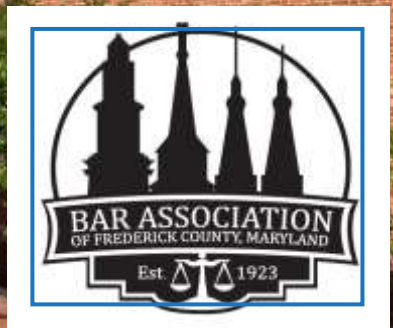




# August Newsletter



Issue 8 | 2023 | The Bar Association of Frederick County, MD

## *SAVE THE DATE*

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2023**

Judge Adams Retirement Celebration  
Dutch's Daughter  
6-8p

**DECEMBER 14, 2023**

BAFC Annual Holiday Party  
Union Mills Public House  
5-8p

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#### 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](http://www.frederickbar.org) for information.

Additional information regarding lunch sponsorships are available at [www.frederickbar.org](http://www.frederickbar.org).

## *Dates to Remember*

- **August 1, 12p: BAFC Monthly Luncheon Meeting.** Delaplaine Arts Center. Speaker: Heartly House. Our sponsor is the McCammon Group.
- **August 24 BAFC Annual Golf Tournament.** Musket Ridge Golf Course. 9:30a start. Cost is \$67 per golfer. Registration is open on the website and the **deadline to register is August 17<sup>th</sup>.**
- **August 24, 5-8p: BAFC Annual Picnic.** Lewistown Social Hall. Registration is open on the website and the **deadline to register is August 15<sup>th</sup>.**
- **August 30, 5p: Elder, Disability and Guardianship Law Section Meet & Greet Happy Hour.** At Isabella's.
- **September 5, 12p: BAFC Monthly Luncheon Meeting.** Delaplaine Arts Center. Speaker: Tim Maloney. Our sponsor is Planet Depos.
- **September 11, 9a: Opening Term of Court.** Circuit Courtroom 1.
- **September 13, 12p: Elder, Disability and Guardianship Law Section Meeting.** At Isabella's.
- **September 14, 12p: Family Law Section Meeting** via Zoom. Speakers: Cris LoVetro and Megan McGrew.
- **September 14, 4:30-5:30p: Presentation on Professionalism and Civility.** Brewer's Alley.
- **September 28, 6-8p: Judge Theresa Adams Retirement Celebration.** Dutch's Daughter. *Registration coming soon!*
- **December 14, 5-8p: BAFC Annual Holiday Party.** Union Mills Public House.





# Member Updates

Congratulations to **Judge Theresa Adams** on her retirement. To the right is a picture of Judge Adams surrounded by courthouse staff and local attorneys on her last day in court.

**Offit Kurman** is very pleased to announce that **Thomas Hughes** has joined the firm's Landlord Representation practice. You can reach Mr. Hughes at 240-507-1727 or [tom.hughes@offitkurman.com](mailto:tom.hughes@offitkurman.com).

**BGS Law, LLC** is proud to announce that **William Prunka** has joined the firm! He comes to us from the State's Attorneys Office for Frederick County where he served as an Assistant State's Attorney for the previous eleven years. He will be practicing criminal, juvenile, and family law. Will is going to be mainly working out of Frederick and is happy to be able to continue to see fellow Frederick bar members on a regular basis. You can contact Mr. Prunka at [will@bgslawllc.com](mailto:will@bgslawllc.com).

**Laura Duncan** will be Of Counsel at **Luqman Law**, New location 5301 Buckeystown Pike Suite 215 in Frederick. Ms. Duncan can be reached at (240) 409-6108.



Jessica Markham  
Attorney at Law



Leslie Miller  
Attorney at Law

## CALL US TO GET STARTED WITH PERSONALIZED QDRO SERVICES

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A portrait of Robert A. Greenberg, a man with short grey hair, wearing a grey suit jacket and a red bow tie.

# Section and Committee Updates

## Family Law Section

The next **Family Law Section** will be on **Thursday, September 14th**, at **Noon** via Zoom. Cris LoVetro, Esq. and Megan McGrew, Esq. will provide an overview of the Medicaid application process and how asset division in a divorce can affect that process.

Upcoming training opportunities:

- 1) AFCC-AAML 2023 Conference on Advanced Issues in Child Custody: Evaluation, Litigation, and Settlement September 28-30, 2023: <https://www.afcnet.org/2023afccaaml/>
- 2) AFCC 9th Annual Fall Education Conference: "When a Parent Moves Away: Relocation in Custody With or Without Consent." on October 17, 2023. AFCC will send out registration information in August.

For more information about the Family Law Section, please contact Carin Golze at [Carin@WinikLaw.com](mailto:Carin@WinikLaw.com).

