



BAR BUDDIES

The “Bar Buddies” Program is designed to help attorneys who practice in the Palm Beaches connect and serve as a sounding board for each other. In particular, the goal of the Bar Buddies Program is to provide a way to obtain advice, ideas, suggestions or general information from fellow attorneys, with an emphasis on practicing with professionalism and civility. The Bar Buddies Program seeks to connect local attorneys in a manner that takes into account links between attorneys that reach beyond their law practice. To that end, an applicant will be matched with one attorney “Bar Buddy” based on multiple factors, including law school attended, current geographic location, hometown, and interests. Attorneys are strongly encouraged to sign up for this informal program to speak with attorneys both within and beyond their existing networks and practice areas.

Bar Buddies will likely have different skill sets and experience levels and may discuss a variety of legal topics. When substantive areas are discussed, the traditional formalities apply, such as ensuring no conflict of interest exists and maintaining an awareness of the attorney-client privilege. No attorney participating in the Bar Buddies Program will be expected to do any legal research or review documents.

Neither the Palm Beach County Bar Association nor the Bar Buddies participants accept professional responsibility for any advice given. The Bar Buddies Program does not contemplate participants rendering any professional service to other participants and each participant must ultimately evaluate all advice received and exercise his/her own independent professional judgment on behalf of the client.

The Palm Beach County Bar Association is sponsoring and administering this program, to help instill a strong sense of professionalism. Questions about the program should be directed to **David Vitale, Jr.** at dvitale@searcy.com; phone (561) 686-6300.

BAR BUDDIES SIGN UP

Name: _____ Mentor _____ Mentee _____

Date of Admission to The Florida Bar: _____

Date and State of Admissions to other bar associations: _____

Home or Work Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Home Town: _____

College Attended: _____ Graduation Year: _____

Law School Attended: _____ Graduation Year: _____

Check One:

I am currently employed (law firm, government agency, corporation)

Name of Employer: _____ Total Number of Lawyers: _____

I am currently a solo practitioner/self-employed

I am unemployed and seeking legal job opportunities

Practice Areas of Interest. Please select up to three (3) areas:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ADR | <input type="checkbox"/> Elder | <input type="checkbox"/> Taxation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appellate | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Wills and Estates |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy | <input type="checkbox"/> Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Workers Compensation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Trial | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collections | <input type="checkbox"/> Negligence | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Litigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaintiff Personal Injury | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Association | <input type="checkbox"/> Probate Litigation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal | <input type="checkbox"/> Securities | |

If you have any special interests (i.e., hobbies, foreign language skills, organizations) that you would like us to consider when matching you, please include below:

Please list any other factors you would like us to consider in selecting your Bar Buddy:

In no case shall a Bar Buddies participant, the Palm Beach County Bar Association, or any of its subcommittees, committees, members or employees be liable for the advice provided, or for the use of the Bar Buddies Program. By participating in this program, the participant releases and waives any claim resulting from or relating to the use of the program.

I hereby certify that I have read and agree to comply with the information about the Bar Buddies Program as set forth herein and in the accompanying document. I am using Bar Buddies Program based upon the conditions set forth.

Name (please print) _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Please mail or email the above to **David Vitale, Jr.** at dvitale@searcylaw.com; phone (561) 686-6300; 1507 Belvedere Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406.