



BLASINGAME ▸ BURCH
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For Immediate Release:

Athens Law Firm Raises More Than \$2K for Food Bank

ATHENS, Ga. – (May 23, 2018) – As part of a state-wide competition and food drive, Athens law firm Blasingame, Burch, Garrard & Ashley, P.C. (BBGA) raised \$2,456 and 1,275 pounds of food for Food Bank of Northeast Georgia, earning first place in “overall total points” for the Athens region.

Points are garnered per pound of food and for each dollar contributed.

The Georgia Legal Food Frenzy (LFF) is a two-week food and fund drive competition done in partnership with the Georgia Attorney General, the State Bar, the Young Lawyers Division, and the Georgia Food Bank Association. More than 200 law firms and other legal organizations across the state raised a record-breaking \$400,325 and 18,809 pounds of food during this year’s 7th Annual Georgia Legal Food Frenzy.

“BBGA is committed to giving back to the community,” said BBGA Staff Attorney Kirsten Pickering Charles, who organized the firm’s efforts. “It’s something I noticed when I first joined BBGA. My favorite part about this event is getting people fired up about helping those who really need it.”

In this year’s LFF event, BBGA ranked:

- First out of five locally for overall Total Points
- Third out of five locally for Points Per Person
- 27th Statewide in the Firm: Medium (21-100 Employees) Category for Points Per Person
- 16th Statewide in the Firm: Medium (21-100 Employees) Category for Total Points

“Each year I have seen our firm increase their giving,” Pickering said. “This year we gave more than we ever have. Our firm came together to help fight hunger in our community, not only through the giving of their resources, but several employees volunteered their time at the food bank.”

Attorney General Chris Carr recently announced the overall final results, which totaled 1.61 million meals for Georgia’s food banks, a 21.3 percent increase over last year’s total.

“Our legal community has decided that we cannot sit idly by and allow any child in Georgia worry about where their next meal is coming from,” Carr said. “I want to thank each individual who helped lead and contribute to these record-breaking efforts. You’ve truly made a positive impact on the lives of your neighbors.”

Executive Director of the Georgia Food Bank Association Danah Craft praised the legal community’s efforts this year, calling it astounding.

“People don’t realize that for many kids, the end of the school year isn’t a happy occasion. Over 60 percent of Georgia’s children rely on free or reduces lunch at school, but when school is done, so are those meals,” Craft said. “The 1.61 million meals that Georgia’s legal community raised will be critical in ensuring these kids have proper nutrition all year-round.”

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