



NTBA Update Winter 2020

## Reflecting on 2020: Not Ideal, But Lots of Good



## Happy Holidays, Members!

This is always a good time of year for reflection, and boy, this year was a doozy.

Let's go back to the beginning. Towards the end of 2019, we held a planning retreat where your Board helped me develop a service-oriented agenda that would have us working hand-in-hand with our community on several projects. And then the pandemic showed up, and we were locked down in our homes. Yet despite all of this, what we managed to accomplish this year was nothing short of incredible.

Take a look:

## **Community Service in 2020**

- Reaching Out to Our Youth Academy of the Holy Names. Angle Rosello and I spoke to students at the Academy of Holy Names about the practice of law during their Career Week.
- Supporting Medical Research M.S. Walk. Our first planned project to fall victim to the pandemic was the MS Walk. But our members, with Gus Centrone taking the lead, still raised \$7,533.23 to support multiple sclerosis research.
- Educating and Engaging our Community Judicial Candidate Forum. Our biggest planned community event of the year was supposed to be a collaboration with the Northdale OWLS--an active civic group of several hundred seniors in our community--to host a public forum with over a dozen judicial candidates. The pandemic eliminated any hopes of doing the event live. But with the help of Adria Dickey, James Loper, and Tiffany Hanson, the four of us created a virtual forum that reached nearly 900 people--far more than would have seen it in its originally-planned form.
- Supporting Frontline Health Care Workers AdventHealth Carrollwood Lunch. Angie Rosello took the lead on raising money to deliver lunches to frontline workers at AdventHealth Carrollwood. Through her hard work and the generosity of our membership, the Carrollwood Country Club delivered dozens of lunches to doctors and staff at the hospital on our behalf, letting us show our support for our most at-risk community members.
- Improving Inclusivity Diversity Awareness CLE. We jumped at the opportunity to join other local voluntary bar associations to support diversity and gender equality with "Staying in the Game: Resilient Leadership." This two-part event, spearheaded by the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, offered our members three hours of CLE with nationally-recognized speakers. Given the national tension caused in part by the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and many others, this could not have been a more timely topic.
- Helping Those Less Fortunate Community Food Pantry. We planned to work with the Community Food Pantry earlier in the year, but the safety of our members during the pandemic delayed that event. Mike Hancock and Janelle Weber stayed in touch with the organization and kept the topic alive throughout the year. Finally, in December, a group of current and new NTBA board members (and family!) spent a day there helping that incredible organization distribute food to those most in need. I can't think of a more worthwhile way to end my year as President. Pictures below!







## **2020 CLE and Monthly Luncheons**

We held our last monthly luncheon at the Carrollwood Country Club in March-and then everything live was cancelled. But the NTBA didn't miss a beat, with lots of help from Adria Dickey as our Speakers Committee Chair. I volunteered to be the guinea pig for our first event as we shifted to full virtual meetings and luncheons for April, and they've only gotten better since. Just look at the caliber of our speakers and variety of topics!

\*\*\*\*\* Live Presentations Pre-Pandemic \*\*\*\*\*

- Guardians: Public v. Private
  - John Wilcox and Tamara Cribben
- My Client Did What?!?!? Recognizing and Addressing Criminal Problems That Arise in Civil Representation

   Katherine Yanes
- Effective & Ethical Marketing for Attorneys: Tips and Tools to Grow Your Firm
  - *Mike Hancock and Gabby Piloto*

\*\*\*\*\* Virtual Presentations Post-Pandemic \*\*\*\*\*

- The Art of Persuasion: Using Classical Rhetoric to Make Your Contemporary Case
  - Jared M. Krukar, B.C.S. Appellate Practice
- Veterans Treatment Court: A Model Problem-Solving Court
   Judge Michael J. Scionti
- Judicial Čandidate Forum
  - Adria Dickey, Jared M. Krukar
- Pandemic Practice: Tools and Tips for Thriving Through Chaos
  - Dineen Pashoukos Wasylik, B.C.S. Appellate Practice & Intellectual Property
- Trademark Law: What Your Clients Need to Know • Jim Matulis, B.C.S. Intellectual Property
- \*Staying in the Game: Resilient Leadership Part 1

   Hilarie Bass
- \*Staying in the Game: Resilient Leadership Part 2
  - Judge Anthony Porcelli, Judge Anuraag Singhal, Michèle Alexandre; Kevin Johnson; Stephen Liverpool
- Corporate Governance in the Real World • Richard M. Leisner
- Avoiding Employment Discrimination Claims in the Workplace
   Claire Saady

\*in conjunction with the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and other local organizations

And on top of this, our monthly Attorney Round Table events have stayed strong. Our attendance is actually *up* on average since we started hosting these events virtually.

### Getting Back Together in 2021 (And Social Announcement!)

There's a light at the end of the tunnel with the vaccines, but cases are surging now and will probably get worse before they get better. Our plan is to keep everything virtual for January, and probably for several months thereafter. The Board is going to review the issue monthly, and will take a measured approach to slowly working in live events safely as conditions improve.

But even while we're still apart, I promised you all a fun way for us to get together:

## *In January or early February (exact date to be determined), the North Tampa Bar will be pouring out a cold one to celebrate the passing of 2020 with a Virtual Beer Tasting!*

Every 2020 member will be provided a flight of locally-brewed beers in advance of the event. Then, led by local homebrewers, beer aficionados, and good friends Tom and Katie Nealon, we'll talk about what goes into brewing each type of beer, the differences between styles of beer, and what to look for in flavor profiles and tasting notes. Finally, we'll discuss the equipment and steps involved in brewing beer at home for anyone who has considered giving it a shot (Tom tells me it's easier and less expensive than you'd think).

