



Amicus Curiae

The Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

September 2025

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NEXT MEETING

Friday, September 26

12 Noon
At Marina Jack

Officers

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Benjamin I. Berman, Treasurer
Milly Collins, Secretary

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James Case
Milly Collins
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September Program:

LITIGATION ON BEHALF OF 9/11 VICTIMS AGAINST THE MULTIPLE DEFENDANTS INCLUDING THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT AND OTHER ENTITIES ACCUSED OF SUPPORTING TERRORISM.

A member of our organization who has worked on the well-known pending international lawsuit captioned Burnett v. al Barka Investment, shares his experiences and inside knowledge about the case. The case was brought on behalf of more than 6,500 families of the 9/11 victims against countries, banks, charities, individuals, and organizations who are accused of supporting and financing the attack.

About Our Speaker – Anthony M. Sellitto, Jr

Member of the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota

Anthony M. Sellitto Jr, Tony to his friends and colleagues, practiced law in New Jersey until his retirement on disability in 2013.

Anthony graduated from Villanova University in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. He has been married to his wife Cornelia for 38 years and has two sons, a step-son and two grandchildren and has lived full time in Sarasota since 2014.

Anthony received a JD degree from Seton Hall University School of Law in 1971. He was admitted to practice law in New Jersey, the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey and the U.S. Supreme Court. He served a judicial clerkship under the Hon Joseph B Sugrue, Criminal Assignment Judge of Essex County New Jersey. Mr. Sellitto then spent 2 ½ years as an Assistant Prosecutor in Union County New Jersey during which time he tried over 50 jury trials. Mr. Sellitto was one of the first attorneys in New Jersey to become certified by the New Jersey Supreme Court as both a Civil and Criminal Trial Attorney.

Anthony's practice concentrated on plaintiff's personal injury claims, criminal defense and workers compensation. He was a member of the Board of Governors of the New Jersey chapter of the American Association for Justice, formerly the National Association of Trial Lawyers of America – New Jersey.

Anthony has lectured on the use of technology in the courtroom at continuing legal education seminars conducted by the New Jersey, Wyoming and National Associations for Justice. He was the first attorney in New Jersey to use Power Point in a summation; the first to use Zoom for a plea in court for an out of state defendant. He was also the first attorney in New Jersey to prepare a video settlement brochure and the first settlement brochure on CD.

On September 11, 2001 Anthony's cousin Matthew Carmen Sellitto was murdered in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Sellitto was co-counsel in the case of Burnett v Al Baraka Investment, a lawsuit filed on behalf of over 6,500 family members of those who were killed on that day. The suit was the brainchild of Ron Motley Esq, lead attorney in the suits by the 36 states that successfully sued the tobacco industry in 1998. Defendants include the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Iran, Sudan and the banks and charities that funded and provided other assistance to the terrorists. The lawsuit is still pending in the Federal District Court for the District of Columbia and is part of a Multi District Litigation case venued in the Southern District of New York that manages all civil suits arising out of the terrorist attacks. Anthony conducted the direct testimony of Matthew's father, Matthey T. Sellitto, a transcript of which was read at the trial of Mounir el-Motassadeq, roommate of terrorist Mohammad Atta that took place in Hamburg Germany in 2003. el-Motassadeq was convicted as an accessory to murder for assisting the 9/11 hijackers.

Outside of the courtroom, Anthony had a multi-disciplined athletic career. While at Villanova he was a member of the 1967 & 1968 National Championship Cross Country Teams and 1968 National Championship Indoor Track Team. He was the 1967 US Junior National 10,000 Meter Race Walk Champion. He spent his summers during college as an ocean lifeguard in Spring Lake New Jersey and was certified by the Red Cross as a water safety and swimming instructor. After college, he took up skiing and was certified as a ski instructor US Eastern Ski Association. Mr. Sellitto raced slalom, giant slalom and downhill while attending law school and was a member of the National Ski Patrol. Mr. Sellitto taught skiing on the weekends while he served his judicial clerkship. Mr. Sellitto also swam Masters and was third in the 1984 Middle Atlantic Masters 500 meter freestyle.

