

GET PLUGGED IN

CMBA INVOLVEMENT GUIDE



**CLEVELAND METROPOLITAN
BAR ASSOCIATION**



Plug into all the CMBA offers to serve our more than 5,100 members and our community.

As you may imagine, the needs and passions of our members are vast, so we continue to work to make sure the opportunities for engagement are as well. That's where this guide comes in.

We want to get you plugged in where it matters most to YOU. From business needs to parties, this guide highlights the many opportunities — but certainly not all — you'll find at your local bar. Start getting involved today and leverage the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association for career and business development, savings on essential services, volunteerism, education, leadership opportunities, and much more.

GET CONNECTED

Enhance your professional experience with **Sections** and **Committees** that provide opportunities for you to improve the practice of law, collaborate on projects, get published in the Journal, assume leadership roles, participate in meetings and pro bono activities, present and plan CLEs, and build relationships with friends and colleagues. Committees and Sections have something for everyone — come out and see what they're about!

Looking to be more involved? Have an idea for a program? Contact Samantha Pringle, Director of CLE & Sections, at (216) 696-3525 x 2008 or springle@clemetrobar.org.

SECTIONS

Section membership is \$35 unless otherwise noted. Law students may join the Women in Law Section, Young Lawyers Section, and one additional section for free.

AREAS OF LAW

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR) (\$10)

Meets the second Tuesday of the month at the CMBA. Meetings feature a CLE presentation or a roundtable discussion where members can bring topics to the group for consideration. All CMBA members are welcome to participate.

BANKRUPTCY & COMMERCIAL LAW (\$35)

In addition to the annual William J. O'Neill Bankruptcy Institute, the Section sponsors periodic lunch-and-learns throughout the year; a semi-annual newsletter; and an annual seminar with the TMA every October: Creditor or consumer; join us at our next event.

BUSINESS, BANKING & CORPORATE COUNSEL (\$35)

We aim to offer something for everyone in the business, banking, securities and corporate counsel settings. With lunchtime CLEs and happy hour programs, we hope you'll come out to our next event to see what we're all about.

CRIMINAL LAW (\$25)

Whether you're a prosecutor, public defender or criminal defense attorney, the Criminal Law Section is re-organizing and looking to make a splash in 2017–18.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (\$35; \$15 for public sector attorneys)

We meet quarterly and present lunchtime CLE programs on hot topics in environmental law. We also present the Great Lakes Symposium and a fall CLE in alternating years. Whether you practice in the area or have an interest in environmental topics, we'll meet you at the Bar.

ESTATE PLANNING, PROBATE & TRUST LAW (\$35)

Meets the third Tuesday of the month at the CMBA for lunch and CLE. CLE is important to us — our Annual Estate Planning Institute and Hot Topics for Estate Planners seminars give members the latest updates and trends in our area. We sponsor Brief Advice Clinics with Legal Aid as our pro bono project. Don't be a stranger!

FAMILY LAW (\$35)

Meets the third Thursday of the month — often at the CMBA, but also at the Domestic Relations Court. With our monthly lunches and our annual full day CLE, we offer multiple CLE opportunities for members. We are proud to sponsor the Pro Se Divorce Clinic.

HEALTH CARE LAW (\$35)

Join us at one of our quarterly CLE programs at lunch or happy hour. Our signature event, the Health Care Law Institute, offers a full-day of CLE. We also organize the annual Medical/Legal Summit, bringing together lawyers and physicians to discuss issues facing the health care system.

Small Firm & Solo Practitioner Section



Young Lawyers Section



INSURANCE LAW (\$25)

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month for informal, roundtable discussions, rotating between the CMBA and local firms. We have your CLE needs covered, with a half-day program in the fall and a full-day program in the spring.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW (\$35)

From quarterly meetings to participating in community service activities, the IP Section offers opportunities for members to share experiences and build connections.

