

# CAPE MAY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

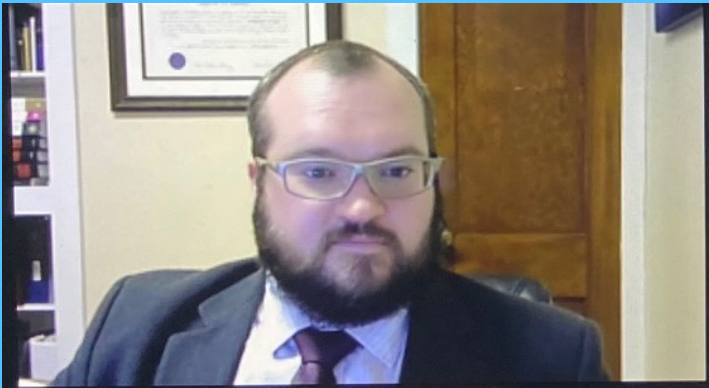
I'm honored and grateful to be serving as the President of the Cape May County Bar Association. As an attorney in South Jersey, I can't think of a better organization to be a part of. I want to thank Brett Yore and Michele Altenpohl for their guidance and leadership during the pandemic. I also want to thank our Executive Director Pam Kaithern. From the moment she took on the job, she has exceeded our expectations and we truly can't thank her enough.

Like most of us, I'm not sure what the future holds, but my hope is that we can return to some sense of normalcy and resume our in-person events, and most importantly, our annual CLE in November. The Board has already been discussing events in the next few months that can bring us all together in an environment that is safe for all our members. Our ability to meet and cultivate social relationships amongst our members is what makes this organization so special, and the Board hopes, at a minimum, we can begin to see each other again. I hope to see you soon.

- CMCBA President, Louis DeLollis

## OUR INSTALLATION EVENT

The Cape May County Bar Association recently held its second virtual installation event. Congratulations to new trustee Justin Turner, young lawyer trustee T.J. Mooney, and our new President Louis DeLollis, who took the oath from retired Judge Mark Sandson!



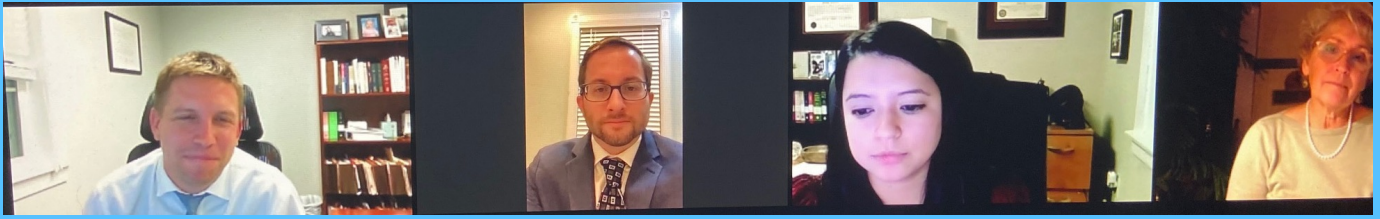
*Justin Turner, Esquire*



*T.J. Mooney, Esquire*



*Incoming CMCBA President, Louis DeLollis, Esquire*



## Joseph J. Rodgers, Esquire

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Northfield, New Jersey 08225  
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I am pleased to announce that my practice remains focused on all aspects of criminal law, traffic matters, drunk driving, domestic violence and appeals. I continue to handle cases in all of the state and federal courts in New Jersey.

Since the Covid 19 pandemic, we have all had to adjust to a virtual world, but at the same time remain active with our colleagues in the profession. The New Jersey Supreme Court appointed me Chair of the Board on Trial Attorney Certification. In that role, I hope I can continue to keep New Jersey certified attorneys in the forefront of the certification process as we adjust the requirements to the new world of litigation in all areas of the law.

Happy New Year to all of you, Joe Rodgers

# WELCOME NEW LAW CLERKS TO THE VICINAGE!

## **LOGAN TOWER - Clerk for the Hon. Jeffrey J. Waldman, J.S.C.**

I am a recent law school grad from Widener-Delaware Law. I am currently clerking for Judge Jeffrey J. Waldman, J.S.C. I am grateful for the opportunity to be a clerk. I think it's a really great way to dive into being a lawyer, be fully submerged in motions and other work, but still have people around you who are there to help and teach you. I have learned so much so far and continue to learn something new each day, which is really a great experience. I intend to be a prosecutor and so I hope to gain an A/P job at the conclusion of my clerkship.

