



NEWSLETTER

January 2022

President's Message

By: Cristine Evans LoVetro, BAFC President

Greetings!

It seems to me that if ever there was a year that needed a reset button, the year 2021 would be an excellent candidate. I have been mulling over the potential content of this Message much longer than will be evident to the reader. Although I truly count my blessings every day, I admit that there have been moments of late where I have had to dig a little deeper. Events and ongoing concerns of this past year have contributed to the formation of a few cracks in my foundation of gratitude. Fortunately, I believe that hope is cultivated even during those phases that appear dormant. Therefore, I, like many of you, recognize, acknowledge, and appreciate the existence of “good” both between us and beyond us. In this spirit of hope, I wish all of you a Happy New Year!

Our speaker for the Virtual Bar Meeting on January 4th is Kate Hanlon Sinclair, Esquire, Board Member of the MSBA Lawyer Assistance Program. Ms. Sinclair will be sharing information about resources available to help with a broad range of problems and personal concerns. The assistance provided is completely confidential. Please join us to hear more about what this important program has to offer.

As I am sure most of you have heard, the Maryland Judiciary has reverted to Phase III through February 9, 2022, and all judiciary operations are restricted. For more information, please refer to Judge Solt's Order printed in this Newsletter. Your Executive Committee will continue to assess event options on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the directives in the Order.

The National Youth Poet Laureate, Amanda Gorman, recently shared her poem, “New Day's Lyric.” I encourage all of you to read the entire poem; due to the confines of space, I share only this portion with you:

*Come, look up with kindness yet,
For even solace can be sourced from sorrow.
We remember, not just for the sake of yesterday,
But to take on tomorrow.*

Indeed, it is time to save the good work we completed in 2021, restart our systems, and begin 2022 with fresh commitment. Best wishes, my friends!

New Member Spotlight

Jay Malik

Jay Malik from the Montero Law Group LLC joined BAFC in 2021 and is building a unique local practice concentrating on white-collar defense, contract formation, and veterans rights. Jay is a former big city criminal prosecutor, a position he proudly held since obtaining his Juris Doctor from the George Washington University Law School. Prior to fighting in the courtroom, Jay spent the 2000s defending our country as a US Army Combat Infantryman. Jay also has a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from Boston University and a Bachelor's Degree in Economics, Chemistry and Mideast Studies from New York University. Jay is multi-lingual and an avid scuba diver.



Section Updates

Young Lawyers Section

The **Young Lawyers Section** is pleased to announce the **2022 YLS Executive Committee**:

CHAIR: Brooke Gomulka - Assistant State's Attorney for Frederick County

CHAIR-ELECT: Rada Machin -The Machin Law Firm

SECRETARY: Clark Adams - Powell, LLC

TREASURER: Monique Nettleford-Bruce - Maryland Legal Aid

PHILANTHROPY CHAIR: Garrett Byron - The Poole Law Group

CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVE LIAISON: Denise Hicks Brown - Conklyn & Kemp Law Firm

SOCIAL CHAIR: William Sasse - Judicial Law Clerk for the Honorable Richard Sandy

In December, the Young Lawyers Section partnered with Frederick County Public Schools through Ballenger Creek Elementary School to collect Christmas presents for children in need. Because of the generous donations of BAFC members, not only did we fulfill the wish lists of our family of four, **we also supplied clothes and toys for a second family. We donated gifts totaling over \$1,500 to 8 children!** The gifts included winter coats, shoes, pants, shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters, socks, gloves, hats, arts and crafts, puzzles, dolls, sports items, gift cards, and more! We also donated stockings, stocking stuffers, and gift wrapping supplies. YLS sends a **thank you** to everyone who contributed to this most meaningful and joyful project. We wish you all a safe and happy holiday season!

For more information about the Young Lawyers Section, please contact Brooke Gomulka or email bafcyls@gmail.com.



Family Law Section

About 15 members of the **Family Law Section** were able to gather safely in December to celebrate the end of the year and to catch up. Fun and french fries were had by all. Thank you all who were able to join!

Invoices for 2022 dues have gone out. Please check your email. If you did not receive an invoice, please contact Carin.

The next **Family Law Section meeting** will be on Tuesday, **January 25th at Noon via Zoom**. Our newest judge, Judge English, will be joining us.

