



CITY BAR REPORT

News from the Bar Association of Baltimore City

Ethics Hotline Volunteer

George Mahaffey: 410-783-4000

Christopher D. Wright: 410-696-7861

The More Things Change, the More They Stay the Same!



The Hon. Teresa Epps Cummings, President of the Bar Association of Baltimore City

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season, and I wish you all a heartfelt Happy New Year. We are all in the period of new beginnings that are ushered in when the clock strikes 12 on January 1. Many of us are in the throes of beginning to tackle our new year resolutions and while we are all looking forward to all that is to come in 2025, I wanted to take a moment to look back. As I stated at the 2024 annual meeting, I wanted to spend some time reviewing the history of the BABC because to again quote the famous poet Maya Angelou, "You can't really know where you are going until you know where you have been." And while we are in the early days of a new year, I wanted to share with you a President's message from 2019. In 2019, Kelly Hughes Iverson was president of the BABC. Her message in 2019 centered around change and the goals of the BABC's Legislation

Committee. And while this message is from over five years ago, everything contained in Ms. Iverson's message, rings true to the adage that the more things change the more things remain the same. So, please enjoy this blast from the past and remember: We are One~ One City, One Profession, One Bar!

Change is in the air. As the holiday season wraps up, our attention turns, as it always does, to the business of the new year. Traffic picks up, phones ring more frequently (or so it seems), and to-do lists practically jump off the page. New years' resolutions, not yet broken, hold the promise that this year will be the year that we [insert long-standing unattained goal here]. There is a new legislature in Washington and a new legislature in Annapolis. While the nature and extent of the 2018 "blue wave" can be debated, few would deny that both legislative bodies that convene this month have some surprising new faces and new personalities, and politics-watchers wait with bated breath as new interpersonal and political dynamics begin to take shape. Change can be good, and change is often the driver of progress. But to be more effective than

disruptive, particularly in the legal profession, change must be tethered to the values that have anchored us since the days of the Founders. Checks and balances in governance, respect for the rule of law, and the independence of the judiciary are a few of the core principles that we must take care to tend and nurture, even as the winds of change blow hot and cold across the political landscape. The Bar Association's Legislation Committee is charged this year with minding the store, so to speak, in Annapolis. The Committee will be monitoring the bills introduced in the General Assembly, looking for anything that might impact the legal profession in Baltimore City. If the Committee identifies concerns, the concerns will be brought to the attention of the Association's officers and potentially the full Executive Council, and if it is agreed that a particular legislative undertaking would impact the profession in Baltimore City, the Council will determine whether to take a formal position, or even testify, on a bill. The Association is not interested in taking ideological sides; some of the more controversial legislative bills in the past have, for example, pitted

the plaintiffs' bar against the defense bar on certain policy questions. The Association does not intend to weigh in on such measures. But where our core principles are in play, or where our membership as a whole is potentially affected, a more significant presence may be warranted. Members of the Association who have concerns about a bill that may impact the legal profession are urged to contact our Legislation Committee chair so that the Association may study the issue and potentially propose next steps. In the meantime, the new year marches forward. With a full plate of CLE programs, health and wellness programs, and social and cultural events, the Association is diving headfirst into the new year, striving to give our members tools to help them continue to develop professionally and personally, and to practice the profession with excellence. If you have not yet resolved to become more active in the Association this year, it is not too late. Participate in what the Association has to offer in the new year, and buckle up. In the midst of uncertain times, one can nevertheless count on change. And from all appearances, it looks to be a wild ride.

Rabbit, Rabbit!



Rachel Samakow, Chair of the Young Lawyers' Division

Happy New Year BABC! It is said if you say "Rabbit, Rabbit" on the first day of the month it brings good luck. I would like to start my first article of the calendar year by saying it here and bringing us all a little bit more luck for this year.

At the time of this writing, we are starting our first week of the year and I enjoyed my first docket of

2025. And while things felt similar to the docket I had last week, there is always a little bit of electricity in the air after New Years when everyone has a bit more energy.

And what do people do with that extra spark of energy? Make resolutions!

