

FORUM 8

Volume 80, No. 6

Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association, Inc.

February 2021

President's Message

By Philip N. Kabler, Esq.



We are now *all in* to 2021. Did you make a plan, or resolutions, for this year (personal, professional, financial, or otherwise)? Have you observed them consistently? If not, do not become frustrated; it is *always* timely to make course corrections.

Towards the goal of remaining on-track (as *you* define being on-track), the Florida Bar offers a number of tools for our use as we find we need them. For example, *LEGALfuel* (<https://www.legalfuel.com>), the *Health and Wellness Center* (www.floridabar.org/member/healthandwellnesscenter), *Lawyers Advising Lawyers* (www.lawyersadvisinglawyers.com), and the Young Lawyers Division's *#StigmaFreeYLD Campaign* (www.flayld.org/stigmafreeyld-campaign). So, despite the already *not so new year*, if 'things' are not going as you wish, there is quiet and private support available. No one will know, so ask for help if you wish.

One thing we can *all* do (and *should* do) as stewards of 'The Law' in our communities, is undertake a *pro bono* matter. There are so many things we can do within our circuit's 'big tent.' For example, the EJCBA, in partnership with Three Rivers Legal Services, Southern Legal Counsel, and the University of Florida Levin College of Law, has operated its highly successful *Ask A Lawyer* program for a number of years. Also, on February 5th the EJCBA, under the leadership of Judge Kristine Van Vorst, will hold its third *Drivers License Reinstatement Clinic* - for information visit <https://8jcba.org/news/9382134>.

While the link is lengthy, to see the full scope of pro bono opportunities in the Eighth Judicial Circuit please visit <https://circuit8.org/departments-services/resources-for-volunteers-and-pro-bono-opportunities>. (Or read-through the entirety of *Forum 8* issues – TRLS Pro Bono

Director Marcia Green makes sure we are kept informed of ways to assist the communities of the six counties we serve together.) And, do not forget that the EJCBA has an active Pro Bono Committee chaired by Ray Brady - reach out if you are looking for a way to 'give back' (and *also* to earn pro bono hours towards your law license).

February will by no means be a *quiet* month for the EJCBA. Here is what awaits us.

- February 5 - Drivers License Reinstatement Clinic described above (via Zoom)
- February 16 - Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association/ Alachua County Medical Society Special Webcast (via Zoom)
- February 19 – Monthly luncheon meeting featuring Professor Stacey Steinberg (U.F. Levin College of Law) discussing her book *Growing Up Shared* (likely via Zoom)
- February 26 – EJCBA Professionalism Seminar (via Zoom)

Please register for all programs that interest you.

Additionally, 'hold the date' for our March 12th luncheon meeting featuring University of Florida President Kent Fuchs as our guest speaker.

As noted in prior columns, we will do our very best to hold live events as soon as we can. And we will work to add more special programs during the year. Be sure to regularly check *Forum 8*, our e-blasts, the www.8jcba.org calendar, and our Facebook page for event updates.

As mentioned in previous columns, the EJCBA is a members-focused association. Accordingly, if you as a member have suggestions for programs, this is a standing invitation to bring them forward. Please do that by sending your ideas to pnkejcba@gmail.com. For updates please regularly visit our website (www.8jcba.org) and consider joining our Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association Facebook page.

With best wishes for a productive, enjoyable, and meaningful February,

Phil

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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.

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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.

Judy Padgett

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Deadline is the 5th of the preceding month

Alternative Dispute Resolution

By Chester B. Chance and Charles B. Carter



Back to Basics

For a long period of time after courts started ordering cases to mediation there was some confusion among attorneys as to who exactly was required to attend a mediation. Then, things sorted out and it seemed for the next decade or so everyone understood the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure that address appearances at mediation. However, in the last 12-15 months some attorneys seem to have relapsed and the issue of attendance at mediation has again reared its head. This article will not be exciting, but perhaps it may be illuminating as a refresher course on the rule addressing attendance at mediation.

The rule in play is Rule 1.720, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure as it addresses "Mediation Procedures."

Rule 1.720(b) specifically concerns "Appearance at Mediation." This Rule starts with a key phrase: "Unless otherwise permitted by *court order or stipulated by the parties in writing*....." Please note that the rest of Rule 1.720(b) is subject to this introductory phrase: the Rule applies unless permitted by court order or stipulated by the parties in writing. The mediator has NO say in who can or shall attend a mediation.

