

NEWSLETTER

COMMITTED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF LEGAL EXCELLENCE, COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND INCREASED MINORITY PARTICIPATION IN THE PRACTICE OF LAW

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JFB Board of Directors

Debra M. Davis
President

Karren J. Pope-Onwukwe
Vice-President

Robin D. Bright
Recording Secretary

DeAndrei Drummond
Corresponding Secretary

Belinda Bell
Treasurer

William A. Snoddy
President-Elect

Bridgette A. Greer
Immediate Past President

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Debra M. Davis

"All eyes are on the legal community as we face the re-defining of civil rights in our country. We must work steadfastly in cooperation with other organizations to step to the forefront to empower our communities. The J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association must become a household word for every citizen in the region. The number of our active members has declined over the past years as with other organizations. I challenge my colleagues not to be discouraged but to rededicate themselves to uplifting and empowering the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association. Be assured that there has been and will continue to be a core group of committed individuals who are willing to carry the torch for the next mile. We

afford to rest on the laurels of our past leaders. It is your turn now."

Congratulations on assembling a diverse group of leaders on the Board to lead you this bar year. They bring to the Board diverse practice areas, lengths of time in practice as well as involvement in other community organizations. Certainly, we cannot do it alone. Your involvement, your ideas, dues, presence at events and general encouragement are needed. I challenge each of you to step up your participation a notch.

Joseph Wright will host the Holiday Party next Saturday, December 20, 2003. (Ed. Note: see related article below.) **Marva Jo Camp** is heading up the Legislative breakfast in January and **D. Michael Lyles** has already begun work on the oratorical contest for February. Call them and offer your services.

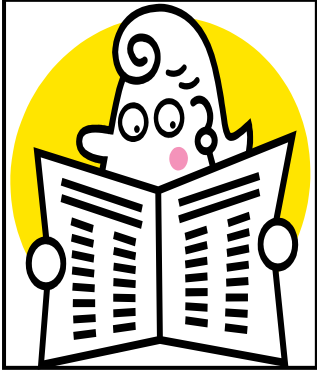
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ELECTION RESULTS



The **Hon. Charles B. Day**, U.S. Magistrate Judge and Elections Chair, presided at the election of officers for 2004 at JFB Bar Association's General Membership meeting on November 16, 2003. The results:

President-Elect - **William A. Snoddy**, Associate County



JFB Newsletter Committee

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Chair

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The **JFB Newsletter Committee** strives to insure that the *JFB Newsletter* provides a valuable resource to its members. But we need your help. The Newsletter Committee invites your participation as a Committee member or as a contributor. We welcome articles and information on topics of interest to JFB members. For further information, please contact **Sharon V. Burrell** or **Lloyd A. Johnson**. (See above.)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK (Cont.)

(continued from page 1)

This year we will strive to “*Build Bridges To Empower Ourselves and Our Community*”. We will work with community leaders and other members Bar Associations to take the forefront on issues that relate to our members and our community. This has been the historical role of lawyers in our community and this is but one of the many missions of JFB Bar Association.

I have already scheduled meetings with representatives from the local NAACP, the Prince George’s County Sheriff’s Department and The Prince George’s County Executive’s Office. We will meet with **Chief Judge Robert Bell**, the local judiciary, members of the legislature and other community leaders to establish an ongoing dialogue. We have already

planned to co-sponsor events with the Maryland State Bar Association, Maryland Hispanic Bar Association, the Women’s Bar Association, the Prince George’s County Bar Association and Monumental Bar Association.

In the next two weeks your Board of Directors will be preparing the budget for the upcoming year, appointing chairpersons to the various committees as well as appointing liaisons to various organizations. We will also be assembling a team of members who will be charged with identifying and developing members to take on leadership roles in Bourne and throughout the community. I will be calling on you for your help. Step it up a notch. I am honored to serve as your President and will see you at the **Holiday Party** on December 20th!

Debra M. Davis, Esquire
President, JFB Bar Assoc.

ELECTION RESULTS (Cont.)

(Continued from page 1.)

Attorney, County Attorney’s Office
County Attorney’s Office for Prince
George’s County. E-mail: wasnoddy@co.pg.md.us.

Vice-President - **Karren Pope-Onwukwe**, Law Offices of Karren Pope-Onwukwe, E-mail: kpopeatty@hotmail.com

Treasurer - **Belinda Bell**, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, E-mail: bbell@cpsc.gov

Recording Secretary - **Robin D. Bright**, Assistant State’s Attorney, State’s Attorney’s Office for Prince George’s County, E-mail: rdbright@co.pg.md.us.

