

NORFOLK & PORTSMOUTH BAR ASSOCIATION

BAR BULLETIN

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January –
February 2019

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Preregistration required
for all NPBA Events.
Call 622-3152.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year



Caryn R. West

This time of year, there is a lot of focus on new starts and beginnings. We celebrate a new year with resolutions to do something better (and some of them might even last past January 31). After the holidays and the excess food and merriment that often accompanies the holidays, new diets abound, and we begin to focus on losing that five extra pounds from the holidays before summer. There is also, however, some looking back over 2018. One thing that sticks out to me over the last year is the loss of many prominent members of our community. I will not list them as an unintentional exclusion could be a fresh wound, but we all know who they are. Sometimes, this last year, I felt we were left reeling by one after the other of lost friends and community giants. We lost some of our most prominent philanthropists and most respected attorneys.

And, I would guess, there are many of us that regret not stopping in one last time to see an old friend. So, one of my resolutions this year is to make time for friends, new and old. And it's not just death that separates us from friends. We often regret missing an opportunity to see someone before they move on to new opportunities. A few years ago, I had a friend move almost clear across the country. When she told me, she indicated that the move was over a month away, but before she left she wanted to do brunch on Shore Drive, and I said let's do it right now. Today, I was so glad we did because over the next month our lives got busy and if we hadn't done it that day, we would have lost that opportunity. So, the next time a friend says let's get together, and you think you'd rather go home and Netflix and Chill, say yes instead. You may be glad you did.

Looking forward, I wish everyone a Happy New Year and good luck with your New Year Resolution and fresh start. If your New Year's Resolution is to finally commit to some Pro Bono, I present a couple more great Pro Bono Opportunities that may interest you.

More Pro Bono Opportunities:

Assisting Military Families: The American Bar Association has a Military Pro Bono Project. They offer both a Listserv with Open Pro Bono Cases and a Volunteer list to receive calls and emails from military attorneys in need of attorney-to-attorney advice. To learn more and volunteer, visit www.militaryprobono.org.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY LUNCHEON

Thursday, January 17, 2019, 11:45 AM

Hits at the Park, Harbor Park

Kellye L. Walker, Huntington Ingalls Industries

immediately following Luncheon

ETHICAL PITFALLS FOR IN HOUSE ATTORNEYS

1 CLE Ethics Credit

See enclosed flyer for details

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

Thursday, February 21, 2019, 11:45 AM

Hits at the Park, Harbor Park

Hon. Courtney Doyle, Norfolk City Council

immediately following Luncheon

PERSONAL INJURY

1 CLE Credit

See enclosed flyer for details

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(President's Message continued)

The Virginia State Bar and the Virginia Poverty Law Center (VPLC) launching eviction hotline in January 2019. On January 7, 2019, they will be hosting a free webinar CLE which prepares attorneys to participate in the eviction hotline.

Finally, if you're interested in helping the NPBA organize a fundraiser for the Legal Aid Society, send us an email at npbmail@gmail.com.

YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

By Griffin M. O'Hanlon, Chair • gohanlon@cooperhurley.com • 455-0077

On December 5, 2018, hundreds of recent law school graduates gathered in Richmond for admission to the Supreme Court of Virginia. If you are one of these individuals, the YLS congratulates you on your accomplishment and welcomes you to the esteemed and collegial practice of law in Virginia. Beginning your legal career is an exciting adventure but will inevitably present unexpected challenges. Whether it be balancing a healthy lifestyle with billable hour requirements, having a judge let you know that you failed to follow a particularly unique local rule or discovering that red pens were invented for supervising attorneys to edit briefs, the transition from law school to law practice can be humbling. While I certainly do not have all the answers, and still experience many of the same challenges I did when entering practice, I want to share a few tips that I have learned along the way:



Griff O'Hanlon

Be On Time And Be Prepared

There are precious few things that are fully in your control when you enter the legal profession. Supervising attorneys will have a decided impact on your workload and schedule. However, punctuality and preparation are completely within your control and, in my opinion, are the two most essential attributes for a successful new lawyer. They are also the most readily apparent characteristics one can possess. As a new lawyer, you are establishing your reputation within the legal community from scratch. Being late or unprepared leaves a lasting, negative impression on judges, opposing counsel and clients. Alternatively, consistently demonstrating yourself as punctual and prepared garners a trustful respect from others, a trait essential to your budding reputation.

