

# Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

*News from the Prince William County Bar Association*

Volume IX Issue V

June 2009

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## Insert

Invitation to the Investiture of The Honorable D. Scott Bailey

## President's Message

*By Barry A. Zweig*

During the past year the PWCBA has been involved in several new projects, as many of you are aware. As a result of our involvement in the NOVA Bar Directory, we are receiving an Award of Merit in the multi-bar projects category. We are also receiving two Certificates of Achievement for the Modest Means Program and Hanging Out a Shingle Program in the 301-450 members category. These awards will be presented at the VSB meeting on June 19, 2009 and I will be attending for the sole purpose of receiving these awards and recognition on behalf of the association.

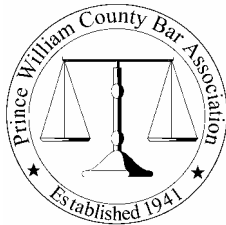
On May 28, 2009, I was honored to attend the Beat the Odds® Banquet at the Heritage Hunt Golf Club, at which 16 young adults received scholarship and grant money for the many struggles they have overcome in their short lives. This is and remains one of the seminal Bar Association projects, co-chaired this year by Megan Kelly and Joan Hughes. It was a fantastic evening which would not have been possible without their tireless work organizing the event. Many thanks to Jan Rolsch-Anoll for her efforts as President of the Prince William County Bar Foundation in raising money to fund the scholarships. We overcame the \$9,000.00 shortfall mentioned last month prior to the banquet and all scholarships were fully funded as a result.

On May 29, 2009, I was pleased to participate in the investitures of both Judge Craig D. Johnston and Judge Steven S. Smith. It was a fantastic event at which many dignitaries, family and friends appeared to wish both our judges well. We owe Kelly Sprissler a debt of gratitude for her hard work in planning the investitures and coordinating everything so the event ran smoothly, from the opening remarks, to the administration of the oath, through the reception at the close of the ceremony.

Scott Bailey's investiture is scheduled for July 2, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. in Circuit Court Courtroom #4. If you plan to be in town on that date, please plan to attend this investiture. Given Scott's superb speech making abilities coupled with his dramatic flair, it promises to be an entertaining afternoon.

Because July 3, 2009 falls on a Friday this year, we will not be holding a July luncheon. The Division of Legislative Services has decided to return to the practice of generating the Digest of the Acts of Assembly, which, for many years, has been the resource for our legislative updates. As a result, we are hoping legislative highlights will be appearing in the July and August newsletters. With that in mind, we will convene our monthly bar meeting at Mackey's on August 7, 2009 at 12:30 p.m. with the annual family law legislative update session presented by our family law chair, Cassandra Chin. Our meeting on September 4, 2009 will be the annual criminal law legislative update session presented by our criminal law chair, Joe Thelin.

Maybe I'll be able to impart some practical wisdom or provide you with inspirational insight next month. For now, however, just enjoy the nice weather.



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**2009**

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## Johnston/Smith Investiture

On May 29, 2009, the Prince William County Bar Association sponsored the investitures of The Honorable Craig D. Johnston to the Circuit Court for the Thirty-First Judicial Circuit, and The Honorable Steven S. Smith to the General District Court for the Thirty-First Judicial District. Bar President Barry Zweig welcomed guests and went on to commend Judge Johnston for his, “humility, intelligence and willingness to listen”, referring to him as a “consummate professional and judge.” Zweig also praised Judge Smith for his deep devotion to the local community, for giving an “ear to all sides” and for “taking the time to explain his rulings to the litigants before him.”



*The Honorable Craig D. Johnston, left, joined by his wife Joyce, is sworn in by The Honorable Rossie, D. Alston, Jr.*

(Johnston), couldn’t have found a better mentor or friend.” Foote closed by commending Johnston for his “rectitude, correct intelligence and moral compass, a gentleman who earned the title of *honorable* many years ago.”

