

STARK COUNTY BAR JOURNAL

VOLUME 31 ■ NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER 2025

Help Set the Table This Thanksgiving for Our Veterans in Need



Join the SAM Center to collect items to provide Thanksgiving Feasts to Veterans, Service Members and Military Widows in Our Community.

- \$10 Grocery Cards
- Corn Muffin Mix
- Egg Noodles
- Broth

- Turkey Gravy Packets
- Canned Corn
- Canned Green Beans
- Jell-0 Mix

- Mushroom Soup
- Stuffing Mix
- Mashed Potatoes
- Cranberry Sauce

Thank You for Your Support!



The SCBA Military Affairs and Community Involvement Committees ask that the above items or cash donations be dropped off at the SCBA Office

M-F 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM at 116 Cleveland Ave. NW, Suite 400, Canton, OH 44702

No later than Nov. 14, 2025

330-956-6162, Ext 2



support@servingareamilitary.org

jingle jingle jingle IT'S TIME TO MIX&MINGLE



LET'S GET OUR MERRY ON

WINTER SOCIAL

Invitations will be e-mailed soon!!
Friday, December 5, 2025 6:30 p.m. – Brookside Country Club

SCBA November 2025 Office Schedule

Nov. 5^{th} 11:30 AM Family Law Committee Meeting

@ Bender's

Nov. 6^{th} 12:00 Noon Community Involvement

Committee Meeting

Nov. 10th 4:00 PM Disputed Fee Committee Meeting

Nov. 11th OFFICE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF VETERANS DAY

Nov. 18th 3:45 PM Grievance Committee Meeting

Nov 19th 12:00 noon Law Day Committee Meeting

Nov. 19th 4:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting

Nov. 27^{th} & 28^{th} OFFICE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF THANKSGIVING

ELDER LAW COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be no Elder Law Committee Meeting in November. The next meeting will be held in January 2026.

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

November 12, 2025 2025 Professional Conduct Seminar

Video Replay

SCBA Conference Room

See Pg. 7

November 21, 2025 2025 Technology Webinar

See Pg. 8

December 4, 2025 "Live" View From The Bench Seminar

Stark County Office Building

Auditor's Hearing Room – Suite #210

See Pg. 9

December 2025 Multi-Topic Video Replays

SCBA Conference Room

See Pgs. 10 & 11



On-Line CLE

Take advantage of the Stark County Bar Association's SELF-STUDY courses through our website: www.StarkCtyBar.com.



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

THE STARK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION







Did You Know?

As a member of the Stark County Bar Association you may request for your review our annual Budget or our Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets. These financial documents are available upon request made to Tina McCort, our Executive Director.

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

Beverly P. Proctor-Donald, 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

Fall has arrived and the July Bar exam results are in! A total of 967 aspiring attorneys took the exam, and 693 passed. Those who meet all requirements will be sworn in during two special sessions of the Supreme Court on Nov. 17. I always marvel at how quickly scores can be accessed now compared to the angst of waiting that we in the older generations endured! Congratulations to all our new barristers and welcome to this noble profession! If you are a seasoned vet, please consider mentoring a new lawyer. If you are a new attorney, make sure to align yourself with our Bar Association and get active on a committee. The Lawyer Referral Service is an excellent tool to get involved in the community and to begin building a private practice - or to even maintain an existing practice - and it is simple to begin participating. Give the Bar Office a call today to get started.

Sincere thanks to our Veterans who have served and continue to serve our country! The Military and Veterans Affairs and Community Involvement Committees are partnering with the SAM Center to collect contributions for Thanksgiving feasts benefiting Veterans, Service Members, and Military Widows in our community. We welcome your support through cash donations or by providing the requested items to the Bar Association office by November 14, 2025. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Veterans experience myriad legal issues related to housing disputes, employment discrimination and family law matters that require assistance from attorneys with specialized legal training. The Stark County Family Law Committee will be offering a one hour virtual CLE on the topic of Military Pension Division in Divorce cases on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at noon - 1:00 p.m. - be sure to add this to your calendar to brush up on a critical area of family law that affects veterans and military personnel.

Although it was a relatively small group, we had an absolutely gorgeous day for the 9-hole scramble and Bar





Magistrate Beverly Proctor-Donald
President, Stark County Bar Association

Review at Sleepy Hollow Golf Club in Alliance. Before and afterwards, many expressed a desire to resume the annual golf outing and plans are underway to ensure that the tradition will continue.

