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## **Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association Adds Two New Task Forces**

CLEVELAND – November 15, 2012 – The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA) is proud to announce two new task forces to tackle key issues facing our Cleveland legal community: the Task Force on Law School Debt and the Task Force on Civility and Professionalism.

The Task Force on Law School Debt will address the crippling level of debt facing many of our law school graduates. The issue is on its way to becoming a national crisis. The task force will be co-chaired by Stephen E. Walters, managing partner at Reminger Co., L.P.A., and Mary K. Whitmer, past CMBA president and partner with Kohrman, Jackson & Krantz PLL.

“This is a critical issue for not only the students, but for those who co-sign on the loans and may be held liable,” said CMBA President Carter E. Strang. “On behalf of the entire legal community, we are proud to be forming a task force to address this issue and find possible solutions.”

The Task Force on Civility and Professionalism will be co-chaired by Cuyahoga Court of Common Pleas Judges Joan Synenberg and Michael Donnelly. The goal of this task force is to create a series of recommendations and best practices for the bar and the bench that will increase civility and professionalism in the practice of law.

“We are a profession grounded in civility and professionalism, both in oath and action,” said Strang. “We owe it to our profession and those we serve to focus on this issue.”

### **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 [www.clemetrobar.org](http://www.clemetrobar.org).

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