# The Citation

# A Monthly Publication of the Savannah Bar Association

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Editor: Thomas Gore

#### **SBA Calendar 2013-2014**

**September 19, 2013: Bar Luncheon.** Lunch will begin at 12:00 at the Savannah Golf Club. Lisa Grove, CEO of the Telfair Museum will speak.

October 1, 2013: Joint Event with Savannah State and the Port City Bar Association.

**October 24, 2013: SBA Bar BQ.** This event will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Forest City Gun Club and will be catered by Papa's BBQ.

**November 7, 2013: Bar Luncheon.** Lunch will begin at 12:00 at the Savannah Golf Club. The presentation will be "Insight Into the Upcoming Legislative Session."

**December 12, 2013: SBA Oyster Roast.** This event will be held at Bonna Bella Yacht Club from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

January 24, 2014: Hot Topics Seminar and Bar Luncheon. The program will begin at 12:00. David Paddison of SEDA will discuss the "State of Savannah Economic Development."

**February 20, 2014: Bar Luncheon.** Lunch will begin at 12:00 at the Savannah Golf Club. Judge Stedman will speak about "Juvenile Code Changes and How They Affect Your Practice."

March 20, 2014: Bar Luncheon. Lunch will begin at 12:00 at the Savannah Golf Club. Curtis Foltz will speak about "The State of the Georgia Ports."

**April 25, 2014: BOAT RIDE!** 

May 8, 2014: Law Day Luncheon and Annual Meeting. Lunch will be held at the Savannah Golf Club at 12:00. Officers will be elected.

**June 12, 2014: Cocktail Party** at the Savannah Golf Club from 6:30 to 8:30.

### Savannah YLD Wrap-Up Summer and Kick-Off 2013-2014 Year

After a busy summer, including a successful golf tournament benefiting the Savannah Guardian Ad Litem Program and happy hours to introduce summer law clerks to the local young lawyers, the Savannah YLD is preparing for the 2013-2014 Bar year. On Thursday, September 19, 2013, the YLD will hold its annual Kick-Off Happy Hour at World of Beer (112 West Broughton St.) at 5:30 p.m. All young lawyers are invited to attend along with spouses and significant others. Any questions regarding membership for the new Bar year should be directed to Membership Co-Chairs, Zach Thomas (ZHThomas@aol.com) and Carson Penney (CPenney@HunterMaclean.com). Kick-Off is generously sponsored by ProLegal Copies.

The YLD will also be holding its annual Swearing-In Ceremony in November 2013 for newly admitted Georgia lawyers. Anyone waiting for Georgia Bar Exam results who is interested in participating in the Swearing-In Ceremony should notify Zach or Carson. The time and date of the event will be announced soon.

## Savannah Law School Cocktails at The Sparetime

Raise Your Glass to Justice. Join the Savannah Law School Pro Bono Program for a drink at the Sparetime, Tuesday, October 1st, 2013, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. The Sparetime is located at 36 MLK Jr. Blvd. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Georgia Legal Services Program. For more information contact <a href="mailto:lknight@savannahlawschool.org">lknight@savannahlawschool.org</a>.

# **Supreme Court of Georgia Moves to Mandatory Electronic Filing**

In August 2010, the Supreme Court began implementation of the Supreme Court Case Management/Electronic Filing (SCED) system and amended its Rules to allow for electronic filing for registered attorneys. On June 12, 2013, the Court acknowledged that the implementation of the e-filing project has been successful and now amends its Rules further to mandate that all matters filed by attorneys after August 1, 2013, be filed electronically, unless the attorney is granted an exemption.

### **Barrister Babies**

Please submit any Barrister Babies or Barrister Buddies for consideration to SavannahBarNewsletter@gmail.com.

# Joint Event with Savannah State and the Port City Bar Association – October 1, 2013

Many of you will recall Law Day Speaker, Dr. Cheryl Davenport Dozier, discussing documentary about Donald L. Hollowell, renowned Georgia civil rights attorney, who represented Martin Luther King Junior and who the University of challenged segregation at Georgia. Hollowell was the lead counsel in Holmes v. Danner, the landmark case that secured admission to the University of Georgia for Charlayne Hunter and Hamilton Holmes, the first African Americans to register for classes at the University. The documentary is entitled *Donald* L. Hollowell: Foot Soldier for Equal Justice, and chronicles the achievements ofMr. Hollowell. The documentary is the fourth in a series of documentaries about various foot soldiers of the civil rights movement. The film is narrated by Charlayne Hunter (now Hunter-Gault), a Peabody and Emmy award winning journalist.