Don't Be Paralyzed By A Fear Of Failure

A healthy fear of failure is a tremendous motivator. It informs your work ethic and demands that you strive to achieve your clients' goals. However, never allow yourself to be paralyzed by the fear of failure. The practice of law is, by design, an adversarial system. If a mutually agreeable resolution cannot be reached to end a dispute, one party will eventually win and the other will lose. Whether it be suffering an unfavorable jury verdict or having a judge deny your motion, every lawyer experiences losses in her career. In fact, I have learned much more from my failures than successes. Do not allow a fear of failure to paralyze your action. Knowledgeably identify the legal issues, meticulously do the necessary research, concisely draft the required pleadings and zealously present your case to the best of your ability. If you do these things, you will have served your client admirably, regardless of the outcome.

Build Relationships With Lawyers Outside Your Firm

In my eight years practicing law in Virginia, I have found that the majority of lawyers I've encountered are extremely willing to provide assistance or advice to me when called upon. Build relationships with other lawyers in our community and seek out those who are willing to share their experience with you. NPBA social events and CLEs are an excellent opportunity to meet experienced lawyers of the bench and bar. These relationships with lawyers outside your firm will serve you well throughout your career. Not only will they be a source of valuable advice and assistance, but they also can serve as beneficial referral partners. Additionally, having relationships with lawyers outside your firm allows you to candidly seek advice about many of the challenges new associates face like dealing with a difficult supervising attorney or considering new employment opportunities.

Again, on behalf of the YLS, I congratulate all those recently admitted to the Virginia State Bar and welcome you to the practice of law. If we can do anything to help you as you begin your legal career, please do not hesitate to contact me at gohanlon@cooperhurley.com or (757) 455-0077.

JANUARY LUNCHEON

Thursday, January 17, 2019

Hits at The Park, Harbor Park

11:45 AM



Kellye L. Walker

Huntington Ingalls Industries, Inc.

Kellye Walker is executive vice president and chief legal officer for Huntington Ingalls Industries, America's largest military shipbuilding company and a provider of

professional services to partners in government and industry.

Serving in this role since 2015, she has overall leadership responsibility for HII's law department and outside counsel, which provide a broad range of legal advice and support for the company's business activities, including corporate governance matters, compliance, litigation management, and mergers and acquisitions.

Walker came to HII from American Water Works Co., where she held the roles of chief administrative officer, senior vice president, general counsel and secretary. She previously served as senior vice president and general counsel at Diageo North America and as senior vice president, general counsel and secretary for BJ's Wholesale Club.

She earned a bachelor's degree at Loui-

siana Tech University and a Juris Doctor at Emory University School of Law. She is a member of the American Bar Association and a former board member of the Association of Corporate Counsel. She is also a member of the Executive Leadership Council. In 2016, she was appointed to Christopher Newport University's board of visitors.

For more than a century, HII's Newport News and Ingalls shipbuilding divisions in Virginia and Mississippi have built more ships in more classes than any other U.S. naval shipbuilder. HII's Technical Solutions division provides a wide range of professional services through its Fleet Support, Mission Driven Innovative Solutions, Nuclear & Environmental, and Oil & Gas groups. Headquartered in Newport News, HII employs more than 40,000 people worldwide.

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

Thursday, February 21, 2019

Hits at The Park, Harbor Park

11:45 AM



Hon. Courtney Doyle

Norfolk City Council

Courtney Doyle was elected to Norfolk City Council to represent Ward 2 on May 1, 2018.

Ms. Doyle moved to Norfolk in 1994 and serves as the Director of Customer Development and Marketing for Sentara Healthcare where she has worked for over 20 years.

Ms. Doyle is a dedicated civic volunteer. She served on the Norfolk School Board from 2013-18. She also has served as a Commissioner on the Norfolk Recreation Parks and Open Space Commission (2009-2013); President/Vice President/Past President, West Ghent Civic League (2001-2007); Board Member, American Heart Association (2000-2004); Member, Young Leadership

Society, United Way of South Hampton Roads (2003-2005); and a volunteer at the Chrysler Museum of Art (1995-1997).

Ms. Doyle received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland in Government and Politics and a Master of Business Administration from Old Dominion University.

Ms. Doyle lives in West Ghent with her husband, Hon. Jack Doyle, Judge, Norfolk Circuit Court, and their dog, Grady. She is the proud stepmother of Patrick (Anna) and Brendan Doyle who both graduated from Norfolk Public Schools and is a member of Sacred Heart Church.

