



WOMEN LAWYERS
of FRANKLIN COUNTY

WLFC ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 25, 2023



We are our own best resource
www.womenlawyersfranklincounty.com



Harnessing women's power

We honor **Women Lawyers of Franklin County** and celebrate its commitment to enhancing women's opportunities in the field of law.

BakerHostetler

bakerlaw.com

A Message

*From WLFC's Outgoing President,
Celia Schnupp*



What a year. We continue to endure unimaginable hardship and somehow keep it all going. We are advocates, leaders, neighbors, mothers, daughters, sisters and more - during a global pandemic.

Though distanced, we lean on each other like never before. On one hand we have been isolated, overwhelmed and hurt. On the other we have awoken, found new sources of resilience and have bigger dreams. One thing is for sure: we will never be the same. I encourage you to celebrate the courage and perseverance you have lived this year. You did it.

Give gratitude to those who have supported you and grace to those struggling around you. Draw upon the strength in each of us, our families, and our communities to forge brighter days ahead.

As we pick up the pieces to put together something better, we continue to be our own best resource. Help us continue to drive the positive change we wish to see in the world.

You matter. You are welcome here.

Thank you for the privilege of serving you.

I am honored to pass the baton to our leaders of tomorrow – you all.

Celia Schnupp
WLFC President, 2022-23



Agenda

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 12:00pm | Event Begins
Raffle Ticket Sales Begin |
| 12:15pm | Lunch Served |
| 12:30pm | Welcome
Vote to Approve Slate of Elected Officers
Introduction of Strategic Plan & Facilitator,
Eleana Drakatos
Thank you & Recognitions |
| 12:50pm | 2023 Scholarship Award Winners |
| 1:00pm | Swearing in of Officers
<i>(Hon. Cheryl Munson, Franklin County Common Pleas)</i>
President: Alexis Preskar
President-Elect: Bridjette Hairston
Secretary/ Treasurer: Sara Valentine
Trustee at Large: Stephanie Hanna
Trustee at Large: Celia Schnupp
President's Remarks
<i>(Alexis Preskar, 2023-24 WLFC President)</i> |
| 1:10pm | Remarks from Ashley Olikier, Founder and
CEO of Clear-Salary.com |
| 1:25pm | Raffle Prize Drawing |
| 1:30pm | Program Concludes |

A Message

*From WLFC's Incoming President,
Alexis Preskar*



Our motto is: "We are our own best resource." I've been reflecting on what that message has meant to our organization for the past 81 years and how I can do my part to make sure it stays applicable in the future. Who are we? What resources do we have to offer? And how can we make sure we are representing all of the women lawyers of Franklin County?

Those are the tough questions the strategic planning committee and board have grappled with this year, and I am excited to helm this great organization at a time of change. WLFC has meant so much to me and many others in their legal career, serving as a refuge to women lawyers who may not feel welcomed in "traditional" legal spaces. But it has had its share of missteps as well. My goal is to ensure we are walking the walk and living up to our motto. Our programming and our board must be accessible, engaging, and inclusive of the full range of the women lawyers in this county.

Thank you all for nominating me to serve as president. I will strive to be worthy of that title every day, and I ask you all to help me and hold me to task as we navigate a new chapter of WLFC.



Alexis Preskar
WLFC President, 2023-24



THE WOMEN'S COLLABORATIVE

KEGLER
BROWN
HILL+
RITTER

Working together + achieving more. The Women's Collaborative at Kegler Brown is an action-oriented group that believes in sharing knowledge, connections, a platform to brainstorm, and much more. We're proud to support the WLFC in their initiatives to bring women lawyers together to advance professionally, because we know true success only comes through collaboration.

keglerbrown.com/diversity

Welcome,

2023-24 WLFC Executive Board



PRESIDENT



Alexis Preskar
Supreme Court
of Ohio

PRESIDENT-ELECT



Bridjette Hairston
Franklin County Court of
Common Pleas

SECRETARY/ TREASURER



Sara Valentine
Reminger Co., L.P.A.

TRUSTEE



Stephanie Hanna
The Other 85

TRUSTEE



Celia Schnupp
Perez & Morris LLC



PROUD TODAY.

INSPIRED. **EVERY DAY.**

We are proud of the firm's women attorneys for inspiring collaboration, growth and success within our local and legal communities.

porterwright

INSPIRED **LEGAL COUNSEL**

Chicago
Cincinnati
Cleveland
Columbus
Dayton
Naples
Pittsburgh
Tampa
Washington, D.C.

Thank you,

2022-23 WLFC Officers and Chairs



Officers:

President: Celia Schnupp

President-Elect: Alexis Preskar

Secretary: Bridjette Hairston

Treasurer: Kimberly Despas

Trustee at Large: Gina Piacentino

Trustee at Large: Kailee Goold

Committee Chairs:

Community Relations Co-Chair: Casey Rieth

Community Relations Co-Chair: Jhay Spottswood

Dining Circle: Sunni DiNicola

Diversity Co-Chair: Hannah Botkin-Doty

Diversity Co-Chair: Nita Garg

Events Co-Chair: Michelle H. Wong-Halabi

Events Co-Chair: Liz Mote

Law School Chair: Dinu O'Reilly

Membership: Sara Valentine





Legacy of Leadership



Mac Murray & Shuster is thrilled to honor the trailblazing legacy of our colleague and friend with the **Betty D. Montgomery Scholarship** recognizing Ohio's most promising women law students.

We share WLFC's mission to promote and empower women in the legal profession and are proud of our firm's attorneys who continue to lead the way.



