



# CITY BAR REPORT

News from the Bar Association of Baltimore City

**Ethics Hotline Volunteer**

George Mahaffey: 410-783-4000

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## We Can All Be a Cheerful Giver



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

I love everything about this time of year. I love the family gatherings, festive events, a b u n d a n c e of desserts, the music, storefront decorations (not to mention

the week it takes me to decorate my home) and seeing the twinkle in the eyes of children of all ages. But what I love most about December is this is usually when many of us donate to our favorite charities or volunteer with organizations providing support to those in need. Unfortunately, there is never a shortage of those in need and as members of the legal profession, December gives us one last opportunity to be of service to others before the year ends. And while

giving should never be done out of obligation, that is exactly how some approach community service, pro bono work or financial support. As we are heading toward the new year, I wanted to leave you all with some thoughts regarding cheerful giving that we can all carry with us into 2025.

A “cheerful giver” gives from the heart, without ulterior motives, and finds joy in giving. They are the ones who give because they genuinely want to make an impact in the lives of others. Here are some thoughts and reflections on how to be a cheerful giver:

**Ensure that you have a positive mindset.**

Approach giving with a feeling of gratitude that you are fortunate to have the means to give and as an opportunity to be a blessing to others. Take a moment to reflect on organizations or services that you consider to be important to you, your

family, or your firm. Seek to find a way to make your giving a team activity because the more people involved, the greater the impact.

**Give without expectation.**

Do not allow your giving to be motivated by a desire for recognition. Your giving should not be motivated by a desire to see your name in lights or to have your name read at the next awards ceremony. A cheerful giver should be content with giving anonymously while relishing in the joy one feels knowing that their contribution has improved the life of another human being.

**Give from the heart.**

Your giving should be sincere and done out of love for your fellow human being. Do not give because of guilt or out of obligation.

**Consider the needs of others.**

Do not give anything that you would

not use yourself. Most charitable organizations have a wish list. Take a moment to acclimate yourself with the needs of the organization and the demographic which they serve.

**Give generously but within your means.**

Always be cognizant of your limitations and giving does not always need to involve spending money. You can donate your time at a food bank, or you could volunteer your time and legal

expertise by taking on a pro bono case. There are many pro bono and access to legal services organizations who would welcome you as a volunteer.

No matter who, what or how you observe the upcoming holidays, I wish you all peace and joy as we close out 2024 and usher in all that 2025 has to offer. Please take time to be a cheerful giver while also taking a moment to rest and recharge. Happy Holidays!

## “Holiday Traditions from the YLD”



Rachel Samakow, Chair of the Young Lawyers' Division

When I think about the holidays, the first thing that comes to mind is my grandmother's gingerbread cookies. She would lovingly make one look like each

member of our family. I remember rushing to the “no-no” room with my cousins (the only time we were allowed in there was during Hanukkah) and each of us picking up our cookie doppelganger.

The level of detail my grandmother would include—like my grandfather's glasses or my sister's hair color and length—still means so much to me all these years later. Of course, it wasn't about the treat but

about how much love we felt in my grandmother making them.

I'm excited to continue this tradition in our home this year, along with some newer traditions, including some family downtime where Mom and Dad will take a break and order a pizza.

It's been a long, fun, hectic, and event-filled year for the YLD, and I'd be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to say thank you to all

our sponsors, volunteers, donors, and vendors who helped us put on our Holiday Party for Children in Shelters. It was an amazing event where we had pre-COVID levels of guests join us to celebrate. From the bottom of our very full hearts, thank you!

On behalf of the YLD, we hope you have a wonderful holiday season, and we'll see you next year!

The Bar Association of Baltimore City Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS) is experiencing a record number of referrals and is in need of additional attorneys to meet the demand.

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](mailto:info@baltimorebar.org)


The Bar Association of Baltimore City & the Monumental City Bar Association  
PRESENT

# 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


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](http://WWW.BALTIMOREBAR.ORG/CALENDAR).



