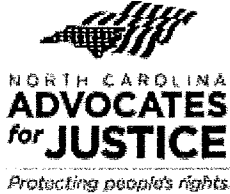


Andrea Davis

From: Jeanne B. Ford [teresa@ncaj.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2009 3:03 PM
To: Andrea Davis
Subject: Read All About It - May Newsletter!



FAMILY LAW

Section Newsletter

May 2009

MESSAGE FROM THE FAMILY LAW SECTION CHAIR

Spring is upon us and here are some exciting happenings for the Family Law Section:

Convention 2009

The annual NCAJ Convention is being held at Sea Trail Resort in Sunset Beach, North Carolina from June 20-24, 2009. More detailed information about Convention and the Family Law Section events at Convention are contained in this newsletter, however, I encourage each of you to attend. In addition to the lovely surroundings and amenities of the Sea Trail Resort, Convention is a great place to network with other like-minded attorneys - fighting for justice and protecting people's rights.

Pro Bono Services Award

Once again, the NCAJ Family Law Section's 2009 Pro Bono Service Award is up for grabs. Our annual pro bono service award is given to the section member(s) who has accumulated the most hours in pro bono service over the past 12-month period. The award will be presented to the winner(s) at the Family Law Section meeting that will be held at Convention at Sea Trail Resort in Sunset Beach on Monday, June 22. The winner(s) will receive a lovely commemorative plaque. Meredith McGill and Kristin Hampson of McGill & Hampson Law Firm were the winners of the NCAJ Family Law Section's 2008 Pro Bono Service Award.

To enter the competition, please mail, email or fax me a letter by Thursday, June 4, 2009, listing the number of hours you have spent in pro bono service from May 15, 2008 to May 31, 2009, and the types of services you have provided. Be reminded that our definition of pro bono services is very inclusive!

2009-2010 Family Law Section Officers

The current Family Law Section Executive Board is nearing the end of its two-year term. A "new" board will be nominated and voted into office at the Family Law Section meeting that will be held at Convention on Monday, June 22. Most of the current Family Law Section officers are staying on for an additional 2-year term. (*Just goes to show that serving on our Section's executive board has lasting appeal!*) Section leadership is always looking for interested Section members to take leadership roles within the Section. Being involved with leadership is a great way to network and make a real difference in the professional lives of Section members. If you are interested in actively participating in the Section, please contact Andrea Davis, NCAJ Sections & Divisions Director.

The 2009-2011 slate of Section nominees are:

CHAIR: Deborah Halverson (*Winston-Salem*)

VICE CHAIR: Heather McKinney (*Greensboro*)

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Sheryl Friedrichs (*Wake Forest*)

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR: Jeanne B. Ford (*Cary*)

COMMUNICATIONS/COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS: Heather J. Williams

(Raleigh), Sundee Stephenson (Morehead City)

ETHICS COMMITTEE CHAIR: Jeanne B. Ford (Cary)

CLE COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS: Caleigh Evans (Winston-Salem), Ruth Bradshaw (Winston-Salem)

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR: Paula McGrann (Raleigh)

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS: Judy Tseng (Raleigh), Matt Myers (Charlotte)

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR: Jeanne B. Ford (Cary)

APPELLATE ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR: Jonathan McGirt (Raleigh)

Trial Briefs, the Family Law Issue

The April 2009 edition of *Trial Briefs* arrived at your doorstep earlier this month. The issue was devoted entirely to family law topics and focuses on areas where family law intersects with other areas of law, such as Social Security law, criminal law, immigration law, and tort law. Although the NCAJ Publications Committee can take pride in this accomplishment, the lion's share of praise and thanks must go to our section members who wrote articles for our edition of *Trial Briefs* - Paul C. Shepard, Elise Morgan Whitley and John C. Vermitsky, Ame Coats and Murali Bashyam, Steve Palme, S. Nicole Taylor and Stephanie J. Gibbs, Kristin M. Hampson and Meredith J. McGill, and Heather J. Williams.

I hope you find this newsletter beneficial to you in your day-to-day professional life.

Enjoy!

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THE FAMILY LAW SECTION LISTSERV

Membership in the Section listserv is a tremendous and valuable (**and free**) benefit of being a Family Law Section member.

Below is a list of wide-ranging topics that have been recently discussed by Section members on the listserv. As you can see, these topics greatly benefited all members of the Section listserv.

- Reasonable & Customary Fee Survey
- Budget now eliminates 53 Family Court positions
- Enforcement of Equitable Distribution Order
- Anson County referral
- TIAA-CREF Optional Retirement Program
- Rule 52 motion
- Motion for Stay pursuant to Servicemembers Relief Act
- Can I reopen denial of alimony when supporting spouse gets a job?
- Does NC have jurisdiction?
- Jones County
- 50B and firearms
- Federal Employee
- QDRO after divorce has been entered?
- Supporting Parent moves to Canada
- Change in child support amount without amendment of separation agreement
- Basic question about drafting complaint- client already went to CSE
- QDRO question
- Unfitness of parent in grandparent custody trial
- Petition for guardianship

So don't delay - contact [Andrea Davis](#) to set-up your Section listserv account.

