



August 2017

President's Corner: 2017-18 Theme, "Me 2 We"

By S. Carlton Rouse



On behalf of the officers and volunteers of the Gwinnett County Bar Association, I am happy to announce the beginning of our work with the Bar for the 2017-18 year. Our focus this year is to continue our efforts to increase the visibility of the legal profession in Gwinnett through camaraderie between lawyers by encouraging our members to build relationships with other attorneys within the Bar, and increase the engagement of the practice bar by offering and educational speakers at monthly meetings as well as by highlighting local resources that will help our lawyers balance the demands of practice and personal commitments.

- August 18 Monthly Bar Meeting - 12-1pm, 1818 Club, Duluth
August 22 Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA) Judicial Reception from 6-8pm at King & Pleasance in NE Atlanta, GA 30309
September 15 Monthly Bar Meeting - 12-1pm, 1818 Club, Duluth
September 15 Happy Hour - 5:30pm at McCray's
September 30 Atlanta United Walk Party (starts 10A)
October 28 Law Enforcement Appreciation Day (LEAD) Picnic - Johnsons Jordan Park

I look forward to seeing as a resource to you and will let you know by email to address any interests/concerns that you may have moving forward. As always, thank you for your commitment to this organization, your input and your support.

Should you wish to contact me directly, you can email me at: s.rouse@gwinnettbla.com

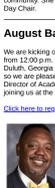
Meet the 2017-18 GCBA Board!

S. Carlton Rouse, President



Carlton Rouse served the Gwinnett County Bar Association for nearly four years, first as the Law Day Chair in 2013, then as the Community Liaison, secretary of the bar, Vice President and this year as President-Elect. Carlton has a boutique practice that offers representation to the metro Atlanta area and in Gwinnett with respect to criminal defense, estate planning, consumer bankruptcy, and domestic cases. Prior to opening his firm, Carlton earned his law degree while studying at Boston Northeastern University and graduated with a J.D. and M.B.A. in 2002. He earned his bar exam in Georgia in November 1998. Carlton is currently an active participant with the Gwinnett County Board Mental Program, Lawyers Association, Atlanta Legal Aid, and his volunteers within his church. Carlton enjoys spending time with family and playing golf.

Jon Setzer, President-Elect



Jon Setzer is a Senior Assistant District Attorney with the Gwinnett Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office, where he has been for the last nine years. Prior to joining the Gwinnett District Attorney's Office, he worked for the District Attorney General's Office in Eastman, Georgia for two years. Jon earned his law degree from Emory University in 2006 and his Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Sociology from Vanderbilt University in 2003. Jon is the President-Elect of the Gwinnett County Bar Association, having previously served as the Law Day Chairperson, Treasurer, and Vice-President. He was previously the Chairman of the Georgia High School Mock Trial Committee and continues to serve on the State Finals Planning Board, Law Academy Board, and the Georgia Judicial Branch Judicial Committee and the Georgia Young Lawyers Division's Leadership Academy and a 2013 graduate of Leadership Georgia's Leadership Institute. Jon lives in Suwanee with his wife, Heather, and their sons, Caleb and Evan. He plays soccer for Buck Show Football Club and holds a United States Soccer Federation National Coaching License. He is a founding member and co-coordinator for Atlanta United, in what little spare time remains. Jon enjoys reading, running, and cooking.

Donald Lee, Vice President



Donald was born in Silver Springs, MD, went to Cornell University for undergrad in biology, and then attended Thurgood Marshall School of Law in San Diego for law school. Donald was a public defender in Fulton County Juvenile Court for another three. For the past five years, he has been in Gwinnett County, where he handles criminal defense and family law in Northwest Georgia, where she also served as the defense attorney for the Tallapoosa County Treatment Court Program and the President of the Tallapoosa Bar Association in 2014. Danielle practices law in Buford with her father, Wade M. Britt, and her husband, James A. Mays, Jr., along with Partners Gregory D. Jay and Richard B. Chandler. Danielle also serves as defense attorney for Gwinnett County's Drug Treatment Court Program. In her spare time, Danielle enjoys yoga, cycling, hiking, reading, traveling, being a foodie, and spending time with her three dogs.

