

COMMUNICATOR

The Volusia County Bar Association Newsletter | January 2025



2024 YEAR-END MEMBER SURVEY

Your voice matters to us! We're dedicated to making our events and programs the best they can be, and your feedback plays a vital role in shaping our future.

We invite you to take a few minutes to complete our Member Survey, survey will close **January 31, 2025**. This is your chance to share your thoughts, suggestions, and ideas to help us improve and create events that truly resonate with you.

[TAKE SURVEY NOW](#)

Thank you for being an important part of our community. Together, we can make our upcoming events even more engaging and meaningful.

Sarah Grover
Executive Director



Q&A Time

Q

Who's a great member you know?

A

Nominate someone to be a VCBA member spotlight and make their day! Email volusiabar@gmail.com



VCBA MEMBERSHIP DUES UPDATE

Updates to Member Platform and Dues Payment

We are thrilled to announce the launch of the Volusia County Bar Association's new Member Platform - JointIt, designed to make managing your membership easier and more efficient! This enhanced system offers a user-friendly experience to:

- Pay Membership Dues securely online.
- Update Your Profile information anytime.
- Access Member Benefits and resources conveniently.

CHECK IT OUT NOW!!

To get started:

1. [Visit our new Member Platform - JointIt](#)
2. As an existing member, your profile should be available and you should be able to login. If you are unable to login, please contact volusiabar@gmail.com
3. Explore the features and update your profile information.
 - As a reminder, the attorney search feature on the website is an additional fee of \$50 plus \$10 for each additional field of search.
 - If you wish to use this feature, please fill out the information and you will receive a separate invoice from QuickBooks.
4. Process payment for 2025 dues.

For questions or assistance, please contact us at volusiabar@gmail.com.

Thank you for being a valued member of the Volusia County Bar Association. We're excited about this step forward and can't wait for you to experience it!

Warm regards,

The VCBA Technology Committee



SAVE THE DATES!

VCBA & VFAWL - Membership Meeting with the Florida Bar President, Roland Sanchez-Medina

Feb. 7th, 2025

11:45am - 1:00pm

Members: \$30 includes lunch

[REGISTER NOW!](#)

Roland Sanchez-Medina, a Cuba native, after moving around some his family settled down to Miami.

A graduate of the University of Miami (1988), Boston College Law School (1991), and NYU School of Law (Taxation, 1992), Sanchez-Medina is a bilingual attorney with a distinguished career. He has served as president of the Cuban American Bar Association (2009), a member of the Florida Bar Board of Governors, and chair of the Program Evaluation Committee. His community leadership includes roles with the Miami-Dade County School Board, South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the Orange Bowl Committee.

As a partner at SMGQ Law, an AV-rated, minority-owned firm with offices in Florida and Georgia, Sanchez-Medina focuses on corporate and securities law, mergers and acquisitions, governance, real estate, tax and estate planning, and international transactions. He previously held roles at McDermott, Will & Emery and Holland & Knight.



VCBA AND VFAWL PRESENT

MEMBER MEETING

With the Florida Bar Present, Roland Sanchez-Medina

FEBRUARY 7, 2025



11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

REGISTER NOW

"The Daytona"
1870 Victory Cir.
Daytona Beach, FL 32114



BENCH & BARBEQUE

An Annual Event Celebrating the Volusia County Legal Community and our 50 year members!

Thursday, April 17th, 2025
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

The Brannon Center, NSB
105 S Riverside Drive
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168

SAVE THE DATE

BENCH AND BARBEQUE

April 17, 2025

Brannon Center, New Smyrna Beach

YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION

“CLEAR THE LIST” Toy Drive

This holiday season, the Volusia County Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division (VCBA YLD) collaborated with Community Partnership for Children (CPC) to bring holiday cheer to foster children through a special Christmas Toy Drive. The joint effort provided personalized gifts for 33 children in foster care, spreading joy and warmth during the festive season.

The drive was made possible through the generosity of local attorneys, firms, and community members who contributed toys, gift cards, and donations. CPC played a crucial role in identifying the children and their holiday wishes, ensuring each gift was meaningful and tailored to their needs.

This initiative highlights the impact of collective community efforts in making the holidays brighter for those in need. VCBA YLD’s partnership with CPC exemplifies the spirit of giving and underscores the importance of supporting foster children in Volusia County. The success of the drive serves as a reminder of how compassion and teamwork can make a difference in the lives of others.

