



2022

YEAR IN REVIEW

Board of Governors

Jason H. Long
Loretta G. Cravens
Catherine E. Shuck
Carlos Yunsan
Cheryl G. Rice

President
President-Elect
Treasurer
Secretary
Immediate Past President

Ursula Bailey
Mark A. Castleberry
Meagan Collver
Jonathan D. Cooper
Daniel L. Ellis
Magistrate Robin P. Gunn
Luke P. Ihnen
William A. Mynatt, Jr.
Vanessa Samano
Michael J. Stanuszek
Amanda Tauber Tonkin
Elizabeth M. Towe
Hon. Zachary R. Walden

Board Member, 2022-24
Board Member, 2022
Barristers President
Board Member, 2022-23
Board Member, 2022-23
Board Member, 2022
Board Member, 2022, 23
Board Member, 2022-24
Board Member, 2022-24
Board Member, 2022
Barristers Imm. Past President
Board Member, 2022
Barristers Vice President

Our Staff

Executive Director
CLE & Sections Coordinator
Membership Coordinator
Programs Administrator
Lawyer Referral Administrator
LRIS Assistant

Marsha S. Watson
Tammy R. Sharpe
Jonathan E. Guess
Bridgette Fly
Tracy Chain
Jason Galvas

Knoxville Bar Association, Inc.

505 Main Street, Suite 50
Post Office Box 2027, Knoxville, Tennessee 37901-2027
PH: (865) 522-6522
FAX: (865) 523-5662

www.knoxbar.org

Stay Connected: Follow us at @knoxbar and @knoxvillebarristers

KBA Committees

What are KBA Committees?

The Knoxville Bar Association is committed to advancing and supporting both the legal profession and the public in the greater Knoxville area. KBA committees offer members the ability to play a role in providing professional development and networking opportunities, charitable community outreach, educational events for the public, support for other attorneys and so much more. Read the reports below about each committee's mission and accomplishments in the past year for more information.

How can you get INVOLVED?

Only members can serve on committees, and the best time to sign up for committees is during dues renewal in December. Some committees have a set number of participants or close participation after the start of each year, so you may not be able to join at a later date in the year. Committees often meet monthly and while you're not required to attend every meeting, we do ask that committee members commit to attending as many meetings as possible. Each committee operates a little differently, so if you have questions about this commitment, contact the chair(s) of the committee to learn more.

Only have a few minutes to spare but still want to PARTICIPATE?

Read the "News You Can Use" e-mail from the KBA each Friday for updates on KBA programs, including requests for volunteers, opportunities to speak, donate goods or your time or attend special events. Or, proactively reach out to a committee chair to let them know of your willingness to assist with a particular project.



Access to Justice Committee

2022 Chairs: Debra L. House and Daniel L. Ellis

MISSION: The Access to Justice Committee is focused on the KBA's goal of improving the efficiency, fairness, and accessibility of justice to all citizens. Much of our work this year has been designed to foster attorneys' involvement with nonprofit organizations, thereby helping to meet the KBA objectives of using the bar's collective resources to improve the well-being of the community and of improving the public's understanding of the legal profession. In addition to helping the public achieve access to justice, the committee is focused on helping attorneys achieve the objective of fulfillment and satisfaction in the practice of law through helping individuals and organizations who are typically underserved by the legal profession.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: Veterans Legal Advice Clinics were hosted by the Knoxville Barristers and Legal Aid of East Tennessee at the Knox Co. Public Defender's Community Law Office. A virtual option continued to be offered for those veterans and attorneys who preferred to meet by telephone. Cokesbury United Methodist Church hosted a Faith and Justice Clinic (F&J) on February 12 with 60 people served by 12 attorneys and 19 students. Scheduling challenges prevented other F&J clinics, but a South Knox clinic is being planned for early 2023. The Homeless Courts subcommittee has been very active and is progressing toward a launch of a Homeless Court in 2023 with the support of the judicial system stakeholders and area social service providers. The Racial Justice subcommittee has been working toward a Black-Owned Business advice clinic and anticipates an inaugural clinic in February 2023.

Archives Committee

2022 Chair: Kim Burnette & Heidi Barcus

MISSION: To collect, store and preserve materials of interest to and history of the KBA membership.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: Rebounding from a Covid-induced lull, the KBA Archives Committee has had a very successful 2022. Thanks in part to generous grants from the Knoxville Bar Foundation, as well as active recruiting of new participants, the legal history project has added six new video interviews to its online catalog, and two more are scheduled before the end of the year. Added so far this year are: David Black, Hon. Curtis Collier, Amy Hess, Hon. Mary Beth Leibowitz, Bill Simms, and Howard Vogel. Anticipated by year-end of Bob Pryor and Tim Priest. We

anticipate keeping this momentum going for 2023, and hope that our members will avail themselves of this valuable and entertaining resource.

