

BAR*briefs*

Louisville Bar Association

March 2024



Celebrate Women's History Month!

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The mission of the Louisville Bar Association is to promote justice, professional excellence and respect for the law, improve public understanding of the legal system, facilitate access to legal services and serve the members of the association.

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Labor & Employment Law Section

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Workers' Rights Institute | Georgetown Law

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The Predictable Unpredictability of Solo Practice

As of the writing of this article I have \$30.16 in checking. Bills are filling up the inbox and spring break is on the horizon. When I first opened my solo practice in 2011, this would have terrified me. Now, meh; no big deal.

I love being a solo practitioner. I can turn down any case I want, set my own rates, practice however I want and set my own hours. However, the economic life of a solo practitioner can be a wild ride.

I'd be lying if I said I went to law school to help people. Sure, I'm proud I do now. But when I applied, law school was a path to a nice car, skiing and frequent beach trips. In law school, I grew interested in torts, specifically medical malpractice. As the son of a physician, I was convinced there was a scourge of frivolous medical malpractice suits. I was determined to help defend these defenseless doctors.

Medical malpractice defense is how I started practicing law. Then I realized the same doctors and institutions became defendants again and again. I saw plaintiff's lawyers putting up ridiculous sums of their own money to prosecute these cases. Frivolous medical malpractice suits, in my experience, just weren't the issue. They cost too much to prosecute and the risk of loss is too great. From recollection, a few years ago, Shannon Ragland's Kentucky Trial Court Report revealed only about an 18% success rate for plaintiffs at trial. From a basic economic perspective, plaintiff's lawyers would have to scale to be successful. You'd have to file ten to win 1.8 of those ten cases; legal venture capital investing. And the costs... I digress...

Later in my career I quit that firm in the middle of the 2008 crash to move to Connecticut. Cocksure, I was certain the largest economic downturn of my generation would leave me unscathed. What was I thinking? I returned home with less than \$100 to my name, in a U-haul, having sold my car and moved in with my mother. Argh.

I believe I'm resilient. But were it not for the graciousness of Mike O'Connell allowing me to serve as an Assistant County Attorney in the Juvenile Division, I would've spent a year working in one of many Keep Louisville Weird businesses. Great experience, but I'm not built for criminal work. From there, I found an insurance defense firm. It didn't take long to despise that my work made money for someone else. I quit to keep the fruits of my own labor.

I do get to keep 100% off my success. But practice as a solo practitioner isn't exactly working when you want and cashing checks. I eat 100% of my losses too. To be clear, that's my money – gone. There's malpractice insurance, experts, office rent, an array of office supplies, advertising, case expenses. It costs a lot of money to run a law practice, and revenue is irregular. In contingency practice I don't get paid unless a case settled, and those checks don't necessarily come every two weeks. That uncertainty is stressful.

Quickly I learned something that many of my colleagues only theoretically understand; there are two ways to get a rocket to space: 1) a bigger rocket and 2) lighter fuselage. Everyone forgets the second. I strive to keep expenses down by foregoing an assistant, case management software and subleasing my office. I request my own medical records, negotiate my own subrogation liens and lick my own stamps. The goal is simple: more money in than out.

Knowing of 'dry periods' where settlement checks are not always around the corner, I prepay anything I can. I avoid debt at all costs, I paid for my car in cash, I prepay mortgage months in advance, I maintain savings reserves.

This isn't something I was able to do early in practice. It took years of disciplined spending and saving. My splurges on larger settlements were typically limited to an IBC Root Beer (seriously) or a dinner.

With \$30.16 in checking, I prepaid the family spring break trip months ago and I'm set with mortgage. You never know what the future holds. I love the practice of law – it feels great to help people. And its unpredictability is part of what makes it such a great ride.



***I love the practice of law –
it feels great to help people.
And its unpredictability
is part of what makes it
such a great ride.***

Bryan R. Armstrong
LBA President

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair: Bruce A. Brightwell



The Communications Committee strives to ensure continuity and focus of internal/external communications in support of the LBA's organizational and strategic objectives. It oversees communication content and methods, including through the website, on social media and in our publications.

LBA Staff Liaison: Shannon Greer, sgreer@loubar.org

GENDER EQUITY

Chair: Jennifer Kleier



The Gender Equity Committee examines and addresses issues related to pay inequity among attorneys based on gender; parental leave after the birth or adoption of a child; and workplace sexual harassment. It also works in conjunction with the Jefferson County Women Lawyers Association

to establish mentoring relationships for the benefit of females embarking upon legal careers.

LBA Staff Liaison: Lisa Anspach, lanspach@loubar.org

KENTUCKY LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Chair: Abigale Rhodes Green



The KLRS Committee is responsible for reviewing and recommending to the Board of Directors rules and regulations for enrollment in and delivery of the LBA's lawyer referral services, including assignment of matters to participating attorneys, collection of fees and marketing of services to the public.

LBA Staff Liaison: Deborah Dye, ddye@loubar.org

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Chair: Position Open

Committee members assist in providing input and advice to the CLE Department and by offering suggestions regarding topics, speakers, delivery methods, costs and marketing of CLE seminars. This committee helps various sections meet their obligation to produce seminars and has the option to develop seminars in addition to those produced by the sections.

LBA Staff Liaison: Lisa Anspach, lanspach@loubar.org

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Chair: Jennifer Kleier

The Health & Wellness Committee examines and addresses issues related to bettering the profession by destigmatizing mental health issues, increasing overall well-being, offering fitness activities and resources and programs to strengthen legal professionals and law students.

LBA Staff Liaison: Lisa Anspach, lanspach@loubar.org

MEMBER SERVICES

Chair: Amy DeRenzo Hulbert



The Member Services Committee is responsible for reviewing and recommending to the Board of Directors requirements for LBA membership as well as the development and delivery of member benefits.

LBA Staff Liaison: Marisa Motley, mmotley@loubar.org

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Co-chairs: Michelle Duncan and John Selent



The Diversity & Inclusion Committee's overarching goal is to help the LBA more closely reflect the community it serves by encouraging persons from groups historically underrepresented in the legal profession to pursue careers in the law and to facilitate full participation by attorneys from such groups in bar programs and activities. Among other things, it plans special events (e.g., Black History Month program, Hispanic Heritage Month celebration) and administers a scholarship program for students at the UofL Brandeis School of Law.



LBA Staff Liaison: Lisa Anspach, lanspach@loubar.org

INVESTMENT

Chair: Mark Franklin



The Investment Committee is responsible for managing the LBA's investment account. It is authorized to engage investment advisors and oversee their activities. It may establish brokerage accounts and make decisions to buy, sell or hold individual assets within guidelines established by the Board of Directors. It also reviews the investment policy statement and recommends any revisions or modifications for approval by the Board of Directors.

LBA Staff Liaison: Kristen Miller, kmiller@loubar.org

PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Chair: Sarah McKenna



The Public Outreach Committee provides opportunities for attorneys to participate in service projects that make Louisville a better community. Current projects include: Back 2 School supply drive, Santa's Court Toy Drive (benefiting The Salvation Army's Angel Tree program), the Summer Law Institute and the High School Intern Program.

LBA Staff Liaison: Marisa Motley, mmotley@loubar.org

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

MARCH 12 MEETING AT 1 PM

Our committee's mission is to promote excellence in legal education by organizing engaging and informative CLE events that cater to the diverse needs of our legal community. Together, we can make a significant impact on the professional development of our fellow attorneys while fostering a supportive environment for knowledge sharing and networking.

