



Announcements

Welcome to the August-September 2009 Editions of the Notitia!

The Notitia is one of the many tools the Women Lawyers Section of the Birmingham Bar Association uses to encourage the participation of women in the practice of law, to enhance the quality of life for women who have chosen law as a profession, to provide role models and mentors for women seeking to enter or grow in the profession, to provide an environment which fosters cooperation between and among women in the profession thereby enhancing the profession as a whole.

All members of the Birmingham Bar Association are invited to join our Section in 2009!

Membership runs from Dec. 1, 2008 - Nov. 30, 2009, but you can join at any time during the year. Here is a generic membership form: [BBA Membership Renewal.pdf](#) - You will need to put your name somewhere on the form and simply mark our section and return it to Beth Carmichael at the Birmingham Bar with your payment. You can also become a Sustaining Member of the Section by sending your additional \$30 contribution to Sidney Hoover c/o the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama, 500 Beacon Parkway West, Birmingham, AL 35209-3108. Sustaining Members are: Frances Quick, Anne Mitchell, Sidney Hoover and Teresa Minor.

Would you like to work with one of the committees or task forces in 2009 on a particular project or event? Reply to Pam Blalock if yes (pblalock@bcbsal.org).

Please submit your articles or photos or reminders for the Notitia to Rebecca Amthor (RAmthor@bcbsal.org) or Michelle Obradovic (michelle@wiseresolution.com).

Reminders for Section Activities and Events:

The **Leadership** of the Section meets monthly at the YWCA of Central Alabama, 309 North 23rd Street, Birmingham. Attendees who have ordered a lunch will be served at 11:30, with the meeting to begin thereafter. You may bring your own lunch if you like.

Women Lawyers brown bag CLE - "Perspective on Uncertain Markets" September 1st from 11:30 to 12:40 at the Birmingham Bar Center. The program is free for members of WLS. Please call Brooke Malcolm at (205) 581-0726 or email her at bmalmc@lightfootlaw.com if you have any questions or desire additional information. The Presenter is Donna S. Cates. Donna is a Financial Advisor, working in the financial services industry since 2000 and with Merrill Lynch since 2002. She graduated from GSU with a BBA in Management. Donna is also a Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor (CRPC) and a Certified Divorce Financial Analyst (CDFA).

Industry estimates are that it costs between \$200,000 to \$500,000 to replace a second or third year associate. The lack of work-life balance in the legal profession is no longer just an issue among women lawyers. A recent study found that over 70% of men would be willing to take lower salaries in exchange for more family time. And also non-parents (male/female) want time to pursue interests outside of the office. The Women Lawyers Section has assembled a dynamic panel - entitled **TURNOVER: The Real Cost of No Work-Life Balance, Tuesday, September 29, 2009, from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. at the Birmingham Bar Center** in downtown Birmingham - to speak to this issue. Panelists include Augusta Dowd - Shareholder, Vice President & Managing Lawyer, White Arnold & Dowd, P.C. and Rhonda Nabors, Association - Jackson Lewis LLP. Delores Simmons, Chair of Pinstripes and Pearls, is the moderator for the session. Attendees will be able to eat lunch from 11:30 until noon. Immediately after lunch, there will be a 20 minute PowerPoint presentation on work-life balance and the Balanced Hours program, followed by a 40-minute panel discussion.

This event is free for members of the WLS section; however if you are not a member you may still attend for a nominal fee of \$5. If you have any questions about this event, please feel free to contact Tameka Wren at 205.257.2643. Please make plans to attend this informative roundtable discussion to discuss what work life balance looks like in a law firm and how to incorporate it into your firm. Hope to see you there!

Pin Stripes & Pearls: Plans are underway for September 29, 2009 at Alabama School of Law and on February 4, 2010 at Cumberland. Khristi Driver and Delores Simmons are coordinating programming for the events.

The Social & Entertainment committee is considering a Zoolight Safari event for October.

Leadership & Development: A leadership development lunch event is being planned for September 24, 2009.

Pam Blalock asked for suggestions on a location for the November 2009 annual meeting. The Southern Progress location used in the past will probably not be available. Susan Nettles will see if Balch and Bingham can supply space for the annual meeting on either November 4th or November 12th from 4:30 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Reminders for Non - Section Activities and Events:

Organizational meeting of the A.D.R. Section of the Birmingham Bar Association - September 17, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Sirote & Permutt.