Continuing Legal Education Committee

2022 Chairs: Hon. Judson K. Davis & M. Samantha Parris

MISSION: The committee is responsible for the concept, presentation and other aspects of each KBA CLE event and provides advice and counsel to the Board of Governors on CLE related issues. CLE presentations include 1-hour Lunch and Learns, Section and In Chambers Sessions; extended 3-hour seminars on one subject; all-day presentations, such as the Law Practice Today Expo and Wellness Conference; and online programs. Ideas for programs and speakers come from the committee itself, other KBA committees, sections, third-party sources, the bar as a whole, and the bench, both State and Federal. Subjects for presentation range from specific subjects within an area of the law, changes in the law by legislature and/or courts, specific functions of a given local court, law office management, work life balance, and as well as pure fun. The Committee continually reevaluates the concepts and effectiveness of our programs.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The CLE committee is proud to report that in the calendar year 2022, the KBA made a significant return to in-person CLEs while maintaining a robust catalog of zoom and on demand CLEs for those who wish to learn remotely. The CLE committee sponsored 33 live in-person programs, 30 live virtual webinars, and 4 programs with both virtual and in-person options offered. Over the year, 249 on-demand programs were available to members in our on demand catalog, which was particularly helpful since the in-person CLE required was again waived in 2022. The CLE Committee thanks the 133 presenters who provided high-quality educational programs for East Tennessee attorneys..

Diversity in the Profession Committee

2022 Chairs: Akram Faizer & Christina Magrans-Tillery

MISSION: To foster in the Knoxville legal community a climate of awareness of the particular needs of minority lawyers, as well as to implement programs designed to ensure that every attorney will have the opportunity to succeed professionally and participate in the affairs of the legal community without regard to race, color, creed, religion or gender.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS:

The Committee continued to meet monthly on Zoom. The monthly DICTA column “What I Learned about Inclusion and Why It Matters,” has been well-received by the bar. The purpose of the column is to foster discussion and learning around the topics of inclusion and bias and how they affect members of the local bar by sharing honest and insightful experiences from peers of various backgrounds. Contributors included local lawyers David Dupree, M. Akram Faizer, Amanda Lynn Morse, Sherif Guindi, Anita D.Souza, Sherley Cruz, the Hon. Robin Gunn, Alison Easterday Alexander, Aerial Carter, Melissa B. Carrasco, and Devin DeVore. On February 15, the committee co-sponsored the CLE webinar “Reimagining Public Safety” featuring LaKenya Middlebrook, who is the first Director of the City of Knoxville Office of Community Safety. A Lawyers of Color Support Group has met regularly since May to offer a safe place for lawyers of color to candidly talk about their practice experiences and offer support and resources. The goal is to further the professional development and advancement of lawyers of color and to participate in events and discussions that benefit minority attorneys and the minority community in general in Knoxville. On August 18, the committee co-sponsored a “War Stories and Take Aways: Tips for Success” CLE webinar featuring Knoxville attorney Ursula Bailey and her sister, Bridget Bailey, who is a highly regarded attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. In August the Committee recommended approval and adoption of the Strategic Inclusion Plan (SIP). The SIP subcommittee members were Brooklyn Sawyers Belk, Jamie Ballinger, Hanson Tipton, Alicia Teubert, and Carlos Yunsan. The Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Board of Governors adopt the SIP. During the September 28 Board of Governors meeting, members of the SIP subcommittee explained that national events shortly following the start of the COVID pandemic in 2020 propelled the Committee into action concerning a strategic plan that would formalize values that the KBA already espouses and practices. The Plan assigns responsibility for implementation to the DPC, which would provide the Board with progress reports from time to time. The Board approved the SIP and it can be found on the KBA website at <https://www.knoxbar.org/?pg=DiversityandInclusionResources>. The Committee's annual Diversity CLE and reception was held on September 29 at The Foundry. The keynote speaker was Luther Wright, Esq., of

Ogletree Deakins and the topic was titled “Taking Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) to the Next Level: Unbiased Mentorship and Sponsorship.” Evaluations from program attendees was very positive. The event also provided an opportunity to pair 105 law students with local attorneys for Buddy Match. On October 25, Committee’s Book Club Discussion subgroup, chaired by Marshall Stair, Esq, and question and answer session was held at Knoxville’s Beck Cultural Center. The program discussed the book “The Heat of a Red Summer: Race Mixing, Race Rioting in 1919 Knoxville”, by local historian and author Robert Booker. In addition to author Robert J. Booker, the program featured Rev. Renee Kesler, President of Beck Cultural Exchange Center, and Rev. Charles Fels, lawyer and priest in the Episcopal church. The program was very well attended and received.

