



# THE ADVOCATE

AN ONLINE PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTH  
PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION



WINTER 2024 EDITION





# THE ADVOCATE

An Online Publication of the South Palm Beach County Bar Association

WINTER 2024 EDITION

## 2023-2024 Officers

Christopher A. Sajdera  
President  
cas@saj-law.com

Wilnar Julmiste  
President-Elect  
wjulmiste@julmistelegal.com

Sean Lebowitz  
Treasurer  
slebowitz@floridatx.com

Scott Weiss  
Secretary  
smw@weinerweiss.com

Ellen Leibovitch  
Immediate Past President  
EML@assoulineberlowe.com

## 2023-2024 Directors

Steven Rappaport  
srappaport@ssclawfirm.com

Jennifer Delgado  
jennifer.delgado@katzbaskies.com

Ian Berkowitz  
ian@businesscounselor.com

Stacey Mullins  
stacey.mullins@gray-robinson.com

Elissa Fitzmartin  
elissa@warnerfitzmartin.com

Scott Edwards  
scott@scottjedwards.com

Emily Pineless  
emily.pineless@gray-robinson.com

Jeremy Dicker  
jdicker@ssclawfirm.com  
YLS President

## Executive Directors

Kristin Litten  
Kristin@southpalmbeachbar.org

Caroline Smolka  
Caroline@southpalmbeachbar.org  
Assistant Executive Director

## Message from Our President Christopher A. Sajdera



Dear Members –

I hope this finds you well in our New Year. This has been an exceptional bar year.

Our Annual Tennis Tournament was held on a beautiful day in November. We hosted the signature event at a new venue this year, Boca Raton Swim and Racquet Club, and it did not disappoint. Over 30 players competed and demonstrated their skills in front of 20 spectators. The annual event featured attorneys, judges, and other professionals playing for coveted bragging rights. There was a delicious lunch, Stretch Zone stretching people, and other great prizes.

Our Holiday Party was a success. It was celebrated at Boca Grove, welcoming over 175 attendees to this sold-out event, which included 25 judges. While the attendees enjoyed the company in attendance, sushi, and an open bar, the event also collected toys for the children at Pine Grove elementary. We are very fortunate to hold such a fine event and help kids in the area.

There have been several successful committee and CLE events during the last few months. These are regularly attended. Please join us. Also, please do not hesitate to join a committee the interests you.



The Happiest Happy Hour Series held events in November and January. The January event benefited the charity/nonprofit of The Tri-County Animal Rescue and even featured a visit from a few of our furry friends. Over 40 attorneys, judges and professionals celebrated the start of January and the nonprofit.

Our monthly membership lunches have been very well attended, and the speakers chosen this year have been insightful and provocative. A special thank you to our Executive Director team, Kristin and Caroline, and our chairs, Ian Berkowitz and Jennifer Delgado. The next lunch is the joint event with FAWL where the Florida Bar President Scott Westheimer will speak.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the next events.

**Christopher A. Sajdera**  
**President**





# Editor's Corner



**Scott Edwards, Esq.**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief



**Elissa Fitzmartin, Esq.**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief



**Emily Pineless, Esq.**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Winter 2024 edition of The Advocate has a variety of articles about recent law changes, advice, and technology. From community outreach initiatives, CLEs, to the holiday party, the SPBCBA is active and has events to offer anyone. Be sure to read until the end to see a feature about our SPBCBA Executive Director, Kristin Litten, and Assistant Executive Director, Caroline Smolka, and check out photographs from many of our recent events!

## The South Palm Beach County Bar Association's Mission Statement

The South Palm Beach County Bar Association is committed to excellence in the legal profession through education, member interaction and collaboration, and community outreach. The Association welcomes diverse perspectives, ideas and experiences. We strive to create an environment where individuals of all races, colors, ethnicities, cultures, religions, genders, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, nationalities, ages, disabilities, and marital and parental status thrive professionally and contribute to our goals. In fulfilling this mission, the Association seeks to uphold the highest degree of civility, ethics and professionalism.

Views and conclusions expressed in articles and advertisements in The Advocate, and any other publication of the South Palm Beach County Bar Association, are those of the authors or advertisers and not necessarily those of the officers, directors or staff of the South Palm Beach County Bar Association. Further, the South Palm Beach County Bar Association, its officers, directors and staff do not endorse any position, product or service advertised. Our copy deadline is at the discretion of the Editorial Board, but is generally two weeks before the announced publication date. At this time, The Advocate is being published online and disseminated via email only, although the Association reserves the right to publish by other means at any time, and to maintain a depository for all items published, through its website, or otherwise.



# THANK YOU TO OUR SPBCBA ANNUAL SPONSORS 2023-2024

## *Platinum Sponsor*



## *Gold Sponsors*



## *Silver Sponsors*



BRINKLEY MORGAN





# THANK YOU TO OUR SPBCBA ANNUAL SPONSORS 2023-2024

## *Friends of the SPBCBA*

**akerman**

700+ Lawyers  
24 Offices  
akerman.com



**Morgan Stanley**





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Message From Our President .....	2
Editors Corner.....	4
SPBCBA's Board of Directors for 2023-2024 .....	8
Overpaid Social Security Benefits? The Administration May Want The Money Back.....	10
Predictions for International Trade Law in 2024: It's Going To Be A Very Busy Year.....	13
5 Life Lessons From Personal Injury Law.....	16
Your Mother May Have Taught You More About Networking Than You Thought.....	19
Bridges.....	21
The Millennial and Gen Z Guide To A Sweet Retirement.....	25
Nursing Rooms In Palm Beach County Courthouses.....	28
Getting To Know Our SPBCBA Executive Director and Assistant Executive Director.....	32
Florida Bar Issues Ethics Opinion Establishing Guidelines For Attorney Use Of Artificial Intelligence.....	35
Committee Chairs 2023-2024.....	39
Young Lawyers Section Officers & Board of Directors 2023-2024 .....	44
YLS President's Message .....	45
Committee Events .....	47
South Palm Beach County Bar Association's Past Presidents.....	66



# OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2023-2024



Christopher Sajdera, Esq.  
President



Wilnar Julmiste, Esq.  
President-Elect



Sean Lebowitz, Esq.  
Treasurer



Scott Weiss, Esq.  
Secretary



Ellen M. Leibovitch, Esq.  
Immediate Past President



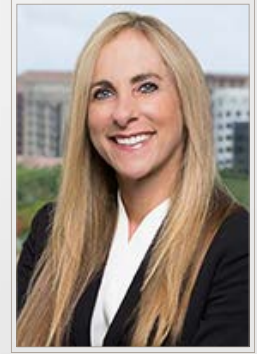
Steven Rappaport, Esq.  
Director



Jennifer Delgado, Esq.  
Director



Ian Berkowitz, Esq.  
Director



Stacey Mullins, Esq.  
Director



Elissa Fitzmartin, Esq.  
Director



Scott Edwards, Esq.  
Director



Emily Pineless, Esq.  
Director



Jeremy Dicker, Esq.  
YLS President

# **Auto Accident?**

# **CALL!**

**561 488-3344**

Main Office: **Boca Raton**  
Available for Consultation: **Boynton Beach**

**Bruce  
Silver**

**SilverInjuryLaw.com**



**SILVER INJURY LAW™**

**AUTO ACCIDENT ATTORNEYS**

**Referral Fees Paid in Accordance with Florida Law.**



# OVERPAID SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS? THE ADMINISTRATION MAY WANT THE MONEY BACK

**BY: JEFFREY M. FREEDMAN, ESQ.**



My office regularly receives calls from Social Security Disability beneficiaries who have received a notice from the Social Security Administration stating they were overpaid benefits and are now required to pay the money back. By the time the SSA determines an overpayment has been made and initiates collection, the amount can easily exceed tens of thousands of dollars.

Over the past four years, the SSA has attempted to collect between \$6 billion and \$10 billion in overpayments for various benefit programs. According to General Accounting Office disclosures, there is an unpaid overpayment

balance of approximately \$23 billion — which seems high until you consider the SSA pays \$1.4 trillion in benefits to about 71 million individuals each year.

The reasons for these overpayments vary. For example, recipients of SSD were not allowed to earn more than \$1,470 in wages per month in 2023. If they earned more than that, they should not have received the benefit. However, there can be a lag time between when the beneficiary gives notice of income to the SSA and the decision to stop benefits or not. Claimants may know there is a limit to wage earnings when they first begin receiving benefits, but over the years they may not be aware of the exact amount as it changes annually with the cost-of-living adjustment. Therefore, when the beneficiary discloses the income to the SSA, the assumption is that they will be informed within a reasonable amount of time how it will affect their benefits.

Typically, the news of the overpayment comes as a shock, especially if the benefits in question were received while the beneficiary was a minor. While the overpaid individual is usually the primary claimant, these “debtors” may also include individuals who received benefits as children because one of their parents was disabled. As dependents of a disabled parent, they would have been eligible for auxiliary benefits from the SSA but would have no effect on the eligibility status of the primary claim. Denise Hoffman, principal researcher at Mathematica, found that 80 percent of overpayments were made to people whose income exceeded the threshold, with the median overpayment lasting nine months and totaling around \$9,282.

Continued on following page

Beneficiaries who have been asked to repay can appeal, however it is not easy to win. Kathleen Romig, director of Social Security and disability policy at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, says it isn't enough to show the overpayment was not the beneficiary's fault (even if benefits were received while the individual was underage), the individual must also prove they do not have the means to repay.

The SSA does not have the staffing or processes in place to efficiently monitor overpayments, resolve appeals, or review waiver requests in a timely manner. As a result, the majority of overpayment amounts are far higher than they should be.

*Jeffrey Freedman is the managing attorney at Jeffrey Freedman Attorneys, PLLC. Jeffrey Freedman Attorneys have handled more than 25,000 Social Security Disability claims.*



# SHINER LAW GROUP

AUTO ACCIDENTS | FALL ACCIDENTS | WRONGFUL DEATH  
BRAIN INJURIES | CATASTROPHIC INJURIES | BUSINESS LITIGATION

## TRIAL ATTORNEYS

Attorneys throughout the country consistently refer their Florida personal injury cases to Shiner Law Group – and you can as well. Our firm pays attorneys' referral fees and will keep you updated as to the progress of your trusted referral. The firm is led by civil trial attorney, David I. Shiner who is well known throughout the South Florida legal community. The firm is known for its experience, extraordinary client customer service, and significant resources to successfully prosecute your personal injury case referral throughout the case process from pre-suit and, if necessary, through trial.

