



# The Citation

## YLD Elects Officers, Holds Alumni Happy Hour

On July 12, 2022, the Young Lawyers Division of the Savannah Bar Association elected its officers for the 2022-2023 bar year:

President: Nicole L. Pope  
President-Elect: Thomas Alec Chappell  
Treasurer: Gary Max Tiller  
Secretary: Burt Anthony Burton

YLD committee chairs will be selected at the next Executive Board meeting on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at HunterMaclean at 5:30 p.m. Anyone interested in a position on the Executive Board should attend. Membership within the SBA Young Lawyers Division is open to members of the Savannah Bar Association who are under the age of 36, or members who have been practicing law for less than five years, irrespective of age.

Additionally, the YLD held its annual Alumni Happy Hour on July 21, 2022, at 208 Wine Bar. Many thanks to 208 Wine Bar for hosting and to Precision Spine & Joint (<https://precisionspinejoint.com/>) for sponsoring the event!





## State Representative Derek Mallow Presents The Outstanding Georgia Business Award To Oliver Maner During The Firm’s 125th Anniversary Year

Esteemed Savannah law firm earns recognition by the Georgia Secretary of State’s Office for its commitment to community service.

Oliver Maner, a leading law firm in Savannah, Ga., was presented the Outstanding Georgia Business Award by State Representative Derek Mallow of Georgia House District 163, which includes downtown Savannah where the firm’s offices are located.

State representatives are permitted to request recognition for a business in their district from the Georgia Secretary of State, along with documentation and verification of facts.

Rep. Mallow proposed Oliver Maner for this recognition after reading an article on LinkedIn about the law firm’s work with a local nonprofit. Rep. Mallow investigated further and found that the attorneys and partners at Oliver Maner supported at least 25 more charities and immediately contacted the Secretary of State’s office to begin the proposal for this honor, which was accepted.



“For their contribution to the community, I’m proud to present the Outstanding Georgia Business Award to Oliver Maner,” Rep. Mallow said. “They donate their time, talents and treasures to help so many organizations. It’s only right we recognize their contributions.”

Oliver Maner Managing Partner Patrick O’Connor accepted the award on the firm’s behalf.

“It’s especially gratifying to receive this award during our 125th anniversary year,” said O’Connor. “Oliver Maner has always supported local charities and doing so is a core value of our firm. We’ve been part of Savannah and the state of Georgia for more than a century, and we look forward to another 125 years of giving back and serving our community.”



## Savannah Trial Lawyers Association Receives Regional Trial Lawyers Association of the Year Award

The Savannah Trial Lawyers Association is proud to announce they have been awarded the Regional Trial Lawyers Association of the Year Award. The award is given to the chapter handpicked by the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association President with input from their Grassroots Director. It is awarded to the chapter who has excelled most in involvement with local attorneys who are both GTLA and non-GTLA members, increased membership both locally and statewide, and participation in community outreach and involvement.

GTLA has over 1,800 members and STLA has over 50 members. The organization strives to provide continuing education, resources for our lawyers, and comradery amongst our members and non-members. We are proud of the work our local chapter has done and hope to continue to bring recognition to our local bar for all of the good work we accomplish collectively.

Pictured is STLA Chapter President Danny Justus of Lasky Cooper Law accepting the Regional TLA award from GTLA President Jon Pope. If you are interested in joining our membership please contact Danny Justus at [djustus@laskycooperlaw.com](mailto:djustus@laskycooperlaw.com).



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## FREE CLE Opportunities

On August 10, 2022 from 1 pm – 4 pm, the Chatham County Child Advocate Office will host a free continuing legal education opportunity. Diana Rugh Johnson, and Jerry Bruce will be on hand to present **Drug Testing in Child Welfare Cases: Labs, Laws, and Litigation**.

Ms. Johnson is the Director of the Court Improvement Project, with the Supreme Court of Georgia’s Committee on Justice for Children. Mr. Bruce is the Director of the Georgia Office of the Child Advocate. Both have substantial experience in child welfare matters.

The presentation will discuss the important role of drugs tests in child welfare litigation. Drug tests inform important decisions in dependency courts from removal to termination of rights, but for test results to be truly useful, they must be understood, admitted into evidence and weighed appropriately. This session will educate participants in the science of drug testing, evidentiary rules that affect the admissibility of results, and the trial skills necessary for effective presentation and argument to the court.

To sign up for this opportunity: <https://DrugTestingAndEvidence.eventbrite.com>



Save the date! Paula Frederick, General Counsel at The State Bar of Georgia, will present on ethics in Child Welfare cases on September 16 at 12 pm. Sign up here: <https://GaBarEthics.eventbrite.com>

For more information, contact the Chatham County Child Advocate Office.

Are you interested in serving on the Chatham County Title IVE Panel? Attorneys are assigned to represent different parties in the cases and are compensated \$120 per hour for in court representation and \$90 per hour for out of court representation. Contact Patricia Merritt, Juvenile Court Administrator for more details. ([pmerritt@chathamcounty.org](mailto:pmerritt@chathamcounty.org))

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## GLSP Thanks Volunteer Attorneys

On behalf of Georgia Legal Services Program, we want to thank the following attorneys for volunteering their legal services to the Pro Bono Program in the second quarter of 2022. With the help of these volunteers, we were able to serve 34 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.

