

Nashville Bar Association



**2011 GUIDE TO
MEMBER SERVICES**



We belong to a wonderful profession.

Each day, we work hard to help people and businesses in our community. The NBA has a wide variety of services and programs that can help lawyers work smarter, stay informed and keep connected with fellow attorneys. From sole practitioners to the largest firms, from legal aid attorneys to those in private practice, the NBA supports all of us so we can better serve our clients and the justice system.

These pages describe the array of resources the NBA offers. When you take advantage of the Bar's services, you receive great value for your membership dues.

Our Bar Association is much more than just a collection of services. The power of our membership lies in the power of the people.

WE are the Bar. And together, we shape the future of the legal profession.



Standing Together To Support Our Community

Nashville Bar Association Staff Contacts

The NBA Staff stands ready to assist you. Please contact us anytime at 615.242.9272 and let us know what we can do for you.

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COMMITTEES & EVENTS

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MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

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Membership & Office Coordinator

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Call 615-242-9272 to reach any NBA staff member



ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Develops and explores methods for mediation, arbitration and other forms of dispute resolution. Works with community groups providing alternate dispute resolution.

APPELLATE PRACTICE

Monitors activity of the Tennessee Appeals Courts. Makes recommendations on rules, practices and procedure.

ATTORNEY HEALTH & WELLNESS

Provides education on attorney health and wellness, including triage training for attorneys/law firm staff who encounter clients or colleagues at risk for suicide; collaborates with NBA Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers Committee; assists Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP).

BANKRUPTCY COURT

Monitors activity of the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts and studies recommendations for improvements of bankruptcy law and court procedures. Acts as liaison between the Bankruptcy Courts and local bar.

CANDIDATE EVALUATION

Conducts pre-election polls of Nashville lawyers regarding Davidson County judges and related officials.

CHANCERY & CIRCUIT COURTS

Monitors activity of the Chancery and Circuit Courts of Davidson County and makes recommendations regarding improvements in these courts. Functions as liaison between the courts and the local trial bar.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Promotes a positive image of attorneys in the community by conducting programs in schools and civic organizations, focusing on law-related subjects of public interest. Includes the following subcommittees: Candidate Evaluation, Legislative and Governmental Relations and Lawyers Care.

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Plans and conducts monthly and special continuing legal education on topics of practical interest to local lawyers. Includes the following subcommittee: State Attorneys CLE.

CORPORATE & COMMERCIAL PRACTICE

Provides a special focus group for those involved in corporate, lending, securities and commercial practice.

CRIMINAL LAW & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Recommends methods to improve the criminal justice system. Acts as liaison between the Police Department, Criminal Courts, District Attorney's office and the local defense bar.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Monitors developments in domestic relations law. Acts as a liaison between the local bar and courts handling domestic relations issues.

EMPLOYMENT LAW & CIVIL RIGHTS

Provides a forum for employment and civil rights law practitioners.

ENTERTAINMENT, SPORTS & MEDIA LAW

Provides a special focus group for entertainment law practitioners.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Provides a focus group for environmental law practitioners.

ESTATE PLANNING

Provides a special focus group for estate planning practitioners.

ETHICS & PROFESSIONALISM

Reports to the NBA Board on ethics issues and instances of unauthorized practice of law. Provides assistance to victims of unauthorized practice or unethical lawyers. Develops programs to maintain highest professional standards and conducts educational and preventive programs.

FEDERAL COURT

Monitors the activities of the U.S. District Courts for the Middle District of Tennessee. Acts as liaison between the federal courts and Nashville attorneys.

FEE DISPUTES

Arbitrates fee disputes between attorneys and clients.

GENERAL SESSIONS COURT

Monitors the activity of the Metropolitan General Sessions Court and studies plans for improvement in those courts. Acts as liaison between the 11 General Sessions judges and the local bar.

GOVERNMENT LAWYERS

Provides a special focus group for government lawyers with educational and collegial opportunities for this segment of the bar.

