

Chesterfield Bar Association



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January 2008
Stylian Parthemos, Editor

Newsletter

UPCOMING FREE CLE SEMINARS SCHEDULED

March 19, 2008

On Wednesday, March 19 at 4:00 p.m., the Bar will sponsor a free seminar to advise lawyers on how to respond to a law partner or associate experiencing substance abuse impairment. Jim Leffler, Executive Director of Lawyers Helping Lawyers will be the speaker. The seminar, which is approved for 2.0 CLE ethics hours, will be held at the Chesterfield County Courthouse in General District Courtroom D. At the conclusion of the seminar, the Bar will sponsor a catered reception in the Circuit Court Jury Room. RSVP to 748-3381.

Lawyers Helping Lawyers is a non-stock corporation endorsed by the Virginia State Bar and numerous other legal professional organizations which provides confidential, non-disciplinary assistance to lawyers who experience professional impairment as a result of substance abuse. Lawyers Helping Lawyers also has a new program to help lawyers suffering from depression that is independent of its substance abuse programs. Lawyers Helping Lawyers maintains separate confidential support groups for lawyers dealing with either depression or substance abuse. You may contact Lawyers Helping Lawyers for more information at 644-3212. Lawyers Helping Lawyers is always looking for volunteers to assist it in providing services to the legal community.

May 8, 2008

The first of Tom Spahn's annual free ethics seminars will be held at the Holiday Inn Select/Koger Center South on May 8, 2008 beginning at 4:00 p.m. The Seminar will be followed by a cocktail party sponsored by the Bar. We anticipate this program being approved for 2.0 CLE ethics hours. More details on this seminar will be forthcoming.

September 18, 2008

The second of Tom Spahn's annual free ethics seminars will be held at the Holiday Inn Select/Koger Center South on September 18, 2008 beginning at 4:00 p.m. The Seminar will be followed by a cocktail party sponsored by the Bar. We anticipate this program being approved for 2.0 CLE ethics hours. More details on this seminar will be forthcoming.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CIRCUIT COURT

1. Effective September 1, 2007, the Circuit Court judges' chambers is open from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. There will no longer be staff available after 4:30 p.m. to handle telephone calls.

2. Attorneys who have cases requiring a foreign language interpreter should contact the circuit court clerk's office as early as possible before any hearing to enable the clerk's office to obtain an interpreter.

3. Attorneys who are fluent in Spanish and who wish to be included on the court's rotation of duty attorneys are encouraged to contact Pat Davis, Administrator of Judicial Operations, Circuit Court of Chesterfield County, P.O. Box 57, Chesterfield, Virginia 23832; 804-748-1334.

NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED

The Bar's new officers were installed at the Bar's annual meeting and cocktail party in July. The new officers are:

Greg Carr	-	President
Russ Watson	-	President Elect
Melissa Hoy	-	First Vice President
Jim Hayes	-	Second Vice President
David DeFazio	-	Program Committee
Mary Adams	-	Immediate Past President
Craig Hopson	-	Secretary-Treasurer
Stel Parthemos	-	Newsletter Editor

ANNUAL BANQUET ON OCTOBER 23 CHRISTMAS PARTY ON DECEMBER 4

The Bar's annual Christmas Party will be held at the Stonehenge Country Club on Thursday, December 4, 2008 beginning at 6:00 p.m. The Annual Banquet will be held at Salisbury Country Club on Thursday, October 23 beginning with a cocktail hour at 6:00 p.m.

WILLS FOR HEROES PROGRAM

The Bar's Wills for Heroes program has now concluded, and it was a major success. Our members prepared wills, powers of attorney and medical directives on a pro bono basis for a total of 231 Chesterfield County firefighters, police officers and deputy sheriffs. Many thanks to Melissa Hoy for spearheading this program and to the members of our Bar Association who assisted our local public safety employees.

CHESTERFIELD FIRE AND EMS MEMORIAL

The Executive Committee of the Chesterfield Bar Association is asking all members to consider making a donation to *The Chesterfield Fire and EMS Memorial*. The memorial commemorates the firefighters and emergency first responders that have lost their lives in the line of duty. The wall is being funded by private donations.

You can find out more information about the wall, including a rendering of the memorial at: www.chesterfield.gov/publicsafety/fire/memorial.asp

The Bar's goal is to be a Platinum level sponsor by raising \$5,000. This goal is within reach if each of the bar's members would contribute a "billable hour" to help memorialize the eternal sacrifices of these individuals.

Donations can be made payable to "The Chesterfield Fire and EMS Memorial Fund" and mailed to David DeFazio; Barnes & Diehl, PC; 9401 Courthouse Road, Suite A; Chesterfield, Virginia 23832. Donations will be collected through February 15, 2008 and then presented to the Chairman of the fund.

AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

Effective November, 2007, Rules 5:6, 5:20A, 5:26, 5:27, 5:28, 5:29, and 5:39A of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia have been amended. These Rules affect the form and filing of Briefs before the Supreme Court of Virginia and the process for rehearings before the Supreme Court. You can find the text of the amendments at www.courts.state.va.us under "Supreme Court of Virginia, Amendments to the Rules of Court."

CLE ON SENTENCING GUIDELINES

The Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission will be conducting a workshop entitled "Introduction to Sentencing Guidelines," at four different locations throughout the Commonwealth in February and March. The workshop has been approved for 6 CLE credits, and the registration fee is \$75.00. The closest location for our members is the Henrico County Training Center. The Henrico seminar will be held on March 14 (from 9:30 to 5:00). The Commission is also offering guideline Update Manuals for \$30.00, Total Replacement Manuals for \$70.00, and Complete Manuals for \$150.00. For more information, you may contact the Commission by phone at (804) 371-0636 or via e-mail at: angela.kepus@vcsc.virginia.gov

BAR OFFICERS

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Bar Website www.chesterfieldbar.org/html/

CALENDAR

Mar 17 Chesterfield's Docket Call
Mar 19 CLE Seminar/General District Court
May 8 Ethics Seminar
Sept 18 Ethics Seminar
Oct 23 Annual Banquet
Dec 4 Christmas Party

Chesterfield Bar Association
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