Judge Johnston was sworn in by The Honorable Rossie D. Alston, Jr. of the Virginia Court of Appeals. Johnston then looked around the courtroom and said, “My whole world is standing in front of me and I am pleased to have you here with me today.” After thanking his friends, partners, clerks, the Bar and Joyce, his wife of 40 years, Johnston went on to acknowledge the fine reputation that Prince William County enjoys throughout the state for its judiciary and active Bar. He encouraged those in attendance to, “do your part to make sure that continues.”

Judge Smith was introduced by former Manassas City Mayor, Doug Waldron. Waldron grew up in Manassas, as did Smith, both having attended Osbourn High School. Waldron commented that Smith was something of a role model for him in those early years, being cool, popular and smart. But Smith was compassionate as well, and upon graduating from law school, returned to Manassas, opened a law practice, raised a family, and became deeply involved in the local community. Doug Waldron was Mayor of Manassas when Smith served on the City Council, and recalled the calm, collected and often courageous way in which Smith handled his response to the issues that came before the Council. Waldron closed with, “These qualities will hopefully serve you well on the bench.”

Judge Steven S. Smith was sworn in by his father, retired Prince William County Circuit Court Judge Selwyn Smith. The Honorable Steven S. Smith commented on the whirlwind of activity that preceded his appointment to the bench, and thanked his family and partners for their support throughout the process. Smith paid tribute to his

Judge Johnston was introduced by his law school classmate, John Foote. Foote began his remarks by reminiscing briefly about world events at the time these two gentlemen found themselves entering the practice of law. Nixon was President; we had not landed on the moon; both men had served in Vietnam; they attended law school together; and began their practices at a time before fax machines or word processors. Foote paid tribute to Ralph Coon, who was Johnston’s law partner for 25 years, saying, “he,

## Attention All JDR Court-Appointed Attorneys

From Bob Coleman

All attorneys wishing to accept court-appointments in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court for calendar year 2010 are requested to contact Robert P. Coleman, Esquire at [coleman@manassaslaw.com](mailto:coleman@manassaslaw.com) to confirm participation in the 2010 JDR Rotation Calendar. Please provide current address, telephone number, email address, and taxpayer ID and/or SSN for billing purposes. **The 2010 JDR Rotation Calendar will be prepared and forwarded to the Juvenile Court Judges/Clerks on August 15, 2009! Please confirm your participation by July 1, 2009.** Any questions, comments or concerns can be directed to me at (703) 361-8246. Any new attorneys wishing to join the 2010 rotation calendar, here is your chance!!! The following attorneys currently serve:

|                     |                   |                    |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alexander, Marjorie | Ashton, Charlie   | Banks, Chester     |
| Brown, Sadie Banks  | Coleman, Robert   | Crossland, Mark T. |
| Daugherty, David    | Fahy, Ronald      | Faust, Robert      |
| Feldman, Chris      | Ford, Erin        | Gregory, Robert R. |
| Henshaw, Mark D.    | Irving, Kimberly  | Irving, John J.    |
| James, Christopher  | Johnson, James    | Matulka, Meghan A. |
| McLaughlin, Anthony | Miller, Abby      | Morley, Raymond    |
| Nolan, Scott C.     | Norloff, Anne     | Notarianni, John   |
| Olesker, Neal David | Olmstead, Sevda   | Olmstead, Timothy  |
| Petrocelli, Mandy   | Saunders, Tina    | Scott, Johnda      |
| Showells, Adrian    | Silek, David      | Simmons, Olaun     |
| Solloway, Sharon    | Stone, Nancy S.   | Swajger, Scott     |
| Tabot, William      | Taylor, J. Andrew | Teluk, Myron       |
| Walla, Paul         | Ward, Timothy     | Wooditch, George   |
| Zary, Jennifer B.   |                   |                    |

### *Johnston/Smith Investiture, continued*

father for the wonderful example of public service he set, having served Prince William County as a Commonwealth's Attorney, a State Senator, and finally as a Circuit Court Judge. Selwyn Smith also served the Commonwealth as the Secretary of Public Safety. But it was Steve Smith's mother who he credited with providing the guidance that he expects to employ daily as he serves on the bench. Simply stated: "Treat everyone with dignity and respect, listen carefully, never stereotype, and stick to the rules."

