The BROWARD BARRISTER

AUGUST, 1975 Volume 4 Number 8

PUBLISHED BY THE BROWARD COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Executive Offices, 733 Northeast Third Avenue, 305/764-8040, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33304

GENERAL MEETING Thursday, August 21, 1975

- 12:00 Noon -

THE GOVERNORS CLUB HOTEL

236 S.E. 1st Avenue Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Buffet Luncheon: \$3.50

Program:

By: Charles Boyd, Chairman, Broward County Legislative Delegation

Please use the Enclosed Card for Reservations

BROWARD COUNTY TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION MEETING

Wednesday, September 3, 1975

5:00 P.M. Workshop 6:30 P.M. Cash Bar 7:00 P.M. Dinner — \$10.00

THE SHERATON HOTEL

303 N. Atlantic Blvd. (A1A) Fort Lauderdale Beach

Program: To Be Announced

RSVP before September 1, 1975

Please send reservation with check to:

Jon Krupnick -- Tel. 763-8181
Suite 1318
One Financial Plaza
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33394

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

BROWARD COUNTY TRIAL LAWYERS
ASSOCIATION

YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

August 28, 1975

- 12:00 Noon -

THE GOVERNORS CLUB HOTEL

236 S.E. 1st Avenue Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Luncheon — \$3.50

Program:

To Be Announced

Please send reservations with check to:

Michael J. McNerney, Esq. Zeiher & Brinkley 2881 E. Oakland Park Boulevard Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33306

(Make checks payable to:

Young Lawyers Section)

OPERATION: UPDATE/TRANSITION

Sponsors: BCBA & BCTLA

August 20, 1975 — 4:30 P.M.

Evidence

Speakers:

Rex Conrad

Fleming, O'Bryan & Fleming

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Ray Ferrero, Jr.

Ferrero, Middlebrooks & Houston

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Room 250, Broward County Courthouse

Septembr, 17, 1975 — 4:30 P.M.

Federal Court Practice and Procedure Judge Norman C. Roettger, Jr.

-\$1,00 printing donation requested-

Betty Lynn Lee

Betty Lynn Lee, Assistant County Attorney for the past 13 years, was named Broward County General Counsel at the County Commission meeting on Tuesday, July 22.

Mrs. Lee, who graduated Cum Laude from the University of South Carolina and the University of Miami Law School, has had a varied private practice before joining the county staff in 1962.

The new County Attorney is the daughter of Gladys Chancey and the late Chris Chancey. Chris Chancey was one of three practicing attorneys in 1921 when he moved here from Tampa. At one point in his legal career Mr. Chancey shared office space with John Lloyd who Mrs. Lee succeeds.

Although Mr. Lloyd's recent passing away will leave a tremendous vacancy in county government, Mrs. Lee who is presently the only female County Attorney in the state of Florida, feels confident that from her excellent training under Mr. Lloyd, the County General Counsel's office will continue to serve the County Commission and the people in the most professional way.

Broward County Bar Association 733 N.E. Third Avenue Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33304 764-8040

OFFICERS

George A. Patterson	President
Ray Ferrero, Jr.	_ President-Elcct
Lawrence J. Meyer	Secretary
Ronald P. Anselmo	Treasurer
Norma Howard Ex	ecutive Secretary

SCHEDULE OF NON-COURTHOUSE HEARINGS— CIRCUIT COURT

1975					
Date	Pompano	Hollywood			
Aug. 12	Judge Nance	Judge Fischer			
Aug. 19	Judge Richardson	Judge Seay			
Aug. 26	Judge Gonzalez	Judge Farrington			
Sept. 2	Judge Tedder	Judge Fischer			
Sept. 9	Judge Hare	Judge Franza			
Sept. 16	Judge Warren	Judge LaMotte			
Sept. 23	Judge Johnson	Judge Booher			
Sept. 30	Judge Minnet	Judge Ferris			

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

When each of us took the oath of admission to the Bar of Florida, we swore to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Florida and also to "maintain the respect due to Courts of Justice and judicial officers..." We thereby recognized a special place and acknowledged a special consideration due to our Courts and judges. Those fundamental considerations continue with us in our day to day practice as we are guided by Canon 8 of our Canons of Ethics wherein we are told that "A Lawyer Should Assist in Improving the Legal System." Ethical consideration 8-6 under Canon 8 reminds us in part that:

Adjudiatory officials not being wholly free to defend themselves, are entitled to receive the support of the bar against unjust criticism. While a lawyer as a citizen has a right to criticize such officials publicly, he should be certain of the merit of the complaint, use appropriate language, and avoid petty criticisms, for unrestrained and intemperate statements tend to lessen public confidence in our legal system. Criticisms motivated by reasons other than a desire to improve the legal system are not justified.

