

# The Citation

#### Letter from the President

Happy Fall Y'all! The Annual SBA October BBQ held on October 24 was one of the best! About 180 attorneys, family members and guests enjoyed Sandfly BBQ with sides, music by ConnEllis, and a beautiful fall evening in the open air pavilion at the Forest City Gun Club. Thanks again to Dennis Dorsey of McKee Court Reporting for being a sponsor for this event. Special thanks to President-Elect Blake Greco for organizing and coordinating the BBQ and to Colby Longley, Paul Johnson, Robert Hughes, Maria Sayers, Leslie Keene, Gwendolyn Fortson-Waring, Richard Sanders, and Julia Sullivan of the Executive Committee for help with set-up and/ or clean-up. Last, but not least, thank you to Alex Chappell for taking photos.

Mark your calendars now for another annual tradition, The SBA Oyster Roast, set for December 12. More details to follow. In the meantime, our regular luncheon meeting takes place on Thursday, November 21 at 12 noon. An email will go out soon with the location and opportunity to register for the luncheon.





#### Volunteers Needed

The Board of the Georgia Police K9 Foundation - which is based in Statesboro, but assists all active and retired law enforcement K9s in the State of Georgia - is seeking attorneys in Savannah willing to donate their time to assist approximately five local K9 Handlers with preparation of their simple wills.

If you will volunteer to assist these first responders, please email John Lientz of Bouhan Falligant: JGLIENTZ@bouhan.com.



### YLD Trolley Ride

On October 17, 2019, the Savannah YLD held its annual October Trolley Ride with Old Town Trolley Tours. In true Halloween spirit, the event combined merriment and scares, as we heard chilling tales from early Savannah history, including the notorious story of Alice Riley's 1735 hanging in Wright Square for murdering her abusive master, William Wise. We also "learned" that Revolutionary War hero Nathanael Greene cursed Johnson Square, his burial place, which even today remains devoid of Savannah's otherwise ubiquitous Spanish moss.

This year's trolley ride was sponsored by Meagan Landress, a Certified Student Loan Professional, whose website can be found at https://www.financialcoachmeagan.com/. We appreciate the support of Meagan and all who attended this spooky event!





Meagan Landress

## Delta Gamma Savannah Alumnae Garden Party

The Delta Gamma Savannah Alumnae Association held their Garden Party on October 20, 2019 at the Garden of Fragrance in Forsyth Park. The members raised money to purchase iPads for the visually impaired in the community. Thank you to the President of the Association, Tammy Moseley Ray, for the beautiful photograph.

The Association is collecting used prescription eyeglasses, reading glasses, sunglasses (both prescription and non-prescription), safety glasses and children's glasses for individuals in need.



SBA members that would like to donate glasses may drop off donations in an envelope addressed to Francesca Macchiaverna at 200 East Saint Julian Street, Savannah, GA 31401. Thank you to those SBA members who have already donated. We appreciate your support!



### Federalist Society welcomed guest speaker Andrew Kloster

On October 22, 2019, the Savannah Lawyers
Chapter of the Federalist Society welcomed guest
speaker Andrew Kloster to the Chatham Club
for a presentation on regulatory transparency
in the contexts of populism, immigration, and
government spending. Andrew is Deputy Director
of the C. Boyden Gray Center for the Study of the
Administrative State, Antonin Scalia Law School.
Prior to joining the Gray Center, he was Associate
General Counsel at the United States Department
of Transportation. In that capacity, he helped
oversee the regulatory reform efforts and day-today legal operations of this major federal agency
with hundreds of attorneys. Earlier in his career, he



(from left to right): Carri Johnson, Andrew Kloster, and L. Rachel Wilson.

served as a law clerk for the Honorable Judge Daniel A. Manion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, and as a Legal Fellow at the Heritage Foundation, where he focused on constitutional and administrative law. Thanks to Andrew for an insightful and engaging presentation!

The next meeting of the Savannah Lawyers Chapter will take place on December 2, 2019, when the organization will host Noel Francisco, the Solicitor General of the United States, for a special reception and presentation. For more information, contact Savannah Lawyers Chapter Chair Carri Johnson at Carri HJohnson@gmail.com.