A reception was held in the lower atrium of the courthouse following the investitures.



*The Honorable Steven S. Smith with sons Austin, Oliver and Mason, (left to right) and wife Jane, behind.*

## Prince William County Bar Association, Inc.

### Office Hours

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Mon.—Fri.  
The PWCBA Office is located on third floor of the Prince William County Judicial Center, next to the elevators.

### Guidelines for Submissions to *Hear Ye! Hear Ye!*

Submissions should be directed to the attention of Alissa N. Hudson, Executive Director, PWCBA preferably via email to [pwcbal@verizon.net](mailto:pwcbal@verizon.net), or fax to (703) 331-5683, or mail to Prince William County Bar Association, Inc., P.O. Box 31, Manassas, VA 20108. All submissions must be paid in advance, and are due by 5:00 PM on the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication and must include a contact name and phone number.

For inquiries regarding classified or display advertising, contact the PWCBA office at (703) 393-8865, to request a copy of the most recent rate card, or visit the bar on line at [www.pwcb.org](http://www.pwcb.org) under "About the Bar", "Advertising and Sponsorships".

## C-Day . . . July 13

*Submitted by Clerk of Circuit Court  
Michèle McQuigg*

Change Day is coming to the Clerk of Circuit Court's Office on Monday, July 13. That is the day we expect to be using only the Supreme Court of Virginia's Case Management and Case Imaging System.

You will be able to view files on the two public access computers in Civil and two in Criminal waiting rooms. Also, there will be four computers in the Public Service Center. Circuit Court Case Information will be available on the Supreme Court's web page <http://wasdmz2.courts.state.va.us/CJISWeb/circuit.html>.

If you have any questions or suggestions for improvements, please contact me at 703-792-7560 or [mmcquigg@pwcgov.org](mailto:mmcquigg@pwcgov.org). We appreciate your patience as we make this needed change. Thank you.

## Beat the Odds® Banquet Honors 16 Area Youth

The 2009 Beat the Odds® Banquet and Awards Ceremony, sponsored by the Prince William County Bar Association, was held recently. Sixteen outstanding youth were honored at this year's banquet, for the social and academic progress they have made, in the face of what many would consider to be insurmountable odds. Each youth came in contact with the local juvenile justice system, as a result of being unable to cope with the circumstances of their home environment. Some found their way into gang related involvement because they were literally following in their parent's footsteps. Some experienced the loss of a parent through death, incapacity or abandonment, and found themselves raising younger siblings or moving into foster care. Many were in abusive environments, which lead them to respond with self-doubt, self-destruction, frustration and anger.

Each year, since 2001, the PWC Bar Association has worked with a host of local government agencies, the courts, and school based programs, which are designed to identify at-risk youth and intervene on their behalf. Together, program representatives nominate outstanding youth, who have taken to heart the advice and counsel of social workers, probation officers and the like, and have literally turned their lives around. These youth are now realizing their full potential; they are graduating from high school; they are moving forward to achieve higher educational goals; and more importantly, they are mentoring their friends, and younger siblings. These youth have defied the statistics that say they will fail, and have found new hope and a new direction because someone believed in them.

This year's BTO program caught the attention of U.S. Congressman Gerald E. Connolly, who was intent on commending the honorees for their success. Congressman Connolly entered the achievements of the youth into the Congressional Record, congratulating them for "the positive example they set for their peers. Our community sends a powerful message to our youth when we encourage them to triumph over setbacks and to gain strength from hardship." Each youth received a copy of the Congressional Record at the banquet.

The Prince William County Bar Foundation funds the scholarships and educational grants awarded each year to BTO honorees, through a variety of civic, business, public and private partnerships. This year, each of the 10 Scholarship recipients, high school graduates who will enroll in college this fall, received a \$3300 scholarship, which is intended to cover the cost of one year of tuition at the community college level. The Phoenix Award recipients, underclassmen who are not ready to graduate, received items, such as a laptop computer, to assist in their continued education and vocational aspirations.