BOCCE TOURNAMENT TO BENEFIT BIRMINGHAM LEGAL AID SOCIETY & BIRMINGHAM VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROGRAM

You're invited to the FIRST ANNUAL BOCCE BALL TOURNAMENT to benefit the Birmingham Legal Aid Society and the Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Program sponsored by the Bar Foundation on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2009, 5:00 p.m. The event will be at Wiggins, Childs, Quinn & Pantazis, 301 19th Street North. Information about the game can be found at <http://www.bocce.org/rules.html>. This will be a fun event & a great way to help fund legal services to those in need! Space is limited to 16 Bocce teams (4 players per team). The cost for a team is \$500 and includes admission for 4, appetizers, beer, other refreshments & a Bocce t-shirt. Registered teams will also be receiving the Dennis Pantazis Official Rules of Play for the tournament. General event tickets are \$25 per person and include appetizers, beer and other refreshments. To secure your team or for general admission tickets contact the Foundation (205-251-2231 or bbfound@bellsouth.net) or Bocce Tournament Chair Mike Freeman (205-226-3432 or mfreeman@balch.com).



[DVWP invite.pdf](#)

Alabama Appellate Courts Return to Birmingham - October 7-8, 2009 - The 5th annual convening of the Alabama Appellate Courts in Birmingham is set for October 7-8, 2009. Make plans to attend the reception welcoming the Alabama Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals to town on Wednesday, October 7th at St. Paul's Cathedral Life Center, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. On Thursday, October 8th the Courts will be in session hearing oral arguments at Samford Wright Center, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Reception tickets are \$25.00 per person. Oral Arguments are free of charge and open to public. The Appellate Courts and the attorneys representing parties in the cases always bring an engaging presentation of Alabama's judicial system at work. For more information, contact Leslie Barineau at 205-251-9200 or the Bar Foundation at 205-251-2231. This event is sponsored by the Birmingham Bar Foundation and Cumberland School of Law.

Voices Against Violence Reception - Thursday, October 15th, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Virginia K. Sweet, Ph.D.
 Executive Director
 The Women's Fund of Greater Birmingham
 2100 1st Ave. N. Ste. 705

Birmingham, AL 35203
 phone 205.327.3821 fax: 205.328.6576
 please visit our website: www.thewomensfundbham.org

The **Voices Against Violence Giving Circle** is led by local female attorneys. In three years with the area attorneys' and their firms' generosity \$236,000 has been granted out to fund a systemic and coordinated effort among courts, law enforcement, and nonprofit organizations aimed at holding perpetrators accountable for abusing their intimate partners. In addition, the initiative is funding efforts to have workplaces institute domestic violence safety policies. At the conclusion of the 5-year campaign the Voices Against Violence Giving Circle (VAV) will have granted out least \$450,000 to build the system of coordinated efforts.

Articles

National Conference of Women's Bar Associations Luncheon on July 31, 2009.



Holy Family Cristo Rey Internship Program

As an attorney, you are familiar with the numerous injustices that occur throughout our society. Access to quality education is one of them.

Many parents of modest means cannot afford to send their children to private schools that will prepare them for college and careers as professionals. Holy Family Cristo Rey High School provides a college prep curriculum and real-life work experience exclusively to Birmingham students from low income families. Cristo Rey students work at paid corporate internships to help pay for their own tuition.

Working in teams of four, Cristo Rey students share entry level positions at local businesses during the school year. Proceeds pay 70 percent of tuition costs for a college preparatory education. You can help transform student lives and influence tomorrow's work force by becoming a Corporate Internship Sponsor.

For more information on how to make a difference in the life of a hard working young scholar, contact Steve Burbank at 205.263.0151.

First Light Women and Children's Shelter

Interested in helping? Dinner volunteers bring and serve dinner for 70 ladies every night at 6:30pm. Overnight volunteers stay on the residential floor and follow the set schedule of activities for the evening and attend to the basic needs of the shelter guests as they arise during the night. If neither dinner nor overnight volunteer work is doable for you, the shelter is currently in need of ladies underwear of all types and all sizes from socks to unmentionables. Blankets and pillows are also needed. Donations are tax-deductible and in-kind donation forms are available at our front desk upon drop-off of your items.

Shannon Horsley
 Volunteer Manager
 First Light, Inc.
 2230 4th Avenue North
 Birmingham, AL 35203
 (W)205-323-4277
www.firstlightshelter.org

Women Lawyers Section on Facebook!

The Women Lawyers Section now has a group page on Facebook. To join, search for Women Lawyers Section of the Birmingham Bar Association and then click where it says "Join Group."

