



Amicus Curiae

The Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

April 2026

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New Members

Jerrold Berman
 Stephen Delman
 John Hockenberry
 Joel Jacobson
 Irene M. Keeley
 Alexander Laughlin
 Michael Nash
 Frank Pffner
 Broox Peterson

NEXT MEETING

Friday, April 24

12 Noon
 at the Varsity Club
 University Park CC

Officers

James Case, President
 Benjamin I. Berman, Treasurer
 Milly Collins, Secretary

Directors

Benjamin I. Berman
 James Case
 Milly Collins
 David Goldrich
 Chris Heckman
 Joel Helmrich
 Ronald Levine
 Stephen Sturm
 Harold M. Zabin

Newsletter Editor

David Goldrich

Association Photographer

Diana Lynn

Administrative Assistant

Frank Sharpe

April Program:

Precedent, Power and Principle:
 Key Cases and Supreme Court Shifts

About Our Speaker – Prof. Gayle Lewis

After graduating from Rutgers Law School, Prof. Lewis became an Assistant Attorney General in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Justice Department where she specialized in health care insurance issues. This led to her becoming the Special Assistant to the Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner. Next stop for Prof. Lewis was as Regional Director and Special Deputy Administrator of Pennsylvania's Panels for Health Care, a state-mandated arbitration system.

In 1981 Prof. Lewis founded the Lewis Law Firm, a private practice limited to medical malpractice, defective medical products, and pharmaceutical errors. For over 40 years Prof. Lewis has been an advocate for the injured in those areas.

Prof. Lewis has lectured and written on medical legal issues and controversial Supreme Court cases. She is an adjunct professor of trial advocacy at Rutgers Law School in Camden, New Jersey.



Amicus Personae – Joseph P. Carlucci, Esq.

Member of the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota

Joe Carlucci, the first member of his family to go to college, graduated from Georgetown University in 1964 with a degree in economics before attending Fordham Law School, from which he graduated in 1967. After two years in the US Army, where he attained the rank of Captain, Joe joined a law firm in Port Chester, NY, becoming a partner after three months, and getting his first taste of politics as Counsel to his State Senator, where he wrote a bill to create the Port Chester Industrial Development Agency ("PCDIA"). In 1974 Joe was elected as a Trustee of the Village of Port Chester where he activated the PCDIA and served as its first Chairman. The PCDIA, which remains active today, closed the first three IDA bond issues in Westchester County, NY.

In 1977 Joe opened his own firm and two years later was offered, and accepted, a partnership in the firm of Cuddy & Feder, where he remained until his retirement in 2025. One of the firm's founders encouraged Joe to pursue tax-exempt and taxable bond financing to draw on the expertise he developed as Chairman of PCDIA. While handling real estate and corporate matters Joe began to narrow the focus of his practice to bond financing. Although representing investment banks and bond underwriters/placement agents and a NYS bond issuer, Joe concentrated on representing businesses and borrowers in a number of states. Joe is most proud of his work for not-forprofit entities, including educational institutions; hospitals; YMCAs; music conservatories; arts organizations; cultural centers; health centers; fire departments, and facilities for physically and mentally challenged individuals. While with Cuddy & Feder Joe served as its Managing Partner for 20 years, during which the firm grew four fold.

Joe, recognizing the value of a good education, spent over 40 years on boards of educational institutions, including a charter school, a university, and a law school. Although an enthusiastic golfer, Joe describes his results on the golf course as "unremarkable".

Joe and his partner Maeve divide their time between Sarasota and Connecticut.

MARCH MEETING

Prof. Rick Dakan, who, among his teaching and other roles at Ringling College of Art & Design, serves as its AI Coordinator, presented those attending ARAS' March luncheon meeting with a wide ranging examination of issues confronting artists utilizing AI. Acknowledging that tools which once required specialized knowledge are now available to all creators, Prof. Dakan, inter alia, addressed the evolving copyright issues faced by artists utilizing AI; why AI tools are used; rights of creators; job loss caused by AI and bias inherent in data.

Prof. Dakan invited the attendees to examine a series of free online courses he co-produced on AI fluency with Anthropic at <https://anthropic.com/ai-fluency> .

Luncheon & Dues Payments

On April 27th luncheon selections are a Reuben sandwich with French fries, or a hearts of romaine salad with salmon. The dessert will be limoncello cake.

Please remember to schedule your lunch and choose your preferred menu on a timely basis. Walk-ins may have more limited menu options and delayed service.

You may make payments on our website at the bottom of the [Events](#) page:

\$32 for lunch and/or \$65 for dues using PayPal at

www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

Or you may mail a check for the luncheon payment of \$32 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 and luncheon selection 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.

In 2026 we will meet at the Varsity Club at University Park Country Club (UPCC). Attached is a map showing the location of the Varsity Club at UPCC. Turn right at the second stop sign after the gate house. - There is ample parking; however, for those needing assistance there will be valet service when you stop at the bag drop near the entrance to the Varsity Club.

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

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Friday, May 29, 2026 | Betsy Conley – F.B.I. |
| Friday, September 25, 2026 | TBD |
| Friday, October 30, 2026 | TBD |
| Friday, November 20, 2026 | Jim Champy |
| Friday, December 18, 2026 | TBD |

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.

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

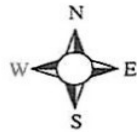
We look forward to hearing from you!

Amicus Submissions

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



UNIVERSITY PARK



University Parkway — ASK FOR DIRECTIONS AT GATE HOUSE
 Front GATE