Upcoming Events:

January 22, 2015
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Standing Committee on Professionalism Meeting
Hilton Lake Buena Vista

January 29-30, 2015
Leadership Academy Joint Meeting
Tallahassee

February 2, 2015
Circuit Professionalism Committee Reports Deadline
Tallahassee
William M. Hoeveler Judicial Professionalism Award Nomination Deadline
Tallahassee

February 5, 2015
Practicing with Professionalism Orlando

February 13, 2015
Practicing with Professionalism West Palm Beach

February 16, 2015
Group Professionalism Award Nomination Deadline
Tallahassee
Law Faculty/Administrator Professionalism Award Nomination Deadline
Tallahassee
March 2, 2015
Annual Law School Reports Deadline
Tallahassee
Law Student Professionalism YouTube Contest Deadline
Tallahassee

March 5, 2015
Practicing with Professionalism Jacksonville

Director’s Report

Happy New Year!

By Linda Calvert Hanson,
Director of Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism

During this season of reflection and fresh beginnings, the Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism welcomes the opportunity to share information about this winter’s activities and to detail several projects on the horizon.

Center Presentations and Curriculum: Assistant Director, Jacina Haston, and I delivered numerous presentations throughout the fall. I presented our new “Professionalism: An Expectation in Florida,” as an in-service workshop to The Florida Bar Tampa branch lawyer regulation attorneys in September and again in October to the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Judges in West Palm Beach as well as several offerings of our 90-minute professionalism segment at the YLD’s new lawyer program, “Practicing with Professionalism,” in Tampa, West Palm Beach, and Jacksonville. In addition, I was interviewed and recorded as part of the YLD’s, “Mentoring with the Masters” series in November on several topics that included, “Attorney Conduct that Results in Grievances,” “Professionalism Expectations,” “Professionalism and Social Media,” and “Getting Involved.”

Jacina and I co-taught a four-hour interactive professionalism workshop as part of The Florida Bar discipline and diversion program in Tallahassee in September, with support from Judge Jonathan Sjostrom. The following day, Jacina spoke at the Ethics School Workshop on professionalism and she delivered “Professionalism in the New Digital Age” as part of the General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Section’s, Ethics Update CLE, and “Professionalism is an Expectation” at the Second Judicial Circuit’s Afternoon at the Courthouse in October.

In addition, the Center continues to be heavily involved in revising and developing new curriculum for the Wm. Reece Smith Jr., Leadership Academy and we delivered two presentations to the new class. Moreover, the Center organizes the agenda for each of the six Academy meetings and coordinates speakers arrangements including preparing and sending the speaker modules complete with instructions and supplemental materials.

continued...
The Standing Committee on Professionalism (SCOP) convened on October 16, 2014 in Tampa, under the leadership of Chair Michael L. Schneider. Previously all SCOP members had the opportunity to review the “Best Practices for Effective Electronic Communications” (E-Guide) and “Professionalism Expectations” and to suggest changes, many that were implemented by the Standards Working Group. At the Tampa meeting, SCOP members voted unanimously to adopt both the E-Guide and “Professionalism Expectations.” These documents now have been provided to The Florida Bar’s Program Evaluation Committee of the Board of Governors for its review. In addition, time was allotted at the Tampa meeting for the working groups to meet, and this time was followed by status reports provided by the highly active groups.

Awards Working Group, chaired by Donise Brown, has been actively promoting the three SCOP professionalism awards: William M. Hoeveler Judicial Professionalism Award, Law Faculty Professionalism Award, and the Group Professionalism Award. This group formulated various ideas to encourage nominations for the awards that included sending letters to each of the voluntary bar associations and sending each judicial circuits’ chief judge information. Additionally, an article promoting the awards programs appeared in the voluntary bar associations’ newsletter and in the Young Lawyers Division newsletter as well. Once all nominations are received, this group will review submissions and make recipient recommendations to the entire SCOP.

