



STARK COUNTY BAR JOURNAL

VOLUME 31 ■ NUMBER 3

MARCH 2025

STARK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL SCHOOL DRIVE

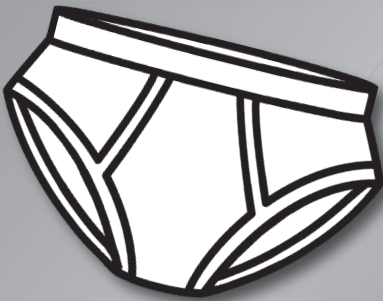
The Community Involvement Committee has a mission for YOU!

We are collecting socks and undies for
Minerva Local Schools until March 31, 2025



Minerva Local School District
Every Child, Every Minute, Every Day

GIRLS & BOYS SIZES FROM 4T TO ADULT LARGE



You can drop donations off at the Stark County Bar Association Office.
Running out of time to get to the store?

Order online at:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/lz/350RBTUWPM3FE?ref_=wl_share

and have your donation delivered directly to the SCBA Office.

Please contact the SCBA with any questions 330-453-0685.

SCBA March 2025 Office Schedule

- March 5th 11:30 AM Family Law Committee Meeting at Bender's Tavern
- March 6th 12:00 NOON Community Involvement Committee Meeting
- March 10th 4:00 PM Disputed Fee Committee Meeting
- March 12th 4:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting
- March 18th 12:00 NOON Elder Law Committee Meeting
- March 18th 3:45 PM Grievance Committee Meeting
- March 19th 12:00 NOON Law Day Committee Meeting
- March 24th 3:30 PM SCBA "125th" Planning Meeting
- March 27th 12:00 NOON Military & Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting

Elder Law Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 – 12:00 NOON
Live Interactive Webinar

Elizabeth A. Durnell-Maier, Esq. at Durnell Maier Law, LLC, will present "Medicaid Planning in Conjunction with Business Entities".

NOTARY EDUCATION CLASS & TESTING

Classes and Testing offered every 2nd & 4th Tuesday
Stark County Bar Association Office
By Appointment Only

1 Hour Renewal Education Class • 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

3 Hour New Notary Public Education Class
12:00 Noon – 3:00 PM

TESTING 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Online classes and testing

available at our website: www.StarkCtyBar.com

2025 CLE Seminars

- March 19, 2025 2025 Municipal Court Seminar
SCBA Conference Room
See Pg. 6
- April 2, 2025 2025 Family Law Seminar
SCBA Conference Room
See Pg. 7
- April 4, 2025 29th Annual White-Williams
Bankruptcy Institute
Hartville Kitchen
See Pgs. 8 & 9
- April 30, 2025 2025 Law Day Seminar
"The Constitution's Promise:
Out of Many, One"
Kent State Professional Conference Ctr.
See Pg. 11



- Save The Date -

SCBA's 125th Anniversary Celebration

- First Friday, May 2, 2025 Stark County Courthouse
Open House
4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Friday, September 12, 2025 Exhibit at Cyrus Custom Framing
- Saturday, September 13, 2025 "Lawyers Do More Than Practice Law"
Featuring art/photography/mixed media/reception included



Reminder: A - L!
Complete your CLE by Dec. 31, 2025

THE STARK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

The Bar Office E-Mail Addresses:

Tina@StarkCtyBar.com
SCBAReferral@StarkCtyBar.com
CLE@StarkCtyBar.com
SCBANotary@StarkCtyBar.com

Visit us at www.StarkCtyBar.com

THE BAR JOURNAL

Official Publication of the Stark County Bar Association

FOUNDED IN 1900

Suite 400, Courtyard Centre
116 Cleveland Ave., N.W. • Canton, Ohio 44702

Angela T. Vagotis, Bar President
Tina McCort, Executive Director & Editor
Chris Diaz, Bookkeeper & Editor

BAR OFFICE PHONE 330-453-0685 • E-MAIL ADDRESS
BAR OFFICE FAX 330-453-0180 • SCB@starkctybar.com
www.StarkCtyBar.com

The Bar Journal is published monthly for all bar members. Free to members, \$20.00 per year to others.

All communications and editorial material should be directed to the Bar Association office by the fifteenth day of the month preceding publication.

Opinions and positions expressed in the signed material are those of the author and may not necessarily reflect those of the Stark County Bar Association, its officers, staff or board of editors.

From Our President

I keep making my rounds going from retirement celebrations to new judge receptions. On February 6th I visited the Court of Appeals to present Judge Gwin and Judge Wise with their commemorative plaque from our Bar Association. The plaques detail their legal and judicial careers and their contributions to the community. Some highlights were the lengths of their judicial service. Judge Gwin was a Court of Appeals Judge for 35 years and Judge Wise for 30 years. This does not include their earlier legal careers. They have been a role model to many attorneys, including myself. We wish them a great retirement, filled with relaxation and time with their families.



