



Case Evaluation

Thank you to **Ricky Carlson** for donating his Case Evaluation late fees, which are placed in a restricted building account.

Volunteers Needed for High School Mock Trial

The Michigan Center for Civic Education is seeking dedicated legal and legal adjacent professionals to support their 2024 High School Mock Trial competition. They need Attorneys, judges, law students and those fluent in the law to serve as presiding and scoring judges as well as support roles at each event. Your time will have a positive impact on the lives of students in your community!

Register at - <https://MImocktrial.tabroom.com>

Email questions to mocktrial@miciviced.org

GCBA Senior Attorneys

Luncheon The GCBA Senior luncheon will be Thursday, March 13, 2025, 12 noon, at Redwood Lodge, located at 5304 Gateway Centre Blvd., off Hill Rd., close to US 23 and I-75. Lunch will be selected from the menu and may be ordered and paid for individually. All attorneys and their guests are welcome, regardless of age. Let us know if you are coming. RSVP to gcba@gcbalaw.org.



Condolences

Our condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of **Franklin H. Kasle**, who passed away peacefully during the early morning hours of December 9, 2024, at his home. His obituary can be viewed at www.sharppfuneralhomes.com.

Our condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of **Earl Glenn Swain**, age 98, of Montrose, who passed away on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. His obituary can be viewed at www.oguinnfh.com.

Our condolences to **Amir Abu-Aita** on the passing of his father, George Abu-Aita, on December 21, 2024. His obituary can be viewed at www.swartzfuneralhomeinc.com

Our condolences to **Barney Whitesman** on the passing of his mother Gloria Whitesman, at the age of 98. The funeral will be in Fort Myers. Arrangements are pending.

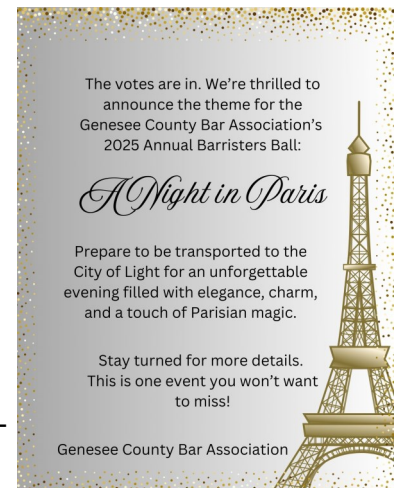
Genesee County Bar Foundation

Thanks to the **GCBA** for making a donation to the Bar Foundation in memory of Franklin H. Kasle and Earl G. Swain.

Donate to the Genesee County Bar Foundation by [clicking here](#).

Barristers Ball Committee

We're excited to start planning the 2025 Barristers Ball! If you'd like to be a part of the planning committee and help, make this event unforgettable, please email tyb@gcbalaw.org. We'd love to have your ideas and energy on board! If you previously served on the committee and would like to continue please let us know as well.





Neithercut Legal Education Fund

The Neithercut Fund of the Genesee County Bar Foundation is committed to the continuing legal education of our members who are either sole practitioners or members of law firms. This year the Foundation has increased the scholarship benefits for our members. The Board of the Foundation policy is to encourage seminar participation.

Beginning December 1, 2020 and until further notice, the Neithercut Fund of the Genesee County Bar Foundation will now pay for 60% of the cost of tuition per attorney per year, not to exceed \$500 per Attorney per year, to any

- Institute of Continuing Legal Education (ICLE) Seminar of the State Bar of Michigan (SBM);
- American Bankruptcy Institute;
- Federal Bar Association Bankruptcy Section;
- Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan; and
- Michigan Defense Trial Counsel.

This is not a need-based scholarship but a benefit available to every member whether they pay for their CLE or it is paid by their firm or partnership.

Details on the grant can be found [here](#). To take advantage of this opportunity please contact GCBA/ GCBF Executive Director Tatilia "Tina" Burroughs at 810-232-6000 or by email at tyb@gcbalaw.org. This grant program can be discontinued at such time as the Foundation Board determines.

