



November 2011

Bar Briefs

Calendar:

- **Bar Luncheon Wed., Nov 9, 12:30 p.m. at The Venue, 21 North Market Street**
- **Holiday Party & Toy Drive, Fri., Dec 2, 5:30–9:30**
- **Executive Committee meets Mon, Dec. 5, 12:30 at Pisgah Legal**

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New Attorney Orientation & Swearing-in

The Bar welcomed 19 new attorneys on September 30 with a day-long orientation, culminating in a swearing in ceremony led by U.S. District Court Judge Martin Reidinger and District Court Judge Marvin Pope in the beautiful fifth floor courtroom of the Buncombe County Courthouse. The day began with coffee at World Café, then moved quickly to meeting staff and judicial officials at the U.S. Courthouse. After an introduction to the Federal Defenders program, the new attorneys had lunch at Magnolia's with staff from Pisgah Legal Services. Then, they were treated to a full afternoon of instruction and interaction with staff and judicial officials at the Buncombe County Courthouse.

At least two of the young attorneys were introduced to the Court by their fathers, Phil Kelly and James Baley, and many more were supported in their oaths by family members. Tears, hugs, and flowers were the order of the day, as the 28th Judicial District Bar welcomed 19 more attorneys into the fold.



AG Roy Cooper Outlines Environmental Success at October Bar Lunch

A lawsuit against the Tennessee Valley Authority paid off for North Carolina despite its failure in court, N.C. Attorney General Roy Cooper said at the October Bar Luncheon.

The utility agreed in April to a landmark settlement that sharply cuts coal-fired power plant emissions drifting into the North Carolina mountains, Cooper told a group of more than 100 local lawyers at the luncheon. "We ended up with a wildly successful result," he said. "It was a team effort and one I believe will be greatly beneficial to Western North Carolina."

Cooper outlined his battle to clear the state's air of pollution that he said makes people sick, damages the environment and hurts the economy. He also said he plans to seek a fourth term as attorney general in 2012.

—Asheville Citizen-Times

President's Perspective



Faster than a speeding bullet! More powerful than a locomotive! Able to leap tall buildings in a single bound!

Back in the 1950's each television episode of "Superman" started with those words. Most who watched the series can quote those words from memory. I wasn't alive when the series originally aired, but I did watch the re-runs on WPIX Channel 11 out of New York City. Like a lot of young boys, I tied a towel around my neck and ran as fast as I could and "flew" by jumping onto the couch. I wanted to be airborne, even for just a moment. I wanted to be Superman. I wanted to wear the cape.

Now I wear a suit. I look more like Clark Kent than Superman. And if the truth be told, I feel like him most days too. I work hard, but sometimes what I am working on doesn't turn out the way I want it to. I look at the tasks before me and I am reminded what Clark Kent would say to Lois Lane, "looks like a job for Superman!" When I watched Superman I didn't want to be Clark Kent when I grew up, I wanted to be Superman. I wanted to wear the cape.

Look up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's Superman!

I don't know about you, but I don't think most of us get pointed out or pointed at as we walk down the street. Unless you are George Clooney or Julia Roberts, fans and admirers don't throw themselves at you and cheer as you go by. Maybe if you could fly they would. Maybe if you had that cape.

Yes, it's Superman, strange visitor from another planet, who came to Earth with powers and abilities far beyond those of mortal men. Superman, who can change the course of mighty rivers, bend steel in his bare hands, and who, disguised as Clark Kent, mild-mannered reporter of a great metropolitan newspaper . . .

As a child I thought of Clark Kent and Superman as different people: one the bumbling reporter who always showed up late for all the excitement and who secretly pined for Lois Lane, and the other a handsome superhero that saved the day and knew he had Lois Lane's heart. While I knew that the phone booth or the broom closet was where Clark Kent went to change into Superman, I never thought of them as being one. They were completely different. But the fact is they are one in the same. That's the beauty of the Superman story. Same body, same mind, no glasses and that cape.

Unlike a lot of superheroes, Batman for instance, the mask and the cape are the disguise. For Superman, it is the pinstripe suit and the glasses that are the disguise. Could it be that we are supermen and superwomen disguised in our suits, glasses and carrying our brief cases to work?

And who . . . fights a never-ending battle for truth, justice, and the American way.

