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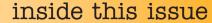
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letter from the president



Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness

As we watch the firework shows this Fourth of July surrounded by our family and friends, let us pause for a moment to count our blessings, and remember all those who have fought to protect the constitution of The United States of America.

Thanks to the bravery and foresight of the revolutionaries who signed the Declaration of Independence, we as attorneys can continue the work of our forefathers, to protect the unalienable rights of all humans.

As President of the Broward County Bar Association, I would like to recognize, and thank our BCBA members who are veterans, and those whose family members have served in the armed forces to defend

our nation.

This year, with the assistance of the board of directors and the BCBA staff led by Executive Director Braulio Rosa, we will work to continue to bring value to your membership. Please take the opportunity to review our member benefits and discounts offered by our sponsors and utilize their services to show them your appreciation of their support of the BCBA.

We will continue to be a voice for our members, advocating against proposals like reciprocity and for-profit lawyer referral service expansion. It is also my goal to develop an online catalog of CLE courses, stream a live webinar broadcast, and implement a long-term redevelopment plan for the Bar Center. As a BCBA member you too are welcome to get involved, and use your talents to benefit this worthwhile organization.

I consider it an honor to serve as President. Since my beginnings in the North Broward Bar I have enjoyed meeting our members. One of the many advantages to being a BCBA member is the relationships you will create, and I am proud to consider the more than 3,300 BCBA members, part of my work family. I encourage you to continue to recruit your colleagues to join this valuable organization, and do not forget to save-the-date for the 2017 Bench-Bar Convention.

The 2017 Bench-Bar Convention on Friday, October 20, 2017 at Broward County Convention Center will feature a judiciary panel plenary, keynote lunch speakers, and an afternoon plenary session, sure to appeal to attorneys and judges from Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. This year we will welcome recently appointed Florida Supreme Court Justice C. Alan Lawson.

For additional information regarding the 2017 Bench-Bar Convention, sponsorship levels, and tickets, available at \$0 for Judiciary BCBA members, \$195 for BCBA members, and \$235 for non-members, please call 954-832-3618 or visit https://www.browardbenchandbar.org/.

Thank you again for the warm welcome I have received as your president. May God continue to bless each of you, your families, and this Great Country.

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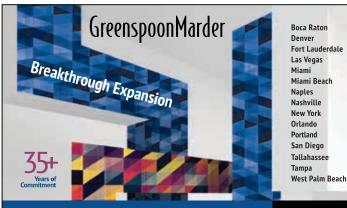
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letter from the young lawyers' president



Sara M. Sandler

When I was fresh out of law school and just starting my career, there were many uncertainties. I had the good fortune of finding a great job at an incredible law firm, but the idea of actually being a lawyer felt overwhelming. When my legal assistant handed me a box of business cards with my name printed on them, I hadn't the slightest idea what I would ever do with a box full of fancy cardstock, but I knew things had just gotten real. I happened to have started my career as BCBA Past-President, Deborah FitzGerald, was serving as Secretary on the Board of Directors for the BCBA. With some encouragement and guidance from Deborah, I decided to get involved with the Young Lawyers Section. I wasn't quite sure what I would be getting myself into, but, at the very least, I figured I could hand out some of my business cards.

I am now beginning my eighth year as a member of the YLS Board of Directors and truly

honored to be doing so as your recently installed YLS President. I can tell you that YLS proved to be so much more than a means of handing out that fancy cardstock. The work I have been able to do in our community through YLS has been truly meaningful and fulfilling. The connections I have been able to make with fellow attorneys and members of the judiciary will be long-lasting. The opportunities that have come my way, thanks to the benefits of being a YLS member, are those I could not find elsewhere. I know your membership with YLS can do the same for you.

We have had an incredible year under the leadership of Todd Baker. Through Todd's efforts, and his predecessor, Jeff Wank, we have had the privilege of being named the Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division's Affiliate of the Year two years in a row. We also had a record amount of participation from our membership, which allowed us to put on more events, volunteer more in our community, and raise more money for local charities than ever before. I am hoping to maintain Todd's momentum as we begin our new year, but I can't do that without you, our members. How can you get involved with YLS? Let me count the ways.

