# BROWARD COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION ARREST BAR ASSOCIATION JUNE 2013

Alan S. Fishman incoming President of the BCBA

Also in this issue:

- Florida Wage Laws: Mandatory Direct Deposit...
- Don't Let Your Clients... Without Counsel
- Tales of a Traffic Court Hearing Officer

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#### inside this issue



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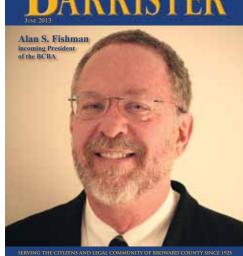
1 Pay Attention to Florida Wage Laws: Mandatory Direct Deposit is Not Worth It.







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# **ANNUAL MEETING & INSTALLATION DINNER**

The Broward County Bar Association will host its Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner on Thursday, June 20, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66. We invite you to join us at the installation ceremonies as Alan S. Fishman is sworn in as our 88th President, along with other Officers and Directors. Also, Marissa Pullano will be sworn in as President of the Young Lawyers Section with Officers and Directors of the YLS.

#### Thursday, June 20, 2013

Hyatt Regency Pier 66 2301 SE 17th Street Causeway • Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 5:30 - Cocktail Reception • 6:30 - Dinner

> \$85 - BCBA Members • \$95 - Non-Members Judiciary - Complimentary to those who are current members of the BCBA

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#### letter from the president

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Deborah FitzGerald

It is with mixed emotions that I write my last President's message. I have been honored to serve as your President this past year. The BCBA is a vibrant voluntary bar association that is doing great things with much more to come. We are determined to be the biggest and best voluntary bar in the State.

Several times during my presidency, I have been asked whether my term has started, whether it has ended, and several members even have commented that they thought I was the president a long time ago. I take these comments to mean that the president has little to do with the

success of the BCBA (certainly not me anyway) but rather it is the dedicated work of the Executive Committee, the Board and its members. I can assure you the BCBA is in capable hands in the coming years under the leadership of incoming President Alan Fishman, President-Elect John Jordan, Treasurer Robin Moselle, and Secretary Charles Morehead.

I am pleased to report to you that the BCBA is strong financially. We have a budget exceeding \$ 750,000. Your entire Board works diligently to ensure we use your dues and other contributions wisely. We have no mortgage. We have a reserve account for unexpected contingencies. Every major expenditure is reviewed critically before approved.

I am so proud and commend the work of our section chairs and members who have taken their time and expertise this year to put on extraordinary CLE programs, including 'lunch and learn' CLE's that are very popular and often sold out. Our programs provide cutting edge information at an affordable price.

In the upcoming year, the BCBA will be hosting a Bench & Bar Convention on October 18, 2013. Please put it on your calendar. The Convention is expected to attract up to 1,000 participants. In the past we hosted this event every 4 years but, ambitiously, are committed to hosting one every 2 years. I encourage you to be part of this signature event as a sponsor, speaker, and attendee. Go to our website for detailed information.

This year also has marked national tragedies, including the Newtown shootings and the Boston bombing. These tragedies remind us of many things, including, and importantly, the rule of law and our roles as lawyers in living out our oath. As Justice Sotomayor once noted, the rule of law is the foundation for all of our basic rights.

I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Installation Dinner on June 20 at Pier 66 as we celebrate our successes as an organization, install our new officers and directors, say goodbye to our outgoing directors and bestow awards for outstanding contributions.

Finally, I want to thank each one of you for your membership in the BCBA. I hope you will continue to be involved. We need you.



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#### letter from the young lawyers' president



"Now it's time to say goodbye to all our company," as the 2012-2013 Young Lawyers Section fiscal year is coming to an end this month. I am so extremely proud of everything YLS has accomplished this year, which came to fruition from the countless amount of hours devoted from our Board of Directors and our community support. I have thoroughly enjoyed the last six years I have been on this board and the friendships I have made along the way. I know that I leave this organization in great hands with incoming president Marissa Pullano. Not only is Marissa genuinely compassionate about helping our community, but she also has the drive to lead this organization in an unprecedented way. I look forward to seeing everything she, as well as the

