Castille to Receive Bar Medal at Bench-Bar

By Jeff Lyons

Justice Ronald D. Castille will receive the Philadelphia Bar Association’s highest honor, the Bar Medal, at the Bench-Bar & Annual Conference on Friday, Oct. 17 at Borgata in Atlantic City, NJ.

The Bar Medal is given at the discretion of the Chancellor and only when it is felt that someone has contributed to the justice system and/or the community in a manner that is sustained, extraordinary and worthy of emulation.

Former Chancellor Heim to Receive Inaugural Pollak Award Nov. 8

By Amy B. Ginensky and Leslie E. John

Fifty. That is how many years’ worth of growth and accomplishments the Philadelphia Bar Foundation will be celebrating on Saturday, Nov. 8 at the Andrew Hamilton Gala at the National Constitution Center. As befitting a 50th anniversary, the Foundation is planning on gathering a record number – 750, to be exact – of lawyers and other supporters to mark the occasion. We are preparing to party like it’s 1964, with a great band, great food and great company.

Above all, it will be a time to reflect on what the Foundation has accomplished, as a result of the support of thousands of individuals, law firms and other businesses, and to honor those who have led the way. It will be a time to celebrate the public interest legal aid community, whose services have provided critical help to thousands of Philadelphians, and to recognize that the Foundation’s mission of securing access to justice for all is far from accomplished and that there is much more required to be done by all of us.

We, the co-chairs of the event, along with Co-Chair Albert S. Dandridge III, Chancellor-Elect of the Philadelphia Bar Association, and our honorary chair, Harold Berger, whose brother David was the Foundation’s first president, hope that you will attend or, if you cannot join us, to otherwise show your support for the Foundation in its 50th year.

The Foundation has played a critical role in Philadelphia. It needs all of our generosity to continue to do so for the next 50 years. Then, on our centennial, we will reflect on all that has been accomplished – all of which we helped to make happen.

What has the Foundation accomplished and what’s left to do? Fifty years ago, a small group of esteemed members of our Bar formed the charitable arm of our legal community, the Philadelphia Bar Foundation Annual Gold Sponsors

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September is here! There are a few reasons why this month is significant for us. Let me begin by noting it is with great honor and pride that the Philadelphia Bar Association has been selected to host the 9th World City Bar Leaders Conference, which will take place Sept. 10-13.

While the Conference is for leaders of metropolitan bar associations from all over the world, there are a handful of delegates from the Philadelphia Bar Association who have worked hard to put together meaningful programming and events for our guests. I’d like to especially thank former Chancellor Rudy Garcia and Scott Cooper as well as Chancellor-Elect Al Dandridge for helping to make this Conference possible. In addition, special thanks to Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC and Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP for hosting the daytime meeting portions of the 2014 World City Bar Leaders Conference.

From the informative daytime sessions at local law firms to the fun and cultural evening activities, we couldn’t think of a more fitting location for bar leaders from around the world to gather and share ideas, to learn from one another, network and discuss the future of the legal profession. In addition, some of the topical and meaningful programming we have in store for Conference participants includes: Access to Justice; Judicial and Attorney Ethics and Discipline; Law as a Business; Privacy v. Security; Dealing with Disasters; International Discovery and much more. It is meaningful to me that our colleagues around the world are most interested in our Access to Justice initiative. If you are not aware, the World City Bar Leaders Conference is held in a different city approximately every 18 months to share best practices and provide new insights for the profession, while making and strengthening international connections. The last three Conferences were held in Frankfurt, Montreal and Tokyo, respectively, and we are delighted to bring it back to the United States.

As Philadelphians, we can understand how special it is to be selected as the host city and we intend to show our guests that our city is a warm, vibrant place to live and work. From the history of our legal profession to the bustling businesses and restaurants to our sports teams (this year especially our Temple Little League team), there is something for everyone. It is obvious that our city is a world-class city, in that we attract national conventions and conferences such as the World City Bar Leaders Conference. We have a vibrant entrepreneurial spirit that provides opportunities to improve our city on a daily basis.

However, while Philadelphia continues to grow and flourish, we also must focus on our most significant weakness. Public education continues to be our Achilles heel. As we are hearing and reading every day in the news, there was no assurance that our schools would open in September due to lack of funding. As it stands today, our schools will be faced with drastic cuts that will affect the quality of education in our city. We must strive for full funding of public education. How else will we provide our future workforce with a world-class education? Despite having a wonderful superintendent who has been working tirelessly to fight for our students and to achieve full funding for our schools, we are not close to where we need to be to provide the next generation with the proper education it deserves.

We will be hosting an Education Summit on Oct. 9, where you will hear from Superintendent Dr. William R. Hite Jr. as well as other champions for change in how our public education system is funded. In the meantime, Our Support Our Schools Campaign is still underway. 

Tell Us What You Think!
The Philadelphia Bar Reporter welcomes letters to the editors for publication. Letters should be typed. There is no word limit, but editors reserve the right to condense for clarity, style and space considerations. Letters must be signed by authorship, but names will be withheld upon request. Letters may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to: Jeff Lyons, Senior Managing Editor, Philadelphia Bar Reporter, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2955. Phone: (215) 238-6345. Fax: (215) 238-1139. E-mail: reporter@philabar.org.
Law Star Game to Benefit Bar Foundation

Tickets are on sale now for the YLD Law Star Game with The Legal Intelligencer featuring Firm Counsel vs. In-House Counsel on Wednesday, Oct. 1 at Campbell’s Field, home of the Camden Riversharks. The event benefits the Philadelphia Bar Foundation, celebrating its 50th anniversary.

There’s not a bad seat in the ballpark, with amazing views of the Philadelphia skyline, Ben Franklin Bridge and Delaware River.

Between innings, kids can compete in tug of war, run the bases with Riversharks mascots Hammerhead and Finley, participate in dodge ball toss and potato sack races. Friends, families and kids of all ages can take part in the speed pitch, carousel and Kid Zone including a moon bounce, rock-climbing wall, inflatable Skee-Ball, and inflatable sports challenge (football toss, soccer kick and basketball shot).

