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The views expressed in the Roanoke Bar Review do not represent the policy or carry the endorsement of the Association unless specifically noted.

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## ADMITTING LIABILITY IN THE POST-CENTRA HEALTH ERA

BY NANCY F. REYNOLDS, ESQ.

In the recent past, I have been confronted with the suggestion from plaintiff's counsel that my clients admit liability in cases with both survival and wrongful death causes of action. With the Supreme Court of Virginia's decision in *Centra Health, Inc. v. Mullins*, 277 Va. 59, 670 S.E.2d 708 (2009), I pondered the prospect and wondered to what would my client be admitting. This article discusses the effect of *Centra Health* on the admission of liability.



The statutory framework for this analysis sets forth the outline for the proper course of action. Section 8.01-50 of the Code of Virginia provides for actions for death caused by the wrongful act, neglect or default of another when the deceased would have been able to maintain the action had he or she survived. Section 8.01-25 of the Code of Virginia allows for survival of personal injury causes of action after the death of the plaintiff. In the event that the plaintiff's death was caused by the injuries complained of in the pending litigation, the action must be amended to accordance with Section 8.01-56 of the Code of Virginia. Finally, Section 8.01-56 of the Code of Virginia provides that if death resulted from the injury for which the action was originally brought, the complaint shall be amended and the case shall proceed as if it were originally brought under the wrongful death statute, Va. Code § 8.01-50. Further, Section 8.01-56 provides that, in such cases, there shall be but one recovery for the same injury.

In the case of personal injury from the wrongful act, neglect or default of another, when the plaintiff asserts both a survival claim and a wrongful death claim, the cause of death becomes an issue. Is it purely a personal injury claim that survived the plaintiff's death (a survival claim) or is it a wrongful death claim because the breach of duty complained of caused the plaintiff's death? If the cause of death is not contested, it becomes a wrongful death claim and proceeds forward as such. Whatever the case may be, it cannot be both a survival case and a wrongful death case. So, in an instance of a complaint asserting both survival and wrongful death claims and a contested cause of death, what becomes of admitting liability?

The *Centra Health* Court was confronted with a medical malpractice case in which the personal representatives of the Estate of Leonard Mullins sued Centra Health for treatment associated with a urinary tract infection and improper catheterization which purportedly caused Mr. Mullins' death from sepsis. The Estate alleged a wrongful death claim for death from the sepsis brought on by the urinary tract infection and a survival claim for personal injuries suffered prior to death. Centra Health moved to require the plaintiff to elect between the survival claim and the wrongful death claim because, pursuant to Section 8.01-56 and *Hendrix v. Daugherty*, 249 Va. 540, 457 S.E.2d 71 (1995), plaintiff could not recover for both, thus, requiring election of claims.

Looking at the causes of action, each requires proof of breach of duty, causation and injury. Breach of duty is not the distinction between the causes of action. Rather, causation and injury are the key issues. Did the breach cause death or something short of death? Following long-established precedent, the Court held that causation is a jury issue and the real issue is causation in the battle between survival claims and wrongful death claims. Thus, if causation is an issue in the litigation, the jury must decide that issue. Whether the breach of the duty caused death or injuries short of death is a matter for the jury to decide.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

BY FRANCIS H. CASOLA, ESQ., PRESIDENT



When Frank Rogers III was president of this Association about 13 years ago, he reminded us that we let the reputation of lawyers, as a group, suffer because lawyers do not do a very good job advertising the positive impact we have on our communities. As I recall, Frank did a survey cataloging the many different community organizations in which we are active and the numerous hours we spend making a difference. Steve Higgs, and presidents since, have re-emphasized this point by encouraging members to keep track of their community involvement and recognizing them with the President's Volunteer Service Award.

Perhaps that spirit of community involvement is best illustrated by the RBA's long and productive partnership with Roanoke City Public Schools ("RCPS"). The RBA's Barrister Book Buddies program is celebrating its 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The program involves 40 lawyers in 37 elementary classrooms. Reading to elementary school students has its own rewards for readers and listeners alike and has become a favorite of those who have gotten involved.