Cape May has been a great place to work and start my career. Everyone knows everyone, and all the people are just very kind. Every single person I have encountered has gone out of their way to just be nice. It's very nerveing to start a new job and especially starting a career, and the people here make you feel comfortable and welcome.

In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family, reading, cooking, and watching the Real Housewives of all the cities. I also have the best dog in the entire world, her name is Ava, she is a Newfoundland, and she is almost nine years old.

## **JASON STUMP - Clerk for the Hon. James H. Pickering, Jr., J.S.C.**

Jason Stump is clerking for the Honorable James H. Pickering, Jr. in the civil division. Originally from Southeastern Pennsylvania, Jason was a professional dancer and actor for many years before attending Rutgers Law School. At Rutgers, he served as President of the Association of Public Interest Law and completed over 200 hours of pro bono legal services, mostly pertaining to voting rights. Jason is grateful for this opportunity to learn the inner workings of the court system and receive the mentorship of his Judge. He is also thankful to the Cape May Courthouse staff for creating a welcoming work environment.

## **ANNIE WEN - Clerk for the Hon. Christine Smith, J.S.C.**

Annie Wen is clerking for the Honorable Christine Smith, J.S.C. in the criminal division. Annie is originally from Dallas, Texas, but moved up to New Jersey after completing her undergraduate degree at Baylor University. Annie went to law school at Rutgers Law School, Newark. At Rutgers, she worked in the Education and Health Law Clinic. Annie is enjoying her time in Cape May, and loves working with the criminal team. She is very grateful for the mentorship of her Judge.

**JULIANA DAVIS - Clerk for the Hon. Bernard E. DeLury, Jr., P.J.Cr.**

Juliana Davis is clerking for the Honorable Bernard E. DeLury, Jr., Presiding Judge of the Criminal Part in both Atlantic and Cape May Counties. Juliana enlisted into the United States Army Reserve as a Religious Affairs Specialist in 2013 and was stationed at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst with HCC 2-228<sup>th</sup> Theater Fixed Wing Battalion. Juliana finished her undergraduate education in 2017, receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Law and Justice from Rowan University where she graduated *summa cum laude* and earned the President's Scholar of Excellence Award. While attending Rutgers Law School in Camden, Juliana was accepted into the Social Justice Scholar program and served as the Submissions Editor for the Women's Rights Law Reporter. Juliana also had the pleasure of interning in the Veterans Advocacy Clinic where she assisted veterans in obtaining a military discharge upgrade and various benefits. She returned to intern in the Advanced Veteran's Advocacy Clinic and served as a Teaching Assistant for the clinic during her last semester of law school. Upon her graduation in 2021, Juliana received the Dean's Pro Bono Publico Award for Exceptional Service as well as a Certificate in Criminal Law. Although Juliana grew up, and still lives, in Camden County, she gained her first legal experience in Vicinage One during her 1L internship at the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office in 2019 and has been enamored with the area ever since. Juliana is thankful for the opportunity to work for Judge DeLury and to gain a vital understanding of the court's role in the criminal justice system. She looks forward to visiting the courthouse in the new year!

**KAYLA FATTELL - Clerk for the Hon. Judge Julio Mendez, A.J., and Judge M. Susan Sheppard, P.J.F.P.**

My name is Kayla Fattell and I am currently clerking for Judge Mendez and Judge Sheppard in Cape May. I grew up in Point Pleasant, New Jersey, so I am thrilled to be back near the beach for the year! In May of 2021, I graduated from Villanova Law, where I was involved with the Civil Justice Clinic and the Environmental Law Journal. In my free time, I enjoy relaxing on the beach, reading fiction novels, trying new foods and restaurants, and completing crossword puzzles. I am very lucky in the fact that I am working with multiple judges this year and being exposed to many different practice areas and divisions. This opportunity has already taught me indispensable lessons for my future career. I am honored and excited to be clerking this year and know this experience will teach me so much about the legal field, while making such valuable professional connections.

