

GEORGIA MILITARY LAW AND VA ACCREDITATION SYMPOSIUM

7.5 CLE Hours including
1 Professionalism Hour • 3 Trial Practice Hours

DISTINGUISHED GUEST SPEAKERS



Will A. Gunn, General Counsel for the Department of Veterans Affairs, was sworn in May 26, 2009. Mr. Gunn is a retired Air Force colonel, having served as a military lawyer in the Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps.

A native of Fort Lauderdale, Mr. Gunn graduated from the United States Air Force Academy with military honors in 1980. He is a 1986 cum laude graduate of Harvard Law School. While at Harvard, he was elected President of the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau, the nation's oldest student run legal services organization. In 1990, he was selected as a White House Fellow and served in the Executive Office of the President in the Office of Cabinet Affairs. He also has a Masters of Laws degree in Environmental Law from the George Washington University School of Law and a Masters of Science degree in National Resource Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. Mr. Gunn retired from the military in 2005 and was named President and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington where he led one of the largest affiliates of Boys & Girls Clubs of America. In 2008, he founded the Gunn Law Firm to provide representation to military members and veterans in a range of administrative matters.



Senior Judge William P. Greene, Jr. was appointed by the President of the United States as a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims on November 7, 1997. The United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims is a national court of record, established under Article I of the Constitution of the United States. The Court has exclusive jurisdiction to provide judicial review of final decisions by the Board of Veterans' Appeals, an entity within the Department of Veterans Affairs. There are seven active judges on the Court who have been appointed to serve 13 to 15-year appointments. Judge Greene was appointed for 15 years and assumed the responsibilities of the Chief Judge of the Court on August 8, 2005.

Co-sponsored by:



**Military and
Veterans Law Section,
State Bar of Georgia**

PREREQUISITE FORM

All attendees must complete and submit a **VA Form 21a** to the Department of Veterans Affairs as a prerequisite of the accreditation process. Simply go online and print a copy of the form for your use at:

<http://www4.va.gov/OGC/docs/Accred/VA21a.pdf>

CANCELLATION POLICY



Cancellations reaching ICLE by 5:00 p.m. the day before the seminar date will receive a registration fee refund less a \$15.00 administrative fee. Otherwise, the registrant will be considered a "no show" and will not receive a registration fee refund. Program materials will be shipped after the program to every "no show." Designated substitutes may take the place of registrants unable to attend.

SEMINAR REGISTRATION POLICY

Early registrations must be received 48 hours before the seminar. ICLE will accept on-site registrations as space allows. However, potential attendees should call ICLE the day before the seminar to verify that space is available. All attendees must check in upon arrival and are requested to wear name tags at all times during the seminar. ICLE makes every effort to have enough program materials at the seminar for all attendees. When demand is high, program materials must be shipped to some attendees.

Seminar will be held at:

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA HEADQUARTERS

104 Marietta Street NW • Atlanta, Georgia

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Ask for the State Bar of Georgia's negotiated corporate rate.

AGENDA

The registration fee for all seminars held at the State Bar of Georgia has been reduced by ICLE in recognition of the Bar's service to Georgia attorneys.

Presiding: **Norman E. Zoller**, Program Chair, Coordinating Attorney, Military Legal Assistance Program, State Bar of Georgia, Atlanta

- 7:15 **REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**
(All attendees must check in upon arrival. A jacket or sweater is recommended.)
- 8:00 **WELCOME AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW**
Stephen J. Harper, Director of Programs, The Institute of Continuing Legal Education, Athens
Norman E. Zoller
- 8:10 **STATUS OF MILITARY LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**
Norman E. Zoller
- 8:20 **VA BASIC ELIGIBILITY; DISABILITY COMPENSATION; DIC**
Drew N. Early, Lynch & Shewmaker LLC, Atlanta
- 9:00 **GEORGIA MILITARY PARENTS RIGHTS ACT; BACKGROUND AND RAMIFICATIONS**
William J. Camp, Westmoreland Patterson Moseley & Hinson, Warner Robins
- 9:30 **GA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND OPERATIONS**
Speaker TBA
- 10:10 **BREAK**
- 10:10 **VA HEALTHCARE AND IMPROVED PENSIONS**
Patrick C. Smith, The Smith Law Firm, P.C., Martinez
- 10:50 **REPRESENTATION BEFORE THE VA, CLAIMS PROCEDURES, AND APPEALS**
George E. Bradford, Jr., Office of Regional Counsel, Decatur (Invited)
- 11:15 **VA LOCAL APPEALS (CLAIMS) BEST PRACTICES**
Speaker TBA
- 11:45 **PRACTICE BEFORE THE CAVC AND PROFESSIONALISM**
Hon. William P. Greene, Jr., Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, Washington, DC
- 12:15 **LUNCH** (Included in registration fee)
- 12:45 **VA GENERAL COUNSEL: STRUCTURE, OPERATIONS, AND**

- PROFESSIONALISM**
Will A. Gunn, General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC
- 1:30 **VETERANS' COURT PROGRAMS IN GEORGIA**
Lynn M. Adam, King & Spalding LLP, Atlanta
- 1:50 **STATE COURT CRIMINAL DEFENSE AND THE MILITARY DEFENDANT**
Harlan H.F. Wood, The Wood Law Firm, LLC, Atlanta
- 2:45 **BREAK**
- 3:00 **MILITARY DIVORCE ISSUES**
Steven P. Shewmaker, Lynch & Shewmaker LLC, Atlanta
Patricia D. Shewmaker, Lynch & Shewmaker LLC, Atlanta
- STRATEGIES IN DIVIDING A MILITARY PENSION AND A TSP**
Patricia D. Shewmaker
- YOUR FIRST MILITARY DIVORCE CASE**
Steven P. Shewmaker
- 3:50 **THE BUSINESS OF MILITARY LAW AND VA PRACTICES; YOUR FIRST VA AND SERVICE MEMBER CASE; VA LAW MENTORSHIP AND ATTORNEY MATCHING PROGRAM**
Moderator: *Norman E. Zoller*
Panelists:
Drew N. Early
Jerbrina L. Johnson, J.L. Johnson & Associates, LLC, Atlanta
Frederick S. Jones, Jones & Associates, McDonough
Elizabeth H. Scherer, Attorney at Law, Smyrna
- 4:50 **CLOSING REMARKS**
Charles L. Ruffin, Secretary, State Bar of Georgia, Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C., Macon
- 5:00 **ADJOURN**

THREE WAYS TO REGISTER: check the ICLE schedule on the web at www.iclega.org
Mail: ICLE • P.O. Box 1885 • Athens, GA 30603-1885 (make check payable to ICLE)
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Duplicate registrations may result in multiple charges to your account. A \$15 administrative fee will apply to refunds required because of duplicate registrations.

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Questions? Call ICLE Atlanta Area: 770-466-0886 • Athens Area: 706-369-5664 • Toll Free: 1-800-422-0893

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EARLY REGISTRATION FEE: \$170
ON-SITE REGISTRATION FEE: \$190

- I am sight impaired under the ADA, and I will contact ICLE immediately to make arrangements.
- I am unable to attend. Please send written materials and bill me for the cost of materials only. Sorry, no phone orders!
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