In 2003, through the leadership of Judge Diane Strickland and then-President Doug Densmore, the RBA was instrumental in the implementation of the Youth Court, a voluntary peer disciplinary process for high school students guided by lawyers and judges. The program, which now involves at least 25 RBA members, has been well-received by students and school administrators alike, and is currently active at Patrick Henry High School, with efforts to revive the program at William Fleming High School following the school's turnover of administrators in the past year.

Just recently the RBA, in partnership with the Salem/Roanoke County Bar Association ("SRCBA"), successfully completed the Rule of Law Program which got 59 lawyers and judges into every public eighth grade classroom in the Valley (96 in all), on November 12, to teach the rule of law to our middle schoolers. The Program was so successful that it likely will be expanded to private schools as well. I taught with Patrice Holland in two of June Massey's 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Woodrow Wilson Middle School and we thoroughly enjoyed it. The children had not studied the rule of law, and when we asked them to jot down what they thought it meant we received responses like, "To me it don't mean nothing because I follow the law (sometimes)," "I don't know but I think it's like the rules you have to follow to be a lawyer," and "You have to follow the rules or the law gets involved." At the end of each class we had the children do a "ticket out," writing three things they learned, and it was rewarding to see the comments change to "Poor people and celebrities can't be treated different," "Even if you're rich you can still go to jail," "We all have equal rights," and "No matter who you are you will get in trouble for what you do wrong."

The Rule of Law Program concept was developed by Mike Pace and the Virginia Bar Association, and the RBA and SRCBA were pro-

vided a \$2,500 grant to put on the Program. Our Executive Director Cathy Caddy developed a means for participants to sign-up electronically which will be a model as the Program is rolled out state-wide, and SRCBA's Executive Director John Koehler did an excellent job helping organize the Program and keeping everyone on task. This is a program we hope to be able to do on an annual basis, and will only strengthen our partnership with RCPS.

Finally, with a nod toward how difficult the last few years have been financially for RCPS and its teachers, the RBA's Casino Night, scheduled for the evening of April 29, 2011, at the Shenandoah Club, will be to benefit not only RBA Foundation Kincanon scholarships, but also RCPS' Teacher's Fund which provides teachers financial support to purchase supplies for special projects and activities. I never realized how difficult it could be on teachers until my wife Diane left the practice of law three and ½ years ago to teach at Woodrow Wilson and now at Patrick Henry High School. Teachers routinely have to ration paper and copies on the copy machine, and spend on average \$400 a year of their own money for classroom supplies. Many teachers spend far more. RCPS teachers do all this even though their salaries have been frozen for several years. Hopefully our contribution to the Fund will help relieve some of the financial stress on teachers so that they can focus on the important work of teaching. The RBA's partnership with RCPS is something we can all be proud of, and it continues to strengthen. It could not happen without you.

Give yourselves a pat on the back for everything you do for our community and the future of our community.

*Francis H. Casola is a Principal at Woods Rogers, PLC*

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## ROANOKE COLLEGE'S PRE-LAW PROGRAM HONORS TURK BROTHERS

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Roanoke College's pre-law program has been named in honor of Judge James C. Turk, a senior judge on the U.S. District Court, and his brother, S. Maynard Turk, retired vice president and general counsel of Hercules, Inc. Both Turk brothers attended Roanoke College and are members of the class of 1949. The Turk Pre-Law Program offers a host of law-related courses and pre-law advising in addition to the courses in the academic major.

According to Turk Pre-Law Program Coordinator Dr. Todd C. Peppers, the Program has been re-designed with multiple goals in mind. "First of all, we want to give our students a taste of the law and legal practice so they can make an informed decision as to whether law school is the right choice for them," Peppers said. "Second of all, we want to maximize their chances of getting into a first-rate law school. Third, we want to give them the skills and real-world experiences to thrive in law school."

Courses in the program include business law, constitutional law, civil liberties, criminal law and judicial process. These courses teach students to "think like lawyers" and expose them to the substantive study of law. The Turk Pre-Law Program also supports students as they prepare for the entrance exam and application process for law school. "We are fortunate to have the resources to help students offset the costs of taking LSAT prep courses, which often cost over five hundred dollars," commented Peppers. "Moreover, every year the Turk Pre-Law Program will offer a workshop where an admissions officer from a top law school will work with our students and explain how to select the right law school and properly prepare their law school applications."