Fee Dispute Resolution Committee

2022 Chairs: C. Scott Taylor & Robert L. Vance

MISSION: To provide assistance to both clients and lawyers when a dispute arises regarding attorney's fees and both parties agree to participate in the process in which the FDC issues a non-binding decision.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Fee Dispute Committee received three fee disputes during 2022, and the number of complaints received was lower than in prior years. The first file was resolved with an opinion issued after the Committee met to review the report and recommendations from a Committee member. The second file was settled after a Committee member discussed the dispute with the lawyer and the client. The final matter was closed due to lack of response from parties.

Functions Committee

2022 Chairs: Courtney Epps Read & Emily K. Stulce

MISSION: To identify and implement social functions that bring an ever-diverse membership together outside the confines of work so that they may make new friends and renew existing ones.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Functions Committee met in the spring to discuss social hours and networking events for KBA members and offered suggestions to the New Lawyers Section about their Field Day event. More than forty members attended a happy hour at the Lobby Bar of the Hyatt Place on June 16. The Committee partnered with the Knoxville Barristers to host the Member Appreciation & Welcome Bar Admittees event on October 20 at The UT Gardens. Seventy-five members attended the event to welcome new lawyers, and First Horizon sponsored the event.

Interprofessional Relations Committee

2022 Chairs: Sherri DeCosta Alley & Paul E. Wehmeier

MISSION: To encourage mutually beneficial interaction among lawyers and other professionals in the community, such as physicians, accountants, financial planners, and the like. In addition, where existing relationships may be somewhat strained, we aim to find ways to promote a spirit of cooperation and better understanding. The committee welcomes member participation and ideas for networking and/or events or programs to be held in conjunction with other professionals in 2023.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Committee Chairs discussed partnering with the TSCPA on a mixer for members of the two organizations, but due to programming challenges in the fall, the Committee hopes to schedule a mixer next Spring.

Judicial Committee

2022 Chairs: Samuel W. Rutherford & Broderick L. Young

MISSION: To coordinate with and provide support to the members of the judiciary and the various courts with a goal to constantly enhance the interactions and relationships between local attorneys and judges. We seek areas of concern and interest to the judiciary where we might be of service in exploring and seeking solutions to those areas of concern and to identify and support items of interest to the judiciary.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Committee developed a member survey for all the candidates on the ballot for the May 3 primary in positions related to the judicial system. As a service to the community, the KBA developed a Get To Know Your Judicial Candidates section on the KBA website to provide information about candidates running for judicial offices in Knox County. In addition, Committee members interviewed candidates through Zoom and added

the videos to the candidate profiles. The Committee invited all of the candidates to a Judicial Candidate Meet & Greet at the Law Practice Today Expo on March 31 as an opportunity to meet with area attorneys. Committee members hosted local state and federal court judges at the April 1 Judicial Roundtable luncheon featuring UT President Randy Boyd and Doug Kirchhofer, CEO of Tennessee Smokies Baseball. In June, the Committee conducted a candidate member survey for the August 4 Appellate Court Retention Elections. With so many changes due to the elections this year, the Judicial Committee assisted with an insert in the October DICTA that included contact information for each of the new judges. In addition, the Committee coordinated Judicial News columns for DICTA featuring profiles of local judges and continued to assist with CLE programs related to the judiciary. The Judicial Committee also oversaw the project to update the East Tennessee Courts' Inclement Weather policies and the Judicial Profiles on the KBA website.

Law Office Technology & Management Committee

2022 Chairs: Robyn Jarvis Askew & Jonathan Cooper

MISSION: To provide information to bar members relevant to technology and the management of the practice of law.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Committee successfully organized and produced the Law Practice Today Expo on March 31 – April 1, 2022. This year we returned to an in-person program and enjoyed an enthusiastic response from attendees and sponsors. We exceeded our expectation for sponsorships, and we once again made a good profit on the program. We were again successful in securing entertaining presenters, some nationally known, to offer training and incite on a wide variety of topics spanning multiple tracks of software systems and technology. We also offered a sponsored reception after the first day of presentations and invited the public to meet the judicial candidates running in the May general election. This was well attended and received, and we will consider offering a similar reception next year. For our judicial luncheon, we invited Randy Boyd, President of the University of Tennessee, and Doug Kirchhofer, CEO of Tennessee Smokies Baseball, to share their design plans and vision for the new Smokies ballpark downtown.