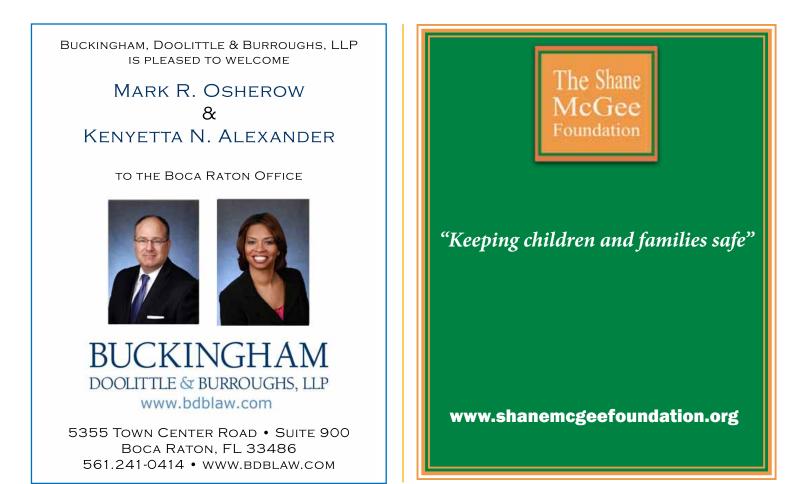
incoming 2013-2014 YLS Board of Directors, have in store for us this upcoming year.

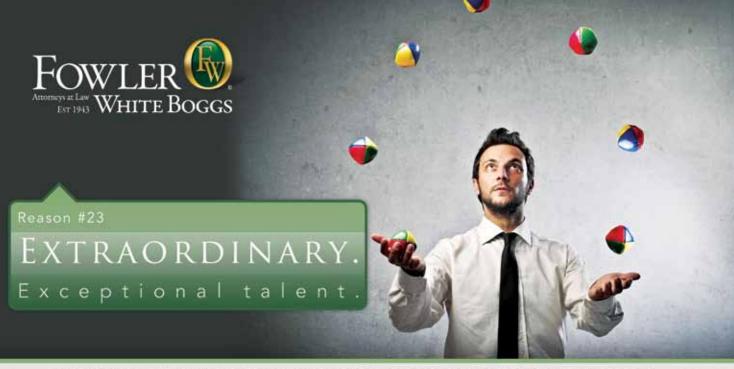
However, this fiscal year is not over yet, and we have a few more wonderful events going on this month, starting with our 10th Annual Family Day on Sunday, June 2nd. YLS will return to Pavilion #5 in T.Y. Park (3300 N. Park Rd, Hollywood, FL) from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for outdoor fun, offering guests delicious food, refreshments, ice cream, outdoor games and access to T.Y.'s Castaway Island Water Park. Family Day is open to all, so please bring your co-workers, family and friends. The cost to attend this event is \$5.00 per child/adult (infants 12 months and under are free). For more information and to RSVP for this event, please contact Family Day Co-Chairperson Jon Stief at jon@haberstief.com.

Thereafter, on Friday, June 14th at 8:30 a.m. in the Broward County Courthouse Law Library, YLS will host its "Breakfast with the Judiciary." This special event is an opportunity for young lawyers to get acquainted with members of our bench in an informal setting outside of the courtroom. This catered breakfast is complimentary to the members of the judiciary and \$25 for all non-judiciary. Space is limited, so please RSVP to Eric Rosen, Esq. at esr@kulaw.com.

Before the close of our fiscal year, the Broward County Bar Association will host its Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner on June 20th from 5:30 to 8:00 PM at Pier 66. Congratulations to the incoming 2013-2014 YLS Executive Board (President - Marissa Pullano; President Elect – Liza Smoker; Treasurer – Tobi Lebowitz; Secretary – Jeffrey Wank) and Board of Directors (Jamie Alman, Lauren Alperstein, Todd Baker, Patrick Douglas, Anthony Quackenbush, Eric Rosen, Sara Sandler, Jon Stief, Lindsay Timari, Cherine Smith Valbrun, Kelly Vogt and Stacy Weissman), who will be installed during this event. The cost to attend the Installation Dinner is \$85 for BCBA Members and \$95 for BCBA Non-Members, and you can RSVP with Traci Lewis at traci@browardbar.org.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your YLS President. I have greatly enjoyed my tenure in office and urge anyone who has questions about joining YLS, sponsorship opportunities and/or future events, to please contact incoming YLS President Marissa Pullano at marissa.pullano@brinkleymorgan.com.





