



The Citation

SBA 2020 Hot Topics Seminar to be Held on Jan. 24th

The SBA 2020 Hot Topics Seminar will be held on Friday, January 24, 2020, in Savannah. This seminar is a great chance to earn CLE hours locally, easily, and efficiently.

EARLY registration is available through Friday, January 10, 2020, (attendees may continue to register after January 10th as a late registration). All registrations with a postmark on or before January 10th will be accepted as early registrations. Please return registration forms to Mark Kelso.

For your convenience, agenda and registration PDF links are located at the bottom of this page.

Please be aware seminar registration is not available online. To register for the seminar, you must access the registration form and submit it to this year's seminar chair:

Mark Kelso
Kelso Law, LLC
P.O. Box 61507
Savannah, GA 31420
912.704.8431
mkelsolaw@gmail.com

Registering for the January luncheon online does not register you for the seminar.

However, if you register for the seminar, you do not need to also register for the January luncheon as it is included in the seminar registration.





SAVANNAH BAR ASSOCIATION HOT TOPICS SEMINAR

REGISTRATION FORM

Date: Friday, January 24, 2020

Time: Registration begins at 7:45 A.M.
Program begins at 8:20 A.M.

Place: The Savannah Golf Club, 1661 East President Street, Savannah, GA 31404

Name (Print): _____

Georgia Bar No: _____

Employer: _____

Business Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Fax: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

Tuition: [Breakfast and Lunch is included in tuition]

- \$190.00 Savannah Bar Association Members Early Registration (by January 10, 2020)
- \$220.00 Savannah Bar Association Members Late Registration
- \$215.00 Non-Savannah Bar Association Members Early Registration (by January 10, 2020)
- \$225.00 Non-Savannah Bar Association Members Late Registration
- \$150.00 Government / Student

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "SAVANNAH BAR ASSOCIATION" AND RETURN WITH THIS FORM TO:

Mark Kelso
 Kelso Law, LLC
 PO Box 61507
 Savannah, GA 31420
 MKelsoLaw@gmail.com
 (912) 704-8431

**7.00 TOTAL HOURS OF CLE CREDIT (PENDING APPROVAL) INCLUDING: 4.25 HOURS OF TRIAL PRACTICE,
 1 HOUR OF ETHICS, &
 1 HOUR OF PROFESSIONALISM**



THE SAVANNAH BAR ASSOCIATION PRESENTS:
HOT TOPICS SEMINAR
January 24, 2020
The Savannah Golf Club
1661 East President Street
Savannah, GA 31414

As of 12/21/19

7:45 – 8:20 a.m.	Registration/Breakfast	
8:20 – 8:30 a.m.	Welcome	
8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Taxation Update	Jeffrey Williamson
9:00 – 9:30 a.m.	Employment Law Update/Equal Pay for Equal Work and the Woman' National Soccer Team	Catherine Bowman
9:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Marijuana and Intoxication Defenses/Opioid Update	Jonathan Johnston
10:00 – 10:45 a.m.	Attorney Wellness	Trish Murphy
10:45 – 11:00 a.m.	BREAK	
11:00 – 11:30 a.m.	Product Liability	Jeff Harris/Steve Lowry
11:30 – 12:00 p.m.	Probate Issues and Recent Developments	Wendy Williamson
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	SAVANNAH BAR ASSOCIATION LUNCHEON Topic: Professionalism	Judge Sara Doyle of the Court of Appeals of Georgia
1:00 – 1:45 p.m.	Special Master/Rule 46	Judge Federal
1:45 – 2:30 p.m.	Social Media Discovery	Zachary Thomas
2:30 – 3:15 p.m.	Civil Liability for HIPAA Violations	Rob Kelly
3:15 – 3:30 p.m.	BREAK	
3:30 – 4:00 a.m.	Workers Compensation	Shari Miltiades
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Legal Ethics	Richard Sanders
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn	



Federalist Society Hosts Solicitor General

On December 2, 2019, the Savannah Lawyers Chapter of the Federalist Society welcomed Noel Francisco, the United States Solicitor General, to the Chatham Club at the DeSoto Hotel. After an introduction by Bobby L. Christine, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, Noel reviewed important cases pending before the Supreme Court, discussed the practice of nationwide injunctions issued by federal district court judges, and emphasized the importance of civility in the practice of law.