Look around. Who are the leaders in the community? Who sits on every non-profit board in the city or county? Who provides pro bono services to people who can't afford legal assistance? Who volunteers to build playgrounds at local schools? Who pledges money to worthy causes? And who, at the end of the day, sits with that widow or that disabled person or the wrongly accused and fights for the legal rights and privileges that this country and this state afford? Who fights for truth and justice? Of course, lawyers do.

As a profession we are all supermen and superwomen. As a profession we give back more than any other profession. The public often doesn't see all that we do every day. Maybe they don't even care. So when the grind of practicing law gets you down, remember the suit, the shoes, the glasses are really only a disguise for what we really are. To this community, those non-profit boards, the indigent, the causes we support and to our individual clients, we are superheroes. We do what they can't. We fight for truth and justice just like Superman. However, until capes come back in style, I think I will keep mine tucked up underneath my suitcoat.

Douglas J. Tate, President

2011-2012 Executive Committee

President: Douglas J. Tate

President Elect: Ingrid Friesen

Immediate Past President: Bill Christy

Vice President: James Ellis

Treasurer: Ryan Beadle

Secretary: Mae Creadick

State Bar Councilor: Howard Gum

Pro Bono Chair: Tikkun Gottschalk

At-Large Members: Courtney Booth, Alan Coxie, Michael Drye, Jason Gast, Carol Goins, Eileen McMinn, Jason Peltz, Brad Stark and Holly Stiles

Susan Dotson-Smith Wins NCAWA's Gwyneth B. Davis Award

Susan Dotson-Smith received the Gwyneth B. Davis Award, the highest honor the NC Association of Women Attorneys presents, at its annual conference on September 17. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall introduced Associate Judge of the North Carolina Court of Appeals Cheri Beasley, who presented the award to Dotson-Smith, who prefers to be called "Smitty."

In her comments, Judge Beasley said: "In all of Smitty's efforts, equality and access to justice have been at the forefront of her commitment to this organization and to all of her professional and civic involvement. As a member of the NC Bar Diversity committee, Smitty spearheaded the strategy which resulted in the NC State Bar Council in January 2011, passing a proposed Preamble which would have prohibited discrimination based on race, gender, national origin, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity. While the Supreme Court declined to approve the proposed preamble, Smitty's tireless effort of educating members of the bar about this issue and garnering overwhelming support for the proposed preamble amidst some contentious concerns, however was a milestone and greatly increased the visibility and the standing of NCAWA in the legal community."



When contacted about the honor, Smitty said, "Prior winners of this award have impacted so many women across NC, including myself. I had hoped that I would contribute enough to the women and women attorneys of NC to be worthy of such a nomination. I was thrilled when they informed me of the honor and humbled by the number of people who submitted information on my behalf. I was also very honored to have both the Secretary of State, Elaine Marshall, and Court of Appeals Judge, Cheri Beasley, present the award. I never

From the NCAWA conference brochure:

2011 GWYNETH B. DAVIS PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD—Susan "Smitty" Dotson-Smith is this year's distinguished award winner. Smitty has been an effective advocate for the rights of women under the law and the advancement of professional women since law school, where she began her active leadership in NCAWA. Smitty was President of the NCAWA in 2008, adding educational programs, recognition of experienced female lawyers, and record-setting fundraising and membership drives. Smitty's commitment to women's issues extends to activism in her community, her church, local political races, and legal circles across the state. Her connections with women throughout the state, the Girl Scouts, the League of Women Voters, the Democratic Women of Buncombe County, and the Women's Forum of NC have provided opportunities to network with other women throughout the state to advance women's rights.

Smitty has brought to this organization her contagious enthusiasm, organizing skills, and a passion for the well-being of women. So many of NCAWA's advances and successes arise from her work and determination. We are proud and grateful to call her one of our very own.

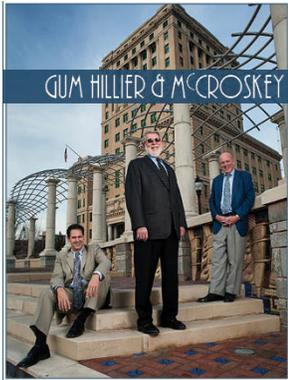
NCAWA presents the public service award in memory and honor of Gwyneth B. Davis, for the promotion of the participation of women attorneys in the legal profession and the rights of women under the law."

would have had the opportunity to call such great women my close friends without being a member of the NCAWA. I owe a great deal to the Association for the opportunities it has given me. I have also been a bit speechless over the support I've received from the WNC Chapter and many area attorneys. In light of my new position as Assistant Clerk of Court, I am grateful every day for the opportunities I have to continue to serve the local bar and the public. I hope I will continue to use my gifts to help our justice system be accessible to all people, and to help serve our community."

