

FINANCIAL NEWS &

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Chronicling Business & Law in Jacksonville

Florida Bar's Diner plays Secret Santa

December 14, 2009



The Florida Bar Board of Governors met at Amelia Island late last week, but many members of the 52-member group took time out to help Nassau County foster children during the holidays. Members donated money and presents to about 50 children and held a small party at the historic courthouse in Fernandina Beach, with Florida Bar President **Jesse Diner** playing Santa Claus. "It really is a lot of fun," said Diner. "It's about us giving back to the community and helping out

some very special children." Jacksonville attorneys and Florida Bar Board of Governor members Grier Wells and Jake Schickel were both part of festivities, calling it a heartwarming event. "Just seeing the children's faces means a lot," said Schickel. "It's a great event.

Adopting A Family

In the true spirit of the holiday season, the employees of the law firm of Atkinson Diner Stone Mankuta & Ploucha, P.A. recently donated toys, clothes, books, electronics and grocery/Wal-Mart gift cards to a local family of four. This community service project was in support of the Legal Aid Service of Broward County and Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida's special "Adopt-A-Family" project.

The firm hosted a gift wrapping party and the festively wrapped gifts were picked up from firm on December 18, 2009 by Legal Aid staff to be delivered to the family in time for Christmas.

The families served by the project are identified throughout the year by Legal Aid staff and are comprised of households facing an economic crisis. The majority of the participating families would not likely have been able to furnish any gifts to their children without the generosity of donors like the firm.