

FORUM 8

Volume 79, No. 3

Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association, Inc.

November 2019

President's Message

By Cherie Fine



Happy November to you all! In our continuing journey this year to make the practice of law more rewarding and our lives fuller, please indulge my musings on the upcoming holiday season. I hope as we approach the big end-of-the-year holidays, you will take time for yourself and endeavor to enjoy! Stress and depression

can ruin your holidays and hurt your health. Being realistic, planning ahead and seeking support can help you avoid stress and depression.

The holiday season can bring unwelcome guests, and I don't mean Aunt Susie and Uncle Bill — stress and depression. Since the holidays present a dizzying array of demands — parties, shopping, baking, cleaning, entertaining and demanding CLIENTS, to name just a few, it is really no surprise.

Some practical tips I have considered might help minimize the stress that can accompany the holidays.

1. When stress is at its peak, it is hard to stop and regroup. Try to prevent stress and depression in the first place, especially if the holidays have taken an emotional toll on you in the past.
2. Acknowledge your feelings. If someone close to you has recently died or you can't be with loved ones, realize that it's normal to feel sadness and grief. It's okay to take time to cry or express your feelings. You can't force yourself to be happy just because it's the holiday season.
3. Reach out. If you feel lonely or isolated,

seek out community, religious or other social events. They can offer support and companionship. Volunteering your time to help others also is a good way to lift your spirits and broaden your friendships.

4. Be realistic. The holidays don't have to be perfect or just like last year. As families change and grow, traditions and rituals often change as well. Choose a few to hold on to and be open to creating new ones. For example, if your adult children can't come to your house, find new ways to celebrate together, such as sharing pictures, emails or videos.
5. Set aside differences. Try to accept family members and friends as they are, even if they don't live up to all your expectations. Set aside grievances until a more appropriate time for discussion. And be understanding if others get upset or distressed when something goes awry. Chances are they're feeling the effects of holiday stress and depression, too.
6. Stick to a budget. Before you go gift and food shopping, decide how much money you can afford to spend. Then stick to your budget. Don't try to buy happiness with an avalanche of gifts.
7. Plan ahead. Set aside specific days for shopping, baking, visiting friends and other activities. Plan your menus and then make your shopping list. That will help prevent last-minute scrambling to buy forgotten ingredients. And make sure to line up help for party prep and cleanup.

Continued on page 6

2019 - 2020 Board Officers

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Contribute to Your Newsletter! From The Editor

I'd like to encourage all of our members to contribute to the newsletter by sending in an article, a letter to the editor about a topic of interest or current event, an amusing short story, a profile of a favorite judge, attorney or case, a cartoon, or a blurb about the good works that we do in our communities and personal lives. Submissions are due on the 5th of the preceding month and can be made by email to dvallejos-nichols@avera.com.

About This Newsletter

This newsletter is published monthly, except in July and August, by:

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Any and all opinions expressed by the Editor, the President, other officers and members of the Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association, and authors of articles are their own and do not necessarily represent the views of the Association.

News, articles, announcements, advertisements and Letters to the Editor should be submitted to the Editor or Executive Director by Email. Also please email a photograph to go with any article submission. Files should be saved in any version of MS Word, WordPerfect or ASCII text.

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Deadline is the 5th of the preceding month

Alternative Dispute Resolution

By Chester B. Chance and Charles B. Carter



“Behavioral Economics”

A local member of the Bar recently sent us an article from the Georgia Bar Journal on “Behavioral Economics” and the practice of law. We have written articles in the past on that theme and the companion concept of cognitive bias in negotiation, but the shared article prompted us to review some of the important concepts affecting negotiation in the legal scenario.

The author of the article, Robert C. Port, an Atlanta attorney, notes that ‘behavior economics’ is the study of how people make decisions. Those people include lawyers and their clients. Studies unfortunately conclude “. . . decision-making is often not as rational and analytical as traditional economic theory would predict.”