So unless changed by court order or written stipulation "a **party** is deemed to appear at a mediation conference if the following persons are **physically** present:

1. The **party** or a party representative having full authority to settle without further consultation; **and**
2. The party's counsel of record, if any; **and**
3. A representative of the insurance carrier for any insured party who is not such carrier's outside counsel and who has full authority to settle in an amount up to the amount of the plaintiff's last demand or policy limits, whichever is less, without further consultation.

Therefore, in summary: a **party** must appear at mediation. They are deemed to have appeared if they show up and attend and their counsel of record also attends, and, if a party is insured, a representative of the carrier must attend. If any one of these three described participants does not show (absent court order or written stipulation) then there is a lack of compliance with Rule 1.720(b). Again, *counsel of record* needs to attend. We are aware of attorneys showing up at mediation who have

not even filed an appearance in the case. That sounds risky given the clear wording of the Rule.

Can an attorney appear without his client (the party) and say that the attorney has full authority? In brief: NO. See: *Mash v. Lugo*, 49 So. 3d 829 (Fla. 5th DCA 2010), and *Segui v. Margrill*, 844 So. 2d 820 (Fla. 5th DCA 2001).

What is a 'party representative' as referenced in Rule 1.720(b)?

That answer is found in the cited case and in subsection (c) of the Rule:

A 'party representative having full authority to settle' shall mean the final decision maker with respect to all issues presented by the case who has the legal capacity to execute a binding settlement agreement on behalf of the party....."

Typically, a party representative applies to a corporate party. In *Carbino v. Ward*, 801 So. 2d 1028 (Fla. 5th DCA 2001), the appellate court stated the term party representative related to a party such as a corporation,

partnership, incapacitated person, or a minor which must appear through a duly authorized representative. Could it be someone who has a power of attorney from the actual party? Maybe or maybe not, but absent a party being incapacitated, a power of attorney does not fit the just

language of *Carbino*. To be safe, if someone attends with a power of attorney, we suggest be cautious and obtain the consent of opposing counsel or a court order. Why? Because an argument might be made that a party representative applies to corporate or similar situations. Why have a fiasco at the start of a mediation when some preliminary understanding avoids confusion?

Anything else that has recently been overlooked? Yes. Subsection (e) of the Rule addresses a Certificate of Authority.

Unless otherwise stipulated by the parties, each party, **10 days prior** to appearing at a mediation conference, **shall** file with the court and serve all parties a written notice identifying the person or persons who will be attending the mediation conference as a party representative or as an insurance carrier representative, and confirming those persons have the authority required by subdivision (b).

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A No-Brainer Decision: Employers Can Extend FFCRA Leave Through March 31 and Earn Tax Credit

By Jung Yoon



The mandatory paid leave requirements under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) expired on December 31, 2020, but employers may voluntarily choose to provide paid leave benefits to their employees through March 31, 2021.

On December 27, 2020, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, was signed into law, providing for much anticipated and needed COVID-19 stimulus relief. Employees' entitlement to paid leave under the FFCRA was allowed to expire, but the new law extended FFCRA's payroll tax credit for employers who choose to provide their employees with paid sick leave and expanded family and medical leave for reasons related to COVID-19, through March 31.

Under the FFCRA, employees who were unable to work or telework due to COVID-19 related reasons (i.e., have been advised by healthcare provider to self-quarantine or are experiencing symptoms and seeking a medical diagnosis) were allowed up to two (2) weeks of paid sick leave. Employees were also allowed up to 10 weeks of paid family and medical leave to care for their children whose school/place of care/caregiver is closed or unavailable because of a declared public health emergency (at two-thirds of their regular pay rate).

With the infection rate unabated and continued need to control the spread of the virus, many employers may look to voluntarily continue their compliance with the paid leave requirements, and have the government pay for it. Information on claiming the refundable tax credits for qualified leave can be found on the IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/new-employer-tax-credits>.

THE RESOLUTION CENTER

Is pleased to announce mediator

DEBORAH C. DRYLIE

Has been accepted as a member in the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals. The NADN is recognized as the foremost professional association for experienced mediators and arbitrators practicing in the field of civil and commercial conflict resolution. All Florida Academy members are distinguished by their commitment to excellence in the field of dispute resolution, and are among the most in-demand ADR practitioners in the state. In addition, membership in NADN is by invitation only – based on peer nominations and due diligence research with local litigators under the guidance of the NADN state committee. Once identified, nominees are thoroughly vetted to ensure they meet practice requirements.

