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G-Bar News



PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

By: James H. Price, III

A lawyer friend whose wit and opinions have been respected by me for almost thirty years recently made the comment that our Bar Association seemed to him to be "distant." Is this reality or his perception? Is the preceding question important to the Greenville County Bar Association Executive Committee who serves you? Absolutely! (Would you like to read my thoughts about how important the perception v. reality trip is to us lawyers? Naaaah—we'll save that for another day when things are real slow).

FACTS

There are approximately 1, 140 lawyers in Greenville County. The Greenville County Bar Association had 873 paying members in 2004. The largest turnout that we have had for a social event last year was approximately 180 people, including spouses and friends.

QUESTION

Why do only about two hundred or so lawyers actively participate in social functions during the year?

If we are distant, let us know. If our social functions are lame, let us know. If you have any suggestions, send them to us—we will listen, I promise. The Greenville County Bar Association Executive Committee meets monthly with the exception of July. We have a website and e-mail.

For the seven hundred or so that we can't seem to reach, please put May 11, 2005 on your calendars. We are going to have a BIG PARTY!!!!

177th edition

February 2005

- May 11, 2005—reception with Circuit Court Judges for all of South Carolina. Watch for details.

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Bench/Bar Liaison Report

The Bench/Bar Committee met at the Ham House on February 25, 2005. We were pleased to be joined by Judge Miller, Paul Wickensimer, and several members of the Clerk's staff. The Committee agreed to hold future Bench/Bar Committee meetings at the Ham House on the last Friday of every other month at 12:30 p.m. Accordingly, the next meeting will be on April 29, 2005. Please contact Matt Johnson at (864) 240-8252 if you are interested in attending.

Also, the Committee discussed a private access website currently in progress through the Clerk's office. This website would include a great deal of information useful to attorneys and would be accessible to all Greenville attorneys who will be provided a user name and password free of charge. Information currently being considered for inclusion would be news and announcements from the Administrative Judge, juror information, calendars, information concerning filing assistance, and helpful links. Any input would be appreciated. If you are aware of any specific information you would like to see included, please contact Leanda Hanley by e-mail at lhhanley@greenvillecounty.org.

Circuit Judges' Reception

On May 11, the Greenville County Bar Association will host all of our Statewide Circuit Judges' and their spouses at a Reception to be held at the Commerce Club. The Bar Association is soliciting donations from law firms to offset the cost of our guests and to keep down the cost of the reception to individual attorneys. If you would like to make a donation, please contact our President, Chip Price, at jhp123@sctriallawyers.com. All firms and individuals making donations above the cost to attend the reception will be listed as sponsors of the event. All donations should be received by April 1, 2005.

Family Court Liaison Report

February 18, 2005

Present: Judge Timothy L. Brown, Paul Wickensimer, Saralyn Evans, Shirley Bruce, Dianne Riley, David Rutledge, Debra Walsh, and Christine Howard.

Attention Attorneys: The Committee feels that the Administrative Judge should contact SCDSS and make sure there is always a representative at the meeting.

The filing fee is no longer \$125.00. The fee is \$150.00 for filing and \$25.00 for Motions. Please see Supreme Court's directive for further costs.

Do not forget to attach your Motion Cover Sheets to the appropriate documents and please use the standard form. **Do not modify this form in any way. It is a violation of the Supreme Court's directive to do so.** Please make sure that all CSDS are fully completed and with comments as needed so the clerk can determine the child support content of the order.

Please do not forget to name the court reporter in the caption. The correct court reporter should be listed on the judicial website and the Judges' secretaries will try to place it on the docket calendar each day.

Do not put stricken cases on the agreement docket. You must do a Motion to Restore before a court date will be allowed.

Please come down yourself or send your staff to copy items out of a clerk's file. It is not their job to copy stuff out of the file for you.

Please attach a copy of the relevant Order(s) to any Rule to Show Cause Complaint. This will expedite your Rule to Show Cause.

The next Family Court Liaison meeting will be **March 18 at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room in the Judge's Hallway.** Anyone who is unable to attend these meetings but has issues they would like addressed may contact the following lawyers: **Christine M. Howard** (282-8575); **Wallace A. Mullinax** (233-4351); **Robert M. Rosenfeld** (235-9613); or **Thomas W. Traxler** (242-3566).

"A Sporting Chance" ...for Greenville's Children
Thursday, March 31, 2005 at The Sawmill at North Main
\$65 per person
Benefits the Guardian ad Litem Program, Housewise/Streetwise
and Greenville County Schools Youth Court
Contact Meta Armstrong at 268-7213 for tickets!
(or by email at arms7213@bellsouth.net)

(Hey, Guys! This One's For You!)