Birmingham Pledge Friends

Below is an events flier for the 2009 Birmingham Pledge Week activities through September 19, 2009. Join us for these events, and help us to spread the word. This week has grown to where it can no longer be just one week, and there is still more to come later in September. Let your friends know, and have them join you at the Lifetime Achievement Awards ceremony and other programs!
[Pledge Week Calendar 2009 083109.pdf](#)

Wade Black, Executive Director
 Birmingham Pledge Foundation
 2829 Second Av South, Ste 307,
 Birmingham, AL 35233
 phone 205-254-3022,

wadeblack@mindspring.com
www.birminghampledge.org

Continuing Legal Education

ABICLE - ALABAMA BAR INSTITUTE FOR CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

www.abicle.org

ALABAMA CENTER FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Contact Judy Keegan for more information at judy.keegan@alabar.org or www.alabamaadr.org
BASIC MEDIATION TRAINING (3-day, 20 hour CLE course with 3 hours of ethics) - TROY SMITH
(800) ADR-FIRM or www.mediationmedia.com or troy.smith@mediationmedia.com

BIRMINGHAM BAR ASSOCIATION

On demand CLE available at www.birminghambar-u.org.

CUMBERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW CLEs:

Call 205-726-2391 to register by phone.

Who and Where? For complete details [click here](#).

E-mail us at: lawcle@samford.edu

September 11

Developments and Trends in Health Care Law 2009

[Brochure](#)

September 25

Effective Appellate Practice, Including Writing Skills

[Brochure](#)

October 2

20th Annual Bankruptcy Law Seminar

[Brochure](#)

October 29-30

Southeastern Business Law Seminar 2009

[Brochure](#)

November 6

New Developments and Practical Strategies in Class Action Litigation

[Brochure](#)

November 13

23rd Annual Workers' Compensation Seminar

November 20

Commercial Real Estate Law

[Brochure](#)

December 4

16th Annual Employment Law Update

December 11

Recent Developments

December 18

Negotiation Strategies in a Tough Economy

December 29

14th Annual CLE by the Hour

Online Courses available anytime:

<http://cumberland.fastcle.com/store/provider/provider.php?sessionId=983bb135734060c39caed71280f3ec19-3632852>

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LORMAN CLEs:

www.lorman.com

Section Leadership

2009 Officers

Chair - Pam Blalock

Chair - Elect Rhonda Caviedes

Immediate Past Chair - Leatha Gilbert

Secretary - Crystal McMeekin

Treasurer - Sidney Hoover
 Corresponding Secretary - Ashley Hattaway
 Historian - Frances King Quick
 NCWBA Representative - Pat Moore
 Liaison with Alabama State Bar Women's Section - Sherrie L. Phillips

Executive Board

Board Term Expires in 2009

Deane Corliss, Gail Barber, Katy Willis, Candi Peebles, Sidney Hoover, Shirley McCarty

Board Term Expires in 2010

LaBella Alvis, Mary Lynn Bates, Honora Gathings, Alicia Haynes, Hon. Virginia Vinson

Board Term Expires in 2011

Teresa Minor, Hon. Theresa Pulliam, Monica Graveline, Brendette Brown Green, Sabrina Simon

2009 Committee Chair and Co-Chair Assignments:

Membership

(Assists in updating membership databases and organizes a project or event that will increase membership and improve retention.)

Tameka Wren, Chair

Susan Nettles, Co-Chair

Newsletter and Public Relations

(Publishes the Notitia in collaboration with other Committees and the BBA, liaison with the Birmingham Bar Journal, the Alabama Lawyer and local media outlets.)

Rebecca Amthor, Chair

Michelle Obradovic, Co-Chair

Social and Entertainment

(Plans Annual Meeting, another large event and several social gatherings.)

Janine Smith, Chair

Christi Graham, Co-Chair

Programs

(Plans a large program and special programs in addition to the Annual Meeting.)

April Rogers, Chair

Lindsay Reese, Co-Chair

Projects

(Identifies projects benefiting the YWCA and organizes events benefiting other non-profits and coordinates charitable donations.)

Shayana Boyd Davis, Chair

Desiree Alexander, Co-Chair

Service Award

(Coordinates Law School Scholarships.)

Marcie Braswell, Chair

Katie Suttle Weinert, Co-Chair

2009 Task Force Chair and Co-Chair Assignments:

Pinstripes and Pearls (panel discussion)

Delores Owens,
Chair

Khristi Driver, Co-Chair

Leadership Development

(assist section members in becoming leaders)

Carolyn Lam,
Chair

Haley Andrews Cox, Co-Chair

Back Issues

January, February, March and April 2007 Editions of the Notitia: [2007 Notitia January through April Editions.pdf](#)

May 2007 Edition of the Notitia: [May 2007 Notitia.pdf](#)

June 2007 Edition of the Notitia: [June 2007 Edition of the Notitia.pdf](#)

July, August and September 2007 Editions of the Notitia: [July, August, September Editions.pdf](#)