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CLE COMMITTEE?
email Lisa Anspach, CLE Director at lanspach@loubar.org

Understanding the Black Robe

Chief Judge Ann Bailey Smith

“Judge Taylor was on the bench, looking like a sleepy old shark, his pilot fish writing rapidly below in front of him. Judge Taylor looked like most judges I had ever seen: amiable, white-haired, slightly ruddy-faced, he was a man who ran his court with an alarming informality—he sometimes propped his feet up, he often cleaned his fingernails with his pocket knife. In long equity hearings, especially after dinner, he gave the impression of dozing, an impression dispelled forever when a lawyer once deliberately pushed a pile of books to the floor in a desperate effort to wake him up. Without opening his eyes, Judge Taylor murmured, ‘Mr. Whitley, do that again and it’ll cost you one hundred dollars.’” From *“To Kill a Mockingbird”* by Harper Lee

I have been a judge for 15 years, six years as a district court judge and nine years on the circuit court bench. A common occurrence in my tenure as a judge is that litigants (and particularly criminal defendants) have difficulty knowing how to address me, both with my title and my name. Now, I can understand that my name can cause some confusion.

When I married, I decided to use Bailey, which had been my last name, as my middle name. I did not hyphenate my names, which is where I believe some confusion arises. So litigants, and even some lawyers, are unsure whether I should be addressed by Smith or Bailey Smith. Rather than getting it wrong (which possibly, but wrongly, they may think would offend me) they stumble over my name or avoid saying it at all. But I am totally baffled by the confusion over my title. Very few litigants refer to me as Judge. Instead, I hear Ms. Smith or Ms. Bailey or Ms. Bailey Smith and a few have even called me Ms. Ann. The nameplate on the front of the bench in Circuit 13 reads JUDGE ANN BAILEY SMITH. Yet, even so, rarely does the word “Judge” come out of their mouths. This is not to say that I believe these individuals are purposefully being disrespectful; in fact, it seems to me that it’s just the opposite, that they are struggling with how best to address me but are falling short of the mark. You might think that the uncertainty would cause them to simply call me Judge, but that doesn’t happen.

In case anyone who is reading this article is wondering, I do wear my judicial robe at all times when I’m presiding in court. Thus, I am appropriately attired for the role of judge. But this black robe does not seem to trigger in the minds of these litigants that I should be called judge. I did a little research on the history of judges wearing black robes on the bench.

As we all know, English judges wore robes and so judges in America followed suit. England’s judges were known to wear colorful robes and, in addition, powdered wigs as they presided over court. These particular traditions did not make their way to America, or at least did not last long if they did. The official portrait of the first chief justice of the United States Supreme Court, John Jay, depicts him wearing a black judicial robe with red sleeves and a red collar with white borders. He served as Chief Justice from 1789-1795, having been appointed by President George Washington.

As the story goes, there was somewhat of a

debate between Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, who were both friends and political rivals, as to whether to adopt the English tradition of judicial robe-wearing. Jefferson was against the carryover of the English tradition of judges wearing robes, describing them as needless official apparel. He was particularly opposed to the wearing of powdered wigs by the judiciary, which he claimed made the English judges look like rats peeking through bunches of ockum (loosely twisted fiber used to seal gaps).

John Adams, on the other hand, favored the pomp and ceremony of judges clad in robes. While robes were worn by American judges, the English custom from the 16th century of wearing a violet robe in winter and a green robe in summer was not adopted on this side of the pond. Most judges, both in state and federal courts, wear robes when presiding in court and, almost uniformly, they are solid black. The color black is associated with seriousness, solemnity and formality. A black robe is identifiable as a symbol of the judiciary but without being distracting.

During her confirmation hearing, Judge (now Justice) Amy Coney Barrett was asked why judges wear black robes and provided this response, “I think the black robe shows that justice is blind. We all address the law the same, and I think it shows that once we put it on, we are standing united symbolically speaking in the name of the law. Not speaking for ourselves as individuals.” Justice Sandra Day O’Connor also had the opportunity to opine about judicial garb when she said, “Today every federal and state judge in the country wears a very similar, simple black robe. I am fond of the symbolism of this tradition. It shows that all of us judges are engaged in upholding the Constitution and the rule of law. We have a common responsibility.”

So, I will continue to preside in Division 13 of Jefferson Circuit Court wearing my black robe. I hope to avoid, however, looking like a sleepy old shark with white hair and a ruddy complexion as Judge Taylor in *“To Kill a Mockingbird”* is described. If that’s what it takes to be called Judge, then I may just have to be content with being called Ms. Ann.

Chief Judge Ann Bailey Smith presides in Division 13 of Jefferson Circuit Court. ■



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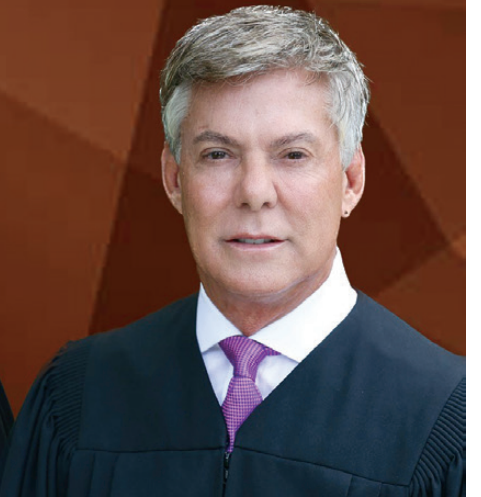
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LOUISVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION

Diversity & Inclusion Committee

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY

Experiences of Black Women in the Law



The LBA Diversity and Inclusion Committee hosted an impactful event titled, “Celebrate Black History: Experiences of Black Women in the Law.” There was a panel discussion, along with the presentation of the Justice William E. McNulty Jr. Trailblazer Award on February 27th at Dinsmore & Shohl. Attendees witnessed a standing-room-only crowd, highlighting the enthusiasm and support for this meaningful occasion.

The distinguished panel featured esteemed speakers such as Kentucky Court of Appeals Judge Pamela R. Goodwine, a trailblazer in her candidacy for the Kentucky Supreme Court; Judge Densie Clayton, renowned as the first Black woman to serve on both the Kentucky Court of Appeals and Jefferson Circuit Court; and Judge Jessica E. Green, recognized as the second Black woman to preside over Jefferson Circuit Court. Michelle L. Duncan, co-chair of the LBA Diversity and Inclusion Committee and a partner at Dinsmore & Shohl, skillfully moderated the discussion.

During the panel, these accomplished individuals shared personal narratives encompassing both triumphs and challenges, highlighting their journeys to the bench, pivotal career moments and the significance of diversity within the legal system. Their insights provided invaluable wisdom and encouragement to the audience.

Following the panel discussion, attorney Demetrius O. Holloway of Stites & Harbison was honored with the 2024 Justice William E. McNulty Jr. Trailblazer Award. The award was presented via video by Dr. Katheryn McNulty, daughter of the late Justice McNulty, recognizing Holloway’s outstanding contributions to the legal profession.



Monthly Health & Wellness Corner

volunteers needed!

2024 PRO SE DIVORCE CLINICS

Pro Se Divorce Clinics are part of the LBA's public outreach to assist pro se litigants complete the self-help proceedings necessary to file for divorce.

In 2023, we hosted 13 clinics where attorney volunteers helped assist pro se litigants in completing their divorce paperwork. On average, each clinic assists four litigants.