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# **Alan S. Fishman To Be Installed as BCBA President**

By Braulio Rosa

On June 20, 2013, the Broward County Bar Association will install Alan S. Fishman as its new President at the Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner, which will be held at Pier 66, 2301 SE 17th Street Causeway, Fort Lauderdale. Mr. Fishman was born in Columbus. Ohio and attended George Washington University for his undergraduate studies. He graduated from The Ohio State University Law School in 1977 and was admitted to the Ohio Bar. Later the same year, he



moved to Florida, and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1978. He and Rhonda, his lovely wife of 16 years, raised their four children in Coral Springs. Rhonda, in addition to managing his law practice, is a busy real estate agent.

Mr. Fishman practices law in the following areas: criminal, family, and general civil. For most of his career, he has been a sole practitioner or has been part of small firms of two to three attorneys. This fact has perhaps served as the impetus for Mr. Fishman's commitment and participation in the Broward County Bar Association's (BCBA) Small-Solo Practice Section for the last ten years. Mr. Fishman has served on the BCBA Board for the last 8 years. He also served as the President of the North Broward Bar Association.

When asked what will define his presidency, Mr. Fishman said, "Our focus will be on answering the question: 'Why should I be a member of the BCBA?'" Mr. Fishman understands that the primary purpose of the BCBA is to serve its members. With that said, Mr. Fishman will focus his energies on ensuring that members are provided the services that they deserve. Some of his primary goals are as follows: Т

- Practice Sections will continue to be a big focus, as they serve as the backbone of the BCBA.
- □ Relevant seminars will continue to be offered
- Each Practice Section will provide at least one case law update
- Each Section will hold at least one forum with the administrative judge of its division
- Every effort will be made to improve members' access to the appropriate person at the Clerk's Office to deal with special situations.
- Continue to strengthen the connections between the BCBA and the local law schools.
- Bring the BCBA to the members by holding more events away from downtown: both social and substantive.
- Facilitate our responsibility to provide Pro Bono service by strengthening the relationship between Legal Aid and the BCBA
- Launch a committee to explore the concept of building a new Bar Center with useful facilities for our members; a place where they can have mediations, depositions, and client meetings before and during court breaks.

The upcoming year promises to be active and positive for the BCBA. Please join us at the Installation Dinner to partake in the wonderful meal and festivities, and don't forget to say hello to Alan. See you there!

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The NSU Law Center also congratulates the other members of The Florida Bar who are celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



# Pay Attention to Florida Wage Laws: Mandatory Direct Deposit is Not Worth It.

The form in which an employer pays its employees is generally the least of its payroll concerns, but Florida law imposes specific requirements on how employees are paid. Employers can pay their employees' via several methods, including orders, checks, drafts, notes, memorandums, payroll debit cards, or other acknowledgments of indebtedness, but regardless of the form of payment, it must be:

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- (i) negotiable and payable in cash, on demand,
- (ii) without discount,
- (iii)at some established place of business in the state,
- (iv) the name of which must appear on the instrument or in the payroll debit card issuing materials, and
- (v) at the time of issuance, and for at least thirty (30) days thereafter, the maker or drawer must have sufficient funds or credit for its payment.

Fla. Stat. § 532.01. If an employer fails to comply with any of the above requirements and this failure results in a reduction of an employee's rightful wages, then the employer may face exposure to liability for violating state and federal wage laws. By: Catalina M. Avalos Edited by: Megan L. Janes

Payment by direct deposit is admittedly convenient and cost-effective, but utility does not trump an employee's rights. Under Florida Statute § 532.04, an employer can pay its employees via direct deposit only if the direct deposit has been authorized in writing by the employee and if the employee has designated in writing the financial institution of his or her choice in which such deposit is to be made. Not only must an employer have consent, but it cannot "terminate the employment of any employee or payee solely for refusing to authorize such direct deposit of wages or salary."