Anthony was a Lieutenant in the South Orange New Jersey Auxiliary Fire Department and was a member of the Clark New Jersey First Aid Squad.

Since his retirement Anthony spends his leisure time fishing, as a nature photographer and as a grandpa!

ARAS Board News

New Board Member

David Goldrich was unanimously voted by the board of ARAS to serve as a member of the board. David has been a member of ARAS since 2023 and serves on our program committee. David received his B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1958 and his JD from Columbia Law in 1961. He was admitted to practice in NY; SDNY; and EDNY. His practice focused on Commercial and Real Estate law. One of his many civic endeavors include the Creation and Administration of a Volunteer Attorney Program in New York City involving the placement of over 300 attorneys from major firms in offices of Legal Aid Society throughout New York City. David is a regular at our monthly luncheon meetings.

Transition of Board Secretaries

We thank Steve Berry for his service and welcome Milly Collins.

Steve Berry, who served with commitment and distinction as secretary to the ARAS Board of Directors, resigned that position in June due to his relocation over to the East Coast. Steve continues his membership in ARAS and plans to attend our luncheon meetings going forward but won't be available to serve as secretary. Thank you, Steve.

Milly Collins a loyal and long-term member of ARAS and the ARAS board has agreed to serve as secretary going forward. Milly lives in the Venice area but hails from Ohio where after a career in nursing she studied law at Cleveland Marshall School of Law and practiced in the state and federal courts in Ohio in Insurance, Product Liability, Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice, Environmental and Labor Law. We welcome Milly as our new secretary and thank her for her cheerful service.

Luncheon & Dues Payments

You may make 2025 payments on our website at the bottom of the [Events](#) page:
\$35 for lunch and/or \$65 for dues using PayPal at
www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

Or you may mail a check for the luncheon payment of \$35 payable to the
Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

Please send to: Ben Berman, 4223 MacKay Falls Terrace, Sarasota, FL 34243

We are pleased to accept your payment by check or through our online payment option. Please get your luncheon payment to Ben prior to Wednesday of the luncheon week. After that Wednesday, no refunds can be given since the venue will have been notified of your intention to attend.

Future Programs

Please note the following dates for the next luncheons.

For the Balance of this calendar year, we will continue to meet at Marina Jacks in the second-floor conference room.

Beginning in January of 2026 we will meet at the "Varsity Club" at University Park Country Club.

Our schedule at Marina Jacks is as follows:

Friday, September 26, 2025
Friday, October 31, 2025
Thursday, November 26, 2025
Thursday, December 18, 2025

Our schedule for "The Varsity Club" at University Park Country is as follows:

Friday, January 30, 2026
Friday, February 27, 2026
Friday, March 27, 2026
Friday, April 24, 2026
Friday, May 29, 2026
Friday, September 25, 2026
Friday, October 30, 2026
Friday, November 20, 2026
Friday, December 18, 2026

Ideas for Future Programs?

The Program Committee is always receptive to ideas for future programs. If any member has a topic or a speaker to suggest, please contact Harold Zabin at hpzabin@aol.com or Jim Case at JamesWCase1968@gmail.com .

Any member interested in participating in the Program Committee should contact Harold Zabin or Jim Case at the addresses above.

Limerick of the Month

-by Milly Collins

RETIRED ATTORNEYS ALL KNOW,
ARAS PUTS ON A GREAT SHOW,
ITS BOARD IS THE BEST,
SAME FOR MEMBERS AND GUESTS,
WE ALL PRAY ITS REVENUES GROW.

Submit your Limerick to any ARAS board member for consideration as Limerick of the month.

What Do Retired Attorneys Do?

We are soliciting items, which can be as short as one paragraph if you like, talking about a past-time of yours that may be of interest to our membership. Please send your idea to retiredattorneysofsarasota@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you!

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you have items of interest to the members, please forward them to David Goldrich at petsdad@aol.com