

NEWSLETTER

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

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



William A. Snoddy

more-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport.

Gov. Ehrlich knows the significance of Justice Marshall's legacy in this State and the nation. The Governor knows that Justice Marshall's began the assault on Jim Crow in Maryland courts when he represented **Donald Murray** in his successful suit to desegregate the University of Maryland's law school, followed by his vic-

As many of us already know, the MD General Assembly overwhelmingly approved and **Gov. Robert Ehrlich** has signed into law a measure to officially rename Baltimore-Washington International Airport to **Balti-**

tory for equal pay for African-American teachers in the State's then-segregated public schools. The Governor, like you, is aware that Justice Marshall's successful legal challenges to discrimination in Maryland and elsewhere culminated in the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* decision in 1954, which led to the dismantling of de jure segregation throughout the country.

The Governor also knows the message he will send to youngsters from Cherry Hill in Baltimore to Forest Heights in Prince George's County by honoring a champion for equal opportunity. Governor Ehrlich knows that the benefit of renaming BWI in honor of Justice Marshall far outweigh any cost associated with the endeavor. Governor Ehrlich signed HB 189 because he knows, as the bill

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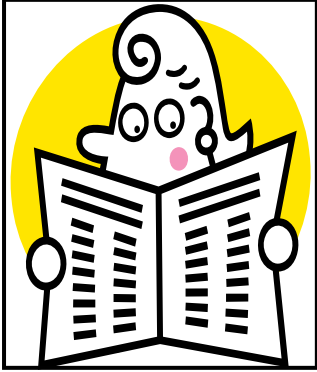
JFB'S JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE



(l-r) Joseph Gibson, Michael Pearson, Felecia Greer, Omalade Akinbolaji, Debra Davis, Chair, and Ranji Garrett

JFB's Judicial Nominating Committee interviewed all of the 19 candidates for the judicial vacancy on the District Court of Maryland for Prince George's County. The Committee conducted its interviews on Thursday April 21st, and Friday April 22nd, 2005. The Committee is chaired by JFB's Immediate Past-President **Debra M. Davis**, sole

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK (Cont.)

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extols, that "[r]enaming the Baltimore Washington International Airport to include Thurgood Marshall's name would serve as a fitting tribute to a great citizen of Maryland and would give him the recognition he deserves for his life achievements, particularly in his home state."

Plan to attend our membership meeting on Thursday, May 19th. The CLE topic is "Minding Your Business: The Dos and Don'ts of Solo Practice." Several successful solo practitioners will share their experience and experiences, offer advice and answer your questions.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Sen. Gloria Lallah** (D-26) and Del. **Marvin Holmes** (D-23B) for addressing the member-

ships of JFB and the Prince George's Chapter of the NAACP during our joint meeting last month. Thanks also to JFB member and Prince George's NAACP President **June White Dillard** for her hospitality.

JFB and Prince George's branch of the NAACP are again teaming up for our "**Ask a Lawyer**" program to be held on Saturday, May 21 at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden, 3600 Brightseat Road in Landover. I hope you will come out and support JFB's efforts in the community by answering citizen questions and providing brief, free legal consultations. For more information, contact the **Honorable Herman Dawson** at hcdawson@co.pg.md.us.

William A. Snoddy, Esquire
President, JFB Bar Assoc.

JFB Newsletter Committee

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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.)

SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT — May 31st!

The J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association's **Fourth Annual Scholarship Golf Classic**, co-sponsored with the **Monumental Bar Association**, will be held at the Queenstown Harbor Golf Links across the Bay Bridge in Queenstown, Maryland on *Tuesday, May 31, 2005 with a Shotgun start scheduled for 8:45 a.m.*

The cost is \$125 per golfer or \$500 per foursome and the tournament's format is "Captain's Choice." Besides great golf, duffers will also be treated to breakfast, practice range balls, an awards luncheon and the U.S.G.A. videotape "Spirit of the Game." In addition, prizes will be awarded for longest drive and closest to the pin.

This fun event is both organizations' premier fundraising event for awarding of scholarships for high school and law school students.

Do not procrastinate in sending your registration without delay! Space is limited.

Send your registration to **Garland H. Stillwell**, Esquire, Golf Committee Chair, J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, Inc., Post Office Box 1121, Upper Marlboro, MD 20773-1121.

Make your check payable to the "J. Franklyn Bourne Scholarship Fund, Inc."