The future is bright for these outstanding youth. It is no surprise that so many of them wish to pursue careers in teaching, social work, nursing or juvenile justice. They have

benefited from a helping hand that came their way, and are already looking for ways to give back.



*Pictured top to bottom: Angela, a Phoenix Award recipient, opens this year's BTO banquet by singing the national anthem; Brittani, pictured with her nominator, Kate Schell-Smith, who works with the Community Services Board; Courtney, pictured with her nominator, Joyce Johnston, a teacher at Osbourn High School.*



## Beat the Odds® Mentoring Program

By Kathleen Latham Farrell

This year the PWCBA will award approximately sixteen (16) *Beat the Odds*® awards to juveniles who have overcome significant adversity to achieve social and academic progress. Their biographies have a common thread of neglect, abuse, or other functional chaos that often defined their home environment. Did you ever wonder what became of these recipients after they received their awards?

One of the ways to facilitate updated progress information came by way of the Mentoring Program which was launched in 2007 to provide guidance, information, and resource referrals to assist these at-risk kids reach their educational or vocational goal. The mentors are then able to provide updated information on the recipients which we can then provide to the Bar membership, the Bar Foundation, and scholarship sponsors.

The mentoring program is a key component in insuring the overall success of the BTO program. The Prince William County Bar Foundation is indebted to and thanks the following Bar Association members who have volunteered to mentor one of the 2009 BTO recipients:

Maryse Allen  
 Leza Conliffe  
 Jason Hickman  
 Michelle Jung  
 Brad Marshall  
 Amy McCullough  
 Matt Occhuizzo  
 Olaun Simmons  
 Jane Smith  
 Rusty von Keller  
 Beth von Keller  
 Steve Woodside




*Pictured here: Bradley Marshall right, mentor to Ian at left.*

## Reflections from the PWC Bar Foundation

By Jan Roltsch-Anoll, President

For numerous members of our Bar who are involved each year in raising funds, organizing, mentoring and running the annual *Beat the Odds*® program, a small portion of our lives become consumed in the six weeks leading up to the event with work that does nothing to generate revenue, market legal services, or in any regard promote our various practices. Within that group of both private and public attorneys, I'm sure many wonder each year whether it is really worth the various sacrifices made. This year the question likely had particular emphasis. With a challenging economy that not only dried up many funding sources for the Foundation, increasing the effort to raise the funds needed, but also caused most firms and practitioners to shift their focus to marketing and revenue generation, it is likely many again questioned whether the enormous time and effort should be directed elsewhere. Then we all, as a result of collective efforts on multiple fronts over many months, manage to pull-off an event like the one that happened on May 28<sup>th</sup> and the question is hopefully answered; time and money well spent on a program that is worth investing in.

*Continued, page 6*



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In addition to recognizing the young people who receive awards each year at the Beat the Odds® banquet and raising public awareness of at-risk-youth, the Prince William County legal community also receives a great deal of positive reflection from the program. I can't count the number of times members of the public who have attended the awards banquet have commented in surprise that they didn't realize lawyers did these kinds of things. While *we know* members of our Bar are regularly providing public service in multiple venues and in many different ways, those are all too often overlooked by the public, so that at the very least, for one night each year, the legal profession in Prince William County gets a chance to shine in the public eye. This year was no different.

Many commented it was the best event ever and that's in large part as a result of the efforts of many Bar members and juvenile justice agency representatives. The list is a long one, but at the top of it are Megan Kelley's organizational expertise and Joan Hughes' incredible capacity to handle not only all the details but all the catastrophes as well. Kathy Farrell's work in organizing the mentoring component and Sharon Pandak's running of the silent auction are also long overdue for thanks and recognition and Alissa Hudson's handling of all the rest was again, invaluable.