On February 12th, I returned to the Court of Appeals to meet the incoming judges David Gormley, Kevin Popham and Robert Montgomery. I presented Judge Popham with his first judicial robe, which is always an honor. On behalf of the Bar Association, we welcome them to Stark County.



In the weeks to come, you will be receiving an email link from Survey Monkey, put together by Judge Farmer, Judge Haupt and the Social Committee. They appreciate if you would complete the brief survey to determine what types of social events you would be interested in attending. Should there be a Summer Outing? Should the Holiday Party continue as it has or should changes be made? Are you interested in family events? Planning events take time and if an event has to be cancelled for non-participation, it becomes a waste of our



Angela T. Vagotis
President, Stark County Bar Association

committee's time. The committee really does want your feedback. Please participate.

Letters have gone out seeking financial support for the Courthouse Open House, scheduled for May 2, First Friday. Any contributions you can make towards this very worthwhile community event is appreciated. Remember, it is our 125th year of the Bar Association. April 30th is our Law Day Luncheon. It will be held at Kent State Stark. As we have each year, the luncheon will be followed by a CLE course. This year we are excited that all Fifth District Court of Appeals Judges have agreed to serve on the panel. We have not had a Court of Appeals one-half day CLE with all of the Judges since 2009. You will be seeing more information about the topics inside this issue of the Bar Journal. Please mark your calendar to join us for the luncheon and CLE.

The Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism is reaching out to all Bar Associations in the state to seek help in advancing professionalism and civility among the attorneys in the state.

(continued on next page)



They are focusing on surveying the memberships to determine the state of professionalism and civility so that free CLE's can be developed to bolster professionalism in Ohio. They are also looking for participants for the Lawyer to Lawyer Mentoring Program. In particular,

they are accepting nominations to recruit experienced attorneys for the program for underserved counties. If you have someone in mind to nominate please contact MacLaren Roermer, Attorney Services Counsel at 614-387-9343.

Stark County Bar Association Legal Scholarship

The Stark County Bar Association offers a Legal Scholarship. Consideration is given to the following:

- Students enrolled or accepted as a full or part-time student at an educational institution accredited to award a Juris Doctorate degree;
- Students pursuing a course of study designed to result in a Juris Doctorate degree; and
- Students in good academic standing in Law School or in prior academic work, as determined by the Scholarship Committee.

The Scholarship Committee also gives priority consideration to students with demonstrated financial need; students from the Stark County area; and students likely to pursue a law career in the Stark County area.

Stark Community Foundation administers our Scholarship, and the Scholarship Application may be found on their website at www.starkcf.org. The Application Deadline is April 1, 2025.

SCBA SOCIAL EVENTS INTEREST SURVEY

1. The SCBA Social Committee hosts an annual Summer Outing. Which of the following would you be interested in attending. Please select all that apply.
 - Evening Cocktail Hour at a Local Bar/Restaurant
 - Pickleball Tournament with Dinner Following the Tournament
 - Cookout/Picnic
 - 18 Hole Golf Outing with Lunch Before Golfing and appetizers or dinner afterwards
 - 9 Hole Golf Outing beginning in the afternoon with appetizers or dinner afterwards.
 - Golf "Outing" with Golf Simulators
 - Softball Tournament with Cookout/Picnic
 - Other (please specify)
 - None of the above
2. The SCBA Social Committee hosts an annual Holiday Party. Please select one of the following that you would be most likely to attend.
 - Country Club location with Buffet/Grazing Stations, Bar, and Music/Dancing
 - Event Center location with Buffet/Grazing Stations, Bar, and Music/Dancing
 - Bar/Restaurant location with Appetizers and Bar
 - Other (please specify)
 - None of the above
3. Please select the time-frame in which you are you most likely to attend a SCBA Social Event? Please select one response.
 - An Evening During the Work Week (Monday-Thursday)
 - Friday Evening
 - Saturday Evening
 - Daytime During the Weekend
 - Daytime During the Work Week
 - Other (please specify)
 - None of the above
4. Is there an interest in a family friendly option or a social event involving the entire family?
 - Yes
 - No
 - If so....
 - During the week?
 - During the weekend?
5. How much are you willing to pay to attend a SCBA Social Event? Please select one response.
 - \$10.00-\$25.00
 - \$25.00-\$50.00
 - \$50.00-\$75.00
 - \$75.00-\$100.00
 - \$100.00-\$125.00
 - \$125.00-\$150.00
 - \$150.00 and above
 - I Would Prefer To Not Answer This Question
6. How much are you willing to pay to attend a SCBA HOLIDAY Social Event? Please select one response.
 - \$10.00-\$25.00
 - \$25.00-\$50.00
 - \$50.00-\$75.00
 - \$75.00-\$100.00
 - \$100.00-\$125.00
 - \$125.00-\$150.00
 - \$150.00 and above
 - I Would Prefer To Not Answer This Question

The above survey was sent out to the membership. If you did not receive it, please take the time to complete the survey and e-mail it to the Bar Office at SCB@StarkCtyBar.com or fax it to 330-453-0180.