HEALTH LAW

Monitors developments in health law, including professional liability and hospital relations.

HISTORICAL

Collects materials relating to the history of the Nashville Bar. Acts as a resource group for historical study. Conducts annual memorial services for deceased members of the Nashville legal community. Includes the following subcommittees: Memorial Service, Oral History, Acquisitions and Preservation.

IMMIGRATION LAW

Provides a special focus group for immigration law practitioners. Assists in keeping its members abreast of developments and changes in the practice as well as assessing the impact of these developments on the immigrant community. Monitors current issues and problems in the immigrant community for the purpose of assessing the need for advocacy and/or action on behalf of the community.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

Provides a forum for lawyers practicing in trademarks, patents, copyrights, licensing and related litigation.

JUVENILE COURT

Monitors activity of the Juvenile Court of Davidson County and studies developments in the law relating to children. Acts as liaison between the Juvenile Court, its agencies and the local bar.

LAWYER REFERRAL & INFORMATION SERVICE

Provides policy guidance for the Lawyer Referral & Information Service.

MEMBER BENEFITS & SPONSORSHIPS

The committee is committed to listening to our members so as to identify the benefits they will find useful, and then to ensure consistency, relevancy, and quality. In addition, the committee helps oversee, identify, and solicit sponsors for the NBA and its various events.

MINORITY OPPORTUNITIES

Fosters an awareness in the Nashville legal community of the particular needs of minority lawyers. Makes recommendations to the Board for programs to meet those needs.

NASHVILLE BAR JOURNAL

Publishes the Nashville Bar Journal, a monthly members' magazine containing articles of interest to the local bar.

NASHVILLE LAWYERS CONCERNED FOR LAWYERS

Identifies and acts as advocate for lawyers experiencing problems in their practice related to the abuse of alcohol or drugs as well as mental health issues. Renders confidential assistance to lawyers.

PROBATE COURT

Monitors activity of the Davidson County Probate Court. Makes recommendations regarding improvement in the court. Acts as liaison between the court and local trial bar.

REAL ESTATE LAW

Provides special focus group for real estate practitioners.

SISTER CITIES

Plans biennial visits for attorneys from our Sister Cities of Caen, France, and Magdeburg, Germany.

SOLO AND SMALL FIRM

A forum for solo and small firm attorneys from various practice areas and experience levels to network and collaborate on issues such as practice management, technology, marketing, staffing, etc.

TAX

Provides a special focus group for Nashville's tax bar, keeping members abreast of new developments in tax law.

Member Benefits & Services of the Nashville Bar Association



BENEFIT FROM COLLECTIVE WISDOM

Committees are the backbone of the NBA. Through participation in NBA and YLD committees, you will meet lawyers and judges who share your interests and concerns, develop important referral and support networks, pick up helpful practice tips, obtain office and staff management advice and help improve the laws and administrative procedures that govern your practice area.

Join one of our 40+ committees. **For more information about these and other NBA services, contact Vicki Shoulders at (615) 242-9272 or vicki.shoulders@nashvillebar.org.**

YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION



The NBA YLD strives to serve the community while improving the image of lawyers and the legal profession and coordinates both public and member service projects throughout the year. Being active in YLD is a great opportunity for young lawyers to become involved in the Nashville legal community and the community at large and at the same time allows young lawyers to establish a network of personal and professional relationships with their peers in the Nashville and legal community. The Young Lawyers of the NBA takes an active role in Bar programs and in other community activities. OYEZ!, the YLD's award winning quarterly newsletter, keeps members informed of current and future events as well as providing information on substantive legal issues. YLD Membership is available to anyone under 36 or within the first 10 years of practice.

Events/Projects include: The Land Rover Race Judicata, Carbohc Smoke Ball, Habitat for Humanity Build, Toiletry Drive, Mock Trial Competition, SYNC Program, Wine Tasting Events, Sounds Games, Quality of Life Seminars, Practicing Parents get together & much more.