If you want to get involved in your community, consider volunteering with our Lawyers for Literacy program, at our annual Holiday in February event, at National Adoption Day, or join us as we visit the children at Broward Children's Center. If you're looking to sharpen your skills as an attorney, attend one of our award-winning Boot Camp sessions or any one of our CLE approved luncheons. If networking is what you're looking for, attend one of our Breakfasts with the Judiciary, any one of our monthly socials and sweatworking events, or our signature event, the Judicial Reception. This year, we are also excited to be hosting our 30th Annual Charity Golf Tournament, benefitting 4Kids of South Florida. Looking to get even more involved? Join one of our committees and take a more active role in helping us put our events together or even see one of your own events come to fruition.

We have an amazing year ahead. Our Board of Directors is stronger than ever, our membership is more active than ever, and, thanks to the BCBA's Executive Director, Braulio Rosa, and his incredible team, we have all the tools we need to continue to do great and positive work in our community and provide quality services and events for our membership. I encourage you to not only be a part of our efforts, but to be an active part of our efforts. Get involved and stay involved. Attend our upcoming Town Hall Meeting in August to learn more about our committees and all the ways you can get involved in YLS. We are here to assist you in any way we can to make the most of your membership. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me should you have any questions about YLS or thoughts on improving our programming. I'm looking forward to working with you all in the year to come.

Until next time, keep truckin'. B

Thomas Daniel Oates Installed as 2017-2018 BCBA President

by Katherine Joffe





Thomas Daniel Oates caught a slot sized snook off New Turkey Key, in Everglades National Park, in the Ten Thousand Islands.

Thomas Daniel Oates with wife Jennifer, and their three children

Thomas Daniel Oates was recently sworn in as the Broward County Bar Association's 92nd President by The Honorable Jack Tutor, Chief Judge of the Circuit, at the annual installation dinner. At the annual BCBA meeting and installation dinner Oates was surrounded by family, as he was introduced by The Honorable Louis Schiff. In September, Schiff, author of "Baseball and the Law," David Samson, the President of the Miami Marlins, and Oates partnered with Nova Southeastern University's Shepard School of Law to host a first of its kind CLE game night at Marlins Park.

The event at Marlins Park is just one of Oates' many accomplishments in integrating his legal practice with the local community. From an early age, his father taught him respect for the law, and the importance of being active in the Bar. While still in grade school, Oates remembers accompanying his father to meetings of the North Broward Bar at Pompano's Flaming Pit Restaurant. Oates still holds on to some of the original 1980s records reflecting his attendance.

Oates volunteered and served as a member of the BCBA for many years. Most recently he served as BCBA President-Elect, and formerly held the positions of Treasurer, Secretary, and Director. He also served twice as the North Broward Bar Association (now the BCBA North Section) President (2013-2014) and (2009-2010), and Secretary/ Treasurer (2005-2006). Since 2008, Oates has presided as a Volunteer Judge for Broward County Teen Court in the Youthful Offender Diversion Program at the Deerfield Beach Courthouse.

Oates is a past Board Chair of the Lawyer Refer-

ral Service; former Technology Committee Chair; and Board Liaison to the Intellectual Property Section. From 2010 to 2012, Oates served on the advisory board of the Florida Bar's Law Office Management Assistance Service (LOMAS). He is a member of the Attorney's Real Estate Council of Broward County (since 2014), and Attorney's Title Insurance Fund (since 2003).

Oates graduated from The University of Florida, Warrington College of Business in 2001 with a Bachelor of Science in Decision and Information Sciences. In 2003, Oates graduated from Stetson University College of Law, Florida's first law school, which was recently ranked #1 in trial advocacy and #4 in legal writing education by U.S. News 2018 "Best Grad Schools." Before graduating from law school, Oates worked as a Certified Legal Intern, and once admitted to the Florida Bar in the Spring of 2004, he served as an Assistant Public Defender for the Sixth Judicial Circuit covering Pinellas County.

Oates' South Florida ties run deep. He is a second-generation native and grew up in Lighthouse Point. In 2005, Oates returned to his hometown and partnered with his father, Daniel E. Oates, to form Oates & Oates P.A. (PompanoLaw.com) where he practices litigation, business transactions, real estate, estate planning and probate.

He currently resides in Lighthouse Point with his wife Jennifer and their three children, ranging in age from 5 years to 5 months. In August, his oldest son will start kindergarten at Alexander D. Henderson University School, in Boca Raton, where Oates is an alumni. Family is a top priority for Oates who can often be found at the local parks or fishing with his young family. Oates is also passionate about conservation issues regarding Florida's natural resources, and is happiest when exploring this great state. He cherishes his time spent fishing and camping in the challenging backcountry of the remote Ten Thousand Islands off Florida's southwest coast, and is an avid reader of Florida history.