#### **Mock Trial Volunteers and Coaches Needed**

The 2019-2020 Georgia High School Mock Trial season is here and volunteer evaluators/coordinators are needed to host both the Regional and District levels of the competition here in Savannah. The Savannah Regional Competition will be held on February 1, 2020, and the District Competition on February 22, 2020, both at the Chatham County Courthouse. The mock trial competition is always a great experience for area high school students and volunteers alike. If you are interested in learning about the program in general or volunteering to help with the regional competition please contact Regional Coordinator, Craig Call (ccall@smaclegal.com), for more information.

Judging panel volunteers may claim 1 CLE credit hour (both general and trial) for each level of the competition. Volunteers in the Savannah Region could earn up to 2 CLE credits hours this year. To claim the credit the minimum fee is required, and the regional coordinator can provide additional information on the competition date(s).

If you are interested in mentoring/coaching students participating in the competition, Saint Andrews School is looking for an attorney coach to assist with its Mock Trial team this year. Please contact Saint Andrews School Representative Ben Dombroski (DombroskiB@saintschool.com) for more information.



### Georgia Bankruptcy American Inn of Court Spoke to Teachers

On October 23, 2019, members of the W. Homer Drake, Jr. Georgia Bankruptcy American Inn of Court spoke about bankruptcy and financial literacy to several local schoolteachers at Oatland Island Wildlife Center. Speakers included Andrew H. Dekle of Bouhan Falligant, Jeff Narmore of Narmore Law Office LLC, and Edward J. Coleman, III, Chief Judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Georgia. The event was sponsored by the Georgia Council on Economic Education ("GCEE"), which seeks to help K-12 teachers instruct their students on economics and personal finance.



(from left to right) Andrew Dekle, Judge Coleman, Mike Raymer, Chris Mercer, and Jeff Narmore.

After Judge Coleman's introductory remarks, Andrew traced the complex history of bankruptcy law beginning in Ancient Rome and ending with the passage of the modern Bankruptcy Code in 1978 and the amendments of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act ("BAPCPA") of 2005. Next, Jeff provided some bankruptcy statistics, explained the differences among the chapters of the Bankruptcy Code, and elicited productive group discussion with a humorous bankruptcy quiz. Using feedback from the teachers in attendance, the speakers hope to refine their presentation and to eventually speak at a formal GCEE workshop.

The W. Homer Drake, Jr. Georgia Bankruptcy American Inn of Court was founded in Atlanta in 2014 with the mission of promoting excellence in legal advocacy, with emphasis on ethics, civility, professionalism, and legal skills. Its members are judges, practicing lawyers, law school educators, and law students. The organization takes its name from the Honorable W. Homer Drake, Jr., who has served as a bankruptcy judge in the Northern District of Georgia since 1964 and founded the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute in 1974.



### Savannah YLD Swearing-In Ceremony

The annual Savannah YLD Swearing-In Ceremony will be held on Friday, November 15, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. at the Chatham County Courthouse. Judge Timothy R. Walmsley will preside. If you have recently passed the Georgia Bar Examination, congratulations! If you would like to participate in this year's Swearing-In Ceremony, please do the following:

- 1. RSVP to Gracie Shepherd at gshepherd@olivermaner.com. Please let Gracie know if a member of the Bar will be joining you to introduce you to the Court. If not, a member of the YLD will be happy to make the introduction.
- 2. FAX a copy of your Certificate of Eligibility to the Superior Court Clerk, Tammie Mosley, by FRIDAY, November 8, 2019. The fax number is 912-652-7523. You can also email your Certificate of Eligibility to tnmosley@chathamcounty.org. Please reference: 2019 Mass Swearing-In Ceremony.
- 3. BRING the original Certificate of Eligibility with you on Friday, November 15.

You will receive the Certificate of Eligibility in the mail along with your Bar results. It is very important that the clerk's office receives the faxed Certificate of Eligibility by November 8th. It is also very important that you bring the ORIGINAL Certificate of Eligibility with you the morning of November 15th!