According to April Burt Sutton, Vice President of the WNC Chapter of NCAWA, "I attended the conference in Greensboro when Smitty was presented with the award. Her comments after receiving the award were very moving and inspirational, especially in her characterization of the NCAWA and its function in "shining the light" on our justice system. Her dedication to NCAWA and public service in general is admirable, and she represents our 28th Judicial Bar well. We should all be very proud."

Member News

The family and bankruptcy law firm of Gum, Hillier & McCroskey, PA, is proud to announce that **Howard L. Gum** is the recipient of Lawyers Weekly's *Leaders in the Law Award*. Historically an award that only recognized in-house counsel, the application pool was this year opened



to include attorneys in all areas of practice, as well as paralegals and academicians promoting advancement of many sorts.

Following an exhaustive application and interview process, 25 Leaders were selected and honored for their contributions on September 22, 2011. Mr. Gum received his award in absentia, as his trial schedule did not permit

his attendance at the award ceremony.

Mr. Gum was recognized for his significant contributions to the practice of family law, including his dedicated service in establishing standards for legal specialization in family law in North Carolina, his service to the Family Law Section of the North Carolina Bar Association and his commitment to our local district bar as its elected State Bar Councilor.

The Leaders in the Law Award is in its third year. The Awards were created to spotlight individuals working to better the profession through mentoring and community involvement.

For Sale: Current published N.C. Reports, volumes 2-364 (except for a few prior to vol. 91), and N.C. App., volumes 1-198. \$2,500.00. Call 281-8127

Starting a new office, or needing to replace a system? If you want to sublease an outstanding copier or purchase a phone system, please email me at Smitty.dotsonsmith@gmail.com.

Office Space for Lease at 66 N. Market Street. One or two offices, street parking for clients, monthly parking available for lessor and/or staff, file storage, reception services available, join existing telephone system with dedicated fax line or install separate phone system.

Call Stan Young or Robin at 255-0569, or call Cynthia Vardiman 252-4255.

Christopher M. Craig (of Craig Associates, PC law firm and the Round Table Mediation Center) and wife Elizabeth Mills have a new family member. On September 19, 2011, at 1:52PM, son Christopher Nigel Craig was born



at Mission Hospitals following a surprisingly rapid labor. He was 6 lbs, 4 oz.

Big sister Lilah Craig, age 10, is overjoyed to have a little brother. Liz and Nigel (and the rest of them) are very healthy and happy.

Fisher Stark Cash P.A. has volunteered as the North Carolina Advocates for Justice Regional Food Drive Coordinator for Asheville.

North Carolina has the 14th highest poverty rate in the United States, with a poverty rate of 13.8%. This is just slightly lower than the poverty rate of Oklahoma, and slightly higher than the poverty rate of Georgia. In our state, one out of every 7 people live at or below the federal poverty level. Because most of these families rely on these food donations, Food Banks and Soup Kitchens are more important than ever.

Fisher Stark Cash is a Food Drive Host, working with NCAJ and MANNA Food Bank. Please join us in the fight against hunger.

As a host site, we will be collecting food donations at our Asheville office Monday, November 7 thru Friday, November 11. The office address is 35 North Market Street, Asheville.

Donations may include, but should not be limited to, cereal, canned goods, dried pasta, tuna fish, peanut butter, tomato sauce, rice, and dried beans.

Upcoming Continuing Legal Education

Effective Representation for LGBT Clients in Family Law, Estate Planning and Real Estate

Buncombe County has the highest concentration of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) same sex couples in North Carolina. Our clients face multiple issues when navigating the ever-changing tide of legal developments affecting the LGBT communities. As a practicing attorney, it is important to be competent in areas of law affecting Lesbian Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) clients. This CLE will address the current law, trends and best practices for representing LGBT clients in areas of family law, estate planning and real estate transactions. The ethics panel will provide an overview of workplace ethics, avoiding conflicts in a friendly lawsuit, and professionalism with LGBT clients.