The troupe for the 12 Angry Women production is hard at work preparing for the 2 shows coming up on November 7th and 8th! Please join us at 6:00 p.m. for a reception before the 7:30 p.m. show on Friday evening or for the Saturday show at 7:00 p.m. A portion of the proceeds will go to support the scholarship fund. Tickets are available by scanning the QR code right here in the Bar Journal. Break a leg ladies!



Bar-ista for Pro Bono Event October 16, 2025



Veterans Resource Fair

Community Involvement Committee Lucia Cirese (SAM Center), Andrea Bartos and Andrea Scassa Friday, October 3rd



Community Involvement Committee

Refuge of Hope - October 14, 2025



A Stark County Bar Association – Social Event In conjunction with the Stark County Bar Association's 125th Celebration



"Twelve Angry Women" is a classic courtroom drama first broadcast on CBS TV in 1954, followed by the Academy Award nominated film in 1957 starring Henry Fonda. Reginald Rose authored the screenplay, later adopted by Sherman L. Sergel and produced by The Dramatic Publishing Co.

This compelling dissection of heated jury deliberations will be proudly presented at The McKinley Memorial Museum Auditorium at 800 McKinley Monument Drive, N.W., Canton on Friday, November 7th and Saturday, November 8th. The Bar Association has reserved the entire 100 seat theatre on Friday, November 7th for members, families and guests. A pre-show, private reception with light refreshments will commence at 6:00 p.m., with curtain at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for the reception and show will be available through the Bar Association in advance at \$50.00 per ticket. Please call the Bar Association at 330-453-0685 or e-mail SCB@StarkCtyBar.com to make reservations, first come, first served. The Saturday night show doors will open at 6:30 p.m., with curtain at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25.00 per person and may be purchased through the Bar Association.

The cast will feature 13 local female attorneys, including prosecutors, public defenders, a judge, magistrates, and SCBA current and past presidents. It will include actors Melissa Day, Judge Taryn Heath, Emily Durway, Tiffany Poirer, Magistrate Beverly Proctor-Donald, Angela Vagotis, Rosemary Rubin, Magistrate Christy Pierson, Jennifer Dave, Karen McQueen, Melanie John, Joy Wagner, and Charlie McConnell. Joe Martuccio will be directing, assisted by Melissa Day.

Number of Tickets	Friday with Reception \$50.00 per person	Saturday \$25.00 per persor
Members Name:		

Members E-mail Address:

The centerpieces decorating the Holiday Party will be raffled and/ or auctioned off at the event, with all proceeds going to the **Stark County Bar Association's Scholarship Committee. Any** individuals, firms, or even **Bar Committees interested in** donating a centerpiece for the **Holiday Party should contact** Tina (Tina@StarkCtyBar.com) at the Bar Association. Each centerpiece will cost \$75.00 and will display the name of the individual(s) or entity who has sponsored it. This is a great way to contribute to the largest Bar social event of the year while supporting the students who receive scholarships for law school from the Stark County Bar Association.



Social Committee

NOTICE ONLINE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY PHOTO REQUEST

Members wishing to have their photo posted in our Online Membership Directory on our website, please e-mail your photo to Chris at SCBANotary@StarkCtyBar.com.



Tribute to Military Veterans Who Serve the Legal Community

As we approach Veterans Day, we want to take a moment to recognize the extraordinary lives of those men and women who have worn two very distinct uniforms: that of the soldier and that of the legal advocate. Veterans who choose to serve their country in the military, and then turn their dedication toward upholding the law, represent a unique blend of bravery, discipline, and unwavering commitment to justice.

From the battlefield to the courtroom, these individuals embody the highest ideals of service. As soldiers, they faced challenges that tested their physical and emotional limits, defending our freedom and protecting those who could not protect themselves. The sacrifices they made on foreign soil—often at great personal cost—became the foundation of their future commitment to upholding the rights and freedoms they fought to preserve.

But their journey did not stop there.