## Coastal Empire Montessori Community Organization Trustee Search Announcement

Coastal Empire Montessori Community Organization, which operates Coastal Empire Montessori Charter School, seeks candidates to serve for a one-year term on the Board of Trustees. In particular, we seek candidates who are lawyers or who have expertise in education, finance, or fundraising. The Board meets once monthly. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about how you can serve your community through leadership of a charter school, please contact Board President, Elizabeth Berenguer, elizabeth.berenguer@cemco.org.

Coastal Empire Montessori Charter School is the only public Montessori charter school in the State of Georgia. Its curriculum features individualized lessons and a variety of teaching materials, including tactile materials, to meet student learning needs in the most personalized way possible. Coastal Empire Montessori also incorporates an innovative peace curriculum which teaches children complex conflict resolution skills and accounts for the school's extremely low numbers of disciplinary incidents. At Coastal Empire Montessori, children are expected to take responsibility for their behavior and learning, which instills creativity, confidence, integrity, and discipline in these future leaders. At CEMCS, we educate the whole child for the world.



### 11th Annual Red Mass to be Held at St. Mary's Chapel

The 11TH Annual Red Mass will be held in St. Mary's Chapel at the Pastoral Center, 2170 E. Victory Drive, Friday, November 8, 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.

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 or 912.651.2283x2758.

## Coastal Empire Montessori Community Organization Trustee Scarecrow Fun Run and 5k

Coastal Empire Montessori Charter School will host a Scarecrow Fun Run and 5K on Saturday November 9, 2019, at Lake Mayer beginning at 9:00 a.m. Registration and proceeds are tax deductible, and all proceeds benefit this public charter school. For more information on how you can participate, visit https://runsignup.com/Race/Events/GA/Sayannah/CEMCO.

### Georgia Association for Women Lawyers Savannah Events

On Wednesday, November 6th at 5:30 pm, we will be live streaming the GAWL Legislative Preview. The main event will take place in Atlanta and the live stream will be held at the State Bar Office in Savannah (18 E. Bay Street). This is an opportunity to hear Georgia organizations share their legislative agendas for the upcoming session of the Georgia General Assembly.

On Wednesday, November 13th at 5:30 pm, GAWL will be co-hosting a joint happy hour with the Savannah YLD at Edgar's Proof and Provisions.



#### SAVANNAH BAR ASSOCIATION HOT TOPICS SEMINAR

#### REGISTRATION FORM

Late:	Fridey, January 24, 2020
lime:	Registration begins at 7:45 A.M. Program begins at 8:20 A.M.
Place:	The Savannah Golf Club, 1661 East President Street, Savannah, 6A 31404
Name (Print):	
Georgia Bar No:	
Employer:	
Business Address:	
Phones	<u></u>
Fane:	<u></u>
C-mail:	
Tuition: (Greatd	net and Lunch is included in tuition]
[ ] \$190.00	
[ ] \$220.00	
[ ] \$215.00	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
[ ] \$225.00	Mon-Savarmah 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. ILC PO Box 61507 Savanneli, GA 31420 MKelsolaw@gmail.com (912) 704-8431

7.00 TOTAL HOURS OF CLE CREDIT (PENDING APPROVAL) INCLUDING: 4.25 HOURS OF TRAL PRACTICE,

I HOUR OF ETHICS, &

1 HOUR OF PROFESSIONALISM



#### Area Attorneys Support State Bar Campaign for GLSP

Each year the State Bar of Georgia sponsors a campaign to support Georgia Legal Services. All funds raised are allocated to the office that serves the area in which the attorney resides. GLSP is able to use these funds to support the work of attorneys on staff as well as to sponsor the Pro Bono Program. Below are those who have contributed since the beginning of the campaign in April and September 26. Thank you for your support.

Solomon Adeoye Amusan Wanda Andrews Charles W. Bell **Timothy James Bennett** Joseph James Berrigan **Shannon Marie Bishop** James B. Blackburn, Jr. Elizabeth. C Blair William A. Bowen Catherine McKenzie Bowman Mark Alan Bradlev Thomas E. Branch III Colleen Rene Brannen Robert B. Brannen William K. Broker Harry Wayne Brown, Jr. David Michael Burns, Jr. Jamie A. Casino Adam P. Cerbone Jason P. Cerbone Mary R. Chapin **Christine Tsai Cheng** William Randolph Claiborne Coastal Empire Law Group, LLC Maria C. Danello **Luther Kelly Davis Andrew Harrison Dekle** Jeffrey C. Donaldson Vera Sharon Edenfield **Timothy Higgins Edwards** 