Circuit Professionalism Working Group, chaired by Carrie Roane, completed their first project to collect information regarding the local professionalism panels from each circuit. The next project is to collect the Circuit Professionalism Reports due February 2, 2015. Towards that end, the group sent letters to the chief judges of each circuit reminding them of the upcoming deadline.

Education and Resource Working Group is chaired by Judge Francis Perrone. After completing the task of producing a one-page public information document regarding the availability of the local professionalism panels, this group has shifted its focus to creating and providing vignettes, hypotheticals, and scenarios to the Center to use for future presentations, seminars, and workshops.

Publicity & Communications Working Group, chaired by Richard Lawson, has been seeking potential articles and cases pertaining to professionalism and civility, which can be used in the Center’s newsletter and shared with the joint clearinghouse of FIU College of Law Library and the Center.

Young Lawyers Working Group, chaired by Rachael Greenstein, teamed with the Law Student Division of the Young Lawyers Division to deliver SCOP’s highly successful “Balancing Life and Law” panel program at each of the 12 law schools in Florida this fall. Plans are underway for this group to launch two new pilot programs, “The Winning Edge” and the “Law Student Professionalism YouTube Contest” in the law schools this spring. “The Winning Edge” will be a PowerPoint presentation delivered by a panel of speakers that will focus on how law students can cultivate their professional identity, build professional relations and a network, and soundly use social media, all to exude “The Winning Edge” to set themselves apart as new professionals. The “Law Student Professionalism YouTube Contest” will enable law students to craft and record a skit portraying legal professionalism expectations that can be used as a training instrument by the Center.

Standards Working Group, chaired by Caroline Johnson Levine, completed its charge from President Gregory W. Coleman to review all existing professionalism ideals, goals, and guidelines before developing a uniform set of professionalism goals to include electronic communications for statewide distribution that references portions of the E-guide.

We look forward to seeing all SCOP members at the upcoming meeting on January 22, 2015 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Hilton Lake Buena Vista.
In Memory

David A. Hallman 1957-2014


To some, these three words simply represent the three core values of the U.S. Navy, but to David Hallman, a former naval officer, they were a way of life. The first of his family to graduate college, Hallman believed the most important value an attorney could possess was honor. Hallman wrote an article that appeared in the Winter 2013 edition of The Professional in which he relayed stories from his early years in private practice. He recalled that he learned success as a lawyer was not about the number of wins and losses but rather how difficult situations, cases, and opposing attorneys are dealt with that defines us.

Courage is the ability to do something that you know is difficult or dangerous. As attorneys, we know that often times the job can be very difficult. Hallman knew that too, but he never gave up on a fight. Through private practice, his work at the Department of Transportation, and as County Attorney for Walton and Nassau Counties, Hallman attacked every problem head-on. He never backed down. This relentless effort is, no doubt, why he was recognized in 2009 for his work on the Gulf Oil Spill Statewide Legal Task Force and in 2011 with The Presidential Appreciation Award for service to the Florida Association of County Attorneys.

Hallman displayed his commitment to many causes through his involvement in the Robert M. Foster Inn of Court, the Jacksonville Bar Association, the Nassau County Bar Association, the Northeast Florida Community Hospice, and The Florida Bar’s Standing Committee on Professionalism (SCOP), which he served on for eight years. As SCOP Chair in 2013, Hallman was active with the Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism to oversee many projects that are still ongoing today. As an example of his advocacy for professionalism, he created and included a civility tag that read, “Practicing law with civility is no longer just an option; in Florida, it is mandatory” on all of his email correspondences.

David Hallman will undoubtedly be missed by those both in and out of the legal community. However, instead of mourning his loss, strive to honor his legacy by following in his footsteps. Be honorable. Be courageous. Be committed.

“While there are many definitions of professionalism and an unlimited number of circumstances in which the opportunity for display of professionalism can face an attorney, it seems to this writer that at its essence, professionalism is about honor.”

