



The Citation

SBA Holds March and April Luncheons

On March 25, 2021, the Savannah Bar Association held its monthly luncheon at the Savannah Golf Club. Resolutions were presented in honor of the late James “J.B.” Blackburn, Sr., and James “Jay” Blackburn, Jr. The guest speaker was Hugh “Trip” Tollison, President and CEO of the Savannah Economic Development Authority (“SEDA”). Tollison discussed several of SEDA’s current and upcoming projects, including the Savannah Chatham Manufacturing Center near the Jimmy DeLoach Connector to Interstate 16. The SBA thanks Trip for sharing his time with us!

At its April luncheon, held on April 22, 2021, resolutions were presented honoring the late Sam P. Inglesby, Jr., Linda Carter King, and Fred S. Clark. Members also heard from Julia Sullivan, Chair of the SBA’s Pro Bono Committee, and from Sarah Anderson, Pro Bono Project Staff Attorney at the Georgia Legal Services Program, who presented the SBA’s 2020 Pro Bono Awards, as described in more detail below.



Trip Tollison
SEDA



Francesca Rehal, Sarah Anderson, and
Julia Sullivan



Sam P. Inglesby, Jr.



Linda Carter King



Fred S. Clark



Local attorneys to receive Pro Bono Awards

The Savannah Bar Association (SBA), in partnership with Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP), announces the 2020 winners of the Pro Bono Awards. The Pro Bono Awards honor attorneys who take on legal matters without the expectation of getting paid. Attorneys provide service without charge as a way to give back to their communities and to meet their ethical obligations as attorneys.

The awards were presented at the monthly meeting of the Savannah Bar on April 22.

Joey Turner received the Pro Bono Champion Award for handling the highest number of legal cases in a single year. Turner specializes in criminal defense and has been representing clients throughout southern Georgia for more than a decade.

Stephen Harris received the Pro Bono Advocate Award for providing exceptional services to the underserved in the Savannah area. Harris has been in general practice in Savannah for 50 years. He is a long-time GLSP volunteer and tries to have an open file on a pro bono case most of the time.

Bouhan Falligant LLP received the Pro Bono Catalyst Award for promoting the mission of GLSP. Bouhan Falligant is a Savannah law firm that handles a broad range of complex legal issues. The firm has a long history of supporting programs and projects that benefit the well-being of the local community.

Jon Maire received the Pro Bono Service Award for his many years of service as an in-house volunteer attorney. Maire practiced law in Michigan before retiring to Savannah. He has volunteered with GLSP for nearly 20 years and has assisted over 350 GLSP clients during that time.

“I never realized that Georgia Legal Services had such a need for attorney volunteers,” said Joey Turner. “As an attorney blessed with a thriving practice, I feel that it is my obligation to help any way I can. I continue to encourage all of my lawyer friends to give some of their time to this worthy cause.”

In 2020, 51 pro bono attorneys handled nearly 180 of the 1,500 cases accepted by the GLSP Savannah office. GLSP provides free, legal assistance to Georgians in 154 counties. GLSP’s 10 regional offices are located in Albany, Athens, Atlanta, Augusta, Brunswick, Columbus, Dalton, Gainesville, Macon and Savannah. GLSP partners with local bar associations in each city. Those seeking assistance can call 1-833-457-7529.



2020 Pro Bono Awards

The recipients of the Pro Bono Awards are determined by the Pro Bono Committee of the Savannah Bar Association. The awards seek to recognize the attorney who has handled the greatest number of cases (Champion), the attorney who has done the most to weave Pro Bono into the fabric of the practice of law in our bar (Advocate), and the person or entity that has done the most to build Pro Bono success in our community.

Pro Bono Champion

Joey Turner

Mr. Turner specializes in criminal defense. Prior to opening his own practice, he was a prosecutor for many years. He has been representing clients throughout southern Georgia for more than a decade.

Pro Bono Advocate

Stephen Harris

Mr. Harris has been in general practice in Savannah for 50 years. He is a long-time GLSP volunteer and tries to have an open file on a Pro Bono case most of the time.

Pro Bono Catalyst

Bouhan Falligant LLP

Bouhan Falligant LLP is a Savannah law firm that handles a broad range of complex legal issues. The firm has a long history of supporting programs and projects that benefit the well-being of the local community. Several of the firm's attorneys are GLSP Pro Bono volunteers.