The Honorable Hope Tipton  
Baltimore City Circuit Court

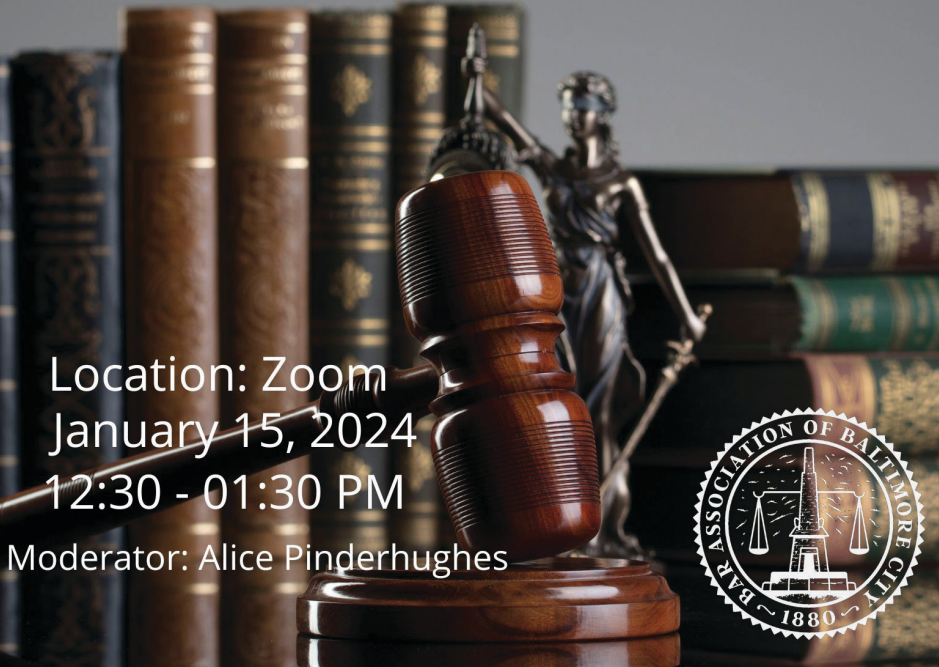


The Honorable Catherine Chen  
District Court of Maryland for Baltimore City.


The Bar Association of Baltimore City  
Family Law Committee Presents

## A DISCUSSION WITH OUR ESTEEMED FAMILY LAW JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES.

Discussions of Family Law Matters with the Honorable Myshala Middleton and the other Esteemed Family Law Judges and Magistrates.



Location: Zoom  
January 15, 2024  
12:30 - 01:30 PM  
Moderator: Alice Pinderhughes



## BECOME A SUSTAINING MEMBER

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Become a Sustaining Member of The Bar Association of Baltimore City!

Strengthen our organization, enjoy exclusive benefits, and show your commitment to the profession. Join us in shaping the future—your support makes a difference!

The generous support of Sustaining Members of the Bar Association of Baltimore City greatly assists the bar association in fulfilling its mission and achieving further growth.

The 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](mailto:kfast@baltimorebar.org).



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# THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF BALTIMORE CITY 2024 PAST PRESIDENTS' LUNCHEON



Thank you to everyone who joined us in celebrating this annual event honoring the Bar Association of Baltimore City's Past Presidents. Congratulations to our award winners for their outstanding achievements—you continue to inspire us all. Here's to another year of excellence and community!



Award winners Ryan Dietrich, Quinton M. Herbert, Samuel Pulver and Robert Anbinder are photographed with BABC President, Judge Teresa Epps Cummings and BABC Immediate Past President, James W. Motsay.



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### Blue Ribbon

**Veritext**

THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF BALTIMORE CITY  
 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED FROM  
 NOVEMBER 1, 2024 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2024

**Caroline P Adams**  
**Brice Marie Baker**  
**Bradley Girard**  
**Quinton M Herbert**  
**Kelsey B Hughes**  
**Jayni Johnson**  
**Elizabeth Lopez**  
**George Smith**  
**Crystal B Smith Hewitt**



## BABC SUSTAINING MEMBERS

*The BABC Sustaining Members are sponsored  
by the Bar Association Insurance Agency*

- |                           |                                   |
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| Monica Basche             | Hon. John P. Miller               |
| Sarah P. Belardi          | James W. Motsay                   |
| Hon. Robert M. Bell       | Jonas Todd Needleman              |
| Jonathan M. Binstock      | Gary C. Norman                    |
| Richard C. Bittner        | Alice G. Pinderhughes             |
| Hon. Charles M. Blomquist | Divya Potdar                      |
| Hon. Pamila J. Brown      | Samuel R. Pulver                  |
| Hon. Catherine Chen       | Hon. Michael Reed                 |
| Hon. Teresa Epps Cummings | Isabel J. Restall                 |
| Evelyn Cusson             | Valda G. Ricks                    |
| Gerardine M. Delambo      | Hon. La Zette C. Ringgold-Kirksey |
| Hon. Timothy J. Doory     | Paul Rosenberg                    |
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| Ashley Ensor              | Michael P. Scanlon                |
| Robert L. Ferguson, Jr.   | Hunter Scott                      |
| Aaron D. Fray             | Cregg Seymour                     |
| Glen Frost                | Linda Shields                     |
| Sally Gold                | Kerri Smith                       |
| Hon. Joan Bossman Gordon  | Hon. Kathleen M. Sweeney          |
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| Katherine Howard          | Elva E. Tillman                   |
| Hon. Darren L. Kadish     | Gwen B. Tromley                   |
| Deanna Kelly              | Jeffrey Trueman                   |
| Hon. Robert B. Kershaw    | Derek Van De Walle                |
| Irwin R. Kramer           | Hon. Anthony F. Vittoria          |
| Paul Kramer               | John Warshawsky                   |
| Stephen Lebau             | Hon. Barbara Baer Waxman          |
| Richard Lebovitz          | Sen. Christopher West             |
| Cynthia L. Leppert        | Rita M. Wisthoff-Ito              |
| Hon. Lynn Stewart Mays    | Mark Anthony Jr. Yost             |
|                           | Tom Yost                          |

*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](mailto:kfast@baltimorebar.org).*

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