

# Mariposa County Bar Association

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[www.MariposaBar.org](http://www.MariposaBar.org)

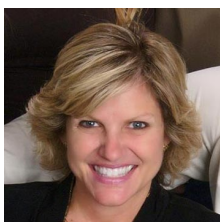
[MCBA@MariposaBar.org](mailto:MCBA@MariposaBar.org)

October 2021

## President's Column

Casey Archer, MCBA President

The Mariposa County Bar Association ("MCBA") has resumed in-person meetings at the Miner's Roadhouse 140.



The speaker at our October 2021 meeting was Jeremy Briesse, Sheriff of the Mariposa County Sheriff's Department, with a very informative presentation on the current state, goals and objectives of the Sheriff's Department.

We invite all Mariposa area attorneys and Judges to attend our next meeting on November 18, 2021, with Greg Little, Editor of the Mariposa Gazette, providing a presentation on The Year In Review. Those attending the luncheon may order lunch from the menu at their own cost. RSVPs are appreciated, but not required, by replying to this email at [MCBA@MariposaBar.org](mailto:MCBA@MariposaBar.org).

It's time to send in your dues for 2022! MCBA Membership is \$35.00 and includes access to several MCLE credits throughout the year as well as a listing on the MCBA website at [www.MariposaBar.org](http://www.MariposaBar.org). An application is attached to this Newsletter, or may be downloaded at our website. Those who are renewing their membership may forego the application and simply send in their dues or bring them to the next luncheon.



## Greg Little to Speak at November 18, 2021 Luncheon Meeting

The MCBA Speaker for our November 18, 2021 meeting is Greg Little, with a presentation on The Year In Review. Greg Little and his wife, Nicole, are the owners of the Mariposa Gazette, the oldest weekly newspaper in the State of California. Greg is the editor of the newspaper while Nicole is the publisher, roles they have both had since purchasing the newspaper in February of 2018.



**Greg and Nicole Little, owners of the Mariposa Gazette**

They came to Mariposa in March of 2016 and worked at the paper before making the purchase. They have one son, Price, who is a sophomore at the University of San Francisco. He graduated as a valedictorian from Mariposa County High School in 2020. Little has been in journalism his entire career, starting as a part-time sportswriter in the late 1970s in Terre Haute, Indiana. After five years there, his first editor's job was at a five-day-a-week newspaper in Clinton, Indiana.

Over the years, Little has served as editor at numerous newspapers, around the country. Some of those include Wolf Point, Montana, Rock Spring, Wyoming, Covington, Tennessee, Gonzales, Texas, Honesdale, Pennsylvania, and recently Rexburg, Idaho, before coming to California. *(continued on next page)*

## 2021 Meeting Schedule

The MCBA has resumed in-person meetings at the Miner's Roadhouse 140 Banquet Room.

**MINER'S ROADHOUSE**

**140**

### **January 14, 2021**

Luncheon meeting postponed due to COVID-19.

### **February 11, 2021**

Luncheon meeting postponed due to COVID-19.

### **March 11, 2021**

Luncheon meeting postponed due to COVID-19.

### **April 8, 2021**

Luncheon meeting: 1 hour MCLE credit Webinar with Speaker, Brian Chase of ArcherHall, with a presentation on "Identification and Preservation of Electronically Stored Information"

### **May 13, 2021**

Luncheon meeting: 1 hour MCLE webinar with Russell Cook, attorney and mediator, presenting on "Mediating the Hatfield and McCoys"

### **June 10, 2021**

Luncheon meeting: 1 hour Ethics MCLE credit Webinar with Speaker, Tom Plunkett, Director of Digital Forensics at ArcherHall, with a presentation on "Ethical Duties and Electronically Stored Information"

### **July 15, 2021**

Luncheon meeting: Webinar with Sharon Wardale-Trejo, Director for the Merced/Mariposa Regional Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) and David Haycraft, Chief Attorney for the Merced/Mariposa Regional DCSS, presenting an overview of the Department and services they offer.

### **August 12, 2021**

No Luncheon Meeting due to Summer Break Schedules

### **September 9, 2021**

Luncheon meeting: Speaker Miles Menetrey of the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

### **October 14, 2021**

Luncheon meeting: Speaker Sheriff Jeremy Bries

### **November 18, 2021**

Luncheon meeting: Speaker Greg Little, Editor of the Mariposa Gazette, with The Year In Review

### **December 9, 2021**

Luncheon meeting: Holiday Luncheon and Judges Appreciation Day

## ***Greg Little, continued***

Little's career highlights are many, including an appearance on Court TV in the 1990s during a one-hour show about the violence and related jurisdictional problems on the Ft. Peck Indian Reservation, where he was editor of the newspaper in Wolf Point. Little initiated the project which earned Court TV its first-ever national award.