**MEGHAN RAFTER - Clerk for Hon. M. Susan Sheppard P.J.F.P.**

My name is Meghan Rafter and I am currently clerking for the Hon. M. Susan Sheppard, P.J.F.P. I grew up in Havertown, PA, but have been spending my summers working in Cape May since I was 16. In the past I have worked at Peter Shields Inn, waitressed at the Shore Club, and interned at the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office. I graduated from Villanova Law in May 2021 where I was involved with the Moot Court Board, the Public Interest Fellowship Program, and the Institute to Address Commercial Sexual Exploitation. In my free time I like to read on the beach in the summers and ski in the winters. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work alongside so many talented and knowledgeable legal professionals. I am looking forward to all that I will learn during my clerkship and applying that in my future legal career.

**LORI-LYNNE KNOX - Clerk for the Hon. J. Christopher Gibson J.S.C.**

Lori-Lynne Knox has the privilege of serving as the Judicial Clerk for the Honorable J. Christopher Gibson in the Cape May County Superior Court, Criminal Division. While in Cape May County, she has gained an invaluable understanding of internal court procedures, continued to hone her legal research and writing skills, and observes court and proceedings. She also is gaining an understanding of what constitutes effective advocacy from the perspective of the judiciary.

In 2021, she earned her J.D from Rutgers Law School, where she was a member of the Rutgers Journal of Law & Public Policy. She served as Vice Justice for the International Law Society and was an oralist on the Jessup International Moot Court Competition team. While in law school, she served as an extern for the Honorable Noel S. Hillman in the District of New Jersey. While externing for Judge Hillman, she worked on several civil and criminal cases and drafted portions of published opinions. She also volunteered for the Judith A. Wismur Bankruptcy Pro Bono Project. Upon graduation, she was awarded the Dean's Pro Bono Publico Award for Exceptional Service, with Distinction.

Before Law school, she spent eleven years as a business analysis and project management consultant, specializing in IT Infrastructure and software development.

Mrs. Knox is from Merchantville, New Jersey, and enjoys golf, softball, tennis and ballroom dance.



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Pictured is Surety's General Counsel, and Cape May County Bar Association Trustee, Daniel J. McCann, Esq., crossing the marathon finish line in Antarctica. He completed the race in December 2021 and raised Breast Cancer Awareness on a global platform.

**Surety has four offices in Cape May County, conveniently located in Sea Isle City, Ocean City, Marmora and Wildwood Crest!**

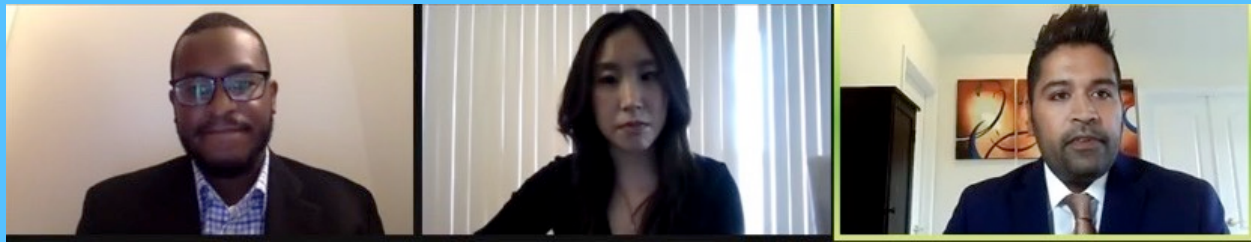
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## DIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP EVENT

The Cape May County Bar Foundation's Diversity Scholarship event had several distinguished lawyers from across New Jersey speak about diversity, inclusion, and allyship. The event, which included a 1.5 credit CLE, raised over \$2,400 for the CMCBF Diversity Scholarship, which is awarded to law students from New Jersey who have been affected by these themes, and who plan to advance them when they become a part of our legal community. We have already awarded scholarships from last years Diversity event to two law students attending Rutgers-Camden, and we will have the application for this years scholarship available soon. If you know anyone interested please let them know!