Young Lawyers Division, VCBA



NOTICE



STATE OF FLORIDA
SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns & Volusia Counties
Putnam County Courthouse-Bldg. E
518 St. Johns Avenue
Palatka, Florida 32177

BERNIE TEBO
Supervising Staff Attorney

Phone: (386) 329-0895

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 20, 2024

TO: Circuit and County Judges
Judicial Assistants
Clerks of Court
General Magistrates / Hearing Officers
Mediators
Staff Attorneys
County Bar Associations

FROM: Bernie Tebo, Supervising Staff Attorney

RE: **Interest Rate on Judgments or Decrees Effective January 1, 2025**

Section 55.03(1), Florida Statutes, requires the Chief Financial Officer of the State of Florida to set the interest rate payable on judgments or decrees quarterly.

Please be advised that the interest rate for the quarter beginning January 1, 2025, has been reduced to 9.38% per annum or .000256284 per day.

Pursuant to section 215.422(13), Florida Statutes, the interest rate for payments to health care providers remains at 1% per month.

For more information, contact the Vendor Ombudsman Section of the Department of Financial Services at (850) 413-5516.



VOLUSIA COUNTY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION

125 N. Ridgewood Ave., Suite 100, Daytona Beach, FL 32114



1725 W. International Speedway Blvd.,
Daytona Beach 32114

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

January 16, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.

Our presenter will be the Honorable Judge Elizabeth A. Blackburn. who will be presenting: “Ethics and Professionalism”. Judge Blackburn will also install the new board members. You will receive 1 Ethics NALA CLE for the presentation. (The Florida Bar recognizes NALA CLEs)

Menu Options: (All options non-alcohol beverage i.e., soda, coffee, or tea).
Alcoholic beverages are available at cost.◦

- **Grilled Chicken Breast**
- **Steak Wrap◦**
- **Fish and “Chips”**

Cost:

- Member with dinner: \$21.00
- Member without dinner: \$7.00
- Non-member with dinner: \$26.00
- Non-member without dinner: \$10.00

Payment will be taken at the door. You will be able to pay via Zelle, credit card, check or cash. Please RSVP by January 14, 2025, by emailing Volusiaparalegals@gmail.com. Anyone not showing up at the meeting without cancelling will be responsible for the meal cost. **Please provide us with your choice of meal, and any menu change, so that your meal can be prepared and served shortly after 6:00 p.m.**

Note: If you are vegan or have other dietary needs, please let us know and we can help you with options.

Does your to-do list always seem never ending?

OPTIMIZE WORKFLOW & SIMPLIFY TASKS

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- Specialized Projects ●

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Jennifer Barnes
Owner
jennifer@prevailtechconsulting.com

COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES

As mentioned in the August issue of the Florida Bar News, Community Legal Services presents the:

CLAUD B. NELSON PRO BONO PEER ACADEMY

Join our fully remote, “Interpersonal Violence Civil Injunctions” course and become equipped with the skills necessary to vigorously represent clients in Domestic Violence, Stalking, Repeat, Dating & Sexual Violence Injunction Hearings.

62%

FL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS DO **NOT** PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES

NNEVD

82%

Of calls to DCF’s Abuse Hotline were **NOT** answered by legal professionals

MYFLFAMILIES

51%

Of calls to the National Domestic Violence Hotline were **NOT** referred to legal professionals

National Domestic Violence Hotline

Virtual CLE Credits

Shorter - 3 month course

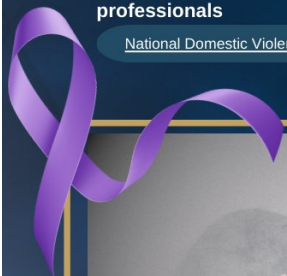
(reduced from 6 months)

Expert-led Curriculum

Networking Opportunities

Professional Headshots

Sample Pleadings and Training Manuals



Registration now open
Deadline - Jan 10, 2025

BECOME A PART
OF THE
SOLUTION



Prior Family Law Experience is Required

JOB POSTING

CITY OF PORT ORANGE ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY

Conveniently located on the east coast of Florida between Daytona Beach and New Smyrna Beach, the City of Port Orange is a vibrant, up-and-coming community and home to 66,000 residents. Covering 29 square miles, Port Orange is a moderately sized city in Volusia County with waterfront property lining the intracoastal waterway. Port Orange is accessible via I-95 and US-1. The City operates under a Council-Manager form of government.



Under the general direction of the City Attorney, the Assistant City Attorney provides comprehensive support to department heads on routine matters to protect the interests of the City. The Assistant City Attorney will also assist the City Attorney on complex research tasks and occasional civil litigation.

Port Orange seeks candidates who have the ability to work well with the City Attorney's legal team and can earn the trust and respect of the City's management team. A Juris Doctor Degree from an accredited law school preferably with three years or more of experience as a practicing attorney and a substantial amount of which has been in the practice of local government law, or other relevant experience in the government or private sector. The selected candidate must be an attorney eligible to practice law in Florida with an active Florida Bar license and in good standing with the Florida Bar at the time of appointment.