Thank you, the Social Committee.



Help Support the SCBA's 125th Celebration by Volunteering or by Donating

As you probably know through the Bar Journal this year, The Stark County Bar Association is celebrating our 125th Anniversary. The planning began last year and we are having our first community event on First Friday, May 2, 2025. There was so much interest and participation in 2017 when the Stark County Courthouse was opened to the public on a First Friday, in celebration of the Bicentennial, that we are opening it again for historical tours. This of course could not be possible without the support of the Stark County General Division judges.

Expenses will be incurred to open the courthouse for security, maintenance and other expenses to make the tour more meaningful for the attendees. We will incur approximately \$5000 to host this event for our community and are seeking sponsors to assist with this cost. All sponsors will be recognized in the courthouse for all attendees to see, along with recognition in the

printed materials they will receive.

The Bar Association appreciates the generous support you have given in the past, and are requesting your continued support during this historical year for a worthwhile community event.

If you are able to assist in being a sponsor for this event, please forward a check in the amount of \$500 to Tina, made payable to the Stark County Bar Association. We hope you will join us in celebrating 125 years of the Stark County Bar Association.

If you are interested in helping to staff this event, please reach out to our Courthouse Open House Chair, Attorney Kristen Moore at KMoore@lawlion.com. Thank you for your considerations.

Angela T. Vagotis
President

NEW MEMBERS

Sarah G. Ogden, Esq.
Stark County Probate Court
110 Central Plaza South
Suite 501
Canton, OH 44702
Phone: (330) 451-7755
Email: sgogden@starkcountyohio.gov

Devin Wonner, Esq.
Krugliak, Wilkins, Griffiths & Dougherty Co., LPA
4775 Munson Street, N.W.
Canton, OH 44718
Phone: (330) 556-4248
Email: dwonner@kwgd.com

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Gene Lewis Valentino – Law Student

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Magistrate Amy A. Sabino
Stark County Court of Common Pleas
115 Central Plaza North
Suite 400
Canton, OH 44702
Phone: (330) 451-7760
Email: ASAndrews@starkcountyohio.gov

Jennifer L. Fitzsimmons, Esq.
Stark County Clerk of Courts
115 Central Plaza North
Suite 101
Canton, OH 44702
Phone: (330) 451-7624
Email: jlfitzsimmons@starkcountyohio.gov

Stark County Bar Association Administrative Professionals Day Luncheon

April 23, 2025

Bender's Tavern

Downtown Canton

12:00 Noon

\$25.00 per person

Lunch Entrees:

Chicken Marsala with Mashed Potatoes

Served with a House Salad & Bread

Scrod ala Foley with Rice

Served with a House Salad & Bread

Chef Salad

Served with Bread

All lunches will include a Bender's Mini Sundae.

Choice of coffee, iced tea, hot teas or soft drink.

Please call the Bar Office (330-453-0685) no later than
April 16th to make your reservations.

We hope to see you and your staff!

Community Service Award for Newer Attorneys

The SCBA Community Involvement Committee is seeking Nominations for a Stark County Attorney to be honored by the Ohio State Bar Foundation for their Community Service Award for Attorney 40 & Under. Please submit nominations to the Stark County Bar Association to the attention of the Community Involvement Committee. All nominations require a brief resume of the nominee along with a list/description of the organizations they are serving or have served. The Nominator's contact information must be included. **DEADLINE TO SUBMIT IS APRIL 15, 2025.**

This award is presented to attorneys, under age 40 or for less than 15 years of practice, who contribute substantial time and effort in service to a local social service, or a local civic, artistic or cultural organization. The service must be outside the recipients' practice of law and must be given without compensation. Emphasis is placed on current service. Recipients should represent the ideals of the legal profession and, by example, be a credit to the profession. **NOTE:** This award is presented to honorees in each of the OSBA Districts. The statewide award recipient is chosen from these district honorees.



Stark County Bar Association 2025 MUNICIPAL COURT SEMINAR

Wednesday, March 19, 2025 • SCBA Conference Room

12:45 P.M.

REGISTRATION - Coffee & Water provided.

1:00 P.M.

CANTON MUNICIPAL COURT

Honorable Kristen D. Guardado

Introduction; Specialized Docket Updates; Municipal Court Bond Schedule Changes

Magistrate Jeremy Foltz

Zoom Civil Hearings, Eviction Sealing Updates

Magistrate Derek McClowry

Texting While Driving Cases, Clerk's Office Tips

Magistrate Christy Pierson

OVI law changes, Driver's license suspension changes

1:50 P.M.

