



Karen Adinolfi

FROM THE PRESIDENT

December, already? As we hurtle toward the end of 2019, we have much to celebrate and be thankful for. Among the many things I have to be thankful for, I am especially thankful for the opportunity to serve as your Bar President. Almost halfway through my term, I have so enjoyed meeting the people I have and seeing the workings of our amazing Bar Association. I am thankful for our terrific staff, and especially for Allen Nichols, without which this Bar Association would be a mere shadow of what it is. I am thankful for our wonderful Board of Trustees, committee and section chairs, and others who have stepped up at the first request. And I am thankful for our members, from whom I have learned so much. Thank you!

Another fantastic asset of this legal community for which I am also thankful is our Akron Bar Foundation. I'm not the only one who has such high regard for it. On November 1, the Foundation was honored with a Special Recognition Award by the Association of Fundraising Professionals – Northeast Ohio Chapter for its funding of projects at the Akron Municipal Court and Victim Assistance Program. We are so proud for the excellent work that the Foundation does in its grant-making activities and in its scholarship program, which in 2019 saw \$45,000 in scholarships awarded to 11 law students. As you turn your attention to your end-of-year giving activities, consider a donation to the Akron Bar Foundation. In doing so, you support its vital work of improving the justice system as well as equal access to and the quality of justice.

Please mark your calendar for Thursday, December 5 from 4:00PM to 7:00PM as the Bar hosts its annual Holiday Party! This year we are adding a new dimension to the party. We will welcome new admittees to the Ohio Bar and the Akron legal community, and will provide opportunities for new admittees to join the Bar Association and its committees and sections, learn how to get their notary commission, and obtain information about our county's criminal appointment lists. If you know a new admittee, please encourage them to come, and make sure you join us as well!

And speaking of new admittees, this month I would like to welcome all new admittees to our profession and legal community! You have worked so hard to get to this point, and are probably looking to the future with excitement and anxiety. One excellent way to get a better handle on your future as a lawyer in this community is to join the Akron Bar Association. Here you will meet some of the best lawyers this profession has to offer, and they will become friends, colleagues, and mentors. We are here to help you get acclimated and navigate this profession – take us up on our offer to assist!

I, on behalf of the Akron Bar Association, wish you and your families the happiest of holiday seasons and all the best in 2020.

Karen D. Adinolfi