Pro Bono Service

Jon Maire

Mr. Maire practiced law in Michigan before retiring to Savannah. He has volunteered in-house with GLSP for nearly 20 years and has assisted over 350 GLSP clients during that time.

Past Award Winner

Pro Bono Champion

Pro Bono Advocate

Pro Bono Catalyst

2014	Kran Riddle	Francesca Rehal	In-House Volunteer Attorneys
2015	Angie Tinsman	Jerold Murray	SBA Young Lawyers Division
2016	Jerold Murray	Birney Bull	The Hall Law Group
2017	Francesca Rehal	Julia Sullivan	Savannah Morning News
2018	Francesca Rehal	Rob Brannen	Kristin Ruzicka Cerbone
2019	Francesca Rehal	Mark Schaefer	SAFE Shelter



2020 Pro Bono Attorneys

These attorneys volunteered their time, talents, and expertise in service to low-income Georgians and in support of the Georgia Legal Services Program's mission to provide access to justice and opportunities out of poverty.

Vandana Abrams, Bouhan Falligant LLP
Kathleen Aderhold, Kathleen Aderhold PC
Solomon Amusan, The Amusan Law Firm PC
Keith Barber, Gabe T. Cliett PC
Richard Barid, Smith Barid LLC
Langston Bass, Brennan, Harris & Romlinger LLP
Thomas Bateski, Thomas R. Bateski, Esq. PC
Britt Beecher, Farah & Farah PA
Cletus Bergen, Attorney at Law
James Blackburn, Jr., Wiseman Blackburn
Cam Bowman, The Bowman Law Office LLC
Luke Bradley, Bouhan Falligant LLP
Elizabeth Branch, The Branch Law Firm LLC
Scott Brannen, The Brannen Law Office PC
Dana Braun, Ellis, Painter, Ratterree & Adams LLC
Marc Bruce, Edenfield Cox Bruce
Birney Bull, Adoption Law Office of Birney O'Brian
Bull Ted Carellas, Ca, ellas Law Firm
Tony Center, Law Office of Tony Center PC
Kristin Ruzicka Cerbone
Dolly Chisholm, Bouhan Falligant LLP
Dottie Courington, Bouhan Falligant LLP
Will Cubbedge, Law Office of William A. Cubbedge
Ben Davidson, Brennan, Harris & Romlinger, LLP
Nichole Davis, Balbo & Gregg, Attorneys at Law PC
Rachel Edwards, Wright & Edwards PC
Samantha Fassett, Johnson Kraeuter LLC
Joseph Gannam, Gannam Gnann & Steinmetz LLC
Stephen Harris, Stephen H. Harris Attorney at Law
LLC Erin Haug, Law Office of Erin Muldoon Haug
Freddie Heitmann, Heitmann & Associates LLC
Doug Herman, Michael G. Hostilo LLC
Kathy Horne, Bouhan Falligant LLP
Matt Hube, The Hube Law Firm PC

Tom Hudson, Fleming Law PC
Lester Johnson, Lester B. Johnson, III PC
Shalena Jones
Derek Kauhane, Attorney at Law
Andrew Lohn, Meyer & Sayers LLP
Jon Maire
Melanie Marks, Bouhan Falligant LLP
Karen McDonald, Michael G. Hostilo LLC
Elaine McGruder
Robert Mock, Robert M. Mock Jr. LLC
Jerold Murray, Law Office of Jerold L. Murray LLC
Paige Navarro, Hall Law Group PC
Tracy O'Connell, Ellis, Painter, Ratterree & Adams
LLP Joel Osteen, Osteen Law Group
Virginia Patterson, Law Office of Virginia E. Patterson
PC Janice Powell, Attorney-Mediator
Rick Rafter, The Rafter Law Firm LLC
Francesca Reha!, Attorney at Law
Kran Riddle, Law Offices of R. Krannert Riddle LLC
Christopher Rouse, Rouse + Copeland LLC
Richard Sanders, Andrews & Sanders Law Offices
Mark Schaefer, Elder Law Office of Mark Schaefer PC
Bryan Schivera, Oliver Maner LLP
Gracie Shepherd, Oliver Maner LLP
Julia Sullivan, The Sullivan Law Firm
Zach Thomas, Bergen & Bergen
Lew Tippet, Tippet Legal Services LLC
Joey Turner, The Turner Firm LLC
Josh Walker, Zeigler & Walker PC
Adam Walters, Walters Law PC
Gwendolyn Fortson Waring, Attorney at Law
Steve Woodward, Woodward Criminal Defense LLC
Nathanael Wright