Dodie Sachs, Treasurer



Dodie Sachs is an attorney in the O'Kelley & Sorheim Litigation Department and is the lead attorney in the Family Law Division of the firm. Dodie currently teaches the Family Law Information class at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, which is pending approval for CLE credit. Dodie is a frequent speaker at CLEs in the areas of the practice and family law. Dodie has been appointed to the Supreme Court of Georgia as an amicus for the Transition into Law Practice Program. In 2015, Dodie was selected to participate in the Georgia Association of Women Lawyers (GAWL) Leadership Academy Class. In 2014, Dodie was awarded the Volunteer of the Year Award from the Atlanta Legal Aid Society for her work with the Gwinnett Pro Bono Project and Gwinnett Legal Aid. In addition to the GCBA, Dodie is also active with the Gwinnett Chapter of GAWL and the Gwinnett Pro Bono Project. Dodie earned her law degree from Tulane University School of Law in 2004, and her Bachelor's Degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dodie and her husband, Jeremy, have five children: Isabel (15), Emma (13), Mia (12), Rafi (10), and Jacob (9).

Amina Bakari, Law Day Chair



Amina Bakari grew up in Richmond, VA. She received her B.A. in Political Science from Hampton University in Hampton, VA in 2010. She moved to Georgia and received her J.D. from the University of Georgia in Athens in 2013. While studying in Athens, she interned at the Athens Clarke County District Attorney's office during her 3rd year. Upon graduation she completed a fellowship with the Gwinnett County District Attorney's office. Amina was admitted to the Georgia Bar in October 2013 and began working at the Gwinnett County Solicitor's office. As a Lead Assistant Solicitor, Amina enjoys getting to know and working with the members of the Gwinnett County criminal law community. She is looking forward to serving the Gwinnett Bar as Law Day Chair.

August Bar Luncheon

We are kicking off a new year with GCBA on August 18, 2017, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the 1818 Club, 6500 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth, Georgia 30097. Summer is over and school is back in session so we are pleased to announce that guest speaker James Rayford, the Director of Academic Support for Gwinnett County Schools, will be joining us at the August Luncheon.

Click here to register for the August Luncheon

James Rayford



As an educator of twenty-eight years, James Rayford earned his Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics Education from Rust College in Holly Springs, MS and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Georgia State University. Currently, he serves as Director of Academic Support for Gwinnett County Public Schools' Community-Based Mentoring Program where his primary mission is to provide mentors for identified male students. He has seen the program grow from 57 students and 33 mentors in its pilot year to having served 500 students and 227 mentors during the 2016-2017 school year. Click here for a bio

News & Events

Black Women Attorneys Annual Judicial Reception

It's time for the Gate City Bar Association and the Georgia Association for Black Women Attorneys Annual Judicial Reception! This year's reception is held on Tuesday, August 22, 2017, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at King & Spaulding LLP, 1180 Peachtree Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. The Gate City Bar Association and GABWA will co-sponsor this event in partnership with other local bar associations. We invite your organization to participate through attendance and co-sponsorship.

As a co-sponsor, a spokesperson from your organization is invited to give remarks at the reception; your organization will be listed in all advertisements for the event, and all your members can attend the reception at no charge. There will be a \$10.00 fee for non-members. The contribution for co-sponsorship is \$250.00. Checks for sponsorship should be made payable to: Gate City Bar Association and mailed to Gate City Bar Association, Post Office Box 16127, Atlanta, Georgia 30331-0127.

We invite you to enjoy an evening with fellow lawyers and members of the judiciary who exemplify the growing diversity of our legal profession. Kindly respond on or before August 11, 2017, if you have questions, please contact me at jaynar@atlantabla.com. Thank you and we look forward to partnering with you. Click here for more information

Gwinnett Pro Bono Project CLEs

WHY DRIVE DOWNTOWN WHEN CLE CREDITS ARE AVAILABLE RIGHT HERE IN GWINNETT? THE GWINNETT PRO BONO PROJECT OFFERS ELECTRONIC CLE/AFS SYSTEMS. UPCOMING CLEs - FALL 2017. Includes details on various CLE topics and how to register.

New Staff Attorney!



The Gwinnett County Magistrate Court is proud to announce the hiring of V. Seo, Jr. as our first ever Staff Attorney. Ms. Jo has over 20 years of experience as a civil litigation and employment attorney. She was a Senior Assistant City Attorney for the City of Atlanta Law Department, a Staff Attorney for the Superior Court of Fulton County (for 8 years for the Hon. Alfred J. Chappley, Jr.), and an EEO Compliance Manager for Home Depot. Ms. Jo graduated from Georgetown University in 1993, and Georgia College of Law in 1996. Given her extensive experience in supporting the Courts and, specifically, in the area of civil litigation, as well as her ability to manage multiple responsibilities, we know that she will be an incredible asset to our Court and to the Gwinnett legal community as a whole.