Top to Bottom: Carbohc Smoke Ball, Race Judicata, Mock Trial Winners, Race Check Presentation, Winners of the YLD Law Day Speech & Art Contest

SHARE EXPERIENCES WITH FELLOW LAWYERS @ NBA EVENTS

With a wide variety of events throughout the year, the NBA has an event for everyone.

Just for fun: The **Free NBA Members Picnic** held at the end of summer and the **NBA Golf Tournament** are both events where you can unwind and have a good time.

Traditional Events: **Annual Meeting & Banquet, Law Week Luncheon, and the Memorial Service.**

Benefiting the Community: **Bill Ramsey's Annual Birthday Celebration** benefiting Second Harvest Food Bank, **YLD Annual Carbohc Smoke Ball** benefiting CASA, **YLD Race Judicata** benefiting a different charity each year, YLD annual **Toiletry Drive** for the Homeless.



FIND QUALIFIED OFFICE PERSONNEL

The NBA has partnered with Special Counsel for your legal staff and Attorney staffing needs.

ABOUT SPECIAL COUNSEL: The demands of today's legal world can exceed the resources of the largest law firms and legal departments. Whether you need assistance managing your everyday workload, or additional resources to handle specific cases or business transactions, that's what they do, every day. Special Counsel is the leading provider of legal workforce solutions to law firms and corporate legal departments across the country, including litigation support and workload management.

Whether you need a single litigation support resource or many, Special Counsel has a proven record of surpassing our clients' expectations. In celebration of our 2009 partnership with the Nashville Bar Association, Special Counsel is offering a 10% discount on placement services to NBA members. Call today at (615) 320-7700 to take advantage of this exclusive offer.

For more information contact Special Counsel at 615-320-7700 or nashville@specialcounsel.com.

EXPAND YOUR CLIENT BASE

For those in private practice, client development is critical. There is no better place to network than the NBA. Participation in NBA activities offers you many opportunities to meet fellow lawyers and develop new business relationships.

- You can sign-up for the highly successful NBA **Lawyer Referral & Information Service**, which receives over 12,000 requests for referrals each year. LRIS referral analysts screen calls so they are well-targeted before you or members of your staff spend valuable time on the phone. When a caller reaches you or your staff, the nature of the case and the relevant areas of law are clearly established, and location and language preferences are already taken into account. **For more information on the LRIS, contact the Wendy Cozby at (615) 242.9272 or wendy.cozby@nashvillebar.org.**

- The NBA, with a generous grant from the Nashville Bar Foundation, is providing a much-needed community service to lower-income individuals. **The Modest Means Initiative** is a panel of NBA attorneys who have agreed to provide legal services to those eligible at a substantially reduced rate. For more information, please contact Wendy Cozby at wendy.cozby@nashvillebar.org

- Make yourself known by joining a committee, speaking at a seminar or publishing an article in the **Nashville Bar Journal**.

- Place a **Fields of Practice Listing** in our annual directory, which



L to R: NBA Picnic, Law Day, Ode to Otha, Annual Meeting & Banquet, Golf Tournament



STAY INFORMED

The Association's monthly magazine, *Nashville Bar Journal*, contains feature articles on the law, reviews of legal developments, interviews with well known leaders in the legal community, legislative updates, views from the bench, history of the bar, profiles, CLE schedules and announcements and reviews of NBA Programs & Events.

Members are encouraged to submit articles and editorial comments for publication, and/or to participate on the NBJ Editorial Committee. Our regular NBA Announcement emails will keep you up-to-date with current issues and bar activities. Our website provides 24-hour access to NBA information and legal resources at www.nashvillebar.org. For more information, contact Nikki Gray at nikki.gray@nashvillebar.org

SHARPEN YOUR PRACTICE SKILLS WITH CLE



Innovative, Stimulating and Engaging courses. We feature expert, nationally recognized faculty from right here in the Nashville area and "far away" places as well. Our skilled faculty will keep you current on nuts and bolts of the law, local rules and customs, ethics and professionalism, and winning practice strategies and key practice procedures. You can trust that NBA programs will offer you quality, relevant courses that meet your needs – a broad range of practice areas, in a variety of formats, at convenient times that are easy on your wallet!