At the beginning of each sponsored inning, a lucky spectator will be selected to win a great prize. Souvenirs will be launched to fans with Riversharks slingshot toss.

Fans and team members can also compete in a Home Run Derby where the winner takes 50 percent of the proceeds and the other 50 percent goes to the Philadelphia Bar Foundation.

For fans 21 and over, admission is $15 and includes a choice of a jumbo hot dog, chicken fingers, or hamburger and includes chips, a soda and one beer. For attendees under 21, admission is free but no food voucher is included. An optional food/drink voucher for those under age 21 is available for $8 and includes a choice of a jumbo hot dog, chicken fingers or hamburger and includes chips and a soda. Concessions will be open to purchase additional items during the game.

Bus transportation to and from Campbell’s Field is also available for $5, with pickups at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. on 12th Street between Filbert and Market streets, next to the Marriott. Buses will return following the fireworks at the end of the game. Registration is required for bus transportation.


The Law Firm team, managed by The Center for Forensic Economic Studies, includes players from Blank Rome LLP; Cozen O’Connor; Fox Rothschild LLP; German, Gallagher & Murtagh, P.C.; Martin LLC; McCarter & English LLP; Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads, LLP; Pepper Hamilton LLP; Post & Schell, P.C.; Saxe, Mongeluzzi, Barrett & Bendesky, P.C.; and White and Williams LLP.

The gates at Campbell’s Field open at 5 p.m. with full access to all ballpark activities. The Home Run Derby begins at 5:30 p.m. and the seven-inning Law Star Game begins at 6:30 p.m. A fireworks display will follow the final out. For ticket and ballpark activity information, visit philadelphiabar.org.
YLD/The Legal Intelligencer Law Star Game Rosters

YLD Firm Counsel

ADAM M. BERARDI
White and Williams LLP

MARCIE A. COURTNEY
Post & Schell, P.C.

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Pepper Hamilton LLP

LISA D. ELDRIDGE
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Saltz, Mongeluzzi, Barrett & Bendesky, P.C.

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Enter Law Star Game Home Run Derby at Campbell’s Field

Do you dig the long ball? At The Law Star Game, both fans and team members can enter to compete in the Home Run Derby.

Each participant will get five swings and the hitter with the most home runs is the winner. If there is a tie and time permits, a tie-breaker will be held, otherwise the winnings will be split between the hitters with the most home runs. The winner will receive 50 percent of the entry fee pool, with the remaining 50 percent going to the Philadelphia Bar Foundation in honor of its 50th Anniversary. The Home Run Derby entry fee is $25.

Hitters will swing against a live pitcher, with the fences 300 feet from home plate. The Home Run Derby will be held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Participants are asked to arrive at Campbell’s Field by 5 p.m. for the competition. Only 20 spots are available for the Home Run Derby. Register for the Home Run Derby and purchase tickets for the Law Star Game at philadelphiabar.org.
Articulate Your Personal Brand in Workplace

By Mary-Kate Breslin

“We are always interacting in our workplace,” she continued. If women can “make a little tweak in our communication … you can have more positive results and communicate more clearly.” A personal brand represents an individual’s promise of consistent value and quality. Building a personal brand creates the essence of what that individual can provide to clients and employers alike. One method of building a personal brand in the workplace is to share. Rice recommended sharing resources among colleagues and peers. Go beyond sharing on a personal level, and consider sharing networking resources as well.

“We are always interacting in our workplace,” she continued. If women can “make a little tweak in our communication … you can have more positive results and communicate more clearly.” A personal brand represents an individual’s promise of consistent value and quality. Building a personal brand creates the essence of what that individual can provide to clients and employers alike. One method of building a personal brand in the workplace is to share. Rice recommended sharing resources among colleagues and peers. Go beyond sharing on a personal level, and consider sharing networking resources as well.

“Develop a marketing mindset,” Rice suggested. “The mindset is as important as the skill set of developing our personal brand.” In the context of developing a personal brand in the workplace, it is important to note that an individual’s brand will likely vary among the workplace and other networks. Rice highlighted the importance of consistently expanding one’s network(s).

One tool in particular that Rice encouraged the attendees to use is feedback; specifically the solicitation of feedback. “Attorneys are somewhat loath to … seek feedback,” she quipped. She suggested getting feedback from clients regularly. Whether it is a lunch, a questionnaire or a survey, some form of solicited feedback can make a difference in generating future business and referrals.

A legal marketing authority, Rice is also editor-in-chief of ALM’s “Marketing the Law Firm,” a national monthly newsletter for The AmLaw 100/200 lawyers and legal marketers. “You need a solid footing of how you know yourself and how you perceive yourself before you can ask others to perceive and experience you,” Rice said. She promised “your personal brand is a lifelong adventure.”

Mary-Kate Breslin (marykatebreslin39@gmail.com), an assistant city solicitor in the Philadelphia Law Department, is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.
Technology Changing Layouts of Law Offices

By Elisa C. Advani

Office space as we once knew it is evolving, with technological advances changing the landscape of the traditional law office. Carol G. Huff of Huff Equities and John Gattuso of Liberty Property Trust discussed trends in office real estate at a recent X, Y, Z’s of Real Estate program.

Real estate used to be the second highest cost after salaries in law firms, but “we are at a point in time of great evolution, largely because of technology,” said Huff. Having prime office location is now more of a liability than an asset. After all, law offices are income-generating businesses.

“Maximizing economics will help law firms work more efficiently, keep their clients, and bring in new clients,” said Huff.

Huff pointed out that the average square footage allocated to senior partners, partners and associates has been reduced across the board. With less money spent on rent, law firms have more money in the budget for new technologies to facilitate teleconferencing and working remotely.

“Offices were once useful to know who was coming to work and how many hours they were working,” said Gattuso.

But now that technology facilitates working remotely, Gattuso explained, “people are coming together because they want to – not because they have to.”

“Technology is the driving force behind these real estate trends,” Huff said. By being more flexible, Gattuso said, law firms are able to draw from a larger talent pool. These changes affect the amount of square footage of attorney offices as well as where attorneys are meeting with their clients. Interacting socially might be more productive than working solely out of an isolated office.