**David Sidney Eicholz** 

Ronald M. Fields. III Stanley H. Friedman **Chester James Gregg Charles Claude Grile** Timothy J. Hauessler Stephen H. Harris Ronald Paul Hart, III Erin Muldoon Haug Douglas E. Herman Mary Dean Hermann Patrick W. Hinchey **Inman Gregory Hodges** Derek Eugene Horne Billy N. Jones Cameron C. Kuhlman J. Curtis Lewis, III John Bell Manly Melanie Lvnn Marks Janna Martin Robert E. Matyjasik C. James McCallar, Jr. Paul Douglas Meyer Jennifer Campbell Mock Owen Couch Murphy **Todd Christopher Newsome** Elizabeth Jean Norman Daniel J. O'Connor Rizza O'Connor James Noel Osteen Paul Wain Painter, III Susannah Rogers Pedigo

**Branden Owen Pollett** Margaret Ware Sigman **Puccini** John Erling Pytte Tyler Lee Randolph Scott G. Reddock Francesca A. Rehal Amber M. Robinson Robert Rosenblum Robb K. Sallee Jennifer D. Sawver Steven Elliot Scheer Michael Gregory Schiavone James E. Shipley, Jr. **Daniel Brent Snipes** Steven Lee Sparger **James Bradley Stevens** Karla Wolfe Talleur Mark A. Tate Elizabeth F. Thompson C. Lewis Tippett Carl Robert Varnedoe Joshua Daniel Walker Gwendolyn S. Fortson Waring **Edgar Pomeroy Williams** Jeffrey Lamar Williamson L. Rachel Wilson Willie T. Yancey, II Andrew A. Zemany



## **UGA Law Announces Robinson Scholars Program**

The University of Georgia School of Law has created the Robinson Scholars Program to benefit underrepresented student populations with ties to Georgia. The program is named in memory of former civil rights attorney, Robert E. "Robbie" Robinson. Robinson began his career with Georgia Legal Services and served as a city alderman. He was tragically killed in 1989 by politically motivated mail bombs that were sent to his Savannah office.

"The Robinson Scholars Program is a way the School of Law can honor this legal leader by assisting students – in particular those with a desire to pursue public interest work – as they follow their dreams to work in and benefit their communities," School of Law Dean Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge said. The first Robinson Scholars – Luis G. Chavez, Kayla Hope and Ashleigh Rasheed-Britt – began their legal studies in the 2019 fall semester.

The Robinson Scholars Program is funded by UGA's New Approaches in Diversity and Inclusion initiative. Private donations received from the Office of the President will be matched by private law school funding to support the program, which will focus on several key areas: recruitment, preparation for law school, advancing diversity in the legal profession and increasing access to justice in legally underserved communities.

### **GLSP Offers Kinship Care Program**

The Savannah Office of Georgia Legal Services has instituted a new project to work with individuals caring for children in their home of which they are not the biological parents. The Kinship Care Project helps individuals who are raising children in the place of deceased or otherwise absent parents. These caregivers often struggle to care and provide for the new members of the household. Not having the legal authority to act on their behalf can create difficult barriers. The focus of the Project is to stabilize the legal relationship between the caregiver and the child through a guardianship, adoption or custody proceeding. Powers of attorney can also be utilized. The secondary goal is to ensure that the caregivers are maximizing all of the resources available to the children in their care.

In order to qualify for service, the applicant/client must meet the same income guidelines of other Georgia Legal Services clients.

In addition to helping caregivers overcome the legal barriers they face as non-parents, the program seeks to avoid the placement of children in foster care. If you have any questions, have clients you would like to refer, or would like to become a project partner, contact Amanda Webb, the attorney handling the program, at awebb@glsp.org or 912-651-2283 ext. 2754.