Accordingly, you cannot "require" an employee to receive payment of his or her wages via direct deposit as a condition of employment. Because the statute requires "consent," it makes sense that for the consent to be valid, it cannot be a condition of employment. If it were, the voluntariness of that consent would necessarily be undermined. Moreover, it frustrates theories of statutory construction to argue that an employer can require direct deposit as a condition of employment. If this were the case, the statute would not call for "consent," but rather for the

employer to give notice to its prospective employees that direct deposit is the employer's sole method of payment. Finally, the statute also provides for attorneys' fees in favor of the employee for any violation, so employers should avoid compulsory direct deposit.

In conclusion, you can certainly offer direct deposit, but **you cannot require it** or retaliate against an employee for failing to elect or consent to receive payment by direct deposit. Given an employer's recourse to alternative methods of paying its employees, the conservative approach is to present the employee with the "option" to be paid via direct deposit, but to remain flexible in the event the employee does not elect or consent to payment by direct deposit.



Catalina M. Avalos is a partner at the law firm of Tripp Scott, P.A. and focuses her practice in the area of employment and commercial litigation. She may be contacted at 954 760-4912 or by e-mail at cma@ trippscott.com.

#### St. Thomas More Society of South Florida

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## 24th Annual Red Mass, Reception & Dinner

Monday, June 17, 2013

Red Mass Celebrated by Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski & other Priests 5:30 P.M.

St. Anthony Catholic Church 901 N.E. 2nd Street Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

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The Archbishop Edward McCarthy annual award will be presented at the dinner to James E Zloch, Esq.

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#### Social Scene

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1: (1 to r): Board Member and Criminal Law Section Co-Chair Jeff Harris with Professor Emeritus Charles Ehrhardt of Florida State University and Board Member and Criminal Law Section Co-Chair Ken Hassett at the CLE on Civil and Criminal Evidence which was given by Professor Ehrhardt. Over 500 people attended the event, which was presented by the BCBA's Criminal Law Section.

2: The BCBA hosted a successful Raising the Bar Family Law event with over 220 people attending. The event was presented by our Family Law Section. (I to r): Judge Timothy Baily, YLS Board Member and Family Law Co-Chair Lauren Alperstein, Judge Arthur Birken, Judge Renee Goldenberg, Judge Merrilee Ehrlich, Chief Judge Peter Weinstein, Judge Laura Watson, Judge Dale Cohen, and YLS Secretary and Family Law Co-Chair Lindsay Corcoran.

3: The BCBA hosted a successful Law Day Luncheon on May 3. W. George Allen (6th from the left) was the keynote speaker. Along with Mr. Allen are members of the BCBA Board of Directors. (I to r) Board Member Jay Kim, Board Member Anita Paoli, Secretary Robin Moselle, Past President Jordana Goldstein, Treasurer John Jordan, President Deborah FitzGerald, Law Day Chairperson Angel Petti Rosenberg, and President Elect Alan Fishman.

4: Judge Ilona Holmes, Brent Trapana, and Gordon James III.

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#### Social Scene



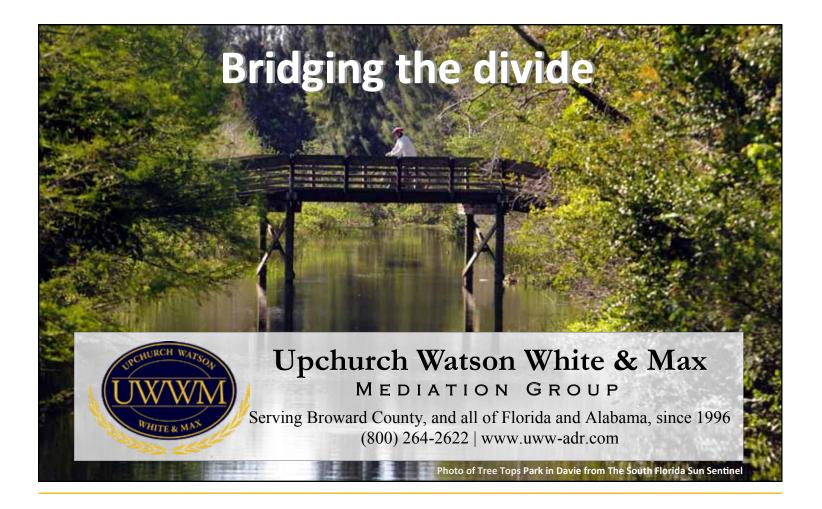
1: (l to r) Judge Ellen Feld, Andrea Kessler, and Judge Eileen O'Connor.

