**Message from the President**

By Salesia V. Smith-Gordon, Esq.

To make this work, I am asking everyone on our list to share with me the vision and understanding of our organization as an active participant in the establishment of justice, equality, and opportunity. As our organization grows and becomes more widely recognized, we must work together to ensure that we are providing the best representation possible to our clients.

I think we are plaintiff trial lawyers because we like the fight, the challenge, the obstacle and we love to win, to succeed and to be recognized for what we have done. I think popular culture believes that we do this "for the money." I disagree. I am sure, everyone in our group will attest to the fact that our primary reason for being a lawyer is not to get rich quickly but to be able to make a difference in the lives of others.

We work together fighting for justice on a local and state level. We will continue to do so in the future. Our organization is comprised of brilliant attorneys on this list and if asked a question, will have a ready answer. I am humbly encouraging those attorneys who are not currently listed to participate in our organization. We are not always the boots on the ground and perhaps the view from the trench is different than the boardroom.

Act like an Army. The Board of Directors struggles, really struggles, to offer educational CLE opportunities for our members. This is a brother or sister in arms asking for help. Putting someone down will not help and this is no longer tolerated. Period.

No person is left behind, struggling and worrying about a legal obstacle- if someone sends up a flare, we respond. There are brilliant attorneys on this list and if asked a question, will have a ready answer. I am humbly encouraging those attorneys who are not currently listed to participate in our organization. We are not always the boots on the ground and perhaps the view from the trench is different than the boardroom.

Are You Failing to Retain Your Own Settlement Planning Expert?

**BLACK HISTORY IS AMERICA'S HISTORY**

(Celebrate it!)

Message from the President

By Salesia V. Smith-Gordon, Esq.

Tell someone….Happy Black History Month! We celebrate Black History Month in February, but we should also commemorate the contributions of African American leaders, activists, and scientists throughout the year. The African diaspora who have demonstrated sacrifice, perseverance, and resilience.

We also embrace newer faces and emerging leaders like premier intellectuals who have contributed to the future and culture of blacks in America. We also embrace newer faces and emerging leaders like premier intellectuals who have contributed to the future and culture of blacks in America.

We also embrace newer faces and emerging leaders like premier intellectuals who have contributed to the future and culture of blacks in America. We also embrace newer faces and emerging leaders like premier intellectuals who have contributed to the future and culture of blacks in America.

Young Lawyers Corner

By Salesia V. Smith-Gordon, Esq.

Oy! Both parties expectedly characterized the opinion as "alarming," and—as has of been known—the evidence was insufficient as a matter of law to show GEICO General Insurance Company, 259 So. 3d 1 (Fla. 2018). Harvey, 259 So. 3d at 7. These decisions, such as Novoa v. GEICO Indemnity Co., 542 F. App'x 794 (11th Cir. 2013) and Barnard v. Geico Gen. Ins. Co., 448 F. App'x 940 (11th Cir. 2011), were interpreted as imposing further restrictions on courts from including bad faith verdicts in their rate base. Finally, the dissent repeats the myth so often peddled by reps for the insurance industry that "a settlement cannot be had with the insurer because the case could not have settled for policy limits." (Berges v. Infinity Ins. Co., 896 So. 2d 665, 683 (Fla. 2004).) The evidence merely holds insurers accountable for failing to fulfill their obligations… Berges v. Infinity Ins. Co., 896 So. 2d 665, 683 (Fla. 2004).
areas include Wrongful Death, Automobile/Trucking Accidents, Premises Liability, Product Liability, Medical Malpractice, Nursing

Chapter 20 of the Florida Bar rules establishes the definition that must be met in order to use the title paralegal. A Florida Registered

Once a cause for concern has been identified, there are effective ways to reduce the likelihood that they will be a factor in future accidents. These

Single step transitions and short flight stairs have long been recognized as common causes of falls. The standard for these types of stairs is

Reasonably expect that the conditions they have experienced will continue throughout the remainder of the stair. Accordingly, stair condi-

Codes and standards relevant to safe stairs are intended to provide guidance on design, construction, and minimum maintenance criteria for

CASES OF THE QUARTER

By Dan Doskey, dan@legalgraphicworks.com

 teléfono: (786) 506-1392