Mr. Port summarizes studies which show people often make economic decisions, including case settlement values, based on instantaneous and irrational considerations as opposed to logical, analytical or rational decision making. That principle applies to ‘people,’ both attorneys and their clients.

Mr. Port discusses something we have written about in the past: prospect theory. That term refers to decisions made when alternative outcomes are uncertain (as in a trial outcome). “. . . [P]eople make decisions based on their intuitive perception of a loss or gain rather than a true probabilistic analysis of the likely final outcome,” notes Mr. Port and others who have written about economic decision making.

Economic decisions are affected by our natural cognitive biases. Mr. Port discusses some of those biases which we have addressed in previous articles, such as:

Overconfidence: Attorneys are prone to have greater overconfidence bias than their clients. “Attorneys, for example, might feel that they can control outcomes for situations in which they demonstrably do not have complete control, such as a jury’s decision or whether the other party will accept the terms of a business proposal.” Lawyers who have experienced success in several

cases assume that success will continue even when a legal situation involves new clients, new facts, new law, etc.

Confirmation Bias: This is the tendency to interpret new facts or scenarios in a way that reinforces a prior belief or perception. A lawyer and a client “. . . favor information that confirms our beliefs, while discounting facts that counter those beliefs.” Mr. Port suggests clients lack ability to believe a jury will find they lack credibility, or an attorney fails to adjust the theme or story of their case when discovery determines there are facts or issues that require a new approach or new considerations. “A lawyer might discount or wholly ignore the probable effect of negative testimony at a deposition by focusing on the parts of the deposition that support his client’s position.”

Loss Aversion: This refers to the tendency of people to fear a loss more than they desire a gain of similar value. We have addressed this tendency in articles as it effects decisions we make not only in the legal environment but in our everyday experiences. That is why people buy insurance.

Anchoring: Mr. Port explains this refers to the concept of how a psychological benchmark carries a disproportionate weight on a person’s decision-making. What are examples of such benchmarks? The first offer made in a negotiation. “After all, we have reduced our demand by \$200,000!” is an example of how negotiation decisions are affected by a benchmark that may have no real relationship to value. Other examples from Mr. Port’s article include: the amount of damages set forth in a complaint; litigation costs or attorney fees already incurred; reports of similar verdicts or settlements; lawyer advertising about verdicts obtained.

The referenced article and our previous articles on similar or identical topics should remind us that all of us, lawyers and our clients, may not be the best decision makers in a particular situation. We must be aware of the cognitive bias that exists in all of us when it comes to making an economic decision. Knowing the cognitive biases that exist in all of us leads to better decisions and less regret.



Criminal Law

By William Cervone



It turns out that the Bible and Kenny Rogers have some things in common, at least thematically. Most everyone knows that among the many wisdoms contained in the Bible is the instruction that to everything there is a season. Kenny Rogers phrased it differently but he made the same point with lyrics noting that there's a time to hold 'em and a time to fold 'em, adding the admonishment that it's important to know when to do both. For me, I've always thought that it was good to have a sense of timing, and maybe more importantly, that timing is much if not everything in life. To use one example, the athlete who doesn't know when he can no longer compete risks tarnishing his past achievements. Better to graciously exit stage right of your own accord than to get the hook.

And so the time has come for me to announce that I will not run for re-election in 2020. To some of you this may come as a surprise. To most it should not. Last month, October, I turned 70 years of age. Candidly, I never imagined that milestone actually coming to pass and while I am fortunate, as best I know, to have far better health than many might at that age it's still a reality with all it implies. At the end of 2020 I will have served as the elected State Attorney for 20 years. I will have worked as a prosecutor for something over 40 years. I never set out to do either and have been blessed beyond measure with the opportunity to have, I hope, positively impacted the lives of our communities and many individuals. But it is time to move on.