### Help Your Client, Help Youself - Get a "Special Master"

R. Keegan Federal, Jr.
Judge, Superior Courts of Georgia (Ret.)
Mediator, Arbitrator, Special Master

As a seasoned trial lawyer, you are very likely to have had the frustrating experience of having a complex case which needs to be moved along toward a conclusion, but the complexity of the case itself was causing delays, increasing the costs, and further postponing the ultimate settlement or trial. The complex nature of the litigation could result from having multiple parties with multiple law firms, difficult legal issues, overly-litigious opponents, challenging discovery disputes, time-and-money-consuming motions practice, and the consequent overwhelming pressures on presiding judges who are already dealing with crowded court calendars.

Your solution? Move for the appointment of a Special Master.

Recent statistical studies of court calendars confirm that the number of cases assigned to each individual judge, both state and federal, has been increasing, and reductions in financial resources have required the courts to do more with less in-house staff than in the past.

Georgia's Rule 46, which is based on the Federal Rule 53, provides the needed relief: "The Court may appoint a Special Master to perform duties consented to by the parties," and the Court may do so at the request of the parties, or the request of one party, or on its own motion. Moreover, if the parties do not consent to specific duties to be performed by the Special Master, the Court has the authority to appoint the Master "to address pretrial and post-trial matters that the Court cannot efficiently, effectively, or promptly address, to provide guidance ... to the Court on complex or specialized subjects ..., to attend and supervise depositions ..., to hold trial proceedings and make or recommend findings of fact ..., " and much more! Furthermore, in describing the authority of the Special Master, the Rule says that the Master "shall have the power to take evidence, to hear motions, and to pass on questions of law and fact within the scope of the referral order," ... and " may by order impose upon a party any non-contempt sanction ... and may recommend to the court a contempt sanction against a party and any sanction against a non-party."

Given this broad scope of authority, it becomes obvious that the Special Master can do what is necessary to get and keep your case moving toward an early resolution!

Due to the above-mentioned workload of trial judges, and when it appears that your case will consume a disproportionate percentage of the Court's limited resources, most judges will appreciate the parties' (or a party's) request to enlist the assistance of a Special Master to deal with difficult and complicated cases. Also, when the request is initiated by the parties (or a party), it is likely that the parties themselves will be able to select the individual to be appointed as their Special Master, as opposed to the Court making the selection without the parties' input.



#### continued

What about the cost? This is a legitimate and important question, inasmuch as the Special Master charges fees, and this costs the parties, or a party, money. In most cases, the cost simply isn't warranted and the inherent delays in the court system must be tolerated. The types of cases that call for a Special Master typically include "high-dollar" disputes such as securities, mass torts, class actions, bet-the-company litigation, business cases, contested asset distributions of large estates, commercial real estate contracts, and divorces between wealthy clients. Also, cases involving extensive discovery, and expensive discovery disputes, will benefit financially from the use of a Special Master since the Master usually can be immediately available to hear and rule on such disputes without the necessity, and excessive costs, of written motions, briefs, rebuttals, etc. Furthermore, an immediate ruling saves significant time and money over the traditional need to wait for the presiding judge to read and rule on the dispute. Another often-overlooked value in the use of a Special Master is to oversee compliance with injunctions, detailed settlement provisions, and other court orders.

When a Special Master is appointed, the fees are set and must be approved in advance by the Court, and the Court also determines which party or parties are responsible for the payment of the fees. The cost may be divided equally among the parties, or not, based upon their respective financial circumstances.

Lastly, it may be worth noting that while the use of Special Masters has been a long-standing practice in our Federal courts, Rule 46 is a relatively recent development in our State and Superior courts, and the use of Special Masters is frequently overlooked as an effective solution to the inherent delays and costs incurred in complex cases. If and when you would like to explore the benefits of such an appointment in one of your cases, we will be pleased to discuss the details, outline the costs, and, if desired, draft an appropriate Appointment Order to comply with the Rule, and to meet the needs of the Court, the parties, and the lawyers involved.

#### W. Thomas Hudson has Joined Fleming Law, P.C.

Fleming Law, P.C., a general practice law firm based in downtown Savannah, Georgia, is pleased to announce that veteran savannah attorney W. Thomas Hudson has joined the firm. Mr. Hudson has been a zealous advocate for his clients for over 42 years. Tom Has been practicing in and around the greater savannah area for his entire career. Prior to joining Fleming Law, Mr. Hudson was the principal attorney for his firm, Hudson and Roberts, P.C. His areas of expertise include criminal defense, family law, probate, and personal injury. Mr. Hudson is a veteran of the Vietnam War, having served honorably in the U.S. Air Force. Additionally, Mr Hudson is an Eagel Scout, and was conferred that honor in 1957.