Have a personal injury case to refer? We can Help!  
We're Available To Help 24/7

ATTORNEY  
**DAVID  
SHINER**

**SHINER**  
INJURY LAWYERS



PROUD PARTNER OF  
FLORIDA ATLANTIC ATHLETICS



SHINERLAWGROUP.COM  
(561) 777-7700

# Predictions for International Trade Law in 2024: It's Going to be a Very Busy Year

By: Peter Quinter | Gunster, Yoakley, & Stewart, P.A.



Ask any lawyer who practices in the fields of "U.S. Customs law", "export controls law", "economic sanctions law", or "international trade law", and they will likely tell you that they are busier than ever. There is an increasing economic competition with our #1 trading partner, China. Federal Government (Republican or Democrat) policies are regularly focused on making it more difficult to buy from or sell to China.

One example that received the White House and U.S. Department of Homeland Security attention has been the implementation of the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act of 2021 which prohibits the importation of goods into the United States manufactured wholly or in part with forced labor in the People's Republic of China, especially from the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. Pursuant to 19 USC 1307, beginning June 21, 2022, CBP will apply a rebuttable presumption that goods produced wholly or in part in the region or by entities identified in the enforcement

strategy are not allowed to enter into the U.S. An importer may request an exception to the rebuttable presumption from CBP. This will require providing clear and convincing evidence that its imported merchandise was not mined, produced, or manufactured wholly or in part by forced labor. That is an almost impossible task, so instead, U.S. companies have generally decided to no longer purchase any products that may have a connection to Xinjiang. The legal work is either to (1) create and implement compliance programs for U.S. importers to document that their international supply chain does not involve forced labor, and/or (2) represent U.S. importers whose cargo has been selected by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) as suspected of being made with forced labor to get the cargo released from detention.

Another trend that really took off with the Russian invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, were the numerous Presidential Executive Orders, and amendments to regulations of the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctions program which has identified thousands of foreign persons and companies to be added to the Specially Designated Sanctions and Blocked Persons List. OFAC publishes a list of individuals and companies owned or controlled by, or acting for or on behalf of, targeted countries (Russia, Syria, Cuba, Belarus, North Korea, Iran, Burma, etc.). It also lists individuals, groups, and entities, such as terrorists and narcotics traffickers designated under programs that are not country-specific. Collectively, such individuals and companies are called "Specially Designated Nationals" or "SDNs." Their assets are blocked and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from dealing with them.

Related to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, U.S. producers and exporters must be very careful that the products they make or sell are not exported to Russia which could assist in the war effort. Obviously, that prohibits the sale of military equipment which the U.S. Department of State's Directorate of Defense Trade Controls defines as "defense articles", but it also applies to many items restricted by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) defines as "dual use" items. Export control regulations are federal laws that govern how technology, technical data, technical assistance, and items or materials are physically or electronically exported, shipped, transmitted, transferred, or shared from the US to foreign countries, persons, or entities. For example, with

Continued on following page



a change in both Federal regulations reflecting the change in Federal national security policies, agricultural drones which are used to spray crops are now routinely being detained by BIS Special Agents who conduct investigations about the ultimate destination and use of such drones before they may be released for export even when they are initially declared as being sold to and exported to a farm in Belize. License applications to BIS for exports of dual use items to China are now regularly denied. You probably heard that in the Fall of 2022, the United States imposed the most sweeping export controls on China yet, targeting its access to advanced semiconductor technologies, with the aim of limiting its supercomputing and artificial intelligence capabilities. Lawyers are busy submitting such license applications, submitting voluntary self-disclosures to Federal agencies for exports to people, companies, or places that they should not have been exported, or defending persons and companies accused of export violations.

The “Trump tariff” of 25% added to most products imported into the United States that were made in China has continued with few exceptions. To avoid the extra 25%, many astute companies in the U.S. have purchased products that had components that originated in China, were shipped to a second country such as Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, or South Korea, assembled or manufactured in the second country, and then shipped to the United States with the country of origin of the second country. Hence, even though a significant percentage of the final product may have been made in China, if the product undergoes a “substantial transformation” in the second country, it would legally be marked with the second country such as “Made in Vietnam”. Lawyers have been very busy analyzing the international supply chain to document there was a substantial transformation when U.S. importers are questioned by U.S. Customs in an audit.

You may have heard of the term “antidumping duties” and wondered what it is. Dumping occurs when a foreign producer or exporter sells a product in the United States at a price that is below “normal value.” Normal value may be the price at which the foreign producer sells the merchandise in its own domestic market or a third-country market, or may be a constructed value based on its production costs plus an amount for profit. Antidumping duties are intended to offset the value of dumping thereby leveling the playing field for domestic industries injured by such unfairly traded imports. China is by far the #1 target by the U.S. in antidumping duty investigations and orders. There are currently 233 antidumping orders against Chinese products, as compared to 67 against India, 29 against Turkey, and 20 against Indonesia. Chinese companies have a greater incentive to attempt to change the country of origin from Made in China to made in another country to avoid the assessment of antidumping duties which are often over 100%. Antidumping duties are assessed against all kinds of products from raw honey to wooden bedroom furniture, aluminum foil, truck and bus tires, paper clips, petroleum wax candles, garlic, lemon juice, and rubber bands.

## Biography

*Peter Quinter is Chair of the U.S. Customs and International Trade Law Group at Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. Based in Boca Raton, Peter represents companies all over the world shipping to or buying from the United States, and companies in the U.S. that import, export, or transport cargo. Peter is past Char of the Florida Bar's International Law Section, past Chair of the ABA's Customs Law and International Transportation Committee, and current Co-Chair of the Transportation Lawyer Association's International Trade and Transportation Committee. He is on the Board of Directors of the Florida Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association. He is annually listed as a preeminent lawyer with both Global Chambers and Chambers USA . He is also listed annually in the Florida Trend's "Florida 500: Florida's Most Influential Business Leaders." You will see him around town running or biking to train for a marathon or triathlon.*



**First  
Citizens  
Bank**

**Chantal Brassard**  
Business Services Representative  
**FIRST CITIZENS BANK**  
5099 N Federal Highway  
Boca Raton, FL 33431  
o: 561.544.1903  
m: 954.706-5220  
f: 984.867.3241



**WHY CHOOSE MATTHEW H. MASCHLER?**  
AS YOUR  
**REAL ESTATE BROKER**

Matthew has assisted countless customers buy and sell millions of dollars worth of real estate in South Florida, including Condos, Single Family homes, Country Club communities, Waterfront, 55+ and Estate homes.

**Matthew H. Maschler**

**Real Estate Broker &**

The Agents of Signature Real Estate Finder LLC



Jill Glanzer



Preston Smith



Stefania Buxbaum



Travis Julmis



Sara Van Kirk



Staci Garcia

**(561) 208-3334**

**Matt@RealEstateFinder.com**  
**www.RealEstateFinder.com**



**KOGAN  
&  
DISALVO®**  
PERSONAL INJURY LAW

**(561)375-9500**

**KoganInjuryLaw.com**



**Darryl Kogan, Esq.\***



**Ted DiSalvo, Esq.\***



**George Bakalar, Esq.\***



**Todd Baker, Esq.\***

**ACCEPTING  
REFERRALS FOR**  
**PERSONAL INJURY**  
**WORKERS COMPENSATION**  
**CAR ACCIDENTS**  
**TRUCK ACCIDENTS**  
**MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENTS**  
**PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS**  
**SLIP & FALL**  
**NEGLIGENT SECURITY**  
**DEFECTIVE PRODUCTS**  
**MEDICAL MALPRACTICE**

**Trust Sending Your Referrals to Florida Bar Board  
Certified Civil Trial Lawyers\***

**PAID ATTORNEY REFERRAL FEES**



# 5 Life Lessons From Personal Injury Law

By Elissa Fitzmartin | Warner & Fitzmartin



## 1. Negotiate Your Way to Health

Did you know that medical bills are like haggling at a flea market? Don't just accept the price tag; negotiate. Ask for a payment plan or negotiate a lump-sum discount. In personal injury cases, it is common for the attorneys to negotiate bills for our clients. This carries over into our personal lives as well – I recently received a small lab bill for blood work that was denied by my health insurance company, and the office accepted half to resolve my balance. The lesson? It never hurts to ask—your wallet will thank you.

## 2. Full Coverage – The Not-So-Full Story

Have you ever heard of "Full Coverage" automobile insurance? Well, it's the bare minimum, and it's about as full as a kid's backpack on the first day of school. All that's required of every vehicle owner in Florida is simply \$10,000 in Personal Injury Protection (PIP) insurance, which is also known as "no-fault" coverage, and \$10,000 in Property Damage (PD) coverage. PIP pays for your own medical bills and lost wages, but PD pays to fix someone else's car if you cause an accident. If all you have is "Full Coverage," this leaves you exposed to liability claims if you cause an accident, and with no recourse to get your car fixed or get paid for your pain and suffering if you're hit by an uninsured or underinsured driver. At a minimum, please consider adding collision coverage, which will allow you to get your own car fixed if the at-fault insurance is too little or the driver is uninsured, bodily injury liability coverage which will protect you from liability claims if you cause an accident, and uninsured motorist coverage which will pay out to you if an at-fault driver doesn't carry their own bodily injury coverage or if they carry a small policy which isn't enough to fully compensate you for your injuries and pain and suffering. Your insurance policy should be like a superhero suit – ready for anything!

Continued on following page

### **3. The Art of Policy Negotiation**

I just received my renewal from my auto insurance, and it came with 3 pages of endorsements changing the terms of my policy and adding exclusions. One such exclusion is that I'm not afforded any coverage whatsoever if I'm using my car for rideshare services. Although this doesn't apply to me personally, please know that this is a negotiable term. Everyone should read their policy in its entirety, including endorsements, to confirm that you're fully protected. If you see an endorsement such as this one that would preclude coverage and it applies to you, you can call your insurance company and negotiate a policy premium to remove the endorsement or exclusion. In this gig economy, it is likely that teens and young adults in your household may pick up this work with Amazon, Walmart, Uber Eats, Door Dash, etc., and you want to make sure they are protected when using the family vehicle. Read the fine print, and if something doesn't sit right, call your insurer. It's your policy, make it work for you.

