BAR BULLETIN

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President's Message

By Kristan Burch

Thanks to everyone who joined us for the NPBA Annual Meeting in May at the Norfolk Yacht and Country Club. This was our second year following a new format that is more cocktail party than sit-down dinner. The Judges and our NPBA members have enjoyed the change as they can visit with more people and meet some of our newer members. If you have not been to the Annual Meeting recently, we hope you will consider attending in May 2023.

The Annual Meeting gave us a chance to recognize the winners of the Eggleston/l'Anson Professionalism Award (Greg E. Summy), the Walter E. Hoffman Community Service Award (Kristopher R. McClellan), and the Liberty Bell Award (Debra Hill). In addition, it gave us a chance to recognize the work of Lamont Maddox and John Sawyer on the NPBA Executive Committee. After many years of work, Lamont rolls off the Executive Committee after serving as President from 2020 to 2021. John just finished his term as President from 2021 to 2022 and will stay on the Executive Committee for one more year to continue to guide the NPBA. We appreciate the time and effort they have committed to the NPBA over the years.

In just a couple of months, our monthly luncheons will resume on the Eight Floor of the Norfolk Courthouse. We will enjoy the views and box lunches from Gourmet Gang. The Program Committee already has been working hard to secure this year's speakers. The luncheons are free to NPBA Judges and members, and you can stay after the luncheon to earn an hour of CLE credit. Please look for announcements for upcoming luncheons and other social events.

The NPBA has several Committees that plan the various events we host each year – from the CLEs and the monthly luncheons to the Annual Bench Bar Conference, the Young Lawyers Section events, and pro bono opportunities. Service on these committees not only helps the NPBA to continue to offer a wide variety of events for its members but also is a great way to get to know NPBA Judges and members. Information on all of the Committees is available at https://norfolkandportsmouthbar.org/Committees so please consider joining a Committee for the coming year.

The Executive Committee is looking forward to another full year of events and pro bono offerings so we hope to see you in the fall.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Stay tuned for new events updates coming soon!

INCLUDING: Fall CLEs, NPBA Luncheons, Holiday Party

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Carolyn Bedi, Bedi Legal, PC

Jeffrey Blair,Law Offices of Daniel J. Miller

Wyatt Bland, U.S. Navy JAG Corps.

Melissa Bonfiglio, Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia

> **Sarah G. Buitrago,** Wolcott Rivers Gates

Samantha Bull, *Montagna Klein Camden, LLP*

Karen Elligers,Woods Rogers Vandeventer Black

Cherish Hadley, Hadley Law, PLC

Jane Harless,Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia

Troy Johnson, *Kaufman & Canoles, PC*

Louis Joynes, Joynes & Gaidies

Landon Kemnitz, Regent University James Levantino,

Ventker Henderson Stancliff, PLLC

Mario S. Lorello, Zoby & Broccoletti, PC

Madeline G. Loving,The Law Offices of Daniel J. Miller

Angela Manz, Law Offices of Angela N. Manz

Julie Mayer, Hancock Daniel & Johnson, PC

James Panagis, *Wolcott Rivers Gates*

Christopher Pocta, Wolcott Rivers Gates

Nicole Rosenblum, Rosenblum Law, PLLC

Daniel T. Stillman,Willcox & Savage, PC

Lindsey Sweetgall-Brock,Furniss, Davis, Raskind and Saunders, PC

George Townsend,Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia

Stephen Walker, *Fairfax County Circuit Court*



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Rachel VanHorn, President, Library Board (757) 533-5555, ext. 549 rvanhorn@glasserlaw.com

Katherine M. Lennon, Chair, Young Lawyers Section (757) 227-5900 klennon@ff-legal.com

STAFF

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Executive Director
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Cooper Hurley Injury Lawyers would like to congratulate our attorneys for obtaining 4 of the top 50 Virginia Lawyers Weekly million-dollar settlements in 2021

- #6 \$4.725 MILLION for adolescent auto accident victim
- \$2.5 MILLION for plaintiff who was hurt after minibus accident
- \$1.25 MILLION for plaintiff who suffered a TBI
- \$1 MILLION for man crushed in an accident

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"VLW Million-Dollar Settlements 2021." Virginia Lawyers Weekly, Volume 26, Number 43, March 28, 2022, pp. 10, 12, 15, 16.

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or text 757-635-1888





YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

By Katherine M. Lennon, Chair klennon@ff-legal.gov 757-227-5900

I am honored and excited to serve as the YLS Chair for the 2022–2023 year. Thanks to the leadership of our outgoing chair, Margaret Kelly, we had a number of successful events this past year. I have big shoes to fill, but I am excited to build on that foundation.

Several YLS members attended the first monthly planning meeting and trivia happy hour at Elation Brewing on June 2, 2022. All came with a number of productive ideas for future events as well as an array of trivia knowledge. Our monthly meetings are not only a great way to contribute ideas for YLS programming, but also provide us all with an opportunity to take a breath from hustle and bustle associated with the practice of law. We hope to encourage some new faces to join us in the coming months!

