



CITY BAR REPORT

Ethics Hotline Volunteer
Alan Abramowitz:
410-752-6000

The President's Message: Bar Association Participation Promotes Civility

An eye-catching headline from the ABA Journal appeared briefly on the screen: "Lawyer's statements about judges 'rigging the game' require suspension, top Tennessee court says." It seems that, in recusal motions he filed against three appellate judges after he lost an appeal, the sanctioned lawyer accused the author of the opinion of using "half-truths to fabricate justification for judicial misconduct," using a memorandum opinion to "insulate his manipulation/rigging of the legal system from review," and "doing what a bribe-taking judge would do to victimize a litigant who is targeted by a bribe," among other vituperative slings and arrows. Every lawyer has received rulings with which she disagrees, or even rulings that he believes border on the unfair. But what would prompt an officer of the court to take such a harsh tone, questioning not only the reasoning, but the motives, of the judges? And at what cost?



Kelly Hughes
Iverson

We are all products of our environment, and lately, the forum for public discourse bears more resemblance to a gladiator arena than to the stately halls of civil debate. Name-calling abounds; respect for opposing views ebbs ever farther from reach. Elected leaders complain about governmental and institutional systems of all sorts being "rigged," and accusations of bias are lobbed as casually as comments about the weather. The current coarseness of public discourse may offer some explanation for the ad hominem attacks on judges, but it offers a poor excuse. When our judicial system is demeaned by our

leaders and by those within the system (such as by a lawyer who loses an appeal), public faith in an independent and unbiased judicial system begins to erode.

In the infancy of our government, Alexander Hamilton argued in the Federalist Papers that an independent judiciary is "an essential safeguard against the effects of occasional ill humors in the society." We as a Bar Association recognize the importance that our judicial system continues to operate independently and with the full faith of the populace it serves, so that it may continue to exercise essential checks and balances in our system of government. Among several outstanding programs planned for this year, our Historical Committee will present a program on the Constitution, addressing the contemporary relevance of this timeless document. Our Bench-Bar Committee is studying best practices from other jurisdictions to recommend a system for confidential judicial evaluations. A confidential evaluation system would provide an opportunity for meaningful feedback to our members of the bench in a helpful, respectful and constructive manner. And of course, the very structure and the existence of the Bar Association promotes respect for the judiciary, as lawyers and the judges before whom they appear have an opportunity to get to know each other personally and professionally, nurturing mutual respect. One cannot help but wonder whether the lawyer who accused a judge of "rigging the game" had ever served with that judge on a bar committee, and whether he would have so casually impugned the motivations and integrity of the three judges on the appellate panel if he had worked with them, side-by-side, in bar activities.

Young Lawyers' Division Update Happy New (Bar) Year!

With the end of summer, comes the beginning of another school year and another bar year. As parents go back to school shopping and law students catch up on their reading assignments, the YLD Council is gearing up for another fantastic year filled with educational, networking, and service opportunities for Baltimore lawyers.

The YLD kicked off the bar year with a packed crowd for our Meet & Mingle on Thursday, September 6th at 5:30 p.m., at Hotel Indigo. The event not only had a happy hour, but also served as a way for members and non-members alike to learn about all our extremely active committees.

Bar associations, just like most other large organizations, can be difficult to navigate. Many new BABC members are unsure of how they can get more involved or are hesitant to get involved due to the time commitment that may be required. Every YLD Committee organizes distinctly different events and requires a varying number of volunteer hours. So on Thursday, the Chairs of all the YLD Committees showcased their respective committees and discussed their upcoming projects and

committee meetings in a "science fair" style setting. Attendees learned about what each YLD committee does, heard about the highlights of each committee, how they can get involved, and maximize their bar membership.

On August 29th the YLD teamed up with The Daily Record to host a career panel for newly barred lawyers. This free event was a great success. Young lawyers engaged the panelists in giving helpful advice regarding issues such as mentoring, clerkships, solo practice, and pathways to the bench. On August 29th, the YLD also proudly represented BABC at UB law school's student activity fair. A strong liaison between the bar association and the local law schools helps law students get involved early and creates a pipeline of future bar leaders.

On Sunday, September 16th, the YLD Public Service Committee will be serving dinner at the Johns Hopkins Believe in Tomorrow Children's House. On Thursday, September 20th, the YLD Membership Committee is teaming up with MSBA's Young Lawyers to host a happy hour at Little Havana. The YLD CLE Committee is hard at work planning two October events, one with a state District Court judge and another with a federal District Court judge. Stay tuned for our October events.