One of the most unique aspects of the Turk Pre-Law Program is its experiential learning component. In the past several years, Roanoke College students have interned for federal district court and state court judges as well as local prosecutors and defense attorneys. A new mock trial program offers students the opportunity to hone their litigation skills by competing in a mock lawsuit against teams from other colleges and universities, and several of the pre-law courses also contain simulation exercises. Finally, students have the opportunity to go into federal and state courtrooms and watch attorneys in action. In November, Peppers will take a group of students to hear oral arguments before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Turk Pre-Law Program will have a speaker series, with the goal of bringing prominent attorneys, scholars and legal educators to campus to speak on important issues related to the law. The speaker series will sponsor its first program in February of 2011, when Furman University President Rodney A. Smolla will speak about the rule of law. Summer research programs, including the Judge James C. Turk Summer Scholar Program, allow students to spend time conducting intensive, independent research on topics involving law and politics. Each Turk summer scholar works with a faculty mentor who guides the project. The end result is an original piece of scholarly research that the student can submit for publication to an academic journal or for presentation at a law or political science conference.

The Turk Pre-Law Program is fortunate to have an extraordinary group of lawyers, judges and academics who compose its advisory committee. Members include: The Honorable Glen E. Conrad, United States District Court Judge for the Western District of Virginia; John P. Fishwick, Jr., Esq., Lichtenstein, Fishwick & Johnson; G. Michael Pace, Esq., Gentry, Locke, Rakes and Moore; William B. Poff, Esq., Woods Rogers; James C. Turk, Jr., Esq., Harrison & Turk; William A. Turk, Esq., Omniplex World Services Corporation; The Honorable Robert M.D. Turk, Montgomery County Circuit Court Judge; Christine Frenz Underwood, Esq., Woods Rogers; and the Honorable Michael F. Urbanski, United States Magistrate Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

In naming the program after Judge James C. Turk and S. Maynard Turk, Roanoke College honors two of its most distinguished graduates. Both Judge James Turk and S. Maynard Turk served in the U.S. Army before attending Roanoke College. They majored in economics and went on to attend Washington and Lee School of Law, where both were editors on the law review.

James Turk practiced law with the Radford firm of Dalton, Poff & Turk and was appointed to the federal bench by President Richard Nixon in 1972. He also was a state senator and Senate minority leader. As a judge, he has presided over a number of high profile cases, including the 1981 libel case involving Reverend Jerry Falwell and adult magazine publisher Larry Flynt.

Maynard Turk practiced with the Roanoke law firm of Dodson, Pence & Coulter before becoming in-house counsel for the Radford Army Arsenal and then its parent company, Hercules, in Wilmington, Del. He served as rector for the board of visitors at Radford University, on the board of visitors at George Mason University and on the Washington and Lee alumni board. Maynard Turk is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court and is registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark office.

Roanoke College, a classic liberal arts college in Salem, Virginia, combines firsthand learning with valuable personal connections in a beautiful undergraduate setting. Roanoke is one of just 280 colleges nationwide with a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most prestigious honor society. *The Princeton Review* names Roanoke as one of the "best in the Southeast" and *U.S. News & World Report* includes Roanoke on its "Up-and-coming National Liberal Arts Colleges" list.



S. Maynard Turk and The Honorable James C. Turk



# RULE OF LAW PROJECT

BY G. MICHAEL PACE, JR.



*Teach the children, so that it will not be necessary to teach the adults.*

Abraham Lincoln

Members of the Roanoke Bar Association and Salem/Roanoke County Bar Association teamed up with teachers in over 100 middle school civics classrooms in Roanoke City, Salem and Roanoke County for Rule of Law Day on Friday, November 12. In all, 49

lawyers and 10 judges taught approximately 2,000 students about the importance of the rule of law in their lives.