Dr. Dozier has invited the Savannah Bar Association and the Port City Bar Association to view the documentary at the Elmore Theatre in the King-Frazier Building at Savannah State. The Savannah Bar Association and the Port City Bar Association will provide refreshments beforehand beginning at 6:00 in the Ball Room across from the Elmore Theatre.

Please join us for an informative evening!

#### State Bar of Georgia Pro Bono Awards Reception

H. Sol Clark Award Guy E. Lescault

William B. Spann Jr. Award Burr & Forman U.P

Dan Bradley Legal Services Award

William K. Broker, Savannah Regional Office Georgia Legal Services Program

A Business Commitment Business Law Pro Bono Award

Edward O. Henneman Jr., Hunter, Madean, Exley & Dunn, P.C.

and .

the Atlanta Office of Jones Day

State Bar of Seorgia Pro Bono Awards Reception

Join Us for Hors D'Ouevres and Cocktails October 24, 2013 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

To honor the recipients of the 2013 State Bar of Georgia Pro Bono Awards.

State Bar of Georgia Conference Center Gallery 104 Marietta Street NW Atlanta, Georgia

Please RSVP to probono@gobar.org

Spansored by the Access to Justice Committee & the Pro Bono Project of the State Bar of Georgia

# Savannah Law School Federalist Society Encourages Local Attorney Participation

The Federalist Society at Savannah Law School is in the process of setting up its schedule of events for the upcoming semester, and is interested in opening up its events to members of the Savannah Bar Association. The group has scheduled several national speakers to come join them to discuss some hot topic legal issues that have the possibility of changing the legal profession and would like to encourage local attorneys to attend. The group's first event is scheduled for Monday September 16th at 5:00 p.m. The event will be catered and will be a paneled discussion. Brian Morris will speak on Polygraphs and the law, specifically how they apply to criminal investigations and employment situations. If you have any questions, or know of any attorneys that would like to take part in the panel please feel free to email Carri Johnson at <a href="mailto:chipohnson@savannahlawschool.org">chipohnson@savannahlawschool.org</a> or call at (334)728-4220.

#### **Red Mass Date Announced**

The Catholic Lawyers Guild will host its annual Red Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist on Friday, October 18. The Mass, a tradition which dates to the thirteenth century, invokes the Holy Spirit to guide the courts, its advocates and all involved in the administration of justice. Following the Mass, a reception will be held and the Guild will present its St. Thomas More Award. All attorneys are invited to attend, as are all involved in the judicial system. For further information, contact Francesca Rehal at 912-231-0906.

#### **Changes to Georgia Law**

Act 241/HB 94: Damages; reduction of earnings to present value; change provisions approved by the Governor 5/6/13; Effective 7/1/13.

HB 94 amends O.C.G.A. § 51-12-13 to change the way that the present value of future medical expenses, living expenses, lost wages, or other economic damages are calculated. Link to Full Text: http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/201332014/135373.pdf.

Act 294/HB 99: Malt beverages; amount produced by a person in his or her private residence; change approved by the Governor 5/6/13; Effective 7/1/13.

HB 99 changes the amount of malt beverages that may be produced by a person in his or her private residence from 50 gallons per year to 100 gallons per year. The Act authorizes and places certain conditions on the transportation and delivery of malt beverages produced in a private residence for use at home-brew special events. The Act provides for the adoption of ordinances or resolutions by local governing authorities governing home-brew special events. The Act prohibits the sale of malt beverages produced in a private residence and places certain limitations on the consumption of such malt beverages. The Act provides that a sealed container of malt beverages produced in a private residence shall not constitute an open container. alcoholic beverage Link to Full Text: http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/20132014/136478.pdf.

Act 173/SB 66: Courts; increase penalties that can be imposed for contempt of superior and state courts approved by the Governor 5/6/13; Effective 7/1/13

SB 66 amends O.C.G.A. § 15-6-8 and 15-7-4 to raise from \$500 to \$1,000 the maximum fine that a superior or state court can impose for contempt of court. The Act clarifies that verification of answers and counterclaims is not required for magistrate court. Link to Full Text: <a href="http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/20132014/137166.pdf">http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/20132014/137166.pdf</a>.

Act 182/SB 113: Civil Practice; personal service of a summons on a corporation; provisions approved by the Governor 5/6/13; Effective 7/1/13.

SB 113 amends O.C.G.A. § 9-11-4(e) relating to personal service of corporations (domestic and foreign) by allowing under certain circumstances for service upon a "managing agent" and defining such person as one who has "managerial or supervisory authority" for the corporation. Link to Full Text: http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/20132014/137155.pdf.