INTERNATIONAL LAW (\$35)

We're excited to welcome members to our monthly meetings and CLEs. With our diverse membership of immigration and international law practitioners, our unique programming offers a wide range of experiences.

LABOR & EMPLOYMENT LAW (\$35; \$25 for public sector attys)

Come out to the CMBA on the third Wednesday of the month for our lunch meetings and CLE. Our Labor & Employment Conference gives members speaking opportunities, not to mention 12+ hours of CLE.

LITIGATION (\$35)

With quarterly meetings and the Litigation Institute in June, the section offers convenient, relevant programming to our members. We support the Mock Trial programs as judges and mentors.

REAL ESTATE LAW (\$35)

We meet monthly on the second Thursday for an hour-long lunch and guest presentation. With our two-day Institute in November and our half-day CLE in the spring, we have your CLE needs covered. Our social events give you a chance to mix and mingle.

SOCIAL SECURITY & DISABILITY (\$25)

The CMBA's newest Section was formed in 2016 to address the needs of practitioners. From CLE seminars to networking opportunities, the Section aims to connect practitioners with ALJs, department staff and colleagues.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION (\$25)

Our monthly meetings are held at the State Office Building and feature presentations from state agencies, physicians and practitioners. Our very popular Advanced Medical/Legal Seminar is held on the first Friday of December.





Bankruptcy & Commercial Law Section



Women in Law Section

“The section members have deep knowledge of the area of law and routinely discuss difficult and trending topics at our section meetings.”

K. James Sullivan, Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP (Insurance Law Section)



New Lawyer Bootcamp

COMMON GROUND

GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY (\$10)

We offer a range of activities for our members to maximize their involvement in the CMBA and provide professional development. From our Annual President’s Day Seminar to our Fair Housing month, we give members CLE and social opportunities.

SMALL FIRM & SOLO PRACTITIONER (\$10)

Our meetings are held the fourth Thursday of the month in Independence, where we rotate between presentations and informal conversation. Our Small & Solo Expo is held in September and now we’ve added a half-day in May. We’re growing and building, and welcome all to join us.

WOMEN IN LAW (\$35; free for law students)

Our monthly meetings bring members together for a lively and interactive lunch program, featuring a keynote by a dynamic woman. We’ve got more — social events, pro bono, CLE, just to name a few. Join us to see what we’re all about — you’ll want to come back!

YOUNG LAWYERS (\$25; free for law students)

New to the practice? YLS is all about getting our members active and engaged. Social events? Check. Softball league? Check. Basketball league? Check. CLE targeted to newer lawyers? Check. Check us out on Facebook to see us out and about.



Labor & Employment Law Section



Real Estate Law Section
Rosewater Award



Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts Committee

COMMITTEES

GENERAL CMBA OVERSIGHT

GOLF OUTING

Join the team that assists in planning, seeking sponsors for, and hosting the Golf Outing held each June.

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Give your input on operations and programming to help make our LRS the best referral service it can be.

MEMBERSHIP

Help shape the member experience by developing membership recruitment and retention strategies, assisting individual sections with membership development plans, and working to expand and enhance member benefits.

COMMON INTEREST

GREEN INITIATIVE

Join the effort to promote efficient energy use and other environmentally responsible practices in the legal profession. We also plan and host the Greener Way to Work Week and luncheon each September.

LGBT & ALLIES

We offer a mix of educational and social opportunities for our inclusive membership, which ranges from attorneys who represent LGBT clients to those who support Cleveland's LGBT community. We partner with local organizations to provide legal perspective and advice.

LEGAL TECHNOLOGY

The CMBA's newest committee addresses developments in technology and its applications in law practice and management. We're just getting started — join us in steering the committee.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

THE 3RS

From all areas of the legal profession, 3Rs Committee members help guide the program, keeping the curriculum fresh, the volunteers well-trained, the teachers connected, and the volunteer experience engaging. The Committee also provides oversight to the Cleveland Mock Trial competitions for middle and high school students in the Cleveland public schools.

