



February Newsletter



Issue 2 | 2024 | The Bar Association of Frederick County, MD

SAVE THE DATE

February 5, 2024

Opening Term of Court
Union Circuit Courtroom 1
9a

February 6, 2024

BAFC Annual Meeting
Delaplaine Arts Center
12p

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2023 OFFICERS

President

Tim Price, 301-698-8182

President Elect

Carla Clarke, 240-575-9146

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Margaret "Mimi" Teahan,
301-698-8182

Secretary

Magistrate Julie Minner,
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Assistant Secretary

Michael Moore, 301-600-6696

Assistant Treasurer

Detric Kemp, 301-620-1190

Past President

The Hon. Dino E. Flores, Jr.,
301-600-2005

ASSOCIATION OFFICE

Executive Director

Maegan Cooper

THE NEWSLETTER

The Bar Association of Frederick County, MD, Inc. newsletter is published monthly. Articles and information to be included in the newsletter must be submitted in written or electronic format by the 25th of the month preceding publication month.

Classified and display advertising are available at a modest cost. Go to www.frederickbar.org for information.

Additional information regarding lunch sponsorships are available at www.frederickbar.org.

President's Message – Thank you!

Service on the Bar Association of Frederick County Executive Committee (EC) is typically a seven (7) year commitment. If you follow the normal track you start as the Assistant Treasurer, move up to the Assistant Secretary, then become the Secretary, followed by the Treasurer, the anticipatory President Elect, the omnipotent role of President, then the steep downward slide of Immediate Past President. I will soon become the Immediate Past President.

I am thankful for the wonderful, dedicated individuals I served with during my time on the EC. Serving with each of them made my time pleasurable, a learning experience, a rewarding experience. They include Lorraine Prete, Marshall Horman, Joanie Raymond, Janice Rockwell, Cris LoVetro, Dino Flores, Jr., Paul Flynn, along with those who will remain on the Exec Comm during the upcoming year.

The slate nominated for this next year is:

President: Carla Clarke

President Elect: Mimi Teahan

Treasurer: Judge Julie Minner

Secretary: Michael Moore

Assistant Secretary: Detric Kemp

Assistant Treasurer: Shondell Foster

Immediate Past President: Tim Price

I am reminded of a Boy Scout adage attributed to Lord Robert Baden-Powell to "Try and leave this world a little better than you found it," I was a Boy Scout for about nine months. Maybe I should have stuck around a little longer.

Ralph Waldo Emerson in response to the question: "What is success?" started off with "To laugh often and much" and in the middle of his response included "to leave the world a bit better,"

When I was young my family camped a lot. We camped mostly at state parks and national parks, which for the most part were clean, but there was always some trash, a gum wrapper, unburned items in the firepit, paper blown by the wind. At the behest of my mother (must have been a Scout) my sister and I always had to spend the last hour before leaving the camp site making certain the site was not as we had found it, but better and cleaner.

Lorraine Prete invited me to join the EC, and I was granted a voice in choosing the member immediately following me. As the outgoing President I chose the EC's newest member. I think my best work on the EC was in helping to choose the members that will be serving the Bar Association this next year.

But, I cannot say thank you a last time until I thank Maegan Cooper, our Executive Director. If I thanked her every hour of the day, each day, for the last year, I would not have thanked her enough. If Webster's Dictionary had a picture of someone who fulfills the definition of an Executive Director, Maegan's picture would be planted immediately below the definition. If anyone wants to make me happy, please thank Maegan every chance you get for her work on behalf of the Bar Association.

Thank you.

Tim Price, President.



Member Updates

After almost 15 years at 100 West Church Street, the **Law Office of Cristine Evans LoVetro, LLC** (now "LoVetro Law, LLC") **has moved** to 3426 Buckeystown Pike, Buckeystown, MD 21717. **The mailing address is: P.O. Box 277 Buckeystown, MD 21717.** Cris looks forward to welcoming you all to her beautiful office in the near future!

Al Frederick has joined **Ayres, Jenkins, Gordy & Alman, P.A.** Al concentrates his practice in the defense of lawyers in professional responsibility and negligence matters. He can be reached at 410-723-1400 or afrederick@ajgalaw.com

Section and Committee Update

Elder, Disability and Guardianship Law Section

The next **Elder, Disability, and Guardianship Law Section Meeting** will be on **Thursday, March 14th at noon** at JoJo's Restaurant. Speakers will be Carolyn True, Area Agency on Aging Director for Frederick County, and Joshua Brewster, Senior Assistant County Attorney.

For more information about the Elder, Disability and Guardianship Law Section contact the chair, Lorraine M. B. Prete at lprete@kandplawfirm.com.

Young Lawyers Section

The **Young Lawyers Section** will be having a **Happy Hour** on **Thursday, February 29th from 4:30-6:30p** at Frederick Social. No RSVP is required but we hope to see you there!

For more information about the Young Lawyers Section, please contact them by email at bafcylys@gmail.com.

