

Barristers Executive Committee

T. Mitchell Panter	President
Mikel A. Towe	Vice President
M. Samantha Parris	Immediate Past President
Daniel L. Ellis	Secretary/Treasurer
Amanda T. Tonkin	Member-At-Large
Jeremy R. Goolsby	Member-At-Large



Who are the Knoxville Barristers?

The Knoxville Barristers are lawyers who are members of the Knoxville Bar Association who are under 36 years of age or have been practicing law less than five years. Probably no other local bar association and group of young attorneys work harder or have a more diverse list of public service opportunities than those right here in Knoxville. While providing valuable and appreciated public service, these young lawyers have fun enjoying each other and enjoying serving others.

How can you get involved?

Sign up for a Barrister committee online or drop by one of their monthly activities: the Barristers' meeting on the second Wednesday of each month with social time starting at 5:00 p.m. and the meeting beginning promptly at 5:15 p.m.

Barrister Committee 2018 Highlights

Access to Justice Committee

Chair: Adam Duggan & J. Spencer Fair

The committee worked tirelessly this year to facilitate and encourage the KBA Barristers in their efforts (1) to develop a monthly clinic for veterans facing legal concerns; (2) engage young lawyers in pro bono opportunities like the veterans legal clinics, LAET Saturday Bar, quarterly Grandparents as Parents meetings and the Faith Based Legal Clinics; and (3) to offer educational programs to members and the community on timely legal topics.

Athletics Committee

Chair: Bryce Fitzgerald

The committee plans athletic and social activities as part of a joint effort with the Membership Services Committee. This committee sponsored the annual Barristers' Charity Golf Tournament at Holston Hills Country Club on October 22, 2018. Due to the generous financial support of the 100 golfers and the sponsors who participated, the tournament raised over \$6,000 for the charitable endeavors of the Barristers. The committee also hosted the first Annual, "Bowable Hours" Bowling Night on April 19 at Main Event.

Diversity Committee

Chairs: Christina Magrans-Tillery & Amanda Morse

The committee's mission is to promote knowledge of and respect for the legal profession in communities that historically have been excluded from the practice of law. The committee met numerous times throughout the year and participated in several activities. The committee assisted the KBA Diversity in the Profession Committee in organizing the September 25th *Diversity & Inclusion: A Call to Action: From Awareness to Commitment* CLE and Reception. Additionally, the Committee held a fall mixer on October 25 at Pretentious Beer Company where students of diverse backgrounds were able to meet and socialize with local attorneys in a low-pressure and inviting environment.

Hunger & Poverty Relief Committee (HPRC)

Chair: Courtney Panter & Meagan Davis Colver

This year, the Hunger and Poverty Relief Committee continued a number of its annual activities. The Professional Clothing Drive yielded hundreds of items of clothing that were donated to the Career Closet at the YWCA, KARM, and Connect Ministries. The Committee's first ever Brews for Backpacks event was held on August 6 at Printshop Beer Company. Attendees brought in 15 backpacks filled with supplies and donated more than \$950 to purchase additional school supplies for Childhelp Foster Family Agency of East Tennessee. Committee members also collected 145 winter coats during the Bundle Up Knoxville Coat Drive, which were donated to KARM's Coats for the Cold initiative. Law firms across Knoxville generously donated their time throughout the year and served an

estimated 1,700 meals to the elderly as part of the Meals on Wheels Program, which was coordinated by Nic Arning. The annual Canned Food Drive to benefit Second Harvest raised \$14,484.66 and collected 240 lbs. of food. The donations represent 43,694 meals for those in need. The Committee will wrap up the year with a toy drive for SPARK (formerly known as the East Tennessee Technology Access Center). The drive will provide toys for children with disabilities and will be collected during the Barristers' Annual Elections and Holiday Party.

Law School Mentor Committee

Chairs: Caitlyn Luedtke Elam & Soojin Kim

The Law School Mentor Committee held the Mock Interview Program at UT College of Law. The Mock Interview Program helps law students prepare for interviews for summer associate positions by providing them with an opportunity to engage in a "practice" interview conducted by a KBA member. Afterwards, each student receives feedback on his or her interview performance and résumé. This year the Committee conducted mock interviews at UT Law with the assistance of numerous volunteers from the KBA. We received great feedback from the law school, and the students greatly appreciated everyone's time and efforts.

Law Week & School Outreach Committee

Chair: Luke Ihnen & Zack Walden

This committee developed and implemented programming for Constitution Day. The program replaced the Junior Judges program, traditionally offered during Law Week. The Constitution Day program was piloted at Christenberry Elementary with the hopes that the program can be offered to other schools throughout Knox County. The committee also handles the nomination for the Law and Liberty Award which was presented to Kathryn Ellis.

Membership Services Committee

Chairs: Elizabeth M. Towe & Mikel A. Towe

This year, the Membership Services Committee sponsored multiple happy hours and invited the entire Knoxville Bar and not just the Barristers. The year's highlight was hosting the annual summer party at Candoro Marble, a piece of Knoxville's history where marble products were made and used in the construction of numerous monumental buildings across the United States. More than 50 people were in attendance and enjoyed the opportunity to visit with new and existing friends and colleagues. The New Admittees Reception on November 5 at Elkmont Exchange was attended by 40 new admittees and members.

Mock Trial Committee

Chairs: Amanda T. Tonkin & Sarah J. Watson

The Mock Trial Committee coordinated and hosted the 2018 Annual Regional High School Mock Trial Competition for Districts 2, 3 and 4. The competition featured 9 teams of high school students from Carter, Farragut, Jefferson County, Knoxville Catholic, L & N STEM Academy, Maryville, Powell, and Seymour. The committee coordinated over 50 volunteers to serve as judges and bailiffs to help with the competition. The first place went to Jefferson County High School's "Blue" Team.

Volunteer Breakfast Committee

Chairs: Paul Wehmeier & Matt Knable

The committee successfully organized sponsors and volunteers to serve a hearty breakfast to the underprivileged on the 4th Thursday of each month at the Volunteer Ministry Center. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, we were able to cover the cost of this endeavor. We were fortunate to have the assistance of many volunteers throughout the year to help prepare and serve the breakfasts.