### **4. Money Talks, Justice Walks (Unfortunately)**

Injured people often want justice and knowledge that the wrongdoer has been punished. Unfortunately, it's typically insurance that ends up paying on behalf of the wrongdoer, resulting in no financial impact or punishment to the at-fault party. If a tortfeasor doesn't have insurance, and they aren't wealthy or otherwise have collectible assets like multiple properties in their own name, cars, boats, or money in the bank, the personal injury case typically ends there. Some clients will say, "let's sue him personally!" But chasing someone with no insurance or assets is like playing tag with a ghost. A word to the wise: explore every avenue of recovery, but sometimes, Benjamins speak louder than emotionally-charged perceived justice.

### **5. If You Don't Ask, You Don't Get**

Did you know that an injured person isn't always limited to the insurance policy limits that are available? Catastrophic injuries caused by major trucking companies or corporations that have deep pockets can often result in personal contribution payments above and beyond the insurance policy limits. In addition, when an individual is found to have assets which would make them collectible, you can ask them for a personal contribution in addition to their insurance policy, in exchange for a release of all claims. When insurance companies make bad-faith claims decisions, you can ask them to contribute additional monies above and beyond their policy limits. Depending on the egregiousness of the bad faith, this can range from simply collecting back your costs of having to file a lawsuit when the company should have paid fairly pre-suit, up to significant and life-changing amounts of money. If you don't ask, you don't get.

**Remember, negotiate, protect, read, follow the money, and always ask for more!**

*Elissa Fitzmartin is a personal injury attorney with Warner & Fitzmartin, PLLC. Elissa lives in Boca Raton with her husband and 2-year-old son. She is on the Board of Directors of the South Palm Beach County Bar Association, the Board of Directors of the South Palm Beach County chapter of FAWL, and is the President of Florida Lawyers Network – Boca Raton Chapter. Elissa loves educating people about insurance and is happy to review anyone's automobile or homeowners' insurance policy at no cost to make sure you and your families are protected.*



# Professional Freedom



Joseph Santiago

866-551-9805

[www.advancedprofessional.com](http://www.advancedprofessional.com)



*LPL Insurance from*  
**Advanced Professional Services**



Lawyers Professional Liability



Automatic coverage for attorneys joining the firm during the policy period



Cyber wire fraud Liability



Multiple lines of insurance tailored to the Legal community



## BRINKLEY MORGAN

### A Proud Supporter of The South Palm Beach County Bar Association

*Brinkley Morgan has been servicing clients in a conglomeration of practice areas for nearly 50 years in the State of Florida.*

The firm provides a wide range of professional legal services in the areas of marital and family law; business and business litigation; real estate; and trusts and estates. The Brinkley Morgan team is an independent, collaborative, supportive group of talented, hard-working professionals.

Fort Lauderdale

Boca Raton

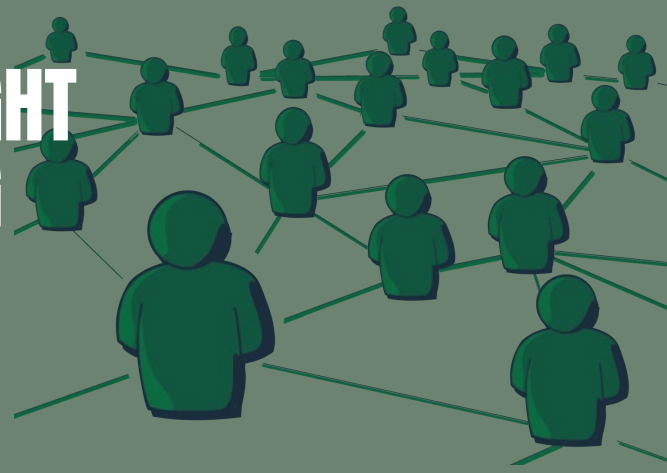
[brinkleymorgan.com](http://brinkleymorgan.com)





# YOUR MOTHER MAY HAVE TAUGHT YOU MORE ABOUT NETWORKING THAN YOU THOUGHT

By: Daniel L. Haverman  
Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer



## 1. Make friends 2. Play nice 3. Tell the truth 4. Take a bath 5. Do your homework.

What has this got to do with networking?

### 1. Make Friends

Will you introduce your best clients to someone you don't know just because you met them at an event? Relationship building is necessary. If you are not positive your referral partner can deliver, chances are you are not going to refer to him or her.

### 2. Play Nice

Do have a hunting sales mentality? Do you listen more than you talk or refrain from interrupting others when they are talking? Do you treat people with respectful elegance face-to-face and online? Do you give genuine testimonials when they are earned? And very important: Do you thank people properly for their assistance?

### 3. Tell the Truth

Honesty is necessary in business; behaving and acting in an ethical manner enhances your reputation. If you mess up, be honest. I'm sorry, I really dropped the ball on this occasion; please give me the opportunity to put this right. It is possible to create a good second impression when you get things wrong.

### 4. Take a bath

Not as big an issue online. However, in face-to-face meetings, body odor is not the new cologne! Shower, wash your hair, look presentable, and dress like a lawyer.

### 5. Do your homework

Get prepared for your meetings in advance, not last thing the night before or writing your elevator speech while others are speaking. Be specific: Set goals on what you want to achieve, then measure and analyze. If you arrange a follow-up meeting, find out as much as possible about the other person's business in advance so you are showing you are interested in that person and are not self centered.

What other lessons did your mom give you that have stood you in good stead?



FLORIDA HEALTHCARE  
LAW FIRM

## The Business of Healthcare.

Regulatory Compliance, and Growth Opportunities.

Are you a medical provider struggling with the complex world of regulatory compliance? We are here to assist our clients with all of their day-to-day business needs, ensuring they stay compliant with ever-changing regulations while maximizing growth opportunities.

Why choose us? Our team of experienced healthcare lawyers is well-versed in navigating the intricacies of the healthcare industry. At The **Florida Healthcare Law Firm**, we specialize in handling the regulatory and compliance side of healthcare law, making it easier for you to focus on what matters most – providing excellent care to your patients.



Contact us today **(561) 455-7700** or visit our website at **floridahealthcarelawfirm.com** to learn more about how we can help you. Together, let's build a thriving healthcare industry!



Tova N. Verchow

Casey A. Cusick

Peter L. Gladstone

Jeffrey A. Weissman

David L. Hirschberg

Denise L. Schneider

Abigail M. Cohen

Joshua L. Plager

### TOP-TIER FAMILY LAW ATTORNEYS

**GWHS**

MARITAL & FAMILY LAW ATTORNEYS

Gladstone  
Weissman  
Hirschberg &  
Schneider P.A.

*Dedicated to first-class client service and counsel, we provide discreet, sensitive guidance on **marital and family law matters.***

101 Renaissance Centre  
101 North Federal Highway  
Suite 702  
Boca Raton, FL 33432

**561.447.2274**  
**GWHSLAW.COM**

Corporate Center  
110 East Broward Boulevard  
Suite 1700  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301



# BRIDGES

## BY: DR. DIANE ABDO

“OUT BEYOND IDEAS OF WRONGDOING AND  
RIGHTDOING, THERE IS A FIELD. I WILL MEET YOU THERE.”  
RUMI



Sometimes we are so sure that what we are thinking or believing is true, right, just... reality. So sure, that we don't listen, or hear, or even stop to clarify what we are hearing vs. what we think we are hearing vs. what is being said. Often, we become so determined to prove ourselves right that we stop checking to see if what we think we are hearing is even accurate. Worse, we attempt to influence others to see things our way, often to further support our "rightness".

How are your bridge building skills? Bridge building, through healthy communication, helps people to connect. With open discourse, the exchange of ideas, thoughts, emotions, and even opinions provide a venue for peaceful evaluation and understanding, thereby easing connection and growth.

All too often, in our minds, the need to be right justifies the license taken to protect one's "rightness" by making the other wrong. The more wrong we make another person (with a different view point) the better. Even to the point of supporting unkindness and deceit in the belief that all will be better served, no matter how others get to the "right" view.

In this way, and often despite our best intentions, we injure others. We don't listen to or hear them. We don't encourage their independent thought or the growth that results from the search for their unique view. In that moment, being right... wrongs.

Unfortunately, lies, distortion and negative verbal influence can be inadvertently viewed as valid means of protecting "rightness." Negative and dishonest methods of influencing others become standard practice. And, as a society, we wonder when civility and respect were replaced by anger and injustice.

It seems to me that, in Rumi's field "beyond rightdoing and wrongdoing", people can meet, harmoniously co-exist and respect each other's journey. I wonder what meeting in Rumi's field could inspire within us. Standing in that field relies upon the willingness to trust stepping away from egotism and judgmentalism and stepping into willing open-heartedness and willing lovingness. To authentically be open-hearted, one must choose to evaluate instead of to judge. Evaluating inspires positive energy and an open mind, whereas judging creates negative energy and limits understanding.

What do you imagine happens when all voices have a safe place to be heard? Let's feel that for a moment...

I imagine that anticipating feeling heard, instead of being fought with or made wrong, reduces, or eliminates, the need for defensiveness as a necessary protection. Perhaps a willingness to hear another's different views could develop, even if the other's views are opposite the listener's. ***When we remove judgmentalism from our list of skills for navigating through life, we are left with a greater sense of internal peace. From this peacefulness, it is much easier to listen and hear.***

Continued on following page



The idea of a bridge is to provide safe passage from one space, or set of ideas, to another. This concept and approach breeds sensitivity and respect, and trust, which then transform into balance, trust, and resolution.

In a more personal way, most of us know or can feel the emotional impact of one's voice being unheard, dismissed or diminished. What happens in families or relationships in which each voice or perspective is not heard or is not safe to be known? Let's feel that for a moment...

One example of the impact of this form of neglect is withdrawal and the development of an inner world that is vulnerable to fear, isolation, misperception, confusion, and anger. In my many years of practice as a psychologist, I have witnessed that this dynamic of dismissal and neglect most often leads to much emotional pain, and then misdirection of that pain.

Are you intentionally working toward strengthening your communication through bridge building? Are you willing to meet in the field between wrongdoing and rightdoing? When you cross that bridge, can you be peacefully and non-judgmentally on your soul's journey? Will you be able to arrive in the field without being driven by the part of you that is dominated and influenced by your perspective or ego?

If you are willing to walk into Rumi's field, it might be helpful to consider that the passion that creates a bridge between two points is far more empowering than the passion that creates alienation or a wall. Alienation is emotionally painful. Rather, it inspires self-protection through the postures of defensiveness and withdrawal which can interrupt the willingness and ability to listen and hear.