Announcements

Nancy Griffeth has accepted a position with Furman University. She will be leaving the position of Executive Secretary of the Greenville County Bar after 11 years of service. She will help with the transition to a new Executive Secretary. The Executive Committee will post a job description and information on submitting resumes on the website at www.greenvillecountybar.org.

Law Week is coming soon, and it is time to submit nominations for the Liberty Bell Award. The Liberty Bell Award is given to a non-lawyer who has contributed to the community in one of the following broad areas: stimulated a sense of civic responsibility; contributed to the effective functioning of government in our community; encouraged greater respect and understanding of law and the courts; promoted a better understanding of our Constitution and the Rule of Law. Deadline for nominations is April 1, 2005. Please send nominations to Debra Gammons at gammond@greatergreenville.com. This award will be presented at the Law Week Luncheon.

The Greenville County Bar Association has been approached by Habitat for Humanity to see if there is interest in coordinating a "build." If you are interested, send an email to Gbarnews@aol.com.

Chet Chea announces the opening of Chet Chea, PA located at 714 East McBee Avenue, Greenville, SC 29601. Phone No. 233-1201.

Thomas & Fisher, P.A. is pleased to announce that G. P. Diminich has become an associate with the firm. He holds an LL.M. in Taxation from New York University and a law degree and M.B.A. in International Business from the University of South Carolina.

Erik R. Bogart announces the formation of Bogart Law Firm, P.A. The firm is located at 850 Wade Hampton Blvd., Suite B-1, Greenville, SC 29609. Phone No. 235-8228; Fax No. 235-8229. Erik practices in the area of real estate and probate. He may be reached via email at erik@bogartlaw.net.

Robert C. Childs, III, has withdrawn from his partnership in the firm of Mitchell, Bouton, Yokel and Childs, LLP and opened his own practice as Robert C. Childs, III, Attorney at Law, located at 2100 Poinsett Highway, Suite D, Greenville, 29609. Phone: 242-9997. Web: SCLawHelp.com.

SCWLA meets the first Wednesday of each month at 12:00 p.m. at Coffee Underground. For more information, contact Lisa Claxton at claxtonl@jacksonlewis.com.

The Board of S. C. Association of Legal Administrators has elected Elizabeth Phillips Finch, Director of Administration

for Wyche Burgess Freeman & Parham, P.A. as President for 2005-2006, and Brenda L. Stewart, Director of Administration for Leatherwood Walker Todd & Mann, P.C. as President-Elect. For information about the association, see the website at www.scalanet.org.

Legal Staff Professionals of Greenville will host our State Association Annual Meeting in Greenville on April 22-24, 2005. LSPG member Yvonne Fortner of Womble Carlyle will be installed as our new State President. The beautiful Westin Poinsett on Main Street will be the locale. It is a great opportunity to network with other professionals while enjoying one of Greenville's finest hotels and the vibrant downtown area. You may contact Fran Powell at 250-2288 or fran.powell@nelsonmullins.com if you are interested in attending. Also, we are planning study groups for the ALS (basic certification), PLS (advanced certification), or PP (professional paralegal) exams.

LSPG extends an invitation to all legal staff to join us on the third Wednesday of each month at 12:30 at the Poinsett Club. Reservations may be made by contacting Tara Prevatte at 271-7940 or Tara@davidgreeneattorney.com.

Job Openings

Litigation paralegal with 11 years experience is seeking a position because her current employer is closing his practice. Outstanding letter of recommendation. Experience on Plaintiff's side in the following areas: nursing home, severe personal injury, employment & labor law, domestic and probating estates. Seeks a paralegal and/or legal assistant position working 33 hours per week with benefits. Minimum salary—\$34,000. Contact Jodie Fowler at 430-5819 or 242-4800 or by email at jfowler@aalawfirm.com.

A college graduate with 10 years experience as a legal secretary and legal transcriber and a strong background in writing, editing, research and administrative tasks seeks contract work from home office. If your firm has overflow work or special projects, please call Ellen at 864-638-0553.

To all Interested Attorneys:

Greenville County is again soliciting applications/resumes for the Contract Indigent Criminal Defense Program. Applications are welcome from individual attorneys who are licensed to practice law in South Carolina. Candidates must also be admitted to, or be eligible for admission to, the Greenville County Bar. We will accept resumes from attorneys who practice within the same firm; however, each attorney would be responsible for his/her respective caseload.

Past history indicates that a contract public defense attorney will process about 250-300 General Sessions, Municipal Court, Magistrate Court, and possibly some juvenile matters. One of the eleven contract positions is assigned to juveniles exclusively, please indicate on your resume if you are willing to be considered for the juvenile position as well as the others. The contract is effective from July 1, 2005, to June 30, 2006. The current contract is for \$33,182 per annum and is paid in equal monthly installments.

