

NEWSLETTER

November 2022

President's Message

By: The Honorable Dino E. Flores, Jr., BAFC President

I hope everyone enjoyed Hallowe'en. My kids no longer dress up and beg for candy, but they still enjoy handing out goodies to the little ones who come to their house one night a year. Thanksgiving is right around the corner, but before we get to that we have another great American event – Election Day. The Courts will be closed on November 8, and there are so many ways to cast your vote (mail-in ballot, early voting) that there is simply no valid excuse for failing to participate. I still enjoy showing up to the polling place on Election Day on a chilly November morning to cast my vote. This year with the Gubernatorial election and local elections it is so



important to be involved. In Maryland there is a fair argument to be made that your one vote in a presidential election may not really make a difference, but here in Frederick County your vote is crucial for the people that will affect your daily lives.

I would like to encourage members of the bar to run for office, but it's not for the faint of heart. It is a brutal all-consuming process to survive through elections, and your family must be prepared for the sacrifice. At the same time, every year there are fewer and fewer lawyers in Annapolis drafting the law to which all Marylanders are subject. I once heard a political candidate with no hint of irony declare she was proud to be a non-lawyer because there are too many of them in Annapolis already. Like it is a bad idea to have citizens with specialized training and experience in the interpretation and use of actual laws to be involved with creating them? Polls show that the vast majority of Americans are disgusted by the hyper-partisanship of national politics. The old saying is, "All politics are local." Start with that and vote for the folks you think are best for you in your community.

Enjoy the Tim Maloney road show at our next bar luncheon, the most popular luncheon every year. Don't forget to sign up to help the Salvation Army for Thanskgiving on November 22, and our Holiday Party is approaching fast on December 15. Now go vote!



The BAFC will once again host a **Thanksgiving Dinner through the Salvation Army** on **Tuesday, November 22nd.** Packing times will be from 12-6pm. You can volunteer to serve and/or donate items for the dinner. Sign up <u>here</u>.

BAFC Website

SECTION/COMMITTEE UPDATES

Young Lawyers Section

For more information about the Young Lawyers Section, please email <u>bafcyls@gmail.com</u>.

Family Law Section

The MSBA Legal Excellence Week is from November 15-18. **November 16th will be the Family Law University program**. There is an in-person and live webcast option. For more information, please visit: https://www.msba.org/product/family-law-university-2/.

The Family Law Section's holiday party will be on December 8th, from 5-7pm. It will be at Carin Golze and Alan Winik's office located at 19 N. Court Street, Suite 101, Frederick, Maryland 21701. Section members and their staff are invited. There will be complimentary food and beverages.

For more information about the Family Law Section, please contact Carin Golze at Carin@WinikLaw.com.

Elder, Disability, Trusts and Estates Section

MSBA Legal Excellence week has sessions on November 15th and

November 17th geared towards the members of the Elder, Disability, Trusts and Estates Section. For more information, please visit https://www.msba.org/product/msba-2022-legal-excellence-week-november/.

For more information about the Elder, Disability, Trusts and Estates section please contact Tim Price at tcp@eqlawyers.com.

Business Law Section

MSBA Legal Excellence week has sessions on November 16th that might be of interest for those that practice Business Law. There is an in-person and live webcast option. For more information, please visit https://www.msba.org/product/msba-2022-legal-excellence-week-november/.

For more information about the Business Law Section please contact Rebekah Lusk at rlusk@lusk-law.com.

Pro Bono Committee

The Frederick Center will be having a legal clinic providing free brief legal advice to the LGBTQ+ community on **December 6th from 530-730p.** If you would like to volunteer, please contact Trevor Addie-Carter at taddiecarter@hormannichols.com.





ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Help the Center for Taxpayer Rights help Low Income Taxpayers

by: Dulce Mascorro, Pro Bono Coordinator, Center for Tax Payer Rights

The Center for Taxpayer Rights' LITC Support Center is seeking volunteers for its "dating app," LITC Connect. LITC Connect matches volunteers with Low Income Taxpayer Clinics (LITCs) nationwide that need pro bono representation

of their clients or other assistance.

What is the Center for Taxpayer Rights? Founded by Nina Olson, the former National Taxpayer Advocate, the Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation dedicated to increasing awareness of and access to taxpayer rights, in part by strengthening and supporting LITCs that provide pro bono representation to low income, underrepresented taxpayers. To accomplish this, the Center works with LITC practitioners to identify issues affecting low income taxpayers and other vulnerable populations. The Center then helps coordinate litigation or amicus curiae briefs on these issues. The Center also submits FOIA requests for unpublished data that we are using to create a library of documents covering issues that affect all taxpayers.