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



FISHING FOR CIVILITY 2022

Our annual trip to Rock Hall pairing three young lawyers and three “older” lawyers has been tentatively scheduled for **July 8th, and July 9th, 2022**. It is truly one of the best events for Bar Members!!! It has been two (2) years since we have been able to schedule this event. As a result of having to book and guarantee payment for the motel rooms, caterer, and fishing captains months in advance, once again we will need a firm count of the number of participants and sponsors. As trial calendars are quickly being filed for the next year (and 2023), this advance notice is being provided.

Accordingly, registration for this event will be open until **Monday, February 7th, 2022**. The costs are as follows:

a. Fishing -- \$120.00 per person

b. Motel -- \$ 50.00 per person, 2 persons to room
c. Dinner-- \$50.00 per person (Planned menu: AYCE Appetizers, Crabs, BBQ Ribs, Dessert and all types of Beverages)
These amounts INCLUDE all necessary gratuities.

In the past, our older lawyers and Firms have sponsored all of the young lawyers desiring to attend. Also, one need not fish to attend. Spouses/Partners and adult Children are invited. If you are interested in attending as a young lawyer, please contact Brooke Gomulka at bgomulka@statesattorney.us. Please indicate whether you desire to fish, and whether you need a sponsor. "Older" lawyers desiring to attend or just sponsor a Young Lawyer may contact Amber Garns at Amber.Garns@MDCOURTS.GOV.



RECENT EVENTS

BAFC ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

by: Janice Rockwell, BAFC Past President

Undaunted by an early microphone mishap (Mimi broke it, I swear), crazy schedules of the party committee members, and our fearless leader Maegan undergoing chemotherapy, the BAFC "Mele Kalikimaka" Holiday Party went on as scheduled on December 9, 2021 in sunny Hawaii - well . . . the Delaplaine Center looked like a tropical paradise. How refreshing to escape from reality for an evening to grass skirts, tropical shirts and face to face (or mask to mask) conversation with real people - who don't live in your house. Mother Winter Wonderland, Mary Beth Kaslick won the Most Festive Costume. Our walking candy cane, Carin Golze took the prize for Most Creative Costume. Married couple, Dan Carroll and Mary Ann Ferguson and their too cute matching Hawaiian shirts won the Best Hawaiian Theme. We made time for some serious (but happy) business when the Young Lawyers Section presented its awards, with the YLS Mentorship Award going to Margaret Teahan of Ethridge, Quinn, Kemp, Rowan & Hartinger and the Up- and-Coming Lawyer Award going to Carin Golze of the Law Office of Alan L. Winik, LLC. Congratulations ladies! Our Association is better by having you in it - you bring such energy, and of course, fun. Our gingerbread houses added to the decor and raised money for CINA along with Magistrate Minner's homemade Irish Cream. See below for more on CINA and the gingerbread houses.

A big "thank you" to our wonderful party sponsors, Minnesota Lawyers Mutual and FCB Bank, a division of ACNB Bank, for enabling us to decorate, eat and drink in style. If you run into our Dream Team Holiday Party Committee members - Maegan Cooper, April Dixon, Magistrate Julie Minner, Margaret

Teahan, and yours truly (Janice Rockwell) - please let them know you appreciate them. Life was unusually crazy for every one of us. It would have been easy to cancel the party, but we took turns carrying each other when needed and hope we brought you all a nice evening.







2nd ANNUAL BAFC GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST

The winners of the **2nd Annual BAFC Gingerbread House** contest are: **"Best Hawaiian House::** House #1: Gingerbread Pool Shanty by: Cheryl Lenhart, Office of Janice B. Rockwell, LLC. and **"Best Holiday House" AND "People's Choice":** "Gingerbread Cuties" by: Jocelyn (8) and Lyla (10), daughters of Maegan Cooper, Executive Director. Thank you to all who entered.

Thank you to all those that donated to **CINA**, either through a direct donation, "tip" at the BAFC Holiday Party, or with gingerbread house votes. **We raised over \$3500 to help make the holidays a little brighter for 35 children, including some large sibling groups.**



ENGLISH INVESTITURE

Judge Kathleen ("Kate") English was invested as the newest judge on the Circuit Court for Frederick County on December 10, 2021 in the presence of family, friends, and members of the legal community. While judicial investitures

are always special events, attendees palpably appreciated this ceremony and after-event, a rare celebratory gathering in our post-pandemic world. Judge English takes the seat of Circuit Court Senior Judge William Nicklas who retired in August 2021. Congratulations Judge English!

