



Contact:  
Rita Klein  
Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association  
216-539-3713 (direct) 216-696-3525 x5000  
440-263-3056 (mobile)  
rklein@clemetrobar.org

## **Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association Celebrates with 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting** *New Association and Bar Foundation Leaders to be Sworn in June 2*

CLEVELAND – May 18, 2017 – The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA) is pleased to announce its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be Friday, June 2 at the Cleveland Public Auditorium, including the new slate of officers and trustees for the CMBA and the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation (CMBF) who will be sworn in at the luncheon.

“This event celebrates an incredible milestone in the history of our organization,” said Rebecca Ruppert McMahon, executive director of the CMBA and CMBF. “We are marking our 10th anniversary of the unification of two predecessor organizations, the Cuyahoga County Bar Association and the Cleveland Bar Association. As a unified bar, we have risen to great heights that will give us cause for tremendous celebration in June. And celebrate we will, with a Mardi Gras theme in recognition of our incoming Association President, Darrell Clay, who graduated from Tulane University School of Law in New Orleans.”

The 2017-2018 Bar Association officers will be: President **Darrell A. Clay** (Walter | Haverfield LLP); President-Elect **Marlon A. Primes** (United States Attorney’s Office); Vice President **Ian N. Friedman** (Friedman & Nemecek, L.L.C.); Treasurer **Ann M. Caresani** (Tucker Ellis LLP); Vice President of Diversity & Inclusion **Gregory G. Guice** (Reminger Co., L.P.A.), Vice President of Membership **Ryan P. Nowlin** (Schneider Smeltz Spieth Bell LLP); and Secretary **Rebecca Ruppert McMahon** (executive director of the CMBA).

“I am excited about the opportunity to be in the driver’s seat, helping direct the continued implementation of the CMBA’s new strategic plan and make it a reality,” said Darrell Clay, incoming president of the CMBA. “Although the work of the strategic plan will continue beyond my term, I’m confident we’ll make great strides and I’m honored to play a part in helping people to experience CMBA in new ways and promote the idea that this isn’t your typical bar association.”

The 2017-2018 Bar Foundation officers will be: President **Mitchell G. Blair** (Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP); President-Elect **Stephanie E. Trudeau** (Ulmer & Berne LLP); Treasurer **Rosemary Sweeney** (Buckley King LLP); Co-Vice Presidents of Endowment **Ginger F. Mlakar** (The Cleveland Foundation) and Hugh E. McKay (Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP); Vice President of Special Events **Patrick J. Krebs** (Taft, Stettinius & Hollister LLP); and Secretary **Rebecca Ruppert McMahon** (executive director of the CMBF).

“We expect to have a great year at the Foundation,” said Mitch Blair, incoming president of the Bar Foundation. “With our strong board, the generous contributions of our fellows, and the excellent work of the staff, our Foundation grows stronger and we are able to continue to fund the impactful and life-changing programs of the Association.”

In addition to the officers, six new CMBA Board Trustees and eight new Bar Foundation Board Trustees will be introduced at the Annual Meeting.

### New Bar Association Trustees

**Rosalina M. Fini** (Cleveland Metroparks)  
**Matthew D. Gurbach** (Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP)  
**Jennifer M. Himmelein** (Cavitch, Familo & Durkin Co., LPA)  
**Gabrielle T. Kelly** (Brouse McDowell)  
**Beth Ann Schenz** (Huntington National Bank)  
**Neal E. Shapero** (Shapero & Roloff Co., L.P.A.)

### New Bar Foundation Trustees

**Paul Capka** (First Federal of Lakewood)  
**Michael R. Cavanaugh** (Conway Mackenzie)  
**Nicholas A. DiCello** (Spangenberg, Shibley & Liber LLP)  
**Ruth E. Hartman** (BakerHostetler)  
**Jeffrey J. Lauderdale** (The Lubrizol Corporation)  
**Elena A. Ray** (PNC Bank)  
**Christopher P. Thorman** (Thorman Petrov Group Co., LPA)  
**Richard G. Zeiger** (KeyBank National Association)

At this year's event, the CMBA also will announce the 2017 annual award recipients for: The Honorable William K. Thomas Professionalism Award; Justice for All Volunteer of the Year Award; and President's Award. The Association will also announce the new class of members who have reached 50 and 65-years of practicing law.

The Annual Meeting is open to both CMBA members and the general public. Doors open at 11:00 a.m. and the inaugural luncheon will begin promptly at noon. For ticket information or additional details, please contact the CMBA at (216) 696-3525 or visit [CleMetroBar.org/AnnualMeeting](http://CleMetroBar.org/AnnualMeeting).

The CMBA thanks the sponsors supporting this year's annual meeting. **Platinum:** Huntington; KeyBank; Toshiba; Walter | Haverfield LLP; **Gold:** Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP; Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP; Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association; The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland; Maloney & Novotny LLC; **Silver:** All Covered, Inc.; BakerHostetler LLP; Buckley King LPA; Case Western Reserve University Law School; Cavitch, Familo & Durkin Co., LPA; Cleveland Metroparks; Cliffs Natural Resources, Inc.; Hennes Communications; McDonald Hopkins LLC; Oswald Companies; PNC Bank; Reminger Co., LPA; Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP; Stephanoff Rennillo LLC; Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP; Tucker Ellis LLP; Ulmer & Berne LLP; Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP; **Table Sponsors:** Brouse McDowell; Dominion East Ohio; Friedman & Nemecek, LLC; Gallagher Sharp; Grant Thornton LLP; Koehler Fitzgerald LLC; The Primes Family; Schneider Smeltz Spieth Bell LLP; Shapero & Roloff Co., LPA; Synenberg, Coletta & Moran, LLC; Thorman Petrov Group Co., LPA; Walter | Haverfield LLP; **In-Kind Sponsor:** Avalon Document Services. *\*Sponsors current as of press release distribution*

#### **About the CMBF**

The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation is the charitable arm and partner of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association. It raises funds to support the important public outreach activities of the Association, which are organized primarily under the Justice For All umbrella. These activities include a variety of pro bono legal service, law-related education, tutoring and mentoring programs. Additionally, the CMBF assists the Association's diversity and inclusion initiatives aimed at improving the pipeline of minority students entering the legal profession. [CleMetroBar.org/Foundation](http://CleMetroBar.org/Foundation).

#### **About the CMBA**

The nonprofit Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association operates as a center for legal professionalism in the region, promoting the highest ethical and professional standards. Serving the largest legal community in the state, the CMBA has more than 5,500 members. Learn more at [CleMetroBar.org](http://CleMetroBar.org).

###