Clinics are typically held on Fridays at the Jefferson County Law Library (514 W. Liberty, 2nd Floor). Appointments are available on the hour between 9 a.m. and noon. All necessary training is provided.

2024 CALENDAR

Friday, March 1	Friday, May 17	Friday, August 16	Friday, October 18
Friday, March 15	Friday, June 21	Friday, September 6	Friday, November 1
Friday, April 19	Friday, August 2	Friday, September 20	Friday, November 18

We need 22 attorneys to volunteer **JUST THREE HOURS** to help us assist divorcing parties who can't afford an attorney! To make an appointment or to volunteer, please contact Marisa Motley at mmotley@loubar.org or (502) 583-5314.



PODCAST RECOMMENDATION

The Happiness Lab with Dr. Laurie Santos will take you through the latest scientific research and share some surprising and inspiring stories that will change the way you think about happiness.

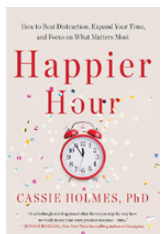
ARTICLE RECOMMENDATION

Making the Case for Sleep: New Science for the Legal Profession

<https://www.lclma.org/2021/01/27/making-the-case-for-sleep-new-science-for-the-legal-profession/>

BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Happier Hour: How to Beat Distraction, Expand Your Time, and Focus on What Matters Most



COURT NEWS

Recruitment Notice for the Criminal Justice Act Trial Attorneys and Mentorship Program Participants

Pursuant to the Criminal Justice Act of 1964, as amended (18 U.S.C. § 3006A) (the "CJA"), the United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky has adopted a plan for providing representation to individuals who are financially unable to retain counsel in certain circumstances.

The plan provides for the establishment of panels of private attorneys who are eligible and willing to be appointed to provide representation under the CJA. Attorneys seeking admission to one of the Court's CJA Panels must be members in good standing of the Kentucky Bar Association for at least four years and admitted to practice before this Court for at least two years preceding the application. Applicants must additionally maintain an office in the division of the CJA Panel for which they seek membership. Specific qualifications are contained in Section VII(C) of the Court's CJA Plan located on the Court's website.

To apply: Attorneys interested in being appointed to a CJA Panel should submit an application, which can be found on the Court's website at <https://www.kywd.uscourts.gov/cja>, via e-mail to CJA_Application@kywd.uscourts.gov anytime from **March 1 to March 31, 2024**. Approval of attorneys for membership on a CJA Panel and the CJA Mentorship Program will be made by the Court after review of all eligible applications, consideration of relevant case data and consultation with the CJA Panel Committee. For more information, please visit www.kywd.uscourts.gov/cja. ■

Probate E-Filing

As of January 1, 2024, all probate cases must now be e-filed. This raises an obvious question for most probate practitioners – namely, how to get a hearing date when you e-file that you know will work for you? To help deal with that, the Jefferson County Clerk's office offers two options for obtaining a date with a new probate filing.

First, when filing the petition, you can send a note to the clerk through the eQueue of dates you are available or dates to avoid and the processing clerk will send a confirmation back to you with the scheduled date.

Second, you can call the Probate Division for available dates and then put the date you received by phone from the division in your e-filing.

Although the new system may not have the same personal interaction as taking a new filing to the probate clerk's office, it at least allows a practitioner to obtain a date they are available. ■

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A Full-Court Press to Fight Food Insecurity

Kentucky Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division Legal Food Frenzy Kicks Off 2024 Campaign

For nearly a decade, Kentucky lawyers have come together — and vigorously competed against each other — to support the Commonwealth's food banks. Not unlike the (mostly) friendly competition we engage in during the end of college basketball season, the Legal Food Frenzy is a time to be proud of your team and the impact it can have on your local community.

The Frenzy is more than a fundraiser. It's an opportunity to increase awareness of food insecurity in Kentucky and emphasize the importance of the Bar's involvement in local communities. As the Kentucky Bar Association's Young Lawyers' Division (YLD) prepares to kick off the 2024 Legal Food Frenzy Campaign, we once again ask for your support of an incredibly important program.

The Legal Food Frenzy is a yearly partnership between the YLD, the Attorney General's Office and Feeding Kentucky. Since its inception in 2017, the Legal Food Frenzy has raised nearly \$375,000 total for Kentuckians fighting food insecurity through friendly competition between lawyers. And this year is no different. The Legal Food Frenzy hopes to raise more than \$50,000 by registering 100 law firms, law schools or corporate legal departments across the Commonwealth.

Importantly, the money raised in each district stays in the local community. For example, Dare to Care Food Bank in Louisville is the beneficiary of all the funds raised by the competing teams



Louisville. The money stays here and helps your neighbors in need.

Each year, that need only becomes greater. Kentuckians continue to fight food insecurity on a daily basis. Indeed, one out of every six adults and one out of every five children in Kentucky face food insecurity — not to mention severe lack of access to healthy food options. Organizations like Dare to Care in Louisville and other food banks across the Commonwealth provide access to those individuals who may not know from where their next meal will come. Each dollar raised purchases 3.5 pounds of food, which is enough to supplement half a plate of fruits and vegetables over the course of five meals. No donation is too small to make a *huge* difference in the lives of your fellow Kentuckians.

The law firm or legal organization that collects the most total pounds of food will be awarded the prestigious Attorney General's Cup at the 2024 KBA Annual Convention. Additionally, the team that collects the most total pounds per attorney will be awarded the Bar President's Award. Awards will also be given based on the leaders in the following categories:

- Solo law firm
- Small law firm
- Mid-sized law firm
- Large law firm
- Corporate legal department
- Government entity
- Law school
- KBA Supreme Court District

All winners will receive their awards during a special luncheon and reception at the Convention, as well as recognition for their achievement in the *Bench & Bar*. In addition to eternal bragging rights and trophies, there will also be March Madness themed prizes awarded throughout the competition.

Start practicing those lay-ups, make sure your bench is deep and be sure to register your team for this year's Legal Food Frenzy which will run from **March 13 – March 29, 2024**. Follow the YLD on Facebook and Instagram for more information about how to sign up for the Frenzy.

Hunger does not get a bye week. With the support of attorneys across our community and the Commonwealth's food banks, like Dare to Care, we can get a slam-dunk against hunger! ■

Trivia benefiting the Legal Food Frenzy

Consider yourself a college basketball expert? Find out on **Thursday, March 7** at **Vernon Lanes** as the LBA's Public Outreach Committee hosts its inaugural trivia night benefiting the KBA's Legal Food Frenzy. Questions will be based on one of Kentucky's favorite pastimes — college basketball! Make sure to dress up representing your favorite teams to get into the March Madness spirit.

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Kentucky's Criminal Justice Landscape: Pending Legislative Reforms and Policy Updates

William (Bill) H. Brammell, Jr. and Gillian Urbaniak

With 2024 now underway, a lot is happening in criminal law and criminal justice reform. First, anyone interested in the criminal justice system in Kentucky should be monitoring the "Safer Kentucky Act," a sweeping reform package currently being considered by the General Assembly. Officially titled House Bill 5, the Act has had a polarizing effect. Its advocates argue that it champions public safety and remain optimistic that it will lead to meaningful reform. On the opposite side of the political spectrum, detractors warn that it criminalizes poverty and homelessness, encourages unnecessarily harsh penalties and runs the risk of encumbering the Commonwealth's courts, jails and prisons.