David A. Hallman, The Professional Winter 2013

Historical Video Series

For groups looking to boost membership and provide members an excellent opportunity to interact while gaining CLE credits, the Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism has the solution. The Center offers more than 30 Historical Video Series (HVS) interviews, including Justice Barbara Pariente discussing changes she has seen in the practice of law during the course of her career, and U.S. District Court Judge Alan S. Gold discussing the importance of the daily practice of mindfulness and the significance of professionalism in the legal community, and U.S. District Court Judge Paul C. Huck sharing the importance of mentoring. The Historical Video Series covers a range of topics and is approved for one half to one hour of Professionalism CLE. Voluntary bar associations can couple the video with a brown bag lunch and discussion as a great way to gain CLE credits. A full listing of videos and ordering instructions can be found on the Center’s website at www.floridabar.org/professionalism.
The Florida Bar’s Options for Judges

Judges see both the best, and unfortunately, the worst conduct of lawyers in their courtrooms. Canon 3D(2) of the Code of Judicial Conduct states, “A judge who receives information or has actual knowledge that substantial likelihood exists that a lawyer has committed a violation of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar shall take appropriate action.” What is the next step after a judge determines that “appropriate action” means referring the matter to The Florida Bar? Under the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar and Standing Board Policy, judges have options.

A judge may fill out the complaint form which is available on the Bar’s website, and mail it to The Florida Bar’s Attorney Consumer Assistance Program (ACAP) in Tallahassee just as any other complainant would do. A complainant receives a copy of the attorney’s response to the allegations lodged in the complaint and is afforded the opportunity to file a rebuttal. Complainants are kept informed throughout the Bar’s investigation.

If the judge does not have a desire to be the named complainant, another option is that the judge or the clerk of court or circuit court administrator may simply write a letter or submit an order or transcript depicting the events giving rise to the complaint to The Florida Bar’s ACAP department. Once ACAP receives the judge’s submission, the judge will receive a call from Shanell Schuyler, Director of ACAP, to confirm that the judge prefers The Florida Bar to be named as the complainant and to inquire whether the judge desires to be kept informed of the progress of the Bar’s investigation. Often, judges prefer to be notified of only the outcome of the investigations, while other circumstances draw a judge to take a more active role in the proceedings. Regardless of whether the judge’s name appears as the complainant or The Florida Bar is named, the judge may elect to receive a copy of the attorney’s response and submit additional information to the Bar in order to further the investigation.

The judge will always be informed of the name and contact information of the Bar Counsel investigating the matter and may check the status of the investigation at any time. For further information, please contact Ms. Schuyler at (866) 549-8980 X 7.

Developing a Mentoring Program?

The Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism has created a Mentoring Toolbox containing all the essentials to make your mentoring program a success. This Toolbox consists of a mentoring handbook, resource guide, PowerPoint presentation, and all necessary training materials.

If your organization is interested, please contact the Center to obtain the Mentoring Toolbox at cfp@floridabar.org.
Now Accepting Nominations for Professionalism Awards

The Florida Bar’s Standing Committee on Professionalism is now accepting nominations for its William M. Hoeveler Judicial Professionalism Award, Group Professionalism Award, and Law Faculty/Administrator Professionalism Award.

The Hoeveler Judicial Professionalism Award is for either a state or federal judge “who best exemplifies strength of character, service, and competence as a jurist, lawyer, and public servant. Nominees should be judges who have communicated their pledge to the ideals of justice and diligence in inspiring others to the mission of professionalism.”

The Group Professionalism Award recognizes one bar association, judicial organization, Inn of Court, or law school organization that has created an innovative program that can be implemented by other organizations to promote and encourage professionalism within the legal community. Entries are judged on quality, ease of replication by another group, the number of lawyers participating or impacted, the likelihood program will continue, and overall program success. A $500 cash award is provided.

The Law Faculty/Administrator Professionalism Award honors a faculty member or administrator of one of Florida’s 12 law schools, who through teaching, scholarship, and service to the profession best supports or exemplifies the mission of the Standing Committee on Professionalism: “To promote the fundamental ideals and values of professionalism within the legal system and to instill those ideals of character, competence, civility, and commitment in all those persons serving and seeking to serve therein.”