There are too many of you who have helped me along the way for me to ever try to thank you all individually. Surely I would miss as many as I managed to mention. Rather than try that, I hope that this will in some small measure serve to reach out and express the deep appreciation I have for each of you, no matter our respective roles or positions, for your part in my life. I've always looked upon life as a path that extends beyond the horizon, along the way intersecting the paths of others. Some of our paths touch tangentially, others combine for some time and duration, and still others intertwine forever. Regardless of which it may be we are the sum of each path we might merge with, no matter how briefly. You have all enriched me in some way, and for each of you I am grateful.

This is hardly good-by as I have fully 14 months remaining in my term, during which I will be doing as I have for over 40 years. Nor is it some kind of set up for a victory or retirement tour of some sort across the circuit. I don't need or intend that, nor do any of you need to react or respond. In fact, I'm comfortable that you don't as that would all be quite bittersweet. Whatever assessment of my tenure may come will best be done with the perspective of time anyhow. Rather, I am sharing this now simply because I know all about the speculation regarding my plans, and at least my staff needs and deserves to know my plans as that may affect theirs. I am confident that my office will continue to move forward, building upon the legacy of those who preceded me and through my years into the future. But that is another discussion for another day.

For today, this and a thank you for your part in having allowed me to serve our citizens for so many years will suffice.

Professionalism Seminar – SAVE THE DATE

Inexpensive & Enlightening CLE Credits

By Ray Brady

Mark your calendars now for the annual Professionalism Seminar. This year the seminar will be held on Friday, February 14, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. (registration begins at 8:30 a.m.) until Noon at the Trinity United Methodist Church on NW 53rd Avenue. Our keynote speaker will be The Honorable James P. Nilon, Chief Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida (topic TBD).

We expect to be approved, once again this year, for 3.5 General CLE hours, which includes 2.0 ethics hours and 1.5 professionalism hours.

Watch your email and the *Forum 8* newsletter for reservation information in December. Questions may be directed to the EJCBA Professionalism Committee chairman, Ray Brady, Esq., at 373-4141.

Pro Bono makes a World of Difference

By Marcia Green



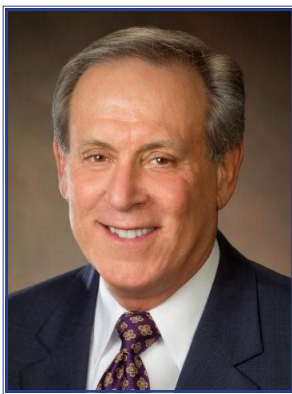
When our client's personal property was damaged by flooding caused by the upstairs apartment, she lost items belonging to both her son and herself. She even had to vacate her apartment while repairs were being made. The landlord wouldn't cooperate by providing insurance information and her own insurance company

claimed her policy had lapsed due to their mistake. With the intervention of pro bono attorney Stephen Mercadante, our client was finally compensated for her losses. Mercadante said in the end "She would not have been able to obtain any kind of resolution without the assistance of an attorney. It was a tough case that required the filing of a lawsuit due to the fact that the defendants refused to respond to any of our attempts to settle the case presuit. They would not even provide us with any insurance contact information in order to submit a claim on her behalf. All in all I think that justice was served."

From the complicated case described above to the relative routine wills and advance directives, pro bono attorneys make a difference in the lives of members of our community. From settling an estate so that a client can get financing to fix the roof, to preparing a deed between spouses to settle a dissolution of marriage, or to advising a homeless client at an Ask-A-Lawyer event about their rights, these services could not be accomplished without the good work of the volunteer attorneys of the Eighth Judicial Circuit. The many individuals in our community in need of legal assistance would otherwise go without.

Last month was Pro Bono Month. I hope you had the opportunity to celebrate yourself or someone you know for their committment to using the skills only lawyers have to share with those in need. I hope you may have been able to pat yourself on the back!

Want to join in and become a part of our panel of volunteers? Contact me at marcia.green@trls.org or pick up a case from our website www.trls.org/.