While the Act is extensive, a few provisions are getting the most attention. Perhaps most relevant to Louisville, **the Act takes aim at reducing homelessness by criminalizing "unlawful camping."** Under the proposed Act, first-time offenders will be subject to a violation, but subsequent offenders (or first-time offenders who refuse to comply) may incur a Class B misdemeanor. Beyond criminalizing "unlawful camping," the Act also includes a "physical force" provision that provides force used against the homeless will be justifiable if it is "occurring on property owned or leased by the defendant, the individual engaged in unlawful camping has been told to cease, and the individual committing the offense has used force or threatened to use force against the defendant." Those who stand by the Act contend that this is a necessary tool, but those opposed fear that it will increase the use of violence against the unhoused.

The Act also aims to **curb drug trafficking by imposing more stringent penalties on offenders.** In this respect, the Act would automatically reclassify a fentanyl trafficking conviction that results in the death of another person to first-degree manslaughter. This particular provision has been met with criticism, as some argue it will only exacerbate the incarceration rate while others assert that the more severe punishment will serve as a deterrence.

Also promoted by the Act is the **"Three Strikes Rule."** If passed into law, any offender who is convicted of three *separate* violent felonies will automatically face life in prison. As to the violent felonies themselves, the Act adds to the list of "violent offenses" under Kentucky law, including first-degree burglary (if a person apart from the burglar is at the scene), first-degree wanton endangerment, second-degree robbery, first-degree strangulation, carjacking and first-degree arson. Balancing the scales a bit, the Act also lessens existing penalties in limited circumstances. For example, a person seeking as-

sistance in preventing another from suffering from a fentanyl overdose would be shielded from prosecution for manslaughter charges stemming from that fentanyl consumption if the Act were to become law.

Second, the General Assembly is also considering the passage of **an Act that would compensate people who were wrongfully convicted** (House Bill 178) by providing \$65,000 for each year of wrongful incarceration; \$25,000 for each year the person spent on parole (or other forms of court-mandated supervision); and \$75,000 for each year for those who were wrongfully on death row. To qualify for compensation a judge would have to issue a certificate of innocence, and the action would have to be filed within two years of a dismissal in the plaintiff's favor or the granting of a pardon (claimants released prior to HB 178 going into effect will have two years from the effective date). Further, if the exoneree has won or settled a civil suit stemming from their wrongful conviction and incarceration, any payment under the Act would be offset by their past award. Notably, Kentucky is one of only 12 states that does not compensate the wrongly convicted.

Third, again very close to home, the **Jefferson County Attorney's Office has instituted a new amnesty docket.** Amnesty dockets are a progressive alternative to the current model, providing a sympathetic approach to those with outstanding bench warrants for low-level and nonviolent offenses. Under this model, these low-level and nonviolent offenders can resolve their cases without fear of being arrested.

Jefferson County's amnesty docket program is the culmination of an effort made by the County Attorney's Office with the support of many public officials, including the office of the Circuit Court Clerk David Nicholson, District Court Chief Judge Jessica Moore, Chief Court Administrator McKay Chauvin, Sheriff John Aubrey, Chief Public Defender Leo Smith and Commonwealth Attorney Gerina Weathers. This program was also brought into existence with help from the Louisville Urban League, private criminal defense bar, the Bail Project, the ACLU and various public officials. To this end, **in 2022, the ACLU and the community raised roughly \$300,000 to pay restitution in**

cases where bench warrants remained outstanding due to the lack of court ordered payment.

There will be three dockets offered: June 7, 8 and 9, at 1 p.m. in Jefferson County District Court. Those interested must sign up online or

in-person at the Hall of Justice by May 31. Cases will be screened for qualification, and those who are eligible will be notified of the date, time and courtroom. Notably, the following cases do not qualify for the amnesty docket: cases involving violent misdemeanors or violent Class D felonies; any domestic violence; any case involving a gun; and any Class A, B or C felonies. Looking to the future, Jefferson County's amnesty docket stands to serve as a steppingstone on the path to criminal justice reform.

Fourth, Republican Senator Chris McDaniel, R-Ryland, has again **proposed to amend the Kentucky Constitution to limit a sitting Governor's power to grant pardons or commute sentences** during the 30 days before a gubernatorial election through the next gubernatorial inauguration. Senate Bill 126 is designed to avoid a repeat of former Governor Matt Bevin's controversial, last-minute pardons, but it is unclear if it has the support to advance. If the bill does pass, then the ultimate decision of whether to change the current law would be left in the hands of Kentucky voters who would have to vote on the constitutional amendment.

Finally, we would be remiss in not mentioning that *there's a new sheriff in town.* **Attorney**

General Russell Coleman was sworn in as the Commonwealth's Chief Law Enforcement Officer in the early morning hours of January 1, 2024, and he hit the ground running. As the former United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, Coleman brings prosecutorial experience to the helm at the Attorney General's Office that it has not seen in decades. AG Coleman has made clear that he wants his administration's emphasis to be on protecting the families of Kentucky. In his first month on the job, he has sought to bolster programs to protect children and has focused his budget on curtailing violent offenses and the flow of drugs into the Commonwealth.

Independently, or together, the policy changes discussed above have the capacity to engender tremendous change in the Commonwealth. No matter where you stand on the issues, make your voice heard. The issues facing the criminal justice system in Kentucky are serious, and it will take serious minds to fix these problems. Only together can we build a more just and accessible Commonwealth.

William (Bill) Brammell, Jr., is the managing partner of Wicker / Brammell, PLLC, a boutique litigation firm focused on federal criminal defense, civil rights defense and complex commercial litigation. He is a member of the Western District of Kentucky's Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Panel, and a proud member of both the Kentucky and National Associations of Criminal Defense Lawyers.



Gillian Urbaniak is an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for the 30th Judicial Circuit of Kentucky, prosecuting felonies and capital offenses in Louisville. ■



“No matter where you stand on the issues, make your voice heard. The issues facing the criminal justice system in Kentucky are serious, and it will take serious minds to fix these problems.”



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2024 PRO SE DIVORCE CLINICS

Legal Aid Society offers monthly divorce clinics to assist pro se petitioners seeking a divorce in Kentucky. Each year, our clinics help hundreds make the first step toward a new future. The need for civil legal assistance is high and we rely on volunteer attorneys to help us meet demand.

UPCOMING PRO SE DIVORCE CLINICS

March 4, 2024 • 9:30 AM - 2 PM • Hardin Co. Public Library

March 6, 2024 • 9:30 AM - 2 PM • Legal Aid Society

March 20, 2024 • 9:30 AM - 2 PM • Legal Aid Society

If you are interested in volunteering, scan the QR code to sign up online or contact John Young, Deputy Director, at JYoung@YourLegalAid.org



save the date

**LEGAL AID SOCIETY'S
WEST LOUISVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE**

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION!

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 • 5:30 PM

Our New Office at the Norton Healthcare

Goodwill Opportunity Campus

Thank you to the donors and supporters of our 100th Anniversary Root to Rise Campaign for making it possible for Legal Aid Society to serve our community better. Special thanks to the following donors: Anonymous, The Gheens Foundation, Kentucky Social Welfare Foundation, Louisville Bar Foundation, Kathy Pellegrino, Republic Bank, Stephen Reily and Emily Bingham, John Selent in memory of William Patrick O'Brien, and R. James Straus.

To RSVP, please contact Austin Desjardins - ADesjardins@YourLegalAid.org.