The City of Port Orange offers a competitive starting salary range of \$96,000 - \$115,000 depending upon qualifications and experience. A generous benefits program including health, dental, and life insurance, paid vacation, sick leave, and other professional development assistance is included. The City offers a defined contribution retirement plan 401(a) with a 10% City contribution, and an optional matching program (457 plan) which allows employees to earn up to an additional 3% contribution on a 2-1 match. The Assistant City Attorney position also qualifies for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program. Normal office hours are expected (with occasional after-hours meetings), but there is no residency requirement for the position.

Applications for the position will be accepted through December 31, 2024.

For more information on this position please feel free to visit our website www.port-orange.org/jobs.

JOB POSTINGS

Volusia County School Board is seeking a School Board Attorney. The candidate must have a Juris Doctorate degree from an accredited law school and experience in education law at the K-12 or higher level preferred.

This position will provide legal counsel to the School Board regarding Volusia County Schools and provide policy development services and school Board representation as assigned.

Benefits:

- 401 (k)
- Dental insurance
- Health insurance
- Life insurance
- Retirement plan
- Vision insurance

Schedule:

- 8-hour shift
- Monday to Friday
- On call
- Weekends as needed

To see complete job description and to apply, use the link below:

https://ats3.atenterprise.powerschool.com/ats/app_login?COMPANY_ID=IA000044

Volusia County, located in the heart of the beautiful east coast of Florida, is a rapidly growing, progressive area. Sixteen municipalities make up the county, with Daytona Beach, DeLand, Deltona, Ormond Beach and Port Orange as the largest metropolitan areas. Conveniently located for easy access to Orlando, Jacksonville, Tampa, and Miami.



Volusia Pride NEEDS YOU!

The mission of the DeLand Pride Advocacy Committee is to promote the rights, well-being, and equality of the LGBTQ+ population of DeLand and greater Volusia County through local action, community partnerships, and visibility.

We want to partner with a local attorney for legal guidance and feedback as we tackle the ever-changing legal landscape impacting the LGBTQ+ community.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact us at robin@delandpride.org.

www.volusiapride.org/advocacy-and-education



Thank you sponsors!

A 300009



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Thank you sponsors!



NEW LOCATION

COBB COLE DAYTONA BEACH
ONE DAYTONA BOULEVARD, SUITE 600
DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32114

The Cobb Cole Daytona Beach Office is conveniently located across from the Daytona International Speedway.

[CONTACT US](#)

OFFICES IN DAYTONA BEACH & DELAND
386.255.8171 | WWW.COBB Cole.COM

Tax Attorney Jeff DeRosier

Business litigation and transactions, tax controversy for individuals and businesses, tax planning for businesses and individuals.

Tax issues permeate every area of the law. In any business-related transaction, a tax attorney can work with your CPA or other advisor to ensure minimal tax expense. A tax attorney can be an invaluable resource no matter the legal issue.



WRIGHT & CASEY P.A.
SURFCOASTLAW.COM

340 North Causeway
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
jderosier@surfcoastlaw.com
T: 386 428-3311



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Mediation and Arbitration Services

R. Brooks Casey- \$325/hr., Circuit and Appellate
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Jeff DeRosier- \$325/hr., Circuit (with an LLM in Taxation)

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No Cancellation Fees

administrator@surfcoastlaw.com
386.428.3311

340 N. Causeway, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169

Thank you sponsors!

SCOTT W. CICHON CERTIFIED MEDIATOR

Mr. Cichon has been a Certified Circuit Civil Mediator since 1994. He concentrates his mediation practice on commercial, real estate, construction, contract, condominium, and collection disputes.

- Conference rooms in DeLand & Daytona Beach
- No mileage or travel fees for off-site mediations
- No cancellation fee



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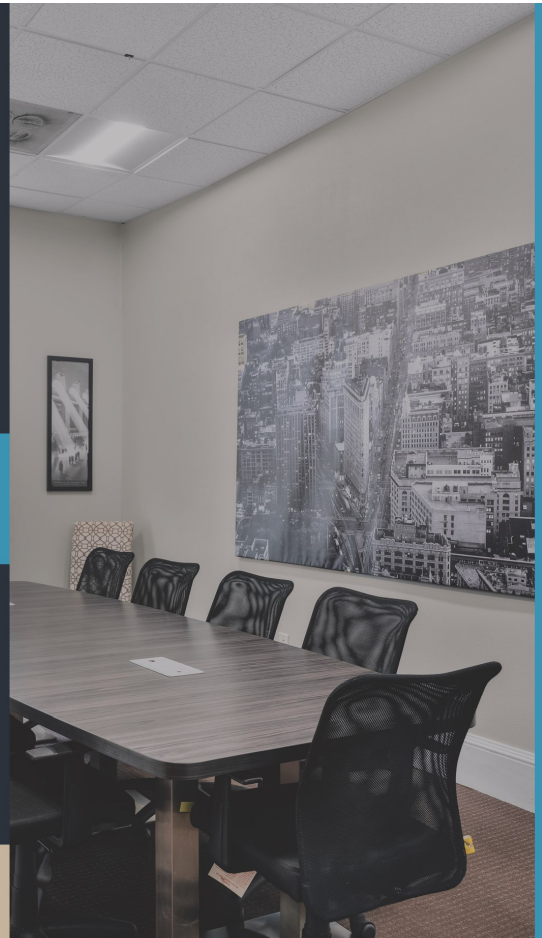
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🌐 www.WorkWebb.net