So, in that spirit, I thought I would share some of mine. Along with spending more quality time with my family, painting the view from the top of Federal Hill Park, and finally mastering a proper pushup, one of my goals this year has to do with you. That's right, you! This year my goal as YLD chair is to see you at an

event. I'd like you to come join us this year for at least one of the amazing things we have planned, especially if you haven't joined us in a bit or have never attended an event. Come meet our members--we're a warm and welcoming group!

So how do I achieve this goal? First, let me tell you about the event we have planned for January 21st: Practice Tips on Tap. We will gather at Diamondback Brewing Co. for a lively Q & A session with The Honorable Catherine Chen and The Honorable Hope Tipton. They will share insights on courtroom practice and procedures, along with

an array of other topics. It'll be an incredible way to kick off our 2025 programming!

Next, I want to hear from you, our members, and find out what type of events you're looking forward to attending this year. I am excited to have these conversations and can't wait to hear about your interests. You can always reach out to the bar or drop a note to our Executive Director, Karen Fast and she will make sure I get it!

Let's get 2025 off to a great start. I'll see you on the 21st!

Public Notices

The Daily Record Public Notice section offers information of interest that is legally required to be made public. It's everything from property auctions to court schedules, from name changes to charitable foundation annual reports.

The Bar Association of Baltimore City
& The Monumental City Bar Association
PRESENT
A BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENT

The Story Of Victorine Quille Adams

GUEST SPEAKER
DR. IDA E. JONES
Dr. Jones will be discussing the life of Victorine Quille Adams, the first African American woman elected to the Baltimore City Council.

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED


 **ROOM 504,
CLARENCE M.
MITCHELL JR.
COURTHOUSE**



FEB 05 | 12-1:30PM



**MONUMENTAL
CITY BAR FOUNDATION**

The Bar Association of Baltimore City
ADR Committee Presents

Is Court-Ordered Mediation Working For You?

Join veteran mediators **Jeff Trueman** and **Doug Furlong**, Co-Chairs of the BABC ADR Committee, for a very special Bench-Bar interactive discussion.

The program will explore the pros and cons of court-ordered mediation, and how it can be made better for attorneys, roster mediators, and the court.

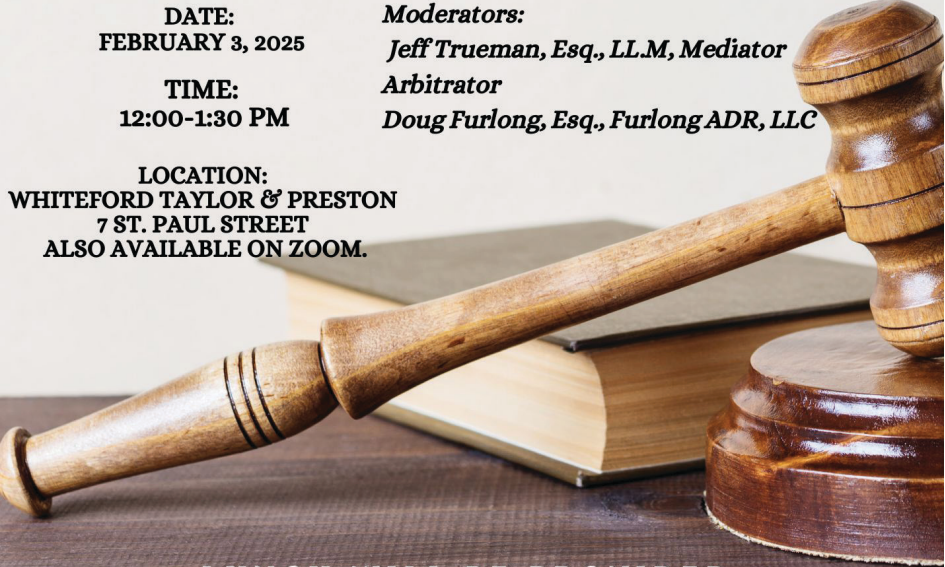
In addition to Doug and Jeff, the panel will include **Baltimore City Circuit Court Judges Hon. Erik Atas, Hon. John Nugent**, as well as the Director of the Court's Civil Alternative Dispute Resolution Program, **Mr. Brian Finnell**.

