



April 2008

Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No. 2008-004

April 1, 2008

Hon. Chief Justice Rhys S. Hodge is pleased to announce the launching of the Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands' new and improved website located at www.visupremecourt.org. The website has been redesigned to provide optimal service to all our visitors, with the hope that the public will find it to be a useful source of information about our legal system. You may access the Rules of the Court, published and unpublished judicial opinions, Press Releases and other items of interest issued by the Supreme Court.

Chief Justice Hodge states, "Our site is constantly evolving and with the recent implementation of the Court's **Signmeup!** Email Notification Service, we pledge to put the source of information right at your fingertips! The Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands will continue to implement new interactive features and update content to the site on a regular basis. We encourage visitors to take the time to send us your comments, questions, and suggestions about how we can continue to build a better, more user-friendly site."

The Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands endeavors to bring the most current and vital information about the judicial system into the hands of the public through an improved and dynamic web presence.

10 Newly Admitted

The Supreme Court held its first 2008, Bar admission ceremony. The following names were scheduled for Admission on March 14, 2008.

Jason Franklin Arnold IV
Leigh Kellett Fletcher
Ashlee Michelle Gray
Jamila Nicole John-Baptiste
Jason Scott Luck

Julie Robertson Mueller
Brandon Scott Renner
Kippy Gordon Roberson
Brian Allen Smith
Bruce Darwin Spector

Save the Dates:

Quarterly Membership Meetings

- **June 11, 2008**
District Court Video Conference Room
- **September 10, 2008**
District Court Video Conference Room

Almeric L. Christian Tennis Tournament
June 19-22, 2008

Carambola Tennis Club
St. Croix, U.S. V.I

Almeric L. Christian Golf Tournament
November 9, 2008

Mahogany Run Golf Course
St. Thomas, U.S.V.I.

Annual Meeting

December 12, 2008

Wyndham Sugar Bay Beach Resort & Spa
St. Thomas, U.S. V.I.



Superior Court Magistrate Position

PRESS RELEASE
(March 19, 2008):

Honorable Darryl Dean Donohue, Sr., Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands, announces that, in accordance with statutory mandate, the Superior Court has begun the process of identifying suitable candidates to fill the positions of magistrates in both judicial districts. Two such positions will be filled on St. Thomas-St. John and two on St. Croix.

The official Magistrate Application Form has been distributed to the V.I. Bar Association for distribution to its members. The application may also be downloaded from the Superior Court's website: www.visuperiorcourt.org.

All applicants interested in serving as magistrates of the Superior Court must complete the application form and return it to the Clerk of the Court, Venetia H. Velazquez, Esq., no later than **Friday, April 4, 2008**. Applications not received by that date will not be considered (Superior Court Press Release, March 19, 2008).

Attached: Magistrate Application and Waiver Form.

Judicial Conference

The Sixty-Seventh Judicial Conference of the Third Circuit will be held Monday, April 28th through Wednesday, April 30th at the scenic Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Golf Resort, Spa and Marina in Cambridge, Maryland. This Conference is open to all judges and attorneys in the Third Circuit.

The Conference sessions include the following timely issues: Judicial Independence, Separation of Church and State, Pleading Standards in Civil Cases (after Twombly), Recent Changes in the Attorney-Client Privilege Rule, Sentencing Update, Best Practices Working with Electronic Case Files and extended programs on Federal Appellate and Bankruptcy practice.

Speakers at the Conference include the Supreme Court Associate Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr., Associate Justice David H. Souter and Solicitor General Paul D. Clement. The program is approved for up to 12 hours of CLE (including 1.5 hours of Ethics Credit) in Delaware, Pennsylvania and New York. For more information or to register, visit www.ca3.uscourts.gov.

Judge Raymond L. Finch

The Honorable Raymond L. Finch, District Judge, submitted his notice of retirement, effective August 15, 2008. It is his intention to continue service to the District Court of the Virgin Islands as a Senior Sitting Judge thereafter.

- Lawyers who volunteer don't get paid.. Not because they don't have value, but because they are priceless.

Street Law

VI Bar Association and St. Croix Central High School has joined in bringing together a program of lecture series that provides students with "practical information and problem solving opportunities that develop in students the knowledge and skills necessary for survival in our law-saturated society." (Taken from the Preface of the text)".

Attached is a lecture schedule, please contact Dwayne Henry or Natalie Nelson Tang How to sign up. As mentioned in a previous memorandum "One or more attorneys may come at a time to present...". We are still looking for someone to fill Consumer Law, please let us know if you are available to present. For more information, please contact Co- Chairs Attorney Natalie Nelson at 340-773-0378 or Dwayne Henry at 340-773-1082.

Attached: Lecture Schedule.

UVI Law Fair

The VI Bar's participation in the University of the Virgin Islands Second Annual Law Fair was a great success. The event was held on March 28, 2008 on St. Thomas Campus and March 31, 2008 on St. Croix campus.

Participating in the event was Attorneys Lydia Logie Moolenaar, Dwayne Henry and Emile Henderson III on St. Croix. On St. Thomas, Timothy Abraham, Ryan Greene and Clive Rivers participated. Universities participating in the fair included Thurgood Marshall, Florida Coastal, University of Memphis, New York Law School, Louisiana State University, Touro Law Center, Tulane University, St. Thomas University School of Law (Florida), New England School of Law, and CLEO, American Bar Association. Co-Chairs, Natalie Nelson and Dwayne Henry wishes to thank our members who volunteered their time to the event!



**VIRGIN ISLANDS
BAR ASSOCIATION** "STRIVING FOR JUSTICE...SERVING OUR COMMUNITY"

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If you have an announcement that you would like to see included in the VIBA-News, please contact Hinda Carbon, Executive Director of the VIBA, at executivedirector@vibar.org or call her at (340) 778-7497.