Additionally, I am happy to announce that Lauren Martin of Breit Biniazan will serve as this year's Social Chair, and Morgan McEwen of Parks Ziegler will serve as Philanthropy Chair. As Margaret announced in her last column, Garry Hartlieb of the United States Attorney's Office will serve as Treasurer. I am looking forward to working with each of them this year.

We have a number of events in the works for the next few months, including a joint happy hour with the Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference as well as our Annual Summer Social at Luna Maya. Please keep a lookout for e-mail announcements. Also, please feel free to contact me directly if you have questions about an event or an idea to share. I greatly look forward to another year of camaraderie with all of you!



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NPBA FOUNDATION

By Caryn R. West

One of the primary missions of the NPBA Foundation is to enhance the image of and build trust in the legal system. One of the ways we do that is through our scholarship competition every Spring where high school seniors are invited to write an essay about a particular legal question that we present. I am excited to share with you some information about our two 2022 Scholarship winners.

Our first-place winner is Princess Anne High School senior Gabriel Boyd. Caleb plans to study Engineering in college. He is a talented All-State French horn player and participated in The Spirit of Atlanta Drum & Bugle Corps, as well as the Fabulous Marching Cavaliers and Symphonicity, among others. He is also a member of The Science National Honor Society and has received many awards in high school, including 2022 VHSL Academic All-American Award, several awards for his performances on the French horn, and a National Merit Commended Scholar. His teacher shared with our committee that "although he is almost on another plane in terms of his ability and accomplishments, he is down-to-earth, a fun friend, a great collaborator – generous with his creative mind".

Our second-place winner is Catholic High School senior Kira Michelle Fisher. She will be studying business marketing at the College of William and Mary. Her extracurricular activities include Varsity Soccer (Captain), Varsity Cross Country, Varsity Track, Students for Life Club, and Ambassador Program. She also volunteers for Horizons of Hampton Roads, tutors at both Bettie F. Williams Elementary School and Catholic High School, and volunteers as Sentara Day Rehab. She was awarded the Jefferson Book Award, attended the Governor's School Spanish Immersion Academy, participated in the District Chorus, and was an All-Conference Runner and 2nd Team All-Conference for Soccer.

We thank all of our donors for supporting scholarships for these gifted students.

The McCammon Group

is pleased to announce our newest Neutral



Hon. Westbrook J. Parker (Ret.)

Retired Chief Judge, City of Suffolk Circuit Court

The Honorable Westbrook J. Parker has recently returned to The McCammon Group (McCammon) after serving as the Executive Director of The Camp Foundation for over a decade. An experienced mediator and arbitrator, he originally joined McCammon in 2010 after twenty-four years of distinguished judicial service on the Circuit Court bench for the City of Suffolk. Prior to the bench, Judge Parker was in private practice handling a wide variety of cases including but not limited to personal injury, product liability, contracts, and trusts & estates. He has admirably served his community in several capacities including as Chairman of the Pandemic Flu Preparedness Commission, Member of the Board of Directors of the Franklin-Southampton Charities, President of the Franklin Area Flood Fund, Member of the Elms Foundation, and Past President of the Camp Foundation. Judge Parker now brings this record of dedication and service back to McCammon to serve the mediation, arbitration, and judge pro tempore needs of lawyers and litigants throughout the Commonwealth and beyond.



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ANNUAL MEETING

















JUDGE JAMILAH LECRUISE INVESTITURE





ANNOUNCEMENT

Parks Zeigler, PLLC welcomes new Chief Operating Officer

May 2022 – Virginia Beach/Chesapeake/Roanoke/Elizabeth City – After a national search and many interviews, the law firm of Parks Zeigler, PLLC is pleased to announce the selection of its Chief Operating Officer, Jennifer Koeppen. The firm was recently ranked 60th fastest growing law firm in the nation by Law Firm 500. This rapid growth and expansion since 2015, including the opening of offices in Chesapeake, Roanoke, and recently expanding in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, necessitated the hiring of a Chief Operating Officer to oversee the variety of tasks which must occur daily to run a law firm of Parks Zeigler's size and caliber. Jennifer will assist the owners of the firm with high-level strategic planning, managing the administrative processes of the firm, evaluating and managing the firm's operating and information systems, overseeing the firm's financials, and assisting with marketing the firm's legal services and client development activities.

Jennifer holds an Executive Master's in Business Administration degree from The College of William and Mary Raymond A. Mason School of Business and has many years of experience managing multi-million-dollar organizations. She most recently successfully expanded a medical device company until it was acquired by private equity. She is also an entrepreneur, having started and built a tax accounting company from the ground up. Jennifer possesses a deep knowledge of what it takes to simultaneously grow a business while streamlining its existing policies and procedures.

She is well versed in the nuances of human resources management and has an extensive background in accounting and finance. Parks Zeigler looks forward to putting Jennifer's skills to use to assist with the growth, management, and future planning of its current four office locations in Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Roanoke, and Elizabeth City with 12 attorneys and 20 support staff team members.