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NAMWOLF



2023 Scholarship Recipients



HILLARY LIVINGSTON

Betty Montgomery Scholarship Winner

Hillary became interested in the law as an undergraduate student at Mills College, in Oakland, CA. While there, she participated in a study at a women's prison, where she quickly learned how detrimental it was for incarcerated women to be out of sight, out of mind, and decided to dedicate herself to the pursuit of reform in the criminal legal system. After receiving her master's degree in criminal justice and

criminology, Hillary began work for Measures for Justice, a nonprofit working to bring transparency to the criminal legal system, nationally. Currently, Hillary works at the Franklin County Public Defender's Office, in the felony division, and regularly volunteers with Restorative Justice Circles in Franklin County Juvenile Court. In her free time, Hillary enjoys walking around various Columbus neighborhoods admiring the architecture, finding new cocktail and coffee spots, and generally lazing around with friends. Hillary is currently a rising 3L at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.



AMINA MOHAMED

WLFC Scholarship Winner

Amina Mohamed is a rising 3L at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. She was raised on the west side of Columbus and obtained her bachelors degree in Social Work. She is passionate about education and the freedom and independence it fosters in women. This passion inspired Amina to hopefully pursue a field in education law.



BOLD MOVES. BOLD CHANGE.

Barnes & Thornburg is proud to support Women Lawyers of Franklin County. We believe in bold moves and bold change to build a more diverse community and an inclusive workforce. We salute your continued commitment to addressing the professional needs and concerns of women in the law.



Uncommon Value

ATLANTA CALIFORNIA CHICAGO DELAWARE INDIANA
MICHIGAN MINNEAPOLIS OHIO TEXAS WASHINGTON, D.C.

btlaw.com

2023 Scholarship Recipients



OLIVIA GERMARRO

WLFC Scholarship Winner

Olivia Gemarkro is a rising 3L at Capital University Law School. She earned two bachelor's degrees summa cum laude in English and Sociology-Criminology from Ohio University in 2021. Olivia then came to law school to pursue her passions for criminal justice reform and sexual assault survivor advocacy. This summer, she is externing in

Supreme Court of Ohio Justice Jennifer Brunner's chambers, working as a law clerk at education firm Albeit Weiker, and volunteering for the Domestic Team at the Legal Aid Society of Columbus. Upon graduation, Olivia aspires to serve as a judicial clerk or judicial staff attorney, with the ultimate career goal of serving as a judge at the state or federal level.



ABIGAIL ADAMS

WLFC Scholarship Winner

Abigail Adams is a rising 2L at Capital University Law School. She was born and raised in a small rural town in Pennsylvania and graduated summa cum laude from Slippery Rock University where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in both philosophy and political science. As a first-generation college graduate, Abigail is passionate

about using her education to advocate for others. She is currently an executive board member for the Tort and Injury Law Society and an advocate on the Moot Court team. Abigail plans to pursue a career in litigation. This summer, Abigail is looking forward to working as a law clerk for a personal injury firm downtown in their litigation department.

Thank you

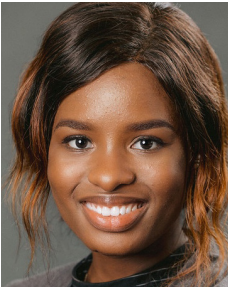
Women Lawyers of Franklin County would like to thank the following firms, businesses, and individuals who provided generous donations to our scholarship fund and raffle baskets.



BakerHostetler
Alexis Preskar
Gina Piacentino of The Piacentino Law Group
Dinu O'Reilly & Baker
The Friedmann Firm & Lardiere McNair
DiNocola & Stonebrook, Ltd.
Sara Valentine
WLFC 2022-23 Board Members
Porter Wright
Luper Neidenthal & Logan

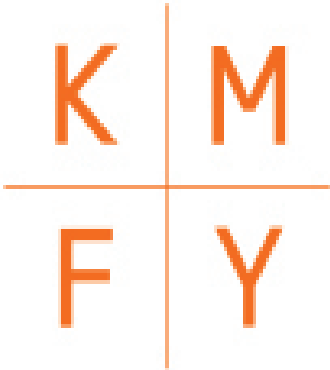


2023 Scholarship Recipients



FAVOUR OSA-ONI WLFC Scholarship Winner

My name is Favour Osa-oni, and I am honored to be the recipient of this year's WLFC scholarship. I am currently a 2L at Ohio State University, Moritz College of Law, where I am pursuing my legal education in the United States. Prior to beginning my studies here, I practiced as a litigation attorney in Nigeria for four years, gaining valuable experience in navigating complex legal disputes. I also had the privilege of serving as a corporate secretary and legal advisor for several companies, developing my skills in corporate governance and compliance. As I continue my legal education, I am eager to apply my experience and knowledge in serving the Columbus community. My goal is to practice law in the Columbus area with a focus on dispute resolution, using my legal expertise to help individuals and businesses navigate challenges and find solutions. Thank you for your support in helping me pursue my dreams and make a positive impact through the legal profession.



Kooperman | Mentel | Ferguson | Yaross

Thank you

WLFC Strategic Planning Task Force



Gina Piacentino, Chair
Lina Abbaoui
Chris Duraney
Nita Garg
Megan Gonzalez
Kelly Grigsby-Jones
Bridgette Hairston
Jasmine Hurley
Lisa Pierce-Reisz
Jane Snider
Heather Sowald
Kelli Stiles
Sara Valentine

Alexis Preskar, ex-officio
Celia Schnupp, ex-officio
Eleana Drakatos, facilitator



CONGRATULATIONS

to our newly-
licensed associate,
Kirsten Cox!

Luper
& Neidenthal
Logan



YACOBBOZZI • DRAKATOS LLC



PEREZ-MORRIS