Pro Bono Committee

The Frederick Center will host free legal clinics quarterly that will offer brief advice to the LGBTQ+ community. Upcoming Clinic Dates for **2024** are: **April 11, July 11, and October 10.** If you would like to volunteer for future clinics, please contact Trevor Addie-Carter at taddiecarter@hormannichols.com.

2024 BAFC dues were due January 1, 2024.

If you haven't already, please renew your dues ASAP. You can renew online via your member login on our website or mail a check. Dues for active/associate members is \$160 and for Young Lawyers is \$75 (those passing the bar between 1-5 years ago). If you need assistance with paying your dues online contact Maegan at Info@frederickbar.org.



Dates to Remember

- **February 5, 9a: Opening Term of Court.** Circuit Courtroom 1.
- **February 6, 12p: BAFC Annual Meeting.** Delaplaine Arts Center. We will have a judges panel from our Frederick County courts. Our sponsor will be Planet Depos.
- **February 29, 4:30-6:30p: Young Lawyers Section Happy Hour.** Frederick Social. All are welcome.
- **March 5, 12p: BAFC Monthly Luncheon.** Delaplaine Arts Center. Our speaker will be Tom DeGonia, Bar Counsel for the Attorney Grievance Commission. Our sponsor will be Silverado Memory Care Communities.
- **March 14, 12p: Elder, Disability, and Guardianship Law Section Meeting.** JoJo's Restaurant. Speakers: Carolyn True, Area Agency on Aging Director for Frederick County, and Joshua Brewster, Senior Assistant County Attorney.

It's FCPS mock trial time again!

Matches are held on **Tuesdays and Wednesday evenings at 5 p.m. at the courthouse** through the end of February.

Three judges are needed for Tuesday evenings and two judges Wednesday evenings. It is a civil case this year.

[Here is a link](#) to the sign-up sheet for judges.

Casebook will be sent to those that sign up. For any questions please contact Lee Morris at lee@amslawgroup.com.

SAVE THE DATE

April 17, 2024

Mediation Skills Update Seminar

Delaplaine Arts Center

October 10, 2024

Dinner with the Judges and

Magistrates

Dutch's Daughter



Article of Interest

Intra Office Emails: A cautionary note for lawyers to consider

By: Al Frederick, BAFC member, Ayres, Jenkins, Gordy and Almand, P.A.

We all know email is the easiest, quickest and cheapest way to communicate. It does however present several issues that are worthy of a refresher for all attorneys.

Amongst those issues are the following: security, rapidity and intra-office use. These challenges can in most instances be easily overcome. As for security, one cautions the client in a Retainer Agreement as to the potential issues with using email but notes that the benefits far outweigh the detriments and almost all clients opt to be able to communicate via email.

As for what I call rapidity, there is a terrible temptation to respond immediately to email from opposing counsel or clients. That is generally not the best approach, because a rapid response will not necessarily include all options and may be inappropriate in tone. The suggestion is to draft a response, send it to yourself and let it sit for 24 hours. There is no timetable on responding to email so long as the response is sent in a 'reasonable' time. Two or three days is certainly reasonable.

Lastly is intra office email where there is a great tendency to let one's hair down and be candid saying things 'privately' that one would never say publicly. This is NOT a good idea. Anything committed to writing (and that includes email) may be subject to a discovery request and may end up being produced. If what is being written would be inappropriate for sharing with a religious leader or a parent, one ought not to write it. Candid assessments can be provided to those you trust, orally.

Berman | Sobin | Gross LLP is hiring a LAW CLERK / ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY in our Frederick office!

Job Description

We are a Maryland law firm with an excellent reputation in personal injury and workers' compensation seeking candidates to help grow our litigation and appellate departments specifically in our Western Maryland office. Our Frederick county office is currently seeking law school graduates or 3rd Year law school students. We have both full-time and part-time positions available depending on whether you are currently in school and licensed in Maryland. Strong writing skills are a MUST. We are looking for team players who are driven and want to make a difference in their communities. This position will provide a substantial amount of hands-on litigation experience for the right candidates. This position also offers a clear pathway for professional development, presenting the opportunity to transition into an associate attorney role post-graduation.

Salary: \$20.00 - \$22.00 per hour. **This increases upon successful admission to the Maryland bar.**

Benefits: 401(k), Dental insurance, Flexible spending account, Health insurance, Life insurance, Paid time off, Parental leave, Retirement plan, Vision insurance

Work Location: In person

Visit our careers page at bsglaw.com for more information.

BSG
BERMAN | SOBIN | GROSS LLP



INFORMATION OF INTEREST

For Sale

Fait & DiLima LLP is selling their Frederick townhouse office, a historic property located at 233 West Patrick Street. The property is a short walk to the Courthouse and there is parking in the rear. Renovations have recently been completed. For more detail contact Dorothy Fait at: dfait@fdfamilylaw.com.

Volunteer Opportunity

The City of Frederick is seeking volunteers to serve on its Ethics Commission, Personnel Board, and certain other commissions and boards. Interested city residents are encouraged to call Rachel Nessen at 240.405.3320 or email rnessen@cityoffrederickmd.gov for more information.

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 find out more about FCC's Paralegal program visit:

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

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.