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Equal Justice Works Fellow Abigail Adkins To Advocate For Student Mental Health Services

By Kirsten Anderson

Abigail Adkins, an Equal Justice Works Fellow sponsored by McDermott Will & Emery and Darden Restaurants Inc., began a two-year fellowship at Southern Legal Counsel in September to expand student mental health services.

Adkins will improve school safety by advocating for the provision of comprehensive school- and community-based mental health services for at-risk students. Children with behavioral health challenges are often identified as disciplinary problems, and their underlying mental health issues go unaddressed,



Adkins said.

“Too many children are perceived as merely ‘bad,’ when a complex set of environmental and biological variables may impact their ability to function at the same levels as their peers,” said Adkins, who earned her law degree at Florida A&M University College of Law.

Adkins will work to ensure that as schools collect data to assess potential safety risks, at-risk youth will receive appropriate special education and community-based services.

Prior to law school, Adkins worked with children in out-of-home care who had mental health needs and developmental disabilities. Having seen the difference behavioral health services can make, she was inspired to advocate for systemic reforms to make school a safer, more welcoming place for all students.

At Southern Legal Counsel she will represent students in need of comprehensive mental-health and behavioral services. Focusing on youth with school disciplinary or mental-health concerns, such as multiple contacts with the juvenile justice system or involuntary psychiatric examinations, she will work to remove systemic barriers blocking access to educational and health services.

In addition to direct representation, Adkins will engage in a variety of community education and engagement efforts through partnerships with parents, educators, children’s attorneys, and other community stakeholders.

President's Message

Continued from page 1

8. Learn to say no. Saying yes when you should say no can leave you feeling resentful and overwhelmed. Friends and colleagues will understand if you can’t participate in every project or activity.
9. Don’t abandon healthy habits.

Don’t let the holidays become a free-for-all. Overindulgence only adds to your stress and guilt. So, have a healthy snack before holiday parties so that you don’t go overboard on sweets or drinks. Get plenty of sleep. Incorporate regular physical activity into each day. Take a breather. Make some time for yourself. Spending just 15 minutes alone, without distractions, may refresh you enough to handle everything you need to do. Find something that reduces stress by clearing your mind, slowing your breathing and restoring inner calm.

Some options to consider:

- Taking a walk at night and stargazing.
- Listening to soothing music.
- Getting a massage.
- Reading a book.

Seek professional help if you need it. Despite your best efforts, you may find yourself feeling persistently sad or anxious, plagued by physical complaints, unable to sleep, irritable and hopeless, and unable to face routine chores. If these feelings last for a while, talk to your doctor or a mental health professional.

Take control of the holidays

Don’t let the holidays become something you dread. Instead, take steps to prevent the stress and depression that can descend during the holidays. Learn to recognize your holiday triggers, such as financial pressures or personal demands, so you can combat them before they lead to unhappiness.

I look forward to seeing you this Holiday Season and hope we can learn together to love them even more by caring for ourselves as well as we care for others!



Overtime Pay: DOL Increases Salary For Exempt Whitecollar Employees

By Laura A. Gross



On September 24, 2019, the Department of Labor announced its new overtime rule increasing the minimum weekly salary level from \$455 to \$685 (equivalent to \$35,568 per year) for employees with white-collar duties (executive, administrative, or professional) who are

exempt from overtime pay. The rule also lifts the total annual compensation level of exempt highly compensated employees from \$100,000 to \$107,432. And it allows “employers to use nondiscretionary bonuses and incentive payments (including commissions) that are paid at least annually to satisfy up to 10 percent of the standard salary level, in recognition of evolving pay practices,” according to the department.

The current salary levels for white-collar employees and highly compensated employees were set in 2004. Under President Obama, the DOL had increased the standard salary level from \$455 to \$913 per week (\$47,476 per year). But that rulemaking was challenged and the rule invalidated in 2017. According to the department, the new rule will make 1.3 million workers newly eligible for overtime pay. In order to be exempt, employees must meet the following tests:

(1) the employee must be paid a predetermined and fixed salary that is not subject to reduction because of variations in the quality or quantity of work performed (the “salary basis test”);

(2) the amount of salary paid must meet a minimum specified amount (the “salary level test”); and

(3) the employee’s job duties must primarily involve office or non-manual work that qualifies as executive, administrative or professional duties as defined by the regulations (the “duties test”).