Divya Potdar

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

On Tuesday, September 25, 2018, from 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. in Room 504, Clarence Mitchell Courthouse, 100 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore, MD 21202, the Bar Association of Baltimore City's Estates and Trusts Committee, Michaela C. Muffoletto, Esq., and Jennifer S. Yeagle, Esq., Co-Chairs, presents "Special Planning for Special Needs." The Presenters will discuss planning considerations for families with special needs individuals. In particular, they will discuss types of special needs trusts and use of ABL Accounts (tax advantaged savings accounts for people with disabilities) so that you can better educate your clients on all options available. Our guest speakers are Helen M. Smith, Esq., and Leete A. Garten, Esq., of Fedder and Garten Professional Association. Introductions will be done by Alan F.M. Garten, Esq. Lunch is generously sponsored by Fedder and Garten. Admission is FREE for BABC members, Non-members - \$40*. BABC members may register by emailing info@baltimorebar.org. Non-members may register at www.baltimorebar.org or by calling 410-539-5936. Space is limited - Register early!

*Non-members can join the BABC and apply this fee toward their membership dues. Join at www.baltimorebar.org. For more information, email info@baltimorebar.org.

CITY BAR BRIEFS

End of Summer Members' Reception – FREE Admission!

The 12th Annual End of Summer Reception will be held on Wednesday, September 26, 2018 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Clarence Mitchell Courthouse, 100 N. Calvert Street, 2nd Floor (Kaplan Court), Baltimore, MD 21202. Come join members of the Judiciary and your Colleagues at the Bar to celebrate the end of summer and the beginning of the new Association year! Menu includes: hors d'oeuvres, carving station, salad, dessert, beer, wine and soft drinks. **BABC members only** – admission is **FREE!!** RSVP to info@baltimorebar.org.

2nd Annual 5K Run/1 Mile Walk "Racing the Bar" Scheduled for October 7

The Baltimore Bar Foundation's 2nd Annual 5K Run/1 Mile Walk "Racing the Bar" will be held on Sunday, October 7, 2018. This event brings together lawyers, judges, law students, friends and family to celebrate equal justice and the law. Proceeds will benefit the Baltimore Bar Foundation grant program, providing funding for organizations promoting access to justice, direct legal services, and the study of law in Baltimore City. For more information or to register, go to www.bbfracingthebar.com.

Join us for Thursdays at the Museum!

Please join us at the Museum of Baltimore Legal History, located in the Clarence Mitchell Courthouse, 100 N. Calvert Street, Room 243, from 12:30 p.m.- 1:30 p.m., for very interesting presentations and conversations with local authors and lawyers. Here is our upcoming schedule: *Not in My Neighborhood: How Bigotry Shaped a Great American City* on September 27, 2018, presented by Antero Pietila; *Legal Aid Wealth: Surviving and Thriving on the Salary of a Public Interest Attorney* on October 25, 2018, presented by author Janine A. Scott; and *The IP Story of the invention of corn flakes and how shredded wheat came to lose exclusive right to its name* on November 29, 2018, presented by James B. Astrachan, Esq. Members and friends of the BABC and the Library Company are invited to attend. Admission is free – space is limited. Register now by emailing info@baltimorebar.org and noting which program(s) you plan to attend. We look forward to seeing you on Thursdays at the Museum!

Tickets on Sale for BABC's Annual Crab Feast on October 2!

Tickets are on sale for BABC's Annual Crab Feast at Bo Brooks on Tuesday, October 2, 2018, from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. As always, it is expected to be a sell-out! Tickets are \$70 per person and includes all you can eat crabs, crab soup, corn on the cob, hamburgers, hot dogs, salads, cookies and brownies, beer, wine, iced tea and soft drinks. To purchase tickets, go to www.baltimorebar.org. For more information, contact Kathy Sanzone at ksanzone@baltimorebar.org.