Lawyer Referral & Information Service (LRIS) Committee

2022 Chairs: Theodore R. Kern & John P. Newton

MISSION: The members of LRIS panel are the face of the local bar to those clients who are referred by the KBA. By demonstrating compassion, honesty and responsiveness in our dealings with the community, panel members improve their impression and respect of the legal profession. The LRIS benefits KBA members by providing a source for referrals for fee generating clients.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Committee reviewed the LRIS referrals and income for fiscal year July 2021 to June 2022. In that time, the LRIS staff provided referrals to 22,810 individuals and collected \$160,425.44 in fee percentage income, which reflects over \$1.06 Million in fees earned by participating attorneys. Members of the Committee collaborated with the Professionalism Committee and KBA General Counsel Adrienne Anderson to make recommendations to the Board of Governors regarding changes to the Intermediary Organization rule, which took effect on January 1. The Board approved the KBA submitting a petition seeking clarification of the rules regarding fee-sharing, intermediary organizations, and referral services. The Supreme Court granted the KBA's petition in an order filed on May 12, 2022. Finally, the Committee discussed efforts to promote the LRIS to increase public awareness of the service.

Legislative Committee

2022 Chairs: Stephanie D. Coleman & Cheryl Rice

MISSION: To keep KBA members informed about proposed state legislation that may affect their clients and the courts. Legislation concerning the continuation of the Judicial Selection Commission, the potential election of the Attorney General and various reforms in the civil justice system continues to be monitored.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: Committee Co-Chair Stephanie Coleman published legislative updates during the 2022 session. Chairs Coleman and Rice and Committee member Larry Leibowitz traveled to Nashville for a day on the hill and

met with most of the Knox County delegation, including Senators Massie and Briggs, and Representatives Lafferty, Mannis, Johnson, McKenzie, Wright, and Zachary.

Membership & Membership Services Committee

2022 Chairs: Katherine Murray Ogle & Taylor Williams

MISSION: To support the foundation of the KBA – its membership – by striving to increase participation of local practicing attorneys in the organization. It further promotes services designed to enhance the quality of membership within the KBA.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: Throughout the year, the Committee worked on efforts to recruit nonmembers and to reach new bar admittees. The Committee expanded the member discount and practice management savings programs, considered dues waiver requests, including life member exceptions, and oversaw the compilation and publication of the annual KBA Attorneys' Directory, an invaluable benefit of KBA membership. The Committee again sponsored a March Madness Bracket Challenge and recruited attorneys for the Mentor for a Moment program. Several members of the Committee participated in a trial to test the Decisis legal research platform to consider offering as a new member benefit.

Memorials & Resolutions Committee

2022 Chairs: Ruth T. Ellis & K.O. Herston

MISSION: To prepare resolutions memorializing the lives of Knoxville area attorneys who have passed away during the preceding year. These resolutions are placed in the permanent records of both the KBA and the Chancery Court of Knox County. In addition, the committee plans, makes preparations for, and sponsors the annual Memorial Service, which honors members of the bar who passed away during the preceding year, inviting members of the bar, as well as the families of the deceased, to attend.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: In 2022, the Committee planned, prepared, and presented the Annual Memorial Service on November 18, with members of the judiciary, bar, and family attending in person for the first time since 2019. It was an honor for the Committee to be involved in remembering the lives of the fifteen members of the bar who have passed away since last October and to reflect on their many contributions. Bios of the members recognized at the Memorial Service will be included on the KBA website.

Professionalism Committee

2022 Chairs: James R. Stovall & Hon. John F. Weaver

MISSION: To advise the KBA Board of Governors about potential rule changes and develop programs that emphasize the importance of maintaining the highest professional standards. The committee periodically reviews potential recipients and makes recommendations to the Board of Governors for awards such as the Courage in the Face of Adversity Award and the Don Paine Lawyer Legacy Award.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Committee considered proposed amendments to rules regarding recusal motions; annual registration fees and the limitations on payments that may be made by the Tennessee Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection; bar admission for attorneys who have a certain amount of "full-time practice" in another jurisdiction; and the rules package covering appellate and civil procedures and the rules of evidence. The KBA Board of Governors voted to adopt recommendations by the Committee to submit comments to the Tennessee Supreme Court on three different proposed amendments. The Committee also considered the Judicial Ethics Committee Advisory Opinion regarding a new statute about personal solicitation of campaign contributions by judicial candidates. The Co-Chairs served on a KBA subcommittee that assisted in the preparation of a petition by the KBA for clarification of amendments to the rules regarding fee-sharing, intermediary organizations, and referral services. The KBA's petition was granted. The Committee also organized the KBA Fall Hike on November 5 to Seven Islands Birding Park.