YLD March Trivia Night and April Happy Hour

The Savannah Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division held its annual trivia competition on March 25, 2021, at B&D Burgers on Broughton Street. For the second consecutive year, emcee Gary Tiller stumped participants with obscure questions about a range of topics, including Savannah history and geography. Additionally, the YLD held its April happy hour on April 22, 2021, at Service Brewing Co. The events were sponsored by BenchMark Physical Therapy and Amicus Funding, respectively.



YLD Membership

The Savannah YLD provides opportunities for young lawyers to socialize and network, meet members of “the Big Bar” (the Savannah Bar Association), participate in community service projects, and become involved with the State YLD. Any local attorney under the age of 35, or who has been admitted to practice fewer than 5 years, is invited to join. To do so, please complete and return the following form, along with your check, to Ellis Allen at the address below. If you have any questions, please contact Ellis at eallen@wswgs.com. Yearly dues are \$60.00 for each private sector lawyer and \$30.00 for each public sector lawyer, including judicial clerks.

Ellis Allen
Weiner, Shearouse, Weitz, Greenberg & Shawe, LLP
P.O. Box 10105
Savannah, Georgia 31412



Pilot Project Creates New Children’s Attorney Office In Chatham County Juvenile Court - Attorneys and Staff Needed

A new Children’s Attorney Office is being established in the Chatham County Juvenile Court as a part of a pilot project to improve representation of children in dependency cases. The Georgia Office of the Child Advocate (OCA), the Supreme Court Committee on Justice for Children (J4C), the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS), Chatham County Commission and the Chatham County Juvenile Court are all engaged in this pilot project.

With the support of Chairman Ellis, the County Commissioners, and the County Manager, the project establishes a new Children’s Attorney Office. It will provide three dedicated, full-time children’s attorneys, one for each of the three Juvenile Court courtrooms, as well as an office social worker and support staff. While the court is fortunate to have dedicated panel attorneys representing children and parents in dependency cases, there are too few attorneys on the court’s panel, the case load is high, scheduling is very challenging, administrative support is lacking for many attorneys, and the cases are frequently complex. The project will provide the three full-time attorneys with ongoing training, support, fewer scheduling conflicts, and the ability to dedicate more time to each case. This, in turn, will allow the new office members to dedicate their careers to, and develop greater expertise in, child representation. The program will also provide additional training and technical assistance to all dependency panel attorneys in this court.

Presiding Judge Thomas L. Cole, Judge Roxanne E. Formey, and Judge Lindretta Grindle Kramer are confident that this program will improve outcomes for the children and families appearing before this court and strongly encourage all interested attorneys to apply for positions with this office.

The hiring process for the new attorneys and staff will be conducted through Chatham County Human Resources with the openings being posted in May.



Panel Attorneys Needed For Juvenile Court

Chatham County Juvenile Court utilizes a panel of attorneys from which to appoint and provide representation for parties appearing in Juvenile Court. The Court is fortunate to have a panel of attorneys dedicated to the deeply meaningful work accomplished at Juvenile Court. However, there are currently too few attorneys on this panel for the high number of cases before the Court. As a result, there are sometimes struggles to find attorneys to represent all children and parents, as well as to serve as Guardians ad litem.



Panel attorneys can choose to limit their service to only those roles of interest. These attorney panels include the delinquency and CHINS panel, dependency panel, special proceedings panel, or Guardians ad litem panel. Delinquency cases are those that would be a crime if committed by an adult. The Public Defender's office represents most children in those cases, however, conflicts require appointment of a panel attorney. Dependency cases involve the representation of a child or parent in which there are allegations of neglect and/or abuse. Special Proceedings include Superior Court transfers of custody and support matters, Probate Court transfers of temporary guardianship issues, and a variety of other matters. Guardians ad litem can be assigned in any type of case.

The case assignment process begins with an e-mail notice and a representation request to all attorneys on a specific panel. The assignment of the case is then made only to one of those attorneys that responds as willing to accept the case. The timelines in juvenile court are very short and very strict, so cases move quickly. Practice in this court is an opportunity to have a profound impact upon a child and the future course of his or her life.