On behalf of Fleming Law, P.C., pleawse join us in welcoming Tom to our firm. Fleming Law looks forward to utilizing Tom's decades of experience to better serve our clients.



#### Competition Corner by Charles M. Danziel, Jr.,

This month I want to express some memories about a great Savannah sports competition, and the incredible achievements of one of the competitors.

Back in 1968, when I was 12, even then some moms weren't going for their son playing tackle football on an organized basis. They were sort of shielded from seeing our unpadded unorganized games with multiple rugby scrums, but I digress. A large number of my school friends and I played other organized sports, baseball in Little League, and basketball at the Herschel V. Jenkins Boys Club. The Boys Club was a fantastic place for kids to learn the game, and thanks to the start the club provided I barely made my high school basketball team, and actually played in leagues, at lunch, with my kids in scrimmages while coaching their teams, and many other places up until I was about 50. Savannah Bar member Mark Shawe was on my law school team, The Learned Hands, and let me tell you, he was a helluva player.

So why was I so hooked on this game I couldn't play that well? It all goes back to the Jenkins Boys' Club. The staff had a great idea—after our season playing against each other, we were going to play in a tournament. To the chagrin of all those who oppose everybody getting a trophy, our league was divided into maybe three or four levels of players with generally the same level of ability, and teams structured this way were going to play in this tournament against similarly constructed teams from other places. We played the JEA in the first game, and I think we won, and I had a great time. To our chagrin, the tournament ended abruptly for us when we were about to play the teams from Hunter AFB. The scuttlebutt that followed was that we were not going to play the base because

they had black players. I have to say this because it's important to the story.

Another tournament, the GHSA state championship tournament, was at the same time proceeding apace. Another great thing the Jenkins Boys Club did was schedule far in advance a trip for us to see the finals in the Alexander Memorial Coliseum before it was renovated, with the stairways to the seats almost straight up. This created a deafening roar in the building. The two teams who ended up playing were from Savannah--Johnson -the AtomSmashers—and the Beach Bulldogs. The cheers that deafened us were the Beach cheerleaders woofing like Bulldogs in their song "We are the Bulldogs, mighty are we," and Johnson's "Hey, hey hey hey, you see, that Johnson can't be beat!" The Jenkins Boys Club group that was in Alexander screamed their heads off for the teams they picked, and during the game it didn't matter that the players were black. I liked Joby Wright and Johnson won. Joby was I think a second team all-America at Indiana and has had a long career in the game thereafter. The competitor I want to focus on, David Hall of Beach, had a similar basketball career at Kansas State, but does the reader of the Savannah Bar Newsletter know what his career thereafter has been? He is a lawyer who graduated from the OU law school, and received an LL.M. from Harvard. He taught in the OU and Ole Miss law schools, was the Dean of the Northeastern Law School in Boston, and the provost of Northeastern itself, and from 2009 has been the President of the University of the Virgin Islands. Hall has had great success in sports and in the law, and as a son of Savannah deserves our praise and respect—which he received from the Jenkins Boys' club kids in Alexander, even though Beach lost the game.



## HunterMaclean Attorney Diana McKenzie Selected by Daily Report as Georgia Trailblazer

HunterMaclean, a leading business law firm with offices in Savannah and St. Simons Island, is honored to announce that attorney Diana McKenzie has been selected as a 2019 Georgia Trailblazer by Daily Report.

McKenzie is a partner and chair of the Information Technology & Outsourcing Group at HunterMaclean. She has worked exclusively in information technology and privacy law since 1985. Recognized internationally for her work, she has given over 150 speeches in fifty cities across the United States and in fourteen countries in Europe, South America, and Australia. She has also published over fifty articles regarding this topic in a variety of periodicals.

"Diana's expertise and experience are unprecedented within our industry and her practice field," said HunterMaclean Managing Partner Brad Harmon. "This honor provides further recognition of her accomplishments, and we are very proud to have her as part of our team at HunterMaclean."