Other highlights include uncovering an illegal sewage sludge dumping operation in Tennessee, investigating local government corruption in Pennsylvania, and being in the pits of a NASCAR race in upstate New York. Most recently, he released a book about journalism. It is titled "Why Small-Town American Journalism Is Anything But Dead." The book is both a biography of Little's life and career in journalism as well as a warning about how journalism, especially in small towns, must survive and thrive well into the future.

Local attorney and Vice President of the MCBA, Anita Starchman Bryant, frequently authors articles that run in the Mariposa Gazette. The MCBA extends continued appreciation to the Gazette for authorizing the articles to be reprinted in our Newsletters.



## **2022 MCBA Officers Election**

The MCBA Officers Election will occur at our November 18, 2021 meeting, per the MCBA bylaws. The nominations thus far include: Casey Archer, President; Anita Starchman Bryant, Vice President; Ed Johnson, Secretary; Skye Emery, Treasurer. Please email any additional nominations to [MCBA@MariposaBar.org](mailto:MCBA@MariposaBar.org).

## MCBA Membership List

Thank you for your 2021 Membership.

2021 Members listed below:

Alexandria Albertoni	Skye Emery
Ashley Albertoni	Kimberly G. Flores
Susan Albertoni	H. Wayne Green
Casey Archer	Rena Marie Harrison
Kevin Briggs	Robert Iwama
Marvin Brown (retired)	Claudia Juarez
Anita Starchman Bryant	Edward J. Johnson
Aaron Castleton	Andrew S. Kucera
Jeffrey Castleton	Cindy Morse
Russell D. Cook	Stephanie Perez
Thomas Cooke	Elizabeth Waldow
Beau C. Correia	Walter Wall
Steven W. Dahlem	

A 2019 Membership Application may be downloaded at [www.MariposaBar.org](http://www.MariposaBar.org). If you haven't already paid your 2019 dues, please bring payment to the next luncheon, or mail it in with your application to MCBA, PO Box 628, Mariposa, CA 95338.

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## 2021 MCBA Officers



Casey Archer  
President



Anita Starchman Bryant  
Vice-President



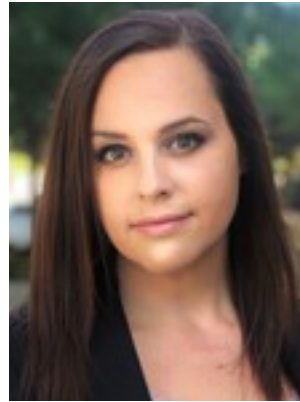
Ed Johnson  
Secretary



Skye Emery  
Treasurer

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER

The MCBA extends a warm welcome to our newest member, Rena Marie Harrison, an associate attorney at Hammerschmidt Law Corporation.



Rena Marie Harrison

Rena is a Fresno County based criminal defense and government investigations attorney admitted to practice federally and in California. She is dedicated to providing high quality legal services with an emphasis on taking a team approach. She also provides Victim Representation. Welcome to the MCBA, Rena!

## SUPERIOR COURT NEWS

The Superior Court of California, County of Mariposa, has reduced operating hours for the public filing counters and telephones in the Clerk's Offices.

Previously, the operating hours for the Mariposa Superior Court Clerk's Office were Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and the telephone hours were Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding holidays.

Effective October 1, 2021, the operating hours for the Clerk's Office filing counters and telephones are now Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., excluding holidays.

A drop box is available in the Courthouse hallway to receive documents and payments outside of the Clerk's Office operating hours. Any document deposited in the drop box up to 5:00 p.m. on a Court day is deemed to have been deposited for filing that day. No cash payments are accepted via drop box.

The Court finds the reduction in hours is necessary due to staffing requirements and limitations.



## **“Mariposa County, Esq.” by Anita Starchman Bryant**



### **Behavioral Health Court Connects Offenders With Community-Based Treatment**

Mariposa County Behavioral Health Court (BHC), also known as mental health court, is part of the problem-solving court movement. Like other collaborative justice courts, BHC seeks to address the underlying problems that contribute to an offender’s criminal behavior. BHC was created in response to the increasing numbers of mentally ill offenders repeatedly cycling through the jails and courts. According to a report by the California Administrative Office of the Courts, “evidence shows that adult jails and prisons and juvenile detention facilities have become the new institutions for the mentally ill.”