The Court encourages counsel to consider making this important work a part of your practice. For information about joining the panel of attorneys from which the Court appoints counsel, please contact our Court Administrator, Patricia Merritt, PMerritt@chathamcounty.org, or (912)652-6726.

Harris Lowry Manton LLP Honors Legacy of U.S. Congressman and Civil Rights Leader John Lewis with Portrait Unveiling, Donation to John and Lillian Miles Lewis Foundation

Harris Lowry Manton LLP, an award-winning, full-service trial law firm with offices in Atlanta and Savannah, recently unveiled a commissioned portrait of the late U.S. Congressman and Civil Rights leader John Lewis, which hangs in the firm's Brookhaven, Ga. office in honor of Lewis's landmark pursuit of equality and uncompromising commitment to justice.

At a special unveiling ceremony on April 2, Harris Lowry Manton LLP founding partners Jeff Harris, Steve Lowry and Jed Manton also presented a \$5,000 donation to the John and Lillian Miles Lewis Foundation, a nonprofit organization created to continue the legacy of Congressman Lewis and his wife Lillian Miles Lewis. Foundation Treasurer Mignon Morman Willis and her husband, Bill – longtime friends of John and Lillian Lewis – accepted the donation on behalf of the Foundation.

“There is no greater role model for initiating positive change and leveraging the power of the U.S. Constitution, the legal process and American democracy than Congressman John Lewis,” said Harris Lowry Manton LLP founding partner Jeff Harris. “His impact on the Civil Rights Movement and groundbreaking legislative work continues to guide the pursuit of justice for our clients and our community.”

The commissioned portrait of John Lewis is the work of acclaimed Atlanta-based artist Patrick Lewis, who is known for his expressive, loose paintings of historic figures and iconic brands. The artist utilizes unstructured,



dramatic brushstrokes and a commanding mix of colors to depict Congressman Lewis in the foreground with the Atlanta skyline behind him. The acrylic and mixed media painting, which measures 6x8-feet, features one of the Congressman's most noteworthy quotes in the bottom left corner: "Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble."

"This one-of-a-kind portrait of Congressman Lewis occupies a place of honor and distinction at our firm's Brookhaven office," said Harris Lowry Manton LLP founding partner Jed Manton. "I believe this painting will offer daily inspiration to our attorneys and staff, encouraging them to honor his legacy through their work advocating on behalf of our clients."

An Alabama native known for his courage and nonviolent approach to initiating change, Lewis was arrested 40 times during the Civil Rights Movement. He integrated the bus system as a Freedom Rider, delivered a speech at the historic March on Washington and, most notably, led 600 peaceful protestors supporting voting rights across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama in 1965.

As Director of the Voter Education Project, Lewis registered nearly four million minority voters and was later appointed by President Jimmy Carter to head the federal volunteer agency ACTION. In 1981, Lewis was elected to Atlanta City Council, and in 1986, he began 33 years of service as a U.S. Congressman. Widely considered "the conscience of the U.S. Congress," Lewis was presented with the Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama for his numerous civic contributions to the nation, including establishing the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Park in Atlanta, leading the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act and helping found the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. Lewis dedicated his life to protecting human rights, securing civil liberties and building what he called "the Beloved Community" in America. Lewis died on July 17, 2020 at age 80.

Founded in 2017, the John and Lillian Miles Lewis Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization continuing the Congressman and his wife's lifelong work by encouraging and supporting individuals, groups and organizations to reach for the greatness in themselves.

"We are deeply grateful to the attorneys and staff at Harris Lowry Manton for their generous donation and support of our mission to promote nonviolence, voting rights, civic engagement, social justice, democracy, human rights and civil liberties," said Mignon Morman Willis, Treasurer for the John and Lillian Miles Lewis Foundation.