Raised in Oswego, New York, Noel Francisco received his B.A. with honors in 1991 from the University of Chicago and received a J.D. with high honors from the University of Chicago Law School in 1996. After law school, he clerked for Judge J. Michael Luttig of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and for Associate Justice Antonin Scalia of the United States Supreme Court. He subsequently practiced law in the D.C. office of Jones Day before being sworn in as the 48th Solicitor General on September 19, 2017.



If you would like to join the Federalist Society, contact Savannah Lawyers Chapter Chair Carri Johnson at CarriHJohnson@gmail.com. Many thanks to Carri for organizing the event and to Noel for speaking to the Federalist Society!



Amiotte Elected President of Glynn County Bar Association

Stephanie Amiotte, partner at Hall Booth Smith's regional Brunswick office was elected president of the Glynn County Bar Association for 2020. The Glynn County Bar Association serves lawyers practicing in Glynn County and Brunswick by providing continuing education credits and valuable information on matters affecting the local community and its citizens. The Glynn County Bar Association's mission is to promote the profession of law and of the collegiality, professionalism and ethics of lawyers practicing in and around Brunswick and Glynn County, Georgia. More information can be found at its website at www.glynncountybar.org.



Stephanie Amiotte

Kate Dodson Strain Opens Strain Law, LLC.

Kate Dodson Strain is pleased to announce the opening of her new law firm, Strain Law, LLC. Her practice concentrates on trademark, copyright and franchising law. She has practiced intellectual property for sixteen years, first at HunterMaclean and most recently with Belzer PC. With a wealth of knowledge and experience in this area of law, Strain Law helps businesses and individuals protect their company and product names. Strain Law can also help your clients with their franchising needs whether they are purchasing a franchise or setting up a franchise system. You can reach Kate at kate@thestrainlawfirm.com or (912) 963-1776.



Kate Dodson Strain



Invitation to Attend Savannah Traffick Jam 2020

Presented by the Savannah Interagency Diversity Council
“Lies Beneath the Surface: Working Together to End Human Trafficking”
Saturday, January 25, 2020 @ 8am - 4pm
Hosted by Savannah State University - Student Union
Admission & Lunch: FREE - Registration is Required!
Register: Register for Traffick Jam 2020
Learn more: <https://thesidc.org/traffick-jam-2020>

Human trafficking is a \$32 billion global industry. We are not immune in Savannah; in recent years our fair city has fallen victim to these crimes. In an effort to engage the community on the current-day realities of human trafficking, The Savannah Interagency Diversity Council (SIDC) in collaboration with Savannah Working Against Human Trafficking (SWAHT) have developed an annual community forum called “Savannah Traffick Jam”. The SIDC believes that this public health and criminal issue can be combatted through community-wide education and empowerment to eradicate these crimes and harmful ideologies.

Marty Kemp, the First Lady of Georgia remarks: “Georgia CARES, a state-wide human trafficking and exploitation service agency, testified that human trafficking cases have been reported in 145 of our 159 counties. It is clear, human trafficking is not just a problem in urban centers across Georgia, but a serious issue in every corner of our state. This problem spans geography, race, gender and socio-economic status. In fact, over 50 percent of human trafficking victims are recruited by their friends and family, and the average age of a human trafficking victim is 14.8 years. No child deserves to have their childhood robbed by this horrible industry.”

Savannah Traffick Jam is the Southeast’s largest FREE educational community forum against Human Trafficking. This year we anticipate over 500 attendees. Our Speakers will share critical information about the current state of affairs in human trafficking and provide “First Responders & Concerned Citizens” insight on how to recognize and to safely take action in the event one observes possible activity. The event is free to all attendees, lunch is included and professionals in law enforcement and healthcare will earn continuing education credits. Pre-registration is required for all attending. This event shares that hope, help and refuge are available for victims.