Ms. Jo lives in Gwinnett County with her husband (an Atlanta Homicide Sergeant) and her two beautiful children. Her father is a retired Gwinnett County Sheriff's Deputy, Deputy Myung Jo, and her brother is a current Gwinnett County Sheriff's Deputy in the Fugitive Unit, Deputy Sany Jo. So, Gwinnett County is in her blood!

Ms. Jo's role in the Court is a big one, she will not only be providing legal research and support to 25 Magistrate Judges, but she will also be assisting with special projects, community outreach, and in our continuous efforts to improve Magistrate Court processes. Right now, we are trying very hard not to scare her away. So, if you are in the neighborhood, please stop by to meet her and say hello!

Thank You to Gwinnett Pro Bono Volunteers for May, June and July!

- Pro Bono Representation: Stephanie C. Anita, Douglas B. Oram, Barbara B. Evans, William E. Fields, Jason H. King, Wanda L. Roney, Jennifer L. Reeves, S. Carlton Rouse, Dorothy H. Sachs, Mark L. Wells, Prabhakar Clinic, Brook Davidson, David Krohn, John Mize, Rene Nadler, Diane Newman, Charles Tringe, Christina Wagner, John Weston, Eric Wilson

Consumer Law Clinic

Clay Stone, Christina Wagner

ADA Update: Takeaways from Pro Se Reasonable Accommodation Complaint Rayford v. Walmart Stores

By Lisa B. Golan

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), employers must provide reasonable accommodations to the known disabilities of otherwise qualified employees unless this causes an undue hardship. 42 U.S.C. § 12112(b). In many cases, disability-related requests for assistance may be best handled informally by immediate managers working closely with their employees. Managers who are not trained in the requirements of the ADA, however, may not understand that employees with disabilities may be entitled to something more and different than what is required by employer's normal policies and practices.

One such v. Carlson Industries LLC, 2017 WL 1247, 1262-1269 (11th Cir. 2017) granting US Airways, Inc. v. Barnett, 556 U.S. 391, 397-98 (2002) ("Preferences will sometimes prove necessary to achieve the Act's basic equal opportunity goal. The Act requires preferences in the form of 'reasonable accommodations' that are needed for those with disabilities to obtain the same workplace opportunities that those without disabilities automatically enjoy. By definition any special 'accommodation' requires the employer to treat an employee with a disability differently, i.e., preferentially, and the fact that the difference in treatment violates an employer's disability-neutral rule cannot by itself place the accommodation beyond the Act's potential reach.")

In an effort to shield themselves from liability caused by the failure to adequately train line level managers, employer's policies sometimes require employees to consult directly with human resources when requesting accommodations. A recent decision by a district court in Atlanta suggests that such policies themselves violate the ADA. Click here to continue reading

Do Justice. Do 50. Do Pro Bono.

Click here to read the letter and call to action from Judge Jill Pryor, chair of the Access to Justice Committee of the State Bar of Georgia, regarding this new campaign "Do Justice. Do 50. Do Pro Bono." Please take a few minutes to read the letter and help spread the word about this campaign!

ABA News

How to build a clientele through contacts. Includes tips on networking and client development.

In the Interest of C. W., a child, A17A0084 Georgia Court of Appeals, Criminal Case (6/28/2017, 7/31/2017)

In this recent case, the Court of Appeals affirmed the Chatham County Juvenile Court in granting C.W.'s motion to suppress evidence of his blood-alcohol level obtained through a warrantless blood test in his trial for driving under the influence of alcohol, underage possession of alcohol, reckless driving and speeding. The Court of Appeals found that the State did not show C. W. voluntarily consented to the blood test.

Presiding Judge McAdson authored the opinion for the Court. The State filed a delinquency petition against C. W. for driving under the influence of alcohol, OCGA § 40-393 (a) (1), (b) (1), underage possession of alcohol, OCGA § 5-3-23, reckless driving, OCGA § 40-6-390, and speeding, OCGA § 40-6-181.