October 2007 Edition of the Notitia: [October 2007 Edition of the Notitia.pdf](#)

November 2007 Edition of the Notitia: [November 2007 Edition of the Notitia.pdf](#)

December 2007 Edition of the Notitia: [December 2007 Edition of the Notitia.pdf](#)

January 2008 Edition of the Notitia: [January 2008 Edition of the Notitia.pdf](#)

February 2008 Edition of the Notitia: [February 2008 Edition of the Notitia.pdf](#)

March 2008 Edition of the Notitia: [March 2008 Edition of the Notitia.pdf](#)

April - May 2008 Editions of the Notitia: [April-May 2008 Edition of the Notitia.pdf](#)

June - July 2008 Editions of the Notitia: [June-July 2008 Edition of the Notitia.pdf](#)

August - September 2008 Editions of the Notitia: [August-September 2008 Edition of the Notitia.pdf](#)

October - November 2008 Editions of the Notitia: [October-November 2008 Edition of the Notitia.pdf](#)

January - February 2009 Editions of the Notitia: [January - February 2009 Edition of the Notitia.pdf](#)

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June - July 2009 Editions of the Notitia: [June - July 2009 Editions of the Notitia.pdf](#)

ListServ

The WLS has a Yahoo! listserv that is maintained by Candi Peeples. To join: (1) send an email to bba_women-subscribe@yahoogroups.com (That's bba "underscore" women "dash" subscribe @ yahoogroups.com); (2) when you receive an email back from Yahoo! asking you to confirm the fact that you want to be on the list serve, follow the directions in the email. To post messages to the Section, send an e-mail to bba_women@yahoogroups.com. Candi can be reached at 205-871-9550 or candi@shawanderson.com. Online help can be found at the following link: <http://help.yahoo.com/help/us/groups/>

What are the options for reading group messages in email? For each group you belong to, you have the option to control both the frequency of email message delivery and the format of messages:

Frequency Options

- Individual Emails

Messages are delivered one at a time to your email inbox. This is the best option if you want to keep up on the latest posts immediately. Email attachments, if included in a message and allowed by your moderator, will be sent directly to you.

- Daily Digest

Messages are delivered in batches of 25 or daily, whichever comes sooner. This is the best option if you want to receive fewer mail messages and don't need up-to-the-minute posts in your inbox. Email attachments are not available in digests.

- Only Special Announcements

This means you will receive email messages only when the group moderator posts a "Special Announcement" message. This is a good option if you want to pass on day-to-day discussion for very busy groups but do want to receive important updates from the group moderator. Keep in mind that usage by each moderator will vary. (The moderator may choose to never use this feature, in which case you would never receive email messages, or may choose to use it frequently.)

- No Mail / Web Only

The best option to choose if you prefer to only read messages on the web. Also useful if you need to temporarily put message delivery on hold, for example while you are on vacation. However, keep in mind that (while rare) some groups do not enable the "message archive" feature and for these groups it is not possible to read messages on the web. It is a moderator decision on whether to enable the message archive feature.

Format Options

- Full Featured

Includes links giving you instant access to all group features (photos, calendar, profiles, polls, files, etc.), the ability to see all messages to a topic, and a "recent activity module" providing information on new activity in the group over the last seven days. Definitely the best choice for groups that use more than just the message features or groups where you want to take advantage of the message archive.

- Traditional

Emails are delivered "as is", without the addition of any links back to the group, except in the footer of the email. The right choice if your email client does not effectively support the "Full Featured" format.

To set any of these options, go to the "Edit Membership" page of your group:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GROUPNAME/join> (where "GROUPNAME" is the name of your group). Message frequency options for groups can also be changes from the "Edit My Groups" page:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/mygroups?o=2&edit=1> Additional help can be found at:

<http://help.yahoo.com/help/us/groups/messages/messages-01.html>

Guidelines for posting messages

The Women Lawyers Section wants the list-serve to be an active tool, however it is recognized that too much irrelevant traffic will defeat the purpose of the list-serve. The following are some guidelines to use in posting messages. These guidelines are not intended to scare anyone from posting messages or other valuable information. Rather, experiences with other list-serves suggest that guidelines will keep our list-serve running smoothly and effectively.

The following types of messages are NOT appropriate.

- 1) Marketing by list members or others.
- 2) Political announcements or petitions.
- 3) Political solicitation, including campaign materials.

- 4) Any other message not directly related to or of particular interest to section members . This category includes jokes (even funny ones), warnings about internet scams and viruses and chain messages.
- 5) Any kind of inflammatory, discriminatory or personal attacks.

Thank you for adhering to these guidelines!