The two bar associations received a joint grant from the Virginia Law Foundation to help implement the project this year. The funds were used to create an on-line sign-up process to match volunteers with teachers, which will become a "best practice" recommended to other local bar associations across Virginia for use with their rule of law projects. Cathy Caddy and John Koehler each deserve special recognition and praise for their extraordinary efforts in organizing and coordinating this year's activities with the three school divisions.

Volunteers attended one of four training sessions to prepare them to teach the classes. They also met or talked with their teacher partners beforehand to plan the classroom activities.

Bob Penn, civics coordinator for Andrew Lewis Middle School in Salem, said, "I think most people find legal issues intriguing, and what better way to learn about the rule of law and other legal topics than for young students to speak directly to the lawyers and judges who work in our courtrooms on a daily basis. One student asked if the visiting lawyer had ever represented someone who had killed people, and you should have seen/heard the class's response when he said matter-of-factly, 'Yes, several times.' As they say in the MasterCard commercials, priceless!"

According to Jean Wheeling, civics teacher at Hidden Valley Middle School, the classroom experience brought a new opportunity to her students, matching real lawyers and judges with course curriculum related to the rule of law. "These people have such a vested interest in the education of our kids," she said.

Compton Biddle, president of the Salem/Roanoke County Bar Association, taught at Forest Park Academy. "I really enjoyed the opportunity to partner with a local educator to discuss the rule of law with students. Our conversations could have continued well after our class ended."

Some of the issues the students wanted to talk about were:

Are poor people and rich people treated differently under the law?

Is the rule of law really applied fairly and equally to every one?

What would happen if there were no courts or judges?

Where doesn't the rule of law exist in the world?

How do juries decide who is guilty?

Are judges fair to everyone?

These and other questions provided for meaningful conversations with and among the students.

Judge Diane Strickland, who taught at Lucy Addison, said her students asked, "Why does Lindsey Lohan get 17 days for DUI while someone from our neighborhood gets 6-12 months? Why do the newspapers report crimes committed by poor people but not the rich or the police? Do you know of cases where an innocent person was convicted? What can an innocent person do if they are convicted? As you can imagine, these questions led to some interesting discussions."

Perhaps the most poignant comment was made by Tyriq Harris, 13, in Judge Agee's class at Hidden Valley Middle School. He said, "I think it [the rule of law] is important because if we don't have rules, society would be a mess."

Through the efforts of the citizen lawyers and judges of the Roanoke Bar Association and the Salem/Roanoke County Bar Association, Roanoke Valley middle school students may become the educated citizenry envisioned by Abraham Lincoln that will preserve the rule of law for future generations.

Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore hosted a reception on December 1, 2010, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. for all who participated in the Rule of Law Project to share classroom experiences and appropriately recognize and thank everyone for making a positive difference in the lives of our young citizens.

*G. Michael Pace, Jr., is a Partner at Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore, LLP, and the Law Coordinator for the Virginia Bar Association Rule of Law Project*

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## STATE TAX CREDITS AVAILABLE FROM LEGAL AID

BY DAVID D. BEIDLER, ESQ.



Attorneys and law firms may be eligible to receive Virginia state tax credits for making donations of cash or marketable securities, or for providing pro bono legal services, to The Legal Aid Society of Roanoke Valley (LASRV). Attorneys and firms making eligible donations may receive state tax credits equal to 40 percent of the donations.

The tax credits are allocated to LASRV through the Neighborhood Assistance Project (NAP), a program administered through the Virginia Department of Social Services that provides tax credits as an incentive for businesses and individuals to contribute directly to NAP-approved 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations whose primary function is to provide assistance to impoverished people. Clients who benefit from this program do not earn more than 150 percent of poverty - level income.

Individuals making gifts of cash or marketable securities of at least \$500 may qualify for the 40 percent tax credit. No maximum tax credit cap is imposed on individuals unless all tax credits available through the Department of Social Services are allocated. The maximum tax credit per taxable year for individuals is \$50,000.

Solo practitioners, partnerships, and legal corporations making gifts of cash, securities, or pro bono services of at least \$1000 also may qualify for the tax credit. The maximum hourly rate for pro bono services eligible for tax credit is \$125 per hour. Thus, a donation of \$1000 of legal work, based upon eight hours of work at \$125 per hour, may qualify for a tax credit of \$400. The maximum tax credit available to law firms is \$175,000, based on 40 percent of a \$437,500 cap in donations of cash, marketable securities and pro bono services.

