

Government Attorneys Section GEORGIA BAR ASSOCIATION

Vol. 1, Inaugural edition



MEET YOUR OFFICERS

Chairperson,
Cynthia Cartwright

Cynthia Cartwright is the chair of the Government Attorneys Section of the State Bar of Georgia. In 2006, she was the vice-chair, and prior to that she served the organization as secretary and also treasurer. Her objective as president is to provide open communication with all levels of government, including an employment registry, social interests, and inter-agency communications.

Ms. Cartwright graduated from the University of Florida Law School. Her undergraduate Bachelor of Arts in psychology was obtained from the University of Washington.

Ms. Cartwright was appointed by the Supreme Court of Georgia as the Assistant Reporter of Decisions. Government employment has been a great part of Cynthia's career. Her previous employment experience includes working for the federal government, serving as an Assistant City Attorney with the City of Orlando, a City of Atlanta Public Defender, and City Attorney for the City of East Point.

Her hobbies include creating natural aromatherapy and botanical body products. She enjoys Tai Chi, yoga classes and gardening. She is the mother of two and has one grandson.

Ms. Cartwright, Assistant Reporter of Decisions, Supreme Court of Georgia, can be reached at cartwric@gasupreme.us.

Vice President,
Chuck Olson

Chuck Olson works as the General Counsel for the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of GA, in Atlanta, GA.

As the General Counsel he provides legal advice to members of the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council and the Council staff. This includes providing guidance on contracts, employment matters and regulatory issues. He serves as the professional responsibility officer for the district attorneys and solicitors-general and provides guidance on ethics and professional responsibility issues faced by prosecutors throughout the state.

Additionally, during the annual sessions of the Georgia General Assembly, he reviews and monitors legislation that potentially impacts prosecution or the criminal justice system. He drafts legislation or amendments to pending legislation as requested by district attorneys, solicitors-general and legislators.

Mr. Olson is a graduate of Woodrow Wilson College of Law.

Mr. Olson, can be reached at 104 Marietta Street, Suite 400, Atlanta, GA 30303 at 404-969-4001 or colson@pacga.org.

Treasurer
Randall Duncan

Randall Duncan is an Assistant Chief Counsel in the Atlanta office of U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) where he prosecutes cases in immigration courts. He is a former Assistant District Attorney in the Coweta Judicial Circuit and Assistant Director for Plans and Programs with the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia.

Prior to his legal career he served as a Supervisory Special Agent with Federal Aviation Administration Security and an Investigator with the Clarke County Police Department. He holds a Doctor of Jurisprudence, a Master of Public Administration, and a Bachelor of Arts.

Mr. Duncan can be reached at U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 77 Forsyth Street, Suite 385, Atlanta, GA 30303, (404) 331-6831 or at Randall.Duncan@dhs.gov.

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Secretary

Angela D. Afflick

Angela D. Afflick is a Senior Assistant County Attorney for DeKalb County Law Department. Ms. Afflick handles taxation and bankruptcy litigation and is assigned as Counsel to the Purchasing and Contracting Division.

She received a Bachelor of Arts from Spelman College, Masters in Government Contracting from George Washington University, Juris Doctorate from North Carolina Central University and is working on a Masters in Divinity from Newport University.

She is married and has one son.

Angela D. Afflick can be reached at 1300 Commerce Drive, 5th Floor, Decatur, GA 30030, (404) 371-3011 or at adafflick@co.dekalb.ga.us.

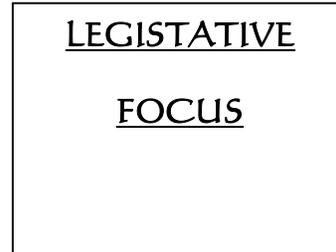


THANK YOU!

On behalf of the Government Attorneys Section, we would like to thank everyone who participated in our recent seminar entitled, "Dichotomy: Implementing Immigration Reform While Encouraging Foreign Trade, Investment and Tourism" at Amicalola Falls on September 17, 2007.

The seminar was a huge success and included six and one-half CLE hours, with one hour each of ethics, professionalism and trial practice.

Amicalola Falls was beautiful and many attendees stayed Sunday night. We invite you to attend the seminar next fall at Red Top Mountain.



**Federal Student Loan
Forgiveness for Prosecutors and Public Defenders**

Legislation that would provide student loan forgiveness for public service employees includes prosecutors, public defenders, government attorneys and legal aid attorneys was approved by the House and Senate on September 7, 2007.