As legal professionals, these same veterans continue to carry the weight of justice on their shoulders. They enter the courtroom not as adversaries, but as defenders of fairness, truth, and the rule of law. Whether they are advocates for those who cannot afford representation or guiding individuals through complex legal systems,

veterans who serve in the legal community bring a wealth of experience shaped by their time in service—integrity, leadership, and an unshakable dedication to the cause.

They know the value of duty, the importance of structure, and the cost of defending what is right. Whether they are serving as lawyers, judges, or legal counselors, these veterans are a testament to the power of resilience and the enduring impact of putting others before themselves.

They are heroes not only in uniform but in every case they fight for, in every individual they serve, and in every instance where they work to ensure that the law remains just and accessible for all.

To all military veterans who have taken the oath to serve in the legal community, we the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Stark County Bar Association, offer our deepest gratitude and respect. Your courage, your sacrifice, and your commitment continue to make a profound difference in the lives of so many. Thank you for your service, both on the battlefield and in the pursuit of justice.

Michele M. Hammers Co-Chairperson Military and Veterans Affairs Committee



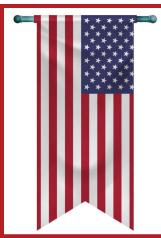
Stark County Honor Court Veterans Remembrance Ceremony



The Stark County Honor Court will be honoring the lives of veterans lost to suicide and overdose from November 1 through November 11, 2025.

Each day at Noon, a remembrance ceremony will be held, featuring a brief tribute and the placement of dog tags on the designated "Witness Tree." These ceremonies serve as a solemn reminder of the challenges many veterans face and our community's commitment to never forget their sacrifice.

All are encouraged to attend.



On behalf of the Stark County Bar Association's Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, Chairman Wayne Kyhos and co-chairperson Michele Hammers, would like to extend a sincere invitation to all members of the Stark County Bar Association with military service to join our committee as a valued member.

Our mission is to support and strengthen our local community through outreach and advocacy. We are seeking the participation of our legal professionals with military service to provide insight, guidance, and new ideas on matters that impact service members, veterans, and their families.

SAVE THE DATEFriday, December 5, 2025



Retirement Open House Honoring
The Honorable Mary A. Falvey
The Honorable Richard J. Kublius
Canton City Hall
Judges Conference Room
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Formal invitation with details to follow.

Stark County Bar Association



2025 PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT SEMINAR VIDEO REPLAY

Wednesday, November 12, 2025 SCBA Conference Room

12:45 P.M.	REGISTRATION
1:00 P.M.	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AS IT RELATES TO ETHICS Joseph M. Caligiuri, Esq., Disciplinary Counsel
2:30 P.M.	BREAK
2:45 P.M.	BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT & CASE LAW UPDATE Aletha M. Carver, Esq., Mediator, Fifth District Court of Appeals
3:45 P.M.	ADJOURN



2025 Professional Conduct Seminar Video Replay

^Members: \$75.00	Associate Members: \$62.50	Non-Members: \$137.50
Name:	Atty.	Reg. No
Address:		
Email:		

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

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

Please mail checks to: Stark County Bar Association

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

NO REFUNDS UNLESS RESERVATION CANCELLATION IS RECEIVED 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF SEMINAR. Application has been approved for 2.50 Professional Conduct CLE Credit Hours.



The Stark County Bar Association Technology Committee Presents:

A two (2) hour continuing legal education session to introduce and present ways and methods that attorneys are using technology to make their practices more efficient, more effective, and, generally, to make life in the profession better.

2025 TECHNOLOGY WEBINAR

Friday, November 21, 2025

11:30 A.M. DIGITAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE LAW LIBRARY

Jenny Myers, Director, Stark County Law Library

11:40 A.M. <u>AI TRAINING</u>

Misty Connors, Attorney and State and Local Government Solutions Consultant at

LexisNexis

12:30 P.M. BACK TO THE BASICS - MICROSOFT WORD & ADOBE

Seth Marcum, Esq., DiCaudo Pitchford & Yoder

1:30 P.M. ADJOURN



2025 TECHNOLOGY WEBINAR

*Members: \$60.00 Associate Members: \$50.00 Non-Members: \$110.00

Name:	Atty. Reg. No
Address:	
Email	

The seminar materials will be emailed to attendees prior to the webinar.

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

Please mail checks to: Stark County Bar Association

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

NO REFUNDS UNLESS RESERVATION CANCELLATION IS RECEIVED 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF SEMINAR. Application has been approved for 2.00 General CLE Credit Hours.



