



Save the Dates:

- **November 11, 2007**
Almeric L. Christian
Golf Tournament
St. Thomas, VI
- **December 14,
2007**
Annual Meeting
and CLE Seminar/
Annual Christmas
Party St. Croix, VI

HEAD NOTES

- Take the blame, give the credit, and privately provide counsel.
- It's hard to win if you don't participate.
- Your receptionist is also your Director of First Impressions.

HEALTH INSURANCE

We have retained a local insurance agent, Baker & Magras, from St. Thomas for the plan. Steve Baker of Baker & Magras is very knowledgeable, and I believe he will be much more responsive to our needs than our former agent. I have called a membership meeting for both islands at the respective District Courts for **November 7, 2007 at 5:30 p. m** so that the membership can meet Steve Baker.

He has several cost savings suggestions to discuss that will help to keep premiums in check, and I would like to get your input on them before the Board puts them to a vote. More importantly, I would like feedback from Bar membership about our health plan in general.

Our plan generally is considered benefit rich. We have a high and a low benefit option that are both quite rich. Benefit rich plans are quite expensive. As a consequence, many firms have left the Bar's plan for less benefit rich and less expensive alternative health plans. This results in a lower participation rate in the Bar's plan which can have further detrimental effect on the rates we can provide. I would like to get input, either at the meeting or in writing on what price range members are willing to pay for health insurance for individuals and for families and what benefits are considered important to our members. I want to make sure that the plan the Bar provides is in touch with the needs of its members. In order to do so the Bar and Steve Baker need to hear from you.

Please consider attending this important meeting if you have an interest in creating a Bar health insurance plan that fits your insurance needs.

Scot. F. McChain, President

FORMER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOUND GUILTY

Maxine Bowry, former Executive Director was convicted of stealing over \$4,000.00 from the Virgin Islands Bar Association. Bowry was found guilty in Superior Court on October 5, 2007, on four of seven counts for obtaining under false pretense, more than \$4,000.00 between 2002 and 2003 while she worked as the Executive Director for this Association. Sentencing is scheduled for December 5, 2007.

CLE / ANNUAL MEETING/CHRISTMAS PARTY

Do you need CLE credits? As you know, the Supreme Court has adopted Rule 208 Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (CLE), (Promulgation Order NO. 07-004). CLE will be presented at our upcoming Annual Meeting and local and stateside presenters will bring you interesting and educational topics. CLE topics will be announced soon. **Annual Meeting** is scheduled for **December 14, 2007** at Divi Carina Bay Resort and Casino, on St. Croix. Annual **Christmas Party** will be held Friday, **December 14, 2007**, at Tutu Bene Restaurant. More info on the Christmas party will be announced.

SUPREME COURT RELOCATES TO ITS NEW HOMES

The Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands has relocated its operations on St. Croix and St. Thomas, effective Monday, October 8, 2007. The relocation will affect where the legal community, and the public as a whole, must appear for services.

On St. Croix, the Court is now located at No. 18 Strand Street, Frederiksted, on the waterfront. Both judicial offices and the Clerk's Office is now at this new location. Accordingly, the public and the Bar are advised that, effective Monday, October 8, all matters to be filed with the Court are to be brought to No. 18 Strand Street Frederiksted. Matters to be submitted by mail should continue to be sent to: P.O. Box 336, Frederiksted, V.I. 00841.

On St. Thomas, the Clerk's Office is now located at the Supreme Court's facility at Number 100 Blackbeard's Hill. Accordingly, effective Monday, October 8, 2007, all matters filed with the Court are to be brought to the Supreme Court's offices at Blackbeard's Hill. Matters to be submitted by mail to the St. Thomas/St. John offices, should continue to be sent to: P.O. Box 590, Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00804.

For more information, contact the Supreme Court Clerk's, at 778-0613 or 777-4935.

SIGN UP TO PLAY

The Eighteenth Almeric L. Christian Golf Tournament is scheduled for **Sunday, November 11, 2007**. In the past you have been faithful and generous and we are appreciative of that, we are asking once again for your assistance that will benefit Virgin Islands law school students who agree to sign a commitment to return to the VI to practice law.

We are looking for co-sponsors for the event, **co-sponsorship is \$500.00** and made payable to the 'Almeric L. Christian Scholarship Fund' to P. O. Box 4108 Christiansted, VI 00822

Of course if you are unable to co-sponsor the event, **we welcome you to make a contribution in the amount of your choice** made payable to the address stated above.

Sign up to play - Contact the Pro Shop at Mahogany Run at 340-777-6250. Sign-up fee is \$100.00 and includes green fees, golf cart rental, golf shirt, golf balls, golf paraphernalia and awards luncheon following play.

Giveaways: Raffle prizes like weekend getaways from local resorts and hotels, dinning certificates, jewelry and more!

We appreciate your attention to this matter and thank you for your support.



MEMBERSHIP DUES

2008 membership dues invoices were mailed on October 1, 2007, new dues takes effect October 1, 2007. Please take note of Bar dues for the following admissions:

Active members \$200.00

Inactive members \$150.00

Specially admitted members \$200.00

Pro Hac Vice admissions \$200.00

(S.CT.BA. No. 2007-024 Approval of Change in Annual Dues Structure).

Have an Announcement?

Hired someone new?

Promoted to partner?

On the Move?

The VIBA wants to know!

Send your announcements to vibarassociation@gmail.com



**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 vibarassociation@gmail.com or call her at (340) 778-7497.