

FAMILY LAW SECTION

The Family Law Committee of the Howard County Bar Association held its monthly meeting on January 9, 2009. Cynthia Callahan, Esquire, Chair of the Maryland State Bar Association Family Law Section spoke on the proposed changes to the child support guidelines. The proposed legislation would involve significant changes to the way child support is calculated under a revised set of guidelines. Ms. Callahan provided an unofficial draft of the proposed bill, as well as some examples of comparisons between the existing and updated child support schedules. Ms. Callahan has graciously made available copies of these documents, as well as the Maryland Child Support Guidelines Review presentation by Jane C. Venohr, Ph.D., the economist who performed the research upon which the proposed revised child support schedules are based. Anyone interested in receiving these documents should contact Alisa G. Cummins by e-mail to hcflc@agclaw.com

We wanted to let you know that, unfortunately, we will need to cancel our upcoming luncheon meeting next Friday, February 6, 2009. We encourage you to attend, instead, the NFRC Program scheduled for the same date – Building a Roadmap for Families in Transition: A Multidisciplinary Approach. For more information, click on the following link: <http://www.divorceabc.com/html/regconf.htm>.

We look forward to seeing you at the next-scheduled luncheon meeting on Friday, March 6, 2009, when our own Judge Leasure will discuss the measures all attorneys should be taking to protect their clients' confidential information from unintentional disclosure under the new Rules for access to court records. Also next month, our Family Law Case Coordinator, Lisa Mohink will be providing us updates, including new procedures for uncontested divorce.

We apologize for any inconvenience, and look forward to seeing you soon.

*Master Mary M. Kramer
Alisa G. Cummins, Esquire*

Upcoming Family Law Committee Meetings are:

March 6, 2009: Judge Leasure: Public access to court records and the attorney's role in protecting confidential client information

April 3, 2009: Evidentiary issues involving electronic/computer generated evidence: Master Patrick, Brenda Fishbein, and Mark Muffelotto

May 15, 2009: 1:30 to 4:30 our annual family law judges forum: more information to follow!