The panel discussed innovative office layouts such as the new GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) location at the Navy Yard and the Comcast building that is in the works. Office architecture is showing a preference for communal space versus private individual offices. The open floor plan environment at GSK, for instance, led to a reduction in inter-office email by 40 percent. Gattuso explained that face-to-face communications are more effective and less prone to misunderstandings that might occur via email.

One audience member expressed concerns that for a law office, open floor plans might infringe on confidentiality. The new layouts should still include some private space for confidentiality, but overall face-to-face communications are more advantageous.

The individual entrepreneur is not going to exist in the same way we have seen before. “Team space is going to be a driving feature,” said Huff. These new real estate trends promote the exchange of ideas that will ultimately lead to the best answers for law firm clients.

Elisa C. Advani, an associate with Haggerty, Goldberg, Schleifer & Kupersmith, P.C., is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.
YLD Seeks Candidates

The Young Lawyers Division is now accepting nominations from any voting member of the YLD interested in serving a three-year term on the Executive Committee. This year’s YLD Executive Committee election will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 9.

For those wishing to learn more about the YLD and the election process, an information session will be held on Monday, Sept. 22 at 1 p.m. in the 11th Floor Conference Center of the Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St. This is a free event for members of the YLD. However, registration is required in advance.

Each year, seven new members are elected to the YLD Executive Committee. Any voting member of the YLD is eligible for election provided that the term of office for which the individual runs shall not extend beyond his or her membership in the Division. A member is eligible if he/she is 37 years old or younger in the year 2017 or, if he/she is older than 37, not celebrating more than his/her third year of practice in 2017.

The Executive Committee manages and directs the business and activities of the YLD’s approximately 3,000 members, including oversight of more than 30 committees in the areas of public service, law-related education and service to the legal community. Being on the YLD Executive Committee provides lawyers opportunities for leadership, networking, and personal and professional growth early in their careers.

The nominating petition and personal statement must be returned to Dawn Petit, Meetings Coordinator, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market Street, 11th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107 or dpetit@philabar.org, no later than 3 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 10.
YLD Update

Law Star Game, Boot Camp Coming this Fall

The Young Lawyers Division is looking forward to a busy and exciting fall lineup of programming and events. Right off the bat (pun intended), the YLD and The Legal Intelligencer are presenting The Law Star Game at Campbell’s Field, home of the Riversharks, in Camden, N.J.

This event will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 1 at 5 p.m., and will feature the YLD’s Family Night celebration, part of our continuing efforts to bring Bar Association members and their families together for an affordable and fun way to socialize and relax. As I have mentioned in prior updates, this family friendly event at Campbell’s Field will feature a carousel, speed pitch machine, fireworks, games, prizes and a lot more. Remember, the YLD Boot Camp is not limited to YLD members. We encourage participation throughout the Philadelphia legal community and beyond, and it is our hope to bring families together from varied and diverse backgrounds for this celebration.

The YLD Boot Camp returns on Friday, Nov. 14 and will be held from 12 to 5 p.m. at the Bar Association at 1101 Market St. The annual YLD Boot Camp features a panel of distinguished speakers on the topics of interview skills, solo and small firm practice, and surviving your first year as a new attorney. One of the highlights of this program is the “Advice from the Bench” panel, which consists of state and federal judges, both trial and appellate, who kindly volunteer their time to help mentor young attorneys and students. These distinguished members of the bench share useful insight for young attorneys on good habits for successful lawyers, common mistakes to be avoided, and usually a good story or two. The YLD Boot Camp is capped off with a lively networking event and happy hour. Details will be announced soon!

Also in November, the YLD will organize its annual Harvest for the Homeless, collecting coats, pants, shirts, shoes and other clothing and necessities for the less fortunate in the Philadelphia area. The details of Harvest for the Homeless are still being worked out, and the dates for collection and distribution will be announced shortly. Harvest for the Homeless is a great way to lend a hand to those in need, while getting to know other attorneys in the region.

Young lawyers should be aware that the YLD will elect new members to its Executive Committee in December. Anyone interested in running, or who have questions about the process, should feel free to contact me. There will also be an information session about YLD Executive Committee elections on Monday, Sept. 22 at 1 p.m. at the Bar Association (10th Floor). I would be remiss if I did not recognize the YLD’s recent school supply drive. For the past two years, this event has been shepherded by YLD Chair-Elect Maria Bermudez, and it continues to be a popular and successful program. Given the state of the city’s schools and funding problems, the YLD is happy to be able to donate sorely needed books, pencils and other school supplies that many of us took for granted when we were children. I thank everyone who came out for the event on Aug. 21 at Marathon Grill. Your contribution was deeply appreciated.

Edward F. Beitz (beitze@whiteandwilliams.com), an associate with White and Williams LLP, is chair of the Young Lawyers Division.

By Edward F. Beitz

Danielle DeRosa (from left), YLD Chair Edward F. Beitz and YLD Chair-Elect Maria E. Bermudez show off some of the school supplies collected for the YLD’s second annual Back to School Supply Drive at an Aug. 20 happy hour at Marathon Grill. The items will be donated to students in economically challenged areas of the city. The event was co-sponsored by the Workers’ Compensation Section and Robson Forensic.

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2 Ethics CLE Credits Now Required in Pa.

The April and August compliance deadlines for CLE credits have passed and attorneys with those deadlines may have put their CLE requirement out of mind for another year. Recent changes to the CLE Rules make that a bad strategy.

In January, the Supreme Court made two changes:
1. Attorneys are now required to have at least two ethics credits every year; and
2. Attorneys have permission to use up to six distance education credits to satisfy the annual 12-credit requirement.

The changes became effective for CLE compliance periods beginning May 1, 2014, meaning that the new ethics requirement will be enforced for compliance periods ending April 30, 2015.

Many CLE courses include one hour of ethics training related to that field of practice. PBI offers a group of one-hour ethics courses near the end of each compliance period under the title Ethics Potpourri. Keep the new rule in mind to avoid getting an unpleasant reminder and possible fine after your 2015 deadline.

The distance education changes offer 24/7 convenience in meeting the CLE requirement, but there is a nuance in that change, too. “Distance education” credits, as defined by the CLE Rules, do not, like other credits, carry over to subsequent years. For example, an attorney who viewed six hours of CLE from PBI’s Online Campus before her deadline in 2014 will not be able to count two of those credits toward either her 2014 or 2015 requirement.