## Elder, Disability and Guardianship Law Section

The **Elder, Disability and Guardianship Law Section** have many upcoming events in 2023. Please mark your calendars for the following:

- **Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 5:00, Pro Bono Happy Hour** at Isabella's. Meet and greet attorneys with similar practices. Learn about Pro Bono opportunities. Courtesy of the Community Foundation of Frederick County.
- **Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 12:00, Section Meeting** at Isabella's. Lindsey McCormick from Silverado Memory Care Communities will discuss dementia and wants to understand situations that attorneys find themselves in when working with older clients and their families.
- **Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 12:00, Section Meeting** at Brewer's Alley. Michael Powell, Esquire will be joining us to speak about being an Orphans' Court Judge. He will share what brought him to run for Frederick County's Orphans' Court and what common, fixable problems he has seen during his term thus far.

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

## Pro Bono Committee

There was another successful legal clinic for The Frederick Center on July 13, 2023. A special thank you to the Bar members who volunteered at the event: *Trevor Addie-Carter, Carin Golze, Lorraine Prete, Chelsea Kadish, Angela Hansen and Joanie Raymond.*





# From the Courthouse

## Property Review Board Vacancies

In accordance with Transportation Article 8-327, the Circuit Court is inviting any interested member of the BAR who would like to serve a term on the Property Review Board to please submit their letter of interest to the Honorable Julie S. Solt, Administrative Judge, Circuit Court for Frederick County, 100 West Patrick Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701, no later than Friday, September 15, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

The Board of Property Review of each County has three (3) members appointed by the Judges of the Circuit Court. One shall be a lawyer, one shall be a farmer engaged in full time in some sort of agricultural pursuit, and one shall be an engineer or a person with an engineering background and knowledge. Each board member serves for a term of two (2) years and until his successor is appointed and qualifies. Compensation is set by the Court of Appeals. Also, if anyone knows a full-time farmer or an engineer who may be interested, please forward this information to them so they may submit their names accordingly.

### BAFC Annual

# PICNIC

BEER | WINE | FOOD

**24** AUGUST @ 5PM

**Lewistown Social Hall**

10540 Putman Road, Thurmont 21788

## Annual Golf Tournament

Thursday, August 24, 2023

- Musket Ridge Golf Club (3555 Brethren Church Rd., Myersville, MD 21773)
- 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Tee Times (Please arrive early to hit range balls and find your cart assignment.)
- \$67, Registration Deadline: August 17, 2023
- Registration limited to 32 players (So register early!)
- Includes greens fees, cart, range balls and prizes

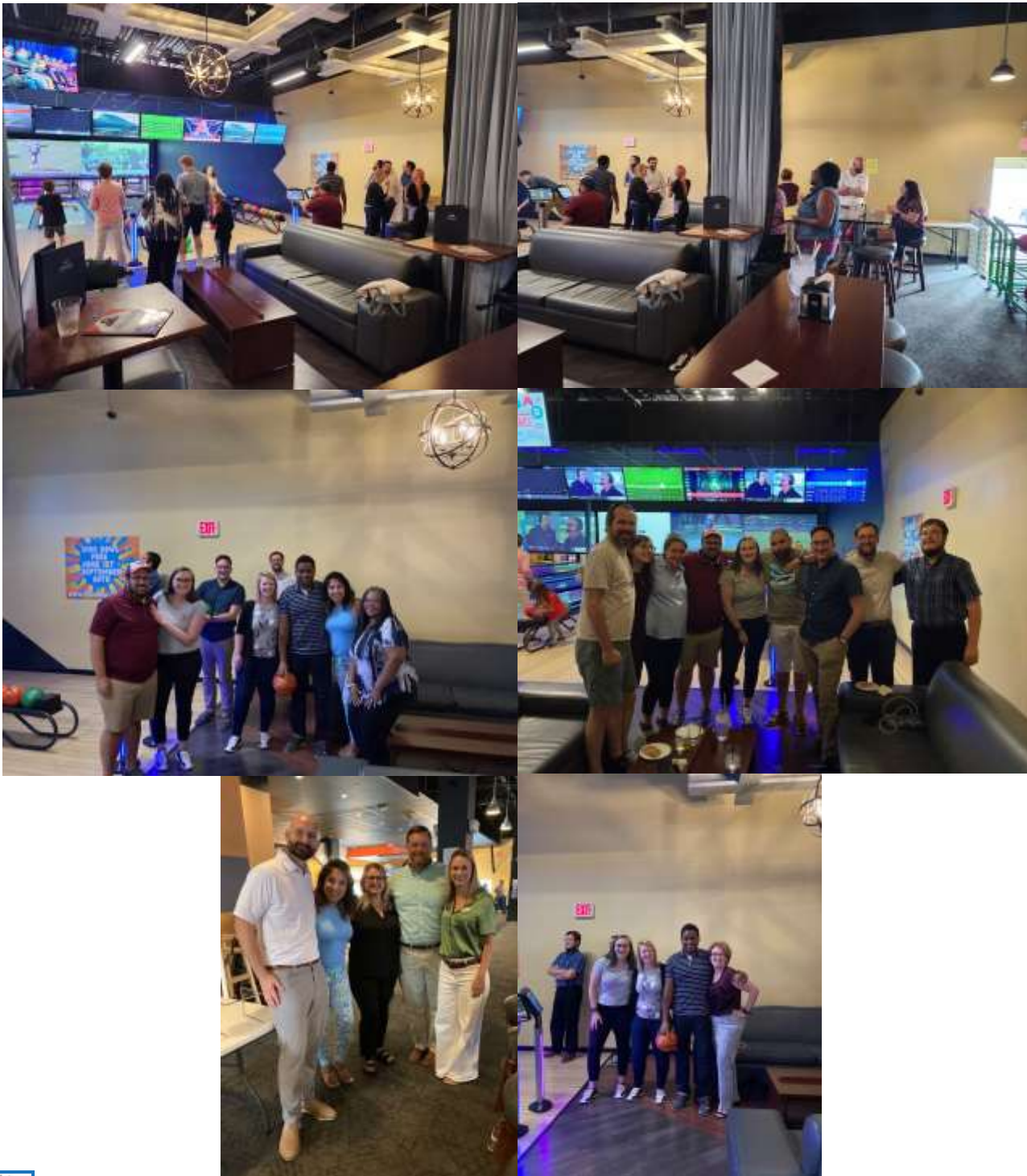
Players of all skill levels are encouraged to join. Players will be assigned to a team to safeguard that everyone will be a candidate for the Green Tees Award!