2025 VIEW FROM THE BENCH SEMINAR

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Stark County Office Building 110 Central Plaza South Auditor's Hearing Room, Suite # 210 Canton, OH 44702

NEW LAWYER TRAINING!! Non-new attorneys will receive 1.50 CLE General Credit Hours

Sponsored by the Young Lawyer's Committee of the Stark County Bar Association and the Stark County Law Library

Lunch provided by the Stark County Law Library

11:30 A.M. TODAY'S RESOURCES AT THE LAW LIBRARY

Lisa Murray, Assistant Director of the Stark County Law Library

12:00 NOON <u>VIEW FROM THE BENCH</u>

Presented by the Honorable Dennis Barr

The Canton Municipal Court

1:00 P.M. ADJOURN

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Attorney Members and Non-Members admitted to the Bar 5 years or less: COMP.

Members/Assoc. Members/Non-Members: \$30.00

Registration deadline is Wednesday, November 26, 2025

The boxed lunch options are as fo	ollows:	
Turkey Boxed Lunch	Ham Boxed Lunch	Herbivore (vegetarian) Boxed Lunch
Grilled Chicken House Sala	ad (Select either Ranch or	· Balsamic Vinaigrette Dressing)
*All lunches come with chips, pic	kle, cookie, bottled water,	and utensils.
Name:		Atty. Reg. No
Address:		
Email:		

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

* Seating is Limited*

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

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

Application has been approved for 1.50 NLT/General CLE Credit Hours.

DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1	2	3	2025 View From The Bench "LIVE" Seminar 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	2025 Family Law Seminar 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon	6
7	8	9	2025 Municipal Court Seminar 1:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	11	2025 Professional Conduct Seminar 9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	13
14	15	2025 Law Day Seminar 9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	17	2025 Elder Law and Estate Planning Symposium 8:45 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27
28	29	2025 Professional Conduct Seminar 1:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	31	1	2	3

Stark County Bar Association Video Replay Seminars

Friday, December 5, 2025 – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon 2025 FAMILY LAW VIDEO REPLAY SEMINAR

Members: \$82.50 Assoc. Members: \$68.75

Non-Members: \$151.25

2.75 General CLE Credit Hours Requested

Wednesday, December 10, 2025 – 1:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. 2025 MUNICIPAL COURT VIDEO REPLAY SEMINAR

Members: \$90 Assoc. Members: \$75

Non-Members: \$165

2.50 General CLE Credit Hours; .50 Professional

Conduct Hours Requested

Friday, December 12, 2025 – 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. 2025 PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT VIDEO REPLAY SEMINAR

Members: \$75 Assoc. Members: \$62.50

Non-Members: \$137.50

2.50 Professional Conduct CLE Credit Hours Requested

Tuesday, December 16, 2025 - 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

LAW DAY VIDEO REPLAY SEMINAR

"The Constitution's Promise: One of Many, One"

Members: \$90 Assoc. Members: \$75

Non-Members: \$165

2.25 General CLE Credit Hours; .75 Professional Conduct Credit Hours Requested and 3.00 Appellate

Law Certification Credit

Thursday, December 18, 2025 - 8:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

2025 ESTATE PLANNING & ELDER LAW SYMPOSIUM VIDEO REPLAY

Members: \$180.00 Assoc. Members: \$150.00

Non-Members: \$330.00

6.00 General CLE Credit Hours Requested

Tuesday, December 30, 2025 – 1:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. 2025 PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT VIDEO REPLAY SEMINAR

Members: \$75 Assoc. Members: \$62.50

Non-Members: \$137.50

2.50 Professional Conduct CLE Credit Hours Requested

Video Replay Seminars - SCBA Conference Room

Please check the program(s) you will be attending and return this form with your check, as soon as possible, to assure a seat. Seating is limited. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided for morning video replays. Lunch, where applicable, is on your own.