Speakers will include Diane Walton of the Walton Law Office; Annika Brock of McGuire, Wood & Bissette; Connie J. Vetter, Meghann K. Burke of Cogburn & Brazil, P.A., Julie Klipp Nicholson of Pisgah Legal Services, Aaron G. Walker of Dameron Burgin Law Firm; Susan M. Dotson-Smith, Assistant Clerk of Superior Court; and Jasmine Beach-Ferrara of the Campaign for Southern Equality.

The CLE is co-sponsored by the 28th Judicial District Bar and Pisgah Legal Services. The CLE is approved for 4.5 hours of general CLE, and one hour of ethics CLE. Held at the Cumbie Trull School of Real Estate at Innsbruck Mall, the CLE begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4:10 on Friday, November 4. Lunch will be from 12:10 - 1:30, and will be on your own. The cost for the CLE is \$60 for attorneys, and \$40 for others. To sign up, visit www.28thJDB.com.

Aiding Homeowners Facing Foreclosure

Get the most current information about legal remedies for your clients facing foreclosure. This CLE is on Friday, December 9, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Van Winkle Law Firm conference room. Earn 4.5 credit hours for free if you agree to take two cases for MAVL, or for only \$150 if you can't spare the time. Sponsored by the Pro Bono Committee of the 28th Judicial District Bar and Pisgah Legal Services, the CLE will feature local presenters Bill Whalen, Tom Gallagher, and Laura Collins. The CLE ends at 12:15, but there is an optional "Lunch & Learn" with the Clerks of Court. To sign up, visit www.28thJDB.com.



www.realtimetcle.com
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Presents:
"Don't Let The Jokers Drive You Batty!"
What We Can Learn From Batman about Maintaining Our Sanity (and Ethics) In The Practice of Law

MCLE Credit: 3.0 Hours, including 2.0 ethics/professionalism credit hours & 1.0 hour substance abuse/mental health awareness

Thursday, December 15, 2011
Comfort Suites Biltmore Square Mall, 890 Brevard Rd., Asheville

Registration 1:00-1:15pm; Program 1:15-4:30pm

Have you ever been embroiled with an unusually difficult opposing counsel, client, colleague, or judge whose conduct "gets under your skin"? Such encounters can be absolutely maddening. Unfortunately, when they cannot be avoided, they may also render attorneys more susceptible to compromising their own ethical values in the process. Using clips from the two recent Batman films (*Batman Begins* and *The Dark Knight*), this seminar explores the impact of these exceptionally challenging professional relationships with "Jokers" in the practice of law. Participants will obtain practical guidance on minimizing the toll that these encounters can take on one's own mental, emotional, and psychological well-being.

The mix of guided discussions and instructional time is led by practicing litigation attorney **Chris Osborn, JD**, of Horack Talley Pharr & Lowndes, PA, and professional counselor and former lawyer, **Michael Kahn, JD, LPC** both of Charlotte, NC.

28th District Judicial Bar: \$180 All Others: \$190

Space is Limited, Please Register Early!

Asset Seminars is an accredited CLE sponsor under the MCLE Regulations promulgated by the NC State Bar Board of Continuing Legal Education. The program is approved (but not sponsored) by the Board for the designated number of CLE hours. Your North Carolina CLE credit will be reported and the CLE fee paid by Asset Seminars.

Register By Phone: Call Asset Seminars at (919) 239-6927 or (252) 567-3053 (Credit Card only)
Online: <http://realtimetcle.com> (Credit Card or Check)



Holiday Party
December 2,
5:30-9:30
The Venue

Fabulous Food
Open Bar
Live Band

Bring a Toy for
Santa Pal or a
donation of food
for Manna Food
Bank

Member News

Local Lawyers Honored by *Best Lawyers In America*®

Sixteen attorneys at Roberts & Stevens Law Firm have been honored by their peers in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2012: **Sarah Patterson “Patsy” Brison** in Administrative/Regulatory Law and Land Use & Zoning Law and Litigation; **Vincent D. Childress, Jr.** in Corporate Law and Health Care Law; **William Clarke** in Environmental Law and Litigation and Natural Resources Law; **Cynthia S. Grady** in Education Law; **Jacqueline D. Grant** in Medical Malpractice Law- Defendants; **Jackson D. Hamilton** in Tax Law and Litigation & Controversy-Tax; **Gregory D. Hutchins** in Health Care Law; **Mark C. Kurdys** in Litigation-Construction; **Marjorie R. Mann** in Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law and Litigation; **John W. Mason** in Trusts and Estates Law and Litigation; **Marc S. Rudow** in Real Estate Law; **John S. Stevens** in Corporate Law; **Wyatt S. Stevens** in Commercial Litigation; **James W. Williams** in Medical Malpractice Law and Personal Injury Litigation; **Sheryl H. Williams** in Real Estate Law and Litigation; and **Lachicotte “Lach” F. Zemp** in Eminent Domain and Condemnation Law.

Best Lawyers compiles lists of outstanding attorneys by conducting exhaustive peer-review surveys in which thousands of leading lawyers confidentially evaluate their professional peers. In the U.S., Best Lawyers publishes an annual referral guide, *The Best Lawyers in America*®, which includes almost 40,000 attorneys in 80 specialties, covering all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Founded in 1981 and first published in 1983, Best Lawyers is the oldest lawyer-rating publication in the U.S., and the gold standard for accuracy and integrity. The current, 17th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* (2011), is based on nearly 3 million detailed evaluations of lawyers by other lawyers.

Because of the rigorous and transparent methodology used by Best Lawyers, and because lawyers are not required or allowed to pay a fee to be listed, inclusion in Best Lawyers is considered a singular honor. *Corporate Counsel* magazine has called Best Lawyers “the most respected referral list of attorneys in practice.”

National labor and employment law firm Constangy, Brooks & Smith, LLP, announced today **Jonathan W. Yarbrough** of their Asheville office has been recognized by *Best Lawyers in America*® 2012 for his work in Employment Law, Management and Litigation. Twenty-eight Constangy, Brooks & Smith attorneys have been named to Best Lawyers, the oldest and most respected peer-review publication in the legal profession.

The family and bankruptcy firm of Gum, Hillier & McCroskey, PA, is proud to announce that *Best Lawyers in America*® 2012 has selected each of the members of the firm to its peer review list again in 2011. All three members of the firm, **Howard Gum, Dave Hillier** and **Patrick McCroskey**, have been listed in Best Lawyers in America since 2009. Howard Gum has been listed in Best Lawyers in America continuously for more than two decades. In 2010, Gum, Hillier & McCroskey was also included in the U.S. News/Best Lawyers Best Law Firms list in Asheville.

McGuire, Wood & Bissette, P.A., is pleased to announce that firm president **W. Louis Bissette, Jr.** was recently selected by his peers for inclusion in *Best Lawyers in America*® 2012, in the fields of Administrative/Regulatory Law, Commercial Litigation, and Land Use and Zoning Law. President of McGuire, Wood & Bissette, P.A. since 1999, Bissette has practiced law with the firm since 1976. His extensive civic and community service include two terms as Mayor of the City of Asheville, from 1985 to 1989. He currently serves on the UNC Board of Governors and is the vice chairman of the Wake Forest University Board of Trustees.

Member News

You are invited to a briefing for attorneys regarding PACE, the *Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly*, on Tuesday, November 8 at 4:30 pm. The program will take place at CarePartners Health Services, 68 Sweeten Creek Road in Asheville.

PACE is a managed care program enabling low-income elderly individuals who otherwise would be in a nursing facility to remain at home and live as independently as possible. CarePartners Health Services is working with the State of NC to develop a PACE program for residents of Buncombe and Henderson counties.

The briefing will cover an introduction to PACE (found in MA-2275 of the Medicaid manual) and an update on this addition to the CarePartners continuum.

Please RSVP to Carol Hubbard at 828-274-6159 or chubbard@carepartners.org

SAVE THE DATE

NCBA 4ALL Statewide Service Day
Friday, March 4, 2012

The Asheville office of national labor and employment law firm **Constangy, Brooks & Smith, LLP** has moved. The new office is located at 84 Peachtree Road, Suite 230, Asheville, North Carolina 28803. The office can be reached by phone at 828-333-4218.

McGuire, Wood & Bisette, P.A. is pleased to announce that attorney **Susan Strayhorn Barbour** was recently appointed as 2012 Chair of the Education Committee for the North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys (NCAWA).