Oates' vision for the BCBA this year is to develop an online catalog of CLE courses, stream a live webinar broadcast, implement a long-term redevelopment plan for the Bar Center, and continue the zealous advocacy against issues affecting the Bar-like reciprocity and lawyer referral service expansion proposals. Additionally, Oates will strive to continue to improve and increase communication between the Bench and Bar.



Katherine Joffe is a member of the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice in Holland & Knight's Fort Lauderdale office. She focuses on commercial litigation and appeals throughout Florida, and can be reached at Katherine.Joffe@hklaw.com, or 954.468.7993







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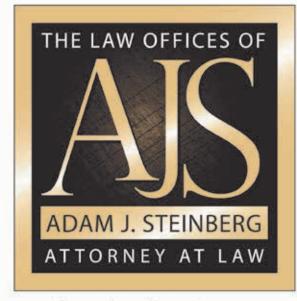


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Florida Medical Marijuana Update

by Jared Guberman

The Florida Medical Marijuana Legalization Initiative, also known as Amendment 2, was approved by 71% of the voters on November 8, 2016. As a result, Amendment 2 went into effect on January 3, 2017, but it did not include a regulatory framework. In order to allow the Department of Health sufficient time to set up a framework, Amendment 2 provided that regulations were to be crafted no later than six (6) months after the effective date of Amendment 2 and must be enacted by October 3. However, on June 9, the last day of a three-day special session, the Florida Legislature officially passed a bill outlining regulations for the implementation of Amendment 2. The Florida Legislature passed this bill due to concern regarding the Department of Health's ability to govern over the medical marijuana program. On June 16, the Department of Health published proposed rules to assist in laying the groundwork for Amendment 2. All of the regulations passed by the Senate and House will go into effect as soon as Governor Rick Scott signs the bill into law, which is very likely. Compared with the medical marijuana law passed by the Legislature in 2014, there will be many changes for patients, doctors and dispensaries. Some of the changes are outlined below

As to patients, smoking marijuana remains banned in the bill. Yet, vaping is not banned. The smoking ban will likely result in a lawsuit because Amendment 2 bans smoking in public. Further, patients will be able to receive a medical marijuana recommendation from a doctor right away, instead of being under the care of a doctor for 90

days. Now seasonal residents—those who reside in Florida at least 31 straight days each year, maintain temporary residence, and are registered to vote or pay income tax in another state—will be eligible to receive medical marijuana. Also, medical marijuana will be sales tax free.

As for doctors, they are now only required to complete a two-hour course administered by the Florida Medical Association or the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association, instead of an 8-hour course, before recommending marijuana to patients. To recommend marijuana, doctors have to diagnose a patient "in person" with one of the qualifying conditions. The bill bans telemedicine (remote diagnosis and treatment by such means as phone or email).

As to dispensaries, the current legislation has allowed the creation of seven licensed medical marijuana dispensaries throughout the state. The bill will add 10 new licenses, five by August 1 and another five by October. The first five will be awarded to nurseries that were narrowly defeated when the original dispensaries were selected. The latter five will include at least one African-American grower. Of the other four licenses, the Department of Health can give preferential treatment up to two of them to citrus canning and concentrating operations. Thereafter, for every 100,000 patients added to the registry, four more licenses will be issued. According to the Department of Health, the state registry now has 16,614 pa-

Additionally, each license holder has

the ability to open up to 25 retail dispensary locations across the state. They will get an additional four retail dispensary locations for every 100,000 patients added to the registry. All these caps will sunset in 2020 without further action by the Legislature.

Lastly, the bill prohibits local governments from creating more restrictive laws for dispensaries than they do for pharmacies. The bill would also prohibit local governments from establishing required distances between dispensaries.

Currently, the details above are what we know so far. However, this industry is changing every day. In order to keep up to date on the current state of the medical marijuana industry in Florida, register for the 2017 BCBA Bench and Bar Convention that is set to take place on Friday, October 20. This year the convention will include special sessions regarding medical marijuana. You don't want to miss it.



Jared Guberman, Esq. is a construction litigation attorney with Ferencik Libanoff Brandt Bustamante & Goldstein, P.A. in Fort Lauderdale. He may be contacted at 954-474-8080 or by e-mail at iguberman@flblawyers.com





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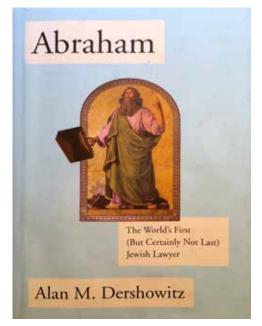
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Book Review



The biblical story of Abraham, the father to three great religions, sets the foundation for the exploration by Professor Dershowitz as to Abraham's influence on the state of the law in the United States, and to some extent, worldwide.