The mission of BHC is to enhance public safety and reduce repeat offenses by providing appropriate treatment to criminal defendants who suffer from serious mental illness. Rather than sending offenders to prison, BHC places participants on probation and connects them with mental health professionals, on-going counseling, and substance abuse treatment.

The BHC program is a collaborative process involving a “Team” consisting of the Mariposa Superior Court Judge, Mariposa County Offices of the District Attorney and defense attorneys, the Departments of Behavioral Health and Probation, community-based organizations, and private providers of mental health and substance use disorder services. The Team’s focus is to bring stability, sobriety, and safety to offenders with mental illnesses, while helping to ensure the security and well-being of the entire community. The goal of BHC is public safety, and a reduction in recidivism, substance use disorders, and law enforcement involvement.

A defendant is suitable for referral to the BHC calendar if they are charged with a qualifying offense and it appears that mental illness is the significant contributing factor in their involvement with the criminal justice system. However, certain offenses may be ineligible for the program, including those that demonstrate that the defendant presents a substantial risk to the health and safety of others. The BHC judge makes the ultimate determination of whether an individual offender is eligible for services through BHC. Participation is voluntary, and the offender must consent to involvement in BHC. BHC participants are referred to as “clients.”

A client’s participation in BHC consists of phases that include judicial oversight, probation supervision, individual treatment plan requirements, possible drug testing, and rewards and sanctions. Each phase is designed to build upon the skills acquired in the previous phase, allowing clients to better manage their mental illness and, if applicable, their substance abuse. As a client moves through the phases of the program, the client is evaluated and promoted based on successfully completing each phase. Violations of probation or a refusal to participate in the recovery plan may require a client to repeat a phase, may disqualify them from continuing in BHC, or may require that they be sent to jail.

Graduation from the program occurs when the client meets all the goals of each phase in the program. Aftercare is a critical part of success once the client graduates. The Team will provide links with public and community-based sources of assistance in aftercare. The client will continue to receive counseling and services for at least six months, as appropriate.

Studies have found that BHC reduces long-term costs and has had a positive effect on participants’ rehabilitation and criminal behavior. While initial treatment costs are higher for participants, overall, studies have found that participation in BHC has resulted in long-term savings resulting from reduction in repeat offenses, prison days, and expensive, intensive treatment such as hospitalization. In addition, research has found that BHC participants reported less criminal activity, fewer rearrests, and less drug use. A sample of that research and more information about BHC is available on the California Court’s collaborative justice information page at: <https://www.courts.ca.gov/5982.htm>.

*Anita Starchman Bryant, who earned her J.D. from UC Berkeley School of Law, is a Mariposa attorney practicing in the areas of real estate, land use, estate planning & administration, and probate law. Disclaimer: The content of this publication is for general informational purposes only. Neither this publication nor its author is rendering formal legal or other professional advice or opinions on specific facts or matters. Because of the changing nature of the law and the importance of individual facts, readers are encouraged to seek independent counsel for advice regarding their individual legal issues.*

# **2022 JUDICIAL HOLIDAYS**

## **MARIPOSA SUPERIOR COURT WILL BE CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:**

**December 31, 2021**

**New Year's Day (2022)**

**January 17, 2022**

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday**

**February 11, 2022**

**Lincoln Day**

**February 21, 2022**

**Presidents' Day**

**March 31, 2022**

**Cesar Chavez Day**

**May 30, 2022**

**Memorial Day**

**July 04, 2022**

**Independence Day**

**September 05, 2022**

**Labor Day**

**October 10, 2022**

**Columbus Day**

**November 11, 2022**

**Veterans Day**

**November 24, 2022**

**Thanksgiving Day**

**November 25, 2022**

**Day after Thanksgiving**

**December 26, 2022**

**Christmas Day**

# MARIPOSA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

## Membership Application – 2022

2022 dues: \$35.00

Please mail the completed application and dues payable to:

Mariposa County Bar Association

P.O. Box 628

Mariposa, CA 95338

The following data will be used for your Member Information of the MCBA records.  
Please indicate what information you would like included on the public web site.

	Include on Website?	
	Yes	No
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bar#: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Firm Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Address: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Phone: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fax: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Email: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Website: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Areas of Practice: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Law School: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Languages: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Free Consultations: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dues Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_