Nomination forms can be found on the Center’s website at www.floridalabar.org/professionalism, under the “Awards” section. The deadline for nominations and all supporting documents for the William M. Hoeveler Judicial Professionalism Award is February 2, 2015. The deadline for complete nomination packets for the Group Professionalism Award and Law Faculty/Administrator Professionalism Award is February 16, 2015.

Nominations for the awards may be mailed to the Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism, The Florida Bar, 651 East Jefferson Street, Tallahassee 32399-2300 or e-mailed to cfp@flabar.org. Questions regarding the awards may be directed to Jacina Haston, Assistant Director for the Center for Professionalism, e-mail JHaston@flabar.org or by phone at (850) 561-5747.

Award recipients will receive recognition and their award at The Florida Bar Annual Convention this June in Boca Raton.

The Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism is now accepting submissions for the upcoming edition of the legal publication The Professional. If you or any legal organization you are a member of would like to submit an article for consideration please email your submissions to jhaston@flabar.org with “article submission” in the subject line. The articles should pertain to issues of professionalism and be inspirational and/or motivational in content. Please use Microsoft Word and limit submissions to no more than 800 words (12 point font, double spaced).
The Florida Bar’s Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism and the Standing Committee on Professionalism Presents:

THE 2015 LAW STUDENT PROFESSIONALISM YOUTUBE CONTEST

All law students and student organizations are encouraged to participate individually or in groups. The skit must pertain to legal professionalism expectations in Florida, incorporating the Ideals and Goals of Professionalism, Guidelines for Professional Conduct, and/or the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. Entries should be 2 to 4 minutes in length and must be submitted with an approval letter from law school administration. The winning submission will be posted on the Center for Professionalism’s website.

All entries become property of The Florida Bar and are subject to use in CLE programs.

Full details at floridabar.org/professionalism, under “Awards and Contests.”
# Professionalism Awards

Given by Bar Sections and Associations, and Judicial Circuits

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<tr>
<th>Sponsoring Organization</th>
<th>Name of the Award</th>
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<td><strong>The Florida Bar Sections</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Real Property, Probate &amp; Trust Law Section of The Florida Bar</td>
<td>● William S. Belcher Lifetime Professionalism Award</td>
<td>● Presented to RPPTL Executive Council member in recognition of their lifetime contributions to the Section, Executive Council, Florida attorneys, and the public in promoting the highest standards of ethics and professionalism.</td>
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<td>Family Law Section</td>
<td>● Hon. Raymond McNeal Professionalism Award</td>
<td>● Executive Council member that displays above and beyond professionalism.</td>
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<td><strong>Judicial Circuits</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>First Judicial Circuit</td>
<td>● First Judicial Circuit Professionalism Recognition Award or also known as the “Random Acts of Professionalism” Recognition Award</td>
<td>● Nominees need to be lawyers in the community who by their words and deeds have exemplified the standards of professionalism this committee is trying to promote and recognize. Nominees for the award are considered based upon their “pursuit and practice of the highest ideals and tenets of the legal profession, “as embraced in the Florida Bar’s definition of “professionalism.” Nominees are considered based upon their “character, competence, civility, and commitment” and how they practice our profession at a level above and beyond the minimal standards for professional conduct.</td>
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| Ninth Judicial Circuit | ● James G. Glazebrook Memorial Bar Service Award  
● William Trickel, Jr. Professionalism Award  
● Lawrence G. Mathews, Jr. Young Lawyer Professionalism Award | ● James G. Glazebrook Memorial Bar Service Award is given to a Judge serving Orange County with a dedication to professionalism and promoting civility.  
● William Trickel, Jr. Award is given to an attorney who has practiced for 15 or more years and shown consistent service to the community and profession, has high moral standards and conduct that transcends mere ethical rules.  
● Lawrence G. Mathews, Jr. Young Lawyer Award is the same standard as Trickel award but has practiced for less than 15 years. |
| Tenth Judicial Circuit | ● Professionalism Award | ● A member of the local bench or bar who exhibits the highest levels of professionalism. |
| Twelfth Judicial Circuit | ● James Slater Professionalism Award | ● The judges of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit present this award annually. |
### Professionalism Awards
*Given by Bar Sections and Associations, and Judicial Circuits*