The Center recently launched a new app, <u>LITC Connect</u>. Operating like popular "dating apps" LITC Connects matches LITCs that need volunteer assistance with tax professionals interested in volunteering. These professionals consist of lawyers, CPAs, and enrolled agents who are eager to help taxpayers. When creating a profile, volunteers will be prompted to describe their qualifications (such as bar admissions or professional licenses), areas of expertise, and areas in which they would like more training before accepting a case involving that issue. Then, the algorithm and the Center's Pro Bono Coordinator work together to match the volunteer with the appropriate case. In addition to direct representation, tax professionals can also volunteer to provide technical advice, training, or mentoring to LITCs. Through LITC Connect, the Center hosts trainings and makes materials available for volunteers looking to expand their knowledge of tax issues. Volunteers can sign up for LITC Connect here.

LITC Connect is not limited to tax practitioners. Tax law is complex and ties into every other practice area, including family law, general business law, or consumer protection law. With the

Center's extensive training and resource library, LITC Connect will allow volunteers to gain valuable experience that might not be available otherwise. Additionally, our professional liability insurance covers volunteers working on cases referred from LITCs.

If you already volunteer with an LITC you can still sign up for LITC Connect; the Center partners with LITCs all over the country, and your skills may be invaluable not just to your local LITC but also for remote or rural LITCs that don't have access to a large volunteer pool.

You can learn more and sign up at LITCSupportCenter.org or email litc@taxpayer-rights.org with questions. You may also attend one of our weekly sessions to learn more about LITC Connect and how we are empowering clinics and taxpayers! Weekly zoom sessions are held every Monday from 5:00 PM to 6:00PM EST. Email probono@taxpayer-rights.org to receive the sign-in information.

Thank you for supporting
the Justice For All Fund last month:

lan Bartman
Gordon Cooley

Events

- November 1, 12p: BAFC Monthly Meeting. Our speaker will be Tim Maloney with a Legislative Update. Our sponsor will be ACNB Bank.
- November 15-18: MSBA Legal Excellence Week. For more information visit: https://www.msba.org/product/msba-2022-legal-excellence-week-november/
- November 22: Thanksgiving Dinner with the Salvation Army. Watch your email for sign-ups coming soon!

Investment solutions that families and businesses can depend on.



Save the Date

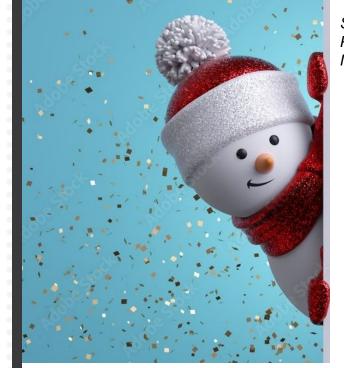
- o December 6, 12p: BAFC Monthly Meeting. Our speaker will be John Edmonds from the Phoenix Foundation. Our sponsor will be Planet Depos.
- o December 8, 5-7p: Family Law Section's Holiday Party.19 N. Court Street, Suite 101, (Carin Golze and Alan Winik's office).
- o December 15, 5-8p: BAFC Holiday Party. Tenth Ward Distillery's Whisky Hall. Details coming soon!

Full Calendar of Events

Registration Coming soon!

This Holiday Season we have decided to go classic....Holiday Television Classics that is!

Costume contests are back with awards for Best Themed Costume and Best Holiday Costume. There will be an **Ornament Contest** this year! So get ready to buy, make, or refurbish an existing ornament and win a prize! Prizes for Best Themed, Best Holiday, and Best Frederick ornament will be awarded. Ornaments will be auctioned off to the highest bidder with ALL proceeds going to CINA.



Special Thank You to our sponsors Planet Depos and Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company.

Information of Interest

From the Courthouse

Beginning on October 17th the Frederick County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) began training Metropolitan Protective Services, Inc. (MPS) staff members in door security for the Frederick County Courthouse. They anticipate the training to last approximately two weeks. After this training MPS will be staffing the public entrances to the building. This will also allow the Sheriff's Office to increase its presence in courtrooms, common areas and provide more comprehensive coverage throughout the building.

To promote the safety of courthouse employees and visitors and the security of the Court House Complex, Frederick County Government has established procedures for entry into the building and for the issuance of identification badges to employees who work in the Frederick County courthouse complex as well as for bar members.

The lower-level entry point is used for the following groups to gain entry into the building:

- Staff/Employees
- Volunteers, interns, temporary agency employees
- Jury members, ADA, Mail/Deliveries, outside vendor maintenance

All other visitors (including members of the bar) are still required to come through the single access point at the main entrance.

