



December Newsletter

Issue 12 | 2024 | The Bar Association of Frederick County, MD

SAVE THE DATE

December 12, 2024

BAFC Annual Holiday Party
Isabella's Taverna and Tapas Bar

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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 <http://www.frederickbar.org> for information.

Additional information regarding lunch sponsorships is available at www.frederickbar.org.

A Little Fun

The **November Mystery Member** was **Janice Rockwell**. Congratulations to Lorraine Prete for her correct guess! The December Mystery Member will be revealed at the December luncheon.

December Mystery Member

- 1. What is your favorite sports team?** I have three: Los Angeles Lakers, Las Vegas Raiders, and the Baltimore Orioles.
- 2. What is your favorite food?** I love to cook so this is difficult. Maybe Ossobuco with Risotto
- 3. What is your childhood nickname?** No childhood nickname but in college it was "Captain".
- 4. From where did you receive your undergraduate degree? What was your major?** Lafayette College, Government and Law
- 5. From where did you receive your law degree?** West Virginia University
- 6. If you could go back in time and give advice to your eighteen-year-old self, what would you say?** Buy Microsoft and Apple Stock! ☺ Save/Manage your money.
- 7. What is your best advice to a young lawyer?** Continuously strive to find balance between work, family, and community, while taking care of yourself, body and mind (continue to work on your emotional, spiritual development), and maintain your intellectual curiosity.
- 8. If you were not a lawyer, what would you do for a living and why?** I think I may have went to film school and became a movie director or producer.
- 9. Who is your role model? Why?** I have two professional role models: Stever Carper and Clay Martz. Both are excellent in their areas of the law, consummate professionals, good husbands/fathers, great friends, and they have been exceedingly generous to me with their time and advice.
- 10. If you had one wish that was guaranteed to be granted, what would that wish be?** I love history, so time travel!



Who is this? Email your guess to Maegan at: info@frederickbar.org by 9am on the day of our monthly luncheon (December 3rd).



Member Update

Congratulations to Judge Theresa Adams who was honored at the Maryland Bar Foundation Open Meeting held on November 13, 2024 at Blackwall Barn & Lodge in Columbia MD. Judge Adams received the **Legal Excellence Award for Advancement of the Rights of the Disadvantaged** for her work with the Safe Babies Program. Several BAFC members were able to be present and celebrate alongside Judge Adams and her husband.



Section and Committee Updates

Elder, Disability and Guardianship Law Section

The next **Elder, Disability, and Guardianship Law Section Meeting** will be on **Wednesday, January 15th at noon** at Issabella's Taverna & Tapas Bar. The speaker will Randi Bocanegra, Esquire, talking about guardianships.

Please mark your calendars for Spring 2025 meeting dates: **March 12th, and May 14th**. Speaker information will be sent out closer to these dates. For more information about the Elder, Disability and Guardianship Law Section contact the chair, Lorraine M. B. Prete at lprete@kandplawfirm.com.

Family Law Section

Join the **Family Law Section** for their **Annual Holiday Party** at RAK Brewing Co. on **December 17th from 5-7p**. Join us for an evening of merriment, camaraderie, and celebration as we reflect on the achievements of the year and ring in the holiday season together. Wear your Holiday Attire (Business Casual or Festive). We look forward to celebrating with colleagues, friends, and family law professionals who make our community stronger each year. Enjoy delicious food, great drinks, and the opportunity to connect with your colleagues in a relaxed and joyful atmosphere. *RSVP by December 6th please at the following link: <https://evite.me/familylawbarparty>.*

Each guest will receive a free drink and additional drinks are available for purchase. We are working to secure a food truck for the event! Stay tuned. For more information about the Family Law Section contact one of the co-chairs at mld@delawterlaw.com or sfoster@thedelawgroup.com.

Young Lawyers Section

It is that time of year again! **YLS** is partnering with FCPS to sponsor an area family for the holidays (mother and two children this year). The children, a boy and a girl, would each like a tablet. **YLS will be collecting cash contributions** to purchase the tablets, along with some accessories. Any excess cash collected will be used to purchase grocery gifts cards for the family (mother recently lost her job). *We will also accept unwrapped clothes if you would prefer to contribute something tangible. The children are in 4th and 5th grade, both size 14.*

If you would like to make a cash contribution toward, please contact Clark Adams (cadams@powell-llc.com). Please drop off your unwrapped clothing items to Powell, LLC, 19 N. Court Street, Suite 201, on or before **December 12, 2024**.