For scheduling, please call (352) 371-2630 or

visit: www.nadn.org/deborah-drylie
www.resolutioncenter.org

Family Law Attorney Joins the Staff at Three Rivers Legal Services

By Marcia Green

Pro Bono Director, Three Rivers Legal Services



It's a new year and there's a new face in the Gainesville Family Law Unit at Three Rivers Legal Services. Jeffrey Conner has relocated from our Lake City office to fill one of the family law vacancies.

A member of the Florida Bar since 1991, Conner is Board Certified in Marital and Family Law and served six years on the Certification Committee. He said that growing up in a divorced, single parent household led him to the practice of family law and a feeling that his personal experiences would be useful in helping people through the process. Residing in Ocala, Conner wanted a shorter commute from his home and we are grateful to have his expertise in the office.

Conner is a nature lover and enjoys hiking, bicycling and kayaking, along with a few other sports. He admits to being addicted to politics (please don't get him started) but loves so much of what is offered in the community, including the symphony and theater. He greatly misses the opportunity for dancing, another one of his passions, which has been cut back this past year due to COVID-19.

Raised primarily in the Tampa area, Conner's connections to New England made it easy to pursue his bachelor's degree in politics from Brandeis University and his law degree from the Vermont Law School. He practiced law in Jacksonville and Orlando before coming to Three Rivers. He is definitely an asset to our program and looks forward to meeting the other attorneys in the Eighth Circuit whether by Zoom or one day in person!



Register Now for EJCBA/ACMS Meeting

Register now online at <https://8jcba.org/event-4083345> for the joint Zoom meeting of the EJCBA and the Alachua County Medical Society on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. This meeting will include a panel discussion of "General Legal Insights for Practicing Physicians." For questions or additional information, contact Ray Brady at rbrady1959@gmail.com.

Professionalism Seminar – REGISTER NOW – FREE TO MEMBERS

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 26, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. until noon **via ZOOM**. Our keynote speaker will be The Honorable Karen K. Specie, Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Florida, speaking on "COVID: 19 Professionalism Lessons for Lawyers."

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.

Register online at <https://8jcba.org/event-4057807>; the registration deadline is **February 17, 2021** in order to set up breakout rooms for the group discussions. Questions may be directed to the EJCBA Professionalism Committee chairman, Ray Brady, Esq., at 554-5328.

When Are Fees on Fees Recoverable?

By Krista L.B. Collins



When I was just a baby litigator, one of the first rules of litigation I learned was “you can’t get fees on fees.” In other words, a prevailing party can be awarded attorneys’ fees for the time spent arguing *entitlement* to fees, but not the time spent arguing about the *amount* of fees. However, this rule is not so hard and fast anymore. Like so many things in the

law, the real rule is “it depends.”

The idea that a prevailing party cannot recover fees on fees comes from *State Farm Fire & Cas. Co. v. Palma*, 629 So.2d 830 (Fla. 1993). While the ruling in *Palma* was limited to §627.428, *Fla. Stat.* (dealing with fees for claims against insurers), many courts treated it as a total ban on recovering fees on fees. While fees on fees were awarded in a few very limited circumstances, it wasn’t until 2012 when this near total ban began to change.

The Fourth District Court of Appeal led the charge in *Waverly at Las Olas Condo. Ass’n, Inc. v. Waverly Las Olas, LLC*, 88 So.3d 386 (Fla. 4th DCA 2012), holding that a contractual fee provision that authorized attorneys’ fees for “any litigation” between the parties under the agreement was broad enough to include fees incurred in litigating the amount of fees. The Fourth District Court of Appeal distinguished *Palma*, noting that while *Palma* relied upon a statute and limited fees to those incurred in litigating entitlement, the contractual language relied upon in *Waverly* was much broader. *Id.* at 389.