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LBA BANKRUPTCY LAW SECTION ONE-HOUR NETWORKING LUNCH

Bankruptcy Bench: Perspectives & Precedents – A Roundtable with U.S. Bankruptcy Judges

Monday, March 11

U.S. Bankruptcy Judges Hon. Joan A. Lloyd, Hon. Charles Merrill and Chief Judge Alan C. Stout will discuss practices and procedures before the courts in the Western District of Kentucky. Join us for an engaging one-hour CLE program that promises enriching discussions and practical takeaways. A networking lunch will follow the program.

Speakers: U.S. Bankruptcy Judges **Hon. Joan A. Lloyd, Hon. Charles Merrill and Chief Judge Alan C. Stout**

Time: 11 a.m. – Noon — Program; Noon - 1 p.m. — Networking lunch
Place: Gene Snyder Federal Courthouse, Room 341
Price: \$60 LBA Members | \$52 Sustaining Members | \$25 Paralegal Members | \$25 for qualifying YLS Members | \$35 Solo/Small Practice Section Members | \$45 Government or Non-Profit Members | \$100 Non-members
(cost includes lunch; please indicate if you prefer a vegetarian option)
Credits: 1.0 CLE Hour — Pending

2024 LBA Bankruptcy Law Section Leadership: Jan C. Morris, Lowen & Morris; Charity S. Bird, Kaplan Johnson Abate & Bird and Brian R. Pollock, Stites & Harbison

LBA ONE-HOUR

Kentucky Expungement Law: An Overview

Thursday, May 16

Expungement is the legal process where an arrest, charge or conviction is completely removed from an individual's record. Kentucky does not have automatic expungement of criminal convictions. An individual must file with the court of charge/conviction to obtain an expungement. In Kentucky, most misdemeanors and class D felonies are expungable. This program will provide an overview of current Kentucky law and the process for filing and representing an individual seeking expungement.

Speaker: **Miranda J. Hellman**, Staff Attorney, Department of Public Advocacy, The Kentucky Innocence Project

Time: Noon – 1 p.m. — Program
Place: Zoom – a link will be sent prior to the seminar
Price: \$40 LBA Members | \$36 Sustaining Members | \$15 Paralegal Members | \$15 for qualifying YLS Members | \$25 Solo/Small Practice Section Members, Government or Non-Profit Members | \$80 Non-members
Credits: 1.0 CLE Hour — Pending

LBA DIVERSITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE ONE-HOUR

Constitutional Law Earthquakes: SCOTUS, Dobbs & SFFA

Friday, March 22

The program will trace the doctrinal development and constitutional history of two landmark decisions: Dobbs and SFFA. Both decisions signal doctrinally significant developments in the Court's decision-making authority and how it conceptualizes rights. Under its substantive due process jurisprudence, the Court has been consistently shifting more regulatory power to the states, until Roe, Casey and decades of precedent were ultimately overruled. The same can be said, although in a different context, under the Court's Fourteenth Amendment and race jurisprudence. This session will discuss what these cases say about shifts in how the Court uses its power.

Speaker: *Cedric Merlin Powell*, University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law

Time: Noon – 1 p.m. — Program
Place: Zoom – a link will be sent prior to the seminar
Price: \$40 LBA Members | \$36 Sustaining Members | \$15 Paralegal Members | \$15 for qualifying YLS Members | \$25 Solo/Small Practice Section Members, Government or Non-Profit Members | \$80 Non-members
Credits: 1.0 CLE Hour — Approved

2024 LBA Diversity & Inclusion Committee Leadership: Michelle L. Duncan, Dinsmore & Shohl and John E. Selent, Dinsmore & Shohl

MESA ONE-HOUR

Exploring the Litigation Frontier: Using AI for Case Assessment and Initial Pleadings

Thursday, March 28

Discover the future of legal practice in this cutting-edge webinar designed specifically for forward-thinking litigators. In this interactive program, you will learn how Artificial Intelligence (AI) can be your "first officer" as you navigate client engagement, case investigation, strategy development and even drafting your initial pleadings. Don't miss this opportunity to be at the forefront of legal innovation and elevate your practice with the skills to navigate the exciting world of AI in law.

Speaker: **Sean Carter**, MESA CLE

Time: 1 – 2 p.m. — Program
Place: Zoom – a link will be sent prior to the seminar
Price: \$55 LBA Members | \$50 Sustaining Members | \$25 Paralegal Members | \$125 Non-members
Credits: 1.0 CLE Hour — Pending

Please note this is a partnered CLE program. Please register through MESA CLE, and attendees must follow MESA CLE's cancellation policy.

LBA CORPORATE LAW SECTION ONE-HOUR

Mastering the New Corporate Transparency Act

Wednesday, April 17

The Corporate Transparency Act, which became effective this year, is perhaps the most consequential federal legislation in recent memory. The Act's purpose is to create a new national database of businesses that will be maintained by the U.S. Treasury and will be accessible by federal and state law enforcement and most financial institutions. All businesses need to understand the Act's scope and exemptions to know whether they are subject to Act, and if so, what are their reporting obligations. This program for in-house legal counsel will cover the Act, its requirements, current developments and best practices.

Speaker: **William T. Repasky**, Frost Brown Todd

Time: Noon – 1 p.m. — Program
Place: Zoom – a link will be sent prior to the seminar
Price: \$40 LBA Members | \$36 Sustaining Members | \$15 Paralegal Members | \$15 for qualifying YLS Members | \$25 Solo/Small Practice Section Members, Government or Non-Profit Members | \$80 Non-members
Credits: 1.0 CLE Hours — Pending

2024 LBA Corporate Law Section Leadership: Ryan G. Stevens, Frost Brown Todd and Maci B. Followell, Frost Brown Todd

ANNUAL LBA PROBATE & ESTATE PLANNING SECTION + KY CPA SOCIETY SOCIETY

6th Annual Estate Planning Conference

Wednesday, June 12

Join us for a day of insights and expertise at the annual LBA Probate & Estate Planning Section and Ky CPA Society's 6th Annual Estate Planning Conference. Discover the latest trends, strategies and best practices in estate planning from industry leaders. More details to be announced soon!

Speakers: TBA

Time: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. — Program
Place: Hybrid (at the Ky CPA Society and via Zoom)
Credits: Pending

(CLE continued on next page)

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LBA LABOR & EMPLOYMENT LAW SECTION + UoFL BRANDEIS SCHOOL OF LAW

The Carl A. Warns, Jr. & Edwin R. Render Labor & Employment Law Institute

Thursday, June 20 and Friday, June 21

The LBA Labor & Employment Law Section is thrilled to partner with the Brandeis School of Law to host the Annual Carl A. Warns, Jr. & Edwin R. Render Labor & Employment Law Institute. This year's Institute will provide high-quality continuing legal education to our local and regional communities. Through a collaborative dialogue between academics, government officials and practitioners, attendees will enhance their knowledge and skills in this dynamic area of law. This will be an inclusive forum where employees, union representatives and management-side representatives are all welcome.

Speakers: TBA

Time: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. — Program
Place: UofL Shelby Campus, Founders Union
Price: \$480 LBA Members | \$432 Sustaining Members | \$100 Paralegal Members | \$100 for qualifying YLS Members | \$100 Solo/Small Practice Section Members | \$220 Government or Non-Profit Members | \$960 Non-members
Credits: 12.0 CLE Hours, including 2.0 ethics hours — Pending

Labor & Employment Law Section Leadership: Rudy J. Ellis III, Dinsmore & Shohl and Marianna Melendez, Jefferson County Public Schools

LBA & LOUIS D. BRANDEIS INN OF COURT

14th Annual Lively M. Wilson Memorial Lecture Series on Ethics, Professionalism and Civility

Wednesday, June 26

This annual program focuses on civility and professionalism in the legal profession. More details to come!