Named the Georgia Legal Awards Litigation Department of the Year - Small Firm, Harris Lowry Manton LLP is the only Georgia law firm to secure seven annual #1 verdicts in the state in seven different categories. The firm, which has offices in Atlanta and Savannah, has a strong record of handling complex cases and has secured more multi-million dollar verdicts over the past decade than any other law firm in Georgia



Savannah, Ga. Attorney Ed King Joins Dulany Industries, Inc. As General Counsel

Attorney Ed King recently joined Dulany Industries, Inc. in Savannah, Ga. as the company's General Counsel. In his new position, King is responsible for contracts, acquisitions, tax planning and corporate strategy. As a longtime solo practitioner, King has provided legal counsel in a wide range of practice areas for Dulany Industries, Inc. since 1988, working closely with company President and CEO Reed Dulany.



Ed King

"I've always felt like I was part of Dulany Industries, Inc., working alongside Reed through various stages of the company's evolution," said King. "The company has grown to the point where it warranted a full-time in-house legal counsel position." Dulany Industries, Inc. -- the parent company of Southern States Chemical, SeaGate Terminals, LLC and SeaPoint Industrial Terminal Complex -- was originally founded in 1897 and has the distinction of being one of Georgia's oldest and most innovative companies.

"Ed has made invaluable contributions to our company over the years," said Reed Dulany, President and CEO of Dulany Industries, Inc. "He has been key to our success, offering strategic legal counsel as we have expanded our operations to Wilmington, N.C. and Chesapeake, Va. He also played a critical role in the legally complex purchase and development of SeaPoint Industrial Terminal Complex in Savannah, a multi-use, multi-tenant industrial site with a strong commitment to environmental sustainability and community development."

Originally from Clemson, S.C., King earned a J.D. and LLM from Emory University in Atlanta and a B.A. in History and Accounting from Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C. In 1984, he moved to Savannah, Ga., where he practiced for four years with Adams Gardner and for five years at HunterMaclean before opening Edwin W. King, Jr., P.C. An active community volunteer and a graduate of Leadership Savannah, King resides on Isle of Hope, Ga.

Whitney L. Mosley Joins The Law Firm Of Lester B. Johnson, III, P.C.

The Law Firm of Lester B. Johnson, III, P.C., is pleased to announce that Whitney L. Mosley joined the firm as an associate on November 2, 2020. Ms. Mosley focuses on personal injury and probate law while also assisting with complex municipal and education law cases.

A native of Rome, Georgia, Ms. Mosley received her J.D. from Ave Maria School of Law in Naples, Florida. Ms. Mosley received her Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Mercer University and a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice from the University of Massachusetts-Lowell.

During law school, Ms. Mosley interned with the National Labor Relations Board in Tampa, Florida. Prior to attending law school, Ms. Mosley worked in higher education, serving as Dean of Student Affairs and the Title IX Coordinator at Andrew College.



Whitney L. Mosley



GLSP Thanks Volunteer Attorneys

On behalf of the Georgia Legal Services Program, we want to thank the following attorneys for volunteering their legal services to the Pro Bono Project in the first quarter of 2021. With the help of these volunteers, we were able to serve 32 people who might not otherwise have received assistance. We are fortunate to have an outstanding group of lawyers in our community who are willing to give their time and expertise to help those in need. We truly appreciate your contribution to serving those who otherwise cannot afford legal services.

Thomas Bateski, Thomas R. Bateski, Esq. PC
Lucas Bradley, Bouhan Falligant LLP
Kristin Cerbone, Attorney at Law
Ben Davidson, Brennan, Harris & Romlinger, LLP
Nancy DeVetter, DeVetter Law LLC
Kathy Horne, Bouhan Falligant LLP
Matt Hube, The Hube Law Firm, PC
Daniel Jenkins, Law Offices of Daniel C. Jenkins LLC

Melanie Marks, Bouhan Falligant LLP
Jerold Murray, Law Office of Jerold L. Murray, LLC
Virginia Patterson, Law Office of Virginia E. Patterson, PC
Francesca Rehal, Attorney at Law
Christopher Rouse, Rouse + Copeland LLC
Bryan Schivera, Oliver Mainer LLP
Joey Turner, The Turner Law Firm, LLC
Adam Walters, Walters Law PC

Weiner, Shearouse, Weitz, Greenberg & Shawe Welcomes Attorney Ellis Allen

The law firm of Weiner, Shearouse, Weitz, Greenberg & Shawe has welcome Ellis Allen as an attorney with the firm.