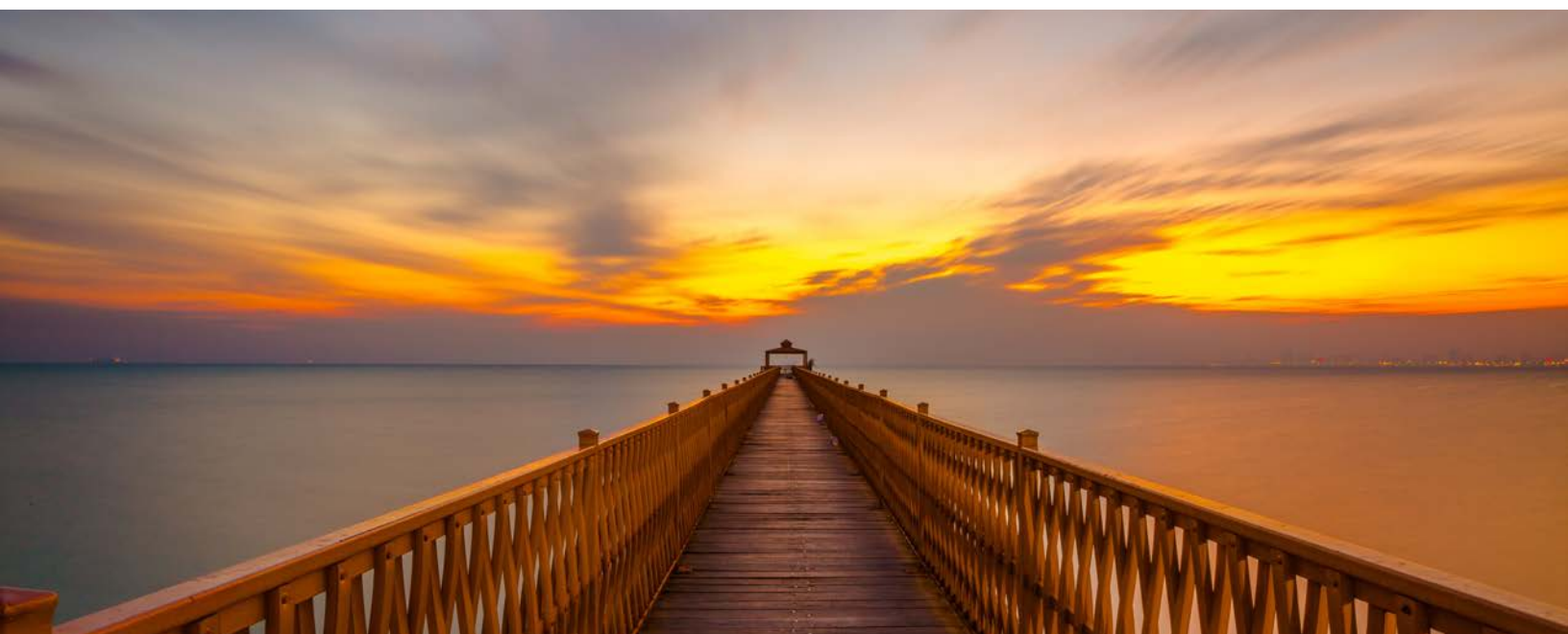
Bridges to the "field" are built as we willingly understand others...not by force; but rather, with kindness, open-heartedness and curious evaluation. From this perspective we can more reliably choose words that inspire understanding and connection. A loving heart heals beyond the world of opinions.

***"Raise your words, not your voice. It is rain that grows flowers, not thunder." -- Rumi***

Practice going into the field. It's good for the soul.

-----

*Dr. Abdo has been in practice in Boca Raton, Florida for over 30 years. Dr. Abdo has been committed to serving those in need by facilitating the development of psychological awareness as a foundation for one's journey through life. Her intention is to help you develop a healthy relationship with your life.*



*Ready to lead with passion & persistence.*



Member, Florida Bar Board Governors

Florida Bar Board-Certified in Civil Trial

Past President, Palm Beach County Bar Association

[SiaBakerBarnes.com](http://SiaBakerBarnes.com)    [RSB@SearcyLaw.com](mailto:RSB@SearcyLaw.com)

SEARCY DENNEY SCAROLA BARNHART & SHIPLEY, ATTORNEYS AT LAW



FLORIDA BAR BOARD CERTIFIED  
IMMIGRATION AND  
NATIONALITY ATTORNEY



GERSTEIN & GERSTEIN  
ATTORNEYS, PA

FREE CASE CONSULTATION  
(888) 811-2438



DORI GERSTEIN

WILLIAM GERSTEIN

FULL SERVICE **NATIONWIDE**

**IMMIGRATION  
& NATIONALITY  
ATTORNEYS**

SINCE 1995

800 E CYPRESS CREEK ROAD, SUITE 301  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33334-3522 USA  
TOLL FREE: (888) 811-2438  
PHONE: (954) 947-6060  
[INFO@USAIMMIGRATIONLAW.COM](mailto:INFO@USAIMMIGRATIONLAW.COM)  
[WWW.USAIMMIGRATIONLAW.COM](http://WWW.USAIMMIGRATIONLAW.COM)

WE OFFER REMOTE REPRESENTATION





Thank You for the Opportunity to be Your Sponsor!

Laurie Dubow

Residential & Commercial  
Licensed Real Estate Broker / Business Broker

561.929.3329

Laurie@SignatureParadise.com



Expert Witness / Consultant / Speaker  
Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist • Certified Distressed Property Specialist  
Certified Divorced Specialist • WCR Blue Diamond Elite Award Winner



SignatureParadise.com

Signature Paradise Realty International, LLC is a division of The Signature Real Estate Companies

PRIVATE DUTY  
HOME CARE

*concierge* ♦  
heartfelt experiences to age-in-place

We support families that are going through life-changing physical, emotional,  
and cognitive decline of their loved ones.

Private Duty Home Care Concierge has established 3-levels of support  
resources and coordination of services to assist you and your family:

Private Duty Home Care  
Care Management & Life Care Planning  
Family Guardian Support Services

We invite you to reach out to us for a complimentary consultation about how we  
can help you create solutions that address your family's unique circumstances.

561.817.2490 ♦ info@pdhcc.com ♦ www.pdhcc.com



Jill Poser, CGCM, CMC, CDCP  
Principal



# Retirement Plan

## The Millennial and Gen Z Guide to a Sweet Retirement

By: Eliot Popper



If you tell the average twenty-two-year-old that the best time to start saving for retirement is yesterday, they may throw you an incredulous glance. "Are you kidding?" they may say, "I'm not due to retire for another forty years!"

The argument you may hear from Millennials and even some older members of Generation Z—those born between 1997 and 2012—is that they're busy starting a family or paying down student loans and they simply don't have the money to worry about retirement.

Our polling<sup>1</sup> shows that many young adults are, in fact, worried about having enough savings for their future. For example, nearly one in four Millennials, born between 1981 and 1996, is concerned about having adequate funds, while 69% are uneasy about making that money last a lifetime.<sup>1</sup> However, having time on your side is a tremendous advantage. Starting a retirement plan early may be the single easiest way to retire with an impressive nest egg.

### The magic of time

Here's a hypothetical scenario that puts things into perspective:

Say 22-year-old Bob makes \$60,000 a year and retires at 65. He contributes 10% of his pre-tax salary into his 401(k) retirement account while his employer chips in 2%. Assuming he consistently makes that 12% monthly contribution of \$600 and earns a hypothetical 5% rate of return, he'll end up with \$1,057,228 at retirement.

Sally, however, contributes \$1,000 a month at the same hypothetical rate of return, but she doesn't start until age 45. By the age of 65 she will have \$407,458 in her retirement account—just 39% of what Bob has saved.

While many investors go in search of the magic double-digit stock gain, young investors shouldn't overlook the power of consistent contributions to their retirement accounts—even if the contributions begin very small.

*Hypothetical results for illustrative purposes only Not representative of any particular investment.*

Continued on following page

# Retirement Plan

## **Even small amounts make a big difference**

A frequent complaint from young investors is that they simply don't have the excess cash to invest. Using the example of Bob and Sally, let's take a look at this misconception.

Say Bob complains that he can only afford to put away 4% a month due to his student loan and tight budget. Assuming the same rate of return over 43 years and a 2% employer match, he will have \$528,614 at retirement—still significantly more than Sally even though his monthly and overall contributions were considerably less than hers.

*Hypothetical results for illustrative purposes only Not representative of any particular investment.*

While that may not be enough for Bob to retire on, a study by the US Government Accountability Office showed that 29% of Americans over 55 have no retirement savings whatsoever<sup>2</sup>.

Now, of course, investment returns aren't usually steady like our hypothetical example and typically will fluctuate. But with enough time on one's side, even small contributions can make a big difference to an overall retirement portfolio.

## **Financial education that pays in the long run**

Many young investors are also unaware about Modern Portfolio Theory, which looks at how an investor can build a portfolio to optimize expected return for given level of risk, or the importance of consistent contributions in a tax-free environment. A financial advisor can also help explain asset allocation and diversification to help smooth long-term returns through bear and bull markets.

But first and foremost, young investors should consider the tax-free environment of the 401(k) to put the power of time to work for them. Often it's the most important investment they'll make for their retirement.



# Retirement Plan

## Footnotes

1 Source: Morgan Stanley Investor Pulse Poll 2017: <https://www.morganstanley.com/press-releases/press-release--americans-confident-they-are-on-track-to-realize->

2 United States Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation 2017:

<https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2022/01/women-more-likely-than-men-to-have-no-retirement-savings.html>

The scenarios presented are provided for illustrative purposes only.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Hypothetical results are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to represent future performance of any particular investment. Your actual results may differ. The principal value and investment return of an investment will fluctuate with changes in market conditions, may be worth more or less than original cost. Taxes may be due upon withdrawal.

## Disclosures

Asset allocation and diversification do not guarantee a profit or protect against loss in a declining financial market.

When Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC, its affiliates and Morgan Stanley Financial Advisors and Private Wealth Advisors (collectively, "Morgan Stanley") provide "investment advice" regarding a retirement or welfare benefit plan account, an individual retirement account or a Coverdell education savings account ("Retirement Account"), Morgan Stanley is a "fiduciary" as those terms are defined under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), and/or the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code"), as applicable. When Morgan Stanley provides investment education, takes orders on an unsolicited basis or otherwise does not provide "investment advice", Morgan Stanley will not be considered a "fiduciary" under ERISA and/or the Code. For more information regarding Morgan Stanley's role with respect to a Retirement Account, please visit [www.morganstanley.com/disclosures/dol](http://www.morganstanley.com/disclosures/dol). Tax laws are complex and subject to change. Morgan Stanley does not provide tax or legal advice. Individuals are encouraged to consult their tax and legal advisors (a) before establishing a Retirement Account, and (b) regarding any potential tax, ERISA and related consequences of any investments or other transactions made with respect to a Retirement Account.