The evidence presented at the motion to suppress hearing showed that a Georgia State Patrol trooper saw 16-year-old C. W. driving his car at a speed of 79 mph on a road with a posted speed limit of 65 mph. The trooper stopped C. W. and asked him to get out of the car. C. W. was arrested on a charge of driving under the influence of alcohol. His speech was slurred, his eyes were bloodshot, glossy and watery. C. W. was not asked by the trooper if he had drunk three beers earlier in the day. The trooper administered field sobriety tests and a portable breath test, which indicated the presence of alcohol on C. W.'s breath, and the trooper arrested C. W. and handcuffed him.

The trooper read C. W. the implied consent notice for persons under the age of 21. C. W. agreed to submit to the state-administered chemical test. The trooper then drew C. W. a blood sample to undergo a blood test, but more than an hour passed between the reading of the implied consent warning and the blood test. The officer testified that he was "very stern" with C. W. Click here for full article

I STARTED MY PRACTICE IN 2012 THAT'S RIGHT, 14 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Office Spaces for Rent in Duluth

Features include: Right at 185 and Pleasance Hill Rd. Inside drop date. You can rent 1 or more spaces. 2 at 144 sq. feet, 1 at 190 sq. feet includes: Utilities, Cleaning, Lots of parking. Use of conference room. Use of kitchen/breakroom.

Please call us at (678) 325-3872 for more information and pricing!

Criminal Defense Section Update

The Gwinnett County Criminal Defense Bar held our May 2017 monthly meeting at the Gwinnett County Detention Center. The speaker was Marissa McCall Dodson, the public policy director for the Southern Center for Human Rights. Attorney Dodson spoke to our members about the recent concluded 2017 legislative session and its impact on criminal law.

We held our June 2017 monthly meeting at the Gwinnett County Detention Center. Our speaker was Attorney Winley Person (speaking on behalf of the law firm in LaGrangeville, GA. Attorney Person presented on the topic of Outstanding Juveniles Charged with Serious Felonies.

Upcoming Events: The section will have its next meeting on September 15 at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center at 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Out speaker will be Ms. Angeliqe McClendon, Esq. Ms. McClendon is general counsel for the Georgia Department of Driver Services and will be speaking to our members about recent changes in the law affecting Georgia drivers. Lunch will be provided for those \$8 for members and \$15 for non members. One hour of general CLE credit will be available pending approval.

Join the Section: Interested in joining the section or want to RSVP for a monthly meeting? Please contact section President Constanca Carter at conx@icloud.com

Estate Planning and Probate Update

The Estate Planning and Probate Section (EPPS) brings you 2 excellent volunteer opportunities in 2017 - sign up now!

2017 Walk to End Alzheimer's - Gwinnett County: Where: Walk or Volunteer When: Saturday, November 4, 2017, registration begins at 9am Why: As funds raised through Walk to End Alzheimer's further the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association (801) (33) How: Click here to donate or join our team (Alzheimer's Association) Contact: Lindsay Cambardeila with questions.

Probate Court Pro Bono Clinic (Monthly)

Who should volunteer: Attorneys with probate and/or guardianship experience (need not be an expert, but some experience is required to assist applicants)

Where: Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center When: Third Thursday of each month from 1:30pm - 4:30pm Why: To help our citizens and the Probate Court in processing petitions more efficiently and effectively.

How: Please contact Lindsay Stone with questions or to sign up for the Probate Court Pro Bono Clinic.

Saves the Date: Please save the date for the following EPPS lunch meetings at 12:00pm (speaker and location details to follow): September 12, 2017 November 14, 2017

Note that you do not have to be a member of the section to attend the meetings (please feel free to forward the message or bring a friend), if you are interested in joining the section, or simply being added to the section email list, please contact Lindsay Stone or Lindsay Cambardeila

Gwinnett County Bar Association | www.gwinnettbla.com | 1180 Peachtree Street, N.E., Duluth, GA 30096

In This Issue

- President's Corner
Meet the New Board
August Bar Luncheon
Miss & Events
Black Women Attorneys Annual Judicial Reception
Gwinnett Pro Bono Project CLEs
New Staff Attorney
ADA Update
Call to Action: Pro Bono
ABA News
Georgia Court of Appeals Update
Office Spaces for Rent in Duluth
Criminal Defense Section Update
August Bar Luncheon
EPPS
Gwin County

August Bar Details

Friday, August 18th from 12 - 1 pm at the 1818 Club 6500 Sugarloaf Parkway #200 Duluth, GA 30097

Click Here to Register

Click here and download the application to join the Gwinnett Bar!

Join Our Mailing List!

Stay Connected

Like us on Facebook

View our profile on LinkedIn