Come to the Caberet!: Senior Legal Services Program Fundraiser

On Thursday, October 18, 2018, Senior Legal Services, a joint program of the Bar Association of Baltimore City and the Baltimore Bar Foundation, Inc., will host Caberet & Cabernet at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, Westminster Hall, 519 W. Fayette Street. There will be a pre-show reception with the cast beginning at 6:00 p.m., followed by the performance at 7:00 p.m. The performance is produced and directed by Jennifer Blades. The cast will include members and friends of the Bench and Bar! Tickets are \$45 each. Sponsorship opportunities also available. To purchase tickets and/or sponsorships, visit www.baltimorebar.org. If you wish to purchase by check, make check payable to the Baltimore Bar Foundation, Inc., and mail to 111 N. Calvert Street, Suite 627, Baltimore, MD 21202. Information and/or questions should be sent to SLSInfo@baltimorebar.org, or call 410-396-1322. Senior Legal Services appreciates your support!

BABC Accepting Nominations for the 2018 Awards Presidential Award

In 1996, the Bar Association of Baltimore City established its prestigious Presidential Awards. These awards are presented annually to "unsung heroes" (one of whom must be a member of the YLD) who 1) selflessly undertake community, civic and/or charitable service which brings honor to the profession, and/or 2) who have

BAR BRIEFS CONTINUED FROM 12A

devoted time and energy to the Bar Association of Baltimore City through substantial work on BABC committees, or other exemplary service to the Association.

Brent-Mitchell Award

Building on the legacies of Margaret Brent and Juanita Jackson Mitchell, the Bar Association of Baltimore City has created the Brent-Mitchell Award to recognize women lawyers and judges who have surmounted substantial barriers to achieve professional excellence. The Award is presented to a nominee who 1) exemplifies the pioneer spirit of Margaret Brent and Juanita Jackson Mitchell; 2) has achieved a high degree of success in the field of law; and 3) has paved the way for women in the law.

Paul A. Dorf Memorial ADR Award

In 2012, the BABC established the Paul A. Dorf Memorial ADR Award. This award is presented to a person in the Baltimore Metropolitan Area who has substantially contributed to the furtherance of the goals of alternative dispute resolution (mediation and arbitration) to resolve legal conflicts.

Nominations are due no later than Monday, October 1, 2018. Awards will be presented at the Past Presidents Luncheon to be held on Tuesday, November 20, 2018.

Baltimore Bar Foundation Accepting Grant Applications

The deadline for applications for the next Baltimore Bar Foundation grant cycle is 4:30 p.m. on Friday, November 30, 2018. The Baltimore Bar Foundation supports law related programs that have a significant relation to the Baltimore City community. Grant applications are available at www.baltimorebar.org.

Supreme Court Group Admission – Register Now!

On Monday, December 3, 2018, the BABC will host its annual group admission to the Supreme Court. The cost per applicant is \$375 and includes Supreme Court Admission fee, round trip bus transportation, full breakfast at the Supreme Court, Swearing-In, oral arguments, group photo and Supreme Court lecture. To qualify for admission to the Supreme Court, you must have been admitted to the practice of law for three years prior to date of application. Registration is limited to 12 applicants. The Court allows one guest per applicant. Registration fee for guests is \$100. Interested members should contact Patty DeGuilmi as soon as possible at pdeguilmi@baltimorebar.org, or call 410-539-5936 ext. 101, to receive an application package. Completed applications are due no later than Monday, October 15, 2018. Always a sell-out – register now! Unfortunately, we cannot issue a refund after you have submitted your application.

Believe in Tomorrow Family Supper

Back by popular demand! the BABC YLD Public Service Committee is looking for volunteers to cook and serve dinner for a group of 25 people on Sunday, September 16, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at Believe in Tomorrow Children's House, 1915 McElderry Street, Baltimore, MD 21205, which serves patients and their families who are staying in Baltimore City while they receive treatment at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Dinner will be served buffet style to the families and volunteers are welcome to sit and socialize with the families. If you are interested, sign up at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12zASIoEbbRM-JE70zKYzIAf_HHnh_ONwL9cdr15gabr1/edit#gid=0, or e-mail Lauren Lake at yldpublicservice@gmail.com

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For information about our sponsorship program, visit us at www.baltimorebar.org, email info@baltimorebar.org, or call Bar headquarters at 410.539.5936.



**The Bar Association of Baltimore City
12th Annual
End of Summer Membership Reception**

**Wednesday, September 26, 2018
Clarence Mitchell Courthouse
100 N. Calvert Street
Kaplan Court, 2nd Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

**Come join members of the Judiciary and your
Colleagues at the Bar to celebrate the end of summer and the
beginning of the new Association year!**

**Menu includes hors d'oeuvres, carving station,
salad, dessert, wine and soft drinks.**

BABC members only – admission is FREE!!

