



OHIO WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION NETWORK NEWSLETTER

Our purpose is to promote the leadership, advancement and interests of women attorneys through professional education, networking and the exchange of ideas between our members, local bar associations, business and the community.

Message from OWBA President

By Jayme Smoot, Nationwide Insurance



I hope your year is off to a great start! It's hard to believe we are approaching the end of the first quarter and SPRING! I hope you are taking some time for YOU – to relax, learn, and reconnect with family/friends. The OWBA strives to provide opportunities for you to take care of yourself, and our upcoming programming reflects it! We invite you to connect with fellow members at the events described in our newsletter and earn some CLE credit.

As Black History Month comes to a close and we begin Women's History Month, I would like to recognize and celebrate Charlotte E. Ray, the first Black woman lawyer in the United States. Her legacy opened doors for future women lawyers. [Charlotte E. Ray's Brief But Historic Career as the First U.S. Black Woman Attorney - HISTORY](#)

Thank you for your membership! Please join us at our upcoming events, consider becoming a member of a committee, and share any ideas for future events!

Message from OWBF President

By Lucy Higgins, Array



Greetings! It is hard to believe that we are approaching the end of our Leadership Institute and have just 2 sessions left! We have had incredible firm sponsors from around the state hosting our Leadership Institute Cohort, 2 power breakfasts led by remarkable speakers, and many lively panel discussions. We are so grateful to our speakers and panelists for sharing their time, valuable work, and life experiences with our Cohort!

We recently had the pleasure of co-hosting a happy hour event in Cleveland where we had more than 50 women attorneys gather. It was a great event where we were able to expand our reach to Northeast Ohio, gain some new members, and make connections with other bar associations across the state.

I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events! Happy almost Spring!

Photos from the OWBA/CMBA Networking event



OWBA/OWBA Annual Meeting Save the Date



SAVE THE DATE

2023 Annual Meeting & Conference

May 11 | Noon to 6:00 PM

May 12 | 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Times are approximate and subject to change

Hilton Polaris, Columbus, Ohio

For more information and to register, visit owba.org/annual-meeting

Annual Awards

Diversity & Inclusion Champion Award (Organization)

Description:

The Ohio Women's Bar Association's Diversity and Inclusion Committee seeks to recognize a law firm, company or other legal organization that has a

Kurt Tunnell Diversity and Inclusion Sponsor Award (Individual)

Description:

The Ohio Women's Bar Association's Diversity and Inclusion Committee seeks to recognize an individual who has demonstrated an individual

demonstrated commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion within the profession. The Committee will consider an applicant's trailblazing efforts.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Family Friendly Award (Organization)

Description:

OWBA is at the forefront of a profession-wide effort to promote meaningful alternative work arrangements in both private and public practice. Established in 2003, the Family Friendly Award honors those legal employers in Ohio who best exemplify the commitment to work-life balance arrangements, and assures that lawyers can take care of their families and still pursue a successful career.

[Click here](#) for more information.

commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion within the profession, particularly through support and sponsorship of diverse attorneys. The Committee will consider an individual's efforts .

[Click here](#) for more information.

Government in Action Award

Description:

This award seeks to promote advancement and leadership opportunities for women working in both government and government related positions. The award honors a woman who has demonstrated strong leadership by promoting opportunities for the advancement of women and who has been influential in the public sector and in the community she serves.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Nominations Close March 31, 2023

Save the Date

CLE program on March 23 from 9-10:30 AM.

***Race, Justice and the Legal System
Revisited
Have Things Changed Since George
Floyd?***

Featuring Judge Laurel Beatty Blunt
Moderated by Jennifer Battle

Be on the lookout for registration
information the week of March 6, 2023



Judge Laurel Beatty Blunt



Jennifer Battle,
Carpenter Lipps & Leland

Leading the Way

The OWBA and OWBF had the pleasure of honoring Janica Pierce Tucker, partner-in-charge of the Taft Columbus office, with our Leading the Way Award during our Leading the Way Celebration November 9, 2022.