Applications/resumes should be submitted not later than 12:00 noon Friday, April 29, 2005. Applications should be sent to Zach Klebe, Criminal Justice Coordinator, Greenville County Courthouse, Room 122, Greenville, SC 29601.

**Joseph M. Kernell,
County Administrator**

Advertisements

For rent: two large offices in beautiful historic home at 712 E. Washington Street. Conference room and copier available for both offices. \$700/month for one office; \$600/month with room for clerical person for the other. Can be rented separately or combined. Rent includes cleaning. Non-smoking and compatible environment. Call Doug Churdar at 233-0203.

Office space for rent—512 East North Street, Excellent parking, sharing, fax, copier, law library in walking distance of County Courthouse. Call Jim Calmes at 233-6224 for appointment and/or details.

For rent—office space in the Historic Davenport Apartments, corner of Church and Washington Streets, across from the Federal Courthouse. This space is ideal for attorneys and is the only office space allowed within the Davenport. Convenient parking is available. Contact Bud Babb at 242-6360 to discuss your space needs, rates, to view the office space, etc.

Offices for rent—3 downstairs and 2 upstairs. Conference room, copier, fax and postage machines available. Ready by April 2, 2004. Rent negotiable. Contact 467-0100/230-8540.

Near Courthouse—408 N. Church Street. Offices, amenities, parking. Please call Stephen Yacobi— 242-3271 or Denby Davenport 242-5548.

For Lease: 119 Manly Street, one-half block from Bilo Center. Call John M. Dillard at (864) 834-0301.

For Lease: Several professional offices available along with shared facilities. 100 Williams St. at Pettigru. Call 242-5133.

Office building available for rent at 10 Brookside Circle. Call Jim Sarratt or Bill Clarke at 271-4100.

Office space for rent—Contact Kimberly Dunham or Stacy Greene at (864) 282-8686.

Office space available at 101 E. Camperdown Way. Call Rebecca or Tammy at 864-370-9771.

Office space available: 33 Wade Hampton Blvd., Greenville. \$650 per month. Call Cindy at 271-6371..

Lawyer and secretarial space available; Pettigru Street area; sharing fax, copier, and so forth; excellent parking; convenient location; \$550 a month; available November 1st; call 271-4360.

Office Suite for Lease—Approximately 288 sq. feet of lease space available, reception area and one office. Prestigious downtown location with easy access to all downtown Courthouses. Free parking and easy access to I-385. Utilities include power and water. Access to two conferences rooms. Available of wireless/DSL Internet. Call John at 242-1114.

For lease—historic Pettigru area near Bilo Center. Renovated 119 Manly St., 10 rooms, 3100 sq. ft. \$8.52 per foot. \$2,200 per month net. 834-4415.

Guest Article—by Attorney Joseph S. Lyles

MENTORING, WISDOM & LIFE

There has been much made of “mentoring” recently. Mentoring is obviously good, assuming the mentor is good. We could all benefit from mentoring and not just in the practice of law. While reading an article on “emotional intelligence,” it occurred to me that emotional intelligence is a modern, scholastic-sounding name for what mentoring hopefully provides: wisdom.

Most educational institutions, like law schools, do not attempt to directly teach emotional intelligence. Yet this attribute is crucial for success in the practice of law. Emotional intelligence includes these traits:

- 1) Self-control
 - a) impulse control
 - b) delaying gratification
 - c) effective expression of emotions, and
 - d) moderation of obsessional thinking;
- 2) Facing, recognizing and defeating fear;
- 3) Persisting in the face of resistance;
- 4) Empathy and sympathy for others;
- 5) Exercising positive attitude and focus;
- 6) Accepting imperfection;
- 7) Striving for honesty; and
- 8) Exercising patience.

A mentor demonstrates many of the above-listed attributes for younger lawyers. Successful lawyers also increase their emotional intelligence through surviving the “school of hard knocks,” “fighting in the trenches,” and “trial and error.” I don’t believe that there are shortcuts to wisdom, but mentors can help you avoid fatal crashes on that long highway to maturity and wisdom.

I think it is obvious that we would prefer to deal with people who have high emotional intelligence. Thus, everything we as experienced attorneys individually, and through our associations, can do to pass on wisdom to the younger attorneys will benefit our profession, our courts, and our clients. For example, Judges serve as role models for young lawyers who hope to become Judges. When our Judges are patient with inexperienced attorneys and exhibit empathy of the stresses they are enduring, then wisdom is taught by example. We, as a profession, can make our world a better place by striving to maximize the “emotional intelligence” of our members. And, who knows, maybe we will improve the public’s perception of our profession.

[Attorneys desiring to submit articles should send them to gbarnews@aol.com. The editorial staff will review them for value to the Greenville County Bar Association. Publication of any articles shall not be deemed an endorsement by the Greenville County Bar Association of any of the opinions expressed in such articles.](mailto:gbarnews@aol.com)