I, for one, can't wait for this event. It should be a blast. And it is completely free to all 2020 NTBA members, whether or not you renew for 2021. That said, I really hope you stick around! There's lots in store for next year.

- A favor: Please be sure your address and contact information is up-todate with the NTBA, whether you plan to renew or not.
  - We haven't exactly figured out how we're going to distribute all the beverages in advance of the beer tasting, but there's a good chance we'll need your correct physical address to do so! Write to Tiffany Hanson at <u>northtampabarassociation@gmail.com</u> with any questions or issues!

# Special Thanks (Keep reading, these folks are great!)

Since I did not get to say all of this during a holiday party, I'd like to give a special thanks to a few people.

First, **Tiffany Hanson**, our Executive Administrator. Without her efforts and abilities, not to mention her willingness to sit on the phone with me for hours to bat around ideas and plans, none of our accomplishments this year could have happened.

Then, of course, to my Board. They are an incredible blend of experience, ability, devotion, and support. And they each played a key role in keeping things on track:

- Adria My rock who is always there to keep us (who am I kidding, me) focused on the right goals.
- **Angie** My other rock who is always there to keep us from getting distracted by everything else.
- **Gus** Willing to lend me a helping hand or a listening ear at any time, in the NTBA and everywhere else.
- **Bob** Consistently ensures the membership's interests are first and foremost in every decision.
- **Mike** Keeps us focused on our community and offers timely and valuable insight on historical factors each time I want to try something new.
- **Paul** Will volunteer to do anything or talk to anyone to benefit the NTBA.
- John Has the best words of wisdom, bar none.
- Keathel Ready with a "fresh legal perspective" at all times.
- Alexis Experienced and selfless, and always willing to take on any new obligation no matter the situation.





Finally, there are two board members left out of the list above: **Joseph Kalish and Dan Bubley**. I'm calling on them separately here because they will both be leaving the Board (but hopefully not the association) after several decades of service.

To me, Joe is the moral compass of the association, keeping us following our principles. Meanwhile, Dan is pragmatic and picks his battles carefully, so when he does jump in he commands great respect and his opinions have significant weight. The two of them with their differing personalities have offered so much to the NTBA. They simply cannot be thanked enough.

To show our appreciation, I've scoured the archives that were foolishly entrusted to me and found this photo from 2003 (I believe), when Joe was the president and Dan was on the board of the Carrollwood Community Bar Association (as we were known back then). Dan is top left, Joe is bottom left. Eagle-eyed readers might recognize a few other familiar faces. I don't think anybody in this picture has changed a bit, do you?



# And finally, thanks to all of our members for an incredible, unforgettable year.

Seriously. No, it did not go as planned. It certainly presented its challenges. Along with those challenges was a lot of extra work. And I miss seeing everyone in person. But despite all of that, we accomplished so much, served so many, and set a great tone for 2021. I look forward to continuing to serve on the Board and to helping your incoming President, Angie Rosello, with all that she has planned for our Association in the next year. After 2020, the only way to go is up, and she's undoubtedly the right person to take us there!

As always, feel free to contact me anytime, about anything. My email address has changed, now <u>jared@jaredkrukar.com</u>. And I look forward to talking with you, and perhaps even *seeing you again in person*, in 2021.

Signing off one last time,

Jared Krukar

President North Tampa Bar Association



### THANK YOU TO OUR RECENT SPEAKERS, RICHARD LEISNER & CLAIRE SAADY!

Richard Leisner entertained us all in our October CLE on Corporate Governance, while Claire Saady spoke in November on how to avoid employment discrimination claims in the workplace. If you missed out on these great presentations, please contact Tiffany at

northtampbarassociation@gmail.com for information on how you can still view the presentation and receive CLE credit.



### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS

We counted the votes, and are proud to announce your new board members! Congratulations, and we look forward to working with you! And Paul, our newly re-elected board member, we're glad to have you stay on for yet another year!

PAUL ELLIOTT

**CHRIS RAGANO** 





#### ANDREW MCDANNOLD





### NTBA PARTNERS WITH THE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

In December, the North Tampa Bar spent the day with the Community Food Pantry helping them distribute food to families in need. To learn more about the Community Food Pantry and how you can help, check out their website at http://www.thecommunityfoodpantry.com/





## **Other Helpful Info**

#### Sponsorships:

NTBA offers a variety of sponsorship opportunities. Anyone interested in sponsoring the NTBA should contact our President-Elect, Angie Rosello at <u>angelica@corteshodzlaw.com</u> and she will assist you in determining the appropriate level of sponsorship to meet your goals and fit your budget.

#### Submissions and Social Media:

Hey North Tampa Bar members! Are you doing good things in our community? Do you have a charitable or professional event coming up? Were you a speaker at a recent legal education event? We want to know, and to share!

Tag @NorthTampaBar in your Facebook post or send us a message with some info and a photo so we can get the word out! We love to hear from you!

#### Profile updates:

To update your membership info, email <u>northtampabarassociation@gmail.com</u>.

#### Listserv:

Attorneys - do you have a question or a notice for your fellow attorneys and cannot wait for roundtable? Email NTBA's attorneys at <u>listserve@ntba.topicbox.com</u>.

## Follow Us on Social Media

Facebook: @NorthTampaBar

Jared Krukar, President North Tampa Bar Association jared@jaredkrukar.com

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