	2025 Family Law Seminar – 12/5/25 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon - \$82.50 / \$68.75 / \$151.25
	2025 Municipal Court Seminar - 12/10/25 - 1:00 p.m 4:15 p.m \$90 / \$75 / \$165
	2025 Professional Conduct Seminar - 12/12/25 - 9:00 a.m11:45 a.m \$75 / \$62.50 / \$137.50
	2025 Law Day Seminar "The Constitution's Promise: One of Many, One" - 12/16/25 - 9:00 a.m 12:15 p.m \$90 / \$75 / \$165
	2025 Estate Planning & Elder Law Symposium - 12/18/25 – 8:45 a.m. – 4:15 p.m \$180.00 / \$150.00 / \$330.00
	2025 Professional Conduct Seminar - 12/12/25 - 9:00 a.m11:45 a.m \$75 / \$62.50 / \$137.50
Nan	ne Atty. Reg. No
Add	ress
Ema	nil

*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 E-mail or Hard Copy on the day of the seminar? Circle one NO REFUNDS UNLESS RESERVATION CANCELLATION IS RECEIVED 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF SEMINAR.

Please mail with your check to:

Stark County Bar Association, 116 Cleveland Ave., N.W., Suite 400, Canton, OH 44702-1828

A Community Christmas

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

In lieu of the "Giving Tree Program", the Community Involvement Committee is adopting 1 family of 4-6 people this Christmas. We are currently working on their "wish lists" creating tags that will be available Wednesday, November 12th for members to swing by the Bar Office (like in years past) to pick up. The gifts should be wrapped and have the tag on them. There will also be an option to purchase a gift card to Walmart for groceries. Of course, you may do both. All gifts should be returned to the Bar Office by December 5th for delivery to Community Christmas.

Thank you for your participation!!



CLE UPDATE!

Take advantage of the Stark County Bar Association's SELF-STUDY courses through our website: www.starkctybar.com

THE FOLLOWING SELF-STUDY COURSES ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE:

- 2024 Criminal Law Seminar (3.25 General credit hours)
- 2024 Professional Conduct Seminar (2.5 Professional Conduct credit hours)
- 2024 Family Law Seminar (3.00 General credit hours)
- 2024 Law Day Seminar (3.00 General credit hours)
- 28th Annual White-Williams Bankruptcy Institute (5.00 General & 1.0 Professional Conduct credit hour)
- 2024 Estate Planning & Elder Law Symposium (5.25 General credit hours & 1.0 Professional Conduct credit hour)
- 2024 Summertime Tech Series Session 1: Generative AI Seminar (1.0 General credit hour)
- 2024 Summertime Tech Series Session 2: Cyber Security Seminar (1.0 General credit hour)
- 2024 Summertime Tech Series Session 3: Digital Forensics (1.0 General credit hour)
- 2024 Municipal Court Seminar (3.00 General credit hours)
- 2025 Criminal Law Seminar (3.00 General credit hours)
- 2025 Municipal Court Seminar (2.5 General credit hours & .50 Professional Conduct credit hour)
- 2025 Family Law Seminar (2.75 General credit hours)
- 2025 Law Day Seminar (2.5 General credit hours & .75 Professional Conduct credit hour)
- 2025 Professional Conduct Seminar (2.5 Professional Conduct credit hours)

SCBA's self-study courses direct link: https://starkctybar.com/cle/cle-self-study/

AVAILABLE AND ACCESSIBLE ANYWHERE 24/7!

If you have questions about our online CLE or have problems logging in, please call the Bar Office or email <u>CLE@starkctybar.com</u>.

NEW MEMBERS

Arden Strider, Esq.

Stark County Public Defender's Office 201 Cleveland Ave. S.W.

Suite #104 Canton, OH 44702

PH: 330-451-7212

Email: acstrider@starkcountyohio.gov

Skylar Camille Sluzewski, Esq.

Stark County Public Defender's Office 201 Cleveland Ave. S.W.

Suite #104

Canton, OH 44702

PH: 330-451-7203

Carol Andrews

Email: scsluzewski@starkcountyohio.gov

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Jason Brown, Esq.

Stark Truss 109 Miles Ave., S.W.

Canton, OH 44710 PH: 330-478-2100

Email: jason.brown@starktruss.com

Move Recently?



We want to know where you are!
E-mail us at: scbareferral@starkctybar.com
with all change of
RESIDENCE and BUSINESS
address information.