Publications Committee

2022 Chairs: Melissa B. Carrasco, Catherine E. Shuck & Campbell Cox

MISSION: To provide interesting and informative articles to members of the KBA in its monthly publication, *DICTA*. The committee has worked to expand and diversify both the magazine's content and member participation.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: If there was a single word to describe the Publication Committee's activities in 2022, it would be "Perspective." This year, John Eldridge shared the perspective of a retiring attorney with his "Lessons Learned" column, and so many members of the Knoxville Bar shared their perspectives in the new column "Privileged to be a Lawyer." In "Mitchell's Malarky," Mitchell Panter (with the help of guest columnist Vol. D. Mort) shared his perspective on tipping, inter-office etiquette, daycare, and what animal we might want to be if the apocalypse occurs. The new "Chair Chat" column gave us the opportunity to hear from the hard-working individuals who Chair the KBA's various committees, and by continuing the "Tell Me a Story" and "Hello my Name is" columns, we got to know the backstories of many KBA members. "What I learned about Inclusion and Why it Matters" shared deeply personal perspectives that made us think, and when the KBA's Wellness Committee took over the entire September issue, we all got to take a breath of fresh air (literally and mentally). The Publications Committee did its best this year to bring together diverse perspectives, and we are so grateful to each person who was willing to share. A big thanks as always to our regular contributors: Brandon Allen, Judy Cornett, Alex Long, and Paula Schaefer—our amazing UT Law Professors who keep us up-to-date on our ethics—Brad Fraser, Beth Ford, Bill & Phil (yes, you need another mini-keyboard), Lisa Hall, Emily Heird, Joe Jarrett, Regina Koho, KBA President Jason Long, Angelia Nystrom, and Caitlyn Torney. We also want to give a special thanks to Sarah Booher who has devoted so many hours teaching us about grammar, urban legends, and lots of interesting people. We will miss reading your column every month!

Wellness Committee

2022 Chairs: Elizabeth B. Ford & Hannah S. Lowe

MISSION: The Wellness Committee's mission is to promote wellness programs available for all members including the areas of physical fitness, nutrition, mindfulness, social engagement, and mental health. The Committee will provide resources and tools in areas such as career satisfaction, mental/chemical health and addiction issues, and many other quality of life issues.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: In its inaugural year, the Committee hosted fitness activities and a financial wellness webinar, compiled resources to share with members, and sponsored a health fair and wellness conference that encouraged prioritizing mental health. The fitness subcommittee led several hikes, a weekly walk at Lakeshore Park, yoga, and Turbospin, as well as coordinating the Tennis and Pickleball Tournament in August. The Financial Wellness subcommittee planned a free Economic Update webinar on July 25 to help calm member fears about the volatility of the stock market and the rise in interest rates. The Mental Fitness Subcommittee was established to better understand the mental health issues affecting members and to compile resources to support lawyers in their quest for better mental health. The KBA believes in the critical importance of well-being for its members, as evidenced by the first-ever DICTA takeover by the Wellness Committee in September. On September 23, the Committee sponsored a Wellness Conference to create a culture of openness to normalize conversations about mental health and well-being. During the morning, the entire legal community was invited to attend a morning vaccine clinic and health fair with more than twenty health assessments and educational tables. The afternoon CLE sessions offered two tracks of CLE courses with outstanding local speakers. Topics covered overcoming the stigma of substance abuse, firm models for promoting mental and physical health, ways to prevent Alzheimer's Disease, and learning how to cope and recover from stress and the science behind it.



KBA Sections

What are KBA Sections?

Sections are designed for attorneys in particular areas or types of practice to network with one another and receive professional development. Sections may vary on how often they meet for discussions, sponsor events and send communications to their members. By joining a section, you are not necessarily making a commitment to actively participate in section meetings and events, but we hope you will as often as your schedule allows so that the sections can continue to build a sense of community in these areas and types of practice.

How can you get involved?

Complete the form online to sign up. Visit www.knoxbar.org, click KBA Leadership (under Quick Links on the left), click the link for Committees/Sections and find the sign-up form link on the page. Click the link, complete and submit the form.



Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

2022 Chairs: Betsy Meadows & Joseph Jarrett

MISSION: To promote the use of appropriate forms of dispute resolution and to develop the KBA's ability to meet some of the public's need for mediators, arbitrators and others who help resolve disputes at less social cost than the judicial process. The section also educates local practitioners on current uses and trends in dispute resolution throughout the country.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The ADR Section sponsored four seminars this year: "Mediating a Complex Personal Injury Case", "Emerging Trends in Mediation Ethics", "Strategies for Conducting a Family Law Mediation", and "Mediation: Practice and Ethics Update 2022".