Speakers: TBA

Time: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. — Program
Place: Zoom – a link will be sent prior to the seminar
Price: \$80 LBA Members | \$72 Sustaining Members | \$15 Paralegal Members | \$15 for qualifying YLS Members | \$25 Solo/Small Practice Section Members, Government or Non-Profit Members | \$160 Non-members
Credits: 2.0 CLE Hours — Pending

THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTION SOCIETY & THE LBA APPELLATE LAW SECTION

Annual Supreme Court Update

Friday, June 28

The seminar will address the key cases before the U.S. Supreme Court during October Term 2023. The court will recap key opinions from the previous year, discuss any new or continuing trends at the Court and preview the upcoming Term.

Speakers: **Michael P. Abate**, Kaplan Johnson Abate & Bird; **Pamela S. Karlan**, Stanford Law School; and more to be announced.

Time: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. — Program
Place: Zoom – a link will be sent prior to the seminar
Price: \$80 LBA Members | \$72 Sustaining Members | \$15 Paralegal Members | \$15 for qualifying YLS Members | \$25 Solo/Small Practice Section Members, Government or Non-Profit Members | \$160 Non-members
Credits: 2.0 CLE Hours — Pending



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The Judge From Central Casting

Judge A.C. McKay Chauvin

It has been said – and I know because I’m the one who said it – that for most lawyers, the only judges they consider to be *real* judges are the judges who were already comfortably seated on the bench when they first stood uncomfortably before it. Judge Edwin Schroering was one of my *real* judges. He served in Division 12 of the Jefferson Circuit Court from 1983 until 1999, after having served as the Jefferson County Commonwealth’s Attorney for twelve years. To fully appreciate how remarkable that is in and of itself, consider that in the ten years I was an Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney I served under four different Commonwealth’s Attorneys, and since Judge Schroering’s retirement – only slightly longer than the amount of time he was on the bench – there have been six judges sitting in Division 12.*

While there may have been a total of seven judges to serve in Division 12, Judge Schroering was the *first* and, moreover, was an original. Even Judge Smith Haynie dubbed Schroering as, “the judge from central casting” – the judge any Hollywood casting director worth their union dues would cast in any major motion picture or TV drama because he absolutely *looked* the part. (NOTE: This assertion holds true even if the production was set in the United Kingdom instead of the United States because, in addition to having his own robe, Judge Schroering also had a full-on authentic British bench wig, which he would don occasionally for his audience of lawyers and court staff’s amusement and delight.) However, and unlike those movie and TV judges, in addition to and far more importantly than just *looking* like a judge, Judge Schroering had the *presence* and the *demeanor* of a judge.

He listened with inexhaustible patience. He presided with both tremendous dignity and boundless good humor and, very much unlike the aforementioned pretend judges, was unfailingly courteous and kind to *everyone* who appeared before him. To the lawyers of my generation, his soft-spoken, polite manner appeared quaint but entirely unaffected. He spoke that way and acted that way because he was that way.

In discussing this with a number of colleagues who had the great good fortune to practice before Judge Schroering, we decided the word that best describes his disposition in the courtroom would be, appropriately enough, “courtly.” This was true even, or especially, during the worst and most emotionally charged moments in court. The best example being the legendary judicial catchphrase with which Judge Schroering would end any sentencing hearing in which he was obliged to sentence the defendant to serve time in the penitentiary. “You may be remanded,” he would say, with such sincerity and extreme politeness that more often than not the person being led out of the courtroom in handcuffs would turn to him and say, “thank you.”

The other common theme running throughout the stories told about Judge Schroering was how *funny* he was. My friend Bill



Judge Edwin Schroering, Jr.

Adams tells the story about the time he had to ask to continue a trial set in Division 12 because his lead officer was required to be at a training seminar that week. Judge Schroering’s response was, “Ah yes. I see. Too busy practicing to play the game.” That’s a funny thing to say but, as any genuinely funny person you know will tell you, it’s not just *what* you say, but *how* you say it – *timing* and *delivery* – and Judge Schroering had both. But my personal favorite example of his presence, demeanor, timing and delivery is one that I think was very underappreciated by those not in on the joke. From time to time judges hear a lawyer make an argument that is so overblown, hyperbolic and out of touch with the reality of the situation that it’s plain *silly*. When a judge hears an argument like that, his or her two basic choices are: (1) berate the lawyer for making it; or (2) ignore it and move on. Judge Schroering was the *master*, if not the author, of the *third* option. What *he* would do is summarize the preposterous argument the lawyer had just made *but* make it even *more* preposterous. For example, he might say, and I’m not quoting here verbatim but I’m also not exaggerating even a little bit:

“Well, now ... let me see ... counsel for the Defendant says that while it is *true* that his client did cause the victim’s death by shooting him, the Court should keep in mind that the victim is the *only* person he’s ever shot *and* killed *and* that he only fired *four* of the six shots that were in the weapon at the time. *He* says that although the Defendant, as one does under such circumstances, lied to the police about having shot anyone and only *later* came up with

the self-protection claim that was soundly rejected by the jury – one might assume because the victim was *unarmed* and shot in the back – now that he’s been convicted, the Defendant wants us to know that he is sorry. As such, counsel suggests that it would be best if we allowed the Defendant to put all of this unpleasantness behind him. After all, he points out, it’s not like sending his client to the penitentiary will bring the victim back to life, so the court should allow him to get back to and *on* with his life – let bygones be bygones as it were. And then finally, he suggests that his client has quite probably learned a valuable lesson from this experience and, so far as counsel knows, as the Defendant sits here today, he has no immediate plans to shoot and kill anyone else. Now – what says the Commonwealth?”

I don’t know how a Judge Schroering-esque re-summation reads on paper, but I remember *exactly* how they sounded when I heard them in the courtroom. The *genius* of his presence, demeanor and delivery was his ability to say something as only he could, so saturated with sarcasm and scorn without sounding the least bit sarcastic or scornful. That same presence, demeanor and delivery led the cadre of young prosecutors at the Commonwealth Attorney’s office (where his nephew and our friend Steve Schroering was working at the time) to affectionately refer to Judge Schroering as “Uncle Ed.” Which I have to say, in the pantheon of colorful names lawyers have been known to come up with for the judges they appear before, is, much like Judge Schroering himself, uniquely kind and gentle. And I like to think that if he knew we spoke and thought of him that way (which I do not believe he did) that he would have been amused.

It was a privilege to know Judge Schroering. It was a wonderful gift to have his fine example to follow. He lived a life full of committed service to his community. He was a fine jurist. He was a good man. Rest in peace, “Uncle Ed.” You may be remanded to heaven.

* Those six judges are, in chronological order of succession: Judge Tom McDonald, Judge Roger Crittenden, Judge McKay Chauvin, Judge Kathleen Voor Montano, Judge Angela McCormick Bisig and Judge Patricia “Tish” Morris.

Judge Edwin Schroering, Jr. served as an Assistant United States Attorney, as the Commonwealth’s Attorney in Jefferson County for 12 years and as a judge on the Jefferson Circuit Court from 1978 through 1999. Judge Schroering passed away on January 29, 2024, at the age of 94. Edwin Anthony Schroering Jr. Obituary – Courier-Journal.

