

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

Hide not your talents, they for use were made. What's a sundial in the shade? – Benjamin Franklin

As the 2005 bar year winds down a new bar year is gearing up. Beginning December

1, 2005, **President-elect Sharon Burrell** assumes the mantle of leadership of the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association. Both Sharon's and the Bar Association's success depends upon the active involvement of the organizations members, particularly in leadership and committee participation. Last month, we asked for applications for prospective officers of JFB. Not very many of you have heeded the call.

I know that the limited response is not due to a lack of interest.

This year, JFB increased its dues-paying membership rolls by 45 percent. In my personal contacts with members, many of you tell me that you either "need to" or "want to" become more active or involved. When asked, members unhesitatingly agree to assist or participate in the Bar Association's projects. I am now asking that you step up to the plate by volunteering to assist JFB and Sharon by becoming a candidate for office or chairing or joining a committee.

The JFB Bar Association, Inc. has the following officer positions: president-elect, vice president, treasurer, recording secretary and corresponding secretary. Only members in good standing are eligible to be officers. To serve as president-elect or treasurer, a member must have the additional qualifications of three *consecutive* years of active membership and have served on a standing committee for at

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JFB SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET, November 3rd.

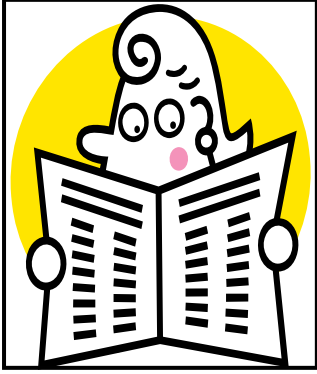


Del. Anthony G. Brown

Delegate Anthony G. Brown (D-Prince George's County) will be the keynote speaker at JFB's Annual Scholarship Banquet on Thursday, November 3rd at Martin's Crosswinds, Greenbelt, MD. Delegate Brown, a graduate of Harvard Law School, is Majority Whip, serves on the House Judiciary Committee, and recently returned from a tour of duty in Iraq.

If you haven't made your reservations, do not procrastinate! Attendance is expected to be heavy for this year's

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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.)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK (Cont.)

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least two years. Bourne's officers and two appointed executive officers make up the Association's Board of Directors.

For the faint of heart, there is the option of serving JFB as a chairperson or member of one of the Association's standing committees. The **Archives Committee** is responsible for acquiring and maintaining JFB's historic records. The **By-Laws Committee** reviews and proposes all amendments to the Association's by-laws. **Civic Affairs** is responsible for identifying issues which impact African-Americans and developing programs and activities, such as legislation and voter registration, to address them. The **Community Service Committee** is responsible for developing and implementing programs and activities. JFB's Oratorical Contest and Christmas in April are examples of types of community service activities in which the Association is involved. **Fund Raising** duties are to identify, develop and coordinate fund-raising activities to support the Association's programs. The Annual Banquet and Annual Golf Classic are examples of fund-raising activities. Members of the **Judicial Nominating Committee** are responsible for interviewing and recommending candidates for judgeships in Prince George's and Montgomery counties. The **Long Range Planning Committee** helps to chart the course of the Association by developing and recommending to the Board of Directors long-range objec-

and activities. The **Membership Committee** is responsible for developing activities to increase and improve the membership of the Association. Membership consists of subcommittees such as Newsletter, New Admittees, Continuing Legal Education, and Balsa Outreach. The **Montgomery County Committee** is responsible for programs and activities to increase Bourne's visibility and recognition in Montgomery County. **Public Relations** has the duty of publicizing the events, activities and achievements of the Association through press releases, public service announcements and developing Bourne's website. The **Nominations and Elections Committee**, which is responsible for insuring the orderly, timely and fair administration of elections by the membership, is waiting to hear from individuals committed to serving the Association and pursuing its mission.

Hide not your talents. If you are interested in serving as an officer or chairperson or member of a committee, please feel free to contact me at (240) 773-5004 or wasnoddy@hotmail.com, or contact Sharon Burrell at (240) 777-6722 or sharon.burrell@montgomerycountymd.gov. We both look forward to hearing from you.

Our next general membership meeting will be **Thursday, October 20** at 6:30 p.m. at Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Avenue in Greenbelt. Directions can be accessed on our website, www.bournebar.org.

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

JFB SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET (Cont.)

(Continued from page 1.)

event, "Serving Our Communities and Our Country". Individual tickets are \$55; table for 10 is \$500.

For tickets and further information, contact Banquet Committee Chair and President-Elect, **Sharon V. Burrell** at (240) 777-6722 or at Sharon.burrell@montgomerycountymd.gov.