For further information, contact Garland Stillwell directly by telephone at (202) 663-8147 or by e-mail at garland.Stillwell@shawpittman.com or the Monumental Bar Association's **Ron Richardson** by telephone at (800) 252-6622 or by e-mail at rer@lawpca.com

DID YOU KNOW?.

JFB's **Membership Committee** reports that as of May 15th, 50 new members have joined the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association—the largest increase in JFB membership in recent memory. If you haven't received your invoice or have any questions or concerns

about your membership status, contact our treasurer, **Robin Bright** by phone at (301) 952-3500 or by e-mail at rdbright@co.pg.md.us or chair, **Lloyd A. Johnson** by phone at (301) 367-5115 or via e-mail at lloydajohnson@comcast.

Office Space Available at 7339 Hanover Pkwy, Suite D, Greenbelt, MD. 1,000 sq. ft in-

cludes 2 offices, bathroom, and storage area. Asking \$1,300 per month. For further information, contact Bruce A. Johnson, Jr. by telephone at (301) 860-1505 or by e-mail at bajjlaw@aol.com.

Administrative Law Judge: The Office of Administrative Hearings seeks candidates for Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"). Candidates must have been an attorney for at least five (5) years, currently a member of the Maryland Bar, and possess excellent writing, time management and computer skills. ALJ's travel throughout Maryland but are based at Hunt Valley. The starting salary is \$65,408. Send five copies of resume, three references, 15-page writing sample, and Certificate of Good Standing from the Maryland Court of Appeals. Submissions should be mailed to: John McDermott, Personnel Director, Office of Administrative Hearings, 1101 Gilroy Road, Hunt Valley, MD 21031 by June 17, 2005.

"ASK-A-LAWYER" - Saturday, May 21st.

On Saturday, May 21st, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, in cooperation with the **First Baptist Church of Glenarden's Legal Ministry**, will present a free **"Ask a Lawyer"** program and seminars at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden, 3600 Brightseat Road, Landover, MD.

The program, part of JFB's ongoing mission to educate the community about its rights and obligations, will provide the public with free legal consultation on a "walk-up" basis as well as information on legal resources.

Topics will include landlord/tenant; family (domestic law); will and estates; Social Security; consumer; employment; personal injury; juvenile and criminal justice. In addition to improving the public's access to legal services, this program is an excellent opportunity to introduce yourself to a generally underserved community in so far as legal services are concerned.

For further information, contact **Hon. Herman C. Dawson** at (301) 952-3676 or **Bridgett Smith** at (301) 257-4636 (First Baptist Church),

"THIRSTY THURSDAY" SOCIAL.

JFB's **"Thirsty Thursday" Social** on April 28th at College Park's 94th Aerosquadron Restaurant was a great opportunity for members, friends, and hitherto courtroom adversaries to gather in a relaxed and informal climate.

The event was co-sponsored with the **Prince George's County Bar Association** and the **Young Lawyers Section of the Maryland State Bar Association**.

A measure of the evening's success was reflected in one JFB member's comment to the effect that she hadn't met so many colleagues in a number of years.

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 Date to Remember

General Membership Meeting

Thurs., May 19th, 6:30 p.m.
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

“Ask-A-Lawyer”

Sat., May 21st; 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
First Baptist Church of Glenarden
3600 Brightseat Rd.
Landover, MD

Scholarship Golf Tournament

Tues., May 31st, 8:45 a.m.
Queenstown Harbor Golf Links
Queenstown, MD

JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE (cont.)

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practitioner in Camp Springs, Maryland and consists of JFB members **Felecia Greer**, Corporate Counsel for Pepco in Washington, D.C.; **Omalade Akinbolaji**, an Associate with Strickler, Sachitano & Hatfield, P.A. in Bethesda, Maryland; **Ranji Garrett**, sole practitioner in Rockville, Maryland; **Jaki Buckley** with Jefferson and Buckley in Camp Springs, Maryland; **Joseph Gibson** of Gib-

son and Jones in Greenbelt, Maryland; **Michael Pearson** of Bennett & Bair, LLP in Greenbelt, MD.

This Committee expects to be kept rather busy with the recent announcement of two additional District Court vacancies in Prince George’s County. If you wish to participate in the judicial selection process, contact **Debra M. Davis** at dmdlaw@erols.com or by telephone at (301) 899-9400.

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 **Lloyd A. Johnson** at (301) 367-5115 or by e-mail at LloydAJohnson@comcast.net.