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2: (I to r) Greg Ward, incoming YLS Board Member Tony Quackenbush, and Legal Aid/Coast to Coast Chairperson Morrie Levine.

3: First place winner in the high school category of the BCBA Law Day Essay Contest, Alecsa Pereira, a 9th grader from Cypress Bay High School along with YLS Board Member and Essay Contest Chairperson Sara Sandler

4: YLS Judicial Recption; the YLS Board of Directors with Chief Judge Peter Weinstein, 4th from the right: (1 to r)Board Member Jon Stief, Treasurer Liza Smoker, Board Member Todd Baker, President Elect Marissa Pullano, Board Member Jeff Wank, President Meghan Clary, Board Member Tobi Lebowitz, and Board Member Stacy Weissman.







Jose Javier Rodriguez

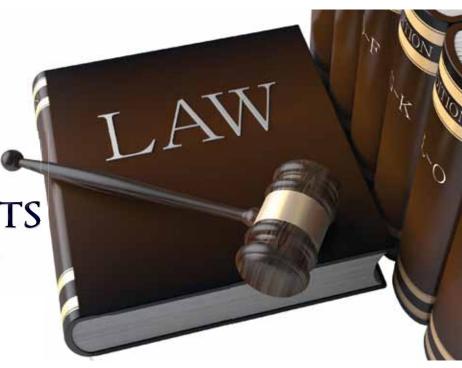


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# Recent Developments in the Law



#### By Nancy Little Hoffman

Supreme Court Expands Use of Magistrates in Foreclosure Cases

Citing the limited availability of judicial resources to address the residential mortgage foreclosure case backlog, the Supreme Court has amended Rule 1.490 by loosening the requirements for appointing general magistrates in such cases, and by authorizing referral to those magistrates "based on implied consent of the parties," while providing an opportunity for objection by the parties. In re: Amendments to Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.490, 38 Fla. L. Weekly S311 (Fla. May 9, 2013).

#### "Testimonial Discrepancy" Insufficient to Warrant Dismissal for Fraud on Court if No Clear and Convincing Evidence of Scheme by Plaintiff

The Fifth District reversed the dismissal of a personal injury case where, although the plaintiff changed her testimony from one deposition to the next, there was no clear and convincing evidence that she had engaged in any scheme calculated to interfere with the integrity of the judicial system. The court reiterated that dismissal should be employed only "upon the most blatant showing of fraud, pretense, collusion or other wrongdoing." Gautreaux v. Maya, 38 Fla. L. Weekly D1041 (Fla. 5th DCA May 10, 2013).

#### New Trial Order Must be Limited to Issues Raised in Motion

An injured motorist sought a new trial based on the inadequacy of the verdict as to past and future medical expenses, lost wages, and future pain and suffering. The trial court found it had erred in allowing a defense doctor to testify as to what he would have charged for the plaintiff's surgery, and in refusing to allow the plaintiff to explain why she had not sought treatment for one of her injuries. It also noted the unrebutted evidence of her need for future treatment. However, the court ordered a new trial on all damages, including the unchallenged verdicts on past pain and suffering and permanency. The Second District reversed and directed that the new trial be limited to the damages contested in the motion. Rolon v. Fyock, 38 Fla. L. Weekly D969 (Fla. 2d DCA May 1, 2013).