Judge A.C. McKay Chauvin, retired Jefferson Circuit Court judge, is the Chief Court Administrator for Jefferson County. ■



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Renovated Bar Center Almost Complete

After undergoing extensive renovations since October, the Bar Center is almost ready for its debut. Thanks to the collaborative efforts of local design firm ID+A and the Schaefer Company, the Bar Center has undergone a stunning transformation, bringing to life the vision set by the Bar Center Use Review Committee.

To celebrate this milestone, the Louisville Bar Association invites members and the community to join in a grand celebration on Thursday, April 25. We will begin the festivities with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, officially unveiling the revamped space. The day will conclude with the LBA's Annual Bench & Bar Social, providing an opportunity for members to see their new Bar Center firsthand. Join us as we toast to our members and the future of our Bar Association.

GRAND PRIZE:

A Getaway to the Luxurious & Historic Greenbrier Resort

Enjoy three nights/four days on a majestic 6,500-acre award-winning resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. Surrounded by the wondrous Allegheny Mountains, The Greenbrier offers championship golf, fine dining, a 40,000-square-foot world-class spa and a 103,000-square-foot gaming and entertainment venue, as well as more than 50 activities. Find out more at www.greenbrier.com. Package includes a \$500 VISA gift card to use for your entertainment and dining enjoyment. Package Value: \$2,500. *Raffle Package generously donated by Phil Eschels.*



Greenbrier

2nd Prize: A Nulu "Staycation" Package

Enjoy a staycation package that offers a night of lodging, entertainment and dining in Nulu, Louisville's East Market District. This package includes a one-night stay for up to four guests at Re-Nu Container Homes, an Airbnb unit in a modern residential building made from recycled shipping containers, just blocks from Nulu's boutiques, restaurants and nightlife (subject to availability). Enjoy a dinner of fresh housemade pasta or brick oven pizza at Bar Vetti, an upscale Italian eatery (\$200 gift certificate), and top off the night with drinks at Lucky Penny, the speakeasy tucked into a hidden location at Hotel Genevieve (\$100 gift certificate). Package Value: \$500. *Raffle prize lodgings generously donated by Loren Prizant.*



Nulu "Staycation"

3rd Prize: A Barrelful of Brew and Stash of Cash

Coming in third does not mean coming in last – not for bourbon lovers! The person holding the winning raffle ticket for this prize will receive our signature "barrelful of brew," and a potential stash of cash. The winner will haul away a tub containing a selection of Kentucky's best bourbons. Invite friends over and create your own flights using this tub of exotic and exquisite bourbons. And, while you're sipping, sort through the pile of Kentucky scratch-off lotto tickets you've won and see how much cash is yours! Package Value: \$400. **Photo for marketing purposes and not an exact replica.*



Barrelful of Brew



Raffle Grand Prize

Greenbrier Weekend Getaway



\$25 a ticket.
Limited number will be sold.

Winner to be announced at the LBA's Bench & Bar Social on April 25. Need not be present to win.

To purchase raffle tickets, please see an LBF board member, scan the QR Code or contact LBF Executive Director, Jeff Been, at (502) 292-6734 or jbeen@loubar.org. Tickets will also be available for purchase at the LBA's Bench & Bar Social.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25
5:30 – 8:00PM



THE BAR CENTER
600 W. MAIN ST., STE. 110

Bench & Bar Social

Please join the Louisville Bar Association at our newly renovated space on the corner of 6th and Main for the legal community's premiere gathering, the 2024 Bench & Bar Social.



LBA through the stages... Come and see us now!

Pricing*

LBA Members: \$75 | Government/Public Service Attorneys and YLS members: \$65 | Non-Members: \$150

Firm sponsorships available

*Price goes up after April 12. Please RSVP by April 18. If you have any questions, contact (502) 583-5314 or mmotley@loubar.org.

LBA Committee Meetings

LBA CLE Committee Meeting – MEMBERS WANTED!
 Tuesday, March 12 | 1:00 p.m. | Zoom

LBA Diversity & Inclusion Committee Meeting
 Wednesday, March 13 | 4:00 p.m. | Zoom

Please RSVP to Lisa Anspach, lanspach@loubar.org. ■

Association of Legal Administrators

The monthly chapter meeting of the Kentucky Association of Legal Administrators will be held in person on Thursday, March 7 beginning at 11:45 am at the office of Frost Brown Todd in Louisville (400 W. Market St., Ste. 3200); and Lexington (250 W. Main St., Ste. 2800). Guests are welcome to join us for lunch. RSVP to Mary M. Hackworth, mmhackworth@kopkalaw.com. ■

Women Lawyers Association

The Jefferson County Women Lawyers Association will hold its March meeting at noon on Thursday, March 14, in the Crown Room of the Judicial Center (6th floor). Guest speaker, Gretchen Hunt, will be speaking about her work as the Director of the Louisville Metro Office for Women. Visit the WLA website <https://wlajeffco.com/> to register for the event. ■

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 1 large open space with enough room for 3 - 4 desks for support staff
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 Call Laura Garrett @ 502-582-2900

Help Wanted

Pro Se Law Clerk:
 The United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky is seeking a temporary part-time (20 hours per week) pro se law clerk. The duty station may be in Louisville, Paducah, Owensboro, Bowling Green or fully remote. Position is currently funded through 12/31/2024, but may be continued beyond that dependent upon funding. Closing date: March 8, 2024 or until filled. For duties, qualifications, benefits and to apply [Click Here](#) or visit <https://www.kywd.uscourts.gov>.

Help Wanted

Through the LBA Placement Service
Criminal & Civil Rights Attorney:
 The LBA's Placement Service is working with a boutique law office in downtown Louisville that is known for its white-collar criminal defense and constitutional civil rights practice. They are seeking a litigation associate to join their firm. Attorney candidates must have at least two+ years of experience with civil or criminal litigation in Kentucky. Must be able to write compelling legal documents with precision and clarity. Excellent salary based on experience, plus a comprehensive benefits package. Send resumes in MS Word format to the LBA Placement Service Director, David Mohr, dmohr@loubar.org.

Medical Defense Attorney:
 The LBA is working with a growing medical defense law office located on the east side of Louisville that is seeking to add an attorney to their practice. They would like a two+ year lawyer with experience in medical malpractice, long term care or injury law. The ability to work with medical records or learn how to work with medical records is a must. Excellent writing and communication skills are required. Prior litigation/court experience (of any kind) is required. Court appearances (some requiring travel to all parts of the state) are necessary. If there are no candidates fitting this role, they are willing to train the right person. The practice is highly litigious with a lot of motion practice, brief writing and arguments. The non-experienced candidate needs to have a strong background in those areas (or just a strong backbone) and be willing to learn the medical side. The job is full-time. Salary is competitive for the size of the firm and based on experience. 1800/hrs billable goal. Excellent benefits package, plus discretionary bonuses twice a year. Send resumes in MS Word format to the LBA Placement Service Director, David Mohr, dmohr@loubar.org.

Real Estate Closing Attorney:
 The LBA's Placement Service is working with a comprehensive title agency located on the east side of Louisville that is seeking to hire a real estate/closing attorney to join their team. At least one year of prior real estate law experience is preferred. Must have an active bar license in Kentucky and be in good standing. Candidate will conduct in-office and out of office closings, and draft real estate transaction documents including deeds, subordinations, power of attorney, mortgage satisfactions, and affidavits. This is a full-time position with pay based on candidate/experience, plus full benefits and PTO. Send resumes in MS Word format to the LBA Placement Service Director, David Mohr, dmohr@loubar.org.