Fifth District Court of Appeals New E-mail Addresses

CEAndrews@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov

Judge Baldwin <u>crbaldwin@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

Diane Burton <u>DCBurton@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

Aletha Carver <u>amcarver@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

Ruth Anne Dingwell <u>radingwell@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

Judge Hoffman <u>JudgeHoffman@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

Judge King <u>ajking@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

Suzanne Longbrake <u>stlongbrake@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

James Manello <u>jsmanello@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

Judge Popham <u>kwpopham@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

Bradley Ryan <u>brryan@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

Angela Stone <u>adstone@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

Melissa Ulrich <u>msulrich@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

Renee Watson <u>rmwatson@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov</u>

David Wigginton dqwigginton@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov

Administrative Bailiff - Fifth District Court of Appeals, State of Ohio

Position Summary:

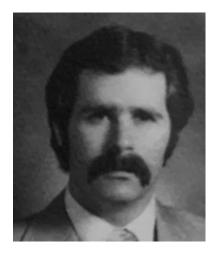
The Appellate Court Administrative Bailiff is responsible for maintaining order, security, and decorum during court sessions and ensuring the smooth operation of courtroom proceedings at the appellate level. The bailiff assists judges, attorneys, court staff, and the public by providing procedural support and enforcing court rules. The role includes administrative or clerical duties in support of court operations.

For further information, contact lnfo1@fifthdistrictohcoa.gov.

This year, we will take the opportunity to recognize local practitioners who are celebrating 50 years in the practice of law. Our next attorney to be recognized for a largely commendable 50 years of practice is Larry A. Zink, Esq.

50тн Year Spotlight

Larry A. Zink, Esq.



From a family of lawyers, Larry A. Zink began to practice law in 1975 after graduating from Case Western Reserve Law School. His father, Edward Zink, was an attorney in Stark County from 1948-1996.

His brother, Jeff Zink, also was an attorney and retired in 1998. Larry admired what his father accomplished practicing law and chose to follow in his footsteps. Larry has offices in Jackson Township and in Hillsboro Beach, Florida.

The primary focus of his practice is complex business litigation in Palm Beach County, Broward County and Miami Dade County, Florida. One of his long time, over 45 years, clients is located in Palm Beach and owns numerous substantial properties like Palm Beach Polo Club, equestrian facilities, golf country clubs, the Revel/Ocean casino in Atlantic City and marinas and ship building facilities in South Florida. Recently, this client acquired the Miss America pageant/brand and intellectual property rights associated with the brand. The range of businesses owned and operated by his clients has provided him with an opportunity to handle complex contractual disputes in equestrian, mega vessel/yacht and land development matters.

In addition to frequent travels to and from Florida, Larry attributes the ability to maintain a practice in dual states to technology. He sees technology as one of the biggest and best changes that he has witnessed in the past 50 years. Florida has an excellent e-filing system for trial and appellate cases. Larry can file anytime in any court, trial or appellate, in Florida. Documents can be submitted for filing and held for up to 5 days before actual filing. Trial courts use zoom for non-evidentiary hearings which provides Larry with the ability to be in multiple counties and courts in the same day, even while in his Ohio office. He has found that his most complex business cases deal with electronically stored information. (ESI) on computer systems and cell phones for which he relies upon ESI vendors to retrieve the ESI meta data. In his opinion, the effects of the development of technology/ computerization have all been positive, and you just have to keep up. Larry always travels with 2 laptops and is working to learn and master AI to improve his practice. Who says an old dog can't learn new tricks!

As far as fulfilling and memorable experience, Larry has plenty. A lifetime learner, he finds that there is something new to learn in every legal matter whether through legal research, discovery or arguing the case. He enjoys legal writing and finds satisfaction in seeing the filed finished product and arguing before an appellate panel. He argued a case at the University of Miami Law School and his opposing counsel was the Miami Dade County attorney who ultimately became the Chief Judge of the Florida 3rd District Court of Appeal. He has argued in the US 3rd, 4th, 6th and 11th Circuit Courts of Appeal. One

memorable experience was arguing in the US 4th Circuit in Richmond Virginia. After the argument, he was surprised when the three Judges left the bench and came to the attorney's podium and shook hands with the attorneys who argued the case. It has been their judicial tradition for over 100 years. In the summer of 2024, he was in a five-day trial in Palm Beach County that was covered by You Tube involving the Miss America brand. He was not aware that people who were watching could post comments about the case and attorneys. He found out that the viewers had dubbed him "Santa Clause" because of his white beard. He found this humorous and even the trial Judge commented on day two of the trial about his Santa tag.

