

# Dougherty Circuit Bar Association

## Dougherty Bar Bulletin

Nancy S. Stephenson, President  
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Volume 23  
Issue 2  
March 2006

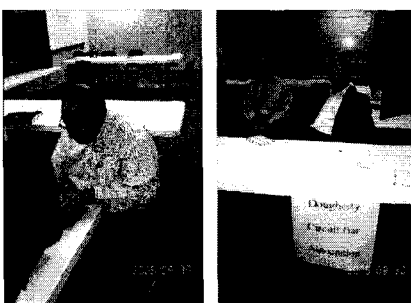
### Bar Association's Christmas Gifts and Legal Assistance to Katrina Evacuees



Gail Pursel and Glenn Booker deliver Bar's Christmas Gifts for Storm Evacuees

Members of the Dougherty Circuit Bar Association helped make Christmas a little bit merrier for victims of Hurricane Katrina who relocated to the Albany area by donating Christmas presents for them at the Association's December Christmas party meeting. A special Disaster Relief Committee headed by Gail Pursel collected the gifts, wrapped them, and delivered them in time for Christmas.

This committee also arranged for volunteer lawyers from the Dougherty Circuit Bar to offer their services to hurricane evacuees at a local resource center set up by the American Red Cross and the City of Albany. Lawyers conferred with evacuees about FEMA benefits, housing, and other issues.



Bill Underwood helps prepare a FEMA application while Keith Pflipsen and Hugh Morris wait for the next advisee.

### Upcoming Events

Wednesday, April 5th at noon - **Bar Meeting at the Shackelford House Restaurant, Dawson Road.** Our speaker will be Paula Bacon to explain the proposal for a possible Dougherty Circuit Bar Web site. Please note the changed location.

Thursday, April 27th, 5:00 p.m. - **Law Day Spring Barbeque at Ben Benford's farm, Hwy 62.**

Monday, May 1st - **Law Day U.S.A. Be part of it.**

### Bar Association Proposes A Lawyer Referral Web Site

By President Nancy S. Stephenson

Thanks to Walter Kelley for an elegant and fun Christmas Party, and thank you all for your participation in the Christmas gift donation to Hurricane Katrina victims. This is just the latest among good deeds for which the Dougherty Circuit Bar can be proud. I really appreciate Gail Pursel and her committee members for all their disaster relief efforts. As our organization has grown larger, so has the challenge of coordinating major endeavors, from charitable projects to mock trial and Law Day events. Also, it's easy in a large organization to rely on the assumption that "someone else will do it." This makes it more important than ever, in my opinion, to implement a website this year, for the benefit of both members and the public, to centralize information and to keep everyone informed. I hope you will voice your opinions and add your knowledge and input as we explore this possibility. Also, if any of you would like to be included in the Law Library's lawyer referral notebook, please contact me or Laureen Adams. This resource is getting a lot of use, according to Laureen, and I appreciate your participation.

## Lee County Wins Regional High School Mock Trial Competition, Seeks Financial Assistance for State Competition.

The High School Mock Trial team from Lee County outscored teams from other area high schools, including teams from Valdosta and Bainbridge, to win the Regional High School Mock Trial competition held on Saturday, February 25th at the Dougherty County Courthouse. Dougherty Circuit Bar lawyers and judges served as juror/evaluators and judges.

Braving both rainy weather, and zooming bicycle racers in downtown Albany, the student teams representing the prosecution and defense tried a felony murder case involving the suspected arson by an environmental activist of an SUV automobile dealership that killed a homeless person in the fire. Teams had to contend with both an alleged eyewitness implicating the defendant in setting the fire and also an alibi witness.

The Lee County team will be going on to represent our region in the State Mock Trial competition. They have asked the Dougherty Circuit Bar for financial assistance to defray the estimated \$2,000.00 expense of taking the team to the State finals. This request will be on the agenda for discussion at the April 5th bar association meeting.

## Notice of Federal Rules Changes

TO: ALL ATTORNEYS PRACTICING IN FEDERAL COURTS

FROM: RICHARD L. HODGE,  
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO THE RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

Please be advised that certain changes in the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, Bankruptcy Rules, Rules of Civil Procedure and Criminal Procedure become effective on December 1, 2005. The changes may be obtained at: <http://www.uscourts.gov/rules/amendments0405.htm>

## New Lawyer Joins Gardner, Willis

James A. Ivey has joined the law firm of Gardner, Willis, Sweat & Handelman, LLP. A native of Tifton, Mr. Ivey earned his Associate's Degree from Abraham Baldwin College in 1997, and his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Georgia Southwestern University in 2000. He is a 2005 graduate of the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University, where he received the CALI Excellence for the Future Award. He was admitted to the Georgia Bar in 2005 and is a member of both the Georgia and the Dougherty Circuit Bar Associations. Mr. Ivey joined the firm as an associate in the Litigation Department, and his practice areas include civil litigation, insurance defense and workers' compensation

## Positions

The Lee County Board of Commissioners is accepting resumes for a part-time County Prosecutor. This position will assist county staff and the Sheriff's office in prosecuting criminal, traffic, and code violation cases in the Lee County Magistrate Court. Requires law degree, working knowledge of Georgia statutes and Lee County ordinances relating to county government, and be a member of the State Bar of Georgia in good standing. Also requires the ability to pass drug test and criminal background check.

*Send resume along with letter of interest with proposed fee and rates to:*

Christi Dockery, County Clerk  
Lee County Board of Commissioners, 104 Leslie Highway/P.O. Box 889, Leesburg, GA 31763  
(229) 759-6000

[cdockery@lee.ga.us](mailto:cdockery@lee.ga.us)  
[www.lee.ga.us](http://www.lee.ga.us)

Position will remain opened until filled. Lee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Drug Free Workplace. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the County will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities and encourages both prospective and current employees to discuss potential accommodations with the employer.

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I need an associate attorney. Call 446-7557 or fax resume to 446-1454. Thank you, Jeanie Tupper.