JUSTICE FOR ALL (JFA)

Members of this umbrella committee provide oversight to the CMBA's pro bono legal assistance, public law-related education and community service programs. They help identify unmet needs, recruit volunteers, and publicize and evaluate the programs.

CLEVELAND HOMELESS LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CHLAP)

Provides oversight to the CHLAP program, which recruits volunteers to provide outreach and legal help for the most vulnerable in our community: homeless and at-risk individuals and families.

VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS (VLA)

If you are passionate about the arts, serve on this committee to help local artists and arts organizations through pro bono assistance, free public law-related education, and outreach. Sign up to connect with our community's vibrant arts scene and help it grow!





DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Oversee the CMBA's diversity and inclusion initiatives. Volunteer to help plan and coordinate important projects including data collection, CLE conferences, minority careers fairs and diversity pipeline programs serving high school, college and law students.

LEGAL

BAR ADMISSIONS

Partner with another committee member to interview law students and out-of-state lawyers who want to join the Ohio Bar.

COURT RULES

Rule followers rejoice! The Court Rules Committee is a unique opportunity to work collaboratively with lawyers and judges on proposed rule changes at the state and local level.



DIVISION OF FEES MEDIATION & ARBITRATION

Put your mediation and arbitration skills to work by serving on a panel to help fellow lawyers resolve disputes over the division of legal fees.

ETHICS & PROFESSIONALISM

Bring a brown bag lunch and participate in a discussion about all that's hot in the world of ethics! This Committee is having an impact around the state through its annual Essay Writing Competition, What If

Preparedness Program (WIP), Ethics Hotline, and more!

JUDICIAL SELECTION

Build a stronger, more effective bench by participating in judicial candidate interviews with other local bar associations.

LAWYER-CLIENT FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Along with lay members, serve on an arbitration panel to help lawyers and clients resolve disputes over legal fees.

“VLA offers many ways to be as involved as I want to be. Plus, I enjoy hanging out in a fun environment with other lawyers.”

Jaclyn M. Vary, Schneider Smeltz Spieth Bell LLP

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS

Come along side lawyers who are passionate about providing education and resources to promote mental health and wellness within the profession.

UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW (UPL)

Help to protect the public by investigating allegations that individuals or businesses in our community may be engaged in the unauthorized practice of law.



PAY IT FORWARD

You can join the army of legal professionals giving back to the community and start making a difference today. No matter what your level of experience, schedule or interest, we have a menu of opportunities to engage you.

Your generous support makes these programs possible. Jump in today by making a **donation** to the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation (CleMetroBar.org/Foundation) or by **volunteering** (CleMetroBar.org/VolunteerNow).

CALENDAR

The 3Rs and 3Rs+ (September – April)

Ohio Mock Trial – Cuyahoga District Competition (January)

Ohio Mock Trial – Cuyahoga Regional Competition (February)

Cleveland High School and Middle School Mock Trial Competitions (May)

Law Day (May)

Louis Stokes Scholars Program (Summer)

Stephanie Tubbs Jones Summer Legal Academy (Summer)

National Pro Bono Week (October)

VOLUNTEER

THE 3RS

Rights • Responsibilities • Realities

Volunteers provide law-related education in the high school classroom. Sign up to serve on a team and connect with 11th graders in Cleveland or East Cleveland schools. Curriculum and volunteer orientation are provided. (September – April)

3RS+

Volunteers provide college and career counseling, tutoring, field trips, and mentoring services to students in the Cleveland and East Cleveland schools upon request. (September – April)

CLEVELAND HOMELESS LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Serve in two ways: (1) provide brief advice and counsel at intake sessions at homeless shelters and social service providers, or (2) provide follow-up service on legal matters needing further attention. (Sessions scheduled regularly throughout the year)

CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITIONS

Help coach teams preparing for competition at the Justice Center or serve as a judge on competition day. (Coaching February – May; Competitions in May)