The Second District Court of Appeal followed suit a few years later in *Trial Practices, Inc. v. Hahn Loeser & Parks, LLP*, 228 So.3d 1184 (Fla. 2d DCA 2017) (quashed on other grounds by *Trial Practices, Inc. v. Hahn Loeser, LLP*, 260 So.3d 167 (Fla. 2018)). *Trial Practices* involved a fee-shifting provision in a consulting agreement that encompassed all claims connected in any way to the consulting agreement and permitted “recovery of ‘all expenses of any nature incurred in any way’ including attorneys’ fees.” *Id.* at 1189. The Court discussed *Waverly* and concluded that this language was broad enough to cover fees on fees. *Id.*

This does not mean, however, that fees on fees are now permitted under all contractual attorneys’ fee provisions. One must look to the precise language employed in the fee provision. In *Windsor Falls Condo. Ass’n, Inc. v. Davis*, 265 So.3d 709, 711 (Fla. 1st DCA 2019), the First District stated that while it did not “reject the argument that a contract can provide for an award of attorney’s fees, including fees incurred for litigating the fee amount itself,” it held that:

The contract here provides that Appellee is responsible for condominium assessments and the

‘costs of collection thereof, including Legal Fees.’ Because the trial court had already determined that Appellant was the prevailing party, and the parties had stipulated to Appellant’s entitlement to legal fees and costs, the ensuing litigation over the amount of reasonable attorney’s fees did not constitute litigating the collection of condominium assessments.

Also in 2019, the Third District Court of Appeal affirmed the denial of fees on fees “based on our longstanding precedent,” while noting that *Waverly* had permitted fees on fees due to broad contractual language. *Obermeyer v. Bank of New York*, 272 So.3d 430 (Fla. 3d DCA 2019). Unfortunately, the Third District Court of Appeal did not describe the contractual language at issue in *Obermeyer*. Notably, a few months later the Third District again reached the issue of fees on fees in *Burton Family P’ship v. Luani Plaza, Inc.*, 276 So.3d 920, 923 (Fla. 3d DCA 2019). In *Burton Family*, the Third District again cited to *Waverly*, this time affirming an award of fees because the By-Laws at issue specifically provided “for the recovery of fees ‘for litigating the issue of the amount of fees to be awarded.’” *Id.* at 923. Whether the Third District would construe language that is broad but does not specifically reference fees on fees as permitting fees on fees remains unclear.

The federal courts in Florida are likewise split. The Southern District has been unwilling to follow *Waverly*. In *Chavez v. Mercantile Commercebank, N.A.*, 2015 WL 136388 at *5 (S.D. Fla. 2015), the Southern District concluded that it is “bound by the Eleventh Circuit’s interpretation unless and until a new Florida Supreme Court decision required a different decision,” stating:

[W]e are primarily bound by the Eleventh Circuit’s decisions, including those that apply Florida law. In the leading Eleventh Circuit case that addresses the issue here, *McMahan v. Toto*, the Court interpreted the *Palma* decision as a definitive statement of Florida law “that, while attorney’s fees incurred for litigating the issue of entitlement to attorney’s fees are recoverable, fees incurred for litigating the amount of attorney’s fees are not.” 311 F.3d 1077, 1085 (11th Cir. 2002) (citing *Palma*, 629 So.2d at 833).

Interestingly, the Middle District appears to feel no such limitation. In *Gottlieb & Gottlieb, P.A. v. Crants*, 2017 WL 9398655 (M.D. Fla. 2017), the Middle District found the contractual language broad enough to support an award of fees on fees. Likewise, in *Apple Glen Investors, L.P. v. Express Scripts, Inc.*, 2018 WL 2945629,

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Probate Section Report

By Larry E. Ciesla



The Probate Section meets via Zoom on the second Wednesday of each month, beginning at 4:30 p.m. Matters of interest, including those specifically discussed during recent meetings, are set forth below (in no particular order).

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

Following up on last month's legislative update, an additional item not mentioned is CS/CS/HB 813, which was effective as of July 1, 2020. This bill contains various provisions regarding the protection of vulnerable investors. It amends FS 415.1034, dealing with mandatory reporting of abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable adults so as to create a new subsection (9) which makes it mandatory for investment advisors licensed under Chapter 517 to report to the central abuse hotline any known or reasonably suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of a vulnerable adult.

The remainder of the bill creates new FS 517.34, containing very lengthy and detailed procedures regarding financial exploitation, including several statements of legislative intent. The stated intent is to prevent financial exploitation of vulnerable adults, encourage constructive involvement in this regard by investment advisors and to provide immunity to financial advisors from liability for taking any actions authorized by the new statute. The primary vehicle established for the prevention of financial exploitation is the ability of a financial advisor to delay a financial transaction by freezing the account of the vulnerable adult for a period of up to 25 business days. It is presumed that, if the pending transaction does, in fact, amount to an attempt at exploitation, an interested person will have sufficient time within which to obtain appropriate court order continuing the freeze beyond the initial 25-business-day period to enable the parties sufficient time within which to reach a long-term solution to the problem.