Diana McKenzie

According to the Daily Report website, the 2019 Georgia Trailblazers were selected based on their involvement as "agents of change in any aspect of the practice or business of law." The 2019 list will be featured in an upcoming edition of the publication and also on http://law.com.

## Zipperer, Lorberbaum and Beauvais Senior Partners Named Georgia Super Lawyers

Senior partners Alex Zipperer (Criminal Defense), Ralph Lorberbaum (Worker's Compensation) and Steven Beauvais (Criminal Defense) have again been selected as Super Lawyers in Georgia, as selected by their peers.

Alex Zipperer has been selected for the 15th straight year. Ralph Lorberbaum for the 15th straight year. Steven Beauvais for the 10th straight year.



Alex Zipperer



Ralph Lorberbaum



Steven Beauvais



### Owen Murphy, P.C.: #1 Chatham County Verdict Affirmed

On March 6, 2018, a Chatham County jury returned a record-setting \$18 million verdict in favor of Joan Simmons in the case of Simmons v. SouthCoast Medical Group, LLC, et.al. Representing Ms. Simmons at trial were Savannah attorneys Owen Murphy of Owen Murphy, P.C., Jeff Harris and Yvonne Godfrey of Harris Lowry Manton, P.C. and Andrew Bowen of Bowen Painter, LLC. The jury, after four-and-a-half hours of deliberation, determined that Ms. Simmons' permanent paralysis and related complications were the result of a delay in diagnosing a spinal infection which ultimately caused paralysis.



Owen Murphy

On October 17, 2019, the Georgia Court of Appeals issued a thirty-four (34) page opinion affirming the Simmons verdict. Legal issues on appeal included witness impeachment, jury charges, medical causation and the amount of the verdict. "With this opinion, the Court of Appeals has affirmed what we believe to be the largest jury verdict in the history of Chatham County," said Owen Murphy. The trial judge for the seven-day Simmons trial was the Honorable J. Hamrick Gnann, Jr., of Savannah.

Owen Murphy, ('99), Jeff Harris ('99) and Andrew Bowen ('98) are all graduates of the Walter F. George School of Law, Mercer University. "We were all classmates at Mercer and so to represent this special lady and undertake this hard-fought journey together has really been something," said Murphy.

### Mediation Center Creating a 3-Year Plan, Seeks Feedback

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



## Opportunity to Sponsor the Mediation Center's 2020 Velvet Gala

Soho South Cafe | 12 West Liberty St. | Thursday, January 23, 2020 | 5:30-8:00 PM

#### Open Bar | Live Music | Heavy Hors d'oeuvres | Signature Drink & Dessert

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.

To sponsor, contact Executive Director Jill Cheeks at 912-248-4106, or GAL & Family Law Resource Center Director Trish Murphy at 912-354-2857.



#### **TITLE SPONSOR \$7,500**

8 VIP Tickets | Velvet Sponsor benefits + Workplace Workshop led by
Mediation Center + Top logo placement
+ Prominent name recognition as headline in event publicity

#### **VELVET SPONSOR \$5,000**

6 VIP Tickets | Mediation Sponsor benefits + Logo recognition on event signage + Reserved table at Velvet Gala

#### **MEDIATION SPONSOR \$2,500**

4 VIP Tickets | Corporate Sponsor benefits + Logo recognition on event program

#### **CORPORATE SPONSOR \$1,000**

2 VIP Tickets | Friend of Center benefits + Logo on website + Featured in social media + Email blasts

#### FRIEND OF CENTER SPONSOR \$500

2 VIP Tickets | Benefits: Name in newsletter



## Public Notice: Solicitation of Applicants to Serve as Subchapter V Trustees Region 21, Southern District of Georgia

The United States Department of Justice, Office of the United States Trustee, Region 21, seeks resumes from persons wishing to be considered for inclusion in a pool of trustees who may be appointed on a case-by-case basis to administer cases filed under the Small Business Reorganization Act of 2019 (Subchapter V), which amended chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (Bankruptcy Code).

Trustees may be primarily appointed to cases filed in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Georgia as well as in other Districts as appropriate. Subchapter V trustees receive compensation and reimbursement for expenses, in each case in which they serve, pursuant to court order under section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code.