*James Lewis IV, Esquire*

*Jenny Chung, Esquire*

*Bhaveen Jani, Esquire*

And in addition to our attendees and contributors, we thank our panel, which included, Chair of the Southeast Bar Association of NJ, Bhaveen Jani; Secretary for the Garden State Bar Association, James Lewis IV; Past-President of the Asian Bar Association, Jenny Chung; and Past-President of the NJ State Bar Association, Tom Prol.



*Tom Prol, Esquire*



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CHILDREN, HAD GIFTS UNDER THE TREE FOR CHRISTMAS AND FOOD  
IN THE HOME FOR DINNER.

LET’S TRY TO PUSH THAT NUMBER EVEN FURTHER IN 2022!

# **CONGRATULATIONS AWARD WINNERS!**

The Cape May County Bar Association hosted its annual awards dinner at the Nauti Spirits Distillery this past November where we presented several awards to deserving local attorneys:

**Professionalism Award - David S. DeWeese**

**Hollenbeck Award - Michelle Altenpohl**

**O'Hern Award - Paul J. Baldini**

**Young Lawyer Award - Lyndsy Newcomb**



*From left to right: Paul Baldini; John Amenbauser (who accepted the award on behalf of David DeWeese); Michelle Altenpohl; and Lyndsy Newcomb.*

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[jbirchmeier@birchmeierlaw.com](mailto:jbirchmeier@birchmeierlaw.com)

The logo for M&B Law features the letters 'M&B' in a large, blue, serif font, with the 'M' and 'B' overlapping. Below this, the word 'LAW' is written in a smaller, yellow, sans-serif font. The entire logo is enclosed in a thin blue rectangular border.

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## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - SCOTT DEWEESE

*Our Bar is full of interesting and talented individuals in and out of the court. To highlight some of our members, not just for their legal successes, but for their personal accomplishments and interests as well, we'd like to point the spotlight on Scott DeWeese. Be sure to strike up a conversation with him sometime. Together, we can make this small bar feel smaller!*

I am a life-long resident of Cape May County, specifically, the Wildwoods. I graduated from Wildwood Catholic High School in 2007, and thereafter attended the University of Maryland and graduated in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in Criminology & Criminal Justice. For law school, I attended the Widener University School of Law in Wilmington, Delaware, graduating in 2014.



Upon graduation from law school, my first legal work came through a one-year judicial clerkship for the Honorable Mark H. Sandson, J.S.C., in the Atlantic County Superior Court, Criminal Division. It was a tremendous opportunity to clerk for Judge Sandson, and it provided me with invaluable experience in learning the behind-the-scenes operations of the judiciary. In 2015 I was fortunate to be able to join my father's law practice, The DeWeese Law Firm, P.C., as an Associate, and I continue to work in that capacity at our office located in Wildwood to this day. Our firm handles a wide-range of legal matters and is currently staffed with three full-time attorneys: myself, my father David S. DeWeese, Esq., and John Amenhauser, Esq.

I am an avid sports fan, particularly of all the Philadelphia professional sports teams. My love of sports led me to spending five years as an Assistant Coach of the Wildwood Catholic Boys' Basketball team. During the fall and winter months you can usually find me at Lincoln Financial Field and Wells Fargo Center stadiums rooting on the Eagles and 76ers, respectively. In the warmer months, I enjoy spending my free-time with family and friends relaxing in the sun down at the beach. My girlfriend, Ashley, and I try to travel as much as possible, most frequently visiting Fort Lauderdale. I have an eight-month old American Pitbull named Carmelo.



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#### **Prosecutor - Central Municipal Court**

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James Grimley Esq., Jenna Cook Esq., Adam Barker Esq.

Leeann Schairer, Discovery Clerk

#### **Public Defender - Central Municipal Court**

Email: [publicdefenders@aclink.org](mailto:publicdefenders@aclink.org)

Frank Lentz, Esq. And Linda Goff, Esq.

## SUBMISSIONS/IDEAS

Do you have an article you'd like to share with our membership? Or an idea that you think would work for the newsletter? Why not share it? Don't hesitate to reach out to our Editor, Brett Yore, via email at [BrettYore@Yahoo.com](mailto:BrettYore@Yahoo.com), and we may run it in a future newsletter. We'd like this newsletter to be a platform for our membership to generate discussion, opinions, and maybe some entertainment, so don't be afraid to share something!

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