The new rule is effective on January 1, 2020.

EJCBA’s Annual Jimmy C. Adkins Cedar Key Dinner



EJCBA Treasurer Sharon Sperling and EJCBA Executive Director Judy Padgett welcoming members to the Annual Cedar Key dinner



EJCBA Board Member Frank Maloney with friends Ben Hutson and Bob Jerry



Judge Gloria Walker on the deck of Steamers at Cedar Key; EJCBA President-Elect Phil Kabler and Jack Fine in the background

Post-Foreclosure Lender Liability for HOA Assessments

By Krista L.B. Collins



Section 720.3085, *Fla. Stat.*, provides a safe harbor for first mortgage holders who foreclose on property that is subject to unpaid HOA assessments. Generally, a parcel owner is jointly and severally liable with the previous property owner for all unpaid assessments due prior to the date of transfer. However, §720.3085(2)(c), *Fla.*

Stat., provides a safe harbor, limiting that liability to the lesser of those amounts that came due during the 12 months preceding acquisition of title by the mortgagee or one percent of the original mortgage debt. This safe harbor comes with several caveats, for both mortgagees and HOAs.

The statute specifically states that the limits on the first mortgagee's liability only apply if the first mortgagee filed suit against the property owner *and* joined the association as a defendant in the action. Sec. 720.3085, (2)(c)(2), *Fla. Stat.* Lenders must be sure to name the HOA in any mortgage foreclosure, or they run the risk of not being able to take advantage of the safe harbor provision.

Additionally, the statute only applies to mortgages executed *after* the date the statute was enacted. In *In re Jimenez*, 472 B.R. 106, 111 (M.D. Fla. 2012), the Court held that the association's declaration's statement that the declaration "be construed in accordance with the laws of the state of Florida, both substantive and remedial" was insufficient to expressly incorporate §720.3085 because it does not specifically refer to Chapter 720. The bankruptcy court also noted that because the lender's mortgage was executed in 2007, the 2008 statute could not reach back to alter the priorities that were contractually established. *Id.* at 112.

This issue was discussed more fully in *Coral Lakes Cmty. Ass'n., Inc. v. Busey Bank, N.A.*, 30 So.3d 579 (Fla. 2nd DCA2010), in which the HOA's declaration contained language subordinating any claim for unpaid HOA assessments to a first mortgagee's claim upon foreclosure or deed in lieu. The Court held that §720.3085 would not apply retroactively to a note and mortgage that predated the statute, stating:

We conclude that because of the Declaration's plain and unambiguous language subordinating any claim for unpaid HOA assessments to a first mortgagee's claim upon foreclosure or deed in

lieu of foreclosure, it controls and absolves the Bank, as first mortgagee, from liability for any assessments accruing before it acquires the parcel... The HOA could have protected itself if, in drafting its Declaration, it had included language that its lien for unpaid assessments related back to the date the Declaration was recorded or that it otherwise had lien superiority over intervening mortgages... However, the HOA took the opposite tack to entice lenders to finance purchases in its community. The statutory change in section 720.3085 cannot disturb that prior, established contractual relationship.

Id. at 583-584.

Another caveat – for HOAs – is that the safe harbor statute imposes 12 months of liability *only* for "unpaid common expenses and regular periodic or special assessments." As noted in *United States v. Forest Hill Gardens E. Condo. Ass'n, Inc.*, 990 F. Supp. 2d 1344, 1350 (S.D. Fla. 2014), the terms "common expenses" and "regular periodic or special assessments" "infer a shared expense among all the units of the homeowners' association for a common good, not an individualized penalty to induce compliance." As such, mortgagees are not liable for administrative fees, attorneys' fees, costs, interest, or late fees that accrue during the 12 months prior to taking title. *Id.*; *also see Catalina W. Homeowners Ass'n, Inc. v. Fed. Nat. Mortg. Ass'n*, 188 So. 3d 76, 80 (Fla. 3d DCA 2016).