This excellent book is intended for anyone interested in gaining a better understanding of one theorist's view of the development of contemporary legal argument and activism. reader need not be Jewish to appreciate the effectiveness of Professor Dershowitz's explanation of the Jewish sources and stories that travel beyond the familiar story of Abraham as found in the biblical book of Genesis.

Professor Dershowitz lays claim to Abraham as being the world's first lawyer. And as the historical account of the world's first Jew, Professor Dershowitz easily applies the moniker of the "world's first Jewish lawyer" to Abraham.

Divided into two parts, Abraham (the book) first tells several stories found

Abraham The World's First (But Certainly Not the Last) Jewish Lawyer By Professor Alan M. Dershowitz

by Alan Bryce Grossman

in Genesis that Professor Dershowitz posits as various instances where Abraham acted as a lawyer. Acknowledging that there can never be any historical proof that Abraham actually existed. Professor Dershowitz uses the influence over the millennia of the accepted biblical account of Abraham to defend his thesis that "What matters is that the biblical account of Abraham has been and remains one of the most influential characters in history."

To support his thesis, the second part of the book describes accounts of actual stories of Jews being persecuted for nothing more than being Jews, and includes the contention that the Jewish people, and including the nation-state of Israel, have been forced to defend themselves through the Crusades, programs, the Holocaust, and the U.N.'s unceasing attacks against Israel.

Professor Dershowitz follows with illustrations of various lawyers, not all being Jewish, who are noted to have stood up as lawyers to defend and condemn persecution and racism. The last section then lays out unfortunate stories of Jewish lawyers who succumbed to the negative Abrahamic aspect of caving to authority, leaving dark matter on the overall canvas of the greater triumph of lawyers in general, including the many Jewish lawyers, whose efforts over history have pushed the bar forward in protecting human rights and defending the accused and the downtrodden.

Inlaid throughout the book are stories from Professor Dershowitz's own experiences, as one of the most current prominent Jewish lawyers. These stories tend to distract from the flow of the narrative. That aside, Abraham provides a clear view, solidly from a Jewish perspective, of Abraham's influence on lawyers and the law. Professor Dershowitz ends with a compelling discussion of the question of whether the positive influence that Jewish lawyers have clearly provided to the law will continue given the trend of the drop in the population of Jews. in general and of lawyers in particular, who identify themselves Jewishly. The answer from Professor Dershowitz's perspective provides the most thoughtprovoking section of the book, and is the proper use of the epilogue to give the reader more to contemplate.



Alan Bryce Grossman is a sole practitioner in Cooper City, practicing in South Florida, and around the state, and elsewhere. for 26 years. His areas of practice include litigation and appeals in commercial, property, and probate matters. He is a graduate of the University of Florida and the University of Baltimore School of Law. He can be reached at alan@abgrossman.com or by calling 954-364-6294...

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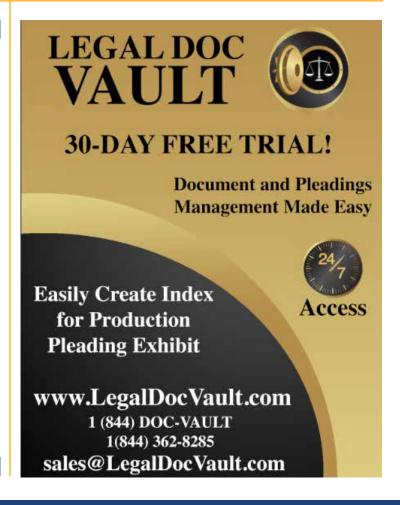
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by Nancy K. Brodzki

Professionalism. Civility. The Judges all have nice little signs reminding us that they will not tolerate anything less. In the courtroom, the Judges enforce the decorum as they deem appropriate. Some Judges hold lawyers to a very high standard. Some Judges are less likely to call out an attorney who is less than polite to opposing counsel, a party or a witness. Everyone seems to agree that we live in a generally less polite society than in past decades. On September 12, 2011, the Florida Supreme Court saw fit to change the Oath of Attorney, in recognition of the need for a clear directive. The Court wrote:

Today we revise the Oath of Attorney administered to new members of The Florida Bar to recognize "[t]he necessity for civility in the inherently contentious setting of the adversary process." 1

Thus, the Oath of Attorney, administered to all new attorneys sworn in as members of the Florida Bar, was revised to add the following sentence: "To opposing parties and their counsel, I pledge fairness, integrity, and civility, not only in court, but also in all written and oral communications".