PBI simulcasts to bar associations and other facilities around the Commonwealth are not subject to this “cap” on distance education credits. They combine the convenience of local programming with quality instruction by statewide experts. Time spent in these outstanding seminars will help satisfy your full 12-credit requirement and can be carried forward to two future years. Live webcasts, on the other hand, are subject to the six-credit cap. CLE “bundles” available from some national online providers may offer credits that will not be available to satisfy the Pennsylvania CLE requirement.

Chief Justice Castille has a long history of supporting and promoting public service. He is the honorary chair of the Pennsylvania Civil Legal Justice Coalition, which is a statewide coalition of leaders from the Philadelphia, Allegheny County, Dauphin County and Pennsylvania Bar Associations; representatives of the public interest community; and other key stakeholders who work to address the growing crisis in unmet civil legal services needs for low-income Pennsylvanians.

“The Bar Medal criteria define what Justice Castille has been. Not just as chief justice and district attorney and assistant district attorney. He’s had an extraordinary career,” said Chancellor William P. Fedullo. “His efforts in the civil justice access field are of recent note. His efforts to get the Family Court building done and under budget have also been extraordinary,” said Fedullo.

“He has approached his job with courage and dignity and a focus we should all emulate.”

Chief Justice Castille served in the U.S. Marine Corps as first lieutenant, rifle platoon commander, in Vietnam and received the Bronze Star Medal with Combat “V” for bravery, two Purple Heart Medals, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, Presidential Unit & Naval Unit Citations and Combat Action Ribbon.

He was an assistant and deputy district attorney in Philadelphia from 1971 to 1985 and served as district attorney from 1986 to 1991. He served as a justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court from 1994 to 2007 and was sworn in as chief justice in 2008. Chief Justice Castille has received numerous honors throughout his career, including the Philadelphia Bar Association’s William J. Brennan Distinguished Jurist Award in 2013.


The Bar Medal will be presented at the Opening Luncheon of the Bench-Bar & Annual Conference on Friday, Oct. 17 at Borgata in Atlantic City. N.J. Registration is available at philabenchbar.com.

Chief Justice Castille continued from page 1

September CLE Calendar

These CLE programs, cosponsored by the Philadelphia Bar Association will be held at The CLE Conference Center
Wanamaker Building, 10th Floor, Suite 1010, Juniper Street entrance
unless otherwise noted.

Live & Simulcast Seminars
Sept. 11 • Act 95-New Power of Attorney Law
Sept. 16 • Philadelphia and Commonwealth Taxes
Sept. 17 • What Pennsylvania Lawyers Need to Know About
New Jersey Employment Law
The Supreme Court’s Robinson Township Decision
Sept. 19 • The Ethics Game
Sept. 19-20 • Immigration Law Forum
Sept. 22 • Litigating an Employment Discrimination Case
Sept. 23 • How to Prepare the Fiduciary Income and Decedent’s Final
Lifet ime Income Tax Returns

Video Seminars
Sept. 9 • Writing for Lawyers
Sept. 10 • Evidence for Trial Lawyers
Sept. 11 • Sheriff’s Sales in Pennsylvania
Sept. 15 • Winning at Trial
Sept. 16 • The Fear Factor—How Good Lawyers get into Bad Ethical Trouble
Sept. 17 • Ethics Potpourri — An OLD, Dead Poet’s Take on Justice, Mercy & Getting Mine: A Lawyer’s Life and The Merchant of Venice
Sept. 18 • Drafting & Modifying Residential Agreements of Sales
Insurance Coverage and Conflict: Duties of Insurer, Insured & Counsel in the Tripartite Relationship
Sept. 24 • Get Organized and Get Things Done
Sept. 29 • The Nine Principles of Litigation

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Sept. 16 • What Every Municipal Lawyer Needs to Know About the Supreme Court’s Robinson Township Decision
Sept. 17 • How to Prepare the Fiduciary Income and Decedent’s Final
Lifet ime Income Tax Returns
Sept. 19 • Immigration Law Forum
Sept. 22 • Litigating an Employment Discrimination Case
Sept. 23 • Act 95-New Power of Attorney Law

Mark Your Calendar
Oct. 15 • 18th Annual Family Law Update
Oct. 30 • 19th Annual Bankruptcy Institute
Nov. 12-13 • 20th Annual Business Lawyers’ Institute
Nov. 17 • Third Annual Best Practices in Pretrial Litigation in the Federal Courts
Dec. 4-5 • 18th Annual Real Estate Institute — PA Convention Center

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Sept. 8-9 • 43th Annual Estate Planning Institute
Sept. 11 • Hedge Fund Management
Sept. 23 • White Collar Crime: Prosecutors & Regulators Speak
Sept. 30 • Electronic Discovery Institute: What Corporate & Outside Counsel Need to Know

Castille

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Earn 8.5 Credits, Choose from 22 CLE Seminars

Bench-Bar Scholarships are Available

Scholarships to the 2014 Bench-Bar & Annual Conference, Oct. 17-18 at Borgata in Atlantic City, N.J., are available by lottery to Philadelphia Bar Association members who are public interest or government service attorneys. To enter the lottery, please submit your name and organization to Donna Petit at dpetit@philabar.org by 4 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 15. Each scholarship will include hotel accommodations for one night on Oct. 17 at Borgata as well as all conference fees which include CLE programming and all sponsored meals and events.

The winners will be announced on Sept. 16 via email. You must be a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association to participate in the scholarship lottery.

LGBT community; and mentoring.
Course Planners: Sophia Lee and Kevin V. Mincey.
Faculty: Hon. Daniel J. Anders, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Trial Division; Criminal, Lawrence S. Felzer; Cherri T. Gregg (moderator); Su Ming Yeh and Abbe F. Fletman.