The legislation, Title IV of H.R. 2669, was agreed upon by a conference committee and cleared by the House and Senate. President Bush signed the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, H.R. 2669, into law on September 27, 2007

Ms. Brittany R. Ballenstedt in the on-line edition of Government Executive writes "The measure would provide student loan forgiveness of \$5,000 for graduates who go into public service professions. It also would forgive outstanding debt for borrowers who have made 10 years of monthly repayments on their loans while serving in full-time government or nonprofit jobs".

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=37961&dcn=todaysnews

For other relevant pending legislation, see <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

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Taxation Law Section proposed legislation

The Executive Committee of the Taxation Law Section on Aug. 23, 2007 reviewed and unanimously approved a proposal to create a Georgia Tax Court.

The Taxation Law Section submitted the proposed legislation to the State Bar Advisory Committee on Legislation on September 14, 2007.

If you have any questions or comments with respect to the proposed legislation, please contact John Allan, chair of the task force at jmallan@jonesday.com or at 404-581-8012.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Michael H. Neifach, Principal Legal Advisor For Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in Washington, D.C. announced on August 23, 2007, that Ms. Alfredia Owens had been selected as the new Chief Counsel for Atlanta. She succeeds Mr. Terry Bird who retired after serving 27 years in the position.

The Office of the Chief Counsel is responsible for the prosecution of cases in immigration court, and for providing legal counsel to DHS investigative and detention components. Ms. Owens began her immigration career with (then) Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in 2002 as an Assistant District Counsel in Atlanta. In 2006, after INS functions had been transferred from the U.S. Department of Justice to DHS, she was appointed Deputy Chief Counsel for Atlanta.

Ms. Owens was a solo practitioner from 1995 to 1996, and she served as an Assistant Criminal District Attorney in the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office in Fort Worth, Texas from 1996 to 2001.

Ms. O.V. Brantley, former Fulton County Attorney, retired July 24, 2007, after serving eight years as Fulton County Attorney. She has joined Henning Mediation and Arbitration Service and plans to concentrate on mediations involving state and local governments. She can be reached at ovbrant@bellsouth.net or through

Henning Mediation at 770-955-2252 or at www.clarafordfoundation.org.



THE SUPREME COURT NEEDS YOUR ASSISTANCE. Statewide Appeal for Georgia Reports and Georgia Appeals Reports.

The Reporter of Decisions office is seeking sets of Georgia Reports and Georgia Appeals Reports for distribution to incoming judiciary throughout the state and others as required. This is an ongoing need. All donations are acceptable, even if it is not a complete set. Earlier volumes are the most critical need.

For further information, please contact Ms. Cynthia Cartwright at 404-657-4024.

LAW FIRM ADVERTISEMENTS: Jarrard & Davis, LLP *Angela E. Davis*

Partners, Ken Jarrard and Bubba Samuels, of counsel, Chris Balch, Associates Trip Peake, Chris Hamilton, Paul Dzikowski, Paul Higbee, and Mark Scott

105 Pilgrim Village Drive, Suite 200, Cumming, GA 30040, 678-455-7150.

Specialty: Areas of local government law, including representation of counties and cities, as well as serving as appointed counsel for ACCG and its insured. This practice spans the gambit of all aspects of local government law at all stages, including legal counseling, ordinance drafting, management of governmental meetings, and all the way through litigation and appeals. The firm serves as the county attorneys for Forsyth, Cherokee, Franklin, and Barrow, the City Attorney for Milton, and handles direct hire and insurance retention matters in numerous other Georgia governments.

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To review a e-reprint of the article “Effective Brief Writing Despite High Volume Practice: Ten Misconceptions That Result in Bad Briefs”, see the Toledo Law Review and it is also available at <http://ssrn.com/abstract=996907>

Written by Ms. Sarah E. Ricks, Clinical Associate Professor of Law & Co-Director, Pro Bono Research Project, Rutgers School of Law-Camden, 217 N. Fifth Street, Camden, NJ 08102

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UPCOMING CLASSES:

National Business Institute Atlanta, GA. For a listing see: <http://www.nbi-sems.com/seminfo/nbi-moreinfoEmailTrack.asp>

ICLE Offerings

For a complete list of ICLE seminars, visit www.iclega.org.