None of the programs funded by the Foundation would have ever been possible without the financial support of the law firms and individual members of the Bar Association who contribute annually to the Foundation. Each of you were listed in the Beat the Odds program as well as on the Foundation's new website at [www.bto-pwc.com](http://www.bto-pwc.com) and your continuing support makes all else possible.

The Foundation's fiscal year closes at this point and we begin work on funding our remaining programs which include the Adoption Day Celebration that occurs in November each year. In addition to funding the Beat the Odds grant this fiscal year, the Foundation has also provided the funding for the Bar Association's Court Tours program, the publications for "So You're 18", the awards in the "Character Counts" essay program, last year's Adoption Day and the costs to publish the various public information brochures provided in our courts. The Foundation also continues its partnership with the PWC Gang Intervention Task Force in sponsoring the "Make a Change" gang-tat removal program. Please visit our website for information about any of the programs the Foundation supports and thank you all for your contributions to another successful year.



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## Senior Citizen's Project

Thank you to **Kathleen Walsh, Tom Duling, Jessica Gurzo, Beth von Keller and Todd Bunn** for volunteering to give brief presentations on elder law issues in recognition of Law Day and Older Americans Month. Approximately 130 patrons, total, attended the one hour seminars given at both area senior citizens centers, and to a local seniors group. Attendees learned the importance of preparing wills, durable powers of attorney, and advanced medical directives. Additional information was provided on Social Security Disability claims and Medicare eligibility. The speakers were, as always, knowledgeable, professional and courteous and more than willing to stay after to answer individual questions. The Bar was able to obtain free copies of the newly revised Senior Citizens Handbook to distribute to all who attended the seminars, thanks to the generosity of the Virginia State Bar. A few extra copies of this helpful guide are now available at the Bar office, should a member wish to stop by and pick up a copy.



*Patrons at the Manassas Senior Citizen's Center listen to presentation.*

## Family Law Committee Update

*By Cassandra Chin*

The Family Law Committee met on April 17, 2009. At the meeting, we discussed topics for upcoming meetings and CLEs. Many great ideas are in the works! Meetings will be held quarterly (3rd Friday in January, April, July, and October) at 12:00 p.m. in the courthouse cafeteria. Please mark your calendars for our next 2 meetings, July 17 and October 16. If you have any questions, contact Cassandra Chin at 703-492-4200 or [cchin@nzslaw.com](mailto:cchin@nzslaw.com).

## Up Coming CLEs

June 18, 2009, sponsored by the Alexandria Bar Association, "Civil Litigation in General District Court", 12:00-2:30, Landini Brothers, Alexandria, 1.5 MCLE Credits Pending.

September 2, 2009, sponsored by Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission, "Advanced Sentencing Guidelines Topics & Ethical Hypotheticals" CLE, 9:30 -5:00, Germanna Community College, Fredericksburg, 6.0 MCLE including 1.0 ETHICS

September 3 sponsored by Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission, "Introduction to Sentencing Guidelines" CLE, 9:30 to 5:00 Fairfax County Government Center, 6.0 MCLE Credits.

## BOD Meeting Highlights, 4/24/09 and 6/1/09

*Minutes provided by Laurie J. Sholtis*

- ◆ RCL photo project final report
- ◆ Discussed proposed bylaws changes regarding regular membership status
- ◆ Alston investiture final report
- ◆ Discussed upcoming Johnston/Smith/Bailey investitures
- ◆ Senior Citizen Project status report
- ◆ Discussion of delinquent dues and ways to gently encourage payment
- ◆ Elizabeth Molchaney, Emmitt Robinson, Milton Johns, Robert Dellinger membership applications presented and approved
- ◆ Juvenile Rights Handbook located, to be presented to Tim Vinson for consideration
- ◆ Attorney Master Class CLE discussed
- ◆ West to sponsor May 8, 2009 Multi-Jurisdictional CLE
- ◆ Bar to proceed with Candidates Forum in the Fall
- ◆ Discussed proposed bylaws changes regarding Judicial Screening Committee Members
- ◆ BOD approved funding necessary programming updates to local membership directory to incorporate new attorney photos in updated format
- ◆ So You're 18 program report
- ◆ Todd Bunn and Frank Sofocleous membership applications presented and approved
- ◆ Discussed Bar sponsorship of uniforms for Youth Organization Teams made up of former gang members. Funding will be sought from the PWC Bar Foundation
- ◆ Discussed and approved new Pro bono program, "Books for Troubled Teens"