New Developments in the Civil Right to Counsel and Access to Justice Movement in Pennsylvania (Presented by the Civil Gideon and Access to Justice Task Force)

This panel will provide an updated report on the efforts that began five years ago with the formation of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Civil Gideon Task Force and culminate in the efforts over the past year to address the civil legal justice crisis and improve access to justice in Pennsylvania. The program will highlight the findings and recommendations contained in the report “Toward Equal Justice for All: Report of the Civil Legal Justice Coalition.” The report was presented to the Pennsylvania Senate Judiciary Committee on May 6, 2014, following the statewide access to justice hearings held in 2013. The program will address strategies underway to implement those recommendations in Pennsylvania and will also highlight innovative approaches to improving access to justice and reducing the backlog of cases.

Do the Right Thing! – Ethical Issues Arising In Litigation (Presented by the State Civil Litigation Section)

This CLE session will address the ethical issues that can arise in the litigation process, both pretrial and during trial. Counsel from both the plaintiff and defense side, along with judicial perspective, will highlight the following issues: ethical issues regarding attorney conduct; representations made to court during settlement discussions; using social media in pursuit of information; and contacting employers for information.
Course Planner: Butler Buchanan III. Faculty: Hon. George Overton, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Trial Division; Civil; Hon. Pamela Pryor Dembe, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Trial Division; Civil; A. Roy DeCaro; and Daniel J. Sherry.

False Claims Act or Whistleblower Litigation: What Every Practitioner Must Know About This Constantly Developing Area of the Law (Presented by the Federal Courts Committee)

Nationally known practitioners in the area of federal and state False Claims Act litigation will provide the Bench-Bar audience with years of unprecedented litigation experience and insight into the unique, often confusing, and always evolving, area of qui tam or whistleblower litigation. The federal government has recovered more than $39 billion since 1986. The Philadelphia federal bench along with some Bar members have handled historic False Claims Act cases since the passage of the Modern False Claims Act in 1986. Areas to be covered by the panel include an overview of the federal and state False Claims Act statutes; the unique procedural postures of these complex cases; how these complex cases are prepared and litigated; some of the pitfalls involved in this unique litigation; working with the federal and state governments in whistleblower cases and the pivotal role of the court in False Claims Act litigation.

Defamation and SLAPP Suits: Where Do We Stand 50 Years After New York Times v. Sullivan? (Presented by the Public Interest Section)

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the landmark First Amendment case of New York Times v. Sullivan, in which the U.S. Supreme Court held that public officials (later expanded to include public figures, too) who sue for defamation must show that the defendants acted with “actual malice.” The Supreme Court’s motivating concern in adopting and repeatedly reiterating this standard over the past 50 years is to ensure that the public and the press are not chilled from criticizing and commenting on public officials, public figures and government activities, out of fear of a defamation suit. Does it truly ensure that the fear of a defamation suit, including the costs of defending against it, does not chill the press and the public from speaking? During this CLE, panelists with views and experience across the spectrum will share and debate these issues, which remain as relevant today as they were when New York Times v. Sullivan was decided 50 years ago.
Course Planners: Su Ming Yeh and Phoenixia Williams. Faculty: Pennsylvania state Sen. Larry Farnese, Geoffrey R. Johnson, Mary Catherine Roper (moderator) and Eli Segal.

Dirty Tricks in Domestic Relations (Presented by the Family Law Section)

With emotions running high, some family law litigants play games that make the other party’s life, and sometimes the lives of their children, miserable. Examples include profane texters, video recordings of custody exchanges, email bullies, parental eavesdroppers and birthday party crashers. While these dirty deeds may not be illegal, they can cross the line of harassment or conduct contrary to the children’s best interest.

This program will explore constructive ways to deal with destructive conduct and the relief a court can offer to diffuse these difficult circumstances.
Course Planners: Julia Swain and Mark A. Momjian. Faculty: Hon. Maria C. McLaughlin, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Family Court Division; Margaret Klaw and David S. Rainer (moderator).

Diversity and Inclusion: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Lawyers (Presented by the Diversity in the Profession Committee and LGBT Rights Committee)

According to NLAP, The Association for Legal Career Professionals, “[t]he overall percentage of openly lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) lawyers reported in the NLAP Directory of Legal Employers (NDLE) in 2013 increased to 2.19 percent compared with 2.07 percent in 2012. Percentages for both partners and associates increased.” Our panelists will discuss “best practices” to create an inclusive environment for LGBT lawyers; the importance of “straight allies” as advocates for the LGBT community; workplace policies; compensation and benefits; and an update on current laws impacting the Philadelphia Bar Reporter September 2014 philadelphiabar.org

Philadelphia Bar Association to participate in the scholarship lottery.

Bench-Bar Scholarships are Available

Scholarships to the 2014 Bench-Bar & Annual Conference, Oct. 17-18 at Borgata in Atlantic City, N.J., are available by lottery to Philadelphia Bar Association members who are public interest or government service attorneys. To enter the lottery, please submit your name and organization to Donna Petit at dpetit@philabar.org by 4 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 15. Each scholarship will include hotel accommodations for one night on Oct. 17 at Borgata as well as all conference fees which include CLE programming and all sponsored meals and events.

The winners will be announced on Sept. 16 via email. You must be a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association to participate in the scholarship lottery.

LGBT community; and mentoring.
Course Planners: Sophia Lee and Kevin V. Mincey.
Faculty: Hon. Daniel J. Anders, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Trial Division; Criminal, Lawrence S. Felzer; Cherri T. Gregg (moderator); Su Ming Yeh and Abbe F. Fletman.

New Developments in the Civil Right to Counsel and Access to Justice Movement in Pennsylvania (Presented by the Civil Gideon and Access to Justice Task Force)

This panel will provide an updated report on the efforts that began five years ago with the formation of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Civil Gideon Task Force and culminate in the efforts over the past year to address the civil legal justice crisis and improve access to justice in Pennsylvania. The program will highlight the findings and recommendations contained in the report “Toward Equal Justice for All: Report of the Civil Legal Justice Coalition.” The report was presented to the Pennsylvania Senate Judiciary Committee on May 6, 2014, following the statewide access to justice hearings held in 2013. The program will address strategies underway to implement those recommendations in Pennsylvania and will also highlight innovative approaches to improving access to justice

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Twenty-two different continuing legal education (CLE) programs from a wide variety of legal disciplines will be featured at the Bench-Bar & Annual Conference on Friday Oct. 17 through Saturday Oct. 18 at Borgata in Atlantic City, N.J.