Bar members with a Bar card are required to display that card upon entry at the main entrance screening point. Bar members with a Bar card are subject to random screening at any time. These requirements also apply to employees within the courthouse as well and are standard for anyone entering the building.

For the Frederick County Bar Association cards, members can contact Corporal Hubble (<u>BHubble2@frederickcountymd.gov</u>) or Corporal Merck (<u>BMerck@frederickcountymd.gov</u>) (301) 600-2160 to be issued a card. The

FCSO also accepts the new Maryland State Bar Association "Attorney Security Pass" cards. Please note, FCSO reserves the right to suspend a Bar identification card at any time.

Attached is the 2017 Bar Association Card Security Agreement with the Court

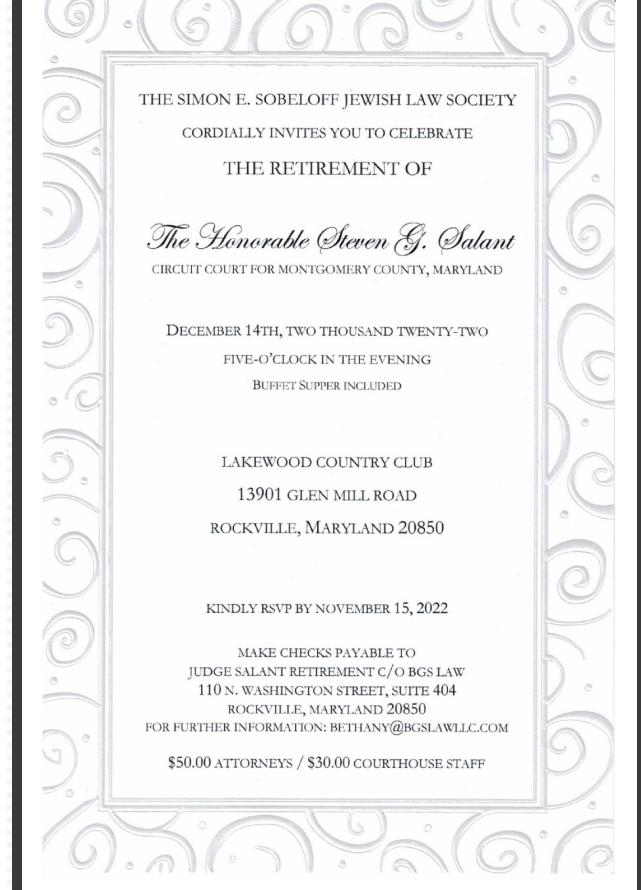
MDEC - A Celebration and a Thank You



The above photos are from the Circuit Court clerks office. We are celebrating our 5 years with MDEC.

I'd like to thank both staff and the legal community for their continued support and patience as we perfect the MDEC process. During Covid I believe we all benefitted. Staff was able to work remotely with MDEC and Simple File for land recordings. Work was kept current by everyone's hard work and dedication.

Sandy Dalton
Clerk of the Circuit Court for Frederick County MD



Entry Level Personal Injury Attorney and Law Clerk Positions

Firm with excellent reputation in personal injury and workers' compensation, is seeking candidates to help grow litigation and appellate departments. With offices in Montgomery, Baltimore and Frederick Counties, we are open to entry level attorneys, recent graduates, or 3rd Year law students. We have full-time and part-time positions depending on license status in Maryland. Strong writing skills are a MUST. Looking for team players who are driven and want to make

a difference in their communities. Position will provide a substantial amount of hands-on litigation experience. Please submit cover letter, resume and writing sample to: Human Resources, 481 N. Frederick Avenue, Suite 300, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 or email recruiting@bsglaw.com. EOE

Are You Looking for a Paralegal?

If you are in need of a paralegal, Dr. Tracy Parker, Program Manager for Frederick Community College's Paralegal Program, may be able to help. You can reach Dr. Parker at: 301-624-2819, TParker@frederick.edu, To fin dout more about FCC's Paralegal program visit:

https://www.frederick.edu/programs/business/paralegal.aspx

We're on Facebook! Follow us at <u>The Bar Association of Frederick County, MD</u> for updates, reminders, photos, and announcements.

Willing to Take a Pro Bono Case?

The Pro Bono Resource Center has a website called Statewide Opportunities (www.probonomd.org/statewide-opportunities) that shows users a database of pro bono service opportunities, trainings, public interest jobs, etc. around the state. The database can be filtered by county, as well as by specific types of opportunities. For example if you click here, you will see only those opportunities that exist in Frederick County, OR that are statewide, remote, or online.

P.O. Box 3088, Frederick, MD 21705-3088 | info@frederickbar.org | www.frederickbar.org

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