



BROWARD COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

MEMBER BENEFITS

Members Join Active 'Sections' Relating to Substantive Areas of Law:

The foundation of the BCBA is based on twenty practice area specific SECTIONS that concentrate on providing continuing legal education and networking opportunities for BCBA members that specialize in a concentrated practice area. The SECTIONS are: Alternative Dispute Resolution, Appellate Law, Bankruptcy Law, Business/Commercial Law, Criminal Law, Construction Law, Elder Law, Employment Law, Family law, Government Law, Intellectual Property Law, Probate and Trust Law, Real Property Law, Small/Solo Practice, Trial Practice, Workers' Compensation Law and Paralegal Section. Section Leadership presents opportunities to enhance your public profile among judges who are active in BCBA sections, as well as colleagues. The **Young Lawyers' Section** is open to members under the age of 36 or who have been practicing less than five years. The **West Area Section** promotes activities in western Broward County.

Discounted Membership for Young Attorneys: Reduced annual dues are offered to attorneys under 36 years old or who have been a member of The Florida Bar for less than five years.

Free Membership for 1st Year Attorneys and Law Students: Free annual membership offered to first-year attorneys who are members of the Florida Bar; all Law Students are given a free annual membership.

Discounted Membership for Government Attorneys: Annual Membership Dues reduced to half-price for attorneys in government service or employed by legal-related non-profit agencies, including:

- Florida Attorney General's Office;
- The 17th Judicial Circuit;
- Broward County Attorney's Office;
- City Attorneys' Offices in Broward Municipalities;
- Legal Aid Services of Broward County and Coast-to-Coast Legal Aid

Discounted Membership in the American Bar Association: New this year, any current member of the BCBA who is not a current member of the American Bar Association can join the ABA for half price. The discounted dues to the ABA will pro-rated only for the first year.

BCBA Lawyer Referral Service: Every year, 3000 cases are referred to participating attorneys through BCBA's Lawyer Referral Service. BCBA has a strong presence in internet search engines. Many clients come to us seeking help online. Our Referral Service is a very inexpensive opportunity to expand your client base and market your practice.

Affordably Priced CLE Seminars: BCBA Section Seminars are VERY REASONABLY PRICED! Usually presented by a panel of judges and attorneys practicing in various areas of the law, the seminars are held at the Norma B. Howard Bar Center and most include lunch for as little as \$15 - \$25. More than thirty legal seminars are planned for the coming year. Seminars that are recorded in audio and video are made available for purchase and are even more deeply discounted. Free live CLE courses are also available.

Free CLE Seminars: BCBA members can freely borrow SURVEY OF FLORIDA LAW, a Florida Bar produced set of CDs that provides 11 hours of continuing education. You can amass more than *thirty free hours* in your reporting period, since The Florida Bar updates the CDs every year. The BCBA occasionally offers free audio recordings of CLE Section Seminars to members,

Small-Solo Practice Networking Opportunities: Six times a year, dinners for Small Solo attorneys are scheduled at Dave & Busters in Hollywood. A companion Small/Solo Lunch program is scheduled in six different restaurant locations in alternating months. No persons other than attorneys (sole practitioners or attorneys in firms of four attorneys or fewer) are invited to speak. With more than one hundred attorneys in this network, your name will be published in a directory designed to be used as a desk reference for attorneys looking for colleagues with specific legal expertise. Several times a year, these lunches are sponsored, allowing members to attend for free.

Mentorship Program: Members are welcome to participate either as Mentors or Mentees in this exciting program designed to advance professionalism and enhance practice skills.

Enhance Your Professional Profile: All BCBA members are provided a free alphabetical listing on the BCBA web site in our 'Meet Our Members' section, plus BCBA provides additional listings every time you join a BCBA Practice Section or Committee. Furthermore, BCBA Members are invited to post comments and articles on the BCBA BLOG, and only members of the BCBA are free to participate in the BCBA's Linked-In Network of local attorneys. Members can also enhance their professional profile by placing an extended personal website directly linked to the BCBA website.

