Law Library, the Associate Law Librarian responds to all types of legal reference questions in an efficient and courteous manner and frequently serves as the primary contact for the public utilizing the Law Library's resources. Along with the Law Librarian, the Associate Law Librarian is responsible for the daily operation of the library. This position requires professional work of a confidential nature, independent judgment, initiative, and discretion.

Duties:

- Assists customers in selecting and locating relevant research materials.
- Keeps abreast of trends in legal information and resources.
- Makes recommendations for the collection, including digital and print resources.
- Conducts shelf reading and weeding of collection.
- Demonstrates use of catalog, electronic databases, and research strategies to customers.
- Effectively communicates library policies and procedures to the public.
- Other duties as assigned by the Law Librarian and the Norfolk Law Library Board of Directors.

Preferred Skills, Abilities and Experience:

- Ability to communicate clearly and concisely in a friendly and positive manner with staff and library customers from diverse ethnic, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds, including Judges and attorneys and their staffs.
- Community engagement and service experience.
- Comfort with working independently in a team-oriented environment within established policies and procedures.
- Knowledge of and experience with library systems and technology.
- Experience using legal research databases such as Westlaw and Lexis Advance.
- Experience with technical services, including cataloging, processing, and updating legal materials.
- Knowledge of legal resources, including print materials and online databases.
- Excellent customer service skills and enthusiasm for assisting library patrons.

This position requires availability 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Qualified candidates should submit a resume, cover letter, and professional references to the Law Librarian, Ashley Reed, via email at areed@norfolklawlibrary.org. The position will remain open until filled.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Supreme Court Preview 2023 – October 6-7, 2023, presented by The William & Mary Law School

Each year an all-star cast of scholars, Supreme Court advocates, journalists and federal judges convene in Williamsburg, Virginia, for the Supreme Court Preview. The goal of the conference is two-fold: to get the audience up to speed on the specific cases the U.S. Supreme Court will decide, and to discuss and analyze persistent themes and challenges facing the Court today.

This year on October 6-7 there will be no shortage of hard questions to tackle: How far will the Court go in limiting the authority of administrative agencies? What does the commitment to free speech look like in the digital age? How will the Court refine its Second Amendment doctrine? And in light of heightened criticism facing the Justices, which cases will present moments for incrementalism, and where will the Court flex its muscles?

The Supreme Court Preview is approved for 7.5 continuing legal education credits.

[*To Register Click Here*](#)

PHOTOS

Summer was sizzling with NPBA!

Thanks to all who came out to the Young Lawyers Section (YLS) gathering on July 13 at Saltine in downtown Norfolk's Hilton The Main and the YLS Summer Social at Luna Maya Restaurant on Norfolk's Colley Avenue on August 17.



NPBA members age 36 and younger, or have been practicing for five years or less, are encouraged to participate in the Young Lawyers Section.

Learn more at www.norfolkandportsmouthbar.org/Young-Lawyers-Section

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\$27.6 MILLION
for our clients in 2022

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PHOTOS

Thanks to all who attended Hon. Erikka M. Massie's
Investiture and reception on July 14, 2023.



The honor of your presence
is requested at the investiture ceremony of
ERIKKA M. MASSIE
as
Judge of the
Norfolk General District Court
Friday, the fourteenth day of July, 2023
at three o'clock

Courtroom 6A
City of Norfolk Courthouse
150 St. Paul's Boulevard

Reception immediately following at
4029 Estates Lane, Portsmouth, Virginia 23703

RSVP Diana Johnson
drjohnson@vacourts.gov



Photographer: Paul McGirt

The McCammon Group

is pleased to announce our newest Neutral



Hon. John W. Brown (Ret.)

Retired Chief Judge, 1st Judicial Circuit Court of Virginia, City of Chesapeake

The Honorable John Brown recently retired as Chief Judge of the 1st Judicial Circuit Court of Virginia after fourteen years of distinguished judicial service to the City of Chesapeake. Prior to his judicial service, Judge Brown enjoyed a successful private practice for twenty-eight years, serving as both plaintiff's and civil defense counsel. He also served the City of Chesapeake as Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney, Commissioner of Accounts, and Commissioner in Chancery for Divorce and Equity Matters. Among his many credentials, Judge Brown is a former President of the Chesapeake Bar Association, former Chairman of the Chesapeake Board of Directors for TowneBank, and a former member of the Board of Directors for the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame and Museum. He now brings this record of excellence and achievement to The McCammon Group to serve the mediation, arbitration, judge pro tempore, and special master needs of lawyers and litigants throughout the Commonwealth.

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