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<td><strong>Voluntary Bar Associations</strong></td>
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| Brevard County Bar Association | • Judge T. Mitchell Barlow Young Lawyer Professionalism Award  
• Government Lawyer Professionalism Award  
• Private Lawyer Professionalism Award  
• Non-Lawyer Professionalism Award  
• Judge Clarence T. Johnson Lifetime Achievement Award | |
| Broward County Bar Association | • The Lynn Futch Professionalism Award  
• The Joseph J. Carter Professionalism Award | • Lynn Futch Award is awarded to attorneys practicing in Broward County with more than 20 years of experience.  
• Joseph J. Carter Award is awarded to attorneys practicing in Broward County less than 20 years. |
| Collier County Bar Association | • Donald Van Koughnet Lion of the Law Award for Professionalism | |
| Dade County Bar Association | • David W. Dyer Professionalism Award | |
| Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association | • James L. Tomlinson Professionalism Award | • The criteria for receiving this award is that it is presented to a lawyer in the Eighth Judicial Circuit who exemplifies the ideals and goals of professionalism in the practice of law, reverence for the law, and adherence to honor, integrity and fairness. |
| Family Law American Inn of Court of Tampa | • Ted Millison Award for Professionalism | • Recognizing a lawyer with the "highest standards of ethics and professionalism" in the practice of family law. |
| Florida Chapters American Board of Trial Advocates | • Joseph P. Milton Professionalism and Civility Award | • Joseph Milton Award was established in July 2012 in honor of Joseph P. Milton and his service to FLABOTA in multiple roles, demonstrated at all times, the very highest levels of Professionalism, Civility and Ethics. To be bestowed from time to time to a FLABOTA member whose dedication to Professionalism, Civility and Ethics exemplifies the character, commitment to the profession and to the administration of justice, of Joseph P. Milton. |
| Florida Justice Association | • BJ Masterson award for Professionalism | |
| Florida Rural Legal Services | • Professionalism Award | • Awarded to local attorneys an award for pro bono work that is effectively a recognition of outstanding professionalism. |
| Herbert G. Goldburg-Ronald K. Cacciatore Criminal Law Inn of Court | • Jack Edmund Award for Civility and Excellence in the Practice of Criminal Law | • Recognizes a prominent member of the Bar who exemplifies the many qualities of the late Jack Edmund, who is remembered for being courteous, honorable, and respected by all who dealt with him. |
| Hillsborough County Bar Association | HCBA provides a forum for the 13th Judicial Circuit to present the award | |
# Professionalism Awards