Bankruptcy Section

2022 Chairs: Thomas H. Dickenson & Gregory C. Logue

MISSION: Open to all lawyers whose practice involves bankruptcy, the section educates its members and provides a forum for discussion among members and the judiciary.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The section co-hosted along with LAET, LAS of Middle TN & the Cumberland, and with the support and involvement of United States Bankruptcy Judge Suzanne H. Bauknight, four Pro Bono Debt Relief Clinics which provided pro bono legal services to income-eligible consumer debtors. The section presented well-attended CLE seminars for its members on timely topics, including "How to Get Paid – Employment and Payment of Professionals in Bankruptcy" and "Bankruptcy Case Law Update 2022". During the Summer, the Section and the Barristers hosted "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Bankruptcy Court" mock trial program and reception for summer associates/interns, law students, as well as practicing lawyers, who were interested in learning more about bankruptcy law practice. Attorney volunteers from 2020, 2021 & 2022 were presented with appreciation certificates at a Debt Relief Celebration on September 26.

Corporate Counsel Section

2022 Chairs: David W. Headrick & Marcia A. Kilby

MISSION: To create CLE, networking, social, newsletter and other "to be developed" opportunities that will enhance and improve the role of in-house attorneys and attorneys in private firms that handle corporate matters for their clients.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Corporate Counsel Section held its annual 3-hour CLE program "KBA Corporate Ethics and Updates" on August 24 as a hybrid event (In-Person & Zoom Webinar). Speakers presented information about Non-Competes, Non-Disclosure Agreements, the Corporate Transparency Act, and Corporate Cases: A View from the Court. The CLE was concluded with a panel presentation on various topics related to practicing in-house. One issue of the Section's newsletter, The Consigliere, was published in 2022.

Criminal Justice Section

2022 Chairs: Sarah W. Keith & Joshua D. Hedrick

MISSION: Open to all lawyers whose practice involves the criminal justice system, the section educates its members and the general public about the criminal justice system and its purpose; fosters productive communication among members, the judiciary and criminal justice agencies; and seeks improvement in the operation of the criminal justice system.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Section sponsored two CLE programs: "Tennessee's Sex Offender Registry Law" and "Criminal Law Rowdy Roundup 2022".

Employment Law Section

2022 Chairs: Howard B. Jackson, Timothy A. Roberto & Mark C. Travis

MISSION: To provide CLE programming on recent case law developments and legislative updates. The section is intended for management and plaintiff's counsel, in addition to in-house and government attorneys.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Section held its annual planning meeting at the end of March. The section sponsored five CLE programs: "Annual FLSA Update," "EEOC Trends and Developments," "Workers' Compensation Update: Navigating the System and Avoiding the Pitfalls," "A potpourri of Changes: Employment Law Updates under the New Administration," and "A Shot in the Dark: COVID-19 Vaccinations & the Workplace". The section sponsored the annual "Employment Law Update" CLE program featuring Edward Phillips.

Environmental Law Section

2022 Chairs: Catherine W. Anglin & James C. Wright

MISSION: To offer the opportunity to meet on a regular basis to discuss areas of common concern and develop a network providing access to members and professionals with environmental expertise. The section is open to any attorney whose practice includes environmental, transactional or land use issues.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Section sponsored two CLE programs: "Utilizing the Brownfields Program and Available Funding to Successfully Repurpose Contaminated Properties" and "Revisions to ASTM International E1527 Standard Practice for Phase I Environmental Site Assessments & Asbestos Surveys 101 – What You Need to Know".

Family Law Section

2022 Chairs: Jo Ann Lehberger & James S. Sharp Jr.

MISSION: To focus on local and state-wide issues relevant to the family law practitioner and provide a forum for discussion. The section sponsors topical CLE programs for family law practitioners several times a year and meets regularly to discuss changes in legislation, case law and rules and practitioners' responses to these changes.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Section sponsored three CLE programs: "How to Expedite Your Divorce Case in Knox County Chancery Court," "Don't Do It Alone! Build A Team to Assist You in Handling Family Law Cases," and "Tennessee Family Law Update 2022".

Government and Public Service Lawyers Section

2022 Chairs: Hon. Suzanne Bauknight & Ronald E. Mills

MISSION: To increase communication among its members and foster relationships with the bar as a whole, as well to encourage community service outside of work as public servants.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The co-chairs met on several occasions to discuss possible Section activities for 2022 and 2023. On March 4, 2022, the Section hosted a hybrid CLE program on government contracting titled "Government Contracting 101", featuring Charles E. Young, Jr. and Ivan Boatner. The section also planned an interactive CLE presentation entitled "May It Please the Board: Effective Advocacy Before Local Government Bodies" for October 2022. The presentation, which would include a mock council meeting, was postponed until early February 2023.