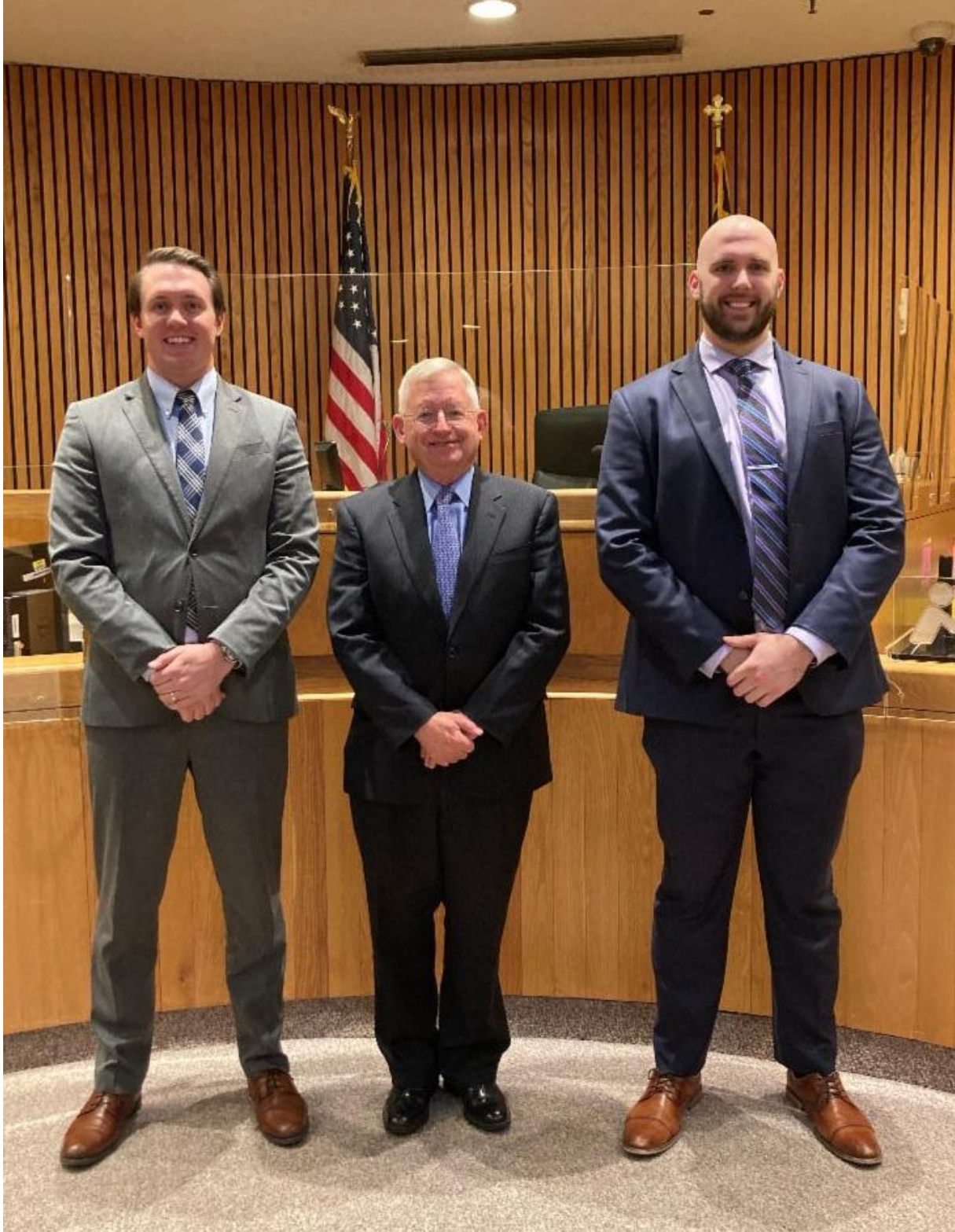
Below left are Judge Solt, Judge English, and Chief Judge Getty. Right is Judge English with daughter, Sophie.



LAW CLERKS GET PHOTO OPP WITH CHIEF JUDGE GETTY

Law clerks for Judge Sandy (William Sasse) and Judge Solt (Justin Spencer) were able to have a picture taken with Chief Judge Getty while he was here for Judge English's investiture.