MASSILLON MUNICIPAL COURT

Honorable Edward J. Elum

Honorable Joel C. Fichter

Magistrate Andrea M. Scassa

1. Basic Forms to Survive and Updates/Changes to the Law

2. Landlord/Tenant Current Issues, Hearings, and Mediations

3. Coordinated Probation/Community Control Orders

2:40 P.M.

BREAK

2:55 P.M.

ALLIANCE MUNICIPAL COURT

Honorable Andrew L. Zumbar

1. Landlord Tenant Issues (Including land installment contracts)

2. Criminal Forms and Practices

3. Applications to Seal/Expunge

4. Driver's License Issues/Getting valid/limited privileges

3:45 P.M.

SUPREME COURT RULES AND BEST PRACTICES ON FOREIGN
LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION

Monica Benavides, *Interpreters XP*

4:15 P.M.

ADJOURN



*Members: \$90.00

Associate Members: \$75.00

Non-Members: \$165.00

Name _____ Atty. Reg. No. _____

Address _____

Email _____

*PLEASE NOTE: If you are currently a member of any local bar association, you may attend at our members' price.

Do you prefer to receive the seminar materials via Email or Hard Copy on the day of the seminar? Circle One.

Please mail checks to: Stark County Bar Association

116 Cleveland Avenue, N.W., Suite 400, Canton, Ohio 44702-1728

NO REFUNDS UNLESS RESERVATION CANCELLATION IS RECEIVED 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF SEMINAR.

Application has been approved for 2.50 General CLE Credit Hours and .50 Professional Conduct Hours.



Stark County Bar Association **2025 FAMILY LAW SEMINAR**

Wednesday, April 2, 2025
SCBA Conference Room

8:30 A.M. REGISTRATION
Coffee, water and donuts provided.

9:00 A.M. UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING TRAUMA:
RECOGNIZING SIGNS AND BUILDING EMOTIONAL
RESILIENCE
Sarah Zawaly, MSW, LISW
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

10:30 A.M. BREAK

10:45 A.M. NAVIGATING DIVORCE: PROPERTY DIVISION,
TAX IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIAL TRENDS
Erin Bishop, CDLP, REMS
Bishop Divorce Solutions, LLC

12:15 P.M. ADJOURN



2025 Family Law Seminar **Wednesday, April 2, 2025**

*Members: \$90.00 Associate Members: \$75.00 Non-Members: \$165.00

Name _____ Atty. Reg. No. _____

Address _____

Email _____

***PLEASE NOTE:** If you are currently a member of any local bar association, you may attend at our members’ price.

Do you prefer to receive the seminar materials via Email or Hard Copy on the day of the seminar? Circle One.

Please mail checks to: Stark County Bar Association
116 Cleveland Avenue, N.W., Suite 400, Canton, Ohio 44702-1728

NO REFUNDS UNLESS RESERVATION CANCELLATION IS RECEIVED 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF SEMINAR.
Application has been submitted for 3.00 CLE Credit Hours.

THE 29TH ANNUAL WHITE-WILLIAMS BANKRUPTCY INSTITUTE

April 4, 2025

The Hartville Kitchen

1015 Edison Street NW, Hartville, OH 44632

6.75 CLEs applied for (5.75 general hrs. & 1 professional conduct hr.)



akron bar
association



- 7:45 A.M. **REGISTRATION WITH CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**
- 8:10 A.M. **WELCOME**
Anthony J. DeGirolamo, Esq. *Chair, Bankruptcy Committee, Stark County Bar Association*
Michael Steel, Esq., *Chair, Bankruptcy & Commercial Law Section, Akron Bar Association*
- 8:15 A.M. **U.S. TRUSTEE UPDATE**
Angela Abreu, Esq., *Office of the U.S. Trustee*
Spencer Lutz, Esq., *Office of the U.S. Trustee*
- 8:45 A.M. **CHAPTER 7 PANEL**
Anthony J. DeGiralamo, Esq., *Chair, Bankruptcy Committee, Stark County Bar Association*
Julie Zurn, Esq., *Roetzel & Andress*
- 9:15 A.M. **CASE LAW UPDATE**
The Hon. John P. Gustafson, *U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of Ohio*
Thomas D. DeCarlo, Esq., *Osipov Bigel, P.C.*
- 10:30 A.M. **BREAK**
- 10:45 A.M. **ECONOMIC AND FILING TRENDS UPDATE**
Dr. William Rule, Sr., *Economist, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, Washington, D.C.*
- 11:45 A.M. **TAX LIENS AND CERTIFICATES**
Austin Barns, Esq., *Sandhu Law Group*
- 12:15 P.M. **LUNCH**
- 1:15 P.M. **PREPARING FOR WAR! AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING MODULE**
James Galehouse, Esq. *Office of the Chapter 13 Trustee*
Mike Moran, Esq., *Gibson & Moran, LLC*
- 2:15 P.M. **DIVORCE AND BANKRUPTCY MODULE**
Gary Rosen, Esq., *Gertz & Rosen, LTD*
Keith Rucinski, Esq., *Chapter 13 Trustee*
Peter Tsarnas, Esq., *Gertz & Rosen, Ltd*
- 3:15 P.M. **PIE BREAK** Sponsored by Vance P. Trueman, Esq. & Nicole Metzger
- 3:30 P.M. **PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT: HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH LAY CLIENT**
Jay Wampler, Esq., *Office of Disciplinary Counsel*
Susan Hard, Esq., *Office of Disciplinary Counsel*
- 4:30 P.M. **CLOSING REMARKS**
Drawing for the Dean Wyman Scholarship