The statute contains specific notices which must be given by the investment firm; requires the firm to conduct an internal review of the facts and circumstances giving rise to the knowledge or belief that exploitation is occurring; and additionally requires the firm to develop programs and policies to educate employees of the issues related to exploitation, conduct related training and adopt written procedures for dealing with instances of suspected exploitation.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – GUARDIANSHIP

CS/CS/SB 994, dealing with various aspects of the guardianship law in CH 744, also became effective on July 1, 2020. Highlights of the bill include: (1) New FS

744.312(3)(e), which expressly requires the trial court to take into consideration any potential disqualifications or conflicts of interest which may affect a person applying to become a guardian in a particular case; (2) New language added to FS 744.334(1) requiring an applicant for guardian to state in his or her petition the specific reasons why appointment of a guardian advocate under FS 744.3085 or other alternatives to guardianship would be insufficient to meet the needs of the alleged incapacitated person or minor; (3) New FS 744.363(1)(f), which requires the Initial Guardianship Plan of a guardian of the person to list all prior orders not to resuscitate (under FS 401.45(3)) and advance directives (under FS 765.101); (4) New language added to FS 744.367(3)(a) requiring a guardian to disclose in each annual report (person and property) the amount of all "remuneration" received for services rendered to the ward (any payment or other benefit made directly or indirectly in cash or in kind); and (5) New FS 744.441(2) providing that prior court approval is required in order for a guardian to sign a do not resuscitate order on behalf of a ward, for which an evidentiary hearing will be required.

NEW SOCIAL SECURITY DESIGNATION OF REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE

As many of you may be aware, the Social Security Administration has in the past never recognized the holder of a financial power of attorney executed under state law to automatically serve as the "representative payee" for a person receiving Social Security benefits who may be lacking sufficient mental capacity to deal with any issues which may arise regarding their benefits.

Well, good news – The SSA has finally joined the 20th century and has announced that it will now recognize an advance designation of representative payee. A mentally competent recipient of benefits may serially pre-designate up to three persons to serve as representative payee to serve in the event of the subsequent incapacity of the recipient.

Note that the final rules adopted by SSA prohibit an agent acting under a POA or a legal guardian to designate a representative payee (See POMS GN 00502.085). However, the SSA has made the designation process available online through the recipient's personal account with SSA, which may provide a work-around for this potential roadblock. A simple form for advance designation of representative payee is available by contacting jhall@larryciesla-law.com.

The Probate Section meets via Zoom on the second Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m., and all interested parties are invited to attend. Please contact Jackie Hall at (352) 378-5603 or jhall@larryciesla-law.com to be included on the e-mail list for notices of future meetings.

Pro Bono Voting Assistance CLE Programs

By Ron Kozlowski

With the passage of Amendment 4 in 2018, more than 1.5 million former felons with completed sentences (returning citizens) have had their rights to vote restored, but the state legislature passed laws that limit those who can actually register to vote. Now, persons who have completed their incarceration and supervision still have to pay all financial obligations in a sentence to be able to vote. However, many current and future returning citizens are not given proper guidance and education on the actual process that gaining access to these rights entails and some need help understanding their records.

The League of Women Voters has created two Florida Bar approved CLE programs that train attorneys about the process to assist returning citizens. Each one was approved for 2 hours of CLE by the Florida Bar and the League is offering these courses for no charge. In return, the League is asking those that take the CLE's to consider providing pro bono legal assistance to returning citizens to assist them to vote. They have created a toolkit for individuals, lawyers, and reentry programs to assist in the restoration of voting rights. They are asking willing lawyers to do any of the following:

1. Take the CLE and provide pro bono voting assistance;
2. Inform their criminal defendant clients and former clients about the possibility of restoration of rights;
3. Refer those returning citizens that need pro bono help to the League to find a pro bono lawyer referral.

The CLE training can be found at <https://www.lwvfl.org/cle/>.