For more CLE information contact Susan Blair at (615) 242-9272 or susan.blair@nashvillebar.org



SAVE ON BUSINESS AND PERSONAL EXPENSES

Through your NBA membership, you can save money on: seminars, legal publications, IPSCO professional liability insurance, temporary and permanent office personnel through our placement partners Special Counsel, credit card fees, outside printing costs and much more. Savings on life, major medical, disability and professional liability insurance plans also are available. **These savings can more than cover the cost of your NBA membership dues.**

Committee Support

NBA committees evaluate important bar or court-related issues. Staff is available to schedule and publicize committee meetings, circulate material, and docket agenda items for Board consideration. Meeting space is always available.

Meeting Space

The NBA office regularly hosts meetings, arbitrations and other events for lawyers who need a meeting place. Meeting space at the NBA Offices is available at a discounted rate for our members, and half-day sessions are free. The coffee is always warm. Contact Vicki Shoulders at vicki.shoulders@nashvillebar.org and indicate the date, time and meeting room preference. Please be advised that meeting space is subject to availability.

Nashville Bar Journal

Essential information is provided in our monthly magazine, including feature articles, interviews, views from the bench, legal developments, history, CLE schedule, and other topics of interest to lawyers. NBA members are invited to contribute articles for publication.

NBA Announcement Emails

Monthly and periodic e-mails, covering timely events such as membership news, court announcements, community spotlighted events, CLE announcements and more are sent to all NBA members.

NBA Attorney Directory

The guide to Davidson County attorneys. Published annually, this useful directory contains photos and addresses of Davidson County lawyers & judges, firm lists, listings of attorneys by practice area, court information and general NBA information. To purchase a directory, call (615) 242-9272 or visit www.nashvillebar.org.

Legislative and Governmental Relations

Volunteer lobbyists represent positions of the NBA, as approved by the Board, before the General Assembly, Metro Council, and Congress, as well as administrative and executive agencies. Efforts include committee testimony, individual meetings, letter writing, drafting and negotiating.

International Relations

Visit one of our sister cities in Caen, Normandy, France or Magdeburg, Germany, or host an attorney from one of these cities in your home. Participants receive CLE credit and an unforgettable experience.

SunTrust Banking

Specifically designed to service the complex financial needs of attorneys and their firms, SunTrust Legal Specialty Group focuses on addressing the financial needs of both firms and individual attorneys. They work with you to build and manage wealth through highly personalized credit, deposit and investment services, and with your firm by providing customized credit, cash management, corporate investment and risk management products. SunTrust will be there – every step of the way. For more information, call 615.748.4809.

Professional, Health, Disability & Life Insurance

IPSCO Insurance Planning & Services Company, Inc. provides NBA members with a wide range of insurance plans including: professional liability, premium discounts on non-cancelable and step-rated disability insurance, long term care insurance, and step-rated term life insurance. For more information, contact Desiree L. Tabor or Betty Ann Allgood at 1-800-347-1109.

Library

A complete collection of federal materials, national reporter system and Tennessee materials is located at the Nashville School of Law on Armory Oaks Drive. This facility is open for research by NBA members during regular School of Law hours. For more information, call the Nashville School of Law at (615) 256-3691.

Web Site

www.nashvillebar.org provides information for attorneys, including local court rules, upcoming events, CLE program schedules, and links to other law-related sites.

NASHVILLE BAR FOUNDATION



The mission of the Nashville Bar Foundation is to promote and preserve the honor and integrity of the legal profession, to improve the administration of justice, to enhance legal education, to provide financial support to law students through loans and scholarships, and to foster the continuing education of lawyers and the judiciary.