FRIDAY, APRIL 04, 2025- THE 29TH ANNUAL WHITE-WILLIAMS BANKRUPTCY INSTITUTE

Register online at www.akronbar.org/events. Register by phone Akron Bar Association **330-436-0112**,
 OR Register online and choose "Payment at Later Time," then mail this form with your check to:
 Akron Bar Association, 57 S. Broadway St., Akron, OH 44308.

NAME: _____

FIRM: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: (____) ____ - _____ E-MAIL: _____

(must provide in order to receive registration confirmation/receipt/link to materials)

OHIO REG. # _____

LUNCH CHOICE:

Baked Boneless Chicken _____ OR Baked Fish _____ OR Vegetarian Pasta _____ No Lunch _____

SEMINAR FEE (includes continental breakfast, lunch and electronic materials)	GENERAL SEMINAR INFORMATION:																						
<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Stark County Bar Members, Advance Registration (Early Bird)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$239.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stark County Bar Members, At the Door Registration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$264.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Associate Members/Associate Guests Registration (Early bird)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$139.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Associate Members/ Associate Guests At the Door Registration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$165.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A+kron Members</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$60.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Akron Classic Members, Advance Registration (Early bird)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$239.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Akron Classic Members, At the Door Registration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$264.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Guests (Early Bird)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$389.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Guests, At Door Registration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$404.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Judiciary & Law Clerk will attend for free</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL FEE</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ _____</td> </tr> </table>	Stark County Bar Members, Advance Registration (Early Bird)	\$239.00	Stark County Bar Members, At the Door Registration	\$264.00	Associate Members/Associate Guests Registration (Early bird)	\$139.00	Associate Members/ Associate Guests At the Door Registration	\$165.00	A+kron Members	\$60.00	Akron Classic Members, Advance Registration (Early bird)	\$239.00	Akron Classic Members, At the Door Registration	\$264.00	Attorney Guests (Early Bird)	\$389.00	Attorney Guests, At Door Registration	\$404.00	Judiciary & Law Clerk will attend for free		TOTAL FEE	\$ _____	<p>MATERIALS: Handouts for this program will be provided to all attendees in electronic, rather than hard copy format. When you register, be sure to include your email address so that we can notify you when the electronic materials are available. WI-FI access may be interrupted at the Hartville Kitchen; Attendees are encouraged to download the handouts to their devices and ensure that the device is fully charged before arriving at the seminar or print materials prior to the seminar. The materials will be available at www.akronbar.org (under CLE heading, click on "Seminar Materials").</p> <p>CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellations must be submitted in writing via email: cle@akronbar.org. Refunds will be made with the following charge: a \$45.00 cancellation fee. If no cancellation is received PRIOR to 12:00 p.m. the day before the seminar, no refund will be issued. The Akron Bar Association reserves the right to change or cancel the program if circumstances warrant.</p> <p>ACCREDITATION: The Akron Bar Association is an approved sponsor of Continuing Legal Education seminars. Under Rule X (Ohio CLE) we will request credit for this program.</p> <p>SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: If special arrangements are required for individuals to attend this seminar, please contact the CLE Department at 330-436-0112 at least one week prior to the seminar.</p> <p>DIRECTIONS TO HARTVILLE KITCHEN: FROM AKRON: Take I-77 S to OH-241 Exit (Exit #118) toward OH 619/Massillon. Turn LEFT on Massillon Rd/OH-241. Turn RIGHT on E. Turkeyfoot Lake Rd./OH-619. Follow OH-619 past Cleveland Ave. The Hartville Kitchen is on the left side of the street. FROM CANTON: Take I-77 N to OH-241 Exit (Exit #118). Turn RIGHT on Massillon Rd/OH-241. Turn RIGHT on E. Turkeyfoot Lake Rd./OH-619. Follow OH-619 past Cleveland Ave. The Hartville Kitchen is on the left side of the street.</p>
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TOTAL FEE	\$ _____																						
<p>Registration Options:</p> <p>Online: www.akronbar.org with credit card payment Phone: Akron Bar Association 330-436-0112</p> <p>Register online, choose "Payment at a later Time", and mail this form with your check to: Akron Bar Association 57 S. Broadway Street Akron, Ohio 44308</p> <p>Registration Info: Registration fee includes CLE electronic materials, continental breakfast & lunch. Registration received after 3/26/2025 will ensure an additional \$25 fee.</p>																							

Stark County Bar Association **2025 LAW DAY LUNCHEON**



Wednesday, April 30, 2025 - 11:45 A.M.

