

PRESS RELEASE

March 3rd, 2021

Akron Canton Barristers' Association
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

TO: Summit/Stark County Communities
RE: Newly Elected Officers for Akron/Canton Barristers

After ten and a half years as the President of the Akron Canton Barristers' Association, Attorney Edward L. Gilbert has stepped down as President. Barrister Gilbert will concentrate his future efforts on developing the Political Action Committee (PAC) for the Akron Canton Barristers.

Effective February 1st, 2021, the new (and younger) officers are:

- President Cedric Colvin
- 1st Vice President Marcus Wainwright
- 2nd Vice President Elisa Hill
- Treasurer Esther Thomas
- Secretary Shelby Woodall

New Officer Introductions:



President Cedric Colvin is currently employed as a Magistrate for the Honorable Judge Annalisa S. Williams at the Akron Municipal Court.

Colvin is a native of Akron and a Copley High School graduate. He received his undergraduate degree from The University of Akron. He received his law degree from The University of Alabama School of Law.

President Colvin formerly worked for the Summit County Legal Defenders Office as a staff attorney where he represented indigent clients.



1st Vice President Marcus Wainwright is currently a Director of the law firm of Krugliak, Wilkins, Griffiths & Dougherty Co., L.P.A. headquartered in Canton, Ohio. He focuses on practice in litigation for businesses, domestic relations, personal injury and labor law.

Wainwright is originally from Youngstown, Ohio. He graduated from Youngstown State University and The University of Akron School of Law.

1st Vice President Wainwright practices in both federal and state court and is well-known for his insurance defense work. Wainwright is a former Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Cuyahoga County.



2nd Vice President Elisa Hill is currently a Magistrate for the Summit County Domestic Relations Court. Hill works directly for the Honorable Judge Katarina Cook.

Hill was born and raised in Ravenna, Ohio. She obtained her undergraduate degree from Kent State University, then received her law degree from The University of Akron School of Law.

2nd Vice President Elisa Hill was formerly the Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for the City of Akron. While at the Prosecutor's Office, Elisa was the Domestic Violence Prosecutor, Police Legal Advisor and Felony Court Prosecutor



Treasurer Esther Thomas is currently the Director of Human Resources at Community Action Akron Summit. Further, she is a Commissioner for the Akron Civil Rights Commission.

Thomas is an Akron native who graduated from Western Reserve Academy in Hudson, Ohio. She obtained her undergraduate degree from Amherst College then received her Juris Doctorate from the University of Cincinnati College of Law.

Treasurer Thomas formerly was the Staff Attorney for the Legislative Service Commission, the Legal Counsel for the Office of Collective Bargaining for the State of Ohio and served as a Magistrate at Summit County Juvenile Court.

Secretary Shelby Woodall (no photo available) continues in this role after five years of distinguished service to the Akron/Canton Barristers.

Woodall is a Staff Representative for AFSCME, Ohio Council 8, where she has worked for the past 14 years.

Previously, Secretary Woodall has been in general practice in the area of criminal law. Woodall was the Summit County Assistant Prosecutor from 1996 to 2005. Further, she served as a reserve Magistrate in the Akron Municipal Court, handling traffic and small claims actions. Formally, Woodall was also employed by the Children's Support division of the Summit County Prosecutor's Office.

Conclusion:

Attorney Gilbert stated: "It's refreshing to see the new generation picking up the mantel to represent the Summit and Stark communities."

The Akron/Canton Barristers represents the minority bar, consisting of 95 primarily African American lawyers.