Juvenile Court & Child Justice Section

2022 Chairs: Justin W. Pruitt & Michael J. Stanuszek

MISSION: The section offers CLE programs to educate attorneys regarding substantive and procedural legal issues that arise in the representation of minors. It also organizes and participates in charitable projects to support children, families and lawyers representing families with children in our community.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Section sponsored “Nuts and Bolts of Knox County Juvenile Court” with Judge Timothy Irwin and Magistrate James Reed on November 18.

New Lawyers Section

2022 Chairs: Courteney M. Barnes-Anderson & Sanjay Raman

MISSION: The New Lawyers Section is comprised of attorneys in their first 3 years of practice. The section will allow attorneys to connect with other attorneys who may not be in the same practice area, but who are new to the legal field and facing similar experiences. The New Lawyers Section includes educational opportunities, networking events, community service projects, listserv and e-community options with a comprehensive file-sharing system.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The New Lawyers Section presented events regularly throughout the year in both virtual and in-person formats. The events included socials, such as the events at Gypsy Circus, Schultz Brau, and 31 North. The Section also sponsored program with informative speakers, including “What New Lawyers Should Know,” a financial planning panel, and an event about career planning and progression with a life coach who is also an attorney. The Section also continued a past favorite “Judges’ Tips for New Attorneys” via Zoom at the beginning of the year, as a great way to introduce new members of the section to local judges.

Senior Section

2022 Chair: Wayne A. Kline

MISSION: The Senior Section is comprised of members over the age of 50 and typically holds quarterly luncheon meetings emphasizing collegiality. It tends to be high on humor and story-telling with excellent speakers. The section aspires to social networking the old fashioned way: good conversation and good company over good food.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: Due to COVID-19 concerns, the Section was not able to host any luncheons this year but anticipates quarterly luncheons in 2023.

Solo Practitioner and Small Firm Section

2022 Chairs: Edward G. “Tripp” White III, Brittany Nestor & P. Timothy Grandchamp

MISSION: To encourage networking and collegiality among sole practitioners and members of small firms as “Knoxville’s Largest Law Firm,” to provide high quality continuing legal education featuring topics that will help solo & small firm attorneys enhance and improve their practices and to assist its members with their unique challenges.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS: The Section hosted two CLE webinars on “Accounting & Tax Tips for Solo and Small Firms,” and “Marketing in the Age of Social Media”.





2022 Executive Committee

Meagan Davis Collver	President
Hon. Zachary R. Walden	Vice President
Amanda Tonkin	Immediate Past President
Charles S.J. Sharrett	Secretary/Treasurer
Jordan Houser	Member-At-Large
Christine Knott	Member-At-Large

How can you get involved?

Sign up for a Barrister committee online www.knoxbar.org. Contact one of the Officers or Committee Chairs to express an interest or feel free to call the KBA Office at 522-6522 for more information.

Who are the Knoxville Barristers?

The Knoxville Barristers are lawyers who are members of the Knoxville Bar Association who are under 36 years of age or have been practicing law less than five years. Probably no other local bar association and group of young attorneys work harder or have a more diverse list of public service opportunities than those right here in Knoxville. While providing valuable and appreciated public service, these young lawyers have fun enjoying each other and enjoying serving others.

BARRISTER COMMITTEE 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

Access to Justice Committee

Chairs: Charles S.J. Sharrett & Matthew Bettis

The Committee continued to focus its efforts to the monthly Veterans' legal Advice Clinic. We also assisted LAET in their Family Law Clinic during the summer and are exploring the possibility of assisting LAET in hosting a general monthly clinic. The Committee continues to be grateful to all of the attorneys and law students who have participated.

Athletics Committee

Chairs: James Parker & Jordan Newport

The Committee hosted the 2022 Barristers Charity Golf Tournament at Holston Hills Country Club on October 24. The Committee oversaw sponsorship solicitations, tournament contests, and player recruitment. The Committee secured Eagle Distributing as the Liquid Gold sponsor and partnered with the Hackers Club on a custom polo as the tournament gift. Due to the generosity of players and sponsors, over \$7,500 was raised for the charitable activities of the Hunger & Poverty Relief Committee.

CLE Committee

Chairs: Sam Louderback & Seth Oakes

The CLE Committee's mission is to provide Barrister members with affordable, high-quality programs of interest to young lawyers and law students. As part of the annual Summer Fun CLE series, the Committee offered "Name, Image, and Likeness – Whether You Like It or Not" on August 25 at Xul Beer Co.

