

# Amicus Curiae

Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.



[www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org](http://www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org)

April 2022

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### Welcome New Member

Charles Thomas Moses III

## NEXT MEETING

Friday, April 29 at 12 Noon

at Marina Jack

*Marina Jack has raised the price of our lunches to reflect their increased costs and to approximate what other groups are paying for a two course very generous lunch. Commencing this month, our lunches will now cost \$28.00, which includes taxes and tips. We apologize for any inconvenience.*

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**April Speaker: Erik J. Arroyo, Mayor of the City of Sarasota**

**Topic: Issues Confronting Sarasota Today**

**Mayor Erik Arroyo** will be our speaker on Friday, April 29 at Marina Jack. The luncheon begins at noon. Please get your reservations in to Ben Berman early so he can notify the venue of the number of guests prior to the day of the luncheon. Make your luncheon checks out to ARAS. Please note that the cost of lunches will increase to \$28, including tax and tip, which is comparable to what other group luncheons now cost in Sarasota.

The Mayor will discuss several pressing issues he and the Board are dealing with, including the transformative changes Sarasota has undergone in the past two years, the need for affordable housing so that we can attract and retain all who want to live and work here, and the homeless situation. In addition, he will talk about the local crime statistics, general development, traffic and traffic circles, and changes to the zoning code under a new comprehensive plan for our area. Finally, he will touch on taxes, and several multigenerational and historical projects such as The Bay, Bobby Jones Golf Course, etc.

**About our Speaker:** Erik J. Arroyo is a Sarasota City Commissioner and current Mayor of the City of Sarasota. He also practices law at the firm of Band, Gates and Dramis, focusing on business, corporate and estate planning for family foundations. However, he comes from humble beginnings. Born in the Dominican Republic and raised by a single mother, Erik came to the United States as a teenager and met his future wife at Riverview High School. From having no air conditioning or warm running water, to being the first in his family to graduate from high school, Erik feels truly blessed to be living the American Dream. Erik and his wife Victoria, an English teacher at Sarasota High School, have a one-year old daughter named Ava and plan to reside locally for the rest of their lives. Erik has the distinction of being the youngest Mayor in the history of the City of Sarasota.

*We invite all members and their guests to join us for another educational and enjoyable gathering of retired attorneys on beautiful Sarasota Bay.*

Because of the wealth of talent and interesting lives led by our very diverse membership, we continue our series of stories focusing on the lives of our members. It is our hope to eventually cover every member.

**“Amicus Personae” – Margaret Bryant**  
**Member of The Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota**

**Margaret Bryant** retired in 2016 from a career combining her love of writing and editing with her education as an attorney. A member of the Florida Bar for nearly 40 years, Margaret used her skills to draft hundreds of newsletter articles, as well as seminar materials, speeches, and assorted writings on developments in workplace law, human resources management, and strategies for legal and regulatory compliance within the employment relationship.

A graduate of the University of Delaware and Stetson University College of Law, Margaret spent the early years of her legal career dipping her toe into general corporate practice, but soon took a position with CCH Incorporated that led to her recruitment by Jackson Lewis PC, a nationwide firm devoted to employment law. At Jackson Lewis, Margaret was the first attorney to focus specifically on drafting and editing articles about developments in the field for clients and prospective clients. Her intention was always to make court decisions, laws, agency regulations, and other legal developments understandable and relevant to professionals who were not lawyers or to lawyers practicing outside the field of workplace law.

From her start in 1987, Margaret played a vital role in bridging the firm’s substantive work with business development and marketing. As the firm grew, so did the demand for the kinds of legal analysis and practical strategies for compliance that Margaret helped to write, and the monthly newsletters, white papers, and workbook materials soon expanded into digital communications and new platforms for educating clients and developing business.

Margaret spent the bulk of her career with Jackson Lewis in New York, having moved from St. Petersburg in 1987 to White Plains in Westchester County with her two children, Mathew and Alison. As a single mother working full time in a busy firm, Margaret was still able to enjoy an active lifestyle hiking, biking, skiing, and attending kids’ games and performances. In 2001, Margaret moved to the Pittsburgh office of Jackson Lewis to be with her new husband Jim Prozzi (also a new member of ARAS). Buying a second home on Siesta Key in 2005, Margaret and Jim began the move toward retirement and their fulltime residence in Sarasota.

Margaret currently devotes significant time to Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida and the League of Women Voters of Sarasota. Contributing to the Sarasota community, developing a network of friends and peers, and enjoying the Gulf Coast lifestyle are top priorities for Margaret, in addition to traveling with Jim and playing a significant role in the lives of her two grandchildren, Juliet and Ian, who live in Naples with their parents.

## HOW TO PAY FOR LUNCHEONS AND 2022 DUES

Please mail your dues payment of \$55 and/or your luncheon payment of \$28 payable to the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc. to Benjamin Berman, Esq., 4223 MacKay Falls Terrace, Sarasota, Florida 34243. We are pleased to accept your payment by check or through our online payment option. Please get your luncheon payment in to Ben Berman 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.

**Make payments on our website: \$28 for lunch and \$55 dues using PayPal or your credit/debit card.  
To make online payments at [www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org](http://www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org)**

### **Please note the following luncheon dates for the remainder of 2022:**

Friday, April 29

Tuesday, May 31

Friday, June 24

Friday, September 30

Friday, October 28

Monday November 14

Monday, December 12

We look forward to seeing you at Marina Jack at noon on the above dates, subject, of course, to covid data.

## **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 Judith Starr at [jrstarr@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:jrstarr@tampabay.rr.com). Any member interested in participating in the Program Committee should notify Judith Starr, Chair of the committee. Her contact information is in our Directory.

## **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

If you have items of interest to the members, please forward them to

Millie Collins at [milly4747@live.com](mailto:milly4747@live.com) or

Joel Helmrich at [jhelmrich1@gmail.com](mailto:jhelmrich1@gmail.com)



**Your 2022 Board of Directors hard at work.**