Pro Bono Committee

The Frederick Center hosts **free legal clinics** that offer brief advice to the LGBTQ+ community. The 2025 clinics will be held quarterly. Please mark these clinic dates on your calendar: **January 9th, April 10th, July 10th, 2025**. We would like to recognize the following BAFC volunteers who were involved in planning and staffing the clinics in 2024: Hon. Joanie Raymond, Magistrate Carin Golze, Cristine Evans LoVetro, Esq., Lorraine Prete, Esq., and Nina Shore, Esq. A special thank you also to Maryland Legal Aid and The Frederick Center.

If you would like to volunteer for future clinics, please contact Trevor Addie-Carter at taddiecarter@hormannichols.com.



Dates to Remember

- **December 3, 12p: BAFC Monthly Luncheon.** Delaplaine Arts Center. Our speakers will be from the Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings. Our sponsor is ACNB Bank.
- **December 12, 5-8p: Annual Holiday Party.** Isabella's Taverna and Tapas Bar. *RSVP by 12/5.*
- **December 17, 5-7p: Family Law Section Holiday Party.** RAK Brewing Company Co. *RSVP by 12/6.*
- **January 7, 12p: BAFC Monthly Luncheon.** Delaplaine Arts Center. Our speaker will be Frederick City Mayor Michael O'Connor.
- **January 15, 12p: Elder, Disability, and Guardianship Law Section Meeting.** Isabella's Taverna & Tapas Bar. Speaker: Randi Bocanegra, Esquire, talking about guardianships.
- **February 3, 9a: Opening Term of Court.** Circuit Courtroom 1.
- **February 4, 12p: BAFC Annual Meeting.** Delaplaine Arts Center. We will have a Judges Panel from the Frederick County bench.



BAFC
Annual
Holiday
PARTY

Thursday, December 12th
5-8pm

Isabella's Taverna & Tapas Bar,
44 N. Market St., Frederick

CINA Fundraiser
Most Festive Attire Contest

FOOD | BEER/WINE | FUN
\$50 before 12/1 | \$60 12/1 and after
Deadline 12/5

WWW.FREDERICKBAR.ORG

Sponsors:
Gold Level: Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company and Planet Depos;
Silver Level: Capital River Wealth Management
Bronze Level: Paradigm Forensics.

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Thanks to those who came out to O'Lordans Pub in Westminster on November 6th for the Mix & Mingle event hosted by the MSBA for judges, attorneys, and paralegals from across Frederick and Carroll Counties.



Recent Events

Annual Dinner with the Salvation Army

Thank You to all who donated and volunteered for the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner with the Salvation Army on November 26th. Together we packed up or served **520 meals** for the residents of Frederick. Thank You to Marshall Horman for always organizing and assisting in this tradition that is over 20 years old.



Civics and Law Academy*

**Official Frederick County Public Schools Press Release*

FCPS middle and high school students participated in the annual Civics & Law Academy at Frederick High School, an event sponsored by FCPS and the Bar Association of Frederick County on November 9, 2024.

The Academy offered students a unique opportunity to learn directly from legal professionals about a variety of topics, including criminal law, courtroom procedures, and pathways to a career in law. Members of the Frederick Bar Association, Frederick City Police Department, Frederick County Sheriff's Office, Frederick County Courts and other organizations, generously volunteered their time to engage with students, providing valuable insights and an opportunity for networking and career exploration.

FCPS would like to extend their sincere thanks to the Bar Association of Frederick County for their generous support of the annual Civics & Law Academy and to all of the speakers and students who participated.



Articles of Interest

The Importance of Having a Mentor

By: Lena Clark, *BAFC member, Law Office of Lena A. Clark*

The academic setting of law school does not fully prepare new attorneys for the active practice of law. Fortunately, those willing to serve as mentors can help new attorneys achieve career and professional success.

What is Mentorship and Why is it Important?

Mentorship provides less experienced persons with advice and support. In the legal field, senior attorneys usually play this important role. Some of the crucial benefits of having a legal mentor include: 1) learning about the industry as a whole, 2) building confidence, 3) personal development, and 4) overcoming obstacles and challenges to career development.

How to Find a Mentor?