#### "Virtual Certainty" Standard for Employer's Tort Immunity Improperly Applied to Action Against Fellow Employee

The Fourth District affirmed summary judgment for the decedent's employer in a wrongful death action because the

evidence failed to support the elements for proving that the employer engaged in conduct "virtually certain" to result in injury or death to the employee. It reversed summary judgment for the decedent's fellow employee, however, because the trial court failed to address the different standard provided by section 440.11(1) in such cases, namely that the employee acted with willful and wanton disregard or with gross negligence. Reversal was required because the evidence raised material issues of fact on the claim or gross negligence of the fellow employee. Boston v. Publix Super Markets, Inc., 38 Fla. L. Weekly D959 (Fla. 4th DCA May 1, 2013). B



Nancy Little Hoffmann is a Board-Certified Appellate Lawyer practicing in the Fort Lauderdale area since 1974. She may be contacted at 954-771-0606 or by e-mail at NLHappeals@aol.com. For more information, see NancyLittleHoffmann. com.

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"If your client is innocent, why won't he speak to us?"

"I'm sorry Jon, I know I should not have talked to the FBI, but I really didn't say all that much....How long?....Oh, I don't know, maybe four hours."

Real people, real conversations, real consequences. So how can you keep this from happening and why must you counsel your clients not to speak to agents or investigators without consulting with an attorney first? The answer to the "why" question is actually the solution to the "how" problem. If you can explain to your clients why even innocent people should not speak to the authorities without consulting counsel first, you may be able to convince them to follow your advice.

First, the Supreme Court itself has recognized that the right to remain silent protects the innocent as well as the guilty. In Ullman v. United States, Justice Frankfurter wrote, "[T]oo many, even those who should be better advised, view this privilege as a shelter for wrongdoers. They too readily assume that those who invoke it are either guilty of crime or commit perjury in claiming the privilege." In fact, as Justice Clark later pointed out, "[T]he privilege serves to protect the innocent who otherwise might be ensnared by ambiguous circumstances."

Martha Stewart is the perfect example of how an innocent person can go to jail by speaking to the authorities. Martha Stewart was suspected of insider trading. However, in actual fact she committed no such crime (or at least not one that the government could prove). During the course of the government's investigation, she

agreed to speak to the prosecutors. Thereafter, Ms. Stewart, who had been a stockbroker long before she became a media mogul, spoke to the prosecutors and told a fib. The rest is history. She was indicted for making a false statement and sent to prison for three months. Why did she lie? Maybe because she thought she had broken the law and was afraid that a truthful answer could hurt her. Or, maybe because she panicked and was afraid the inquiry would lead to evidence of a different crime. Even the most sophisticated businessperson can be undone by questions from an experienced prosecutor. But lie she did.

There are many situations where defense counsel will agree to permit a client to be interviewed by the authorities. Such decisions are never taken lightly and should only be made after a thorough investigation and a discussion of the risks and benefits of such an interview. Moreover, as demonstrated in the Martha Stewart case, counsel can only warn their clients of the consequences of lying. A client that thinks he or she can fool a federal prosecutor and his agents is in for a very rude surprise. Moreover, in Ms. Stewart's case, her attorneys were present and there was no dispute about what she said. But that is the exception. Most encounters with law enforcement happen at a person's home or office and they are never recorded. This creates huge problems for defense counsel and great opportunities for the state.

Explain to your client that an agent's worldview is shaped by repeated encounters with criminals. Some agents approach every interview with a preexisting notion that a suspect must be guilty. Even if she is acting in good faith, human beings are not recording devices. The agent may misunderstand an answer to a question or 18 months later have to figure out what she wrote on her report in handwriting she can barely decipher.

Finally, you need to explain to your clients that no matter how friendly a government agent seems, she is not vour client's friend. She has a job to do and will bury your client if need be. Also, no matter how threatening an agent seems, insisting on speaking with counsel will not make any situation worse. If the client did something wrong, there is no way he can talk himself out of the problem and if the client did nothing wrong there are about a million ways speaking to the authorities can get the client in hot water. Bottom line: The best way to stay out of trouble is to keep your mouth shut and get good counsel.



Jon May is a partner in the Roetzel and Andress Business Litigation Practice Group where he focuses on complex white collar litigation and regulatory matters. He may be contacted at 954.759.2737 or by email at jmay@ralaw.com. For more information see www.ralaw.com.