Larry's advice to younger lawyers is to learn by listening and asking questions. He recommends that lawyers keep a daily "to do" list with all important projects and due dates and flag the due date well in advance. Communicate orally with opposing counsel, and don't just send an email. He feels that too many younger lawyers don't want to talk to opposing counsel or appear in person. Lastly, always protect the record on appeal, and file every document that could become an issue on the docket. Document everything.

An interesting fact about Larry's long years of practice, he has been a sole practitioner for over 28 years and does all of his own legal research, writing and courtroom work. He has no associates or paralegals, and has one assistant who lives in Canton and handles his legal work electronically. Larry still enjoys the practice of law and plans to keep it up as long as he can.

Larry is very appreciative of the support his wife Glenda (who has worked 45 years in education) gives to him and the family, particularly in view of his extensive time away from Canton while working in South Florida. Larry has six children,

and one became an attorney who practices in Washington DC. To keep the family together, every year Larry and Glenda plan at least one family get together with the 6 children and 16 grandchildren. When in Canton, Larry takes his mini Bernadoodle, "Bernie", to work every day. Bernie has frequently been seen in zoom hearings and serves as his informal office receptionist.

Congratulations on 50 years and may you continue to have many more memorable experiences!



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AI in Legal Work: Quick Tips and Practical Prompts

Al is no longer a futuristic concept; it is already helping attorneys, judges, clerks, and court staff in ways that save time and provide structured starting points for legal work. Its usefulness, however, depends on how it is prompted - detailed instructions produce quick, accurate results, while vague prompts often generate content that requires extensive revision.

It is also important to distinguish **generative AI** from **extractive AI**. Generative AI creates new content by drawing on patterns from its training data, while extractive AI organizes and summarizes existing information. Understanding this distinction helps legal professionals choose the right tool for the task and set realistic expectations for the output.

Precision is essential. Prompts should clearly define the task so the Al knows exactly what to produce. Specifying the audience ensures the language and complexity align with the reader's needs. **Tone** matters as well: judicial summaries require neutrality and factual clarity, persuasive arguments demand a confident, compelling voice, and client communications benefit from plain, accessible language. Requesting structured outputs—lists, tables, or checklists—transforms complex or lengthy information into digestible, actionable formats. Legal professionals using AI must verify accuracy, assess relevance, and maintain client confidentiality to uphold professional and ethical standards. Finally, iterative refinement reviewing drafts in stages—allows adjustments to tone, organization, and reasoning, ensuring Al complements rather than replaces professional judgment.

Used thoughtfully, Al acts as a first-draft partner, reducing routine workloads and freeing legal professionals to focus on analysis, strategy, and client service. The key lies in asking specific questions, providing clear context, and reviewing outputs carefully.

Quick Tips for Effective AI Prompts:

Be Specific

Define the task, audience & jurisdiction

Set the Tone

Neutral, persuasive, or plain language as appropriate

Specify Format

Choose a list, table, paragraph, fillable form, etc.

Verify Citations

Cross-check legal references

Prioritize Ethics

Protect client confidentiality and review carefully

Review and Refine

Treat the first draft as a starting point

Practical Prompt Examples:

Deposition Prep: "Generate a list of 20 targeted deposition questions for a personal injury case involving a slip-and-fall at a retail store."

Discovery Review: "Summarize key themes in these 50 pages of deposition transcripts."

Case Law Summarization: "Summarize the key holdings of [case name] in plain language for a client memo, highlighting precedent and jurisdiction relevance."

Citation Checking: "Check these case citations for correct Bluebook format."

Contract Review: "Highlight potential risk clauses in this contract and suggest alternative client-friendly language."

Contract Comparison: "Compare these two versions of a lease agreement and highlight substantive changes."

Client Communication: "Rewrite this email explaining the appeal process in non-legal terms."

Opinion Summaries: "Condense this judicial opinion into a 3-paragraph bench memo highlighting holdings and reasoning."

Cross-Examination Prep: "Suggest 15 cross-examination questions for an expert witness testifying on accident reconstruction."

Statutory Summaries: "Summarize the key provisions of the Ohio Public Records Act in bullet points."

Jenny Myers Stark County Law Library inform@starkcountyohio.gov

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