The evening brought together over 80 members of the OWBA and OWBF community, who enjoyed the beautiful space, food and drinks at the North 4th Corridor's Brick and Mortar. The evening also included the introduction of the Leadership Institute's 2022-2023 cohort.

Thank you again to our event sponsors for your support- Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company, Carpenter Lipps & Leland, Taft Law, Faruki PLL, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, Yacobozzi Drakatos, LLC, and Thompson Hine. An extra special Thank You to our Annual Sponsors- Frost Brown Todd and Porter Wright!



Congratulations to OWBA/OWBF Members who are Ohio Super Lawyers & Rising Stars Honorees



MISCONDUCT REPORTING OBLIGATIONS FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

By Erin Rhinehart, Partner, Faruki PLL

Dr. Death, The Shrink Next Door, social media influencers suing their plastic surgeons for bad behavior — physician misconduct is a hot topic right now. But misconduct reporting obligations are not new. Ohio has long required various health and wellness professionals (and the entities employing them) to report misconduct. While specific reporting obligations vary by profession, the laws governing mandatory reporting of misconduct are gaining more attention by the licensure governing boards, patients, and lawyers — perhaps because of the recent influx of media scrutiny and public awareness.

Regardless the reason, it is as good a time as any for a refresher. Licensees, health care facilities, and hospitals are required under Ohio law to report various types of professional misconduct, including sexual misconduct, impairment, practice below the minimum standards of care, and improper prescribing and/or distributing of controlled substances. Often, discipline or termination without reporting may be insufficient for employers to comply with these laws. Failure to report can result in monetary fines and disciplinary action. Therefore, policies and practices (e.g., disclosure forms; contact sheets; checklists; knowledge of confidentiality and immunity protections; and training) should be adopted (and updated regularly) to ensure consistent, timely compliance. To that end, the following chart summarizes some of Ohio's health care misconduct reporting laws; and (hopefully) offers a friendly reminder regarding the importance of managing gaps in related policies or procedures.

[Click here](#) to read more

Get Involved

Thank you to the following OWBA and OWBF Members who have volunteered to chair committees:

Diversity Equity & Inclusion - Jennifer Battle
In-House Counsel Committee - Lavell Payne Brown
Government Subcommittee - Sabra Tomb
Social Media Committee - Lisa Lang
Law School Liason - Abigail Barr

The following committees are still in need of a chair:

Judicial Selection Committee, Cuyahoga County
Judicial Selection Committee, Supreme Court
Mentoring Committee
Bar Association Liason
Nominating/Governance Committee

Reach out to Carlita Skok at carlita@owba.org if you are able to volunteer your time!

OWBA's Social Media Committee

OWBA is currently looking for members interested in joining the OWBA's social media committee. New member Lisa Lang has volunteered to serve as chair. OWBA currently has a presence on Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Facebook. Committee members should expect to meet on a quarterly basis to help support OWBA's goal of increasing its connections, promoting events and member achievements, and posting on each of the OWBA's social media platforms.



Lisa can be contacted at lisaklang@yahoo.com or you can message her on [LinkedIn](#)

Reflecting on Black History Month

Paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship in American society. <https://blackhistorymonth.gov/>



Reflecting on American Heart Month

Adopt healthy lifestyles to prevent heart disease.
[American Heart Month | NHLBI, NIH](#)



March is Women's History Month

Commemorating and encouraging the study, observance and celebration of the vital role of women in American history.

<https://womenshistorymonth.gov/>



Follow us on Social Media

The OWBA and OWBF can be found on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. Join our groups, like us and connect to us to share information and connect with women attorneys across Ohio.

[OWBA Facebook](#) | [OWBF Facebook](#) | [OWBA Twitter](#) | [OWBF Twitter](#) | [OWBA LinkedIn](#)