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK'S CONFERENCE CENTER

The Law Week theme this year is "The Constitution's Promise: Out of Many, One". Our program at the Law Day Luncheon Keynote Speaker is pending.

The luncheon is open to the public and the Bar Association cordially invites your staff, fellow attorneys, family members and friends to attend the luncheon.

Tickets will be \$26.00 per person. Please note that the luncheon will begin promptly at 11:45 A.M. We cannot reserve tables other than for the award recipients so it is suggested that you arrive early.

We will be recognizing the recipients of the Liberty Bell Award and Legal Aid Pro Bono Awards, as well as the winners of the Moot Court Competition, Digital Media Contest, Essay and Poster contests. Please join us as we honor these deserving award winners. **Reservations must be made by 4:30 P.M. on Wednesday, April 16th.** Please mail your reservation form to the Bar Office or call in your reservation at 330-453-0685.

We look forward to seeing you on April 30th.

Todd Evans, Chairman
Law Week Committee



2025 Law Day Luncheon

Wednesday, April 30, 2025 - 11:45 A.M.
Kent State University at Stark's Conference Center
\$26.00 per Person

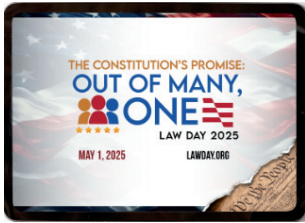
Number of Reservations: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Please mail: Stark County Bar Association
400 Courtyard Centre • 116 Cleveland Ave., N.W. • Canton, OH 44702
Phone: 330-453-0685



Stark County Bar Association 2025 LAW DAY SEMINAR

“The Constitution’s Promise: Out of Many, One”

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Kent State University At Stark’s Conference Center

- 12:45 P.M. REGISTRATION
- 1:15 P.M. PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT & DISCIPLINARY PROCESS
Honorable Andrew J. King, *Fifth District Court of Appeals*
Aletha M. Carver, Esq., *Mediation Attorney, Fifth District Court of Appeals*
- 2:00 P.M. MEDIATION AND ORIGINAL ACTIONS
Aletha M. Carver, Esq., *Mediation Attorney, Fifth District Court of Appeals*
- 2:30 P.M. BREAK
- 2:45 P.M. ADMINISTRATION AND RULES UPDATE
David Q. Wigginton, Esq., *Court Administrator & Magistrate, Fifth District Court of Appeals*
Angela D. Stone, Esq., *Administrative Counsel, Fifth District Court of Appeals*
- 3:30 P.M. APPELLATE PRACTICE POINTERS
Moderator: Honorable Craig Baldwin, *Fifth District Court of Appeals*
Honorable Andrew J. King, *Fifth District Court of Appeals*
Honorable Robert Montgomery, *Fifth District Court of Appeals*
Honorable Kevin Popham, *Fifth District Court of Appeals*
Honorable David Gormley, *Fifth District Court of Appeals*
- 4:30 P.M. ADJOURN



2025 Law Day Seminar

_____ LUNCH & SEMINAR:

*Members: \$145.00 Associate Members: \$130.00 Non-Members: \$220.00

_____ SEMINAR ONLY:

*Members: \$135.00 Associate Members: \$120.00 Non-Members: \$210.00

Name: _____ Atty. Reg. No. _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16TH.

*PLEASE NOTE: If you are currently a member of any local bar association, you may attend at our members’ price.

Do you prefer to receive the seminar materials via Email or Hard Copy on the day of the seminar? Circle One.

Please mail checks to: Stark County Bar Association

116 Cleveland Avenue, N.W., Suite 400, Canton, Ohio 44702-1728

NO REFUNDS UNLESS RESERVATION CANCELLATION IS RECEIVED 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF SEMINAR.

Application will be submitted for 2.25 General CLE Credit Hours; .75 Professional Conduct Hours and Appellate Law Certification Credit.

