



AUGUST
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EDITION



Karen E. Evans, WBA President
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President's Message

Dear WBA Members:

This past year has been a tremendous one for the WBA during which we experienced impressive growth in membership and an extended reach into the larger legal community in the Washington region. I want to thank our board of directors for their leadership and commitment to the WBA. I want to also welcome and thank each of our new and returning WBA members for your demonstrated support and suggestions for WBA programming and professional development ideas. Please continue to provide feedback because we welcome input from our members. After all, we are nothing without members like you!

As we look ahead to the next bar year, I am excited to announce that the 2015-2016 bar year will focus on education and professional development under the theme of "Know Your Rights and Responsibilities. Do you want to elevate your profile? Do you want to sharpen your speaking skills? Are you willing to share your expertise with members of the community and the legal community? If so, stay tuned for a blast email outlining the topics. If you have an idea for topics send an email to 2nd Vice President Bridget Bailey Lipscomb at Bridget.Lipscomb@usdoj.gov.

Finally, in this our final newsletter for the WBA 2014-2015 WBA bar year, it is fitting to end with a recap of the 2014-2015 WBA bar year. So, below is a summary of selected activities which illuminates the achievements of the WBA this year. Thanks for a great WBA bar year!

Warm Regards,

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Calendar of Events

[The particulars will be on the WBA web site]

Annual Chillin' & Grillin' Pool Party, Saturday, September 12, 2015
The Wilmot Residence, 1653 Kalmia Road, NW, Washington, DC

WBAEF Wine Tasting/CBC Reception, Thursday, September 17, 2015
The Cochran Firm, 1100 New York Avenue, NW, Rooftop, Washington, DC

Review of 2014-2015 Bar Year**Membership**

One of the areas where the WBA has seen significant progress is in the area of membership. We understand that the foundation for any strong and effective NBA affiliate chapter is ensuring stable and consistent membership growth. As such, growing and strengthening membership has been a key priority for the WBA. During the 2014-2015 bar year, the WBA's paid membership increased to over 300 members with over two dozen new life members. This growth has occurred not simply in one or two membership areas but can be seen across our organization, including in the Young Lawyers Division and the Judicial Council. The WBA will continue to prioritize membership growth in the coming bar year as well. We know that continued growth will enable the WBA to provide more programming, mentoring, and service to the Washington legal community as a whole.

Annual Law Day Dinner

While all of our endeavors throughout the year have been significant, the highlight of the Bar year was our Annual Law Day Banquet. This year's Law Day was focused on honoring two giants in the legal community whose work has made a significant difference in the area of voting. This year, 2015, is the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Voting Rights Act (VRA). To that end, the WBA awarded the Charles Hamilton Houston Medallion of Merit to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and to Barbara Arnwine, Executive Director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. The WBA is proud to host this annual dinner for a host of reasons but, most importantly, we see it as an opportunity to shine a light on significant contributions that have been made to the legal world, generally, but specifically to and by African Americans and those who have helped to break down barriers for African Americans. This is an important role that we do not take lightly. We were especially pleased to honor these two heroines of civil rights and justice. This year's dinner, which has been a hallmark of the WBA since 1976, drew close to 300 members of the Washington community and was generally lauded by those in attendance as a wonderful event.



Notable WBA Activities for 2014-2015

While the significant membership growth and the Annual Dinner were particularly notable for the WBA this year, we realize that it is the day-to-day and month-to-month activities that allow the WBA to make a difference in the Washington legal community. Below is a representative sampling of those activities and events.

September 20, 2014: WBA and GWAC co-sponsored the 9th Annual NBA Region XII BBQ: Chillin' & Grillin' to kick off the new bar year. Books were collected and donated to a local elementary school.

September 17, 2014: WBA held its Constitution Day Program at Friendship Woodridge Middle School.

October 23, 2014: WBA held its 36th Annual Ollie May Cooper Award Presentation and 34th Founders' Lecture Series chaired by Nicole Isaac; Award Recipient, Sandra H. Robinson, Esq., Jack H. Olender and Associates; Lecturer, Leonard Pitts, Jr., Author.

October 27, 2014: WBA co-sponsored an Attorney General Candidates Forum for the District's first ever Attorney General election campaign.

October 28, 2014: WBA YLD, held Making the Transition in Your Legal Career, sponsored by Kilpatrick Townsend LLP.

October 31, 2014: WBA YLD, Social Justice Twitter Town Hall: Our Kids Aren't Scary: Addressing bias and stereotypes that occur both inside and outside the classroom and how this leads to the school to prison pipeline. Co-Sponsored by the National Bar Association Young Lawyers Division and the Advancement Project.

November 6, 2014: WBA & George Washington Law School co-sponsored the Major General Kenneth D. Gray Excellence in Jurisprudence Award Luncheon in honor of Joseph H. Hairston, Esq. Captain, U.S. Army (Ret.).