APPELLATE ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO NCAJ MEMBERS AND THEIR CLIENTS

- Do you have an issue going up for appeal that you think might be particularly important to our organization or our practice areas?
- Do you have an appeal likely to make a significant difference for or against the interests of the people we serve?
- Do you need assistance on an appellate case involving issues of broad importance to NCAJ members?

If your answer is "Yes" to any of these questions, the North Carolina Advocates for Justice may be able to provide assistance with drafting your principle brief, providing moot court opportunities, or writing an amicus brief. Complete the [NCAJ Appellate Assistance Form](#) and return to [Todd Barlow](#). This service is provided under the leadership of Burton Craige, NCAJ Legal Affairs Counsel and NCAJ member.

NCAJ MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2009-2010 ARE IN THE MAIL!

As an NCAJ member your support is vital to the mission of NCAJ - Protecting People's Rights - and to the success of the overall organization!

Renew Today and continue to take advantage of the benefits that affect your practice:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| • Sections and Divisions specific to your practice | • Membership dues installment payment plan option | • Credit Union membership |
| • Listserv access | • www.ncfreelegalhelp.com | • Access to online language learning program |
| • Online Trial Notebook/Document Bank access | • Mentoring program | • CLE materials provided electronically |
| • Mediation Rooms available at NCAJ | • Legislative updates | • CLEs provided across the state |
| • "Eclips" daily news updates | • Print directory listing | • Online CLE |
| • "Trial Briefs" bi-monthly legal journal | • Online directory listing | • Legislative representation |
| • Discounts on Continuing Legal Education | • Discounts on products from West, Lexis Nexis, FindLaw | • Community Service Projects |
| • Amicus brief writing/filing | • "eBrief Notes" weekly newsletter | • Online members toolbox |
| | • Networking opportunities | • And much, much more! |

You are essential to the many programs that NCAJ provides. When you renew, upgrade your membership.

To continue to receive the many NCAJ membership benefits, please click [here](#) to renew today.

Please contact Lisa Truitt White, Membership & Marketing Director, at 800.688.1413 or lisaw@ncaj.com with any membership questions.

Thank you for your continued support!

CONVENTION 2009 – REGISTER TODAY!

June 20-24, 2009, Sea Trail Resort, Sunset Beach

Sea Trail Resort has reduced the rates on most of their rooms this summer. Reserve your room at Sea Trail Resort by calling 800.624.6601 today.

Don't miss out on these exciting happenings at Convention (and gain CLE credit too!):

Saturday, June 20

Civil Masters in Advocacy Seminar

- John Day (Economics of Case Selection)
- Gary Gober (Paradigms of Advocacy for the 21st Century Trial Lawyer: Who Will Survive?)
- Rex Parris (Cognitive Persuasion)
- Gary Pillersdorf (Courtroom Presentation in the Midst of Financial Turbulence)
- Robert Pottroff (Depositions & Technology)
- Billy Walker (Seven Deadly Sins of Dealing with Experts)

Welcoming Party - Safari Style!!

Sunday, June 21

Women's Caucus Breakfast (Complimentary to all women attorneys)

Keynote Speaker - Erwin Chemerinsky

Kirby & Holt Reception, Reverse Raffle, Texas Hold'em Tournament, DJ Dance Party

Monday, June 22

Concurrent Law Updates

- Family Law (Eddie Greene)
- Civil Law (David Pishko)
- Lawyers & Good Mental Health: Depression, Substance Abuse and the Legal Community (Jim Eldridge, Jonathan Washburn - Qualifies for 1.0 substance abuse/mental health credit)
- And much, much more!

Family Law Section Meeting

Tuesday, June 23

Concurrent Workshops

- Economic Perspective (Rich Halpern)
- Ethics in the Digital World: Where We Are, Where We're Going and How to Avoid Trouble En Route (Susan Olive)
- And much, much more!

President's Gala - Convention Finale!

Don't delay - REGISTER TODAY!

**RSVP FOR THE FAMILY LAW SECTION MEETING AT CONVENTION –
DON'T LET YOUR SECTION MEETING BE CANCELLED!**

To put the members' time at Convention to best use, any Section or Division meeting that has less than **FOUR RSVPs will be cancelled!**

Don't allow the Family Law Section meeting to be cancelled - **RSVP Today** by using this handy form or by contacting Andrea Davis.

Notifications of any cancelled Section or Division meetings at Convention will be issued in the June 16th issue of Brief Notes and on the Section or Division listserv.

Don't delay - RSVP for the Family Law Section meeting today!

2008-2009 FAMILY LAW SECTION OFFICERS

Jeanne Ford, Chair & Publications Chair, Legislative Committee Member

Deb Halvorsen, Vice Chair & Ethics Chair

Sheryl Friedrichs, Secretary/Newsletter Chair

Heather Williams, Communications Chair

Judy Tseng, Membership Chair; Appeals Monitor Committee Member

Heather McKinney, CLE Chair

Jonathan McGirt, Legal Affairs/Appellate Assistance Chair

Paula McGrann, Legislative Chair

Elise Whitley, Appeals Monitor

Steven Griffith, Legislative Committee Member

Matthew Myers, Legislative Committee Member

Sundee Stephenson, Publications Committee Member

Ruth Bradshaw, Appeals Monitor Committee Member

Registration Powered by 123Signup