OHIO MOCK TRIAL COMPETITIONS

Serve as a team legal advisor at a high school in Northeast Ohio or serve as a judicial panelist at the District or Regional Competitions in downtown Cleveland. (Cuyahoga District Competition January; Cuyahoga Regional Competition February)

PRO SE DIVORCE CLINICS

Guide participants through the paperwork and process of securing a simple divorce pro se. (3rd Friday monthly unless otherwise noted)





REACH OUT: LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR NONPROFITS

Support Cleveland's nonprofit community by volunteering to present at clinics, provide brief advice, and/or agree to take on further representation as needed. (Clinics and seminars scheduled quarterly throughout the year)

SPEAKERS BUREAU

Strut your stuff out in the community. Sign up to share your experience and knowledge with community groups and schools

who request information on a vast array of legal topics. (As needed throughout the year)

VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS (VLA)

If you have a passion for the arts, join the VLA and connect with our local arts community. Volunteers provide pro bono assistance and advice, as well as law-related education at events held in Cleveland's many unique arts venues. (Committee meets monthly, other services scheduled throughout the year)

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION PIPELINE PROGRAMS

LOUIS STOKES SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Volunteer to mentor, guide or share what you know with our Stokes Scholars during their summer internships. Show your support for these remarkable and driven graduates of Cleveland or East Cleveland schools who are pursuing a career in the law. You also can support this program by hosting an intern for the summer or by making a donation.

MINORITY CLERKSHIP PROGRAM

Plug into our efforts that serve minority law students during summer clerkships in the Cleveland area. Serve as a mentor; lunch-and-learn speaker; or help interview and place clerks.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES SUMMER LEGAL ACADEMY

Volunteers provide hands-on service to minority high school students during this two-week summer academy at Case Western Reserve University School of Law. You also can host and mentor students as interns at your firm or office.

“I was blessed with the ability to have a legal career, and I believe I have an obligation to pay it forward and help someone less fortunate in life.”

Jennifer Himmelein, Cavitch Familo & Durkin Co.,LPA; Pro Se Divorce Clinic Leader



DONATE

FELLOWS

Become a Fellow and be recognized as a distinguished member of the legal community. The Foundation Fellows program offers the opportunity for you to make leadership level contributions to our Bar Foundation in 10-year pledges starting at \$250 a year.

LEGACY FELLOWS PROGRAM

Leave a legacy through a gift in your estate plan. Your future gift will help secure the charitable outreach programs of the CMBA for generations to come.

INDIVIDUAL GIFTS

Make a charitable donation to provide ongoing support of the CMBA's Justice For All and Diversity & Inclusion Pipeline programs. You may also choose to contribute to the Endowment Fund of the Bar Foundation to sustain the programs into the future. Donations can be made in honor of or in memory of colleagues, friends or family.



GET DOWN TO BUSINESS

When you get right down to it, we ARE a professional association, so we're here to help you throughout your career.

Turn to the CMBA to be a more informed lawyer; advance your career; better serve your clients, support your practice, showcase your expertise and more. Here's how we can help.



WE PUT THE “CLE” IN CLEVELAND!

You need it, we've got it! With more than 160 live, relevant and timely CLE programs per year, why go anywhere else? All of our CLE programs include opportunities for networking through lunches or happy hours, and fulfill your professional obligations. Want to take CLE in the comfort of your home? We've got you covered! Our self-study CLE program with the Ohio Metropolitan Bar Association Consortium gives you access to state-wide CLE at affordable rates.

Visit CleMetroBar.org/CLE or call us at (216) 696-2404 for more information.

CLE PASSPORT

Save even more by ordering our CLE Passport! Members can pre-pay for 12 hours of live CMBA CLE for \$180 (July 1–31, otherwise \$300). See our site for details and terms.