Market Legal Expertise to Potential Clients: In addition to multiple free listings, members of the BCBA are free to post articles about consumer related topics in the People's Law Guide Section of the BCBA website.

Download Free Real Estate Forms: BCBA Members can download Real Estate Forms from the archive on the BCBA Website (pass-word protected). This archive is maintained by the Realtors Association of Greater Fort Lauderdale.

FREE Marketing Management Seminars: Our recent monthly series of seminars on the art and advantages of BLOGGING was free to members, as will be our upcoming six month series on LAW OFFICE MANAGEMENT, to be held in conjunction with the local chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators.

FREE Annual Special Events and Activities: There is no charge for members to attend BCBA's Annual Judicial Robing Ceremony and Annual Holiday Party. Other inexpensive activities include Bowling and Golf Outings. There is an event nearly every month to meet members of the local legal community. Look for announcements for our **Bar-At-The-Bar** social events held in local restaurants. The Young Lawyers Section of the BCBA schedules hosts a monthly lunch at the Tower Club, with guest speakers; last year's list of speakers included Chief Judge Peter Weinstein and Steve Zack, President of the ABA. BCBA members pay the discounted price to attend.

Special Terms for BCBA Members for Access to Clerk's Online Docket: Members of the BCBA can purchase access through BCBA to the online docket of the Broward County Clerk of Courts. Purchase any amount of units - NO MINIMUM REQUIRED - and any unused units will carry over for a full twelve-month period from date of purchase. No month-to-month renewal is required to keep unused units.

New Member Discount for Courthouse Law Library Card: Once a year, the Courthouse Law Library offers discounts to BCBA Members who wish to join the Courthouse Law Library.

Member Rates for Facility Rental - BCBA's Norma B. Howard Bar Center

Need to schedule a Firm Retreat, Mock Trial, Client Meeting or Mediation? The BCBA's Norma B. Howard Center is conveniently located just blocks from the main Courthouse, with free parking, kitchen facilities, wireless connection and audiovisual equipment.

Open Committee Assignments: Members are welcome to join our **Professionalism Committee, Legislative Affairs Committee, Publicity Committee and Pro Bono Committee** that address various issues affecting the practice of law and the delivery of legal services to the public. The BCBA has other very active committees where judges and law firm leaders and experienced attorneys come together address important issues relating to delivery of legal services, improving practice skills and serving the needs of Broward County citizens.

Receive Informative Updates: All members receive our monthly newsletter [The Barrister](#) containing timely articles, Case Law Updates and Legal Marketing advice. Frequent emails are sent advising of important calendar events.

Discounts from BCBA Annual Sponsors: Major companies in the legal services industry have joined the BCBA as Annual Sponsors, offering further benefits to members:

-Boss Real Time Court Reporting: BCBA Members enjoy 10% off regular rates for court reporting services;

-Discounted Life Insurance and Disability Insurance: for Law Firms through Bob Coury, Inc.

-Sabadell Mellon United Bank: 1st 6 Month's "Free" Checking & Complimentary Checks on Law Firm Operating Accounts with Sabadell United Bank.

-Kaufman & Rossin: Free forensic accounting seminars for BCBA members including: *E-DISCOVERY: What is E-Discover; How to Prepare Your Clients for E-discovery Requests; How to Respond to a Request for Production;*

Discounts from Local Vendors: Each year, BCBA mails to members a plastic Membership Card, and the BCBA membership card has its privileges. BCBA Annual Sponsors are law-related companies that offer member discounts, including:

Daily Business Review:

- Discounts on annual subscription to print and electronic versions.

Broward County Bar Members:

PRINT and ONLINE ACCESS for the lowest price available!

\$99 per year.

-Discounts at Courthouse Café: BCBA members receive a 10% discount on any item purchased at Hugh's Tropical Café, located across from the third floor Jury Room at the Main Broward County Courthouse. Just show the cashier your BCBA Membership Card.

<https://www.browardbar.org/memberbenefits/index.html>
to view additional local vendor discounts.