

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



Sharon V. Burrell

When I wrote my last message, I was preparing to go to the National Bar Association's 81st Annual Convention in Detroit, Michigan, which was held from August 6-12, 2006. In addition to informative and lively CLEs and meeting lawyers from all over the country, the convention provided attendees with the opportunity to become better informed about the various programs of the NBA. One of the highlights of the Convention for me was the reception held at the Henry Ford Museum. The Museum has every type of motor vehicle imaginable, including the bus that Rosa Parks was arrested on. As you know, Ms. Parks' arrest led to the boycott that galvanized the civil rights movement. Among the Museum's other

treasures was an original handwritten Thirteenth Amendment, which ended slavery. It was truly awe-inspiring being in the presence of such historical items.

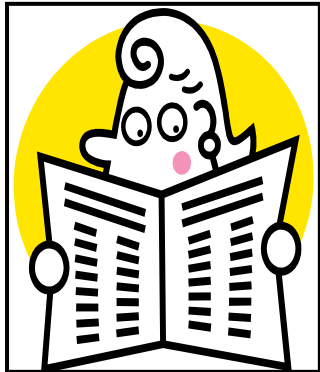
The new president of the NBA, **Linnes Finney, Jr.**, has a lot of ideas to strengthen the organization and is encouraging all affiliate chapters and its members to be more active in the NBA. This administration promises greater access to the executive committee and improved communication with affiliate chapters. Already I have received several e-mails from the Vice President for Regions and Affiliates, **Mavis Thompson**, with valuable information. President Finney has made Election Protection one of the key issues during his term and has requested that NBA members establish Legal Command Centers in specified cities and towns. In Maryland, the NBA

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SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS BANQUET

Please mark your calendars for JFB's Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet on Thursday, November 2nd at Martin's Crosswinds, Greenbelt, MD. The theme of this year's banquet is "Preserving Our Legacy, Leading by Example." Congressman Elijah E. Cummings will be the keynote speaker for what promises to be an exciting evening in which we will honor the past presidents of Bourne.

Invitations will be arriving in your mailboxes soon. For information contact Banquet Committee Co-Chairs Abigale Bruce Watson at (301) 731-0005 or Vanita Taylor at (443) 263-8939. For information on submitting nominations for the Community Service Awards contact Shondriette Kelley at (301) 560-2122. Forms will also be posted on the website.



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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 **Joel Braithwaite**. (See above.)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK (Cont.)

(continued from Page 1)

has designated Baltimore and Prince George's County for Legal Command Centers. Training will be conducted by the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. If you are interested in volunteering for the Election Protection Initiative, please contact me.

As you will see from the article in this issue, Bourne's annual **New Admittees Reception** was a success. Many thanks to our hosts **Holly and Jodi Reed** for making the Reception an enjoyable event. Now Bourne is busy preparing for its fall events, beginning with the **Community Law Day Program** on September 16, 2006. The Montgomery County Committee and the Community Service Committee have worked very hard in putting together the

Community Law Day Program and I hope that you will come out and support their efforts. CLE chair **Agnes C. Powell** has also worked hard in developing informative and entertaining CLEs. This month's CLE, in conjunction with the general membership meeting on September 21st at the Greenbelt Community Center, will be no exception. Agnes has put together a panel of judges who will speak on various topics of interest to JFB members. Note that for the rest of the year we will be meeting in Room 202 of the Greenbelt Community Center instead of our regular meeting location on the first floor.

I look forward to seeing you during at least one of our September events.

Sharon V. Burrell, Esquire
President, JFB Bar Association

ASK A JUDGE CLE

Bring your questions to September's general membership meeting, where our CLE features a panel of Montgomery and Prince George's County judges who are members of J. Franklyn Bourne. Topics include: litigation traps and tips, communicating with juries, getting fees approved, "unwritten" rules of the Court, and even becoming a judge. Here's your opportunity. Do not miss it!

JUDICIAL COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM

Maryland Court of Appeals Chief Judge Robert M. Bell and Judge Lynn Battaglia invite you to a town hall meeting to discuss the Report and Recommendations of the Professional Commission, which were submitted to the Court of Appeals on May 31, 2006.

Before the Court of Appeals decides whether to adopt the recommendations, the Commission will conduct presentations across the state to explain the contents of the report and to answer questions and receive comments on the materials.