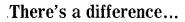
We are therefore, charged by the precepts of our profession to assist in the improvement of the legal system; but we are advised to proceed carefully in the excercise of good judgment and restraint lest by our well meaning actions we defeat the very goal we seek to achieve.

One of the methods which the Broward County Bar Association has used to help it fulfill its obligations under Canon 8 is the use of the general election poll. The results of that poll are released publicly prior to the general election, so that the voters will have the poll results to assist them in their selections. We have thus far sponsored an annual judicial poll.

In September 1974 the Florida Bar published for the first time a Model Judicial Poll Handbook containing recommendations resulting from two years study by a special committee appointed by the President of the Florida Bar. In that handbook, the Florida Bar, recognizing the sensitive nature of a judicial poll, recommends a model judicial poll uniformly administered in each judicial circuit. It discusses both the annual poll and the general election poll; and finds merit in both type polls. Concerning the annual judicial poll, The Florida Bar "believes that such a poll would be beneficial to its critique of judicial performance."

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of our Bar Association, on July 20, 1975, the members voted that an annual judicial poll be held in Broward County and that all members of The Florida Bar in Broward County whether or not they are members of our association be allowed to vote in the poll. It was decided to follow the procedure outlined and to use the ballot suggested in the Florida Bar's Judicial Poll Handbook, with the exception that the results of the poll would be made public rather than be kept confidential as suggested by The Florida Bar. It was felt by the Executive Committee that it would be almost impossible to keep the results confidential no matter how earnestly we tried to do so; and also that if a poll is to be made public it should be a poll of all of The Florida Bar members in the County rather than a poll or polls of a small number of the members.

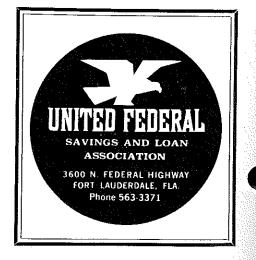
The annual poll, if continued, will place a heavy responsibility on the members of the bar in our county, because we do not want these polls to bring about the demeaning of our judiciary. We must remember that the judiciary does not have the



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opportunity to publish its poll of the lawyers, nor does the judiciary have any effective way to defend itself from the results of a poll which may be irresponsibly made. The Florida Bar in recommending against the publication of the result of an annual poll says it fears that to publish such results "could create discord among the judiciary, the Bar, and the public under circumstances which would ordinarily not allow for a change in court personnel until the next general election." Since we propose to publish our results, we as lawyers are responsible to see to it that our published poll does not cause those harmful effects.

We will all agree that we have had in the past and we now have an excellent judiciary in Broward County. Our judiciary is one of which we have all been justifiably proud and it fully deserves the special consideration and special place which we have afforded it in the past. That is not to say that some of us may not have good reason for complaint about a comparatively few instances of judicial misconduct or of certain actions now and then which are unbecoming a judge. There are means for constructively handling such matters without publicly attacking the judiciary; and I suggest we keep that in mind when we consider our ballots in our annual poll.

GEORGE A. PATTERSON President

Calendar For Bar Group Meetings

Date	Time	Association	Place
1st Wednesday	6:30 P.M.	Broward County Trial Lawyers Association	Sheraton Hotel, Fort Lauderdale
2nd Tuesday	12:10 P.M.	North Broward Bar	Flaming Pit, Pompano
2nd Thursday	6:30 P.M.	Broward County Criminal Defense Laywers	Sheraton Hotel
2nd Thursday	6:30 P.M.	South Broward Bar	Tropical Acres, Griffin Road
3rd Thursday	12:00 Noon	Broward County Bar Association	Governors' Club
Last Thursday	12:00 Noon	Young Lawyers Section	Announced
4th Wednesday	6:30 P.M.	Broward County Legal Secretaries Association	Announced

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NOTICE

VACANCY

ON U. S. DISTRICT COURT, SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Judge William O. Mehrtens of Miami will assume senior judge status September 15, 1975.

> The Commission will receive Personal data statements on or before

AUGUST 15, 1975.

Interested persons should contact:

Earl B. Hadlow, Chairman Post Office Box 4099 Jacksonville, Florida 32201 for information forms.

* * * * *

Nova University's Law School Accreditation

by Laurance M. Hyde, Jr.*

Lawyers are well aware of the fact that in order to be permitted to take the Bar examination in this and most other states, one must be a graduate of an American Bar Association accredited law school.

What Does It Mean

Unlike a new medical school which must obtain provisional accreditation prior to opening its doors to its first freshman class, a new law school must begin operation, enroll its first class, employ its faculty and begin instruction before even beginning to seek provisional accreditation. Thus, the first class must gamble on the outcome of the accreditation application. Probably the class will have signed up prior to knowing whether the school will be accredi-

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ted, and in several current instances, students are graduated from law schools which are still unaccredited.

Nova's provisional accreditation was considered and unanimously recommended by the Accreditation Committee of the Section on Legal Education and Admissions to the American Bar Association, and in turn the Section's Council recommended accreditation at meetings in Chicago on July 11th and 12th. These recommendations will be presented to the House of Delegates at the annual meeting of the Association in Montreal on August 12th. If the House of Delegates follows this recommendation, the Law School will be provisionally accredited on that date.

Students No Longer Gamble

Once provisional accreditation has been obtained, the school will begin to work toward achieving full accreditation which can first be considered two years following provisional accreditation. However, whatever the outcome, the students no longer bear the risk. If a fully or a provisionally accredited law school has its accreditation removed for any reason, all of the students then enrolled are protected and are permitted to take Bar examinations in Florida and in all other states. Thus, from this time forward (presumedly August 12 in Nova's case) the law students are given the same protection that medical students are given from the outset by the medical school requirement that provisional accreditation be obtained in advance.

Trends

The law school accreditation process is not the same as it was a few years ago. The American Bar Association has undertaken to substantially upgrade legal education. It has considerably stiffened the requirements for initial accreditation as well as the requirements for retaining accreditation even by long established schools. This is a

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significant advance in legal education and assures that high standards not only must be met initially but that they must thereafter be maintained. Further, the standards necessary to achieve provisional accreditation are only a first step toward the standards necessary to obtain full accreditation and it is the higher level of standards which must be maintained in order to retain accredited status.

The American Bar's Section on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar is to be commended on its improvement of the standards the administration of which have been entrusted to it. It is hoped that they will take a further step by requiring that provisional accreditation be obtained prior to enrolling the first students. This will prevent the intolerable situation that has arisen several times this year and in the immediate past years where students have enrolled in new law schools in good faith, have studied diligently for three years, paid their tuition and other expenses, have graduated only to obtain a degree that does not permit them to take the Bar examination anywhere in the coun-

*Dean Hyde, a University of Missouri graduate, was a trial lawyer in St. Louis, Missouri for ten years, was a Missouri circuit judge for four years, and was Dean of the National College of the State Judiciary for nine years before joining the faculty of the Nova University Law Center. He teaches Criminal Law and Legal Profession.

Lawyer Placement Service

A Placement Committee chaired by E. Hugh Chappell, President of the Young Lawyers Section, has been appointed to help serve the needs of placement and employment of lawyers. Two forms are enclosed with the Barrister: one for Placement and one for Opening for Attorney. The forms are to be com-

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pleted by the appropriate person (if the service is desired) and returned to the office of Broward County Bar Association, where the files will be kept and available to any interested person.

This plan can work cnly if you give complete cooperation. It would seem that helping new attorneys in the area find employment should be an important function of the Bar.

Have You Moved?

There have been many moves of offices in the past two months. If you have *not* notified the following of your correct address and telephone number PLEASE DO SO NOW.

Broward County Bar Association The Florida Bar American Bar Association Clerk of The Circuit Court

Help, Help, Help!!!

There is a desperate need for articles for the Barrister. All contributions will be most welcome . . . ideas, articles, suggestions, etc.

- ★ Court Activities daily
- * Business news daily
- ★ Real estate daily
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