#### MENTOR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Every year we have Beginning Lawyers who take the bold step of hanging out a shingle as a solo practitioner. All Beginning Lawyers in Georgia are required to comply with the Transition Into Law Practice Program ("TILPP"). TILPP replaced "Bridge the Gap" and is the mandatory CLE requirement for Beginning Lawyers during their year of admission and the next calendar year.

The goal of TILPP is to provide professional guidance and counsel to assist Beginning Lawyers in acquiring the practical skills, judgment, and professional values necessary to practice law in a highly competent manner. TILPP consists of two (2) components: (1) a continuing legal education component and (2) a mentoring component. Beginning Lawyers must complete both components.

When a Beginning Lawyer starts a solo practice, he/she needs a one-on-one pairing with an experienced attorney who has traveled the same path. A mentor pairing could make the difference in his/her success and whether he/she continues to practice of law.

An experienced attorney who volunteers to assist a Beginning Lawyer who is a solo practitioner is called an "Outside Mentor." When an Outside Mentor volunteers his/her time to help a Beginning Lawyer, TILPP provides him/her with 3 hours of complimentary CLE credit through our Mentor Orientation CLE program. The 3 hours of complimentary CLE credit includes 1 hour of Ethics credit and 1 hour of Professionalism credit. Mentor Volunteers are encouraged, but not required, to attend the Mentor Orientation CLE program.

For more information about volunteering to serve as an Outside Mentor, please review the following link which takes you to the State Bar of Georgia website: <a href="http://www.gabar.org/membership/tilpp/upload/Mentor\_Summary\_TILPP.pdf">http://www.gabar.org/membership/tilpp/upload/Mentor\_Summary\_TILPP.pdf</a>.

For more information about The Transition Into Law Practice Program, see the link below: <a href="http://www.gabar.org/membership/tilpp/index.cfm">http://www.gabar.org/membership/tilpp/index.cfm</a>.

To volunteer to serve as an outside mentor for a beginning lawyer, contact Tangela S. King at 404.527.8703 or tilpp@gabar.org.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**J. L. Williamson Law Group, LLC**, is expanding to a larger office. The firm's Savannah office is now located at 6605 Abercorn Street, Suite 110. We would like to thank the members of the Savannah Bar Association for graciously welcoming us to Savannah and for all of your referrals thus far. With our expanded office, we are able to provide first class tax controversy and elder law representation to a larger number of clients in the Savannah region.

Eric L. Roden and Tyler M. Love have partnered to form Roden + Love, LLC, a firm exclusively representing plaintiffs in workers' compensation and personal injury cases. Before forming their partnership in August 2013, both partners represented plaintiffs at another local firm.

Tyler is a graduate of The University of the South and the University of Georgia School of Law. Eric is a Double Dawg having received both his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Georgia. Both are members of the State Bar of Georgia, the Savannah Bar Association, and GTLA. **Roden** + **Love**, **LLC** is located at 7 East Congress Street, Suite 1003, Savannah, Georgia 31401 and either Eric or Tyler can be reached at (912) 303-5850.

Rubnitz & Ziblut, P.C. announces that Matthew D. Morelli has joined the firm as an Associate. Matt graduated in May 2013 from the University of Georgia School of Law, cum laude. He graduated from the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business, magna cum laude, in December 2009. Matt grew up in Savannah and graduated third in his class from Benedictine Military High School. During law school, he clerked for Judge William T. Moore, and Judge Michael L. Karpf. Matt will focus his practice on commercial and residential real estate law, probate and estate administration, and corporate law.

The firm of **Phillips & Roberts** is pleased to announce that **John David Carson**, **Jr**. has joined the firm as a partner. The firm is located at 402 E. Liberty Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401 and will be known as **Phillips Roberts & Carson**. The firm will continue its practice in civil and criminal law and with the addition Carson will also engage in divorce, custody, and bankruptcy matters. A native Savannahian, prior to joining the firm Carson was an associate at **Duffy & Feemster**. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia (2004) and the Mississippi College of Law (2010). John was admitted to practice law in 2011. He is a member of the State Bar of Georgia and the Savannah Bar Association.

**Tommy Branch** was selected as a member of the 2013 Leadership Savannah Class. Leadership Savannah is a program run by the Chatham County Chamber of Commerce whose mission is to develop effective community leaders who work to strengthen our region. The class participates in programs over a one year period to improve their leadership skills.

**HunterMaclean** is pleased to announce that attorneys **Daniel R. Crook** and **Edgar M. Smith** have been named partners at the firm.