How many attorneys who were admitted before September 12, 2011 are even aware that we are obligated to be fair and civil to opposing parties and their counsel? Based on my non-scientific poll and

my own personal experience, the sad answer is "not very many". As an attorney practicing in the volatile and emotionally charged arena of marital and family law, I have been witness on a weekly basis to attorneys behaving with an astonishing lack of civility toward their colleagues, and to the litigants. All too often, attornevs seem to take on the demeanor and behaviors of their clients; clients who are emotionally compromised, under enormous stress, and incapable of making reasoned decisions. In these cases, it is even more important for the attorneys to model appropriate behavior with one another, in order to demonstrate to the litigants that reasonable people can disagree with one another without resorting to hurling insults and screaming expletives in the hallway outside the courtroom.

The Bounds of Advocacy², promulgated by the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, has attempted to raise the standards of professionalism among the family law bar. The preliminary statement to these standards eloquently describes the nature of the problem for attorneys handling family law cases.

Family law disputes occur in a volatile and emotional atmosphere. Unlike most other concluded disputes in which the parties may harbor substantial animosity without practical effect, the parties in matrimonial disputes may interact for years to come. In addition, many matrimonial lawyers believe themselves obligated to consider the best interests of children.3

So, what's a lawyer to do? We are supposed to balance being zealous advocates for our clients while maintaining a civil and pleasant demeanor. We must keep in mind the needs of children and other family members while representing one client in a family law matter. Nothing in a family happens in a vacuum. A 1988 survey of Academy Fellows indicated that the harm done to children in an acrimonious family dispute was seen as the most significant problem for which there is insufficient guidance in existing ethical codes. Matrimonial lawyers should recognize the effect that their words and actions have on their client's attitudes about the justice system, not just on the "legal outcome" of their cases. Clients look to attorneys' words and deeds for how they should behave while involved with the legal system. Even when involved in a highly contested matter, divorce attorneys should strive to promote civility and good behavior by the client towards the parties, the lawyers and the court.4

How different are these expectations from our own experiences as attorneys? We must always ask ourselves if we are upholding these standards to the best of our ability. And when we fall short, we need to honestly examine our own behavioral triggers and learn to better manage

our own emotions in this highly charged atmosphere. Lawyers need to find methods of reducing their own stress in the face of high conflict family law disputes. Yoga, meditation, exercise and individual counseling are some of the more effective techniques to reduce one's own stress level.

Rule 7 of the Bounds of Advocacy details the conduct expected of family law attorneys, and we should all aspire to uphold them.

Candor, courtesy and cooperation are especially important in matrimonial matters where a high emotional level can engulf the attorneys, the court and the parties. Combative, discourteous, abrasive, "hard ball" conduct by matrimonial lawyers is inconsistent with both their obligation to effectively represent their clients and their role as problemsolvers. Good matrimonial lawyers can be cordial and friendly without diminishing effective advocacy on behalf of

their clients (emphasis added).

Imagine for a moment the elimination of combative, discourteous, abrasive, "hard ball" conduct. Think of all the time saved not having to reschedule hearings that were set without being coordinated. How many problems could be solved in the time it takes to respond to a nasty letter from an attorney who calls into question your own integrity, your parentage, and your client's sanity? How many litigants had such a traumatic experience in a legal matter because of the egregiously unprofessional behavior of the opposing attorney, that their opinion of the legal system is that justice is nowhere to be found? Every lawyer, no matter the practice area, should cooperate with opposing counsel to reduce issues and facilitate settlement, promptly answer phone calls and correspondence, cooperate and coordinate all scheduling, and refrain from attacking, demeaning or disparaging other counsel, the court, or other parties. Although it may be difficult to be courteous and cooperative when opposed by an overzealous lawyer, an attorney should not react in kind to unprofessional conduct. Pointing out the unprofessional conduct and requesting that it cease is appropriate.⁵ When all else fails, the conduct should be reported to the Florida Bar and/or the Grievance Committee of the Judicial Circuit in which it occurred.