The Fellows Program was established in 1991 as a way for the bar to honor its colleagues who have contributed significantly to the community. Devotion to service to the client and to the public interest are hallmarks of the program. Fellows are selected by their colleagues. Each "class" of Fellows is limited to approximately 1% of the bar in Nashville.

Funds from contributions 2002 to date were earmarked for a grant to the Nashville Bar Association's Pro Bono Program in the annual amount of \$24,000. The Foundation also makes low interest loans available to students at the Nashville School of Law made possible by the sale of the **Bench & Bar, II** by **David C. Rutherford**. Copies of the Bench & Bar II book can be purchased at www.nashvillebar.org or by phone 615-242-9272.

MINORITY OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM

The Nashville Bar Minority Opportunities Program is a comprehensive set of projects designed to enhance professional success for minority lawyers in Nashville. These projects include:

Damali Booker First Year Minority Clerkship Job Fair

This job fair places first year minority law students as summer clerks with majority firms and organizations. The program creates opportunities for candidates to gain experience during the summer after their first year of law school. This experience improves their marketability, making it easier for them to gain employment during their second year and after graduation. Several students are placed each summer as a result of this project.

Nashville High School Summer Intern Program

The High School Summer Intern Program exposes local minority high school students to local legal workplaces as paid summer interns. This project of the Nashville Bar Association offers qualified high school seniors personal experience in the daily legal workplace of private law firms, corporate law divisions or governmental law offices. The program features a formal educational component with weekly meetings to expose interns to the wide diversity of legal employment opportunities, such as attorney, paralegal, librarian or administrative support personnel.

Employer Recognition Program

Each year the Nashville Bar Association recognizes firms and government entities who have supported the NBA Minority Opportunities Programs at its Law Day Luncheon. Recognition is given for participation in the above projects, for hiring and/or retaining minority attorneys, and for financial support of the program.

Firm Supporters

Law Firms and Organizations who have demonstrated a continued commitment to enhancing diversity and access to professional success.

Adams & Reese; Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC; Bass Berry & Sims; Blackshear Capital & Legal; Bone McAllester Norton; Boulton Cummings Connors & Berry, PLC; Burr & Forman; Cornelius & Collins; H3GM; Lewis, King, Krieg & Waldrop, P.C.; Metropolitan Public Defender; Nashville Electric Service; Office of the District Attorney General; Office of the Metro Public Defender; Office of the Tennessee Attorney General; Ortale, Kelley, Herbert & Crawford; Rocky McElhane Law Firm; Sherrard & Roe, PLC; Vanderbilt University – Office of General Counsel; Wadley & Patterson; Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP

More information about the program can be obtained by contacting Traci Hollandsworth at 615.242.9272 or traci.hollandsworth@nashvillebar.org.

NASHVILLE PRO BONO PROGRAM

Through the Nashville Pro Bono Program lawyers volunteer to provide legal assistance to low-income and elderly clients. The Program recruits lawyers to provide individual representation in court hearings in cases involving bankruptcy, collections, divorce, conservatorships, contract and tort; in administrative matters including unemployment appeals, IRS disputes, and driver's license cases; and in providing legal services including wills and powers of attorney.

Lawyers working through the Program also provide legal assistance to eligible clients through monthly advice clinics. At the Saturday Bar, held on the fourth Saturday each month, volunteer attorneys meet in confidence with clients whose cases are pre-screened for financial eligibility and appropriate problem-type, including assistance in filing pro se divorce for qualified clients. During the Second Tuesday Walk-In Clinic, volunteer attorneys meet from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with eligible clients who need advice. Each Tuesday clinic is staffed by lawyers from a single firm and 8 to 10 attorneys meet with 20-30 clients over the course of two hours. The Woodbine Clinic, providing attorneys an opportunity to provide advice and referrals to individuals in the Hispanic community, meets on the fourth Friday of each month.