**Daniel R. Crook** joined the firm's corporate law practice group as an associate in 2010 after practicing in Atlanta. He practices in the area of corporate law as well as commercial real estate. Daniel has extensive experience representing companies in the negotiation and documentation of commercial transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and the acquisition, leasing, and disposition of commercial real estate. Daniel graduated from Northwestern University School of Law with a J.D. and LL.M. in Taxation and served as the senior editor for the Northwestern Journal of International Law and Business. He also graduated with highest honors from Georgia Institute of Technology with a B.S. in Public Policy. He currently serves as president and chairman of the board for Quantum, Inc.

**Edgar M. Smith** is a member of **HunterMaclean's** admiralty and maritime practice group and litigation practice group. His law practice includes maritime tort and contract matters, bankruptcy and creditors' rights, real estate litigation, and business litigation. He is a member of the State Bar of Georgia and is admitted to practice in all courts of Georgia, the U.S. District Courts for the Middle and Southern Districts of Georgia, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court. Originally from Plains, Ga., Smith is a 2006 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law, where he earned his J.D. with *cum laude* honors. While at the University of Georgia, he was a member of Phi Alpha Delta and Gridiron. In 2001, Smith received his B.B.A. in Marketing from Georgia Southern University, where he graduated *summa cum laude*. Smith is actively involved in the community as a volunteer for several local charitable organizations including CrimeStoppers of Savannah-Chatham County, Caring Connection Chaplaincy, Inc. and United Way of the Coastal Empire.

**Triece Gignilliat Ziblut**, a partner with **Rubnitz & Ziblut**, **P.C.**, was named Chair of the Newsletter Committee of the Georgia Bar Association Real Property Law Section. She will coordinate publication of the Section's newsletter, which provides articles on legal and practical matters affecting Georgia real estate attorneys. Triece asks local attorneys to consider submitting articles for the Newsletter to increase the representation of our attorneys in this statewide publication. Interested attorneys should email her at <a href="mailto:Triece@Rubnitzlaw.com">Triece@Rubnitzlaw.com</a>.

The Fulton County Daily Report recently honored **Bradley M. Harmon** and **Jonathan B. Pannell** as On the Rise Attorneys, adding them to the list of Georgia's leading lawyers under the age of 40. The complete list of honorees was published the Fulton County Daily Report and can be viewed at <a href="https://www.dailyreportonline.com">www.dailyreportonline.com</a>. Winners were nominated and selected based upon their contributions to law in Georgia.

#### Savannah Law School to Host Closing Reception for Photography Exhibit by Ashley Jones

On Friday, September 20, from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, the Savannah Law School will be hosting the closing reception for **Ashley Jones's** photography exhibit, "From Frogtown to Victory" that explores the ebb and flow of population along MLK, Jr. Boulevard before and after I-16 was built. Ashley graduated with an MFA from SCAD. It will be a great opportunity for Savannah's vibrant legal and art communities to mingle. A link to the Connect Savannah article on her show: <a href="http://www.connectsavannah.com/savannah/frogtown-to-victory/Content?oid=2291168">http://www.connectsavannah.com/savannah/frogtown-to-victory/Content?oid=2291168</a>.

Andrew McCanse Wright has accepted a position as a Founding Editor of the new national security blog, Just Security (<a href="www.justsecurity.org">www.justsecurity.org</a>). Just Security, a new online forum for the rigorous analysis of law, rights, and U.S. national security policy, is launching on September 23, 2013. The blog aims to promote principled and pragmatic solutions to the problems that decision-makers face. The blog's Board of Editors includes individuals with significant U.S. government experience, civil society attorneys, academics, and other leading voices.

Mr. Wright joined the faculty of Savannah Law School after serving two years as Associate Counsel to the President in the White House Counsel's Office. After six years in private practice as a litigator and white collar criminal defense attorney, Wright served as Staff Director and Counsel to the national security subcommittee of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in the 111th and 112th Congresses. He also served as Assistant Counsel to Vice President Al Gore in the Clinton White House. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law and Washington & Lee University.

The SBA Citation is always seeking submissions for upcoming editions. We encourage you to submit your professional and personal announcements; law-related advertisements; articles or announcements about particular philanthropies you are involved in; and other written submissions. Suggestions about ways to improve are also always welcome. And, of course, we love to receive photographs to share with our readers! Bear in mind that our readers include not only current SBA members, but also many judges and law school students as well. Please contact us at <a href="mailto:SavannahBarNewsletter@gmail.com">SavannahBarNewsletter@gmail.com</a> with submissions or questions.