FROM YOUR EDITOR: A Personal Note.

Long before my retirement from the full-time practice of law, my wife and I have pondered a call to “downsize” and relocate to a warmer climate. Then only a month ago, these dreams became a reality when we purchased a home in the charming and historic city of Savannah, GA. Our move also brings us geographically closer to our daughter and granddaughter and to a nearby beach.

I have been blessed with countless relationships in the 30-plus years that I have lived and worked in suburban Maryland. Indeed, ever since **Elizabeth “Betty” Hewlett** recruited me into the JFB Bar Association about 20 years ago, JFB has been a central part of my professional life. But, just as life’s passages find us embarking

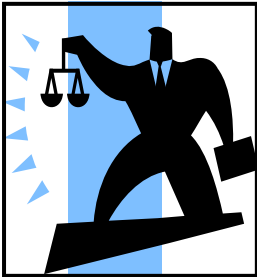
upon a new phase of or lives, so must I sadly end my role as your Newsletter Editor and Chair of your Membership Committee. (Until other arrangements are made for a replacement, I will continue to edit the Newsletter from our new home.)

Unfortunately, the timing of our relocation will not allow Connie and me to attend the JFB Scholarship Banquet – or to personally say “So long” to you and our many other friends and associates in the local legal community.

Although we’ll be hundreds of miles apart, JFB will always be in our thoughts and prayers. Please keep us in yours as well.

Lloyd A. Johnson, Esquire
Editor, JFB Newsletter

DID YOU KNOW ...



CALLING ALL JFB Montgomery County Members! Make your voices heard. Meeting the first Saturday of each month, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Montgomery County Bar Assoc., 27 W. Jefferson St., Rockville. **Ike Leggett** guest for Nov. 5th. Continental breakfast will be provided.

The Trial Courts Nominating Commission for Prince George’s County met on October 12th to consider nominees for 2 newly-created District Court judgeships and added **Hon. Daneeka Varner Cotton, John P. Morrissey, Erik H. Nyce, and J. Patricia Smoot** to the pre-existing list of **Krystal**

Quinn Alves, Patrick Duley, Theresa Moore, Edmund O’Connell, and Garland Stillwell.

Position Available: Director, Office of Independent Juvenile Justice Monitor. Ensures that juvenile offenders are housed and treated in ways that protect the public safety and present best opportunities for rehabilitation and reduced recidivism. Qualifications: Bachelor’s degree in juvenile or criminal justice, psychology or other social science discipline, or 10 years equivalent professional experience; masters degree in one of above areas, or 15 years equivalent experience; or minimum of five years managerial or executive experience in juvenile justice field.

Send a cover letter with salary requirements and resume to Governor’s Office for Children, 301 W. Preston St., Room 1502, Baltimore, MD 21201.

PANELISTS WANTED FOR AGC’S PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE.

Judge Glenn T. Harrell of the Maryland Court of Appeals recently wrote to JFB in which he noted the need to recruit a few good panelists from JFB to serve on the Peer Review Committee (“PRC”) of the Maryland Attorney Grievance Committee. The PRC process plays an integral and important role in determining whether complaints against attorneys for possible violations of the Maryland Rules of Profes-

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The *JFB Newsletter* invites letters and articles. Submissions should be sent 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.

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Important Dates to Remember

General Membership Meeting

Thurs., October 20th, 6:30 p.m.
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Annual Scholarship Banquet

Thur., Nov. 3rd, 6:30 p.m.
Martins Crosswinds
7400 Greenway Center Drive
Greenbelt, MD 20770-3053

Montgomery County Committee

Sat., Nov. 5th; 9:30 a.m.
27 W. Jefferson St.
Rockville, MD 20850

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS.

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sional Conduct and other legal provisions governing the practice of law in this State should be pursued or resolved short of the formal process. See MD Rules 16-742 and 16-743 for a detailed understanding of the PRC's role in the attorney grievance process.

Qualifications for service on PRC are (A) member of Maryland Bar for over 5 years, not the subject of formal charges, not suspended or disbarred in any jurisdiction. See Rule 16-713.

The need is great. For example only 37 of the 57 slots for Prince George's are filled. While the AGC may appoint panelists from outside a given county, respondent attorneys usually prefer to be reviewed by local attorneys, rather than imports. Judge Harrell urges JFB members to perform this valuable service to the Bar and the Courts.

To learn more about the PRC and hopefully apply for enlistment, contact **Harry M. Wolpoff**, Esquire, Chair, Peer Review Committee, Attorney Grievance Commission at (240) 386-6000.

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** by e-mail at LloydAJohnson@comcast.net.