

RAISING THE BAR

NORTHEAST HARRIS COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION (NEHCBA)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Malcolm Dishongh



I want to thank the membership for choosing me to serve as the President. I

am humbled by such an honor and hope to bring ideas and energy to the position. One of the principals of the foundation of the Northeast Harris County Bar Association was to "promote and encourage a better understanding of the legal profession by the public."

Too often our profession is the butt of a joke or a shocking news story. In my term as President I am

looking to branch out in the community and align with other organizations and their activities to put

a spotlight on our profession and specifically our members. Our membership is diverse and the areas of practice of our members are even more diverse.

"OUR MEMBERSHIP IS DIVERSE AND THE AREAS OF PRACTICE OF OUR MEMBERS ARE EVEN MORE DIVERSE."

I also want to build our base of attorneys and start a community outreach with something like a "Coffee with Counsel" community presentation. The idea would be a 30 minute to an hour commitment at a "local" coffee shop or other establishment where we invite the local community to come and "talk shop" with us. A short 5-10 presentation on a "useful" topic area that provides those in attendance with helpful information to hit the ground running. Some ideas for topics I have are "We have had a natural disaster and contractors are everywhere, how do I choose?";

"What to do if someone passes away and I need to get title to their vehicle?"

"How do I apply for social

security benefits?" and "I got a ticket, and I did it, do I have to plead guilty?"

Volunteerism is another goal this year as I believe the more we get involved in the community,

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UPCOMING EVENTS

All CLE Luncheons take place on the 2nd Friday of the month at Los Cucos Restaurant, beginning at 11:45 a.m. Cost is \$25.00 for members; \$35.00 for non-members.

You can pre-register (and pre-pay) online at www.nehcba.org.

10/11/2019:

Gray Reed
Tips for Non-IP Lawyers

11/8/2019:

Divorce Strategies Group
Business Valuations in Divorce

October 2019

www.nehcba.org

the better off our community will be. I hope to also bring our legal community together with more activities and interaction that will help the community better understand who we are and what we do.

Finally, I want to encourage all the members to come to the

social networking and get to know each other – not just as lawyers, but as individuals, fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, and friends. These interactions outside of the legal field help build trust, cooperation and quality communications for future situations.

Building a strong community of lawyers and the structure for those that follow us will undoubtedly reap benefits for all of us, both personally and professionally.

Thanks, and I look forward to a great year.

– Malcolm D. Dishongh

EVENTS

Upcoming speakers

October 11, 2019

IP Myths, Traps, and Disaster Avoidance: Tips for Non-IP Lawyers. Speakers are Eric Tautfest and David Henry from the law firm of Gray Reed.

November 8, 2019

Business Valuations in Divorce. Speaker is Denise French with Divorce Strategies Group.

December 11, 2019

Christmas Party at Amadeo's. We will be collecting small kitchen gadgets to donate to HAAM. They are particularly in need of hand-operated can openers, but any such small tools will be appreciated. Address is 22704 TX-494 Loop, Kingwood, TX 77339

HAPPY HOURS

Monthly Happy Hour on the Wednesday following our monthly luncheon at Brick House. Starts at 6:00 p.m. and the first drink is paid for by the bar! Join your colleagues for fun and fellowship!

Upcoming Happy Hours are:

October 16, 2019

November 20, 2019

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

Chaunte Sterling

Man accused of forging wife's name on divorce papers appears in court with new wife September 23, 2019

HOUSTON - A Houston man wanted for allegedly filing fake divorce papers turned himself in Monday morning.

Paul Nixon, 51, appeared in Harris County Criminal Court with his attorney and his new wife.

The Houston DJ told KPRC2 reporter Taisha Walker that he did not forge the signature on his wife, Edna, in order to obtain a divorce last May.

"I'm not guilty and I want everybody in Houston to know, that knows me, I wouldn't do this," Nixon said. "So we're going to let the courts do their job and I trust the courts that they're going to see the proof and evidence that we have."

Nixon is a Houston disk jockey who goes by the name DJ U-Shay. Nixon's attorney, Chaunte Sterling, said Nixon was in Georgia for work when he learned of the charge.

"He's a legend here. He's a legendary DJ here in Houston. He was actually on tour when he started receiving multiple phone calls, texts about this matter. Got on the first flight here, came out and we approached today for a bond," said Sterling, who is with the Law Office of Chaunte Sterling.

Further reading: <https://www.click2houston.com/news/man-accused-of-forging-wife-s-name-on-divorce-papers-appears-in-court-with-new-wife>

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

We know that your time is valuable; therefore, the Northeast Harris County Bar Association (NEHCBA) wants to ensure that your participation and involvement has multiple benefits.

From networking to CLE opportunities, NEHCBA provides a local nexus for you to grow professionally and provides a colleague support system in our area. For example, NEHCBA provides every member an opportunity to showcase their knowledge in our quarterly newsletter. But most importantly, we hope that NEHCBA fosters a sense of community for mentorship, personal growth, referrals as well as friendships.

Practicing law is a challenging endeavor. Whether you are a solo attorney, or you are affiliated with a firm, having a strong and available community of lawyers from all areas of practice of law is an important component to your success. We hope that our local bar association will make the practice of law easier and more enjoyable.

Don't hesitate to reach out to your Board Members if you have any questions or if you need some help!