MAJOR INSTITUTES

Along with dozens of one-hour and half day CLEs, the CMBA offers:

- Annual Municipal Law President's Day Seminar
- Health Care Law Update and Medical/Legal Summit
- The Northern Ohio Labor & Employment Law Conference
- The William J. O'Neill Regional Bankruptcy Institute
- Small/Solo Expo
- Estate Planning, Probate & Trust Law Institute
- The Real Estate Law Institute
- The Cleveland Tax Institute
- The Advanced Workers' Compensation Medical-Legal Seminar
- The Environmental Law Institute
- The Litigation Institute
- International Women's Day





CMBA CONFERENCE CENTER

As a CMBA member, take advantage of not one but three small rooms, free of charge. Whether you have a meeting or deposition to host, or just need a place to plug in before another meeting, we have the space for you. It is first come, first serve, so please call and we'll set you up. You will also receive discounts on renting any of our other seven rooms in a centrally-located, state-of-the-art, multi-purpose venue. Consider us for your next board retreat, CLE, training or social reception. Take advantage of our spacious 398-seat auditorium, an extremely unique space to downtown. We provide

onsite catering for all food and beverage requests, including alcohol. With our all-inclusive approach, the CMBA Conference Center provides you with a seamless and thoroughly enjoyable meeting and event experience. Book your next event with us today!

For information, contact Melanie Farrell at (216) 539-3711 or mfarrell@clemetrobar.org or CleMetroBar.org/ConferenceCenter

LRS

Let our Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) help with your business-development needs! We make 10,000+ referrals generating \$600,000 in legal business each year. Apply to add YOUR name to the list of LRS Attorneys covering 24 areas of practice! Visit CleMetroBar.org/LawyerReferral.



“Our event went off fantastically. Our clients loved your facilities and your staff was more than accommodating.”

Kaman & Cusimano



“The greatest single source of revenue for my firm to date has been LRS referrals.”

Roni Sokol, The Sokol Law Firm LLC



ONLINE DIRECTORY

Potential clients can find you 24/7 through the LRS Online Directory at CleMetroBar.org/Referrals. You may also opt for an Enhanced LRS Member Profile to better showcase your expertise.

PILLARS PROGRAM

Let the CMBA help you re-establish your footing with quarterly programs designed to assist legal professionals in their job search and through career transitions (perhaps unemployed or under-employed). Each Pillars Program session is led by knowledgeable experts offering practical advice, tips, and resources for your employment search.

PRACTICE SUPPORT

When you've got an ethics question, let us help. Call our Ethics Hotline (216) 696-3525 about your own prospective conduct.



HELPING SMALL & SOLO PRACTICES

Do you have a plan in place if something happens to you? Our What If Preparedness Program offers you easy-to-use forms to inventory your practice and identify key people to back you up in an emergency.





JUST FOR FUN!

Yes, we work hard, but we also play hard.

We host events and activities throughout the year that bring our members together — sometimes with the Greater Cleveland community — for fun, informal social events. We want you to join in the fun. Whether you are looking to meet new people, connect with old friends, dance the night away, dress in costume or play a round of golf with clients, we've got it covered.



ACTIVITIES

HALLOWEEN RUN FOR JUSTICE

Bring your family and friends to this high-energy and costume-filled event the last Saturday of October. We partner with Hermes Cleveland to offer 5K, one-mile and 5-mile options for competitive runners, walkers and not-so-serious runners, and the proceeds benefit our Bar Foundation.

GOLF OUTING

This is a CMBA summertime tradition you won't want to miss. Join us for a round of golf each June on a prestigious, local course.

MOVIE NIGHTS

Sit back and enjoy a classic on the big screen in our fantastic auditorium at one of our movie nights. You bring the friends; we'll supply the popcorn, candy and social time.

PARTIES

ROCK THE FOUNDATION

Our biggest party of the year! We rock the night away with live dance music, great food, open bar and more each February to benefit the Bar Foundation and help fund our community outreach and pro bono programs.