Legal Track Agenda:

- 08:00 – 08:30 Registration
 - 08:30 – 08:40 Welcome: Bradley & Chessie Robinson – Farah & Farah, Rethreaded
 - 08:45 – 10:50 American University: Zoe Root - The Legal Community
 - 10:55 – 11:10 Break
 - 11:15 – 12:00 Statewide HT Prosecution - Assistant Attorney General Hannah Palmquist - Section Chief of the Human Trafficking Prosecution Section within the Prosecution Division.
 - 12:05 - 13:00 US Attorney’s Office Tania Groover & Greg Gilluly
 - 13:05 - 13:50 Chatham County District Attorney - Meg Heap
- Join Main Conference in the Student Union Building



THE 5th ANNUAL SAVANNAH TRAFFICK JAM LIES BENEATH THE SURFACE: WORKING TOGETHER TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING



Presented by the Savannah Interagency Diversity Council
Sat. Jan 25, 2020 8:00am – 4:00pm
Savannah State University: Student Union Ballroom
Seating is limited, so pre-registration is required to
guarantee your seat and lunch:
<https://thesidc.org/traffick-jam-2020>

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Healthcare, Legal, Law Enforcement, Hospitality, Education, Clergy,
Home Maintenance Professionals & First Responders should attend.

EARN CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS:

Healthcare Providers, Legal and Law Enforcement Professionals
must pre-register to earn continuing education credits. See below.

TOPICS

- Human Trafficking Hotline
- Rescue operations
- Prosecution
- Victim Resources & Rehabilitation Services
- Grooming Trends & Techniques
- Victim/Survivor Experiences
- Local Prevention

FOR THE COMPLETE AGENDA & TO REGISTER:

<https://thesidc.org/traffick-jam-2020>

- All Attendees must pre-register to reserve seat & lunch.
- Healthcare & Legal Professionals must pre-register at the url
above and remain the duration of the event to earn CE credits.
- Law Enforcement Officers must pre-register separately to earn
CE credits and reserve lunch, please contact Jose Gonzales:
SpeedyJag2015@gmail.com

For more information call (912) 398-1343





Six HunterMaclean Attorneys Honored as 2019 Georgia Trend Legal Elite

HunterMaclean, a leading business law firm with offices in Savannah and St. Simons Island, is honored to announce that six attorneys were recently recognized as 2019 Legal Elite by Georgia Trend.

“Our firm is very proud to have six attorneys honored as part of this year’s Legal Elite,” said HunterMaclean Managing Partner Brad Harmon. “This recognition affirms their dedication to their practice, clients, and our community.”

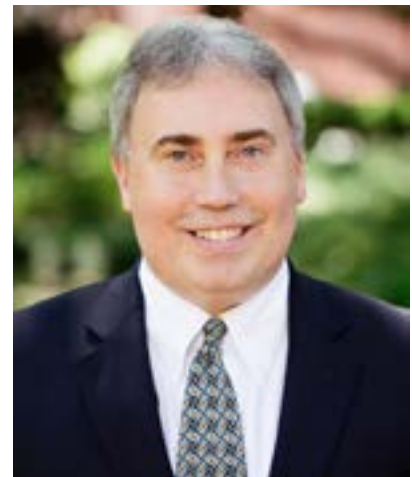
HunterMaclean attorneys named as 2019 Legal Elite include:



Joseph F. Strength



Frank S. Macgill



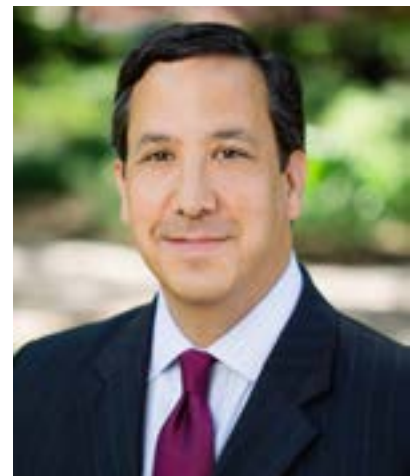
Thomas S. Cullen



J. Benedict Hartman



Christopher H. Smith



Shawn A. Kachmar

Georgia Trend, a statewide business publication, recently published its annual issue honoring Georgia’s leading attorneys for their achievements in various practice areas. Legal Elite is compiled by attorneys submitting their nominations through the publication’s website, and the listing is determined solely by attorneys’ votes.

Georgia Trend’s Legal Elite issue can be found at www.georgiatrend.com.



Mediation Center News: Velvet Gala and Strategic Planning Questionnaire

Celebrate the New Year and Support the Mediation Center at the Velvet Gala's new home, Soho South Café, on Thursday, January 23, 2020. Enjoy open bar, heavy hors d'oeuvres, music, and silent auction.