Advertising copy is carefully reviewed, but publication herein does not imply LBA endorsement of any product or service. The publisher reserves the right to reject any advertisement of questionable taste or exaggerated claims or which competes with LBA products, services or educational offerings.

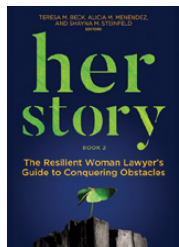


Dear loyal LBA Career Placement customers,

As part of our ongoing commitment to serve the Louisville legal community, we have ensured our services remain accessible to firms of all sizes. Despite operating cost increases, we have refrained from adjusting our fee agreement for more than a decade. However, to sustain the quality of our services, a nominal adjustment is necessary. Effective immediately, our fee agreement will increase from 7.5% to 9%. We sincerely appreciate your continued support and trust in our services. For any questions, please contact David Mohr at dmohr@loubar.org.

Women's History Month Resources

BOOK RECOMMENDATION



Her Story: The Resilient Woman Lawyer's Guide to Conquering Obstacles, Book 2 is a collection of essays that tell us that we are not alone, that there is a sisterhood in the legal profession that supports us, and that we can learn from one another and lift up others who share our experiences.

ARTICLE RECOMMENDATION



"What We Learned From Walking in the Footsteps of Harriet Tubman"
<https://ideas.ted.com/what-we-learned-from-walking-in-the-footsteps-of-harriet-tubman/>

PODCAST RECOMMENDATION



Sisters In Conversation
 The podcast focuses on profiling women in the legal profession with the purpose of celebrating their achievements and amplifying their voices.

MEMBERS *on the move*



Betz



Cantor



Cave



Collins



Gibbs



Girdley



Kinderman



Maloff



Neal



Zoeller

Blackburn Domene & Burchett is pleased to announce that **Jeremy A. Collins** has joined the firm as an attorney. Collins earned his J.D. from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law in 2023 and practices in the areas of insurance defense, tort, premises liability and commercial litigation. Before joining Blackburn Domene & Burchett, Collins practiced in the areas of personal injury, medical malpractice, general civil litigation, domestic relations and estate planning at a private law firm in Morganfield, Kentucky. In law school, Jeremy clerked at an administrative and employment law firm and received a legal externship from the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney.

Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs is pleased to welcome **Brandon A. Girdley** to its Louisville office. Girdley will be joining the firm's Litigation & Dispute Resolution and Labor & Employment Service Teams. He will also assist other clients in all aspects of commercial disputes, tort and insurance defense, appellate, and labor and employment issues. Prior to joining Wyatt, Girdley clerked for U.S. District Judge William Bertelsman. He received his J.D. from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law where he graduated *summa cum laude* and was the Editor in Chief of the Law Review.

Continuing the substantial growth of its Louisville office, McBrayer has added attorney **Alec Betz** to its team of attorneys. Betz comes to McBrayer with experience in corporate transactions, entertainment law and commercial real estate. Prior to practicing law, he served for 12 years as a Green Beret in Iraq and Afghanistan.

U'Sellis Mayer & Associates is pleased to announce that **Richard E. Neal** and **Allison A. Zoeller** have been named partners with the firm. Neal has been with the firm for 13 years, with his tenure having been interrupted by serving a term as a Kentucky workers' compensation Administrative Law Judge. Zoeller has been with the firm for nine years. Both Neal and Zoeller will continue to focus their practice

on insurance defense, primarily handling Kentucky workers' compensation claims on behalf of employers and their insurance carriers, as well as self-insured employers and third-party administrators.

Seiller Waterman announces that after more than 25 years of exceptional leadership and dedication to the firm as Managing Partner, **David Cantor** has made the decision to step back from his current role. Cantor has been an integral part of Seiller Waterman, guiding the firm through multiple mergers, countless challenges and contributing to its growth and reputation. Seiller Waterman is pleased to announce that a new Managing Partner will be taking the helm. **R. Kenneth Kinderman** will be taking the role, bringing with him a wealth of experience, leadership and fresh perspectives. Kinderman has been a partner with the firm since 2013. His practice areas include business and tax law.

Dentons welcomes **Michael Maloff** as a partner in our Louisville office. As a member of Dentons' Real Estate practice, Maloff represents borrowers, owners, developers, hospitality companies, operators, private equity companies, institutional investors, lenders and restaurateurs in all aspects of hospitality law and commercial real estate ownership, finance, development, management, leasing, acquisition and disposition. He is a graduate of Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law.

Stites & Harbison welcomes attorney **Donovan D. Gibbs II** to the firm based in the Louisville office. He joins the Intellectual Property & Technology Service Group. Gibbs' practice focuses on counseling clients in litigation and transactional matters involving intellectual property. Prior to joining Stites & Harbison, Gibbs worked at Humana, Inc. as a Compliance Oversight and Program Advancement, Legal and Business Advisor. He also served as an intellectual property attorney for a small firm in Louisville. Gibbs earned his J.D. from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law in 2020.

Stites & Harbison is pleased to announce that attorney **Jennifer J. Cave** has been appointed Chair of the firm's Environmental, Energy & Sustainability Service Group. Cave is a Member (Partner) of the firm's Louisville office and works closely with businesses to ensure compliance with local, state and federal environmental laws and regulations. Cave advises clients on air quality, storm water, wastewater and solid and hazardous waste permitting and compliance requirements and defends clients in administrative, civil and criminal enforce-

ment actions. She also regularly counsels equipment manufacturers on the importation and sale of mobile sources under the Clean Air Act and guides clients through transactions involving the purchase and sale of contaminated properties.

Southern Business & Development magazine has recognized **Stites & Harbison** in the 2023 edition of "The South's Best Economic Development Law Firms," a directory produced once every five years. Out of the 24 law firms honored across the region, Stites & Harbison is one of only two Kentucky firms honored. The firm was also honored in the previous directory published in 2018. The law firms identified in the directory are chosen based on *Southern Business & Development* magazine's knowledge of economic development in the south as well as a poll of the Southern Economic Development Roundtable. ■

Did you know that Members on the Move announcements are

FREE

Let us know what you've been up to!
Send announcements to sgreer@loubar.org

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Annual Estate Planning Institute

Tuesday, June 18
08:30AM - 04:30 PM
Bar Center, 600 W. Main St.

Designed for estate professionals, the Estate Planning Institute provides top-notch instruction on current issues in the field, catering to a diverse audience. Our relevant topics ensure a comprehensive learning experience for all, helping you stay ahead in the evolving landscape of estate planning.

For more information and to register visit www.loubar.org



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Family Law, Immigration Law, Criminal Defense



Why did you first join the LBA?

I had always planned on getting active, but I must admit I was a little shy to make the move. One of the last things anyone would ever confuse me with is shy, but such is the case. When I started working with Fernandez & Moloney, my good friend and (now boss) Maria Fernandez encouraged me to get involved. And the rest is history.

What do you love about practicing in Louisville?

I love working in a culturally diverse community that's very much a big city with a small-town feel.

Tips for new members?

Get as active as possible. Whether you're going to social events and/or getting involved with service projects, do your best to network and get your name out there. Most Kentucky attorneys live and work in Jefferson County. It's very easy get overlooked. Do your best to stand out.

Favorite podcast?

Democracy Now!

Favorite book?

"Our Revolution" by Bernie Sanders

Favorite song?

Anything by KISS.

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