



CITY BAR REPORT

News from the Bar Association of Baltimore City

Ethics Hotline Volunteer

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Enjoy the Wine not the Label!



Hon. La Zette Ringgold-Kirksey,
BABC President

I hope all are enjoying the summer and having safe travels as you spend time with your family and friends. I was inspired during my travels in Italy this summer when visiting. Outside a wine shop was a sign “enjoy the wine not the label”. I thought... what a wonderful way to approach things. In the current climate of exhausted social media, we are often influenced by the

shared impressions or opinions of others instead of making informative decisions for ourselves. Many of us see life as a map of points and destinations. Let us not forget that it is the journey that makes the trip. Along that journey are many tastes, smells, and spices that flavor our experiences. In many ways the BABC represents this notion with all the various cultural and ethnic diversity within our legal community. The rich fabric of our bar lends itself to exploration. On September 10th BABC will kick off this bar year by celebrating at our annual joint welcome back happy hour. Last year at this event, we embraced and introduced many facets

of specialty bars such as the Alliance of Black Women Attorneys of Maryland, Inc, Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Maryland, Maryland Association of Justice, Federal Bar Association, Maryland Chapter, Maryland Defense Counsel, Inc., Maryland Hispanic Bar Association, Monumental City Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section of the Maryland State Bar Association, and South Asian Bar Association of Washington, D.C. We are excited and looking forward to special editions such as the Baltimore Carroll Chapter of the Women’s Bar Association this year! As president, these are proud signature moments that I aspire to share with our

members. Join BABC today and wrap yourself in its inviting hold and take time to fellowship with members of our divine legal landscape. As we approach this incoming bar year, I encourage members to be engaging and innovative in their participation in BABC!



Enjoy the wine! Not the label!

Family: Finding Your Place at the Bar



Jacob Dorfman, Esq.
YLD Chair

Every year, the Young Lawyers Division has the opportunity to set a tone for the year ahead. This year, our theme is Family. For many of us, the legal profession can feel overwhelming. Whether you’re preparing for your first hearing, navigating a difficult case, building a practice, or simply trying to find your footing, it is easy to feel like you’re doing it alone. The truth is none of us should have to. The Bar Association of Baltimore City (BABC) is more than a professional organization. It is a family. Like any family, we celebrate each other’s successes, offer guidance during challenges, and show up when someone needs a helping hand. We come from

different backgrounds, practice in different areas of law, and represent different clients, but we are united by a shared commitment to our profession and to one another. The relationships we build through the BABC often become the people we call for advice, referrals, mentorship, and friendship throughout our careers. As Chair of the Young Lawyers Division (YLD), my goal this year is to strengthen that sense of belonging. I want every member—whether you’re a brand-new attorney, a seasoned young lawyer, or someone attending your very first Bar event—to feel like you’ve found your professional home. To make that happen, the YLD will be focusing on three priorities. First, we want to invest in our mentorship program. Every lawyer remembers the attorneys who answered questions without judgment, shared practical wisdom, or simply reassured them that they were on the right track.

Those relationships shape careers. This year, we’ll work to strengthen opportunities for mentors and mentees to connect, learn from one another, and build relationships that extend well beyond a single program. Second, we plan to create more family-oriented events. The practice of law demands long hours, and it can sometimes feel like choosing between our professional and personal lives. We want to offer opportunities where members can bring the people who matter most to them, allowing our Bar family and our families at home to come together. We hope these events make the Bar a place where meaningful connections happen naturally and where everyone feels welcome. Finally, we want the YLD (and the BABC as a whole) to be a gathering place—a place where attorneys know they can find support, resources, and genuine camaraderie. Whether you’re looking for a mentor, a referral, an

answer to a difficult legal question, or simply colleagues who understand the unique challenges of this profession, the YLD should be one of the first places you think to turn. Families are not built overnight. They are built through shared experiences, showing up consistently, and looking out for one another. That is exactly the kind of community I hope we continue to build together this year. I invite each of you to become part of it. Attend an event. Volunteer for a committee. Reach out to someone new. Offer guidance to a younger attorney. Ask for help when you need it. Every conversation and every connection strengthens our Bar family. I am honored to serve as your Young Lawyers’ Division Chair, and I look forward to building this family together. I hope to see you often throughout the coming year.