¹Oath of Attorney, In Re: Oath of Admission to the Florida Bar (Fla., 2011)

²Bounds of Advocacy, American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, November, 2000

³Id.

'Ia.

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Nancy K. Brodzki is senior partner of Brodzki Jacobs & Associates, PL in Coral Springs. She is Board Certified in Marital & Family Law and has been in practice for more than 32 years. She is a member of the Professionalism Committee and a member of the Board of Directors of the Broward County Bar Association.





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BCBA Member Louis Reinstein & Family on top of the Ancient Fortress Masada in Israel after a sunrise hike.

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by Nancy Little Hoffmann

SUPREME COURT STRIKES DOWN STATUTORY CAP ON NONECO-NOMIC DAMAGES IN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INJURY CASES.

In 2014, the Florida Supreme Court held that the caps on wrongful death noneconomic damages in medical malpractice cases, provided in section 766.118, Florida Statutes, violated the Equal Protection Clause of the Florida Constitution. Estate of McCall v. United States, 124 So. 3d 894 (Fla. 2014). The following year, the Fourth District addressed the issue of whether that statute could constitutionally be applied in cases where the patient was severely injured, yet survived. Relying on McCall, the Fourth District held that the limitations were unconstitutional in those cases as well. In a four-to-three opinion, the Supreme Court has now affirmed that decision, holding that damages caps "unreasonably and arbitrarily limit recovery of those most grievously injured by medical negligence." It concluded that the arbitrary reduction of compensation does not bear a rational relationship to the stated purpose for passing the legislation in 2003 – the purported medical malpractice crisis. Moreover, the Court found no evidence of a continuing crisis justifying the "arbitrary and invidious discrimination between

medical malpractice victims." North Broward Hospital District v. Kalitan, 42 Fla. L. Weekly S643 (Fla. June 8, 2017).

FAILURE TO STRICTLY COMPLY WITH RULE 2.516 IN SERVING "SAFE HARBOR" NOTICE INVALIDATED SANCTIONS UNDER SECTION 57.105, FLORIDA STATUTES.

Finding that a mother's petition for a paternity determination and child support was frivolous, the trial court dismissed her petition and granted the father's motion for sanctions. She moved for rehearing because, although the father had sent her a "safe harbor letter," he failed to comply with Florida's service rules. On appeal, the Fourth District held that it was required to reverse the sanctions order, because his letter did not contain "SER-VICE OF COURT DOCUMENT" in the subject line and other requirements of rule 2.516, nor did it attach a copy of the sanctions motion. Estimable v. Prophete, 42 Fla. L. Weekly D1312 (Fla. 4th DCA June 7, 2017.

EXCULPATORY PRE-SURGERY RELEASE DID NOT UNAMBIGU-OUSLY WAIVE CLAIMS FOR MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE.

A patient signed a release which acknowledged that (1) the surgeon carried no malpractice insurance; (2) the patient promised not to sue him or his P.A. "for any reason;" and (3) stated that her reason for signing was that she realized that he and his staff "will do the very best to take care of me according to community medical standards." After the surgeon cut her ureter during spinal fusion surgery, she sued. The trial court granted summary judgment to the defendants based on the release. Reversing, the Fourth District held that inclusion of the third sentence, which qualified the first two sentences, created an ambiguity and failed to expressly inform the patient that she was waiving her right to sue him for his own negligence. Brooks v. Paul, 42 Fla. L. Weekly D1305 (Fla. 4th DCA June 7, 2017). **B**



Nancy Little Hoffmann is a Board-Certified Appellate Lawyer practicing in the Fort Lauderdale area since 1974. She may be contacted at 954-771-0606 or by e-mail at NLHappeals@aol.com

DOCTORS, LAWYERS, AND GRATITUDE

by Arlene Lakin

On March 18, 2017, the Broward County Bar Association and the Broward County Medical Association co-hosted a unique, joint event, the "Dementia Symposium" at Nova Southeastern University. This was a superb event in which outstanding professionals spoke about the medical aspects of dementia, current research, the legal aspects, as well as the financial costs to families. We had researchers from FAU, the University of Miami, and Mount Sinai Hospital. Murray Todd, M.D., gave an overview of the various types of dementia. After the medical portion, the legal program began in which two attorneys spoke on documents to have in place to avoid guardianship, and how to fund nursing and residential care.

Alzheimer's disease is diagnosed every minute in the USA - it is diagnosed every 6 seconds across the globe. Alzheimer's is the most common form of dementia. But there are numerous other forms, e.g., Lewy body, frontal-temporal lobe, Parkinsonian, vascular dementia, etc.