If the state tax credit exceeds the tax liability of the donor for the year in which the donated cash or services occurs, the remaining tax credit may be carried over for up to five years.

LASRV is allocated certain amounts of tax credits each year. As the tax credits are depleted, Legal Aid applies for more tax credits. Historically, tax credits to Legal Aid have always been replenished, though it is theoretically possible that the NAP program could exhaust its available tax credits.

The Legal Aid Society of Roanoke Valley has incurred drastic revenue cuts during the past couple of years, largely as a result of very little interest accumulating in IOLTA (Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts) accounts. The interest earned from IOLTA accounts is a major source of funding for legal aid societies in Virginia. Donations of cash and pro bono services by attorneys and firms will help the Legal Aid Society further its non-profit mission of providing high quality legal advice and representation to the underserved poor in our area. NAP tax credits may provide an additional incentive to private attorneys and firms desiring to help the poor in our community through contributions to the Legal Aid Society.

For more information, please contact me or Ana Goller, administrator, at 344-2088.

*David D. Beidler is General Counsel at Legal Aid Society of Roanoke Valley*

## ADMITTING LIABILITY IN THE POST-CENTRA HEALTH ERA

*(Continued from page 1)*

The Estate convinced the Court to follow its precedent that causation is a jury issue. *Brown v. Koulizakis*, 229 Va. 524, 331 S.E.2d 440 (1985). Accordingly, plaintiffs asserting survival and wrongful death claims in the same litigation cannot be required to elect one cause of action over the other when causation is contested. The *Centra Health* Court went on to state that the defendant may request bifurcation of liability from damages to prevent the jury from conflating the differing elements of damages, which may be prejudicial to the defendant.

Based on the current landscape, a defendant in a mixed survival and wrongful death case cannot admit liability (breach and causation) because it would have the effect of taking the causation issue away from the jury, unless the plaintiff were to agree to the admission, making causation no longer an issue. As long as the question of the breach causing death or something short of death is at issue, there can be no admission of liability. Causation has been placed at issue by the plaintiff by pleading the two causes of action. So what is a defendant to do?

The *Centra Health* Court did not say that defendants cannot admit to a breach of duty, leaving the causation issue to the jury, with bifurcation on damages after the jury decides whether the breach caused death. For both causes of action, the duty would be the same and the variable would be the outcome from the breach. Thus, as to duty and breach of duty, the evidence should be the same for both causes of action. By admitting the breach of duty, defendants could streamline the case, cut the costs of the experts on breach of duty and prevent the jury from hearing potentially harmful evidence on breach of duty.

In the post-*Centra Health* era, the question of whether a defendant can admit to liability has become difficult to sort through. Because plaintiffs control the causation issue by pleading both survival and wrongful death claims, defendants probably cannot admit to liability, but can admit to breach of duty resulting in a beneficial effect on the costs of litigation.

*Nancy F. Reynolds is a Partner at LeClairRyan*



### 2011 Roanoke Bar Association Foundation Casino Night Gala

**April 29, 2011  
The Shenandoah Club**

**Proceeds to Benefit**

**Roanoke Bar Association Foundation and**

**Roanoke City Public School Teachers' Fund**

## ROANOKE LAW LIBRARY NEWS AND INFORMATION

BY JOSEPH KLEIN, LAW LIBRARIAN



The Holidays are fast approaching, and while this might mean increased stress as preparations add more work to our already busy schedules, it also is a season to be thankful and celebrate as we get together with co-workers, friends, and family and enjoy each other. I would like to take a moment to wish you all a happy holiday season and to wish you a prosperous and successful 2011.

### Online Legal Research

The landscape of legal research is changing; just 5-10 years ago everyone relied on books for all aspects of their research. Lawyers used digests to find cases, Shepard's Citators to check validity, and received regularly updated treatises to track the latest legislative changes or case law decisions that affected their practice. It is possible to do legal research for free using the internet now. Statutes are available on the internet and more and more case law is being made available by the courts. LexisOne also provides free access to case law and allows Shepardizing for a small fee. Additionally, most of us now have computer assisted legal research database subscriptions (Westlaw, Lexis, FastCase) whose powerful search features allow us to perform in minutes the research that took hours in the Law Library in the past.