Constitution Day & School Outreach Committee *Chairs: Richard Graves & Christine Knott*

The Committee coordinated the nominations for the Law and Liberty Award and the Chairs presented the Award to Maha Ayesh at the Law Day Celebration on April 29. Constitution Day was held at Christenberry Elementary, Dogwood Elementary, Pond Gap Elementary, Maynard Elementary, and South Knox Elementary. Barristers' members presented a prepared lesson about the Constitution to 4th grade classes, and one 2nd grade class at Pond Gap. Knoxville judges Suzanne Bauknight, John Rosson, Lisa Lowe, Debbie Poplin, and Meredith Weaver participated in the event by hearing presentations from students and discussing how the Constitution affects their roles as members of the judiciary.

Diversity Committee*Chairs: Grant T. Williamson & Mariel Baugh*

After consulting with diverse student organization leaders at the University of Tennessee College of Law and the Duncan School of Law at Lincoln Memorial University, the Diversity Committee identified one of the major problems inhibiting diversity in the KBA: a decline in students of diverse backgrounds attending law school in Knoxville. To hopefully address this issue, the Diversity Committee established a scholarship fund for students of diverse backgrounds interested in visiting one of Knoxville's law schools to help cover travel expenses. Over \$5,000 were raised, which allowed the committee to provide funds for nearly twenty students to visit one or both of Knoxville's law schools. The scholarship fund also received a \$1,000 grant from the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division. The Committee also hosted a networking event on November 18, 2022, at a locally owned brewery, Ebony and Ivory, where attorneys and law students were able to foster relationships.

Hunger & Poverty Relief Committee (HPRC)*Chairs: Jimmy Snodgrass & Jordan Houser*

This year, the Hunger and Poverty Relief Committee continued a number of its annual activities with strong participation levels. The annual Professional Clothing Drive was held from April 14 to April 29, 2022, to provide professional clothing to individuals in need. Our partners for this drive were Knox Area Rescue Ministries (KARM), the YWCA, and the LMU Law Career Closet. The donations from eight locations were sorted on April 30, 2022, and in total, the Hunger and Poverty Committee collected forty large bags of professional clothing. The Committee's Brews for Backpacks event was held at Xul on August 4, 2022, in order to benefit ChildHelp Children's Advocacy Center, which serves victims of child abuse and neglect through advocacy, treatment, and investigation services. The event had a large turnout at a new location. In total, the Hunger and Poverty Relief Committee raised \$1,033 to buy school supplies for children in need in our community along with collecting approximately twenty-donated backpacks. The Committee's Annual Coat drive ran from October 7, 2022 to October 21, 2022, at eight donation locations. With the help of several volunteers, the Committee collected fifteen bags of coats for those in need to donate to KARM. From November 7-29, the Committee sponsored a Food and Fund Drive for Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee which provided 59,833 meals for our East Tennessee neighbors who are at risk of hunger. The Committee finishes the year with a toiletry drive for the YWCA.

Law School Mentor Committee*Chairs: Bob Dziejewski & Courtney Walker*

The Law School Mentor Committee held the Mock Interview Program with UT College of Law and at LMU Duncan School of Law. The Mock Interview Program helps law students prepare for interviews for summer associate positions by providing them with an opportunity to engage in a "practice" interview conducted by a KBA member. Afterwards, each student receives feedback on his or her interview performance and résumé. This year the Committee conducted mock interviews with the assistance of numerous volunteers from the KBA. We received great feedback from the law schools, and the students greatly appreciated everyone's time and efforts.

Membership Services Committee*Chairs: Katie O'Neal & Matt McClanahan*

The Committee coordinated a Barristers "March Madness Social Hour" at Hops and Hollers on March 24 and we had a great turnout. The Committee also organized the Summer Party on July 15 with a "Roaring 20's" theme at PostModern Spirits with a few Barristers dressing to the nines in their finest flapper fashion.

Mock Trial Committee*Chairs: Isaac Westling & Bridget Pyman*

The Committee coordinated and hosted a single weekend Regional High School Mock Trial Competition for Districts 2, 3, and 4 on March 4-6, 2022. One hundred nineteen competitors comprised nine teams from eight high schools included Knoxville Central, Farragut, Jefferson County, Knoxville Catholic (Gold), Knoxville Catholic (Green), L & N STEM Academy, Powell, Sevier County, and Webb School of Knoxville. The Committee coordinated over 50 volunteers to serve as judges and bailiffs to help with the competition. The Committee awarded first place to the Knox Catholic Green Team and second place to Farragut High School's Team.

Volunteer Breakfast Committee*Chairs: Matt Knable & Laura Wyrick*

The Volunteer Breakfast Committee provided breakfast to Knoxville's need on the fourth Thursday of every month. We secured sponsors to pay for the food and volunteers to help prepare/serve the food.