LAWYERLEARN OFFERINGS

www.lawyerlearn.com

WEST LEGALWORKS AND KROLL ONTRACT

E-Discovery Ethics & Best Practices for Counsel

COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS: DeKalb County In the fall of 2007, DeKalb County will launch the 311

Citizen Help Center, which will provide one-call access to DeKalb County Government.

311 is DeKalb County’s phone number for government information and non-public-safety-emergency services. 311 is available to DeKalb County residents, business owners and visitors – all DeKalb County resources are just a phone call away. Services provided through the 311 Citizen Help Center, will help: streamline the customer-inquiry and-service processes, thereby improving response time and increasing service resolution efficiency; and, assure that 911 resources are dedicated to public safety emergencies, and provide more efficient and effective response to police, fire and medical emergencies. Established on values of Consistency, Accountability, Responsiveness and Ease of Access (C.A.R.E), the 311 Citizen Help Center furthers DeKalb County’s goal of providing the best possible customer service.

GOVERNMENT OFFICE HIGHLIGHT

The Reporter’s Office coordinates the publishing (reporting) of appellate opinions. Two reporters, an editor, two assistant editors and support staff comprise the office. The reporters compose the research indexes that are published in the hardbound reports. Editors thoroughly review every aspect of each opinion from the judges and justices offices prior to publication. The Advance Sheets are compiled each week and the hardbound reports are published about every two months.

President Cartwright is responsible for composing the research index for the Georgia Court of Appeals.

SOCIAL CALENDAR: Contact the League of Women Voters of Georgia for upcoming events at www.lwvga.org.

Rodin: “In His Own Words” presented by Oglethorpe University Museum of Art. For more information, please visit www.oglethrope.edu or call 404.364.855.

Part three of Neil Simon’s autobiographical trilogy picks up where Brighton Beach Memoirs and Biloxi Blues ended. For more information and reservations, please call 770.396.1726 or visit www.stagedoorplayers.net.

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Athens, Greece to Atlanta” The Atlanta Greek Festival” Join local TV and Radio personalities at the festival. Enjoy fun, games, music and great food. Event takes place at Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 2500 Clairmont Road, NE in Atlanta. For more information, please call 404.633.5870 or visit www.atlantagreekfestival.com

Every Monday Eddie’s Attic present “Songwriters Open Mic Night” Eddie’s Attic will open the stage (and mic) to all songwriters looking for an audience. For more information, please call 404.377.4976.

Every Third Monday
The ART Station presents “Out to Lunch at ART Station”. For more information, please call 770.469.1105 or visit www.artstation.org.

Every Wednesday
Paradise Restaurant & Lounge presents “O Poetry” Open Mic”. For more information, please call 770.414.5181 or visit www.paradiserestaurantandlounge.com.

Every Third Thursdays
South DeKalb Mall presents Family Fun Night”
In an effort to restore traditional family values, South DeKalb Mall will host family fun night. This one hour event will feature music, storytelling, arts and crafts, karaoke, face painting, dancing, character appearances or other activities. Fun Night is from 6:00 PM-7:00 PM. For more information call 404.241.2431 or visit www.GalleryatSouthDeKalb.com.

Every Friday
Fernbank Museum presents Martinis and IMAX. The program has begun its 12th season. Come enjoy specialty martinis, appetizers, dinner selections, desert options and a screening of an IMAX film. For more information, please call 404.929.6300 or visit www.fernbankmuseum.com.

Every Saturday
The Fernbank Science Center presents “The Sky Tonight”. For more information, please call 678.874.7128.
Every Sunday Poetry Atlanta & Java Monkey presents “Poetry Open Mic” For more information, please call 404.378.5002

INSPIRATIONAL VITAMIN: Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it. – Lee Holz

LEARN 2 LAUGH

A husband goes to the doctor and says, "I have a big problem with my wife. She doesn't want to admit she is deaf." The doctor tells him, "There is a simple test. When you get to the doorstep, scream, `honey, what's for dinner?" If there is no answer, move closer a few steps and ask again. Move another step and another until she answers."

The husband comes home, stops at the door, and yells out, "Honey, what's for dinner?" Silence. He takes another step and asks again, still no answer. He is within a few inches and he screams, "Honey, what's for dinner?!" She turns to him and says, "I answered you four times. We are having soup!"

The faults we see in others are quite often what we can't bear to see in ourselves. Think about this today. Look at others' annoying behaviors and ask yourself, "Is that what I'm like?"

Name your newsletter...Submit your suggestion for the name of our new newsletter. Articles, suggestions, and other contributions are welcome.