## THANK YOU!

Thomson WEST for sponsoring the May 8, 2009, Multi-Jurisdictional CLE on Motions Practice in Circuit Court. Your continuing partnership with the PWC Bar is greatly appreciated!!



## Wills for Heroes

By Amy Mirabile

The PWCBA *Pro Bono* Committee has been working to bring the Wills for Heroes Program to the approximately 1100 first responders in our county fire, police and sheriff's departments. The Program, developed by the Virginia Bar Association's Young Lawyers Conference and Virginia State Bar's Young Lawyers Division, offers simple wills, advanced medical directives and powers of attorney to first responders on a *pro bono* basis.

We are well on our way to implementing the Program beginning this September. To make it a success, we will need a concerted effort by our Bar members. Attorney volunteers will need to attend a short CLE to learn about the Program. Those who sign up to participate in the document execution sessions will receive 1.5 CLE credits for their CLE attendance. We will also need notaries and witnesses on hand for all document execution sessions.

We have tentatively scheduled two lunch-time CLEs on September 10 and September 17 for all attorney volunteers. Document execution sessions will tentatively occur on four consecutive Saturdays beginning October 3.

We expect approximately twenty to twenty-five percent of the county's first responders to participate. In order to meet the anticipated interest, we will need approximately **80** attorneys to each volunteer for four one-hour document execution sessions.

Thank you to those attorneys (almost thirty-five of you) who have already expressed interest in participating. Please mark your calendars. For the rest of you out there, please volunteer to help out in this one-time program for our county first responders.

All those who are interested in participating or would like some additional information about the Program, please contact the chair of the Wills for Heroes Subcommittee, Amy Mirabile, at 703-385-3085 or [amirabile@keislerleelaw.com](mailto:amirabile@keislerleelaw.com).

## PWC Bar Welcomes Newest Members

Todd D. Bunn, Esq.  
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Falls Church, VA 22046  
(703) 237-6333

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**Catherine M. Reese, Esquire, Council Member-elect to the Virginia State Bar, and of the Reese Law Office** formerly known as The Law Office of Catherine M. Reese, PLC, along with her associates, Laurie M. Crawford and Katelin M. Moomau, is pleased to announce its relocation to 10300 Eaton Place, Suite 150, Fairfax, Virginia 22030, where they will continue to offer a full array of personalized family law solutions through advocacy, mediation, collaboration and litigation.