REGISTRATION: Can be completed through [www.frederickbar.org](http://www.frederickbar.org)

# Recent Events

## Summer Bash with YLS

The Young Lawyers Section hosted a **Summer Bash** at Fourth Dimension Fun Center on **June 29<sup>th</sup>**. Around 30 members, family, and friends attended and had a slightly competitive night of fun. Thank you to all the sponsors for making this a successful event: Moore Financial, Minnesota Lawyers Mutual, Woodsboro Bank, the Employment Law Center of Maryland, and Angela Hansen.





# Articles of Interest

## A Lesson from Losing a Loved One.

By: Lena Clark, *BAFC Member; Law Office of Lena A. Clark, LLC*

My 68-year-old father unexpectedly passed away last year. Despite my efforts to encourage my parents to create Wills and Revocable Living Trusts, they had not done so because, well, they were not wealthy and were not planning on dying yet. My mother, brother, and I were left with painful grief and a complete mess. My brother lives two hours away from our hometown and for the last twenty-four years, I have been living overseas here in the U.S. For the first time in her life, my mom was learning to live alone. She was twenty when they were married.

As a Probate attorney, I have often seen the consequences of not having a comprehensive and updated Estate Plan in place. This time, however, it was personal. Under Estonian law, my parents' marital home of thirty-eight years was passed on to my mom, my brother, and me equally. My dad always wanted my mom to inherit the property and all his modest possessions to make sure she had the resources to age gracefully without worrying about finances. Although my brother and I had no desire to take ownership of their home, we quickly learned that relinquishing our shares would have significant legal consequences.

My initial plan was to “disclaim” my interest in the property to make sure my mom received everything. However, I learned that my disclaimed share would instead go to my then one-year-old son who would not be able to disclaim the inheritance until he turned 18. This meant that my mother was left responsible for maintaining and paying taxes on a property that she wanted to sell. Eventually, we found an expensive solution. Luckily for us, at least there was no Gift Tax issue from us “gifting” our shares to my mom, which would have been the case under US law.

It is easy to put off creating a Will, especially when you are young and healthy. However, life is unpredictable, and the unexpected can happen at any time. By having an Estate Plan in place, you can help ensure that your assets are distributed according to your wishes and that your loved ones don't have to go through the mess my family had to go through.



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# Plaintiff's Tip: Expert Witnesses – The Rule Regarding Discoverable Communications Has Changed

By: Stephen Campen, *BAFC Member; Campen & Manganaro*

It used to be any communication between a party's attorney and his or her experts were discoverable and could be offered as impeachment evidence at trial. No more. As of January 1, 2023, Maryland Rule 2-402(g)(1)(D) states as follows: "Protection for Communications Between a Party's Attorney and Expert Witnesses: A party is not entitled to the discovery of communications between another party's attorney and an expert witness, regardless of the form of the communication, except to the extent that the communication (i) relates to compensation for the expert's study or testimony, (ii) identifies facts or data that the attorney provided and the expert considered in forming the opinion to be expressed, or

(iii) identifies assumptions that the party's attorney provided, and the expert relied on in forming the opinions to be expressed."

Despite the change, it is still best to limit written communications with experts as you really don't want to have to fight the battle about discoverability and admissibility and that can be minimized by simply limiting unnecessary communications with your experts.

## HELP WANTED

### Bar Counsel, Attorney Grievance Commission

Please see the below announcement for Bar Counsel, Attorney Grievance Commission.

Please click [here](#) to view.

The closing date for this position is August 14, 2023.

The application materials must be sent via email no later than close of business on August 14, 2023 to:

Maryland Judiciary  
Administrative Office of the Courts  
Human Resources Division  
Attention: Nancy Kline  
[Nancy.Kline@mdcourts.gov](mailto:Nancy.Kline@mdcourts.gov)

## INFORMATION OF INTEREST

### 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](mailto: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](http://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.