*Given by Bar Sections and Associations, and Judicial Circuits*

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| Hillsborough County Bar Association - Trial and Litigation Section | ● Herbert G. Goldburg Award  
● The Court Family Award | ● Goldburg Award is to a trial lawyer who, during the course of a distinguished career, has exhibited fairness, integrity, courtesy, zeal, forensic skill, legal acumen, good sense, and respect for fellow lawyers.  
● Court Family Award is to a deserving member of the state or federal court support staff, who has demonstrated ongoing courtesy, consideration, and professionalism toward members of the Bar. |
| Hillsborough County Bar Association – Young Lawyers Division | ● The Robert W. Patton "Outstanding Jurist" Award | ● An outstanding jurist who has a reputation for making sound judicial decisions along with an unblemished record for integrity as both a lawyer and a judge. |
| Jacksonville Bar Association | ● The JBA Professionalism Award | ● Length of membership of the Jacksonville Bar Association, demonstrates the ideals of professionalism both in and outside his or her role as a jurist, project involvement, and judicial and/or legal experience. |
| Miami Dade Justice Association | ● Justice Harry Lee Anstead Award  
● Steven Levine Award | ● Anstead Award is for his or her tireless pursuit and practice of the highest ideals and tenets of the legal profession and for consistently demonstrating the essential ingredients of professionalism: Character, Competence and Commitment.  
● Levine Award is for his or her Integrity, Fairness and Professionalism towards all litigants and lawyers who appear before him. |
| Orange County Bar Association | ● William Trickel, Jr. Professionalism Award  
● Lawrence G. Mathews, Jr. Young Lawyer Professionalism Award | ● Trickel Award is awarded to an attorney practicing 15 years or more.  
● Mathews Award is awarded to an attorney practicing less than 15 years. |
| Palm Beach County Bar Association | | ● Nomination applications are accepted from members of the Palm Beach County Bar Association. The membership of the Professionalism Committee hears discussion on the nominees and vote. The winner must receive 50 percent of the vote (before or after a runoff). |
| Palm Beach County Hispanic Bar Association | ● Justice Jorge Labarga Leadership Award | |
| Sarasota County Bar Association | ● C.L. McKaig Award | |
| Seminole County Bar Association | ● Professionalism Award | |
| The Robert M. Foster Nassau County American Inn of Court | To begin award in 2015 | |
2015 Florida Law Student Essay Contest

Co-Sponsored by
The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division • Florida Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company
General Practice, Solo & Small Firm Section (GPSSF) • The Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism

William E. Loucks
President, FLMIC

Michael Fox Orr
President, YLD

Teresa Byrd Morgan
Chair, GPSSF

Linda Calvert Hanson
Director, Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism

Kevin Crews
2014 Essay Winner

Carolay Vargas
2014 Hon. Mention

Celeste Thacker
President, YLD Law Student Division

Topic: Using Social Media to Improve Your Law Practice While Avoiding Potential Malpractice and Discipline

• $1,000 awarded to the winner and complimentary registration to 9th Annual Solo & Small Firm Conference and hotel accommodations
• $500 honorable mention

This contest is open to all Florida law students. For more information about contest rules and guidelines, speak with your school's Young Lawyers Division Law Student Division representative or visit a sponsors’ website.

DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2015 BY 5 P.M.
RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND DECISIONS


• Hanthorn, Gregory R., “When Breaches of Professionalism Become Sanctionable,” ABA Section of Litigation, Ethics and Professionalism, (Winter 2014)

Cases

• Lieberman v. Lieberman, __ So.3d __ (Fla. 4th DCA, No. 4D14-509, 11/26/2014).*

In a footnote the Fourth DCA chastised attorney Ferrer’s conduct, stating that she “does not aid her husband (and client’s) case by lobbing acrimonious grenades in the form of unprofessional comments directed at opposing counsel and the trial court. We are stunned at Ferrer’s disrespectful, offensive, and inflammatory argument directed at the trial judge.”

• Schwades v. America’s Wholesale Lender, __ So.3d __, 39 Fla.L.Weekly D1906 (Fla. 5th DCA, No. 5D13-3518, 9/5/2014), 2014 WL 4374891.*

Lawyer hit with a sanction of appellate fees and referred to Florida Bar for pursuing frivolous appeal.

• Crew v. State, __ So.3d __ (Fla. 5th DCA, No. 5D12-4911, 8/29/2014).*

Fifth DCA reverses criminal conviction for fundamental error in closing argument, calling prosecutor’s conduct “unprofessional.”

*As reported by sunEthics, a site that digests cases and articles regarding professionalism, legal ethics, judicial ethics in Florida and nationally, at http://www.sunethics.com/. SunEthics is maintained by Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor of Law at Belmont University College of Law in Nashville, Timothy P. Chinaris.

A Word To The Wise

“It always seems impossible until it’s done.”  
– Nelson Mandela

“We can’t help everyone, but everyone can help someone.”  
– Ronald Reagan

“Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.”  
– William James

“Practicing law with civility is no longer just an option; in Florida, it is mandatory.”  
– David Hallman