**Introduction to Courts / Ethics CLE**

**Thursday, October 24, 2024**

**1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Reception to Follow)**

**Venue:**

Holiday Inn & Suites North Beach

3900 Atlantic Avenue

Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451

**Speakers:**

*Intro to Courts*

1. The Honorable Kevin M. Duffan, Presiding Judge, Virginia Beach Circuit Court
2. The Honorable Tina E. Sinnen, Clerk, Virginia Beach Circuit Court
3. The Honorable Sandra S. Menago, Chief Judge, Virginia Beach General District Court
4. The Honorable Jennifer B. Shupert, Presiding Judge, Virginia Beach Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court
5. Representative from the Virginia Beach Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court Clerk’s Office

*Ethics*

1. Bretta Z. Lewis, Esquire – Pender & Coward, P.C.

**Description of CLE:**

The Intro to Courts is a CLE aimed at newly admitted members to the bar. Timed to closely follow the release of the July bar exam results, this program offers attendees the chance to learn practice tips and common mistakes directly from judges and clerks from each of the Virginia Beach Courts. The program’s written materials include standard forms and instructions essential for practice in the Circuit and District Courts.

The Ethics portion of the CLE program will provide an overview of the disciplinary process and a discussion of the most violated rules of professional conduct and how to avoid those issues entirely. A substantial portion of the program will involve a discussion of hypothetical fact patterns and the ethical concerns presented therein. Bretta Z. Lewis, the presenter of the program, was a member of the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board from 2013-2019 and is a Second District Representative to the Virginia State Bar Council.

**Agenda:**

* **1:00 p.m.** Intro to Courts – Welcome / Opening Remarks
* **1:05 p.m.** Virginia Beach Circuit Court
* **1:40 p.m.** Virginia Beach General District Court
* **2:10 p.m.** Virginia Beach Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court
* **2:45 p.m.** Break (refreshments provided)
* **3:00 p.m.** Ethics – Opening Remarks / Introduction of Speaker
* **3:05 p.m.** Ethics Presentation
  + An Overview of the Disciplinary Process, the Most Violated Rules and How to Avoid Issues
  + Ethical Considerations:  Hypotheticals and Questions
* **5:00-6:00 p.m.** Reception at Holiday Inn & Suites North Beach