Article by Morgan Stanley and provided courtesy of Morgan Stanley Financial Advisor.

Eliot Popper is a Financial Advisor in Boca Raton, Florida at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC ("Morgan Stanley"). He can be reached by email at [eliot.popper@morganstanley.com](mailto:eliot.popper@morganstanley.com) or by telephone at 561-393-1578. His California and/or Arkansas Insurance License # is N/A. His website is [www.morganstanleyfa.com/eliot.popper](http://www.morganstanleyfa.com/eliot.popper)

This article has been prepared for informational purposes only. The information and data in the article has been obtained from sources outside of Morgan Stanley. Morgan Stanley makes no representations or guarantees as to the accuracy or completeness of the information or data from sources outside of Morgan Stanley. It does not provide individually tailored investment advice and has been prepared without regard to the individual financial circumstances and objectives of persons who receive it. The strategies and/or investments discussed in this article may not be appropriate for all investors. Morgan Stanley recommends that investors independently evaluate particular investments and strategies, and encourages investors to seek the advice of a Financial Advisor. The appropriateness of a particular investment or strategy will depend on an investor's individual circumstances and objectives.

Insurance products are offered in conjunction with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC's licensed insurance agency affiliates.

Eliot Popper may only transact business, follow-up with individualized responses, or render personalized investment advice for compensation, in states where he is registered or excluded or exempted from registration, [www.morganstanleyfa.com/eliot.popper](http://www.morganstanleyfa.com/eliot.popper) or <http://brokercheck.finra.org/Search/Search.aspx>.

© 2022 Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC. Member SIPC. CRC 5651653 (5/2023)



# Nursing Rooms in Palm Beach County Courthouses

By: Emily L. Pineless, Esq.



Nursing mothers can now relax when trying to nurse or pump when they have a hearing, trial, etc. There are easily accessible, comfortable, private, clean, and safe Nursing Rooms at our local courthouses. Since the first opening of the Nursing Room at the main courthouse on April 6, 2017, the South Palm Beach County courthouse opened its Nursing Room on February 27, 2019, and the West Palm Beach County Courthouse opened its Nursing Room on February 10, 2023. And not to worry for those visting the North County Courthouse, another Nursing Room is coming soon!



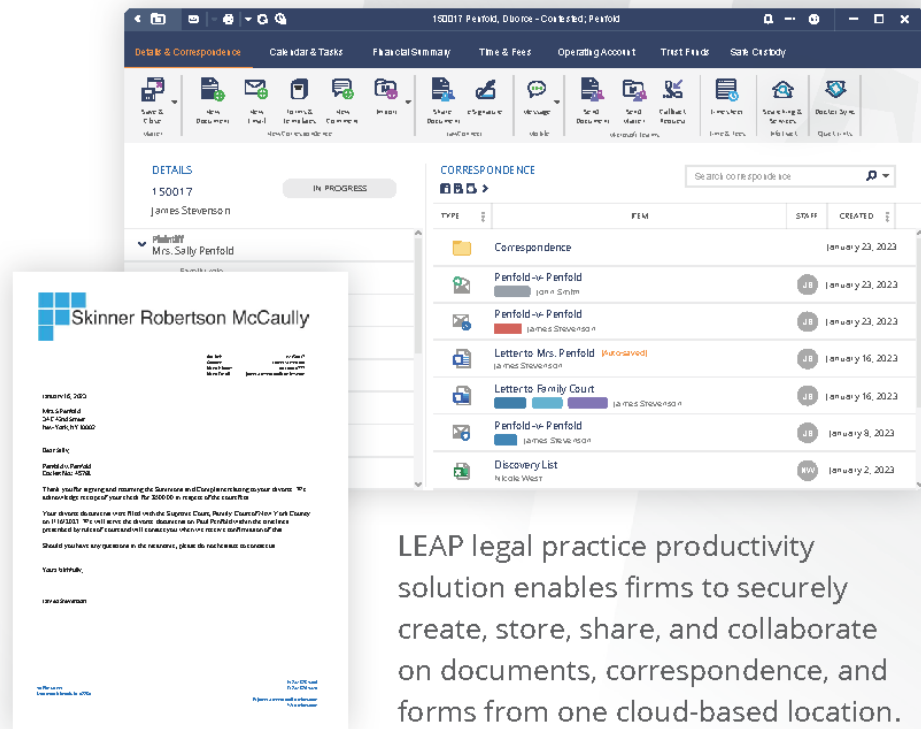
To access the Nursing Room, each courthouse has directions on the website: <https://www.15thcircuit.com/nursing-room>. With the Florida Association for Women Lawyers (FAWL) outfitting these beautiful Nursing Rooms, working mammas can have their privacy while providing for their family. Once inside, the door is locked for privacy and there is space to either continue working at a desk, or get comfortable in a lounge chair. For those moms who are pumping, a mini refrigerator can also be found inside the Nursing Room.







Revolutionize your  
law firm's **document  
production and  
management.**



LEAP legal practice productivity solution enables firms to securely create, store, share, and collaborate on documents, correspondence, and forms from one cloud-based location.

**Book a demo today.**  
[leap.us/book-demo](https://leap.us/book-demo)

Everything you need to run your law firm.

## JAMS PALM BEACH COUNTY

Highly Skilled Neutrals  
with Deep Subject  
Matter Proficiency



**Lucy Chernow  
Brown**  
*Retired Judge  
15th Judicial Circuit*



**David F.  
Crow**  
*Retired Judge  
15th Judicial Circuit*



**Jeffrey  
Grubman, Esq.**

Mediation, Arbitration and  
Custom ADR Processes

[jamsadr.com/bocaton](https://jamsadr.com/bocaton)  
561.393.9733 or 305.371.5267

Local Solutions. Global Reach.®





**Call To All Members Interested In Serving On The  
Board Of The South Palm Beach County Bar Association  
For The 2024-2025 Term  
Application Deadline  
March 1, 2024**

All attorney members in good standing with the Florida Bar and South Palm Beach County Bar Association who are interested in joining the Board of Directors of the South Palm Beach County Bar Association are invited to submit a letter of interest by March 1, 2024.

In your letter, please include a history of your involvement with the SPBCBA, the community, and any other voluntary bar associations. Please email your letter to Kristin Litten, the Executive Director at [kristin@southpalmbeachbar.org](mailto:kristin@southpalmbeachbar.org) and include "SPBCBA Board Application" in the subject line.

The Board will vote to recommend one applicant to join the Board at its March 5, 2024, meeting and will ask the full membership to approve the applicant at SPBCBA's March 28, 2024 monthly membership luncheon and annual meeting of the association.

Thank you in advance for your interest in serving!  
Christopher A. Sajdera , President



# GETTING TO KNOW OUR SPBCBA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KRISTIN LITTEN AND ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CAROLINE SMOLKA

## Kristin

**Q. How long have you been a member of the SPBCBA?**

A. I started working with the SPBCBA in September of 2022.

**Q. What is your favorite SPBCBA memory?**

A. I had the opportunity to go to Epcot with some of our board members before our annual retreat in Orlando. It was a very fun day and a great way to start the weekend retreat.

**Q. What is your favorite things about your job and working with SPBCBA?**

A. My favorite thing about my job is that I truly enjoy it. I also appreciate the ability to work from home. I love working with Caroline, she is the ying to my yang! The SPBCBA is made up of a great group of people that I enjoy working with and getting to know better.

**Q. Where did you grow up?**

A. I lived in Yardley, PA (I am huge Eagles fan) and moved to Boca Raton before starting 4th grade.

**Q. How long have you been in South Palm Beach County?**

A. My family moved to Boca Raton in 1983.

**Q. Where did you attend school and what did you study?**

A. I went to FIU and FAU on a full athletic scholarship for cross country and track. I studied Marketing and International Business.

**Q. What is your favorite hobby?**

A. I still love running, but I also enjoy working out and reading.

**Q. What is your favorite quote or piece of advice**

A. We have a family creed that we call The Litten Creed. It is "you can do anything in the world you set your mind to." We have a sport court in our backyard and The Litten Creed is written on the court under the basketball hoop. 😊



# GETTING TO KNOW OUR SPBCBA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CONTINUED...

## Caroline

### **Q. How long have you been a member of the SPBCBA?**

A. I have been working at SPBCBA since November 2022 and have truly enjoyed every second of it!

### **Q. What is your favorite SPBCBA memory?**

A. There are so many, but I really enjoyed the retreat in Orlando and getting to know everyone better. It was a great opportunity to spend time with the board members and learn about their vision and goals for the future of SPBCBA.

### **Q. What is your favorite things about your job and working with SPBCBA?**

A. One of my favorite things about my job is the flexibility! I enjoy the balance of working from home, and planning events/CLE's. Another HUGE bonus of my job is working with Kristin! She is by far the best boss I have ever worked with. We know each others strengths and weaknesses and play off those in order to work together successfully.

### **Q. Where did you grow up?**

A. I am a born and bred Floridian, and was raised in Coral Springs.

### **Q. How long have you been in South Palm Beach County?**

A. I am a product of Broward County, but when I went to college my parents decided to move east making me a resident of South Palm Beach County since 1997.

### **Q. Where did you attend school and what did you study?**

A. I received my Bachelor's degree in 2000 from Florida State University and my Master's degree from Nova Southeastern University in 2003. I studied Child Development in undergrad and I received my Master's in Educational Leadership.

### **Q. What is your favorite hobby?**

A. My favorite hobby is reading. There is nothing like reading a good book when you're sitting in the sunshine!

### **Q. What is your favorite quote or piece of advice**

A. I always tell my kids and step-kids, "Truth hurts." They may not like what I have to say, but I will always be truthful with them.







# SACHS SAX CAPLAN

Experienced Lawyers & Professional Legal Solutions

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, REAL ESTATE,  
CONSTRUCTION LAW & BUSINESS LITIGATION

- **Community Association Law**
- **Estate Planning, Probate and Trust Administration**
- **Commercial Litigation & Appeals**
- **Real Estate, Corporate and Land Use**
- **Governmental & Lobbying**

From the boardroom to the courtroom, at the seats of government or at a community association meeting, Sachs Sax Caplan, P.L. offers effective legal and business solutions to individuals, businesses, not-for-profit organizations, government agencies and community associations who call Florida home. We have built a significant presence in Florida through dedicated, active involvement and leadership in the professional, legislative and civic communities.

