

Okaloosa-Walton Bar Association

President: Wanda Clapp
Vice-President: Ashley Smith-Herndon

Secretary: Martin W. Lester
Treasurer: Coy H. Browning

March 2006 Edition

Next Meeting

When: Tuesday, March 14, 2006
Where: Angler's, Okaloosa Island
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Cost: \$10.00 per person

RSVP via email to Marty Lester at OWBA@cox.net

JUDGE TOLTON'S RETIREMENT GALA

Please mark your calendars for Judge Tolton's retirement celebration, currently scheduled for December 15, 2006. Further details will be forthcoming as the date approaches.

FACDL MEETING

The next meeting of the Okaloosa-Walton Chapter of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (FACDL) will be on March 16, 2006 at 5:30 or thereabouts in the Shalimar Cheers Pub. This informal meeting will include the First Annual OW-FACDL Pool Championship, as well as (hopefully) an interesting surprise guest speaker, good fellowship, and an assortment of beverages. All local criminal defense attorneys, members or not, are invited to attend.

LEGAL SERVICES OPEN HOUSE

Please join Legal Services of North Florida, Inc. on March 30, 2006 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in their offices at 133 Staff Drive for an Open House. LSNF will be recognizing our many colleagues who have so generously supported their services to the community over the past year. Invitations should arrive by mail in the near future. If you

have any questions, please contact Mary Dekle at (850) 385-9007 or mary@lsnf.org.

LAWYERS ON THE MOVE

Tom Murphy and Wanda Clapp are proud to announce the opening of their firm, Murphy & Clapp, P.A., on April 3, 2006. They are also pleased to announce that George F. Murphy will serve "of counsel" to the firm. Their office will be located at 1 Eleventh Avenue, Suite B4, Shalimar, FL 32579, and they can be reached at (850) 651-2606. The firm's attorneys will primarily practice in the areas of criminal defense (federal and state), marital and family law, civil litigation, and wills.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Michles & Booth, P.A., seeks an additional associate attorney with 3-5 years minimum litigation experience. Excellent benefits. Contact firm administrator Cindy Ward by telephone at (850) 438-4848, facsimile at (850) 437-5556, or email at cward@michlesbooth.com.

Pleat & Perry, P.A. is looking for an experienced litigator with 1-5 years experience to work in its Destin office. Please email resume with salary requirements to law@pleat.coxatwork.com.

PUBLIC DEFENDER CAREER FAIR

The Florida Public Defender Association is holding its first statewide career fair with recruiters from each judicial circuit. The event will be held in Orlando on Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8 at the Orlando Airport Embassy Suites Hotel. All qualified, interested persons should submit a cover letter and resume by noon on March 31 to the circuit of choice. For further information, contact the FLPDA directly at (850) 488-6850 or review information online at <http://www.flpda.org/pages/jobfair.htm>.

NEW HIRES

Pleat & Perry, P.A., is pleased to announce the addition of D. Craig Tingle, J.D., LL.M., to the firm. Craig received his law degree from Washington University School of Law and his LL.M. from the University of Miami (magna cum laude). His prior experience includes work as an associate in the real estate department of Greenberg, Traurig, Assistant General Counsel for City National Bank, and corporate counsel to numerous real estate developers. Mr. Tingle's practice will concentrate in all matters pertaining to real estate law, with emphasis in transactional work. He also has significant experience in negotiating construction contracts and in construction defect litigation. In addition to his civilian legal work, Mr. Tingle holds the rank of Major in the United States Marine Corps.

WHERE'S MY MONEY?

As of press time, the OWBA's treasury contained \$7,691.14. 2006 invoices are being processed. Annual dues remain unchanged at \$75.00 for private attorneys, \$37.50 for government employees. Please pay promptly to avoid whatever horrible public ridicule your Secretary is dreaming up.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The man who fights for his fellow-man is a better man than the one who fights for himself."

-- Clarence Darrow

SUPPORT THE FALSS!

The Okaloosa Walton Legal Support Association is hosting the 8th Annual Membership Meeting of the Florida Association of Legal Support Specialists, Inc. (FALSS), at the Ramada Plaza Beach Resort on April 22, 2006. We raise money each year for scholarships and legal education as well as to support several charitable organizations. This meeting will be the first time that OWLSA has been the host for an Annual Meeting of FALSS though we have sponsored quarterly meetings in the past. We are hosting this meeting because one of our local members, Robert Anderson, will be installed as the president of FALSS. Our theme is "Making History" and we are very excited about hosting this event.

We are writing to you for your support as a member of the Okaloosa Walton Bar. There are various ways to support our meeting. During our scheduled activities, we will have two coffee and/or cold drink breaks at a cost of \$300.00 per break. We also need sponsors for the reception. Each sponsor will be recognized in our program. We are also selling ads in our program. The front inside cover is \$125, a full page ad is \$100, and a 1/2 page ad \$75. A business card ad is \$25.

If you are able to assist us, please forward your donation to the undersigned. Any amount will be most appreciated. Your check should be made payable to FALSS 2006 Annual Meeting Fund.

Thank you for helping us make this event a success. We want every FALSS member to leave our area with the impression that the "Emerald Coast" is indeed "the" place to live and visit. Only a total community effort can accomplish this.

Very truly yours,
Fran Novak, Annual Meeting Chairperson
(850) 651-9944

We are only as strong as our weakest link...please support your local Bar Association.