To be eligible for inclusion in the Subchapter V trustee pool, an applicant must possess strong administrative, financial, and interpersonal skills. Fiduciary and bankruptcy experience is desirable but not mandatory. Those with business, managerial, consulting, mediation, and operational experience are encouraged to apply. Candidates for consideration must:

- (1) Possess integrity and good moral character;
- (2) Be physically and mentally able to satisfactorily perform a trustee's duties;
- (3) Be courteous and accessible to all parties with reasonable inquiries or comments about a case for which such individual is serving as private trustee;
  - (4) Be free of prejudices against any individual, entity, or group of individuals or entities;
- (5) Not be related by affinity or consanguinity within the degree of first cousin to any employee of the Executive Office for United States Trustees of the Department of Justice, or to any employee of the office of the U.S. Trustee for the district in which he or she is applying;
  - (6) Possess one or more of the following minimum qualifications:
    - (i) Be a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of a state or of the District of Columbia;
    - (ii) Be a certified public accountant;
- (iii) Hold a bachelor's degree from a full four-year course of study (or the equivalent) of an accredited college or university with a major in a business-related field of study or at least 20 semester-hours of business-related courses; or hold a master's or doctoral degree in a business-related field of study from a college or university of the type described above; or,
  - (iv) Have equivalent experience as deemed acceptable by the U.S. Trustee; and,
  - (7) Provide reports as required by the U.S. Trustee.

A successful applicant will be required to undergo a background check and must qualify to be bonded. Subchapter V trustees are not federal employees.

Submit resumes to the United States Trustee at the following e-mail address: R21SDGAsubchaptervapplications@usdoj.gov. All resumes must be received on or before November 15, 2019.



## Brennan, Wasden & Painter Attorneys Named Best Lawyers in America 2020

Brennan, Wasden & Painter, a leading law firm based in Savannah, Georgia, is pleased to announce two of its Savannah attorneys were recently recognized as 2020 Best Lawyers in America. Best Lawyers is the oldest and most respected peer review publication in the legal profession. Recognition in Best Lawyers is based entirely on peer review.



Joseph P. Brennan Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants



Wiley A. Wasden, III
Professional Malpractice Law – Defendants
Commercial Litigation; Litigation – Bankruptcy;
Litigation – Construction; Litigation – Real Estate

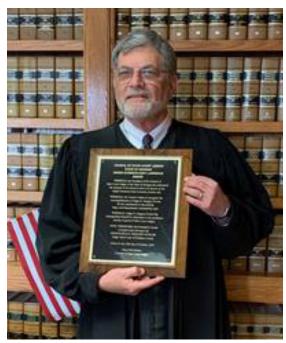
Brennan, Wasden & Painter LLC is a full-service law firm serving businesses, professionals, and individuals throughout Georgia and the Carolinas. Since 1989, the firm has built a reputation for client service and results. At Brennan, Wasden & Painter, we strive to deliver effective representation through close collaboration and ongoing communication with the clients we serve. Please visit www.brennanwasden.com or call (912) 232-6700 to learn more about Brennan, Wasden & Painter.



## Judge H. Gregory Fowler of State Court Recipient of the Ogden Doremus- Kent Lawrence Award

Chief Judge H. Gregory Fowler, State Court of Chatham County, is the recipient of the Ogden Doremus – Kent Lawrence Award,. This award is given to a state court judge that has achieved the highest level of respect from his or her peers as being a judge recognized for their judicial ethics and professionalism on the bench and their involvement in their communities. Judge McClelland recognized Judge Fowler for creating one of the first DUI Court programs in the State of Georgia.

"Judge Fowler's vision in creating a solution-solving court for the citizens of Chatham County will have a lasting impact for years to come," said Judge McClelland. The Award presentation capped the Fall State Court Judges' Education Conference dinner last week. Judge Fowler has been a Chatham County State Court Judge since May of 1995.



Chief Judge H. Gregory Fowler State Court of Chatham County



Judge H. Gregory Fowler (left) receives the Ogden Doremus – Kent Lawrence Award from Judge T. Russell McClelland (right), President of the Council of State Court Judges.





### 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.