**SACHS SAX CAPLAN P.L.**  
6111 Broken Sound Pkwy,  
Suite 200  
Boca Raton, FL 33487

**1-561-994-4499**

**[www.ssclawfirm.com](http://www.ssclawfirm.com)**

*Joint Bar Event Sponsor*



¡Gracias! to our

*Hispanic Heritage Month*

**Event Sponsor**



**LEAL LAW**  
FAMILY • CIVIL • AUTO



*September 14, 2023*



# Florida Bar Issues Ethics Opinion Establishing Guidelines For Attorney Use of Artificial Intelligence

By: Scott Edwards | Scott J. Edwards, P.A.

In January, the Florida Bar issued Ethics Opinion 24-1, addressing Florida lawyers' ethical obligations when using generative artificial intelligence tools. The opinion concluded that lawyers may use AI in the practice of law. However, in doing so, lawyers 1) must protect confidential client information, 2) provide accurate and competent services, 3) avoid improper billing practices, and 4) comply with the rules restricting lawyer advertising.

The opinion defines generative AI as deep-learning models that compile data to generate statistically probable outputs when prompted. The opinion began by noting that while it is impossible to determine the full impact AI will have on the legal profession, the opinion will provide guidance to the Bar on the ethical implications of these new programs. Although AI can analyze documents and draft text based on written prompts, it is often impossible to determine how a program came to produce a specific output given the large amount of data AI's models use.

The opinion pointed out the danger of AI to "hallucinate" or "create inaccurate answers that sound convincing." The opinion referenced a recent notorious case where a federal judge sanctioned a law firm for filing a document containing false citations generated by AI. Thus, although attorneys may properly use a reliable artificial intelligence tool for assistance, they must take reasonable precautions to ensure that they do so in compliance with their professional and ethical obligations.

Lawyers must protect client confidentiality when using AI. This responsibility includes determining whether the AI program is "self-learning," and thus capable of storing a client's confidential information and revealing it in response to future inquiries by third parties.



Continued on following page





Attorneys must exercise oversight over AI work product similarly to supervising nonlawyer assistants. Tasks performed by AI have the same risk as those prepared by “inexperienced or overconfident nonlawyer assistants.” As a result, a lawyer must review the work product of generative AI to verify the accuracy and sufficiency of any documents generated. A lawyer must ensure that AI work product does not violate the duties of competence, avoidance of frivolous claims and contentions, candor to the tribunal, and truthfulness to others. A lawyer must also not delegate to AI any act that could constitute the practice of law or any other function that requires a lawyer’s personal judgment and participation.

A lawyer may not use AI in any way that duplicates charges or falsely inflates the lawyer’s billable hours. Thus, a lawyer cannot bill for “time” attributable to work done by an AI program, or falsely inflate billable hours to account for the time a task would have taken without the use of AI. The bar opinion suggests that contingent or flat fees be considered so that the benefits of increased efficiency from AI can accrue to both the lawyer and the client.

If a lawyer uses AI for advertising purposes, the lawyer must ensure that any content produced by the AI program complies with the Florida Bar’s rules on advertising and solicitation. If a lawyer uses an AI chatbot to advertise to or conduct intake, the lawyer must disclose to potential clients that they are communicating with an AI program, and not the lawyer or a law firm employee.

In sum, the Florida Bar’s opinion does a good job of recognizing that AI is an important tool available to attorneys, yet specifying the dangers of using AI in a manner that risks violation of a lawyer’s professional and ethical obligations.

YOUR FLORIDA  
**CIVIL TRIAL**  
LAW FIRM



EXPERIENCED DEDICATED TRIAL LAWYERS



**SMITH, BALL, BAEZ & PRATHER**  
**FLORIDA INJURY LAWYERS**

**FIGHTING FOR EQUAL JUSTICE FOR THE INJURED**

*Hundreds of Millions Recovered for Injured Victims throughout Florida.*



**800-500-1530**

*Over 100 years of combined Florida legal and litigation experience.*



**SmithBall.com**

4440 PGA Blvd., Suite 306  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

SCHWARTZ  
SLADKUS  
REICH  
GREENBERG  
ATLAS LLP

Appellate | Family & Matrimonial | Trusts & Estates  
Corporate Transactions | Construction Litigation  
Probate Administration | Community Association



Robin Bresky

**FLORIDA PARTNERS**

Joel Feldman



**akerman**

# Doing Good Giving Back

Akerman proudly supports the  
South Palm Beach County Bar  
Association and its commitment  
to serving our community.

Eric A. Gordon  
West Palm Beach, FL  
[eric.gordon@akerman.com](mailto:eric.gordon@akerman.com)

700+ Lawyers, 24 Offices  
[akerman.com](http://akerman.com)

©2023 Akerman LLP. All rights reserved.

**PRINT**  **SOLUTIONS**  
E-MAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES

## **Full Service Printing Solutions for all your needs....**

### *Trial Presentation Boards*

*Brochures and Flyers • Catalogs • Booklets and Spirals*

*Carbonless Forms • Medical Forms • HIPAA Supplies • Anti Forgery Pads*

*Checks • Notepads • Peel and Stick Cards • Business Cards*

*Magnetic Cards • Calendars • Name Badges*

*Stamps • Banners and Retractable • A-Frame Signs*

*Foamcore Posters • Bowflags • Paper and Plastic Bags*

*Promotional Items • T shirts*

*Letterheads • Envelopes • Presentation Folders*

*Postcards • Rack Cards • EDDM Every Door Direct Mail*

Members Receive **10% OFF** with code **BAR10**



1287 E Newport Center Dr | Suite 203 | Deerfield Beach, FL 33442  
954.968.6788 | [www.printesol.com](http://www.printesol.com)

*We Print  
You Glow*



# COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2023-2024

## ADR/Mediation



Rina Feld, Esq.

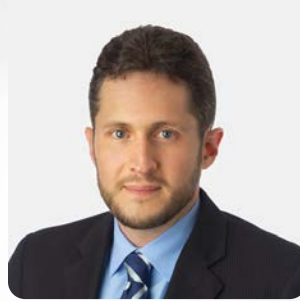


Jessica Tickin, Esq.

## Appellate Practice



Jessica Underwood, Esq.



Eric Levine, Esq.

## Bankruptcy



Jason Rigoli, Esq.



Thomas G. Zeichman, Esq.

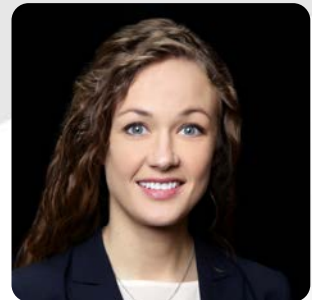
## Civil Practice



Jeff Gordon, Esq.



Daniel Rosenthal, Esq.



Genevieve Turner, Esq.

# COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2023-2024

## Corporate & Business Law



Angelo Gasparri, Esq.



David Gellen, Esq.

## Criminal Law



Hon. Ilana Marcus



Stephen Arbuzow, Esq.



Brian Balaguera, Esq.

## Diversity & Inclusion



Harolyn Scott



Yesenia Calderon, Esq.

## Family Law



Richie Boyle, Esq.



Dominique Sciullo, Esq.



Christen Ritchey, Esq.



# COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2023-2024

## Health & Wellness



Jennifer Fulton, Esq.



Kara Brotman, Esq.

## Labor & Employment



Kiren Choudhry, Esq.



Paige Newman, Esq.

## Mentorship



Tammy Saltzman, Esq.



Lloyd Comiter, Esq.

## Probate & Guardianship



Norman Fleisher, Esq.



Heather Samuels, Esq.

# COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2023-2024

## Solo/Small Law Firm Practitioners Real Estate, Land Use & Community Association Professionalism



Rachel Schrager, Esq.



Jodi Colton, Esq.



Kristen King Jaiven, Esq.



Ben Werber, Esq.



Dori Gerstein, Esq.



Taryn Sinatra, Esq.





**LESSER, LESSER, LANDY & SMITH PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE SOUTH PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION.**

For nearly a century, the attorneys of Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith have successfully fought for those who have been injured or suffered the loss of a loved one due to the negligence or wrongdoing of another.

**OFFICES IN PALM BEACH COUNTY AND MARTIN COUNTY**

420 COLUMBIA DRIVE, SUITE 110, WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33409 PHONE: 561-655-2028	4800 N FEDERAL HIGHWAY, SUITE 205B, BOCA RATON, FL 33431 PHONE: 561-367-7799	27 SE OCEAN BLVD, STUART, FL 34994 PHONE: 772-283-6839
--	--	--