# **Tales of a Traffic Court Hearing Officer**

Although I have only been a Broward County Traffic Hearing Officer/ Magistrate (THO) for less than two years, I think I have already heard every excuse imaginable from certain lawyers and those representing themselves in traffic court. In Florida, a THO has the power to accept pleas from defendants, hear and rule upon

motions, decide the guilt or innocence of any person charged with a civil traffic infraction, and adjudicate or withhold adjudication in the same manner as a county court judge applicable under statutes and the Traffic Court Rules of Procedure. Unlike other Magistrates that make recommendation that are reviewed and ratified by the Judges they assist, THOs are Article V Constitutional Officers, meaning

their rulings are final when rendered. The majority of people who receive one of the 40,000 plus traffic tickets issued monthly in Broward County choose to enter the court system; and do not use the administrative choices provided by the clerk's office. Most defendants resolve their cases at the Pre-trial session by pleading no contest. Less than 3% of defendants maintain their not guilty pleas and proceed to trial, according to Brenda Di Ioia, Chief Traffic MagBy Russell Thompson

istrate/Hearing Officer for Broward County.

Most defendants choose trial because they just want a chance to tell their story. However, those who choose to represent themselves show up with little understanding of the charge, the law or court procedure. As a result, listening to defendants at little time to "explain" is a necessary part of that process.

Some defendant's strategic defenses are to hope that the officer will not show or will not be prepared. Others will become frightened by the prospect of having to argue their case before the court and at the last minute will decide to change their plea



trial sounds more like a therapy sessions than a legal proceeding. We are trained to allow defendants the time to tell their side of the story. I make a conscious effort in every case I hear to allow this. Traffic court is for many of the thousands of defendants we see on a monthly basis the only contact they ever have with the judicial system. Therefore, as a representative of that system, it's important that THOs make it a fair and impartial experience. Giving a defendant a to "no contest." The remaining defendants tend to be the most passionate about their cases. Sometimes they get emotional. A few get defiant. Most are still angry over receiving the ticket. But we listen to them all with the same focus on applying the law to the facts presented.

Surprisingly, the most common mistake made by those representing themselves in traffic court is admitting guilt! Many people concede to

driving over the speed limit, if only "by a couple of miles per hour." However, they always deny going as fast as the police officer said they were going. Unfortunately, exceeding the speed limit by any amount is illegal. Therefore, what the defendant believes is a winning error by the officer is actually an admission which results in a guilty verdict.

Another common mistake is confusing an excuse with a legal defense. The best excuses I have heard are: "my car can't go that fast;" "my speedometer wasn't working;" "I had to get to a bathroom quick;" "I was just keeping up with the flow of traffic;" or "everybody was speeding and the cop only stopped me." These are not very persuasive arguments! They are also not legal defenses. However, a THO may consider them as mitigating factors and take them into consideration when determining a penalty.

Although this article is not intended to be a review of traffic law, there are dozens of actual legal defenses to traffic tickets. For example, with a speeding ticket, if an electronic or mechanical speed measuring device was used by the citing officer (radar, laser, etc.), "the <u>type of device</u> and the <u>manufacturer's serial number</u> **must** be included in the body of the citation." See Rule 6.445 of the Florida Rules of Traffic Court (2013). If both are not listed, the ticket is subject to dismissal. The State of Florida, through testimony of a police officer, just like in other cases must prove every element of the traffic offense beyond a reasonable doubt. See Fla. Stat. §318.14(6). The basis for nearly every traffic prosecution lies primarily on the police officer's testimony as to the details of the infraction and the stop. The more one can establish that the officer doesn't remember where, why, and how the violation occurred, the more doubt one can raise as to the accuracy of the officer's testimony, and the more likely the THO may find a reasonable doubt. Which ultimately is good advice for any person who is stopped for a traffic violation; do not make yourself memorable! Officers stop lots of people. Those who are disrespectful, get out of the car and walk toward the officer, decide to reach for their concealed weapon to put it on the seat before the officer approaches them, or nearly run over the officer's foot when driving off are sure to make the officer write lots of notes and recall the details of the incident with uncanny clarity at the time of trial. L

Just as in other areas of the law, to be successful at trial in traffic court you must come prepared; armed with an understanding of the charge, the law and knowledge of the facts. If you are not going to put the work into preparing your defense and still want a positive outcome a good traffic ticket defense lawyer is not a bad idea either.