CELEBRATION FOR NEW LAWYERS

Each fall, we take the opportunity to bring together our legal community and collectively roll out the welcome mat for newly sworn in attorneys at this informal reception.

GREET THE JUDGES & GCS

This annual members-only event is held in May to bring us all together for an informal night of camaraderie. We also welcome and celebrate newly sworn in Ohio attorneys in our area.

LUNCHEONS

ANNUAL MEETING

Tradition meets fun each June when we pass the leadership reins to our new officers and trustees at our inaugural luncheon.

PUBLIC SERVANTS

Each fall, we recognize and honor individuals, nominated by the courts, who have gone above and beyond to provide exceptional service and assistance to the public and who play a critical role in our justice system.

“I’m a better leader and a better lawyer because of the CMBA.”

– Darrell A. Clay
Walter | Haverfield LLP

THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.

And there you have it, a quick peek at what you’ll find here at the CMBA. There are even more opportunities beyond these pages to help you grow your career, collaborate on initiatives impacting the CMBA and profession, collectively give back to Greater Cleveland, and have fun doing it. Whether you are a lawyer, paralegal, business professional or law student, we hope this guide gets you excited and helps you know where to start. We look forward to seeing you soon and getting to know you better.

NOT A MEMBER?
JOIN THE FUN!

We hope you’ll consider plugging into career and business development, discounts, volunteer, education, leadership, and many other opportunities offered right here in Greater Cleveland. Contact the Membership Department at (216) 696-3525 or membership@clemetrobar.org, or visit [CleMetroBar.org/Membership](https://www.CleMetroBar.org/Membership) to join today.



CRIMINAL LAW ENVIRONMENTAL LAW BANKRUPTCY PRO BONO PROJECT & BANKRUPTCY BY-PASS PROGRAM
CLEVELAND HOMELESS LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM 3RS OVERSIGHT LABOR & EMPLOYMENT

JFA JUDICIAL SELECTION
INSURANCE LAW
WOMEN IN LAW

HALLOWEEN RUN
CMBA CONFERENCE CENTER
LAWYER-CLIENT FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

MEMBERSHIP **JOIN**
ETHICS & PROFESSIONALISM VOLUNTEER

LOUIS STOKES SCHOLARS
WHAT IF PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM DONATE
MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS
CLEVELAND SPONSORSHIP LEADERSHIP

REAL ESTATE LAW HEALTH CARE LAW
ANNUAL MEETING GOVERNMENT ATTORNEYS

LITIGATION
SMALL & SOLO BUSINESS
ADR LGBT & ALLIES
ESTATE PLANNING, PROBATE & TRUST LAW

NETWORKING
CELEBRATION FOR NEW LAWYERS
PARTNERS FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
BANKRUPTCY & COMMERCIAL LAW

INTERNATIONAL LAW WORKERS' COMPENSATION
GREET THE JUDGES & GCS CERTIFIED GRIEVANCE LEGAL DIRECTORY

CLE MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS
PROFESSIONALISM CONCILIATION PANEL

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION PILLARS

LRS COMMITTEES
FAMILY LAW

ROCK THE FOUNDATION
PRO SE DIVORCE **YLS**
PUBLIC SERVANTS LUNCHEON

FASTCASE **SECTIONS**
REACH OUT SERVICE
ETHICS HELP & LAWYER DISPUTES

JUSTICE FOR ALL **THE 3RS**
DIVISION OF FEES MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION
FELLOWS SPEAKERS BUREAU

BAR JOURNAL JOB BOARD
DISCOUNTS **VLA**

BUSINESS, BANKING & CORPORATE COUNSEL
HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITIONS
UPL GOLF OUTING
LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE OVERSIGHT

3RS+ INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
MOVIE NIGHTS
LEGAL TECHNOLOGY

BENEFITS BAR ADMISSIONS

GREEN INITIATIVE