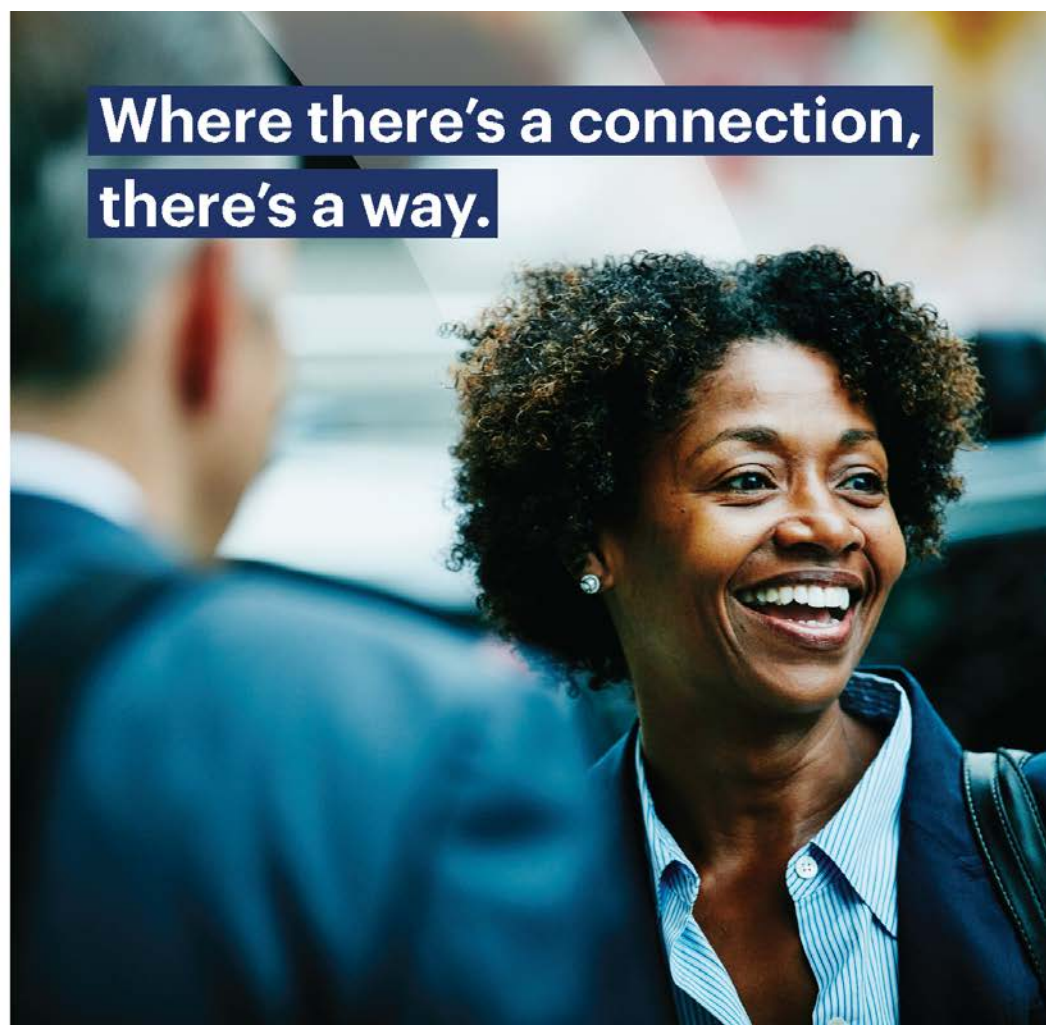
**LLS** **LESSER LESSER LANDY & SMITH PLLC**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
-Personal Injury Law Since 1927-  
[WWW.LESSERLAWFIRM.COM](http://WWW.LESSERLAWFIRM.COM)



First Horizon is proud to support the work of the South Palm Beach County Bar Association. Because their members know that business success takes more than a will to make it happen. It takes connection – to new ideas, to unexpected opportunities and to the countless ways we’re all better for being part of this community.

- Personal
- Business
- Private Banking

**Let’s find a way.**  
[firsthorizon.com](http://firsthorizon.com)



**Where there’s a connection,  
there’s a way.**



# YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

## OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023-2024



Jeremy Dicker, Esq.  
President



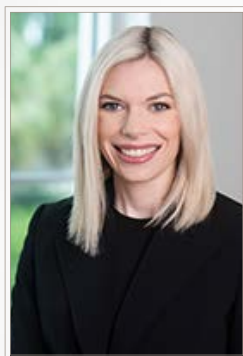
Rachel Schrager, Esq.  
Vice-President



Serena Pomeranz, Esq.  
Treasurer



Heather Beale, Esq.  
Secretary



Emerald Williams, Esq.  
Director



Anya Greenberg, Esq.  
Director



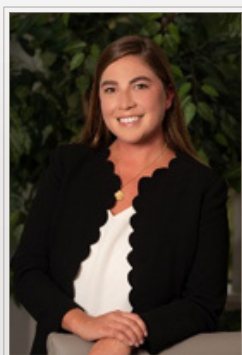
Heather Cooper, Esq.  
Director



Scott Dalton, Esq.  
Director



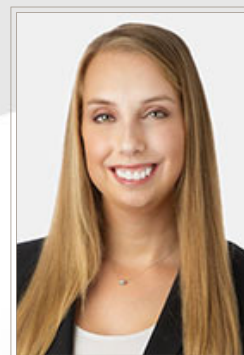
Dominique Scullo, Esq.  
Director



Sara Harmon, Esq.  
Director



Zander Retamar, Esq.  
Director



Paige Newman, Esq.  
Director

# YLS President's Message

I hope you are having a terrific start to 2024.

The Young Lawyers Section (YLS) ended 2023 with another successful annual Holiday Toy Drive in conjunction with the SPBCBA holiday party. Thanks to you, we were able to provide many toys to Pine Grove Elementary School's students during the holidays. We also conducted a 50/50

raffle at the holiday party. The money we raised from the raffle was provided to the school and will be used toward the students' safety patrol trip to Washington D.C. this year.



**Jeremy Dicker**

We look forward to seeing you at our YLS events. This includes our Habitat for Humanity build joint event with the South Palm Beach County Chapter of FAWL on Saturday, March 9; please be sure to register by February 29. Our spring events will include our annual bowling event at Strike 10 Bowling in Mizner Park and our virtual Adulting event. YLS has decided to hold its inaugural new attorney breakfast at the South County Courthouse after the release of the February bar exam results. Also, in May, we anticipate holding our Law Day event at Pine Grove Elementary and are also considering holding Law Day at a local high school or university. In addition, we also are planning to have a joint happy hour with the Palm Beach County Bar Association's YLS and other voluntary bar associations this spring. If your committee is interested in participating in a joint event with YLS, please let me know.

Finally, if you are interested in applying to be on the YLS Board, please see the flyer on the following page with information on how to apply.





## The South Palm Beach County Bar Association *Young Lawyers Section*

### Applications Being Accepted Until March 8, 2024 for South Palm Beach County Bar Association YLS Board Position

**All attorney members who are interested in joining the Board of Directors of the Young Lawyers Section of the South Palm Beach County Bar Association are invited to submit a letter of interest and resume by noon on March 8, 2024.**

**Please send your materials via e-mail with “YLS Board Application” in the subject line to: [jdicker@ssclawfirm.com](mailto:jdicker@ssclawfirm.com) and [rrschrager@koganinjurylaw.com](mailto:rrschrager@koganinjurylaw.com).**

---

*You must meet the following requirements to be on the YLS Board of Directors:*

- 1. ~~Be a member in good standing with the South Palm Beach County Bar Association.~~*
- 2. Be under the age of 40 as of May 1, 2024, or be admitted to a state Bar for a period of under ten (10) years as of May 1, 2024 (whichever is later).*
- 3. Be able to attend monthly board meetings by Zoom or in Boca Raton at 12:00 p.m. once a month.*
- 4. Be able to attend the SPBCBA YLS events, of which there are approximately 10 throughout the course of the year.*
- 5. Be able to co-chair at least two YLS events during the course of the year.*

---

The Board will consider all submissions and schedule zoom interviews the week of March 18, 2024. The Board will make its determination at the March 2024 board meeting. YLS Board of Directors are encouraged to attend the SPBCBA Gala on May 4, 2024 where they will be sworn in as members of the YLS Board.

*Thank you for your interest,  
Jeremy Dicker  
YLS President*

---



# HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE

## EVERY BOOB COUNTS 5K



10.15.23



# October Monthly Luncheon



***ON OCTOBER 19, 2023, AT THE FARMER'S TABLE,  
PALM BEACH COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER CAREY WAUGHWOUT SPOKE WITH OUR MEMBERS.***





# HAPPY HOUR



**ON OCTOBER 23, 2023, SPBCBA CIVIL PRACTICE COMMITTEE,  
CORPORATE, BUSINESS & TAX LAW COMMITTEES AND**



**HELD A JOINT SOCIAL AT PROSPERITY BREWERS**





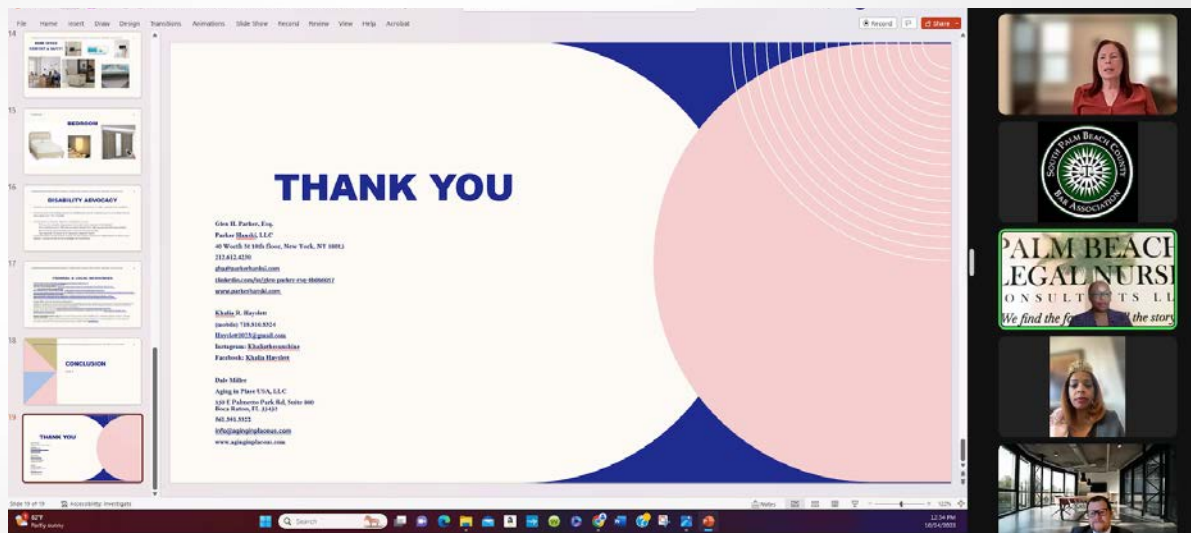
# COMMITTEE EVENTS

## ADR/ MEDIATION COMMITTEE

In October, The ADR/Mediation Committee presented a CLE Zoom Event featuring Bob Bergman of Next Level Mediation, which was moderated by Ana Cristina Maldonado. The topic was Robot Mediation: Applying Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Mediation.

## DIVERSITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Also in October, Our Diversity & Inclusion Committee presented a CLE Zoom that focused on the difference between disability housing accommodations and modifications and how they impact aging in place. The panelists included Khalia Hayslett a Disability Rights Activist, Glen Parker a Disability Rights Attorney and Dale Miller an Interior Designer and Specialist In Aging In Place.



# COMMITTEE EVENTS

## PROBATE COMMITTEE

On October 25, 2023, Our Probate Committee held a lunch and learn at the South County Courthouse. We had 100 people participate in courtroom nine as our panelists, Judge Burton, Judge Schosberg, Amy Beller, and Jennifer Fulton spoke about avoiding messy probates.





