



**DOUGHERTY CIRCUIT  
BAR ASSOCIATION  
P. O. BOX 1504  
ALBANY, GEORGIA 31702**

**JUN 27 1996**

**NOTICE**

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE DOUGHERTY CIRCUIT BAR  
ASSOCIATION**

**FROM: PETE DONALDSON**

**DATE: June 21, 1996**

**RE: June Meeting**

The June meeting of the Dougherty Circuit Bar Association will be on Friday, June 28, 1996, at 12:30 p.m. at Merry Acres. We expect a large turnout, so please R. S. V. P. by Wednesday, June 26, 1996, to Terri or Carol at 883-2441.

Our program will be a political forum with candidates for District Attorney and for the Superior Court seat being vacated by Judge Kelley.

Since I am personally involved in one of the campaigns, our Program Chairman, Robert Goldsmith, will preside over the forum.

Obviously, I expect that this program will be longer than our usual 30 minutes. You may want to plan your day accordingly.

**FORUM RULES**

The program format will include a five minute presentation from each candidate, with the judicial candidates speaking first. The order of presentation will be determined by coin toss. Following the presentation by all five candidates, there will be a question and answer period.

## QUESTIONS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING AND ANONYMOUSLY.

There will be five envelopes, one for each candidate, at the table just inside the meeting room door. You may put any question you wish in the appropriate envelope. The questions to be posed to the candidates will be chosen from the envelopes at random and read by the Program Chairman. The Chairman will, however, have sole discretion as to whether a question is appropriate.

Questions will be posed to the candidates in the order in which they spoke. The candidates will not have prior knowledge of the questions. Each candidate will be asked at least two questions. If time permits, additional inquiries will be entertained.

Answers by the candidates will be limited to ninety seconds each. The candidates are to keep their answers responsive to the questions. (The answer should not be taken as an opportunity to address issues not included in the questions.)

All time limits will be enforced by the Program Chairman.

## A NOTE ON POLITICAL ADVOCACY

As lawyers, we are probably in a unique position to make assessment of the qualifications of the candidates for the office of the District Attorney and the Superior Court bench. We know all of the candidates personally and we are familiar with their experience and abilities. I am sure that I am joined by all of the candidates in saying that it is entirely appropriate for you to publicly express your personal beliefs as to which candidate is the best choice for each office.

This association will not give any endorsement to any candidate. Nonetheless, the individual members are encouraged to publicly express their views.

I have long known all five candidates, and I am certain that none of them would ask you to withhold an honestly held opinion. Both offices require utmost impartiality, and I would hope that none of these candidates would be affected in their dealings with lawyers who publicly supported their opponents.

If you have a strong conviction in these races, I encourage you to publicly endorse the candidate of your choice.

THANKS TO MANY

I remain excited over the enthusiasm and accomplishments of our association.

In our May meeting we presented awards for the school essay program, we recognized the participants in the tutoring program which we sponsor, and we announced that our association had won awards of general merit and specific accomplishment in our Law Day

programs. None of these accomplishments came without hard work on the part of our members. If I attempted to list those who give time and effort, I would surely overlook substantial contributors to the success of our association. Nevertheless, with the recent round of recognitions which we have received, it would be inappropriate to fail to single out Jim Finkelstein for his work with the after-school tutoring program; Don Sweat for his chairmanship of the law day program and, as always Judge Zeese for his guidance in virtually every effort of the association.

#### NEW OFFICERS

Jay Reynolds was elected as President-elect of the association for the coming year. Don Sweat will take office as President at the August meeting. Our Secretary/Treasurer will be determined in the usual manner as of July 1.