ADR

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What happens if a party fails to appear? See subsection (f) of the Rule. If a party fails to appear at a duly noticed mediation conference without good cause, the court upon motion, **shall** impose sanctions, including award of mediation fee, attorneys' fees, and costs, against the party failing to appear. Has that happened? You bet it has and a quick bit of legal research will verify that it has.

Please recall there is greater liberty for the court to award fees and costs when awarding such things as a sanction.

Oh, we almost forgot: Subsection (f) also says "the failure to file a confirmation of authority under subdivision (e) or failure of the persons identified in the confirmation to appear at the mediation conference, **shall** create a rebuttable presumption of a failure to appear."

The moral of this: Please do what most attorneys do not do: File a Certificate of Authority.

And some advice: If the opposing party files a certificate, please read it! We have seen instances where a certificate says someone has been excused from attendance with permission of opposing counsel, and opposing counsel says "not so." If opposing counsel had READ the certificate when it was filed, that issue could have been resolved other than at the start of the mediation. Perhaps the delay in raising the objection might be deemed a waiver. Would it? We can't say, but, if you read the certificate 10 days prior you will never have to find out.

Also, suppose the certificate says "John Doe will be appearing for party X pursuant to a power of attorney." You may or may not be ok with that. If you READ the certificate you can deal with that potential issue in advance of the mediation. Might you waive any objection if you wait until the start of the mediation? Again, we can't say, but why find out, or, why risk diminished sanctions as a result of waiting?

The moral: Please read and comply with Rule 1.720.

When Are Fees on Fees Recoverable?

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the Middle District chose to distinguish the Eleventh Circuit's decision in *McMahan*, noting that the fee provision at issue was more similar to that in *Waverly* and *Trial Practices*. However, this decision is of limited value as the Middle District noted that the defendant had failed to identify any specific hours as fees on fees, thus rendering the issue moot. *Id.* at *14.

There is currently a fair amount of confusion and conflict amongst the courts as to whether fees on fees are appropriate—and until the Florida Supreme Court weighs in, the law will likely remain unsettled.

SAVE THE DATE!

EJCBA Charity Golf Tournament--The Gloria--benefiting The Guardian Foundation, Inc., in support of the 8th Judicial Circuit's Guardian ad Litem Program

When: Friday, March 5, 2021 Box Lunch Served starting at 11:30am; Shotgun Start Tee Time at 12:30pm

Where: The Mark Bostick Golf Course at the University of Florida

Cost: Early registration on or before February 15th: \$115

Registration after February 15th: \$130

Format: Four person scramble (captain's choice)

Note: Please watch for an email blast with the online registration information. If the players each consent, then two may ride together in a cart. Otherwise one person per cart. Golfers who are able and prefer to walk and either carry or use a pull cart are welcome. Also, there are currently restrictions on using the inside clubhouse snack bar area for lunch or post round reception, but the plan is to have box lunches available and some manner of "grab and go" post round refreshments. Masks are recommended except when on the course playing.

So they are always readily at-hand, the following are links to

The U.S. Constitution: <https://constitution.congress.gov/constitution/>

The Florida Constitution: <https://tinyurl.com/FloridaConstitution>

February 2021 Calendar

- 3 EJCBA Board of Directors Meeting via ZOOM, 5:30 p.m.
- 5 Deadline for submission to March Forum 8
- 10 Probate Section Meeting, 4:30 p.m. via ZOOM
- 14 Valentine's Day – show the love!
- 15 Washington's Birthday (observed) – Federal Courthouse closed
- 16 ZOOM Meeting of EJCBA & Alachua County Medical Society, 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m., Panel discussion of "General Insights for Practicing Physicians."
- 19 EJCBA Monthly Luncheon Meeting, Stacey Steinberg, Professor, UF Levin College of Law and author of *Growing Up Shared*, 11:45 a.m. via ZOOM
- 26 EJCBA Annual Professionalism Seminar, Keynote Speaker the Honorable Karen K. Specie, Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Florida, "COVID: 19 Professionalism Lessons for Lawyers," via ZOOM

March 2021 Calendar

- 3 EJCBA Board of Directors Meeting via ZOOM, 5:30 p.m.
- 5 Deadline for submission to April Forum 8
- 5 EJCBA Golf Tournament, "The Gloria," Mark Bostick Golf Course, 11:30-5
- 10 Probate Section Meeting, 4:30 p.m. via ZOOM
- 12 EJCBA Monthly Luncheon Meeting, UF President Kent Fuchs, 11:45 a.m. via ZOOM