November 14, 2014: WBA YLD, Street Law: Know Your Rights! program at Woodrow Wilson High School and Benjamin Banneker Academic High School.

November 18, 2014: WBA YLD, Know Your Rights Workshop at Bread of the City, Washington, DC.

December 19, 2014: WBA Holiday Party.

February 11, 2015: WBA General Membership Meeting, Developing Business in the Legal Profession.

February 12, 2015: Inaugural WBA Government Lawyers' Committee Meet & Greet, hosted by President Karen Evans.

February 21, 2015: WBA's 12th Annual Career Fair, chaired by Jason Grant, and hosted by the David A. Clarke School of Law, UDC.

March 31, 2015: WBA 15th Annual Judicial Council's Spring Symposium, Trayvon Martin, Eric Garner, and Michael Brown, et al.: Changing the Culture of Justice.

April 8, 2015: WBA General Membership Meeting, Landing Your Dream Job and Keeping It!

May 2, 2015: Law Day, "Celebrating the 90th Anniversary of the WBA: A Voice for Promoting Justice, Equality and Civic Responsibility"; U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, recipient and Barbara

Arnwine, recipient, WBA's Charles Hamilton Houston Medallion of Merit; Award of two scholarships to law students.

June 2, 2015: WBA Hall of Fame Installation, Elections, and Induction and Swearing in of Newly Elected Officers and Directors.

Message from Judicial Council

By Judge Fern Flanagan Saddler, Judicial Council Chair



(Photo from the June 30, 2015 Judicial Council Law Forum)

The last regular meeting of the Judicial Council was held on Tuesday, June 30, 2015. At that meeting, the Council's Nominating Committee presented its slate of officers for the 2015-2016 term. The following officers were elected or re-elected for the 2015-2016 term:

- Chairperson: The Honorable Fern Flanagan Saddler
- Chairperson-Elect: The Honorable H. Alexander Manuel
- Vice-Chairperson: The Honorable Gretchen Rohr
- Recording Secretary: The Honorable Claudia Crichlow
- Financial Secretary: The Honorable Sherri M. Beatty-Arthur
- Member-At-Large: The Honorable N. Denise Wilson-Taylor

All officers will be sworn in at the next regular meeting of the Judicial Council on Tuesday, September 29, 2015.

I am also pleased to inform you that on Tuesday, July 28, 2015, the Judicial Council hosted a wonderful reception for law students who participated in the Judicial Council's Summer Judicial Internship Program. The interns introduced themselves to the judges in attendance and shared their professional aspirations and their perspectives on their internship experiences.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Magistrate Judge Karen Howze of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, who chairs the internship program! We are grateful for all of Judge Howze's contributions to the tremendous success of the Summer Judicial Internship Program.

The Council looks forward to an exciting and wonderful year. Please enjoy the rest of the summer!

Future Events

18th Annual Chillin' & Grillin' Pool Party

Please join NBA Region XII Affiliate Chapters, the Washington Bar Association (WBA) and the Greater Washington Area Chapter of the Women Lawyers Division (GWAC) for the 18th Annual Chillin' & Grillin' Pool Party. For those who come every year, let's do it again . . . But BETTER!

Enjoy delicious grilled foods, cold beer, cool wine, hot music (classic & contemporary), and unlimited networking. Also, enjoy swimming, billiard pool and other games. So, come out, bring your bathing suit (or

not), and support the WBA and GWAC through an evening of chillin' and grillin'!

- Location:** The Wilmot Residence
1653 Kalmia Road, NW
Washington, DC 20012
- When:** Saturday, September 12, 2015
at 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Please RSVP by September 8,
2015 at
rsvpjudlaw@gmail.com.
- Cost:** Non WBA or GWAC members -
\$10.00 (Accommodations to
pay dues will be available at
registration table.) Children
and college students free
admission. Law students get
complimentary admittance if
they are a financial member
of either GWAC or WBA law
student divisions.

Also, in the spirit of our great organizations, the WBA Book Club and GWAC will be accepting donations of children's books for a local elementary school library. Please bring along your favorites to contribute.

Wine Tasting/Congressional Black Caucus Reception



Save the Date! On September 17, 2015 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., the Washington Bar Association

Educational Foundation will be holding a Wine Tasting/Congressional Black Caucus Conference Reception on the Cochran Firm's Rooftop (1100 New York Avenue, N.W. The event is sponsored by S&R Liquors, Café Grande, Morgan Stanley, and Clicks. During the event, WBAEF will honor

all WBA life members and celebrate the legacy of Charles Hamilton Houston and Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton. Sponsor S&R Liquors will offer wine tasting to compliment appetizers donated by Café Grande and other generous sponsors.