# COMMITTEE EVENTS

## MENTORSHIP COMMITTEE

On November 28, The Mentorship Committee had an intimate dinner at their annual Table for 10 Event. The dinner took place at Olio Bar & Bistro, and our members had the opportunity to hear fascinating stories from our special guest, Judge Reginald Corlew.

## SOLO & SMALL FIRM COMMITTEE

On November 29, The Solo & Small Firm Committee held a networking lunch at Prezzo in Boca Raton. The lunch was attended by several of our annual sponsors and provided an opportunity to make connections with other professionals.



## FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE

On November 30, the Family Law Committee held a CLE lunch and learn at the South County Courthouse. The guest speaker was Don Moll, a Certified Divorce Lending Professional. He provided real work examples of when the language commonly associated with Marital Settlement Agreements and Final Judgments adversely affects one spouse's ability to retain the home in a refinance.



# COMMITTEE EVENTS

## APPELLATE COMMITTEE

On December 6, The Appellate Committee held a CLE lunch at the South County Courthouse. Our members learned about tips and tricks in moving a case from the 15th Circuit to the 4th DCA. Our guest speakers were Amy Borman, Chief Legal Officer/COO at the Clerk of Court and Comptroller's Office for PBC and Lonn Weissblum, Clerk of the Fourth District Court of Appeals.



## LABOR & EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

On December 15, The Labor & Employment Committee held a CLE webinar on A Year in Review in Employment Law. Guest Speaker, Gabe Roberts, Partner at the Scott Law Team. Gabe spoke about the changes that happened in 2023 and what changes are coming in 2024.



Under the GC memo, the non-compete agreement can be upheld if it is narrowly tailored to special circumstances justifying the infringement.

But a "desire to avoid competition" is not a legitimate business interest and interests in "retaining employees or protecting special investments in training employees" are unlikely to be a legitimate business interest.



# 14TH ANNUAL BENCH & BARRISTER TENNIS TOURNAMENT

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

**SOUTH PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION**  
**Bench & Barrister Tennis Bash**  
*Event Grand Benefactor*  
**SHINER LAW GROUP**  
TRIAL LAWYERS

**Lunch Sponsor**  
**SEIGEL**  
ESTATE & TRUST LITIGATION

**Towel Sponsor**  
**LAW OFFICES OF JONATHAN S. ROOT**  
A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

**Bag Sponsor**  
**BUSINESS COUNSELOR**  
ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW

**Trophy Sponsors**  
**Richard J. Boyle, Esq.**

**Wine Sponsors**  
**PANKAUSKI LAZARUS PLLC**

**Drink Sponsors**  
**PICTERA SOLUTIONS**

**Court Sponsors**  
**ASSOULINE & BERLOWE**  
THE BUSINESS LAW FIRM

**BRINKLEY MORGAN**

**FIRST HORIZON.**

**FLORIDA HEALTHCARE LAW FIRM**

**GERSTEIN & GERSTEIN**  
IMMIGRATION ATTORNEYS

**Gutter Chaves Josepher Rubin Forman Fleisher Miller P.A.**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
advise, protect, enhance.

**GWHS** Gladstone Weissman Hirschberg & Schneider P.A.  
MARITAL & FAMILY LAW ATTORNEYS

**KBW** KATZ BASKIES WOLF

**KOGAN & DISALVO**  
PERSONAL INJURY LAW

**Laurie Dubow**  
Your Real Estate Concierge

**LEAP**

**LSS** LESSER LESSER LANDY & SMITH P.C.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
Personal Injury Law Since 1975

**PRESSLYPRESSLY RANDOLPH & PRESSLY**

**PRINT SOLUTIONS**  
E-IMAGE THE POSSIBILITIES

**PRIVATE DUTY HOME CARE concierge**  
Honoring agreements by design since 2009

**SACHS SAX CAPLAN**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**SAJDERA, P.A.**  
LAW FIRM

**Senior Care STRATEGIES**  
Professional Care Management Services

**SILVER INJURY LAW**  
www.SilverInjuryLaw.com

**SHINER LAW GROUP**  
TRIAL LAWYERS

**SHRAIBERG PAGE P.A.**

**TRIPP SCOTT 50+**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**WARNER & FITZMARTIN**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**WEINER & WEISS, LLC**  
There Is No Substitute for Experience

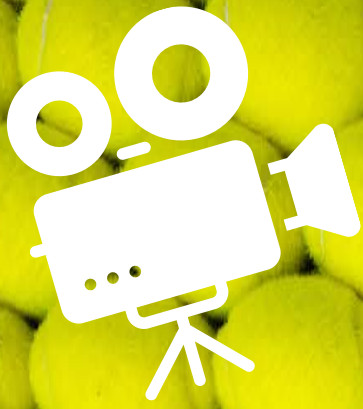
**WISE | LIEBERMAN**  
Divorce & Family Law Attorneys



# 14TH ANNUAL BENCH AND BARRISTER TENNIS TOURNAMENT







# HIGHLIGHT REEL

NOVEMBER 4, 2023





# YLS

# HAPPY

# hour

## and food drive

11.09.23



YLS held its Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive & Happy Hour at Prezzo in November. The food drive benefited the students at Pine Grove Elementary School.





*On November 10, 2023, the SPBCBA celebrated the nomination of our Immediate Past President, Ellen Leibovitch, at the Junior League of Boca Raton Woman Volunteer of the Year Luncheon! We are proud to have this strong woman as a past leader of our organization.*





# SPBCBA

**OUR 2ND COMMUNITY HAPPY HOUR WAS HELD ON NOVEMBER 14, 2023. ALTHOUGH THE WEATHER DID NOT COOPERATE, WE HAD A GREAT ATTENDANCE. THERE WAS GOOD FOOD, GOOD COMPANY, AND GOOD NETWORKING.**





# November Monthly Luncheon



***ON NOVEMBER 16, 2023, AT THE FARMER'S TABLE,  
OUR MEMBERS HAD THE PLEASURE OF LISTENING TO  
THE HONORABLE TARLIKA NUÑEZ-NAVARRO,  
THE DEAN OF ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY BENJAMIN L. CRUMP COLLEGE OF LAW***





# JAVA WITH THE JUDGES





# Holiday Party



12.14.23



# YLS TOY DRIVE & SAFETY PATROL DONATION:

Our YLS collected toys for its Annual Toy Drive at the SPBCBA Holiday Party on December 14, 2023 at Boca Grove Country Club. With all the donations, the YLS was able to add to the holiday spirit by giving students at Pine Grove Elementary a wide variety of toys. Our YLS Board also donated two (2) bikes to Pine Grove Elementary! Additionally, from the 50/50 raffle at our spectacular SPBCBA Holiday Party, the YLS collected donations to benefit the Pine Grove Elementary Safety Patrol students for their upcoming trip to Washington D.C.! Thank you again to all those who donated and dropped off items for these philanthropic efforts.



# DONATION DRIVE





january



HAPPY  
HOUR



In conjunction with Tri-County Animal Rescue





# January Monthly Luncheon

**ON JANUARY 18, 2024, AT THE FARMER'S TABLE,  
OUR MEMBERS ENJOYED LISTENING TO STATE ATTORNEY DAVE ARONBERG.**





# **SOUTH PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION'S**

## ***PAST PRESIDENTS***

2022-23 Ellen Leibovitch, Esq.  
2021-22 Gordon Dieterle, Esq.  
2020-21 LA Perkins, Esq.  
2019-20 Holly Gayle Gershon, Esq.  
2018-19 Andrew M. Dector, Esq.  
2017-18 Eric A. Gordon, Esq.  
2016-17 Patricia Alexander, Esq.  
2015-16 Mark R. Osherow, Esq.  
2014-15 Marc A. Kaufman, Esq.  
2013-14 Robin Bresky, Esq.  
2012-13 Larry Corman, Esq.  
2011-12 Jay A. Schwartz, Esq.  
2010-11 Theodore L. DiSalvo, Esq.  
2009-10 Seth A. Marmor, Esq.  
2008-09 Michael D. Mopsick, Esq.  
2007-08 Howard S. Grossman, Esq.  
2006-07 Denise Isaacs, Esq.  
2005-06 Jeffrey S. Marks, Esq.  
2004-05 Hon. Howard K. Coates, Jr.  
2003-04 Michael H. Gora, Esq.  
2002-03 Darryl B. Kogan, Esq.  
2001-02 Spencer M. Sax, Esq.  
2000-01 Lane K. Matthews, Esq.  
1999-00 Marc T. Millian, Esq.  
1998-99 Randee J. Golder, Esq.  
1997-98 Hon. Edward L. Artau  
1996-97 Robert M. Schwartz, Esq.  
1995-96 Valerie G. Kanouse, Esq.  
1994-95 Ryna E. Mehr, Esq.  
1993-94 Peter S. Sachs, Esq.  
1992-93 Denise L. Parrotta, Esq.

1991-92 Hon. Kenneth D. Stern  
1990-91 Charles T. Barker, Esq.  
1989-90 Lawrence J. Miller, Esq.  
1988-89 Joel D. Kenwood, Esq.  
1987-88 Jeff M. Brown, Esq.  
1986-87 Thomas F. Sliney, Esq.  
1985-86 Philip M. Manning, Esq.  
1984-85 Robert A. Eisen  
1983-84 Steve Greenwald, Esq.  
1982-83 Cormac C. Conahan, Esq.  
1981-82 Doak Campbell, Esq.  
1980-81 Richard E. Bosse, Esq.  
1979-80 Larry L. Lavalley, Esq.  
1978-79 Hon. James W. Nowlin, Jr.  
1977-78 David B. Van Kleeck, Esq.  
1976-77 Gerald M. Wochna, Esq.  
1975-76 Robert D. Chapin, Esq.  
1974-73 Hon. John D. Wessel  
1973-74 Ernest G. Simon, Esq.  
1972-73 Malcolm Anderson, Esq.  
1971-72 Hon. Joseph Tomberg  
1970-71 Thomas J. Becker, Esq.  
1969-70 Yancey Byrd, Esq.  
1968-69 Timothy Poulton, Esq.  
1967-68 Charles Byron Kiser, Esq.  
1966-67 Leonidas F. Weaver, Esq.  
1965-66 Robert F. Griffith, Esq.  
1964-65 Rusley Meeker, Esq.  
1963-64 Gene Moore, Esq.  
1962-63 John H. Adams, Esq.  
1961-62 William H. Hallman, Esq.