Young lawyers may find mentors through local Bar Associations, professional groups, and networking events, all of which are filled with many successful senior lawyers. Another great resource for young lawyers is mentors at their law firm. That is exactly how I met one of my first mentors, Arthur C. Elgin, Jr., at a Washington, DC law firm in Dupont Circle in March of 2005.

My Mentor: Arthur C. Elgin, Jr.

Art attended undergrad at Princeton University and later obtained his law degree from George Washington University. Following in his father's footsteps, Art focused his career primarily in Trusts & Estates, and both Art and his father joined the law practice of Jackson & Campbell, P.C. in 1969. Art spent the rest of his nearly sixty-year career working in their Washington DC and Rockville offices. During his career, Art served as the Treasurer of the Montgomery County Bar Association, and he was a member of the District of Columbia and Maryland Bar Associations.

Benefits of the Mentor Relationship.

Working as a Probate paralegal in Trusts and Estates was my second job. I worked for a number of attorneys, and Art supervised my work. He strived to provide me with positive feedback and encouraged independent thinking so that I could learn to work and succeed independently. This lessened the workload for Art and the other Trusts and Estates attorneys in the department, allowing them to focus on bigger tasks. Art's mentorship built my confidence and fast-tracked my growth development. A couple of years later, I went to law school at Catholic University of America at night while I continued working at the same firm until the end of 2011.

While mentors are a great choice for new lawyers, mentors aren't limited to legal professionals. No matter what career you're in, having a mentor can give you a strategic advantage as you build your career.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
EASTERN SHORE
UMES EXTENSION

Heirs Property: Problems, Prevention and Resolution Interactive and Informative Workshop/Session

Learn how heirs' property impacts families and communities and the resources available to assist these owners in Maryland.

WHAT IS IT

- Heirs' property is family-owned land inherited by multiple generations without the formal legal proceedings to prove ownership.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Family-owned land without legal documentation to prove ownership could be at risk of property loss. Heirs might have trouble securing funding, receiving benefits, or selling the property.

When: December 14, 2024

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Where: 18410 Muncaster Rd.,

Derwood, MD 20855

Office Building: Montgomery County

Extension Office

Office Building: Montgomery County

Extension Office

REGISTER TODAY!



Registration Link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/sLA4KkCpFu>

✉ larkii@umes.edu

☎ 410-651-6693

Registration is free but must register for logistics arrangements!

UMES.EDU/EXTENSION/EVENTS

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Information of Interest

Help Wanted

Weaver & Fitzpatrick, P.A. is seeking: Legal Administrative Assistant: Part-time: 20 to 25 hours weekly at busy law practice. Option to increase to full-time. Professional appearance, positive attitude, respectful, friendly demeanor, and positive outlook are essential. Experience with Microsoft Word, Excel, and Adobe Acrobat and ability to type a minimum of 50 wpm essential. Familiarity with TimeSolv is preferred. No benefits offered at part-time level. If candidate converts to full-time, vacation, health, and retirement plan are offered on specified terms at the full-time level. Submit resumes and cover letters to samantha@weaverfitzlaw.com.

Shipe & Bush, PC. is looking for an experienced and dedicated family law attorney to join our firm. Other practices areas are welcome. Attorney will primarily work from home. Immediate caseload available to start. All inquiries will be held in strict confidence. Pay structure is negotiable. Email kshipe@shipebushlaw.com.

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. 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 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. www.probonomd.org/statewide-opportunities

VOLUNTEER TO CONDUCT SETTLEMENT CONFERENCES IN DISTRICT COURT CIVIL AND/OR LANDLORD/TENANT CASES

We're looking for you!

- 3+ years of litigation experience
- Attend 2025 Training: Jan 16th + Jan 29th 8:30AM-12PM on Zoom
- Commitment: 4, half days annually

Earn pro bono hours and help your community

Scan QR code to complete and return the ADR Volunteer Application by December 6th



<https://www.mdcourts.gov/district/adr/become>

*Other training dates will be available. Please still apply!

NOW RECRUITING

Licensed Maryland attorneys to conduct settlement conferences in a District Court of Maryland DAY OF TRIAL ADR PROGRAM in:

- Annapolis
- Baltimore City
- Bel Air
- Cumberland
- Ellicott City
- Frederick
- Hagerstown
- Oakland

For more information please contact:
District Court ADR Office
Carole Burkhardt, ADR Roster Program Manager
carole.burkhardt@mdcourts.gov

Save the Date

Annual Dinner with the Judges & Magistrates

October 9, 2025

Dutch's Daughter