Law Day Sponsorship

2025 Law Week April 28 – May 2

The Law Day Committee is asking local attorneys and law firms if they would be willing to make a donation in the amount of \$400.00 to help sponsor our Law Day Events. As you may know, we offer various events during this week:

- Essay and Poster Contests
- Moot Court Competition
- Tour de Courts
- Televised Ask-a-Lawyer
- CLE Seminar
- Ohio Justice Bus
- Law Day Luncheon
- “Why I Want to Become A Lawyer” Essay

In return for your valuable sponsorship, you will receive four tickets to the Law Day Luncheon on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 and will also receive recognition in the Law Day Program and in the Stark County Bar Journal. Don’t miss out on what is an important event for our bar association.

If you are able to help sponsor these events, please forward a check in the amount of \$400.00 made payable to the Stark County Bar Association, Attn: Tina McCort.

Thank you in advance for your support. We hope to see you at these events.

Law Day Committee

NEW PRICES EFFECTIVE 6/3/24

Notary Stamp Prices

The Stark County Bar Association is offering for sale Attorney and Non-Attorney Notary Public Stamps and Seals. If you are interested in purchasing these items, please contact the Stark County Bar Association at 330-453-0685, or visit our website at www.starkctybar.com.

PRICE INFORMATION:

1. Notary Name Stamp and Embossed Seal (to be used with ink pad)..... (\$46.75 + \$2.65 tax) = ***\$49.40**
2. Notary Self-Ink Stamp with seal (includes name stamp & notary seal in one)(\$42.50 + \$2.37 tax) = ***\$44.87**
3. Notary Self-Ink Stamp without seal (name stamp only in self-ink).....(\$37.00 + \$2.02 tax) = ***\$39.02**
4. Notary Pre-Ink Stamp with seal (includes name stamp & notary seal in one).....(\$44.75 + \$2.52 tax) = ***\$47.27**
5. Notary Pre-Ink Stamp without seal (name stamp only in pre-ink).....(\$37.85 + \$2.07 tax) = ***\$39.92**
6. Notary Name Stamp Only (to be used with ink pad)(\$24.40 + \$1.20 tax) = ***\$25.60**
7. Embossed Seal Only (\$33.70 + \$1.80 tax) = ***\$35.50**
8. Felt Stamp Pad Black Ink..... (\$11.35 + \$0.35 tax) = ***\$11.70**

**Prices include 6.50% Sales Tax & Shipping Charges*

The Liberty Bell Award

In Celebration of Law Day
April 28, 2025 – May 2, 2025

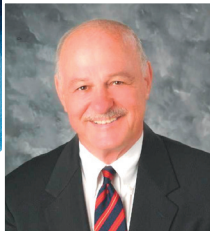


The Liberty Bell Award is presented annually by the Stark County Bar Association to individual(s), particularly non-lawyers, who have rendered outstanding service to the community. All fields of endeavor are intended for promoting a better understanding of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights; encouraging a better respect of the law and the courts; stimulating a deeper sense of individual responsibility so that citizens recognize their duties as well as their rights; contributing to the effective functioning of our institutions of government; and fostering a better understanding and appreciation of the rule of law.

For further information, please contact Teresa P. Cusma, Liberty Bell Award Committee Chairman at 330-324-3982. Nominations will close Friday, March 28, 2025.

Stark County Bar Association

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In Memory Charles J. Tyburski, Esq.

We are deeply saddened by the loss of our longtime partner, colleague, and friend, Chuck Tyburski. He earned his Juris Doctorate from The Moritz College of Law at The Ohio State University. Additionally, Chuck served in the Air Force and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. He practiced law for over 50 years at Black McCuskey.

Chuck was active in a number of civic, charitable and educational organizations. He served on several boards including The Salvation Army, Walsh University, Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges, and the Stark Development Board. He was deeply committed to his law practice and his community.

Chuck was an outdoorsman and enjoyed traveling with his wife, Nancy. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He was always quick to share a joke or a story, and was a joy to have as a colleague. We mourn the loss of Chuck along with his family and friends, knowing that he lives on in the hearts of those who knew him. He will always be a member of the Black McCuskey family.

Law Firm of Black McCuskey Souers & Arbaugh

In 2025 we will take the opportunity to recognize local practitioners who are celebrating 50 years in the practice of law. Our first attorney for 2025 to be recognized for a largely commendable 50 years of practice is Thomas M. Bernabei, Esq.

50TH Year Spotlight

Tom Bernabei, Esq.



Did you always know you wanted to be an attorney?

I came upon it relatively late in life. My father and uncle were both attorneys. I grew up around the law, but I didn't necessarily want to be an attorney. I grew up in Canton and went to public schools. I went to college and majored in History

with no real idea of what I wanted to do with that degree. I went into the Army for four years and did a tour in Vietnam. While I was in Vietnam, I decided to apply to law school. I graduated from Ohio State University and considered going back into the Army as a judge advocate. But instead I ultimately decided to go into practice with my dad.

When you started into law with your dad, did you have an idea of what type of law you wanted to practice?