The Neithercut Legal Education Fund was founded with gifts from Edward J. Neithercut, long-time Flint lawyer.

John S. Beagle Scholarship

Applications are being accepted for the John S. Beagle Scholarship established to assist students from Genesee County, Michigan with financial support while in their second or third level of law school.

For those interested in applying for the scholarship, it's crucial to note the following details:

Eligibility Criteria: Applicants must be law students from Genesee County, Michigan, and be in their second or third level of law school.

Scholarship Amount: A minimum scholarship of \$5,000 will be awarded.

Application Deadline: The application deadline is May 1, 2025. Potential candidates need to ensure that all required materials are submitted before this date.

How to apply: Interested individuals can find more information and access the application at www.gcbalaw.org.



Call for Articles – Bar Beat March 2025 Issue



Dear Genesee County Bar Association Members,

Happy New Year! The Bar Beat Committee is accepting and reviewing editorial content for the upcoming **March 2025 issue of Bar Beat**. Please submit your articles by February 10, 2025

While this may seem like a quick turnaround, remember that **your content is what matters**. The Committee is here to assist, ensuring that your message reaches GCBA membership, with your valuable insight and expertise.

Submission Guidelines

We are seeking articles in the following categories:

- **Personal Interest Articles:** Maximum 750 words. This includes topics such as:
 - Your travel adventures, complete with photos.
 - Volunteer or charitable activities, including pro bono work.
 - Educational activities, such as speaking engagements or programs that interact with students to enhance their knowledge of the law and the justice system.
 - Health and wellness topics of interest to the legal community.
- **Pro & Con Articles:** Collaborate with another attorney to explore opposing views on a legal issue. These pieces provide a balanced discussion on important topics. Maximum 1,500 words for both “pro” and “con.”
- **Legal Topic Articles:** Maximum 1,500 words. Cover updates in court rules, legislative changes, or topics specific to a particular area of law. With the transition to a digital format, there is some flexibility on word count.

Additional Notes

- **Intern Contributions:** Articles may be submitted by law students or interns, provided they are sponsored or co-authored by a member in good standing with the Genesee County Bar Association.
- **Citations and Endnotes:** Any research or references used in your article should be properly cited with endnotes.

How to Submit

Please send all article submissions to the Genesee County Bar Association at tyb@gcbalaw.org. If you need assistance with your article—whether structuring it or brainstorming ideas—our committee is here to help!

We look forward to your contributions. Your insights are what make this publication a true reflection of our legal community and help us connect with one another.

With much appreciation,

Julie Winkfield,
Editor, Bar Beat



THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MICHIGAN

Honorable Celeste D. Bell
Honorable B. Chris Christenson
Honorable Khary L. Hanible
Honorable Ariana E. Heath
Honorable Elizabeth A. Kelly

900 SOUTH SAGINAW ST., FLINT, MICHIGAN 48502
810.257.3252

DAVID J. NEWBLATT - CHIEF JUDGE
BARBARA A. MENEAR - COURT ADMINISTRATOR

Honorable Mark W. Latchana
Honorable Anthony J. McDowell
Honorable David J. Newblatt
Honorable Brian S. Pickell
Honorable Dawn M. Weier

CIRCUIT AND PROBATE COURT
JUDICIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Please find below judicial assignments that are effective January 1, 2025, for the 7th Judicial Circuit and the Genesee County Probate Courts. The assignments are authorized by Local Administrative Order [2024-10](#) and Local Administrative Order [2024-04](#).