RAISE THE BAR BY ATTENDING BAR EVENTS

Find and register for events at
www.baltimorebar.org/ecalendar



2026-2027 BABC
SUSTAINING MEMBERS

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The generous support of Sustaining Members of the Bar Association of Baltimore City greatly assists this bar association in fulfilling its mission and achieving further growth and success. The unwavering dedication of these members ensures the BABC will continue its long and distinguished tradition of service to our legal community and the public.

If you are interested in becoming a Sustaining Member, please contact Natalie Foster at nfoster@baltimorebar.org.

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THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF BALTIMORE CITY
WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED
IN JUNE 2026

Mustafa Alibraheem

Nija Bastfield

Michelle Battle

Adrian Gervassi-Saga

Koryn High

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BABc

ANNUAL CRAB FEAST



September 30
6-8pm

Baltimore Rowing & Water Resource Center
3301 Waterview Ave,
Baltimore, MD 21230

Members & non-members earlybird fee (through August 31) - \$90
Regular fee (Starting September 1) - \$95
Door fee - \$105
Register at www.baltimorebar.org/ecalendar

Group Admission to the Supreme Court of the United States



Price
\$350
/ Person

Registration



Scan QR code for
link to Application

Registration fee for guests is \$150.

Fees Include

- ✓ Supreme Court Admission Fee
- ✓ Breakfast at the Supreme Court
- ✓ Swearing-In
- ✓ Oral Arguments
- ✓ Group Photo
- ✓ Supreme Court Lecture
- ✓ Group Lunch

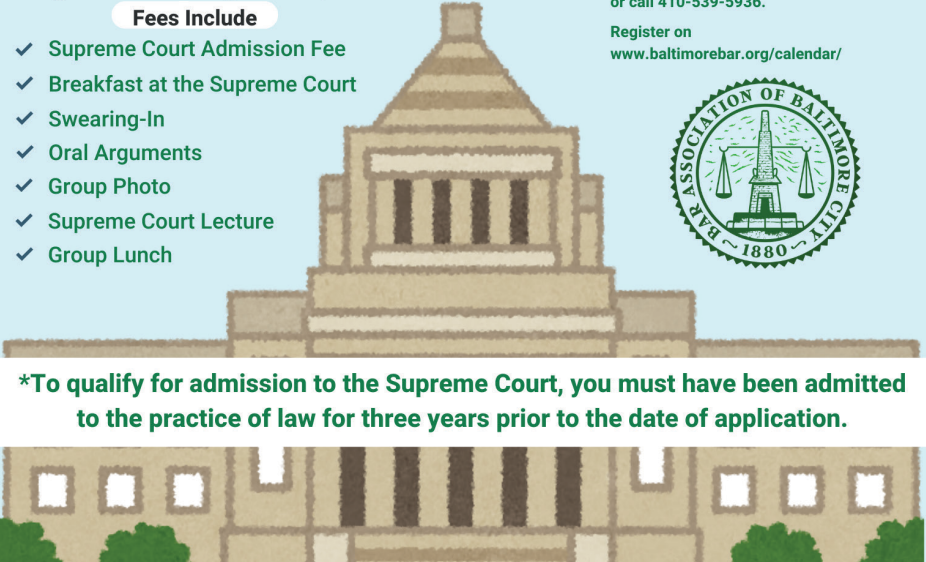
Wednesday, October 7, 2026

Registration is limited to 12 applicants.

Completed applications are due no later than August 3, 2026.

To obtain an application package, contact the BABc office at info@baltimorebar.org, or call 410-539-5936.

Register on www.baltimorebar.org/calendar/



***To qualify for admission to the Supreme Court, you must have been admitted to the practice of law for three years prior to the date of application.**

SAVE THE DATE!



12TH ANNUAL

CABARET & CABERNET

OCTOBER 14, 2026
OLD ST. PAUL'S
233 N CHARLES ST,
BALTIMORE, MD 21201



FEATURING MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF
THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF BALTIMORE CITY

Bench/Bar Conference

A MORE PERFECT UNION: The Bench and Bar at 250



Hosted by
Baltimore County Bar Association
and
Bar Association of Baltimore City



SAVE THE DATE

Friday, October 16, 2026
10:00am - 4:00pm
CCBC Catonsville
800 S Rolling Rd, Catonsville, MD 21228

"Meet the Judges" Happy Hour to follow
4:00pm - 5:30pm

Registration & Details Available Soon