RSVP to info@baltimorebar.org

Sponsored by the Bar Associations Insurance Trust

Special Thanks to Our Annual Corporate Sponsors

The Bar Association of Baltimore City encourages its members to patronize the following businesses that generously support our organization. When you contact our sponsors, please mention this ad and that you are a member of the Bar Association of Baltimore City.

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For information about Sponsorship Opportunities, call Bar Headquarter at 410-539-5936.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

SEPTEMBER 16

YLD Public Service Project at Believe in Tomorrow Children's House

SEPTEMBER 17

Museum of Baltimore Legal History Docent Recognition Luncheon

SEPTEMBER 25

CLE – Special Planning for Special Needs

SEPTEMBER 26

End of Summer Members' Reception

SEPTEMBER 27

Historical Committee and Bar Library Presents *Thursdays at the Museum!*

OCTOBER 2

BABC Annual Crab Feast at Bo Brooks

OCTOBER 7

Baltimore Bar Foundation 5K Race/1 Mile Walk – "Racing the Bar"

OCTOBER 25

Historical Committee and Bar Library Presents *Thursdays at the Museum!*

NOVEMBER 13

Constitutional Law Seminar – Federal Constitution

OCTOBER 18

Senior Legal Services Fundraiser – *Cabaret & Cabernet*

NOVEMBER 17

National Adoption Day Celebration

NOVEMBER 20

24th Annual Past Presidents' Luncheon

NOVEMBER 29

Historical Committee and Bar Library Presents *Thursdays at the Museum!*

DECEMBER 1

The Bar Association of Baltimore City, Alliance of Black Women Attorneys and the WBA-Baltimore Carroll Chapter Joint NYC Bus Trip

DECEMBER 3

Supreme Court Group Admission

DECEMBER 6

BABC Annual Holiday Party

DECEMBER 11

YLD Annual Holiday Party for Children Living in Shelters



Join us at the Baltimore Bar
Foundation's 2nd Annual

"Racing the Bar"
5K Run/1 Mile Walk

Sunday, October 7, 2018

For registration, sponsorship opportunities
or to learn more about the race, go to
www.bbfracingthebar.com

The Bar Association of Baltimore City Crab Feast at Bo Brooks

2780-A Lighthouse Point
Baltimore, MD 21224
(located in 2700 block of Boston Street)

Tuesday, October 2, 2018
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Come join us for

- Steamed Crabs
- Maryland Style Crab Soup
- Grilled Hamburgers and Hot Dogs
- BBQ Chicken
- Corn on the Cob
- Cole Slaw
- Tomato/Cucumber Salad
- Cookies and Brownies
- Soft Drinks, Iced Tea, Beer and Wine

Register Early - Space Limited!!

Members and Guests: \$70 Children 10 or under: \$35

There are a limited number of parking spots in the parking lot at Lighthouse Point.
Bo Brooks validation is good for two hours of free parking. Each additional hour is \$6.
There is unrestricted street parking as well.

REGISTER EARLY - ALWAYS A SELL OUT!
GREAT DOOR PRIZES! DRESS: CASUAL

Registration available online. Visit our homepage at www.baltimorebar.org.



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PROFESSIONALISM
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The Bar Association of Baltimore City
Estates & Trusts Committee
Michaela C. Muffoletto, Esq. and Jennifer S. Yeagle, Esq., Co-Chairs

Presents

Special Planning for Special Needs

The Presenters will discuss planning considerations for families with special needs individuals. In particular, they will discuss types of special needs trusts and use of ABLE Accounts (tax advantaged savings accounts for people with disabilities) so that you can better educate your clients on these types of trusts and accounts.

Tuesday, September 25, 2018
Clarence Mitchell Courthouse, Room 504
(Bar Library Brown Room)
100 N. Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.

Guest Speakers

Helen M. Smith, Esquire & Leete A. Garten, Esquire
Fedder and Garten Professional Association

Introductions by

Alan F.M. Garten
Fedder and Garten Professional Association

Lunch generously sponsored by

Fedder and Garten Professional Association

Admission is FREE for BABC members. Non-members - \$40
Space is Limited – Register Early! RSVP to info@baltimorebar.org.
Non-members may register at www.baltimorebar.org.