Family Division

Judge Mary A. Hood	Courtroom 501	810.257.3230
Judge Anthony J. McDowell	Courtroom 507	810.424.4476
Judge Dawn M. Weier	Courtroom 515	810.257.3218

Criminal-Civil Division

Judge B. Chris Christenson	Courtroom 308	810.257.3262
Judge Khary L. Hanible	Courtroom 303	810.257.3270
Judge Elizabeth A. Kelly	Courtroom 306	810.257.3257
Judge Mark W. Latchana	Courtroom 305	810.257.3260
Judge David J. Newblatt	Courtroom 300	810.257.3080
Judge Brian S. Pickell	Courtroom 307	810.257.3238

Probate Court

Judge Jennie E. Barkey	Courtroom 506	810.257.3550
Judge Ariana E. Heath•	Courtroom 504	810.257.3521

- Judge Heath will retain her existing juvenile docket but will not be assigned to new cases after January 1, 2025. Pending domestic cases will be reassigned to other family division judges, with limited exception for cases where substantial judicial involvement has occurred.

David J. Newblatt, Chief Judge
Circuit and Probate Courts

December 18, 2024

67th DISTRICT COURT GENESEE COUNTY

Honorable Vikki Bayeh Haley
Honorable William H. Crawford II
Honorable David J. Goggins
Honorable G. David Guinn
Honorable Jessica J. Hammon

630 S. SAGINAW ST., FLINT, MI 48502
CENTRAL COURT – 810-257-3170
FIFTH DIVISION – 810-766-8968

WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD – CHIEF JUDGE
VIKKI BAYEH HALEY – CHIEF JUDGE PRO TEM
CHRISTAL JONES – COURT ADMINISTRATOR

Honorable Jennifer J. Manley
Honorable Herman Marable Jr.
Honorable Tabitha M. Marsh
Honorable Mark C. McCabe
Honorable Christopher R. Odette

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Please be advised, effective January 1, 2025, Judge Vikki Bayeh Haley will be reassigned to Courtroom A in the McCree Building for Central Court matters.

Lawyer Referral & Information Service



Join the Genesee County Bar Association Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS)

Are you looking to grow your practice and connect with clients who need your expertise? The Genesee County Bar Association's Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS) is the perfect opportunity to expand your reach and make a difference in your community.

Why Join LRIS?

- **Tailored Referrals:** Choose the areas of law for which you want to be contacted. You decide where you want to focus. Practice areas include Bankruptcy, Criminal, Employment, Family, Real Estate, Probate, Social Security and many more.
- **Pre-Screened Clients:** The LRIS team carefully screens all potential clients to ensure they match your chosen practice areas before referring them to you.
- **Community Impact:** Help individuals in need of legal assistance by providing them with professional and reliable guidance.

How It Works:

1. **Panel Membership:** Sign up to become a panel member and select your preferred practice areas.
2. **Client Screening:** When someone contacts the GCBA for legal advice, the LRIS staff assesses their needs and determines the appropriate area of law.
3. **Attorney Referral:** Once matched, the client is referred to you for consultation and potential representation.

Benefits of Membership:

- Increased visibility for your practice.
- Access to a steady stream of potential clients.
- A simple and effective way to grow your client base.

Get Started Today!

Join the LRIS panel and become part of a trusted network of legal professionals dedicated to serving the community. For more information or to sign up, contact the Genesee County Bar Association at 810-232-6000 ext. 101 or email tyb@gcbalaw.org.

Your next client could be a LRIS Referral!



315 E. Court St. • Flint, MI 48502 • Phone: (810) 232-6000 • Fax: (810) 232-8310 • www.gcbalaw.org



2024 Holiday Giving Project

Sponsored by the
Genesee County Bar Association &
Genesee County Bar Foundation

Goal \$19,000

Amount collected \$19,965.00

Thank you to our donors!

Thank you to our donors for helping us met and exceed our financial goal!