While I am sad that I don't get to see you all as often as in the past, I recognize how much more productive this has made attorneys as they can quickly track down information from just about anywhere. However, this has introduced several new complications. In addition to the added expenses for computers, and database access fees, it is also necessary to learn new skills, and because there is no universal interface, to learn new search techniques for different databases. The Roanoke Law Library provides free access to Westlaw. If you want to brush up on your search skills without incurring any costs, feel free to come here. Additionally, I have almost 15 years experience using computer assisted legal research databases and I will be happy to assist you with your research needs, provide pointers, or guide you to resources that might be able to assist you. Feel free to contact me at 540-853-2268 with any questions.

### Computer Classes Available

Often I am approached by researchers who are not terribly familiar with computers, and while I am glad to assist them to the best of my abilities, it is increasingly important for people to learn computer skills. The Roanoke Public Library recently received an Americorp grant and has hired and trained a group of people with the express purpose of providing computer classes for all skill levels. The Americorp volunteers will be providing over 60 classes a month at various locations throughout Roanoke including most city library branches, Garden City Recreation Center, Goodwill, and the Roanoke Valley Workforce Center. These classes range from such basics as using a mouse, using Windows, and using the internet and email, to more detailed explorations of Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. There is a monthly newsletter listing all the classes that will be available at all library branches, "the dot." Information can also be found on the library web page located at URL [www.roanokeva.gov/library](http://www.roanokeva.gov/library).



## RVLSA 45TH ANNUAL BOSSES' NIGHT

BY KELLY E. HICKEY, PP, PLS

RVLSA held its 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Bosses' Night on Thursday, September 18, 2010 at Hidden Valley County Club. As always, everyone had a good time. Bosses' Night is RVLSA's event to raise funds for its scholarship presented each year to a high school or college student pursuing a career in the legal field.

RVLSA wishes to thank all members of the Roanoke Bar Association who continue to support our programs, especially Bosses' Night. Without your support we might not be able to sustain this program as we have been. For the past several years we have been able to give two \$1,000 scholarships.

What a fun night!

Charles H. ("Trey") Smith of Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore was named the 2010 Boss of the Year. It was well deserved. Trey has been an avid supporter of RVLSA for years. Faye R. Vucich of Frankl, Miller Webb was named 2010 Member of the Year. This was also merited as Faye is extremely active in RVLSA and is always there for anyone who needs assistance.

There was a moment of silence in memory of Ken King who passed away this year. He always attended Bosses' Night and supported RVLSA. He will be greatly missed.

Following the presentations, we were entertained by Trey Smith, Josh Johnson, Travis Graham, and Wirt Brock, of Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore, and Dan Frankl, Dale Webb and Tom Miller of Frankl, Miller, Webb. They put on a spoof called Mock Jury Trial.

Needless to say, if you have never seen one of their skits, you are missing out. They kept us entertained and laughing. They have missed their calling!



Faye R. Vucich  
2010 Member of the Year

Members of RVLSA sincerely appreciate the continued support of the Roanoke Bar Association. We hope to see more members of the Bar, along with their legal staff, attend Bosses' Night. We would also like to see the attorneys encourage their staff to join RVLSA. It truly is a great organization to belong to, with many benefits. One of the primary objectives of our organization is continuing legal education. If any RBA member would like membership information for his/her staff, please contact RVLSA Vice-President, Christine McMillan, at [cmcmillan@spilmanlaw.com](mailto:cmcmillan@spilmanlaw.com). In addition, we will be having our annual Membership Drive on January 20, 2011 at the Holiday Inn Tanglewood beginning at 6:00 p.m. We hope you will encourage your assistants to attend.