The Bench-Bar & Annual Conference provides attendees the opportunity to earn CLE credit while networking with colleagues and members of the judiciary. Hundreds of attorneys and judges are expected to attend. Highlights include Friday night’s Swanky Soiree at Borgata’s MDX nightclub and Saturday’s State of the Courts program featuring reports from Pennsylvania and Philadelphia president judges.

The Ethics of Covering a Moving Media Target (Presented by the Bar-News Media Committee)

Jodi Arias, George Zimmerman, Donald Sterling, Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, and the South Korea ferry disaster are just a few of the moving media targets with which we are all familiar. While news media and law are separate areas of business, the court of law and court of public opinion overlap in theory and in practice. Members of the media are often charged with covering a story with very little detail to go on. The overarching ethical standards are fairness and accuracy above all. But who really determines what is “fair” and at what point do we measure a story for “accuracy”? On the other side of the coin are the attorneys who have an ethical obligation to their clients to preserve attorney-client confidentiality while providing zealous counsel.

Both professions require critical thinking, research and communication skills, along with an ability to grasp how laws and ethics shape the delivery of news. Nationally known lawyers-turned-media correspondents will address the ethics of covering a moving media target in today’s society.

Course Planners: Gina Furia Rubel and Meredith Z. Avlian-Hardaway. Faculty: Daniel L. Cevallos (moderator), and Meredith Z. Avakian-Hardaway.

Defamation and SLAPP Suits: Where Do We Stand 50 Years After New York Times v. Sullivan? (Presented by the Public Interest Section)

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the landmark First Amendment case of New York Times v. Sullivan, in which the U.S. Supreme Court held that public officials (later expanded to include public figures, too) who sue for defamation
that have been implemented in other jurisdictions.

Course Planners: Catherine C. Carr, Joseph A. Sul-
vivan and Merrill L. Zebe

Faculty: Hon. Sheila A. Woods-Skipper, President
Judge, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas; Hon. Ger-
ald A. McHugh Jr., U.S. District Court for the Eastern
District of Pennsylvania; Hon. Fern A. Fisher, Deputy
Chief Administrative Judge of New York City Courts;
Jennifer Clarke and Steven Grumm.

**Trick or Treat? Understanding the Interplay Of
Disability, Workers’ Compensation and Tort
Claims (Presented by the Social Security Dis-
ability Law Committee)**

Learn about Social Security disability, work injury
tort claims generally and the effect they have on one
another.

Course Planner/Moderator: Maria E. Bermudez. Fac-
ulty: Hon. Richard A. Kelly, Administrative Judge, Social
Security Administration, Philadelphia Office of Disability
Adjudication and Review; Heather J. Austin; Joseph C.
Hutzerman and Robert W. Zimmerman.

**Dealing With High-Profile Cases: A View from
the Courts and the Executive Branch**

From arranging physical accommodations in the
courtroom to public statements on the courthouse steps,
what, if anything, do judges and prosecutors have to do
differently when there is a high-profile case?

Faculty: Hon. Correale F. Stevens, Pennsylvania
Supreme Court and Kathleen G. Kane, Pennsylvania
Attorney General.

**A View from the Bench Regarding Real Estate
Matters in Philadelphia (Presented by the Real
Property Section)**

This session will address best practices from the
judiciary’s point of view in regards to real estate litiga-
tion including partition actions, quiet title actions, mortgage
foreclosure actions, conservatorships and tax sale matters.
The course will be invaluable for any litigator whose prac-
tice touches on any area of real property litigation.

Course Planner: Richard L. Vanderslice. Faculty: Hon.
Ellen Ceieder, Court of Common Pleas, Trial Division,
Civil; Hon. Idee C. Fox, Court of Common Pleas, Trial
Division, Civil; Hon. Annette Rizzo, Court of Common
Pleas, Trial Division, Civil and Rachel Gallegos.

**Reentry Courts – New Opportunities for Re-
turning Citizens (Presented by the Criminal
Justice Section)**

This one-hour panel will describe the Federal Reen-
try “STAR” court and its operation. It will also provide
an explanation, description and update on the newest
Reentry court on the local map: the Philadelphia Court
of Common Pleas Reentry Court for state parolees.

Course Planner/Moderator: Thomas J. Innes III.
Faculty: Hon. L. Felipe Restrepo, U.S. District Court,
Eastern District of Pennsylvania; Byron Cotter; Michael
L. Green; and Derek Riker.

**Openings with Mongo (Presented by the State
Civil Litigation Section)**

Robert J. Mongeluzzi will present his opening argu-
ment in the case of a client who was tragically killed

while working at a steam plant in Philadelphia after being
caught by a 300-pound block that fell approximately
60 feet from an overhead crane. Mongeluzzi was able to
declare that the defendant’s reckless conduct gave rise to
punitive damages, along with eyewitness testimony that
established approximately 10 minutes of uncontroverted
conscious pain and suffering. The defendant client left
behind a widow and five children (three adults and two
minors), the youngest of which (3 years old) suffers from
profound hearing loss. The constellation of damages in
this case – punitive damages, clear conscious pain and
suffering and compelling clients – propelled this case's
settlement to one of the highest in Philadelphia County
history for a single wrongful death case. Mongeluzzi’s
opening statement uses state of the art technology, incor-
porating family photographs, scene photographs, deposi-
tion transcripts, deposition videos, critical documents
and crime simulations. The seminar will also include the
participation of prominent defense counsel giving a unique viewpoint on Mongeluzzi’s presentation and
answer questions on the evidentiary and tactical issues to
be considered in giving an effective opening statement.

Faculty: Robert J. Mongeluzzi, Rochelle M. Fedullo
and John E. Savoth (moderator).