Ticket link: www.VelvetGala2020.eventbrite.com

All proceeds benefit Mediation Center programs, a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

Your tax deductible sponsorship helps provide Mediation Center services and programs to over 4,400 citizens annually.

Dear Savannah Bar Association Members,

The Mediation Center is creating a 3-year Strategic Plan and we're engaging our stakeholders in the process. Your feedback helps ensure we are prepared to meet your needs and the needs of the community in the future.

The survey is short, and despite its brevity, the information is extremely valuable to the Mediation Center's future and growth. It will take less than 10 minutes to complete the survey. Your responses to the questions posed remain anonymous unless you choose to share your contact information.

URL to access survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mediationstrategicplan>

We appreciate your willingness to support the Mediation Center with this process.

Jack Strother, JD

President, Mediation Center Board of Directors

Admiral Harvey Weitz Boat Ride April 24

SBA's Admiral Harvey Weitz Boat Ride Join the Savannah Bar Association Friday, April 24, 2020 for the Admiral Harvey Weitz Boat Ride. The boat leaves PROMPTLY at 10:00 a.m. from the dock directly in front of Spanky's on River Street and travels down the Savannah River to Daufuskie Island. Boarding starts at 9:30 a.m. for the Boat Ride. The boat should return to the dock on River Street at approximately 4:00 or 4:30 p.m. Please note that online registration paid via credit card is the only way to guarantee a spot on the Boat Ride Walk-up registrations on the morning of the event are subject to availability. www.savannahbar.org/event-3046575



Jury Awards \$8.6 Million in “The Walking Dead” Wrongful Death Trial, Lead Plaintiff’s Attorney Jeff Harris Issues Statement

ATLANTA (Dec. 19, 2019) – Earlier today, a jury in the State Court of Gwinnett County in Atlanta returned an \$8.6 million verdict against Stalwart Films, LLC; TWD Productions VII, LLC and other defendants, following a seven-day trial focusing on the wrongful death of 33-year-old stunt actor John Bernecker. Bernecker died after a July 2017 scripted high fall from a balcony on the set of “The Walking Dead” season 8 in Senoia, Ga.

Harris Lowry Manton LLP partner Jeff Harris – who served as the lead trial attorney representing Susan Bernecker, the mother of John Bernecker – issued the following statement after the jury returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff:

“John was a remarkably talented stunt professional who had an incredibly bright future in the film industry. My sincere hope is this verdict sends a clear message regarding the need to both elevate and strictly adhere to industry safety standards every day, on every shoot, on every film set. John’s tragic and preventable death happened as a result of a series of safety-related failures. Learning from these failures will go a long way in making sure that similar tragedies do not happen to another performer or another family.”



John Bernecker

Born in New Orleans, La., in 1984, John Bernecker was an accomplished stunt performer with nearly 100 film credits over the course of his career. He was recently honored at the 2018 Television Emmy Awards and nominated in both television and film performances at the 2018 SAG Awards. He was known for his stunt work on major productions like Ninja Turtles 1 & 2 (2014-2016), 22 Jump Street (2014), Logan (2017) and Fantastic Four (2015). He also acted in several films, including Black Panther (2018) and played the Werewolf in Goosebumps (2015).

McCorkle & Johnson Seeking Associate Attorney

McCorkle & Johnson is seeking an associate attorney with 1 to 3 years’ experience. The available position is transactional in nature but transactional experience is not required. Please contact Robert McCorkle, rlm@mccorklejohnson.com



Brennan, Wasden & Painter is proud to announce its 30th anniversary



Brennan, Wasden & Painter LLC is a full-service law firm serving businesses, professionals and individuals throughout Georgia and the Carolinas. Since 1989 our firm has built a reputation for client service and results. We strive to deliver effective representation through close collaboration and ongoing communication with the clients we serve.



SAVANNAH OFFICE: 411 East Liberty Street ■ Savannah, Georgia 31401 ■ 912-232-6700
AUGUSTA OFFICE: 801 Broad Street, Suite 501 ■ Augusta, Georgia 30901 ■ 706-250-7373
attorneys@brennanwasden.com ■ brennanwasden.com



Georgia Trend Recognizes Bouhan Falligant Attorneys Horne and Lientz as “Legal Elite”

Bouhan Falligant attorneys, Kathy Horne and John Lientz were recently recognized in the December 2019 issue of Georgia Trend with the publication’s prestigious “Legal Elite” designation. Legal Elite recognizes the top attorneys in the state of Georgia as selected by their peers.