*Kelly E. Hickey is President of the RVLSA and  
A Paralegal at Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore, LLP*



# YOU AND THE LAW

The second series of the **You and the Law** program will begin on January 19, 2011, and run for 4 consecutive Wednesday evenings at the Roanoke Higher Education Center. This program was designed to educate the public about the legal system in order to make citizens' interaction with the system more efficient and less frustrating. **You and the Law** covers basic information relating to practices and procedures in general district courts and the circuit courts, issues where there may be misunderstanding or a lack of understanding, and substantive information relating to specific areas of the law. Guest speakers include judges and local attorneys who specialize in each of the topics covered.

We are finalizing plans for the 2011 series and **we need your help!** Speakers are needed for a 35-minute presentation on things that you deal with every day. We ask that you prepare a list of the **Ten Things You Need to Know About [your topic]** and submit that list a week prior to your scheduled presentation date. Written questions are taken at each presentation and reviewed by other attorneys prior to discussion. The 2010 handout is available on the RBA web site (click on **You and the Law** on the Home page) and you can see what was prepared by each speaker last year.

If you can participate, please contact Mike Whitlow at [mwhitlow@whitlowyouell.com](mailto:mwhitlow@whitlowyouell.com) or 540-904-7835.

## YOU AND THE LAW

### 2010 Topics

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### 2011 Topics

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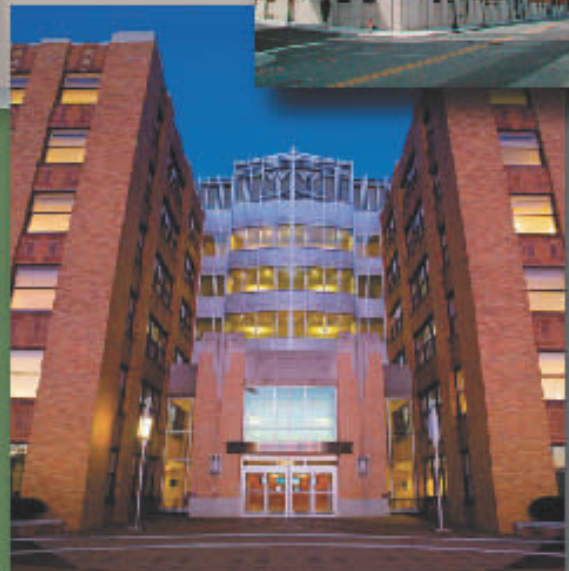
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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## NEW MEMBERS

The Roanoke Bar Association  
welcomes the following new Active  
Members:

**Andrea G. Ansorge**  
Carilion Clinic Office of Corporate  
Counsel

**Erin B. Ashwell**  
Woods Rogers, PLC

**Peter M. Pearl**  
Sands Anderson, PC

**Christine L. Poarch**  
Poarch Law Firm, PC

**Joshua R. Treece**  
Woods Rogers, PLC

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Roanoke Bar Association Meetings 2010 - 2011

December 14, 2010

January 11, 2011

February 8, 2011

March 8, 2011

April 12, 2011

June 14, 2011

**Santa in the Square**  
December 13, 2010

**Roanoke Bar Association Foundation  
Casino Night Gala**  
April 29, 2011

Go to [www.roanokebar.com](http://www.roanokebar.com) for more  
information on these and other RBA  
events.

## OFFICERS:

Francis H. Casola 983-7716  
President

Lori D. Thompson 510-3011  
President-Elect

Thomas H. Miller 527-3510  
Secretary-Treasurer

Roy V. Creasy 342-0729  
Past-President

Catherine L. Caddy 342-4905  
Executive Director

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

L. Brad Braford 342-2850

Michael A. Cleary 345-8344

David N. Cohan 983-9395

Leah S. Gissy 510-3026

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Stephen W. Lemon 982-1000

Richard C. Maxwell 983-7628

Amanda E. Shaw 224-8019

Jonnie L. Speight 767-2036

Jennie L. M. Waering 857-2905

Michael S. Whitlow 904-7835



**DON'T FORGET TO CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete and Forward to:** Roanoke Bar Association, P.O. Box 18183, Roanoke, VA 24014  
Fax: (540) 342-1252 Email: [roanokebar@earthlink.net](mailto:roanokebar@earthlink.net)

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