EXTENDED CALENDAR

NPBA LUNCHEON

Thursday, March 21, 2019, 11:45 AM

Hits at the Park, Harbor Park

Speaker:

Stephanie Osler, LCSW, Director of the CHKD Mental Health Service Line

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

1 CLE Credit

Thursday, March 21, 2019, 1:00 PM

(Starts immediately after the NPBA Luncheon)
Hon. Jerrauld C. C. Jones, Bischoff Martingayle
Member, House of Delegates, 89th District

BENCH BAR CONFERENCE

Monday, April 1, 2019

Norfolk Waterside Marriott

Keynote Speaker:

Vice Admiral Andrew L. "Woody" Lewis
Commander, U.S. Second Fleet

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INTERVIEWS WITH THE BENCH: ADVICE AND INSIGHTS FROM LOCAL JUDGES

Presented By: Jennifer L. Eaton, Esq., with editorial assistance of Dustin M. Paul, Esq., Vandeventer Black LLP

Featured Judge: The Honorable Mary Jane Hall, Judge, Norfolk Circuit Court



Judge Mary Jane Hall was appointed to the Norfolk Circuit Court on March 1, 2009. Prior to her appointment, she practiced with the Norfolk office of Kaufman & Canoles, P.C., handling civil and corporate litigation, insurance defense, and health care matters. She serves on a number of Supreme Court committees that work to oversee and improve various areas of law in Virginia, including Commissioners of Accounts, Domestic Violence, Judicial Canons, and Guardianship stakeholders; and she is a judicial member of the General Assembly's Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program Commission. She graduated from the University of Maryland and the Georgetown University Law Center and came to Norfolk in 1984 to clerk for U.S. District Judge J. Calvitt Clarke. She lives in Norfolk with her husband John and their two Vizslas.

THE INTERVIEW:

Q: What advice would you give to members of the local bar when practicing in your Court?

A: 1. Introduce yourself to the Court. Simple introductions make help avoid confusion and streamline the docket.
2. Send a courtesy copy of any motions or memorandums to chambers if a hearing has been noticed and assigned to a particular judge.
3. Do not hand up an unfiled motion and brief during a hearing and expect it to be heard that day.
4. Engage in a good faith effort with opposing counsel to resolve matters before bringing them to the Court's attention. Our local rules require this good faith effort and certification.
5. Guard your reputation. Remember that this client and this case will conclude, but your reputation will last as long as you practice law. No case or client is worth

compromising your reputation.

Q: What makes you optimistic about the future of the practice of law?

A: The practice of law is much more inclusive now compared to when I first came into the practice. When I first started graduated law school, the bar was not very diverse, but I think we are moving in the right direction. There are also more areas of law focusing on social problems and that makes me optimistic and proud to think that my profession could be a key factor in creating positive social change.

Q: What have been the best tools throughout your career that have assisted you in the balancing of law and life?

A: I am a ruthless planner/scheduler. When my kids were young and the demands were high both personally and professionally, I had to find a way to make it all work and

planning and scheduling was my remedy. Now, as a judge, I keep this habit and do my best to meticulously keep track of everything I have going on and sometimes that means I am in triage mode and other times I get to work on my rainy day projects.

Q: What is the most challenging aspect of serving as a judge on the Circuit Court bench?

A: As a judge, we are asked to address serious problems with limited tools at our disposal, which can be challenging when dealing with serious, systemic problems. Substance abuse, for example, is an area where there are not many resources or options at my disposal to address the underlying problem. This makes me wish I could do more for people that are in horrible places to give them a fighting chance and to feel good about their lives like everyone else.

The views advanced in this Interview represent commentary "concerning the law, the legal system, [and] the administration of justice" as authorized by Virginia Canon of Judicial Conduct 4(B) (permitting judges to speak, write, lecture, teach, and otherwise participate in extrajudicial efforts to improve the legal system). These views, therefore, should not be mistaken for the official views of the Norfolk Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court or the opinion of a judge in the context of any specific case.

PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

At times, the Judge assigned to a civil pro se case in our local Federal Courts may determine that the appointment of counsel would help to facilitate the administration of justice. In order to aid in the attorney search process when such circumstances arise, the Norfolk and Newport News Divisions of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia maintain a list of volunteer attorneys and/or law firms who may be willing to represent such plaintiffs, on a pro bono basis. The majority of cases requiring counsel will likely involve civil rights claims brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983; however, representation may be needed in other types of civil cases.