Santa & Mrs. Clause - \$1,500

Jeremy Piper

Santa's Village - \$1,000

Mike & Kay Behm
Hamo Law Firm
Mead and Stout PLLC
Valdemar & Ada Washington
Paul Watson

Santa's Workshop—\$500

Philip H. Beauvais, III
CF Legal PC
Cline, Cline, & Griffin, P.C.
Jo Robin Davis
Elias J. Fanous
Henneke, Fraim & Dawes, PC
Prosecutor David & Therese Leyton
Barbara Menear Nickola
Matthew Norwood
Simen, Figura & Parker, P.L.C

Santa's Helper - \$250

Duncan M. Beagle
Hon. Celeste D. Bell
William J. Brickley
Nancy Chinonis
Hon. B. Chris Christenson
Gregory Gibbs
Paul J. Goyette
Roger A. Isaac
Dennis R. Lazar
Robert J. MacDonald
Hon. Mark C. McCabe
Gregory Meihn
I'Lanta Robbins
Hon. Dawn Weier
Barry A. Wolf
Hon. Anthony McDowell
Randall Petrides
Ashley Prew
Jeffrey Reem
Scott Stensaas

Santa's Elf - \$150

Kurtis Brown
Ward Chapman
Hon. Judith Fullerton
Hon. Anthony McDowell
Randall Petrides
Ashley Prew
Jeffrey Reem
Scott Stensaas
Michael A. Tesner
Anthony Tomaszewski
Angela N. Wheeler

Santa's Chef - \$100

Amir Abu-Aita
Carolyn Boegner
Bennet Bush
Heather Burnash
Thomas Connolly
Mitchell Dembo
Rachel Hawrylo
Jeffrey Himelhoch
Hon. Mary A. Hood
Jakeway, Jakeway & Jakeway, P.C.
Joel I. Kleiner
Michael Krellwitz
Byron F. Latter
Brian MacMillian
Alexandra Nassar
Hon. Brian S. Pickell
Samuel Ragnone
Tammy Reitano
Donald G. Rockwell
Sean Siebigteroth & Jennifer Burnett
Glenn Simmington
Erica Vicari

Santa's Reindeer - \$25

Julia Black & Associates
Dolores Coulter
Davison Legal Associates, P.C.
Carol A. Fallis
Taylor Karam
Matthew D. Karr
Jennifer A. Keillor
LindaLee Massoud
Tracy Meyer
Marc Morse
John Potbury
Qamar Stamos



Courthouse Square Centennial Arts Project

GENESEE COUNTY
BAR FOUNDATION



Thanks to the following who have made a donation to the Courthouse Square Centennial Arts Projects.

We reached our donation goal!

Platinum - \$2,500

Duncan & Dana Beagle
Hon. Joseph J. Farah
Alex and George Hamo, Hamo Law Firm
Henneke, Fraim & Dawes
Barbara Menear Nickola
Jeremy Piper*
Robert Swartwood

Gold - \$1,000

Carl & Karen Bekofske
Cline, Cline, & Griffin, P.C.
Elias J. Fanous
Garan Lucow Miller, P.C.
Clifford & Alice Hart
Jakeway, Jakeway & Jakeway, P.C.
Prosecutor David & Therese Leyton
Mead & Stout PLLC
Robert J. MacDonald
Dean t. Yeotis
Hon. Thomas C. Yeotis

Silver - \$500

Rex Anderson
Philip H. Beauvais, III
C. Robert Beltz
Michael W. Krellwitz
Kirk M. Liebengood

Bronze Donor - \$250

Heather Burnash
Ward Chapman
Hon. B. Chris Christenson
Afaf Vicky Farah
Victor Farah
Hon. Ariana E. Heath
Roger G. Isaac
Hon. Anthony McDowell
Hon. Geoffrey L. Neithercut
Hon. David J. Newblatt
Suellen J. Parker
Mr. & Mrs. Randall J. Petrides