# Congratulations to Russell M. Thompson!

Broward Lawyers Care (BLC) would like to announce Russell M. Thompson as the Attorney of the Month for May, 2013. Mr. Thompson, originally from New Jersey, graduated from the University of Miami Law School and has been practicing for almost thirty years. Today, he focuses his efforts on recovering damages for anyone injured or killed through the negligence of others.

Aside from his private practice, Mr. Thompson has served the legal profession and the community throughout the years, pledging countless hours for the underprivileged. He has taken on 16 pro bono cases since he began volunteer-



ing with BLC.

Currently, Mr. Thompson is handling cases involving veterans' discharge upgrades, family law issues, as well as serving as a voluntary attorney ad litem for the Tracey McPharlin Pro Bono Dependency Project.

Russell Thompson is an indispensable asset to our community, dedicating a considerable amount of time and energy to help those less fortunate in the Mission United Veterans Project, the Tracey McPharlin Pro Bono Dependency Project, and BLC cases. Broward Lawyers Care is privileged to have attorneys like Mr. Thompson who not only commit to provide exemplary representation but also to achieve equal justice for all.

To get involved with BLC and to take cases, visit www.legalaid.org/broward/broward-pro-bono-project.

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## June

2 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm YLS 10th Annual Family Day Description: Bring you family, friends and co-workers to this outdoor catered event. \$5.00 per person (12 months and under free). Castaway Island water access provided Venue: T.Y. Park, Pavilion 5 Address: 3300 N. Park Rd, Hollywood, Contact: RSVP to Jon Stief at jon@ haberstief.com

#### 6 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Construction Section CLE Luncheon "Florida Statute 489"

Venue: Broward County Bar Association Address: 1051 SE 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale Contact: Gavin Caddy at 954-620-5000 or gcaddy@theconstructionlawyers.com

# 6 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm B'Nai Brith Justice Unit Happy Hour Description: One Free Drink to Members Appetizers will be provided Venue: American Social Address: 721 E. Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale Contact: Jared Brown at JBrown@ sao17.state.fl.us

#### 7 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Mentor/Mentee Breakfast Description: Speaker: Judge Birken Topic: Judicial Pet Peeves: What not to do Venue: BCBA Address: 1051 SE 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale Contact: Braulio Rosa at braulio@ browardbar.org Register For Event: http://www. browardbar.org/calendar

#### 14 8:30 am

YLS Breakfast with Judiciary Description: Catered breakfast for young lawyers and the judiciary; \$25.00 per person (complimentary to judiciary) Venue: Broward County Courthouse Law Library Contact: RSVP to Eric Rosen at esr@

kulaw.com

#### 14 10:30 a.m.

Description: FREE Westlaw Next Training Venue: Broward County Law Library 1st Floor, North Wing, Main Courthouse 1 FREE CLE CREDIT Contact: (954) 831-6226

#### **18 Bench-Bar Committee Meeting** Venue: BCBA Office Address: 1051 SE 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale Contact: Traci Lewis at 954-832-3618 or traci@browardbar.org

#### 20 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

BCBA Annual Installation Dinner Description: \$85 BCBA Members, \$95 Non-Members, Judiciary: N/C to those that are current BCBA Members, Free Valet & Self Parking Meal Choice: Beef, chicken, fish, vegetarian Venue: Pier 66 Address: 2301 SE 17th Street

Causeway, Fort Lauderdale Contact: Traci Lewis (954)832-3618 or traci@browardbar.org Register For Event: http://www.

browardbar.org/calendar

#### calendar of events

26 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm "Meet the 17th Circuit Probate Staff Attorneys" CLE Luncheon Description: Speakers: Elizabeth Robbert and Corey King \$15 BCBA Members \$25 Non-Members Includes Lunch and CLE Venue: BCBA Conference Center Address: 1051 SE 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale Contact: Traci Lewis at (954)832-3618 or traci@browardbar.org Register For Event: http://www. browardbar.org/calendar

#### **27** 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

West Broward Section Luncheon with Judge Mark Speiser Description: \$25 \$30 at the door Venue: Plantation Preserve Golf Course Address: 7050 W. Broward Boulevard, Plantation Contact: Traci Lewis at (954)832-3618 or traci@browardbar.org