There are no cures for any of the dementias at

One of the focuses of the joint symposium was the need for brain donations. This is where the research lies and a possible cure(s). There are brain banks doing research all over Florida, including, but not limited to, Mt. Sinai Hospital, the University of Miami, the Mayo Clinic Jacksonville, and Orlando Regional Medical Center. If you have clients or family members with a loved one suffering from dementia, you may want to suggest they consider a brain donat

A little background: In October, 2016, I first met with Braulio Rosa of the BCBA and with Cynthia Peterson of the BCMA. At that time, my husband was dying from end stage Lewy body dementia, a dementia related to Parkinson's disease. I brought them the concept of this joint venture, a suggested format and a list of prospective speakers. Both Braulio and Cynthia went for the idea without hesitation. Thereafter, we went to work and put it together. And so, with gratitude, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all the staff at the BCBA (& BCMA) for their behind the scenes work to put this wonderful program together.



Arlene Lakin is a Florida Bar "board certified" & A-V (Martindale-Hubbell) rated elder law attorney whose law offices are located in Margate and in Pompano Beach. Mrs. Lakin's law practice focuses on wills, trusts (including special needs trusts), probate, guardianship, as well as public benefits, such as Medicaid, social security, and veterans' benefits. She can be reached at LakinEsaLaw@gmail.com or (954) 975-5159.



For the Public Good Award Recipients Announced

by Melisa Malone

Pro bono work, Florida Bar and Broward Bar membership renewals are on the minds of most attorneys this time of year. This includes reporting pro bono hours to The Florida Bar for the prior year or making the suggested \$350 contribution to Broward Lawyers Care (BLC).*

There is however, another reason to think about pro bono work. Every year in October legal aid programs in Broward celebrate and honor members of our community who have gone above and beyond the "minimums" to help someone in need. Someone who otherwise could not afford legal representation. Someone whose life is now much better because they received legal assistance from an attorney. The prevalent and ongoing need for volunteer legal assistance to the poor and disadvantaged affects the daily life of many in our community, including veterans and families.

Legal Aid Service of Broward County (LAS) and Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida (CCLA) announced the recipients of their annual

For the Public Good awards during the Broward County Bar Association Law Day luncheon in May. The 2017 Attorney of the Year, Law Firm of the Year, and Spirit of Justice awards – Chad Van Horn, Esq. and Talenfeld Law and Paul Regensdorf, Esq. respectively. Additionally, the CCLA Commitment to Justice Award recipient is Steven Jaffe, Esq. and the LAS Russell E. Carlisle Advocacy Award recipient is Jesse H. Diner, Esq.

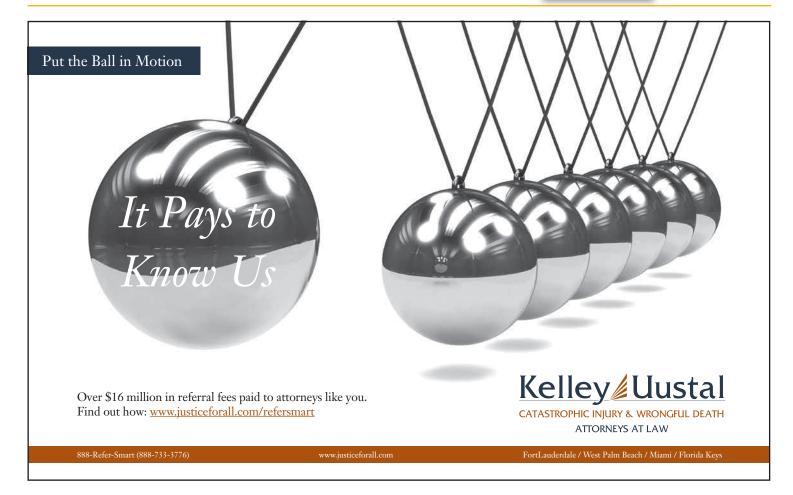
Thank you to the 2017 For the Public Good honorees and other members of the Bar who actively dedicate their time and resources to help those who cannot help themselves. Lions for Justice, who ensure the most vulnerable in our community gain equal access to justice, and narrow the justice gap for thousands of individuals and families each year.

For more information on how you can get involved with or provide critical support for legal aid programs in Broward County contact Dorian T. Lange, Director of Development at 954.736.2429 or dlange@legalaid.org.