The Nashville Pro Bono Program also coordinates service to both new and established non-profit organizations which serve low-income and/or elderly people. The services that lawyers provide for these organizations include contract drafting and negotiation, tax issues and personnel and employment issues.

The Nashville Pro Bono program is a joint venture of the Nashville Bar Association and Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlandands.

Lawyers providing pro bono representation to clients through any programs of the Nashville Pro Bono Program are eligible to receive up to three hours of CLE credit each year, earning one credit hour for every eight hours reported.

If you have any questions or want more information please contact Lucinda Smith at 780-7127 or lsmith@las.org.

DIAL - A - LAWYER PROGRAM

The NBA Dial-A-Lawyer program provides a valuable service to the community. The program is a free call-in service that furnishes general legal information to the public. Last year alone approximately 640 callers were assisted. It is held on the first Tuesday of each month, from 6 - 8 pm at the NBA offices, 315 Union, Suite 800. The Dial-A-Lawyer program relies heavily on volunteer attorneys to handle the volume of its calls. Dinner is provided, and a spirit of camaraderie unites the participants. Pro Bono Credit applies.

Thanks to all of the 2010 Dial-A-Lawyer Volunteers:

**Fobb Bigelow
Anthony Burns
Tim Burrow
Helen Cornell
Gina Crawley
Anna Freeman
Victoria Ferraro
Pete Halverstadt
Sal Hernandez**

**Robert Homlar
Tom Lawless
Robin Littlefield
Vanessa Patel
Matt Potempa
Doug Pierce
Amber Roderer
Edgar Rothschild**

**Joe Rusnak
Rob Rutherford
Jerry Scott
Marietta Shipley
Michael Smith
Marshall Snyder
Jonathan Stein
Irwin Venick**

The LRIS Coordinator, handles scheduling for the Dial-A-Lawyer Program. The Coordinator can be contacted for more information at LRIS@nashvillebar.org or 615.242.9272.

Commitment

The Nashville Bar Association is committed to advancing the legal profession and helping lawyers better serve their clients. Officially, the organization has been doing that since 1831. At that time there were only a handful of attorneys admitted to practice in Davidson County. Today that number is almost 4,000.

The NBA takes seriously its role to advance the administration of justice and foster the high ideals of integrity, education and public service.

We are honored to be part of this prestigious profession and thank our colleagues for all your efforts in meeting the highest standards of ethics and professionalism. The Bar's services and programs are designed for you to provide assistance and resources each and every day.

The Bar helps connect us and provides resources so we can all succeed.

Let us know what we can do to serve you.



Important Numbers:

Board of Professional Responsibility 615-361-7500
CLE Commission 615-741-3096
Pro Bono Program 615-242-8749
Legal Aid Society..... 615-244-6610
Tennessee Bar Association 615-383-7421
Legal Placement Service 615-242-9272
Lawyer Referral Service 615-242-6546

COURTS:

Appellate Court Clerk..... 615-741-2681

Chancery Court Clerk & Master

Cristi Scott 615-862-5710

Circuit Court Clerk

Richard R. Rooker..... 615-862-5181

Probate Court 615-862-5980

Traffic Violations..... 615-862-5222

Traffic Warrants 615-862-5211

Satellite Office..... 615-862-5195

Criminal Court Clerk

David Torrence 615-862-5611

General Sessions Court 615-862-5195

Warner C. Hassell, Administrator 615-862-8317

Juvenile Court Clerk

Vic Lineweaver 615-862-7980

State Trial Court

Larry Stephenson, Administrator 615-880-2558

Supreme Court Clerk

Michael W. Catalano..... 615-741-1314

U.S. Bankruptcy Court..... 615-736-5584

Lloyd C. Ray, Clerk 615-736-5590

U.S. District Court Clerk

Keith Throckmorton..... 615-736-2364

NASHVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION

expresses its appreciation for our annual
sponsors for 2010 & 2011:

