



CITY BAR REPORT

News from the Bar Association of Baltimore City

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BABC President's Message "What I Did for my Summer Vacation"



Darren Kadish

The dog days of summer are really upon us, and I know that many of you have been forced to change plans, or ditch plans entirely due to the novel coronavirus. My annual "vacation" is usually a trip to Ocean City for the Maryland State Bar Association Annual Meeting, with a few extra beach days thrown in for good measure. Like everything else, that was cancelled, although I have to admit not missing a week away from the office was not the end of the world. And candidly, I did take quite a few mornings to stay home with Harry, my 3-year-old, so that he could participate in Zoom meetings with his teachers and classmates. It was actually fun to watch him interact, sing along with songs and sometimes act out the words. They even had the kids doing yoga! Who knew?

So, in my quest to keep things more upbeat for this month's column, I reached out to some of the members of the Bar Association of Baltimore City Executive Council to see what they were up to this summer. Here are what some of our elected officers and elected council members were up to:

Immediate Past President, The Honorable Dana Middleton: I promised myself a relaxing vacation once I completed serving as BABC President. As you would expect, I did not have the island get away that I dreamed about. However, I have been "staycationing" close to home and have found new

ways to relax. I have even taken up golf. What a challenge!!!! My friends and I have enjoyed learning something new, while taking advantage of the relaxing environment and outdoor space. In addition, I have gone hiking and spent more time than ever at local and state parks. My dog certainly appreciates the long walks and quality time. Like most people, I do miss the social gatherings of years past (sigh), but I am grateful that we are safe and able to enjoy the natural beauty of mother nature.

President-Elect, The Honorable Anthony Vittoria: In late May, I took a vacation from the couch in the family room to the recliner in the den! I kid. Anyway, for more than a decade, I have been taking a summer vacation each year to visit relatives outside of Bar Harbor, Maine. While there, I have hiked many of the trails in Acadia National Park and, a couple of years ago, hiked Mount Katahdin, which is the northernmost point of the Appalachian Trail. Since I was not able to go to Maine this year, I took advantage of many of the trails in our area – specifically, the trails around Loch Raven Reservoir. I had no idea how many trails were back there – you can spend days there and never hike the same trail twice. There are some interesting, challenging trails to hike and some truly beautiful sights to be seen including an area with dozens of mysterious balancing rock piles! I would highly recommend!

Treasurer, Myshala Middleton: This Summer, I spent time visiting my sister in Connecticut - reminiscing

about our mom. During my last visit we cooked a lot - made homemade dumplings (dough from scratch), grilled lobsters, ribs and enjoyed the outdoors (socially distant from others). I also made sure to facetime with my nephew Lyam in Vienna, Austria and we discussed his new found love for dinosaurs (using my sister as our translator). I participated in Zoom Happy Hours with my friends, took the time to redecorate some rooms in my house and, as always, enjoyed sampling new rosés.

Elected Member, Thomas Barnard: So far, really not much of a summer vacation. However, since I have been working almost exclusively remotely, I decided I would work remotely from my Mother's house in Michigan for a few weeks, as she is living alone. This was a good decision, as I got to spend time with her I have not spent in years, and had a chance to visit with other family during [my stay]. I ended up spending about three weeks at her house and it was one of the only times as adult I was able to spend so much time with her.

Secretary, James Motsay: This year was an unusual vacation from all of my ones in the past. Normally I would schedule time to go to the mountains of Western Maryland or I would head east to the beautiful beaches of Ocean City. However, my vacation this year was scheduled for me by an outside source. COVID-19 struck, and I was zooming all summer to many more places. I was zooming presenting material to other

attorneys, zooming with clients, zooming with other attorneys on cases that we had together. I found myself just zooming all over the place and covering more ground this way than I would have with my normal vacation schedule. While it wasn't as peaceful and restful as my normal vacations; I did learn a lot and was able to accomplish more in a shorter period of time since I didn't have to leave my office.

Elected Member, Erik Atas: Originally, I was supposed to get married at the end of May with lots of friends and family in attendance, but COVID-19 had other plans. Ever the optimists, my wife and I watched the Governor's daily briefings intently and realized we could still have our wedding relatively on schedule, albeit a modified look to the event. It ended up being a lovely day. Also, we broadcast the whole ceremony on Facebook Live so friends and family, quite literally around the world, could attend in spirit. Judge Panos officiated and did a magnificent job. It was a perfect celebration.

I was not able to reach out to all the Executive Council members (and there wasn't space in this column to do so) but I am confident that the diverse and hard-working folks who volunteer their time to the BABC really do represent the best our profession has to offer. I cannot tell you how proud I am to work with this amazing group of lawyers! I hope their stories have inspired you to keep moving forward in positivity as we work to adjust to current circumstance. Please be safe and stay healthy!

Young Lawyers' Division Update How Is It August Already?



Lauren Lake

I have asked myself one question several times over the last few days: How is it August already? I see August at the top of my calendar, yet it hasn't felt like nearly five months have passed since "normal" ended and the remote and virtual world started to take over most people's lives. Even while so much remains unknown about what the next month and the rest of this year will bring, it seems clear that the pandemic that upended our spring and summer

will continue to affect our plans for the fall and beyond.

During the last five months, it has felt like for every two steps forward, we must then take one step back. What we (or at least I) may have hoped would be a short-term disruption in March seems to have no end in sight. After the sudden need to cease in-person events at the end of last bar year, the BABC YLD committee chairs have had the benefit of contemplating the possibility that we would need to continue to practice social distancing through remote and virtual programming this fall and maybe even beyond then.

In an effort to build more stability for the BABC YLD, I am excited to introduce a new Young Lawyers Division ("YLD") committee: the Past Chairs Committee. This committee, chaired by Divya Potdar, will focus on connecting the past, present, and future leadership of the YLD. While the challenges of COVID-19 are new, the BABC and the BABC YLD have ridden several other hardships felt by our profession and members and which we see at play today, including the financial crisis and racial and social injustice. Through strengthening our community among the past leaders of the YLD, the Past

Chairs Committee will engage these leaders, so our entire membership can benefit from their immeasurable institutional knowledge and dedication as well as their experience. If you are a past Chair of the BABC YLD, please reach out to Divya at dpotdar@divalaw.net.

There are several other things to look forward to during this bar year, which will kick off in the next several weeks. Keep an eye on the Friday BABC Weekly Bar Report and on the BABC YLD Facebook page for information about upcoming remote CLEs, networking events, and other offerings for our members!

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Free Webinar on PPP Update, the IRS, and Tax Life through the Pandemic

On Tuesday, August 11, 2020, from 12:00 noon -1:00 p.m., the Bar Association of Baltimore City and the Maryland Volunteer Lawyer Service is hosting a FREE webinar on PPP Update, the IRS, and Tax Life Through the Pandemic. The world has shifted over last few months, with the Tax World especially impacted. Join Michael March, Esq., tax attorney from Rosenberg Martin Greenberg, as he discusses updates on the PPP and how to apply for forgiveness, updates from the IRS, and the Maryland Comptroller now that July 15 has passed, and what we can expect going forward. To register, go to <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2574901609412943373>.

Free Webinar Series on The Impact of COVID-19 Now Available Online

Vallit Advisors is hosting an eight-part webinar series in partnership with the Bar Association of Baltimore City, Anne Arundel Bar Association, Baltimore County Bar Association, Howard County Bar Association, Bar Association of Prince George's County, and the Bar Association of Montgomery County focusing on the impact of COVID-19. The first four webinars in the series are now available online. The topics include: **COVID-19: Assessing the Impact on Real Estate Values; Bankruptcy During COVID-19; Divorce During COVID-19 - So the Quarantine Didn't Make You and Your Spouse Closer?; and The Perfect Storm: Why Now May be the Best Time for Estate Planning.** To access these webinars, go to <https://www.vallitadvisors.com/recorded-webinar-access/>. Details on the remaining webinars in the series will be announced soon.

Non-members can join the BABC at www.baltimorebar.org. For more information, email info@baltimorebar.org

CITY BAR BRIEFS

BABC Member Kevin Shepperd to Serve as Treasurer of the ABA and Judge Michael Reed to Represent the BABC in the House of Delegates

Kevin L. Shepperd, a partner at Venable LLP, began his term as Treasurer of the American Bar Association on August 4, at the conclusion of the 2020 ABA Annual Meeting. As ABA Treasurer, he will serve a three-year term as one of the officers on the ABA's Board of Governors. The other leaders are: Patricia Lee Refo (Arizona), 144th President; Reginald Turner (Michigan), President-Elect; Pamela A. Weaver (California), Secretary; Barbara J. Howard, (Ohio), Chair, House of Delegates; Judy Perry Martinez (Louisiana), Immediate Past President; and Jack I. Rives, Executive Director. The Honorable Michael W. Reed was elected by the BABC to represent the Association in the ABA House of Delegates. Judge Reed's two-year term also began on August 4.