Volusia County Law Library

Monthly Newsletter

Monthly e-newsletters with featured acquisitions, resource links, library news, and trivia questions.

CLE Rentals

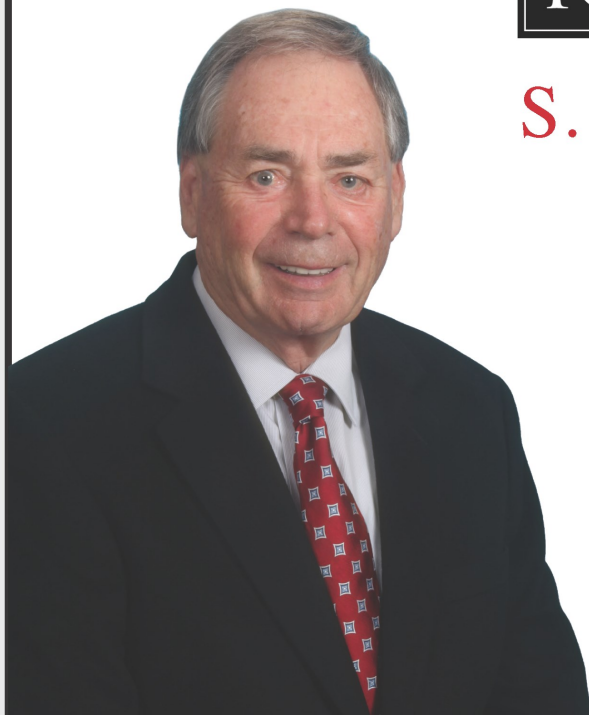
Attorneys may rent CLE titles as well as borrow from the VCLL Law Practice Management Collection.

Book Sales

Monthly used law book sales, and receive 10% off book purchase when you donate book(s).

vclawlib.org

KVP



CIVIL MEDIATOR

S. LARUE WILLIAMS

Board Certified by the Florida Bar in
Business Litigation, Construction Law and
Civil Trial Law and handles mediations
in these certified practice areas.

150 S. Palmetto Ave., Suite 300
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Phone: 386.252.1561

KVPLAW.COM

slw@kvplaw.com

S. LaRue Williams

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024-25

Board of Directors for the Volusia County Bar Association and the Young Lawyers Divisions for the 2024 -2025 year (August - July). The Annual Meeting took place on August 2nd, 2024, for the official vote and swearing in ceremony led by Judge Katherine Hurst Miller.

2024-25 VCBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Ellzey, *President*
Lori Sandman, *President Elect*
Tonya Cromartie, *Treasurer*
Michael Ciocchetti, *Secretary*

Director 2022-25

Charley Vega

MaryCatherine Crock

Mel Stack

Director 2023-26

Maria Indelicato

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Director 2024-27

Sundria Ridgely

Tammy Jaques

Michele Simonsen

2024-25 YLD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carleen Leffler, *President*
Hunter Morrill, *President Elect*
Alyson Bryant, *Treasurer*
Sydney Cichon, *Secretary*

YLD Directors

Jeffrey Bauer

Angela Burke

Taylor Carley

Christy Earls

Kelsey Hansen-Walter

Courtney Jones

Mikaela Nordman

Edwin Thiruchelvam

SECTIONS & COMMITTEES

Solo/Small Firm Section - Lori Sandman, Chair
Family Law Section - Sara Glover, Chair
Elder Law Section - Victoria Zinn, Chair
State & Local Government Section - Carly Meek, Chair
Workers Comp Section - Clay Meek, Chair

Volusia County Bar Association

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The Communicator is published by the Volusia County Bar Association as a part of its commitment to information relevant to issues and concerns at the local level. Opinions expressed or positions taken are those of the author and may not reflect the views of the publication of the Volusia County Bar Association. Articles for publication should be sent via email to volusiabar@gmail.com no later than the 15th of the month. Rates are listed on the Advertising Opportunities page on www.volusiabar.org.