**Social Media Policies for Employers, Em-
ployees, and Their Counsel (Presented by the
Young Lawyers Division)**

This CLE will include a brief discussion of the scope of
social media discovery and will focus on how to man-
gage the risks of social media and how social media will
affect employers’ policies regarding their employees and
their web presence. We will cover current litigation and
decisions where corporations have been directly involved
because of their web presence, their employees’ social
media commentary, and the actions of their competitors.
Faculty will offer advice on what employers are suggested
to avoid, how to train employees, general policy drafting,
and some general tips/concerns. The panelists will address
what needs to be done by employers to ensure that they
have a sensible, risk-managed web presence; have thought
about social media in a litigation hold scenario; and have
policies in place to protect/educate their employees about
social media risks to the company and to their employees.

All attorneys get a reintroduction to the vast amount of
information that can be discovered about plaintiffs and
their own witnesses – it may even help counsel real-
ize some evidence and causes of action they have been
overlooking.

Faculty: Ryan G. Gatto, Justin S. Moriconi and Laura
Powers.

**Win an iPad Mini at Bench-Bar**

**Registration opens at 9:30 a.m. at Borgata in
Atlantic City, N.J. on Friday, Oct. 17 for the
Philadelphia Bar Association’s Bench-Bar &
Annual Conference. Meet our valued sponsors
who have made this year’s Bench-Bar & Annual
Conference possible. Also, we invite you to visit
each of our sponsors throughout the Conference
to get your “Passport” stamped to enter a raffle
to win an iPad Mini!**

"Witnesses, Eyewitnesses and Videotape" -
Progress or Boondoggle? (Presented by the
Criminal Justice Section)

This hour-long panel explains and discusses the re-
forms initiated by the Philadelphia Police Department in
the areas of treatment and interrogation of witnesses, pro-
cedures and protocols on conducting photo displays for
eyewitnesses and the videotaping of interrogations of and
statements by suspects. Why were these reforms enacted?
What is the impact on criminal prosecutions? Where
does Philadelphia fall nationwide in police practices?

Course Planner/Moderator: Thomas J. Innes III.
Faculty: Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles H.
Ramsey, Marissa Buyers Bluestine, John Holloway and
Prof. David Rudowsky.

Motion/Discovery Court Practice – The Good,
The Bad and The Ugly (Presented by the State
Civil Litigation Section)

This CLE will identify and address controversial mo-
tions, such as motions for extraordinary relief, motions
to compel depositions/defense medical examinations,
motions to enforce settlements, motions to disclose social
media information, and motions forum non-conveniens.
Expert faculty will utilize hypotheticals and in-court
videotaped vignettes with motions presented and briefly
argued on camera, followed by brief discussions by the
panel and perspectives by a judge(s), to identify cer-
tain kinds of motions that should not be filed and/or
defended as a waste of time because the result yielded is a
fair accompli.

Course Planner: Ronald A. Kovler. Faculty: Hon.
Jacqueline F. Allen, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas,
Trial Division, Civil; Hon. Lisa M. Rau, Philadelphia
Court of Common Pleas, Trial Division, Civil; Peter J.
Divon and Kelly J. Fox.

Creating and Maintaining a Diverse and Inclu-
sive Law Practice for All (Presented by the Law
Practice Management Committee)

Panelists will provide “best practices” to create and
maintain a diverse and inclusive law practice where there
is equal opportunity for advancement for all. Learn about
the importance of defining diversity broadly and under-
standing the “business case for diversity.” The discussion
will focus on concrete steps to eliminate bias from busi-
ness development, client relationship management and
procurement.

Course Planner: Naomi K. McLaurin. Faculty:
Chancellor-Elect Albert S. Dandridge III, Mary F. Platt,
Sophia Lee and Gina F. Rubel (moderator).

"Do You Know Where Your Cell Phone Is?" -
Mobile Devices and Your Ethical and Legal
Obligations (Presented by the Professional
Responsibility Committee)

In this age of modern technology and the increas-
ing use of mobile devices from iPhones to iPads, data
breaches are becoming more likely, if not inevitable.
Hackers, thieves and your own employees create huge
risks of liability for breached data. Lawyers must be able
to navigate the ethical minefield of competently protect-
ing their clients’ data. Moreover, lawyers must be mindful
of other privacy obligations imposed by federal and state
law, like the Health Insurance Portability and Account-
ability Act (HIPAA). Mobile communications are faster
and easier than ever, and clients love it, but what are
the risks to our clients? Where are the ethical pitfalls for
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lawyers? What does HIPAA require? Are you a “business associate” under HIPAA? What are the practical steps needed to protect your client, and yourself?

The topics to be covered among others include fundamental ethics requirements; fundamental HIPAA requirements; engagement letters; and practical steps to protect both client information and protected health information.

Course Planner: Conor McNally. Faculty: Diana K. Ashton, W. Bourne Ruthrauff, Jennu K. Sheld and Lawrence J. Tabas.

Custody at the Extremes - From Unwieldy Infants to Unruly Teens (Presented by the Family Law Section)

There is no one-size-fits-all or “standard” custody schedule that can be used as a default in family matters. The child development process requires consideration in formulating custody schedules that meet the needs of children at the proper stages of development. Whether considering attachment theory for infants or navigating teenage years, there are many options available to family lawyers and judges to ensure that a schedule properly fits the needs of a child. Our expert panel will explore schedules suited for children at various development stages.


So You Want to Be a Judge (Presented by the Election Procedures Committee)

This one-hour session will address the process involved in running for judicial office in Philadelphia. The panel will cover the role in the electoral process that the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention plays, including the application process, the candidate interview and the candidate’s appearance before the Commission; election law, specifically, challenges to nominating petitions and some of the practical problems that arise in petition contests, along with a discussion of recent Pennsylvania case law dealing with election law; election law as it relates to judicial retention; and changes to the ratings system employed by the Judicial Commission.

Course Planner/Moderator: A. Harold Datz. Faculty: Chancellor William P. Fedullo, Prof. Louis S. Rulli, Denise J. Smyler and Sharon L. Suleta.

Medicare Liens and Set-Asides and Workers’ Compensation Liens (Presented by the Workers’ Compensation Section)

A plain-talk primer designed to dispel myths, and to provide accurate information needed by liability attorneys as to what Medicare wants, what they can get, and what you have to do to make sure that your settlement isn’t derailed by a demand for a Medicare Set-Aside. The presentation will also discuss workers’ compensation liens and the optimum ways to resolve both the workers’ compensation case and the liability case, avoiding damage to either case.