Updated Listing of Appellate Opinions

An updated listing of the 2020 index of Maryland Appellate Court Opinions is available online. To view the listing, go to <https://mdcourts.gov/cgi-bin/index-list.pl?court=both&year=2020&order=bydate&submit=Submit>.

Maryland Courts Attorney Information Reporting Open Online

The Attorney Information System consolidated compliance cycle is open for FY2021. Attorneys are required to complete their reports and pay the assessment no later than September 10 of each year. Pro bono and IOLTA reports must be completed online; however, attorneys can choose to pay the Client Protection Fund assessment online or through the U.S. mail by including an invoice printed from the AIS. You must be registered in AIS to complete Pro Bono and IOLTA reporting or to print an invoice. Login at <https://jportal.mdcourts.gov/aisattorneyportal/security/login.xhtml> to complete your compliance requirements.

Join the BABC's Special Committee on COVID-19

The BABC's Special Committee on COVID-19 is co-chaired by past Presidents Kelly Hughes Iverson and Gregory K. Kirby. The purpose of this committee is to keep members updated on court functions during COVID-19, educate members on the practice of law during COVID-19, provide programs on health-life balance during these difficult times, and address other concerns brought to it by members of the BABC. This committee will work in concert with other BABC committees (i.e. CLE, Bench-Bar, Wellness) to accomplish its goals. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please email ksanzone@baltimorebar.org.

BABC Resumes Processing Courthouse ID's by Appointment Only

The Bar Association of Baltimore City will resume processing Courthouse ID cards for attorneys on **Mondays by appointment only**. Appointments will be scheduled between the hours of **9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.** Please bring one color photo measuring 1 1/4" (h) x 1" (w) with you to your appointment. Visitors at Bar Headquarters must wear a mask. To schedule an appointment, or to verify that we have your ID card, e-mail us at info@baltimorebar.org.

The Bar Association of Baltimore City Seeks Lawyer Referral Intake Specialist

The Bar Association of Baltimore City (BABC) seeks an individual to serve as Lawyer Referral and Information Service Intake Specialist. Responsibilities include assessing legal needs of clients, referring clients to panel attorneys, data entry, statistical reporting, case audits. Must have excellent communication and organizational skills. Advanced computer and Microsoft Office applications experience required. Looking for independent thinker and team player. Fifteen (15) hour week/\$18 per hour (10-1 M-F). Send resume with references to Katherine T. Sanzone, Executive Director, Bar Association of Baltimore City, at ksanzone@baltimorebar.org.

Maryland Judiciary COVID-19 Updates

The spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) is impacting the daily operation of the Maryland Judiciary. The Judiciary is closely monitoring the situation and evaluating its ongoing response to this public health emergency. To follow the latest administrative orders, local orders, and closure notices from courts, news releases, and information for the public, go to www.mdcourts.gov/coronavirusupdate.

U.S. Department of Justice Now Accepting Applications for the Attorney General's Honors Program (HP) and the Summer Law Intern Program (SLIP)

The HP is the nation's premier entry-level federal attorney recruitment program. HP information, including participating components, eligibility guidelines, and application instructions can be found at <https://www.justice.gov/legal-careers/entry-level-attorneys>. Information about SLIP and a link to the application is at <https://www.justice.gov/legal-careers/summer-law-intern-program>. Deadline for law students and eligible graduates to apply is Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 11:59 PM ET. More information about all of our legal hiring programs can be found at <https://www.justice.gov/legal-careers>.

Baltimore Bar Foundation Extends Spring Grant Cycle and Reschedules Fundraising Events

In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the postponement of major fundraisers, the Baltimore Bar Foundation has extended its next grant cycle. Grant applications will be due on August 31, 2020. The grant application is available at www.baltimorebar.org.

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AUGUST 11

CLE – PPP Update, the IRS, and
Tax Life Through the Pandemic

AUGUST 31

Deadline for Baltimore Bar Foundation Grant Applications

JANUARY 19, 2021

Supreme Court Group Admission

Important Notice

The Baltimore Bar Foundation Golf Outing Fundraiser that was scheduled to take place on October 19 has been postponed until Spring 2021. The new date will be announced soon.

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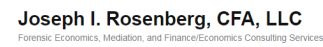
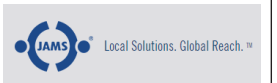
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