My dad had a very general practice and so I had a very general practice. Within the first year, I was also hired part-time as a prosecutor for the City of Massillon. At that time, there was only one full-time prosecutor and the rest of us were part-time. At the end of my time there I actually trained (current Judge) Eddie Elum when he joined the prosecutors office. I was a Massillon prosecutor for about two years and we tried a lot of cases, I really enjoyed that job.

What brought you closer to your career in public service?

When I left Massillon, it was for a part-time job with Harry Klide in the Canton City Law Department. He was a mentor to me. I started doing a lot of civil litigation and worked with City Council. When Harry was elected as Judge for Canton Municipal Court, Scott Gwin was

elected as Law Director. Soon after, Scott ran for the Common Pleas Court and was successful, opening up the spot of Law Director. I ran for that seat and was the Law Director from 1989-2000. In 2000, my first grandchild was born. I decided I wanted to be around for my grandchildren so I resigned from the law department so I wouldn't miss my grandkids growing up. I did stay involved in public service holding positions with Canton City Council, SARTA, Mayor Healy's office and Stark County Commissioners. Finally, I ran for Canton City Mayor which was ultimately how I ended my career.

What was your favorite "job" as a lawyer?

My first job as a prosecutor was fun. I enjoyed trying cases. A total exposure to the law made it such a learning experience.

Looking back what advice do you have for young lawyers?

It's a great profession to choose. Whether you practice on a daily basis or not. Specializing in an area of law is a great idea. Having a law degree can be beneficial regardless of whether or not you use it in your career. As Commissioner and Mayor, I didn't "practice law" but having the background was so beneficial in holding those offices. Work hard, prepare hard and respect the law but also balance that with family and fun.



Legal Avenues: Your Road to Solutions

Expanding Access to Legal Research & Technology

Presented by

the Stark County
Law Library

Law Libraries provide patrons with a space to explore new technology and databases without the financial risk of purchasing a product. Libraries, in general, lead the way in adopting and expanding access to emerging technology.¹ Luckily for our patrons, The Stark County Law Library is no exception! Our duty is to serve our community by providing access to high quality legal research databases, computer programs, and physical materials. We strive to remind our patrons of the valuable resources available to them at the Law Library.

At the Stark County Law Library, patrons can now access **Lexis+** inside the Law Library. This update introduces an extensive collection of add-ons designed to enhance legal research. One particularly beneficial feature is the **Code, Court Rule, and Legislation Tool**, which allows users to conduct side-by-side comparisons of codes, court rules, and legislation from previous years.² This feature is especially useful for identifying discrepancies, understanding legal nuances, and assessing compliance.

Lexis+ also provides two other practical tools: the **Search Tree** and the **Search Term Map**. The Search Tree visually illustrates how search terms were applied and defines their relationships. This helps users refine their queries to achieve more accurate results. Which is crucial for identifying terms that may be causing null or limited search results.³ The Search Term Map assigns a distinct color code to

each search term, displaying where the terms appear within a document. It goes a step further by highlighting the most relevant section with a blue star, making it easier to locate important information at a glance—without having to open the document.⁴ This feature helps simplify research by providing a quick overview of key content.

By investing in advanced research databases, law libraries empower patrons to enhance their research skills. In addition to offering these tools, the Stark County Law Library offers **informal training sessions** on using our databases. We also assist members in navigating our eBook catalog, which includes resources from Lexis, ABA, and West Academic—which can be done over the phone.

As part of the legal community, our goal is to help the bridge technological divide. We recognize our responsibility to serve our patrons and contribute to legal technology education. The question to consider is: **What can the Stark County Law Library do for you?** What resources would enhance research? What services or programs would you like to see at the Law Library?

Share your thoughts with us at inform@starkcountyohio.gov or visit us in person. We welcome your suggestions!

By Kasey Brown
Stark County Law Library
kcbrown@starkcountyohio.gov

Footnotes

¹ALA. “National Survey Finds Libraries Play Expanded Role in Digital Equity, Bridging Gaps in Access to Technology” *ALA*. 31 Aug. 2021. Accessed 28 Jan. 2025. Available at: <https://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2021/08/national-survey-finds-libraries-play-expanded-role-digital-equity-bridging>

²Colorado State University Library. “Law” *CSU Libraries*. Accessed 28 Jan. 2025. Available at: <https://libguides.colostate.edu/c.php?g=906786&p=6659470>

³LexisNexis. “Search Tree on Lexis+” LexisNexis. Accessed 29 Jan. 2025. Available at: https://supportcenter.lexisnexis.com/app/answers/answer_view/a_id/1102052/~search-tree-on-lexis

⁴London South Bank University. “Search Term Maps” *LSBU*. Accessed 29 Jan. 2024. Available at: <https://library.lsbu.ac.uk/c.php?g=709632&p=5119592>

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