

SENIOR COUNSEL SECTION YEAR IN REVIEW

Senior Counsel Section

Chair: Thomas Newcomb Hyde – Attorney at Law



**Please join us next year for more great speakers
at the Senior Counsel luncheons.**

Thanks to all the judges and lawyers who attended the Senior Counsel luncheons in the 2018-2019 season. We are grateful to have had so many members come to hear our interesting speakers.

Our first speaker was Second District Court of Appeal Judge Anthony Black, who told the story of Magna Carta, starting in 1215 at Runnymede where the Great Charter was agreed upon between King John and the English barons. The principles of Magna Carta are echoed in the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the protections of life, liberty, and property with due process of law.

Paul Manning arranged for our next speaker, David Bevirt.

Mr. Bevirt is the executive vice president of Strategic Property Partners, a Tampa-based firm that is a partnership between Bill Gates' Cascade Investments and Tampa Bay Lightning owner Jeff Vinik. They are currently developing Water Street Tampa, which offers a vibrant vision for the future of downtown Tampa, with walkable streets connecting homes, offices, shops, and hotels for the people who live, work, study, and visit this new urban neighborhood along the waterfront.

In January, the Senior Counsel Section held a joint luncheon with the Military & Veterans Affairs Committee. Colonel Troy



Pananon, the vice commander of MacDill Air Force Base, related the storied history of the air base, as well as the various commands

that are presently operating at the base, including the United States Central Command, which is responsible for operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. The “host wing” at MacDill is the 6th Air Mobility Wing and its air refueling squadron, which operates Boeing KC-135R Stratotankers that conduct worldwide aerial refueling. Col. Pananon also demonstrated MacDill’s refueling mission for audience members with a video of in-flight refueling.

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Hillsborough County Attorney Christine Beck spoke at the Senior Counsel luncheon in March. She answered the question, “What does the County Attorney’s Office do for you?” Beck explained the structure and the mission of the office, which provides legal services to the Board of County Commissioners and the people of our county, including giving legal opinions on county ordinances, as well as prosecuting and defending legal actions by and against the county.

The last speaker of the year was attorney and economics expert Dale Appell who spoke on “Understanding Macro Economics to Better Micromanage.” Appell’s dramatic presentation was an economics history lesson from the Great Depression to the “Empire of Debt” of today. Our judges and lawyers were sobered to learn what the future may hold and what perils may lie ahead.

I wish to personally thank Judge Andrew Atkinson, Paul Maney, George Howell, Judge Cynthia Oster, and HCBA Lawyer Referral Service Director Lupe Vasquez-Mitcham for introducing our speakers; Judge John Badalamenti, Judge Barbara Twine-Thomas, David Veenstra, Robert Brazel, and Sasha Lohn for leading the Pledge of Allegiance; and to Richard Fueyo, John Schifino, Alexandra Srsic, Judge Emily Peacock, and Michael Peacock for giving the invocations at our luncheons.

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Author: Thomas Newcomb Hyde – Attorney at Law

²¹
~~20~~ great reasons

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The advertisement features a background image of a city skyline with several skyscrapers. In the foreground, there is a bridge over a body of water. The Gunster logo, a stylized 'G' inside a square, is positioned above the word 'GUNSTER' in a bold, sans-serif font. Below 'GUNSTER' is the tagline 'FLORIDA'S LAW FIRM FOR BUSINESS'. Underneath that, the word 'TAMPA' is written in a large, spaced-out, serif font. At the bottom of the image, there is a line of text: 'Gunster.com | 813.228.9080 | William J. Schifino Jr., Tampa Office Managing Shareholder'.