Finally, HOAs need to be aware that if a mortgagee transfers the property to a third party before it pays the 12 months of common expenses and regular periodic or special assessments for which it is responsible under the statute, that third party cannot be made liable for any greater amount. In *Villas of Windmill Point II Prop. Owners' Ass'n, Inc. v. Nationstar Mortgage, LLC*, 229 So. 3d 822, 824 (Fla. 4th DCA 2017), *review denied*, SC18-36, 2018 WL 2059527 (Fla. May 2, 2018), the Fourth District Court of Appeal held that under §720.3085(2)(b), the transferee's liability was coextensive with that of the mortgagee for all unpaid assessments due up to the time of the transfer of title. Because the mortgagee qualifies for the safe harbor provision, the transferee is then able to indirectly benefit from the safe harbor provision. *Id.*

Section 720.3085, *Fla. Stat.*, provides protection for both HOAs and first mortgage holders – but only if all the conditions are met.

Cedar Key Sidebar 2019



Judge Kristine Van Vorst with EJCBA Board Member & Historian, Frank Maloney




EJCBA Board Member Jan Bendik and Jack Fine



Judge Sheree Lancaster, Judge Monica Brasington and Judge Craig DeThomasis



Ben Hutson, Judge James Colaw, Ron Kozlowski and EJCBA Board Member Ben Steinberg at Norm Fugate's Sidebar reception



You are invited to attend
the Investiture Ceremony of

The Honorable
Craig C. DeThomasis
Eighth Judicial Circuit Judge

Friday, November 8, 2019
at 3:00 p.m.

Alachua County Criminal Justice Center
Courtroom 1B
220 South Main Street
Gainesville, Florida 32601

Reception immediately following

Invitation To Renew / Join The 2019-20 EJCBA

The Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association (EJCBA) cordially invites you to either renew your membership or join the EJCBA as a new member.

To join, please visit : www.8jcb.org to pay online or return the below application, along with payment, to the EJCBA at PO Box 13924, Gainesville, FL 32604. The EJCBA is a voluntary association open to any Florida Bar member who lives in or regularly practices in Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy or Union counties.

Remember, only current EJCBA members can access a printable version of the complete member directory, edit their own information online, post photos and a website link, and be listed on results for searches by areas of practice. Additionally, our Forum 8 Newsletter, event invitations, and updates are all sent electronically, so please ensure we have your current email address on file and add execdir@8jcb.org to your email address book and/or safe senders list.

EJCBA Membership Dues:

Free - If, as of July 1, 2019, you are an attorney in your first year licensed to practice law following law school graduation.

\$70.00 - If, as of July 1, 2019, you are an attorney licensed to practice law for five (5) years or less following graduation from law school; or

- If, as of July 1, 2019, you are a public service attorney licensed to practice law for less than ten (10) years following graduation from law school. A "public service attorney" is defined as an attorney employed as an Assistant State Attorney, or an Assistant Public Defender, or a full-time staff attorney with a legal aid or community legal services organization; or
- you are a Retired Member of the Florida Bar pursuant to Florida Bar Rule 1-3.5 (or any successor Rule), who resides within the Eighth Judicial Circuit.

\$90.00 - All other attorneys and judiciary.

Optional – YLD Membership Dues (in addition to your EJCBA dues above):

\$35.00 - EJCBA Young Lawyers Division (eligible if, as of July 1, 2019, you are an attorney under age 36 or a new Florida Bar member licensed to practice law for five (5) years or less)

* EJCBA voting membership is limited to Florida Bar members in good standing who reside or regularly practice law within the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida. EJCBA non-voting membership is limited to active and inactive members in good standing of the bar of any state or country who resides in the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida, and to UF College of Law faculty.