Raised in Savannah, Allen received his J.D from the University of Kentucky College of Law in Lexington, Kentucky. Prior to joining Weiner, Shearouse, Weitz, Greenberg & Shawe, Allen gained experience representing a diverse group of national, regional and local corporate clients with an emphasis on regional healthcare organizations in various matters involving litigation, property development, contract negotiations and corporate compliance.



Ellis Allen

Allen’s practice is focused in the areas of commercial and residential real estate finance, acquisitions, development and leasing, business transactions and administration, and civil litigation. He graduated from St. Andrew’s School in Savannah and then attended the University of South Carolina before earning his Juris Doctorate from the University of Kentucky College of Law.

Allen is admitted to all state and superior courts of Georgia as well as the United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia. He is an active member and chairman for the Savannah Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division and has served as coach for the mock trial team at the St. Andrew’s School for several years.

Please go to www.wswgs.com to learn more about Weiner, Shearouse, Weitz, Greenberg and Shawe, LLP.



Harris Lowry Manton LLP Launches Banded Together Initiative to Encourage COVID-19 Vaccination, Provide Scholarships to Support Georgia Children Who Have Lost Parents Due to Coronavirus

Harris Lowry Manton LLP, a law firm with offices in Atlanta and Savannah, launched the Banded Together campaign earlier today to encourage COVID-19 vaccination in Georgia and to offer scholarships to support children across the state who have lost parents due to the pandemic.

“We want to address vaccine hesitancy and encourage Georgia residents to get vaccinated to reduce the spread of COVID-19,” said Jeff Harris, a founding partner at Harris Lowry Manton LLP. “We know the past year has been a tough time for many families and want to do our part to support children who have lost parents or guardians due to Coronavirus.”



Harris Lowry Manton LLP
Founding Partner Jeff Harris

Banded Together is a non-profit organization that reflects the firm’s ongoing commitment to supporting the community in good times and bad times.



The Banded Together campaign is designed to address COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and to provide scholarships for children in Georgia who have lost parents or guardians due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

“Our firm has always had a strong connection to the community and to the state we’re proud to call home,” said Steve Lowry, a founding partner at Harris Lowry Manton LLP. “We think it’s extremely important to raise awareness about Coronavirus vaccination in Georgia and to give back to help families in need.”

Green wristbands with the PROUD TO BE VACCINATED slogan are available, free of charge, at Fulton County Department of Health vaccination sites in Atlanta and at Coastal Health District of Georgia vaccination sites in Savannah.

The Banded Together campaign is currently accepting corporate as well as personal donations, with 100% of donations going to fund scholarships for children across Georgia and to provide vaccination wristbands free of charge to the public. Donations can be made online at banded-together.org.

Since Harris Lowry Manton LLP’s inception, the firm has shared a strong commitment to giving back to the community and making a positive impact across Georgia, complementing the work the attorneys do to advocate on behalf of catastrophically injured clients in the courtroom. Throughout the year, the firm’s partners, associates and staff join forces to support a wide range of important community-based initiatives.



During the pandemic, the firm donated 500 box lunches prepared by Empire State South to healthcare workers at Piedmont Atlanta Hospital and Grady Ponce de Leon Infectious Disease Center and to first responders at police precincts and fire/EMS locations throughout downtown and midtown Atlanta. In Savannah, the firm collaborated with Nine Line Apparel to donate 1,000 free protective masks to area first responders.

For seven consecutive years, Harris Lowry Manton LLP has also hosted a First Responder Appreciation Event, providing free catered lunches, giveaway items and live music for local paramedics, firefighters, police officers and emergency medical responders in Savannah.

“We hope the Banded Together campaign will make a positive impact in Georgia during a critical time,” said Harris Lowry Manton LLP founding partner Jed Manton. “We think it’s extremely important that as many people as possible get the COVID vaccine so we can all look forward to a brighter, safer future.”

More information is available at banded-together.org.



Banded Together wristbands are being distributed, free of charge, at vaccination sites in Atlanta and Savannah.

Announcements

Our heavy duty, well-constructed, dark wood executive desk and matching credenza are looking for a new home. There is no cost for the furniture, but you will need to hire professional movers to remove them from our office. If interested, please contact Amy Lee Copeland at ALC@roco.pro.

Adam Walters was recently reappointed to a second 2-year term as Vice-Chair of Publications for the Physician Organizations Practice Group of the American Health Law Association.