* Broward Lawyers Care (BLC) is the only Florida Bar officially-recognized pro bono project in Broward County, and it is a joint project of Legal Aid Service of Broward County (LAS) and Coast to coast Legal Aid of South Florida (CCLA). BLC was formed in 1981 by a joint effort of the BCBA and LAS.



Melisa Malone is the Marketing and Communications Manager at Legal Aid Service of Broward County and Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida



Work-Life Balance of a Government Attorney

by Shari Scalone

There are many pros and cons to working as a government attorney. The general perception is that it is one of the few attorney positions that allow for the semblance of a '9-to-5' arrangement. Even with enormous caseloads, there is still a level of flexibility in knowing that you are not tied to billable hours or need to be plugged in 24 hours a day.

Having this time away from work, whether it is to spend time with family, yourself, or your community, does yield a higher level of satisfaction and makes you more productive in the workplace. The availability of this time to pursue other interests is not only important, but necessary in allowing you to recharge and improve your physical, emotional, and mental health.

In the government attorney context, working a caseload with hundreds of cases can be daunting. The trick is to give each case the attention it deserves, the proper preparation and research, without giving it so much attention that you neglect the other cases. Luckily, there is a sense of comradery among the attorneys in the office, which helps to streamline the process. Senior attorneys train the junior or entry-level attorneys; the more experienced attorneys provide ongoing support and offer a plethora of knowledge and experience.

Even if you have to stay late in the office or prepare over the weekend for an upcoming trial, there are still a few ways to bring balance into your routine:

1. Be proactive in scheduling downtime with others.

When planning your week, make it a point to schedule time with family and friends. Have a date night with your spouse, attend a concert or show with friends, or go to the park on a Sunday afternoon

2. Get active.

Fitting exercise into a heavily packed schedule is not easy, but the benefits do make it worthwhile. Having 2 or 3 days of exercise each week boosts your mood and makes you more alert with tasks. Try taking a brisk walk during your lunch break or practice some stretches or yoga in the office.

3. Enjoy your vacation.

The nature of many attorney jobs is that there is never an ideal time to take annual leave. Even for government attorneys who receive considerable benefits and vacation time, it may prove difficult to make sure the caseload is covered. Remember that vacation time is a benefit that you have earned, just like salary, so you should use it.

4. Take time for you.

There are always going to be endless lists of chores to complete, but on occasion, it is helpful to indulge. If it is an activity that you enjoy, it is not "wasting time." Consider blocking out free time for a few hours to read a book, take a hot bath, or do a craft project.

Being attentive and having a boundary between your personal and professional life is imperative. Even though there are high demands for attorneys in both public and private sectors alike, the first step can be acknowledging your need to balance work and health.



Shari E. Scalone is an Assistant Attorney General at the Office of the Attorney General, Child Support Enforcement Bureau

Exercise Your Mind

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calendar of events

8 Guardianship 8-hour Adult

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Venue: BCBA Conference Center Cost: \$180; No Walk-ins accepted

12 Construction CLE: Industry Risk Shifting in Design-Build and P3

Sponsored by: Berkeley Research Group, LLC

Time: 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Venue:** BCBA Conference Cer

Venue: BCBA Conference Center **Cost:** Free Construction Section Member; \$10 BCBA Member; \$25

Non-Member

13 Yoga for Lawyers

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. **Venue:** BCBA Conference Center **Cost:** \$10 BCBA Member; \$15 Non-

Member

14 Investiture of The Honorable Fabienne Fahnestock

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Venue: Broward County Courthouse Room # 16175

18 CLE: "Time is Money" using technology to make your law firm more efficient

Time: 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Venue: BCBA Conference Center Cost: \$10 BCBA Member; \$20 Non-

Member

19 Solo/Small Networking Dinner

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Venue: Dave and Busters Cost: \$40 BCBA Member; \$50 Non-Member * \$5 additional at the door

22 Guardianship 4-hour Minor

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Venue: BCBA Conference Center Cost: \$100; No Walk-ins accepted

27 2017 Marlins Game CLE Night

Time: 4:45 p.m. CLE followed by networking and game

Venue: Marlins Park

Cost: \$80 first 50 BCBA & NSU Alumni Member; \$95 Non-

Member

Includes: Parking, CLE, Club Level Ticket, Food and Beverage

Upcoming Special Events

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October 20 2017 BCBA Bench and Bar Conference

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November 29 BCBA Member Holiday Party



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