Mr. Sasse and Mr. Spencer, along with Derek Moscati (law clerk for Judge Martz-Fisher), were sworn in as lawyers mid-December.



IMPORTANT ORDER FROM THE COURTHOUSE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

December 28, 2021

Whereas, Chief Judge Getty has issued an Administrative Order returning Court Operations to Phase III beginning December 29, 2021 and Continuing through February 9, 2022, and

Whereas, this local Administrative Order will assist parties and counsel determine which matters remain on the Court's docket,

It is

ORDERED, that :

1. the following matters listed as exhibit "A" remain on the Court's calendar;
2. all multi-day contested trials (civil and criminal) are postponed;
3. all family law merits cases are postponed
4. that requests for remote participation in other proceedings will be considered upon the filing of a written motion for such participation;
5. that criminal jury trials scheduled between these dates shall remain on the docket as status hearings;
6. that all civil jury trials set between these dates are to be rescheduled;
7. that to the extent possible, Family Services will continue to provide services on a remote basis;
8. any request for emergency relief will be handled on a case by case basis as the situation allows;
9. This Order will be updated and revised as necessary.

Julie S. Solt

Dec 29, 2021

To read more about how this might impact you please read [here](#).

Mock Trial Volunteers Needed

The Frederick County Public Schools Mock Trial Competition will begin in early January and run through early February 2022. Attorney volunteers are needed to serve as judges. **Please consider signing up for an evening or two to support this worthwhile program.**

The competition will be held on **Tuesday and Wednesday evenings beginning on January 11th** at 5:30 p.m. at **Walkersville High School**.

Below is a link for attorneys to sign up:

2021-22 Mock Trial Schedule:

The case materials can be accessed electronically through this link: [2021-22 Mock Trial Materials - Maryland Youth & the Law - MYLAW](#)

Events

- **January 4, 12p: VIRTUAL Monthly Luncheon Meeting.** Our speaker is Kate Hanson Sinclair from the Lawyers Assistance Program to talk about mental health and referrals.
- **January 25, 12p: Family Law Section Meeting via Zoom** with Judge English.

Save the Date

o **February 1, 12p. BAFC Annual Meeting.** Watch your email for more information!

o **May 4, 8a-12p BAFC Mediation Skills Update Seminar.** Delaplaine Arts Center. Watch your email from registration coming soon.

[Full Calendar of Events](#)

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129 W. Patrick Street, Suite 8 • Frederick, MD 21701

Office: 301-620-1999
Josh Ambush: 240-813-8449

This advertisement is for informational purposes only, and is provided only within the context of residential mortgage financing. Information presented is not legal advice or a legal opinion. You should seek the advice of legal counsel of your choice. All mortgage transactions are subject to credit approval. Advertisement. 06/30/2021.

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



Lisa Caplan, LCSW-C, Director
Direct confidential line: 443-703-3042
lisa@msba.org
Toll-free confidential help: 1-888-388-5459

We have Assisted Thousands of Maryland Lawyers

The Lawyer Assistance Program is available to all Maryland Lawyers. We have a network of counselors who can assist you no matter what state you live in. We provide free, confidential assistance for lawyers, judges and law school students by offering assessment, referral, short-term counseling, and continued support to ensure long term success. Everyone experiences personal concerns at some point, and early intervention is the key to resolving these concerns.. **The Lawyer Assistance Program offers financial assistance for Mental Health and Substance Abuse treatment.**

The Lawyer Assistance Program can make a difference.

Our services include help for a broad range of problems and personal concerns such as:

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Marital and Family
- Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- Stress and Burnout
- Prescription Drug Concerns
- Career Transitions
- Gambling
- Sexual Addiction
- Compulsive Spending
- Eating Disorders
- Balancing Work and Family
- Bereavement
- Wellness
- Internet Addiction

Referring to the Lawyer Assistance Program

If you are concerned about another lawyer you can make an anonymous referral to the Lawyer Assistance Program.

Confidentiality

Federal and state laws and Rule 8.3 ensures the confidentiality of those who seek assistance or have been referred to the Lawyers Assistance Program.

Please feel free to reach out to our LAP Committee Members and Volunteers

<https://www.msba.org/health-and-wellness/>

Maryland State Bar Association, Inc.

BAFC Website

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.

STAY CONNECTED