Adam Walters



Georgia Legal Service Helps Crime Victims Recover

Did you know Georgia's Victims Compensation can pay up to \$25,000 to crime victims, including victims of family violence, sexual assault, and stalking? Did you know that Georgia Legal Services Program can help victims apply?

GLSP's Savannah Office can assist victims in finding out if they may qualify and in applying for Victims Compensation. Victims Compensation covers:

- Medical and Dental Expenses including prescriptions and copays (up to \$15,000)
- Loss of Income or Support (up to \$20,000)
- Mental Health Counseling (up to \$3,000)
- Funeral Expenses (up to \$6,000)
- Crime Scene Cleanup (up to \$1,500)

Anyone can refer a crime victim to GLSP for Victims Compensation assistance. GLSP has gotten substantial amounts of Victims Compensation to help survivors pull their lives back together after a devastating crime. GLSP's Savannah Office has staff with certified Victims Compensation training that includes SBA Member and Attorney Kyle C. Gallenstein, and its Victims of Crime Navigator Carmen Knox.

To ask for GLSP's help, please call 1-833 GLSP LAW (or 1-833-457-7529), or apply online at glsp.org.

GLSP is a nonprofit public interest law firm whose mission is to provide free, high quality, civil legal services to low-income or senior-aged persons in Georgia outside of the Atlanta metropolitan area. Its mission is to create equal access to justice and opportunities out of poverty. For more information about GLSP, visit glsp.org. For information on Georgia's Victims Compensation Program, visit crimevictimscomp.ga.gov.



Georgia Legal Services Program

Seeking Associate Attorney

Ellis Painter, LLP is pleased to announce an opportunity for an associate attorney to join its litigation group in Savannah. An ideal candidate would have at least 2 years of litigation experience, preferably handling personal injury, premises, and/or automobile/trucking litigation. The firm welcomes candidates who are energetic, organized, and comfortable working both independently and as part of a team handling an active case load. Salary is commensurate with experience, plus potential for merit bonuses. Please contact Leslie Brannen (lbrannen@epra-law.com) for additional details.



GLSP Seeks Education Project Supervising Attorney

GLSP seeks an attorney responsible for leading GLSP's education advocacy throughout Georgia. This position can be housed in any of the Regional offices, including Savannah.

Primary Duties:

- Maintain a small caseload to provide direct legal representation and legal supports for children and parents in suspension or expulsion from school around Georgia, including at school discipline hearings, appeals, Manifestation Determination Reviews, and Section 504 securing behavioral supports and services. Caseload also could include cases dealing with Special Education and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.
- Supervise directly one to two attorney(s) working in GLSP's FAIR Project, a collaboration with Georgia Appleseed, representing children in foster care on suspension or expulsion
- Stay current on education law and trends in Georgia and nationally
- Provide legal support to GLSP and GLSP pro bono attorneys representing children facing education issues including Special Education and Section 504 issues, suspension or expulsion from school, including GLSP attorneys working on the FAIR Project
- Develop and support systemic advocacy challenging school discipline issues for children Present client and community education programs on education issues
- Visit GLSP offices to discuss education issues and cases
- Develop community education training and train at community education events throughout Georgia
- Develop training and train GLSP and FAIR Project pro bono attorneys
- Collaborate with Georgia Appleseed on the FAIR project goals
- Receive, review, and distribute cases referred to GLSP for the FAIR Project
- Support grants manager in necessary grant reporting for the Fair Project
- Responsible for implementing grant objectives as required by FAIR Project contracts

Desired Competencies: Commitment to racial equity and countering the school-to-prison pipeline; Strong team and collaborative skills; Creativity; Strong legal research and writing skills; Ability to effectively communicate to diverse groups and various audiences; Strong negotiation skills; Strong litigation skills; Well organized and able to balance several competing priorities; Strong leadership and mentoring skills; Licensed in GA, at least one year of practice, preferably representing children.

Some travel including overnight required.

Some evening and weekend work required.

A statement of interest and resume should be submitted to Jane Bonner at jbonner@glsp.org by May 10, 2021.

Start date: As soon as possible.



2021 New Superior Court Domestic Relations Cases ADR Screening Process and Tools

By: Trish Murphy, Esq., Director, Family Law Services at The Mediation Center

Starting on January 1, 2021, a revised ADR Screening process is required by the Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution (“GCDR”). The revised screening process is designed to help better identify domestic violence (“DV”) cases, determine whether mediation can be conducted safely and free of coercion, and ensure that a specialized domestic violence mediator is assigned to the case when necessary.