EJCBA Renewal/Application for Membership

Membership Year: 2019-2020

Check one: Renewal New Membership

First Name: _____ MI: _____

Last Name: _____

Firm Name: _____

Title: _____

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Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association, Inc.

Telephone No: (_____) _____ - _____

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Bar Number: _____

List two (2) Areas of Practice:

Number of years in practice: _____

Are you interested in working on an EJCBA

Committee?

Yes

No

Reminder – Amaze-Inn Race

Don't forget to register for the Sixth Annual Amaze-Inn Race (November 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.). Deadline to register is November 1 and the race is nearing capacity.

The Amaze-Inn Race is a legal themed scavenger hunt where judges, lawyers, and law students are placed into teams to participate in activities challenging the body, mind, and taste buds throughout downtown Gainesville. Participants must solve clues to determine the locations of various challenges. Past challenges have included taking an immigration quiz, eating

goat, scoring points on a pinball machine, cross fit workouts, and singing in Bo Diddley Plaza. There are challenges for every skill level and ability!

The event is a collaborative effort among the EJCBA, Adkins Inn, and Bennett Inn. A reception and award ceremony will follow the Race. Cost of admission is two NEW unwrapped books (each valued at \$10 or above) for the EJCBA and Margaret Stack's Holiday Project. For more information or to sign-up, please follow the link at <https://www.bennettinn.com/race>.

November 2019 Calendar

- 2 UF Football v. Georgia, 3:30 p.m., Jacksonville
- 5 Deadline for submission to December Forum 8
- 6 EJCBA Board of Directors Meeting, Three Rivers Legal Services, 1000 NE 16th Avenue, 5:30 p.m.
- 9 UF Football v. Vanderbilt, 12:00 p.m.
- 11 Veteran's Day Holiday – County & Federal Courthouses closed
- 13 Probate Section Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Chief Judge's Conference Room, 4th Floor, Alachua County Family & Civil Justice Center
- 14 Sixth Annual Amaze-Inn Race, 5:30 p.m., Downtown Gainesville
- 15 EJCBA Luncheon, Mona Gil de Gibaja, MSW, Ph.D., President & CEO, United Way of North Central Florida, Big Top Brewing Company, 11:45 a.m.
- 16 UF Football at Missouri, TBA
- 17 EJCBA Fall Family-Friendly Social, First Magnitude Brewing Co., 3-6 p.m.
- 19 Family Law Section Meeting, 4:00 p.m., Chief Judge's Conference Room, Alachua County Family & Civil Justice Center
- 28 Thanksgiving Day – County & Federal Courthouses closed
- 29 Friday after Thanksgiving Holiday – County Courthouses closed
- 30 UF Football v. FSU, TBA

December 2019 Calendar

- 4 EJCBA Board of Directors Meeting, Three Rives Legal Services, 1000 NE 16th Avenue, 5:30 p.m.
- 5 Deadline for submission to January Forum 8
- 7 SEC Championship Game, Atlanta, GA – 4:00 p.m.
- 11 Probate Section Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Chief Judge's Conference Room, 4th Floor, Alachua County Family & Civil Justice Center
- 12 EJCBA Holiday Cocktail Hour (in lieu of luncheon) – Location TBD, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- 17 Family Law Section Meeting, 4:00 p.m., Chief Judge's Conference Room, Alachua County Family & Civil Justice Center
- 23 Hanukkah begins
- 25 Christmas Day – County and Federal Courthouses closed

Have an event coming up? Does your section or association hold monthly meetings? If so, please fax or email your meeting schedule to let us know the particulars, so we can include it in the monthly calendar. Please let us know (quickly) the name of your group, the date and day (i.e. last Wednesday of the month), time and location of the meeting. Email to Dawn Vallejos-Nichols at dvallejos-nichols@avera.com.