

## Foundation fundraiser improves services for greater court access

On March 11, the Columbus Bar Foundation and Association will hold the 2017 Gala. This year's theme is "Cruisin' with the Columbus Bar" and will take place at the Hollywood Casino of Columbus.



**Thomas W. Hill**  
Kessler Brown Hill + Ritter

Ticket sales for the event will support the Columbus Bar Foundation's programs and projects. Foundation programs improve access to the courts for all people, encourage greater professionalism,

provide law school scholarships and promote understanding of the legal profession. Through grants, the Columbus Bar Foundation provides seed money and support for a variety of programs.

In past years, support for the Gala and the Columbus Bar Foundation made significant improvements in access to justice throughout central Ohio. Most notably, the new Assisted Civil Self-Help Center opened at the Franklin County Municipal Court. The center allows qualifying pro se litigants to obtain court forms and learn about the court system and available resources. To qualify for assistance, those seeking help must be engaged in civil litigation and must be below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

The **Columbus Bar Foundation**, in its relatively short history, has made over \$4 million in grants - supporting programs and projects that further its vision for a more just and equitable legal system in central Ohio.

\$1,418,269	Legal Aid Society of Columbus
\$854,000	Columbus Bar Pro Bono Program, Lawyers for Justice
\$517,900	Center for Family Safety and Healing
\$492,000	Community Mediation Services
\$200,000	CBA renovation and appointment of Education/Committee Meeting Rooms
\$192,500	Public Interest Law Foundation Fellowships and Schermer Scholarships
\$105,330	Law and Leadership Institute
\$105,000	Columbus Bar inc (incubator) Program for new lawyers
\$50,000	Capital University Law School-Program on Advanced Dispute Resolution Education
\$38,000	Open Books Open Minds-Juvenile Detention Facility Media Center
\$30,000	City Attorney's Office Victims of Domestic Violence
\$21,000	Ohio Judicial Center

Consider supporting the Columbus Bar Foundation and join us for the 2017 Gala. To reserve tickets or for more information, please contact Donna Sweet at 614-340-2062 or donna@cballaw.org. Individuals and firms who cannot attend but would like to support the Columbus Bar Foundation can make contributions by contacting Marion Smithberger at 614-340-2070.

**The right call for the right lawyer**

We've been helping people find the right lawyer for over 60 years. Contact the Columbus Bar's Lawyer Referral Service today.

**(614) 221-0754**

## Continuing Education

**Domestic Relations PREP, Classes 5 & 6**  
Tuesday, Feb. 7 • 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
3.0 NLT CLE

**P.R.E.P. - Session 1, Interacting with the Courts**  
Thursday, Feb. 9 • 12:15 - 1:45 p.m.  
1.5 NLT CLE Hours

**It's All About the Relocation**  
Friday, Feb. 10 • 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
3.0 CLE Hours

**Domestic Relations PREP, Classes 7 & 8**  
Tuesday, Feb. 14 • 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
3.0 NLT CLE Hours

**Legal Research & Information Committee Meeting**  
Tuesday, Feb. 14 • 12 - 1 p.m.

**Special Needs Considerations in Domestic Relations**  
Wednesday, Feb. 15 • 1:30 - 4:45 p.m.  
3.0 CLE Hours

**P.R.E.P. - Session 2, Interacting with the Courts**  
Thursday, Feb. 16 • 12:15 - 1:45 p.m.  
1.5 NLT CLE Hours

**Let's Talk: Mediation and Settlement Negotiation**  
Friday, Feb. 17 • 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
3.0 CLE Hours

All classes listed are offered at the Columbus Bar Associations offices, 175 S. Third St. Ste. 1100. To register, call 614-221-4112 or enroll online at [www.cballaw.org](http://www.cballaw.org).

## "Legal" education isn't just for lawyers

Associations of like-minded professionals exist everywhere. The foundational structure of membership-based organizations relies on commonality of talent, knowledge and goal.

That very structure, however, breeds career isolation and can lead to stagnation in business development. Collaboration between symbiotic communities has a regenerative effect, providing conversation based on commonality while stimulating development through differences.

One of the tacit missions of the Columbus Bar Association is to educate its membership in order to support the legal requirements that attorneys must satisfy to retain their licensure. The much larger holistic mission, however, is to educate all professionals touched by the law. The CBA creates educational opportunities open to all communities, granting continuing education (CE) credits to non-lawyers from many professions: CPAs, realtors, title insurance professionals, licensed social workers and marital counselors to name a few.

For those business community members that want to meet and network with a wide variety of legal professionals, the CBA provides committee and educational platforms to achieve that end. Do you want to mine the legal talent that belongs to the CBA community? Be a part of the many events we host here at the bar. The CBA isn't just for lawyers.

Interested in getting a start in associating with CBA members? Come to the Real Property Law Institute on Feb. 2 and 3. **If you are a real estate professional, you can even get valuable CE credit. For more information, go to our website at [www.cballaw.org](http://www.cballaw.org).**

## What happens when good people remain silent?



Join us at the Columbus Bar on January 27 for a discussion about the 2016 Presidential Election and the use of hate speech in the modern era. These topics will be presented by Mike Thompson (WOSU) and Colleen Marshall, Esq. (Massucci Law Group).

Other topics for this year's MLK Jr. Civil Rights Symposium include: body cameras, the Muslim experience, Holocaust war crimes, and political cartoons. Register for one or both 3.0 CLE hour sessions.



[cballaw.org](http://cballaw.org)  
**221-4112**