Corresponding Secretary - **DeAndrei Drummond** Assistant State’s Attorney, State’s Attorney’s Office for Prince George’s County. E-mail: dddummond@co.pg.md.us.

Immediate Past-President, **Bridgette Ann Greer** will be an ex-officio member of the Board.

Following certification of the election, outgoing President Bridgette Greer administered the Oath of Office to those elected officers who were present.

After Ms. Greer delivered closing remarks on her opportunity to serve JFB, she received an appreciative and standing ovation from the membership.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY.



JFB's Annual Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 20th from 8:00 p.m. until at the home of **Joseph and Shawn Monique Wright**, 302 Tamarack Court, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774. Telephone: (301) 218-4186 (home) and (240) 472-4533 (cell).

Spouses, significant others and friends are invited, of course. Officers who were not sworn in on November 16th, will be sworn in at the Holiday Party.

This year we will support the **Salvation Army in Montgomery County** which recently informed us that **they are in dire need of toys for children up to age 14 years**

and that they will distribute them on December 22, 2003.

Directions: From the Capital Beltway:

Take Exit 15A Central Avenue East (towards Six Flags). Proceed 3 miles.

Make right onto 193 (Watkins Park Drive). Proceed $\frac{3}{4}$ miles.

Make left onto Keverton Drive. Go to end.

Make right onto Burleigh. Go to end.

Make left onto Clairborne Street (fork in road). Go to end.

Make left onto Hillroad, and

Next left onto Tamarack Court. 302 Tamarack Court is the last house on the right.

RSVP by Friday, December 19th by phone (301) 218-4186 or by e-mail: JLWright@co.pg.md.us or criminal@comcast.net

DID YOU KNOW ... (Cont.)



The **Maryland State Bar Association's Leadership Academy** is accepting applications for its Leadership Class for 2004-2205. The deadline for submitting applications for this class is March 31, 2004. If you are interested in

learning more about this exciting opportunity, visit the MSBA Internet web site at www.msba.org/seccomm/leadership or contact **Abigale Bruce-Watson** at (301) 572-3247 or by e-mail at abruce-watson@omng.com.

JFB Past-President, **Midgett S. Parker, Jr.**, will receive an outstanding leadership award at the Anne Arundel County's **16th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Ceremony** on January 15, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. at the La Fountain Blue in Glen Burnie, Maryland at 7514 Ritchie Highway, Glenn Burnie, MD. **Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.** will be the guest speaker. -

Cost for a table of 10 is \$400.00. If you are interested in participating in joining JFB members at a table, please contact **Arthur Horne** directly at AHorne9291@aol.com or by phone at (301) 925-1800.

The *JFB Newsletter* is published monthly except July. All rights are reserved but articles may be reprinted without permission, provided proper credit is given. JFB members receive this newsletter at no cost. Statements expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the **J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, Inc.** or its officers.

The *JFB Newsletter* invites letters and articles. Submissions should be sent by FAX to (301) 809-0921 or by E-mail, in MS Word format, to lloydajohnson@comcast.net. Editor reserves the right to shorten any submissions to meet space limitations. Deadline is the 29th of each month.

J. FRANKLYN BOURNE BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 1121

Upper Marlboro, MD 20773-1121

Important Dates to Remember

Annual Holiday Party

Sat., December 20th, 8:00 p.m.

RSVP: (301) 218-4186

302 Tamarack Court

Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

General Membership Meeting

Thurs., January 16th, 6:30 p.m.

Greenbelt Community Center

15 Crescent Road

Greenbelt, MD

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



The **J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Assoc. Inc.** is committed to legal excellence, community service, and the advancement of African-American minorities in the legal profession. Our membership consists primarily of African-American attorneys who live and/or work in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

Membership classes are:

Active: Licensed to practice law in Maryland. Dues: admitted to the Bar for less than 5 years — \$25; all others — \$50.

Associate: Licensed in *any other jurisdiction*, who lives in Montgomery or Prince George's County. Dues: admitted to the Bar for less than 5 years — \$25; all others — \$50.

Student: Matriculated at a Washington metropolitan area law school *or* lives in Montgomery or Prince George's County and matriculated in any law school. Dues: \$5.

New Admittees: Admitted to practice in Maryland in the last 12 months. Dues waived.

For membership applications, contact **Bridgette A. Greer** at (301) 883-7640 or by e-mail at bagreer@co.pg.md.us