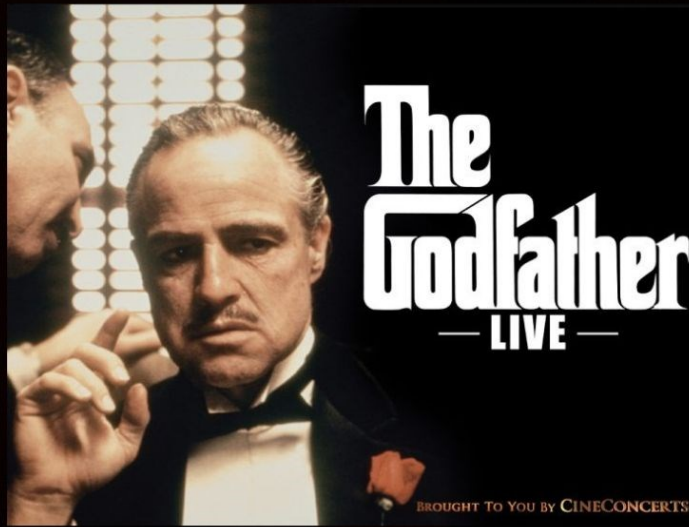
Friends - \$50

Amir Abu-Aita
Hon. Celeste D. Bell
Jeffrey L. Birrell
Carol A. Fallis
Hon. Elizabeth A. Kelly
Michael J. Kotarski
Hon. Mark W. Latchana
John Mandelaris
Hon. Brian S. Pickell
Glenn M. Simmington



**donation in excess of \$2,500*

designed by freepik.com



The Genesee County Bar Association
would like to make you an offer you can't
refuse. Please join us for this CineConcert.

Saturday, March 29, 2025
7:30 p.m.

Whiting Auditorium

1241 E. Kearsley St.
Flint, MI 48502

Tickets: \$50.50 per guest

Row X: Seats 105-116
Row Y: Seats 104-117
Row Z: Seats 103-116
Row AA: Seats 108-117

To purchase tickets contact
GCBA Executive Director Tatilia "Tina" Burroughs at
810-232-6000 ext. 101 or tyb@gcbalaw.org



Sponsorship Opportunities Membership Meetings 2024-2025

Meeting Sponsor - \$350

- 6 ft. table at luncheon
- Introduction at luncheon
- Complimentary registration for two attendees
- Corporate logo on registration materials
- Recognition in Notes N' News

Dates are available on a first-come first-serve base. Please indicate your meeting date choice:

- November 18, 2024 January 27, 2025 February 24, 2025
 March 17, 2025 April 21, 2025 May 19, 2025



Beverage Sponsor - \$150

- Corporate logo on registration materials
- Recognition in Notes N' News

Dates are available on a first-come first-serve base. Please indicate your meeting date choice:

- November 18, 2024 January 27, 2025 February 24, 2025
 March 17, 2025 April 21, 2025 May 19, 2025

Dessert Sponsor - \$150

- Corporate logo on registration materials
- Recognition in Notes N' News

Dates are available on a first-come first-serve base. Please indicate your meeting date choice:

- ~~September 16, 2024~~ October 21, 2024 ~~November 18, 2024~~ ~~January 27, 2025~~
 ~~February 24, 2025~~ March 17, 2025 ~~April 21, 2025~~ May 19, 2025

Yes, I will be Sponsor! Please indicate your sponsorship level above. Dates are available on a first-come first serve base.

Please list my company/name as: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Payment Information: Checks payable to the GCBA

Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

Credit card information:

Visa MasterCard American Express Charge my credit card for \$ _____

Credit Card Account # : _____ Exp. date: _____

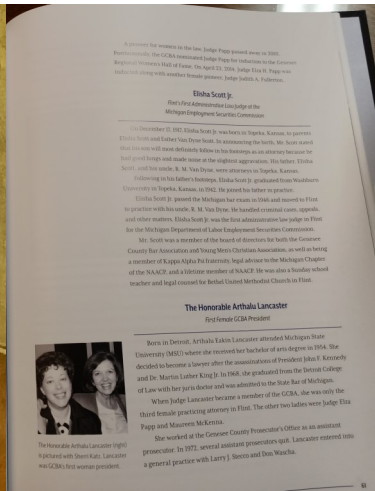
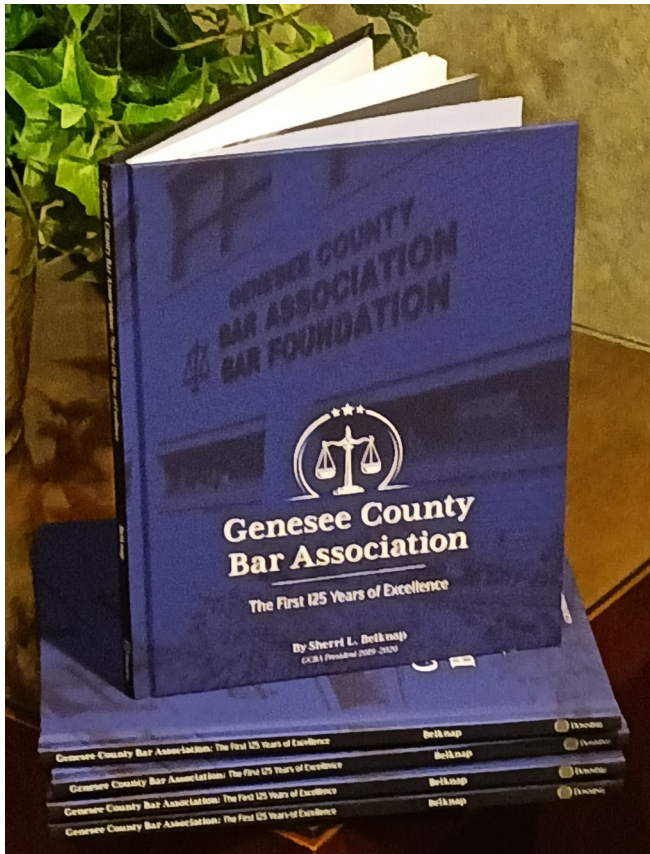
Last 3#'s on back of card: _____

Name as appears on card: _____

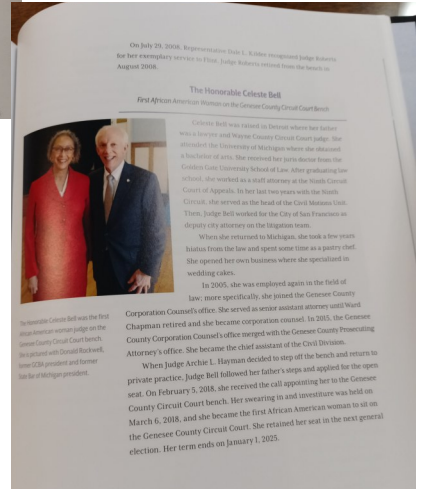
Billing address for the card: _____

Email your logo in
jpeg or pdf format to
tyb@gcbalaw.org

YOUR SPONSORSHIP IS NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE.



**GENESEE COUNTY
BAR ASSOCIATION**
Professionalism Since 1897



THE FIRST 125 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

On November 18 and 19, 1897, the Honorable George H. Durand and 64 other attorneys met to form the Genesee County Bar Association “to promote social intercourse among the members of the profession and to advance the best interests of the commonwealth by improving the administration of justice.” This year, the Genesee County Bar Association celebrates 125 years. This book examines the events that shaped the association, the trailblazers, the awards, and the affiliations that helped it grow.

Price \$65.00

Genesee County Bar Association “Celebrating the First 125 Years of Excellence”

_____ I want to purchase a book. _____ # of books
 _____ I will pick up at the next Monthly Meeting. _____ I will pick up at GCBA Office.
 _____ Please ship the book. \$15 shipping and handling fee.

Payment Methods (Please circle one)

Cash Check Visa Mastercard AmEx

Name on card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CCV: _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Checks should be payable to Genesee County Bar Association.

Any questions please contact the GCBA at (810) 232-6000
 Forms may be faxed to (810) 232-8310
 315 E. Court St., Flint MI 48502