The town hall meeting will be held in Prince George's County on Tuesday, November 14, 2006, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Courthouse, 14735 Main Street, Jury Assembly Room, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772.

In Montgomery County, the town hall meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 28, 2006, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Courtroom 1, 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850. The Report is available on line at <http://mdcourts.gov/professionalism/pdgs/finalreport.pdf>.

DID YOU KNOW?



The **Office of Administrative Hearings** seeks **Administrative Law Judge** candidates. Eligible lawyers must be in good standing for at least five years, be admitted in Maryland, and possess excellent writing, time management and legal research skills. The

starting salary is \$73,943. Send five copies of your resume, writing sample less than 10 pages, three references and your Certificate of Good Standing from the Maryland Court of Appeals to Grant Chism, Director of Personnel, Office of Administrative Hearings, 11101 Gilroy Road, Hunt Valley, MD 21031 by September 21, 2006.

The **Prince George's County Board of Education** seeks **Hearing Officer** candidates to conduct evidentiary hearings for students appealing long-term suspensions and expulsions.

The salary for this contractual position is \$65 per hour. Eligible lawyers must be admitted in Maryland, practice at least five years, have excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to communicate effectively in verbal and written form. Administrative hearing experience preferred. Send a cover letter and resume substantiating qualifications to the Board of Education Office at 14201 School Lane, RM 121, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772, Attention: Jacquelyn Brown. This position is open until filled.

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 E-mail, in MS Word format, to Joel.Braithwaite@gmail.com. Editor reserves the right to shorten any submissions to meet space limitations. Deadline is the 29th of each month.

NEW ADMITTEES RECEPTION



New Admittees introducing themselves at the JFB New Admittees Reception

JFB honored New Admittees to the Maryland Bar at its Annual New Admittees Reception on Saturday, August 19. **Holly and Jodi Reed** generously and graciously hosted the well-attended event. In addition to recognizing our newly-admitted colleagues, the reception afforded new admittees an opportunity to meet and network with JFB members, judges, and other guests. Each new admittee was given a



Maryland Court of Appeals Chief Judge Robert Bell & JFB President Sharon Burrell

copy of the Bourne directory and was encouraged to use it. **Chief Judge Robert Bell** of the Maryland Court of Appeals was our special guest once again and provided words of wisdom to the New Admittees. About half of the New Admittees were already members of Bourne but others took advantage of JFB's waiver of membership dues for New Admittees.

J. FRANKLYN BOURNE BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. Box 1121
Upper Marlboro, MD 20773-1121

Important Dates to Remember

Community Law Day
Sept. 16, 2006, 1 p.m.
People's Community Baptist Church
21 Norwood Rd.
Silver Spring, MD 20905

General Membership Meeting
Thurs., Sept. 21st, 6:30 p.m.
Greenbelt Community Center
Room 202
15 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

JFB ELECTIONS ARE COMING!

The Nominations and Elections Committee is now accepting nominations of candidates for office for the positions of President-Elect, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and Recording Secretary.

The deadline for all nominations is the close of business on Monday, October 16, 2006. Candidates for office should submit an application to Committee Chair Paul Davis at davislawpd@aol.com. Please see the Elections portion of the website.

Any candidate who is unopposed by the close of business on October 16, 2006, will assume office beginning December 1, 2006. Please contact Paul Davis at (301) 946-1983 if you have questions.

COMMUNITY LAW DAY

JFB will host Community Law Day "Survival Techniques for the 21st Century." The event will be held on Saturday, September 16th, 2006 from 1p.m.—4 p.m. at the People's Community Baptist Church, 21 Norwood Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20905.

Topics will include police stops and arrests, juvenile arrest and detention and guardianship of the elderly. The keynote speaker is Dr. Jared Ball, of WPFW Pacifica Radio, speaking on "Hip Hop as Mass Media." Admission is free.

Several members of the Bench including the Honorable Judges Wendy A. Cartwright, Toni B. Clark, Charles B. Day, Eric M. Johnson, Larnzell Martin, JFB and Montgomery County Police Officers will be presenting. Washington Mystics' Nakia Sanford will also be making a special appearance.

For more information, please contact Aaronette Carter, Esq. at (301) 437-0239 or attyacarter@aol.com or Dione Duckett, Esq. at duckettlaw@msn.com.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



JFB 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 **William A. Snoddy** by e-mail at wasnoddy@hotmail.com.