When the Court determines that the appointment of counsel is necessary, the Court will reach out to an attorney or law firm contact from its list of volunteers, provide a summary of the factual allegations of the case, identify the involved parties, and allow the potential volunteer a reasonable amount of time to determine whether he or she is willing and able to provide representation.

If you or your law firm would like to be added to the list of volunteers, please send your contact information in writing to:

Angela Farlow, Supervisor
United States District Court
Eastern District of Virginia, Norfolk Division
600 Granby Street
Norfolk, Virginia 23510
Angela_Farlow@vaed.uscourts.gov

/s/

Mark S. Davis
Chief Judge

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ernest Law Group, PLC is pleased to announce that **Stephanie Bryant Holland** has joined the firm. Ms. Holland's practice focuses on labor and employment law, representing and advising businesses and employees. Ms. Holland had over a decade of employment litigation experience in Washington, DC prior to relocating to Hampton Roads.

Inman & Strickler, PLC is proud to announce that two of its attorneys have been selected as "Top Lawyers of Coastal Virginia" by Coastal Virginia and CoVa Biz magazines: **Stephen S. Strickler** in Workers Compensation, and **Gregory J. Montero** in Business/Corporate Law.

Inman & Strickler, PLC is proud to announce that **Thomas E. Snyder** has been selected by Best Lawyers In America for the sixth year in a row in Corporate Law.

Neil L. Rose recently received the 12th annual Barron F. Black Community Builder award from the Hampton Roads Community Foundation. The award honors a Hampton Roads professional advisor for outstanding community service, support of philanthropy and dedication to improving life in Hampton Roads. Rose specializes in trust and estates, tax and business law with **Willcox Savage**. He is an advocate for philanthropy in Hampton Roads and serves on the boards of the Kiwanis Club of Norfolk, Temple Beth El Foundation and Zeiders American Dream Theater. He is a

member of the Professional Advisors Committee at the Hampton Roads Community Foundation. Rose is a past vice chair of the Virginia Beach School board and has led the boards of his Kiwanis Club, Temple Beth El and the Virginia Beach Education Foundation. As part of Rose's award, the Hampton Roads Community Foundation presented a \$5,000 grant in his honor to a nonprofit he selected – Zeiders American Dream Theater.

Willcox Savage partner **Thomas C. Inglima** has been named 2019 Best Lawyers in America, Mergers & Acquisitions Law "Lawyer of the Year" in Norfolk. Tom chairs the firm's Corporate, Securities and Finance group. He acts as outside general counsel to a variety of national businesses with a practice focused on mergers and acquisitions, venture capital, securities and intellectual property transactions. He also advises with respect to matters of corporate governance.

Willcox Savage is pleased to welcome **Ashley Davoli** to the Asbestos Defense Litigation, Products Liability and Transportation Section. Prior to joining the firm, Ashley practiced corporate litigation before the Delaware Court of Chancery. She also clerked for the Honorable Paul R. Wallace in the Delaware Superior Court, where she focused on the complex commercial litigation docket.

Willcox Savage is pleased to welcome **Courtney Gilmore** to the firm. Courtney is

in the Corporate, Securities and Finance practice group. She is a 2018 graduate of the University of Richmond School of Law and earned her B.A. in Political Science and Spanish from Virginia Tech in 2014.

Williams Mullen is pleased to announce the attorneys from their firm that have been named to the "Legal Elite" for 2018 by *Virginia Business* magazine. Among them is **Alyssa Embree**, who was selected as a profile subject in the category of Real Estate/Land Use. The following have been named to the "Legal Elite": **Patrick C. "Pat" Devine, Jr.** – Health Law, **Alyssa C. Embree** – Real Estate/Land Use, **Howard E. Gordon** – Real Estate/Land Use, **Scott C. Miller** – Civil Litigation, **David Burton** – Labor/Employment, **Meagan J. Kalantar** – Young Lawyer (Under 40), **Craig L. Mytelka** – Intellectual Property, **Christine Nguyen Piersall** – Taxes/Estates/Trusts/Elder Law, **Cartwright R. "Cart" Reilly** – Real Estate/Land Use.

CLASSIFIED AD

Virginia Beach law firm seeks experienced attorney and/or paralegal with a minimum of five years Commercial Real Estate experience. Salary is commensurate with experience. Attorneys must be licensed in the state of Virginia. Please send qualifications, resume and cover letter to kberglund@fflaw.com.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Johnna Chick

Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia

Stephanie Holland

Ernest Law Group

Lynn Watson Neumann

Hampton Roads Community Foundation

Ashley A. Davoli

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Vania Ratliff

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Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia

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