



Karen Adinolfi

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Whether or not you make New Year's resolutions, you have to admit there is something refreshing about the idea of a new start, a blank slate, or however you put it. After the tornado of the holidays, the thought of a quiet period, with little on the calendar, is an exhilarating one. And even though the new year does not always turn out to be the rejuvenation or change that you thought it would, there is something positive to be had in looking at what might be different in the year to come.

At the Akron Bar Association, there is so much to look forward to in 2020! We start off with the Akron Bar Foundation's Annual Gala, which will be held this year on February 1, 2020 at the Fairlawn/Akron Hilton. Proceeds from the Gala benefit the Foundation's scholarship and grant programs, which have assisted countless students and community organizations over the years. Board member Bill Price and his committee have put together another fabulous event, with some over the top silent auction items! Dinner, drinks, friends, and colleagues on a cold Winter's night? Perfect! Go to [www.akronbar.org](http://www.akronbar.org) to register! Better yet, be a sponsor!

As we proceed with the second half of our Board year, your Board members continue to work hard on your behalf. Whether it's advocacy on behalf of our members and legal community, the development of quality continuing legal education, or simply ensuring that our Association and membership have the opportunity to thrive, you will find our dedicated Board constantly working to maintain the Akron Bar Association as an

innovative organization that seeks only the best for its members, the legal community, and the community as a whole. If you are one who makes New Year's resolutions, make getting involved with the Bar one of them, even if it's on a small scale. We'd love to have you!

For our first New Lawyer Spotlight of 2020, please meet Amanda Smith. Amanda is an associate at Kastner Westman & Wilkins, and a 2019 graduate of the Bar's Leadership Academy. She focuses her practice on labor and employment law, and holds her law degree from the University of Akron School of Law along with a bachelor's degree from Allegheny College and a master's degree from Kent State University. Amanda graciously accepted an appointment to the Bar's Human Resources Committee, which looks forward to her perspective and expertise!

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