- Anthony Burton, Burton Law Offices
- Dolly Chisholm, Bouhan Falligant LLP
- Ben Davidson, The Cornwell Firm
- Joe Gannam, Gannam Gnann & Steinmetz LLC
- Charles Grile, Attorney at Law
- Lester Johnson, Lester B. Johnson, III, P. C.
- Jerold Murray, Law Office of Jerold L. Murray, LLC
- Francesca Rehal, Attorney at Law
- Mark Schaefer, Elder Law Office of Mark Schaefer PC
- Sandra Saseen-Smith, GLSP In-House Volunteer
- Julia Sullivan, Sullivan Law & Advocacy
- Joey Turner, The Turner Law Firm, LLC
- Gwen Fortson Waring, The Waring Law Firm LLC



Georgia Legal Services Program is a 501(c)3 nonprofit law firm. We provide free, civil legal services to low-income or senior-aged Georgians outside of Atlanta. To volunteer, contact Sarah J. Anderson at [sjanderson@glsp.org](mailto:sjanderson@glsp.org) or sign up online at <https://www.glsp.org/volunteer-2/>



## Georgia Legal Services Seeks Candidates for Two Staff Attorney Positions in the Savannah Regional Office

Georgia Legal Services Program is seeking two staff attorneys in the Savannah Regional Office. The starting salary for each position is \$50,750, depending upon experience and qualifications. Please visit [www.glsp.org](http://www.glsp.org) to apply and learn more.

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## Red Mass To Be Held

The 12th Annual Red Mass will be held in St. Mary's Chapel at the Pastoral Center, 2170 E. Victory Drive, Friday, September 30, at noon. A reception will follow in Boland Hall.

This event is open to all attorneys, judges, clerks, law students and others engaged in the legal profession. One does not need to be a member of the Guild, nor Catholic, to attend.

The Red Mass is celebrated annually in the Catholic Church for judges, lawyers, law school professors, law students, and government officials. The Mass requests the guidance of the Holy Spirit for all who seek justice, and offers the opportunity to reflect on what Catholics believe is the God-given power and responsibility of all in the legal profession. It is also an opportunity to remember the attorneys who have passed away since the last celebration in 2019.

Originating in Paris in 1215, the Mass is called the "Red" Mass referring to the color of the vestments worn. Red is chosen to symbolize the tongues of fire (the Holy Spirit) that descended on the 12 Apostles on Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4).

If you plan to attend, let Bill Broker know so the Guild may know how many to anticipate for the reception to follow. He can be contacted at [bbroker@glsp.org](mailto:bbroker@glsp.org) or 912-963-1683. Or you can contact Sandra Saseen-Smith by phone at 912-963-1691 or by email at [ssaseen-smith@glsp.org](mailto:ssaseen-smith@glsp.org).



The American Bar Association Standing Committee on Paralegals lists 10 reasons to use a paralegal. Savannah Technical College's Paralegal Studies program offers a two-year Associate Degree to train students to work as paralegals.

*Why Hire a Paralegal?* (2012) American Bar Association.

[https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/paralegals/lr\\_prlgs\\_top\\_10\\_reasons\\_to\\_hire.pdf](https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/paralegals/lr_prlgs_top_10_reasons_to_hire.pdf)

## WHY HIRE A PARALEGAL?

Here are Ten Reasons:

1. Paralegals provide increased profitability for your firm by increasing revenue and decreasing expenses.
2. Paralegal time can be billed out separately to the client and at a lower cost.
3. Paralegals are paid less than attorneys are yet handle many substantive tasks (under an attorney's supervision).
4. Paralegals perform substantive legal tasks such as; legal research, interviewing clients, drafting documents, drafting pleadings, assisting at closings and more.
5. Paralegals free up attorney time allowing you the opportunity to increase your caseload.
6. Paralegals permit associates and partners to focus on complex legal work and client interaction.
7. Paralegals improve client satisfaction by being accessible to clients on a daily basis when attorneys are unavailable.
8. Paralegals reliably track deadlines and make sure they are met on a timely basis.
9. Paralegals can assist attorneys on pro bono cases benefiting both the law practice and the paralegal.
10. Paralegals round out the legal team by improving the overall efficiency and productivity of the law office.

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## Savannah Technical College Has Paralegals

Attention All Attorneys: Are you looking to hire legal support staff? Do you have a job description/job listing for the position to share? Well, the Paralegal students at Savannah Technical College are eagerly awaiting an opportunity to learn, grow and advance in the legal services industry. No need to pay to post ads. You can simply submit your job notices on Savannah Technical College's online portal, Career Connections, which will allow you to easily reach our students and graduates. This user-friendly system allows you to provide an overview of your company, post ads, manage the dates the ads will run as well as view resumes and directly contact job seekers.

We invite you to use this link to post any openings you may currently have: <https://savannahtech-csm.symplicity.com/employers/>

Periodically, Savannah Technical College, hosts events throughout the year that will also give you an opportunity to directly connect with its students. By enrolling in Career Connections, you will be added to the distribution list for those events. Thank you for your consideration of our students and programs!

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## 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](mailto:SBACitation@gmail.com) with submissions or inquiries.