As chair of the Education Committee Susan will be responsible for organizing the Annual Conference for the NCAWA. Held each year in different locations throughout North Carolina, the 2012 Annual Conference will take place in Asheville. Each year the Conference provides an opportunity for NCAWA members to gather and share experiences and training as well as to conduct the NCAWA annual business meeting and determine legislative resolutions for the upcoming year.

An attorney with McGuire, Wood & Bisette since 2000, Susan chairs the firm's Real Estate Practice Group and is a member of the Real Property Section of the North Carolina Bar Association.

Ward and Smith, P.A. is pleased to announce the relocation of our Asheville office to the Capital Center at 82 Patton Avenue, Suite 300, Asheville, NC 28801. We are a full-service law firm with offices in Asheville, Greenville, New Bern, Raleigh, and Wilmington, North Carolina. Please call us at 828-348-6070.

Roberts & Stevens is pleased to announce that the firm has hired attorney **Mary A. Robinson** to work primarily with the Trusts & Estates and Business Law practice areas. Robinson is a graduate of Harvard University and the University of Virginia School of Law. Having lived in Asheville more than fifteen years, Robinson returned to her hometown to join the firm in September 2011.

Robinson's work focuses on elder law and estate planning. She helps clients with their advance medical directives (or "living wills"), powers of attorney, wills, and trusts, including tax planning as necessary. Robinson also works with the business law team, especially when counseling family-owned businesses that may need legal advice in both fields.

While in school, Robinson was an Executive Editor of the *Virginia Journal of Law & Technology* and served as Vice President for Street Law at the University of Virginia, a student group that teaches Constitutional Law at local high schools.

Robinson is currently a member of the North Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division and "Project Grace," a committee that provides senior citizens and low-income individuals with healthcare powers of attorney and living wills. Robinson also volunteers with Pisgah Legal Services' Mountain Area Volunteer Lawyer Program.



www.28thJDB.com

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**Bar Briefs is published
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Judicial District Bar**

Briefly... from the Bar Administrator

My favorite event of the year is the swearing-in of new attorneys, but maybe not for obvious reasons. I love introducing those new folks to all the clerks and judges, and planning a meaningful day that might help them to be a more effective advocate in their law practice. I like hearing their stories about how they passed the Bar exam, about why they chose the college they graduated from, or why they picked Asheville as the city where they wanted to live. I enjoy eating lunch with them, and watching them get excited about the great tradition of pro bono work here.

But mostly I love seeing all the practicing attorneys filing into the beautiful fifth floor courtroom, sitting silently as they listen to the judges admonish the new attorneys to maintain their integrity as they begin their own practices. I find it moving that the members of the Bar turn out to support those new to the practice of law. It speaks volumes about the collegiality of this Bar that so many of you support these young people. It makes me proud to work for you.

Lisa-Gaye Hall

The Asheville law firm of McGuire, Wood & Bissette, P.A. is pleased to announce that **Thomas Grella** has been selected to serve in three national legal leadership positions. Grella has been appointed Chair of the Technology and Communications Committee of the American Bar Association's (ABA) House of Delegates. This standing committee of the ABA House of Delegates examines how to improve communications among delegates, between delegates and their constituencies, and between the House of Delegates and other entities within the ABA and outside of the ABA. Grella was also named as the Columns Editor of the ABA Law Practice Management Section's Law Practice Magazine. The general membership of the ABA Law Practice Management Section, at its annual meeting, also elected Grella to a second three-year term as Section Delegate to represent and serve the Section in the ABA House of Delegates.

A business attorney whose law practice focus is on commercial transactions, Grella publishes a blog on legal issues facing North Carolina businesses at www.ncbusinesslawblog.net. An attorney with McGuire, Wood & Bissette since 1988, and a partner since 1993, Grella is chair of the firm's Management Committee and is a past Chair of the ABA Law Practice Management Section presently serving on its Executive Committee and Nominating Committee. He is a fellow of the College of Law Practice Management, the American Bar Foundation, the National Institute for Teaching Ethics and Professionalism, and both the ABA and North Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Divisions.

McGuire, Wood & Bissette, P.A. is the oldest law firm in Asheville, North Carolina continuously in the practice of law since 1894. Since its inception, the firm has engaged in a general civil practice geared toward commerce and industry.