Horne was recognized for her work in the area of bankruptcy law and Lientz for his work in the area of corporate law.

Georgia Trend’s Legal Elite issue honors the state’s most effective attorneys in a number of practice areas, including bankruptcy/creditors’ rights, business law, corporate law, criminal law, family law, general practice, labor & employment, personal injury, public finance/bonds, and taxes/estates/trusts. Recipients, who must be a member of the State Bar and live and practice in Georgia, are nominated and selected by their peers.



John Lientz



Kathy Horne

Savannah Magazine Seeking Artistic Attorneys

Sara Watson, managing editor at Savannah Magazine, is seeking attorneys who pursue artistic and creative passions in their free time to showcase as part of the March/April issue. Whether it’s art, music, theater, writing, design, interiors or something even further afield, Savannah Magazine would love to share the stylish personal stories of Savannah’s most esteemed legal professionals.

To recommend an attorney who fits this description and who would be open to being featured, please pass along their name, a brief description of their creative outlet and contact information to sara.watson@savannahmagazine.com



Oliver Maner Partners William J. Hunter and Paul H. Threlkeld Named to American Board of Trial Advocates

Oliver Maner, an award-winning law firm providing superior legal services since 1897, is pleased to announce William J. Hunter and Paul H. Threlkeld, both partners with the firm, have been named to the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA).

ABOTA dedicates itself to the preservation and promotion of the Seventh Amendment, which guarantees the right to civil jury trials. Members in this prestigious invitation-only group must have tried a minimum of 10 civil jury trials to conclusion. More than 7,600 lawyers and judges are involved in ABOTA chapters in all 50 states.

“ABOTA is one of the nation’s most effective organizations in championing the ethics, professionalism and principles of the legal profession. Paul and I are honored to be part of this select group,” said William Hunter.

Since 2003, Hunter has devoted 100 percent of his practice to complex trial law including representing plaintiffs severely injured or killed in cases against product manufacturers, device manufacturers, trucking companies, and large industrial or construction companies and defending doctors or healthcare providers in malpractice cases. Hunter’s experience also includes cases related to large and complex business disputes, many times involving claims related to fiduciary duties, trade secrets, and “bet the company” issues. He has been recognized by his peers with industry awards many times including Super Lawyers, Best Lawyers’ Lawyer of the Year, Georgia Trend’s Legal Elite, and others.

For nearly 20 years, Threlkeld has maintained a robust and successful federal and state court trial practice throughout the Southeast representing businesses, governments and officials, healthcare entities, and individuals in all manner of civil and criminal jury cases. His litigation experience also includes representing individuals in serious personal injury and wrongful death cases. In addition, Threlkeld serves as outside general counsel for the Georgia Ports Authority through his appointment as a special assistant attorney general (SAAG). Over the years, he’s been honored with numerous industry awards including Rising Stars, Super Lawyers, Georgia Trend’s Legal Elite, and others.



William J. Hunter



Paul H. Threlkeld



GLSP Bolsters Eviction Team

The Georgia Legal Services Program is proud to announce the hire of Shaina O. Thompson as its Eviction Prevention Project Attorney. GLSP's EPP project is supported by the Georgia Bar Foundation. Shaina's practice will focus on defending low-income tenants of private landlords in Chatham County in eviction actions, recovering wrongfully withheld security deposits, resolving repair and maintenance problems, addressing discrimination, and enforcing Georgia's recently enacted law against retaliatory evictions.

Shaina received her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, graduating magna cum laude from Liberty University, and her Juris Doctor from the University of Georgia. She completed her Master of Arts in Executive Leadership at Liberty University as well. She is licensed as an attorney in both Georgia and Tennessee and is a member of the Nashville Bar Association; she is a pending member of the Savannah Bar Association as well. She also serves on the board of directors for Reach One Mission International, which operates out of Marietta, Georgia, partnering with Christian missionaries in both Kenya and Uganda to provide support for medical clinics, local church communities, and a school for girls.

Shaina devotes much of her time to educating herself and others on issues surrounding landlord-tenant and domestic violence issues. Shaina is the mother of her two-year-old son Kian Thompson.



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.