The revised ADR Screening process for Chatham County and how it interacts with The Mediation Center (“TMC”) is as follows:

- 1) **TPO Registry Check** - Chatham County ADR office is required to check every Superior Court contested domestic relations case in the TPO registry before referring the case to mediation. If there are results in the TPO registry, we proceed to Tier II screening.
- 2) **Tier I Screening** - All clients/citizens must complete Tier I screening prior to mediation. Tier I screening is conducted using an online questionnaire: <https://godr.org/adr-screening/>. This online questionnaire is in lieu of the hard copy Domestic Relations screening form that was used prior to January 1, 2021.
 - a) Attorneys send the link to their clients for completion.
 - b) Link to the online GODR screening tool: <https://godr.org/adr-screening/>
 - Also located on the Attorneys Tab on our website:
<https://mediationsavannah.com/mediation/information-for-attorneys/>
 - c) Once a citizen has completed the questionnaire, the questionnaire responses are automatically routed to the Chatham County ADR Office (or appropriate ADR office for other county cases) for review. TMC will receive a client’s screening form approximately two business days after the form was completed. Questionnaire responses are not sent to the party, attorney, or others due to safety issues.
 - d) If indicators of domestic violence in Tier I - proceed to Tier II screening
- 3) **Tier II Screening:** Key question in Tier II Screening: Can this mediation be done safely and free of coercion? Does the party being screened currently possess the capacity to advocate for their own interests during mediation (has the violence prevented them from being in a mind-frame conducive to mediation)?
 - a) ADR staff or the mediator are the persons authorized to do the Tier II screening with the citizen. The link to the Tier I screening has been modified wherein it will not automatically go to Tier II if triggered by the answers to the Tier I questions.
 - b) The ADR staff or the mediator will explain the mediation process and the safeguards.

Other Domestic Relations ADR Rules:

- **Mediation can not start until the Tier I screening is completed & received by TMC.**
- If no Tier I has been received before mediation = Automatically the case is mediated with Domestic Violence protocol in place until it is fully screened.



- If a case is labeled Domestic Violence:
 - the mediator **MUST** be a trained Specialized Domestic Violence mediator (this is an additional 14 hour training to be certified)
 - mediation must be done in a secure location:
 - Virtual and in separate break-out rooms for duration of mediation
 - At a secure location, such as the Courthouse, with proper security (officers, metal detectors) and in different rooms the entire time and neither know the location of the other.
 - A case labeled as Domestic Violence cannot be mediated at TMC offices (even if only 1 person wants to be at TMC) because there is no metal detector or security officers.

TMC ADR Process to ensure screening compliance:

- **One week before mediation:**

TMC will review the case file to ensure parties have completed the online screening form

 - If the screening form is in the file, and there are no concerns, no further screening is required.
 - If TMC has not received the Tier I screening form then TMC will contact the party or party's attorney to perform Tier I screening.
- **One week before mediation:** TMC will email the parties the following information:
 - Reminder to take the self-paced Transitional Parenting class at this link: <https://mediationsavannah.com/transitional-parenting-course-registration>
 - Reminder to pay the mediation fee at this link: <https://mediationsavannah.com/pay-mediation-fee/>
 - Complete Tier I Screening form at this link: <https://godr.org/adr-screening/>

ATTORNEYS: Please complete the required in a timely manner. Failure to complete said forms will delay the start time of the mediation which impacts all persons involved in said mediation.

* To keep up to date on all new GODR and TMC policies, law or ADR changes - check out TMC Attorney page on our website, link here: <https://mediationsavannah.com/mediation/information-for-attorneys/>

*Questions, contact Trish Murphy at 912-354-6686 / tmurphy@mediationsavannah.com



Now Open for Submissions

The Savannah Bar Association is always seeking content for upcoming editions of The Citation. Members are encouraged to submit:

- Your professional and personal announcements
- Law-related advertisements,
- Articles or announcements regarding your preferred philanthropies
- Other written submissions.

Suggestions for improving The Citation are also always welcome.

Finally, we love to receive photographs and video 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.

Please contact us at SBACitation@gmail.com with submissions or inquiries.