DATE:
FEBRUARY 3, 2025

TIME:
12:00-1:30 PM

Moderators:
**Jeff Trueman, Esq., LL.M, Mediator
Arbitrator**
Doug Furlong, Esq., Furlong ADR, LLC

LOCATION:
WHITEFORD TAYLOR & PRESTON
7 ST. PAUL STREET
ALSO AVAILABLE ON ZOOM.



LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED




BAR ASSOCIATION OF BALTIMORE CITY
YOUNG LAWYERS' DIVISION
CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
PRESENTS

PRACTICE TIPS ON TAP

Tuesday, January 21, 2025
Diamondback Brewing Company
31215 E Fort Ave #008, Baltimore, MD 21230
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Join Judge Tipton and Judge Chen for discussion and Q&A. What questions do you have about courtroom practices and procedures? Mix and mingle with the bench and bar in a casual setting to discuss topics including, civil and criminal issues, and top tips for success for young lawyers.

BABC MEMBERS: FREE NON-MEMBERS: \$40
REGISTER AT WWW.BALTIMOREBAR.ORG/CALENDAR.



The Honorable Hope Tipton
Baltimore City Circuit Court



The Honorable Catherine Chen
District Court of Maryland for
Baltimore City.






City Hall Tour

Join the BABC for a curated tour of historic Baltimore City Hall. Completed in 1875, City Hall houses the offices of the Mayor, City Council, and Comptroller. We'll be touring the rotunda, the City Council Chambers, and other notable areas of the building.

**Friday
Jan. 24**

12:30 - 1:30 pm

 100 N. Holliday St.

RSVP at <https://www.baltimorebar.org/calendar/>

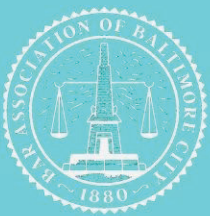


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✓ Sponsorship Levels Between \$1,000-\$10,000 offers a range of benefits, including tickets to the Crab Feast, Past Presidents' Luncheon, Annual Holiday Party, and Annual Meeting, as well as an invitation to BABC's Annual Managing Partners' Luncheon. Sponsors also receive complimentary BABC membership for a new young lawyer or newly admitted attorney. Additional perks include the firm's logo or name featured on the Bar Association's website with a link to the firm's website, and recognition as a sponsor at the Crab Feast, Past Presidents' Luncheon, Annual Holiday Party, and Annual Meeting. Sponsors are also acknowledged in BABC's newsletters, The City Bar Report and The Barrister.



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Joining LRIS provides an excellent opportunity for not only solo and small firm practitioners, but newly admitted attorneys to grow their clientele and practice.

To join Lawyer Referral, contact the BABC office at info@baltimorebar.org

**THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF BALTIMORE CITY
WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED
FROM DECEMBER 1, 2024
THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024**

- Samita Ali-Khan
- Samira Ehsan
- Rachel Fluriach
- Thomas E. Kiley
- Devyn Nicole King
- Anna Meredith-Edman
- Sam Filson Parkinson
- Paul Rodriguez
- Alexander Rothstein
- Marina Sullivan



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Kramon & Graham, P.A.
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Miles & Stockbridge
Niles, Barton & Wilmer, LLP
Paul R. Kramer, LLC
Pessin Katz Law P.A.
Rosenberg Martin Greenberg, LLP
Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP
Shapiro Sher Guinot & Sandler, P.A.
Shawe & Rosenthal, LLP**

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by the Bar Association Insurance Agency*

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The generous support of Sustaining Members of the Bar Association of Baltimore City greatly assists this bar association in fulfilling its mission and achieving further growth and success. The unwavering dedication of these members ensures the BABC will continue its long and distinguished tradition of service to our legal community and the public. If you are interested in becoming a Sustaining Member, please contact Karen Fast at kfast@baltimorebar.org.

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