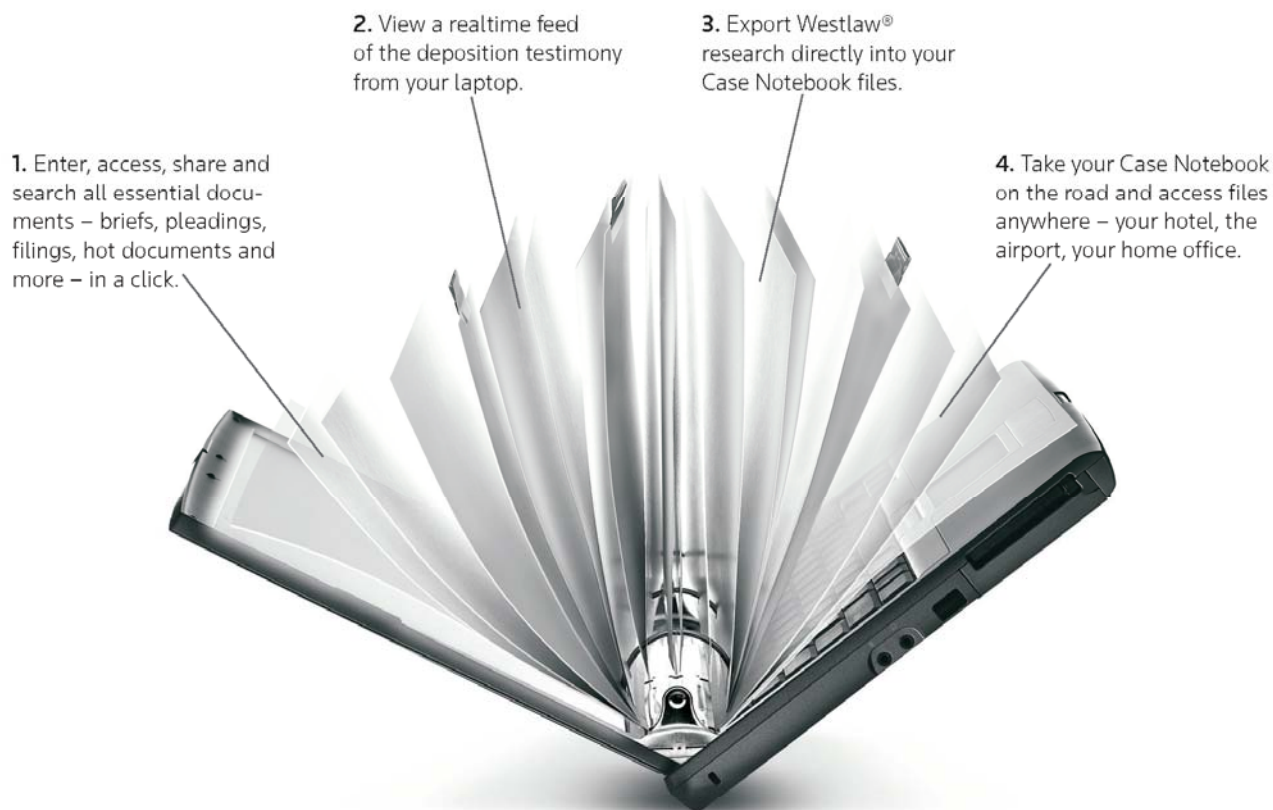
## PWC Bar Welcomes Newest Members

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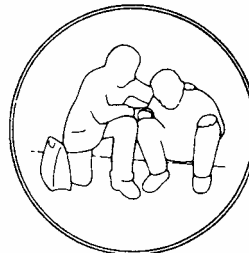
June 26, PWC Bar BOD meeting,  
4:00 pm, Mark Crossland's home

July 2, Investiture of The  
Honorable D. Scott Bailey, 3:30  
pm, PWC Circuit Courtroom #4,  
Reception to follow, lower level  
atrium

NO JULY MEMBERSHIP  
LUNCHEON

July 3, all three courts closed in  
observance of Independence Day

July 24, PWC Bar BOD meeting,  
4:00 pm, Mackey's American Pub



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The Prince William County Bar Association  
Cordially invites you to attend the Investiture of

The Honorable D. Scott Bailey  
To the PWC Juvenile & Domestic Relations  
District Court

Thursday, July 2, 2009 - 3:30 pm, PWC Circuit Courtroom #4  
Reception Following – Lower Level Atrium



Hear Ye! Hear Ye!  
P.O. Box 31  
Manassas, VA 20108



*The Prince William County Bar Association*

*Cordially invites you to attend the Investiture of*

The Honorable D. Scott Bailey  
to the Juvenile & Domestic Relations  
District Court in the  
Thirty-First Judicial District of Virginia

Thursday, July 2, 2009

3:30 p.m.

PWC Judicial Center

Circuit Courtroom #4

9311 Lee Avenue

Manassas, Virginia

Reception Following

Lower Level Atrium, PWC Judicial Center

Please R.S.V.P. to Alissa Hudson via email to

[pwcba1@verizon.net](mailto:pwcba1@verizon.net)