The Wine Tasting/CBC Reception costs \$25.00 per person. There is no charge for WBA life members to attend this event. All proceeds will be used to fund the Charles Hamilton Houston Scholarship and Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton Scholarship. This event will be open to all Congressional Black Caucus Conference attendees.

Member Achievements

CDR Kerwin E. Miller



On June 2, 2015, CDR Kerwin E. Miller was recognized on the floor United States House of Representative's by Honorable Eleanor Holmes for his 10 years outstanding service on the Service Academy Selection Board. Congratulations, Kerwin!

Judge Emmet G. Sullivan



On June 25, 2015 Judge Emmet G. Sullivan received the American Inns of Court Professionalism Award for the DC Circuit. Congratulations, Judge Sullivan!

Click [here](#) for more information about Judge Sullivan and the American Inns of Court Professionalism Award.

Khaliah Barnes and Shara Chang

On July 23, 2015, WBA Board Member Khaliah Barnes and WBA Member Shara Chang received the National Bar Association's 2015 40 Under 40 Nation's Best Advocates award. The award is given to "the nation's top lawyers under 40 who exemplify a broad range of high achievement, including in innovation, vision, leadership and legal and community involvement."



Congratulations, Shara and Khaliah! Click [here](#) for more information about the NBA's 2015 40 Under 40 Nation's Best Advocates award and the awardees.

Super Lawyers

The Washington Bar Association would like to note that the following individuals who are current and past leaders in the organization were named in this year's edition of Super Lawyers Magazine for Washington, D.C.:

- Karen Evans, President
- Billy Martin, Immediate Past President
- Ronald C. Jessamy, 44th President, Hall of Fame Member, 2013 Ollie May Cooper Recipient
- Keith Watters, 33rd President
- Sandra Robinson, Law Day Committee Co-Chair, 2014 Ollie May Cooper Recipient
- Ben Wilson, Law Day Committee Co-Chair
- Philip Hampton, General Counsel

There are other WBA attorneys who made the 2015 Super Lawyer list. The Washington Bar Association wishes to congratulate them as well. In fact, we want the world to know that all WBA members are SUPER LAWYERS.

WBA Members on the Move

The WBA's Immediate Past Chair of the Young Lawyers Division, Dave Morrow, II has been appointed to serve as Special Advisor to the President and Assistant Chief of Staff at his alma mater, Elon University in North Carolina. The WBA wishes Dave congratulations on his new post.



Announcements

Know Your Rights and Responsibilities Panel Series

CALLING ALL MEMBERS OF THE WBA - Do you want to elevate your profile? Do you want to sharpen your speaking skills? Are you willing to share your expertise with members of the community and the legal community? Do you have experience and expertise in the topics listed below? If so, please contact Bridget Bailey Lipscomb at

bridgetbaileylipscomb@gmail.com as soon as possible to let her know of your willingness to serve on one of the Know Your Rights and Responsibilities panels the WBA plans to hold during the 2015-2016 bar year.

- Know Your Rights and Responsibilities When Dealing with Police Officers
- Know Your Rights and Responsibilities Regarding Voting
- Know Your Rights and Responsibilities Regarding the Affordable Care Act
- Know Your Rights and Responsibilities Regarding Identify Theft
- Know Your Rights and Responsibilities Regarding Internet Privacy Issues
- Know Your Rights and Responsibilities Regarding Wills and Estates
- Know Your Rights and Responsibilities Regarding Elder Law Issues
- Know Your Rights and Responsibilities Regarding Fatherhood
- Know Your Rights and Responsibilities Regarding Youth Bullying

WBA Scholarships

Charles Hamilton Houston Scholarship Recipients



The WBAEF awarded the Charles Hamilton Houston Scholarship to two students from the Howard University School of Law. Ms. Ebony Brown (photographed right) received a \$3,000.00 scholarship award as the 1st place winner and Ms. Maleaha Brown (photographed left) received a \$2,000.00 scholarship award as the 2nd place winner. The scholarships were awarded at the WBA's and WBAEF's 2015 Law Day Dinner. Both students submitted essays on the topic, "In the age of social media and 24-hour news coverage, cases of police brutality can be well publicized and widely discussed. The actual investigations of brutality complaints are not so public. What are the rights of the victims/ or victims' families to access information? What rights do the accused officer have?" Congratulations, Ebony and Maleaha!

Eugene Hamilton Scholarship Recipient



Ms. Natasha Bennett, a 2L from the University of the District of Columbia-David A. Clarke School of Law, was awarded the \$5000 Eugene Hamilton Scholarship during the Annual Law Day Dinner at the J.W. Marriott on May 2, 2015. Ms. Bennett is a Dean's Fellow, Editor-in-Chief for the Law Review, and was the recipient of the 2014 LeClercq Best Trial Brief Award. Ms. Bennett was selected for writing the best brief on "Whether local municipalities possessing and utilizing military grade weaponry is a violation of the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution." We congratulate Ms. Bennett!