Effective Immigration Practice for Solo and Small Firms (Presented by the Immigration Law Committee)

Immigration issues cross all genres of law. Our expert panelists, which consist of practitioners in family law, employment law and criminal law, will help attendees discover how to spot and handle immigration issues and when to solicit the help of an immigration law practitioner, while exploring the many state and local immigration laws and policies.

Course Planner: Desiree W. Wayne. Faculty: Harriet Brumberg, Jessica Choi (moderator), Lisa Jordan and Abel Rodriguez.

Business Tax Issues for Law Firms in Philadelphia (Presented by the Tax Section)

Export tax and accounting practitioners will address the following issues: tips for effectively dealing with Philadelphia taxes; common tax issues for lawyers practicing in Philadelphia; what to do if you currently owe Philadelphia taxes; what to do if you are audited by the City of Philadelphia; tax consequences of your choice of entity; and new collection tactics of the City of Philadelphia Department of Revenue.


Closing Luncheon and State of the Courts Presentation

Hear from representative judges of Pennsylvania’s courts for an update on the state of our courts. Faculty includes Hon. Ronald D. Castle, Chief Justice, Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Hon. Susan Pekes Gantman, President Judge, Pennsylvania Superior Court; Hon. Sheila A. Woods-Skipper, President Judge, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas; and Hon. Marsha H. Neifield, President Judge, Philadelphia Municipal Court.
First Judicial District ‘SIPs’ from Fountain of Youth

By Gabriel B. Roberts

With the participation of nearly 140 students and more than 60 judges, the First Judicial District (FJD)’s 2014 Summer Intern Program (SIP) kicked off its 14th year of supplementing the legal and civic tutelage of talented scholars ranging in experience from secondary education to law school.

Led by Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Lillian Harris Ransom and her dedicated staff, the program has grown steadily since its origin in 2001. Since then, more than 1,000 law, undergraduate and high school students have participated in SIP, a program that blends a transparent view of our local courts with practical tools that serve to edify and build familiarity with the nuances of the state and federal justice systems. This summer, interns hailed from 18 different law schools and colleges from across the country with many Philadelphia area high schools also represented.

During the summer, judges are invited to select students to work, observe and assist the judiciary with the day-to-day activities that enable our courts to function under the stress of a high-volume caseload. Often accompanied by their respective judges to court, interns are also tasked with contributing legal research and writing assignments, all while acclimating themselves to an environment in which many hope to eventually work.

Spanning the months of June and July, SIP is designed to enhance the typical intern experience by offering an ever-expanding slate of enrichment activities. Interns are encouraged to explore and develop their various legal interests via numerous law-based scholastic programs and events. For many, the opportunity to delve deeper into a medley of specialized fields enables them to find their professional niche. Additionally, as an approved work study site, eligible students can use their summer placement at the FJD as part of their financial aid package, pending their school’s approval.

The litany of activities offered reflects the many areas of practice within the legal field, and justice system, currently available. Students interested in law enforcement had the opportunity to hear speakers from the Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Marshals Office while visiting the Office of the Medical Examiner and a number of specialized local police divisions, including the Marine Unit.

Interns seeking careers in litigation were treated to oral arguments before the Pennsylvania Superior Court and federal Immigration Court and heard, firsthand, how effective, professional and knowledgeable legal practice can benefit so many people from all walks of life. “SIP provided an invaluable learning experience,” said Michael Camastra, a 2016 Juris Doctorate candidate at Villanova University School of Law. “It really opened my eyes to the litigation side of law. As a result, I intend to further pursue trial advocacy courses in order to educate myself on what it takes to be a successful trial attorney.”

The program also provides insight into nonprofit legal work and indigent representation for students who are drawn to the legal field by a desire to help those who, perhaps, need it the most. Interns were invited to see, up close, the positive effects of re-entry programs like the Mental Health and Veterans Courts and heard stories, both harrowing and uplifting, from speakers from Community Legal Services and Women Against Abuse that highlighted the services of caring, passionate people.

SIP, for both the students and the courts, is wholly beneficial. For the judiciary, and various other program partners, the experience lends the opportunity to influence and educate young minds that are as raw as they are bright. Meanwhile, interns are offered an individualized, practical legal education under the tutelage of seasoned judges and aided by the tools provided by SIP.

“By all reports, from interns and from their supervising judges, the program was a tremendous success,” said Judge Ransom. “It exposed the students to experiences which will help them make informed decisions concerning their legal careers.”

Gabriel B. Roberts is senior staff advisor to the District Court Administrator.

2014 LAWYERS ON THE FAST TRACK AWARDS DINNER

Featuring Pennsylvania’s Finest Attorneys Under 40

Thursday, November 6, 2014
The Crystal Tea Room, Wanamaker Building
Philadelphia, PA
Cocktail Reception and Awards Dinner
6:00-8:30 PM

To purchase tickets or to inquire about sponsorship opportunities, contact Lana Ehrlich at (215) 557-2392 or lehrlich@alm.com.
Ginsburg Writing Contest Deadline is Oct. 3

**Ginsburg Essay Submission Guidelines**

- Submissions must be no longer than 20 pages or 5,000 words, whichever is shorter. The 5,000-word limitation refers to the text of the submission; footnotes may be a maximum of 2,000 words (in addition to the 5,000 word maximum for text). Do not use endnotes.
- Must be in 12-point Times New Roman font. Footnotes must be in no smaller than 10-point Times New Roman font.
- Must be in seminar paper or law journal article format only; submissions in the form of a memorandum, brief, judicial opinion or other type of legal document are not acceptable.
- May not be previously published or currently accepted for publication in any publication other than in connection with the Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg Pursuit of Justice Legal Writing Competition.

The chair of the Competition is Thomas H. Chiaccio Jr. The author of the winning submission will receive a cash award of $2,500. The essay will be published in *The Philadelphia Lawyer* magazine, on the Bar Association’s website and in an appropriate Bar Association publication. The winner will be invited to the Annual Meeting of the Bar Association, at which time the award will be presented.

Essays must be submitted in electronic form via email to dpetit@philabar.org unless submission of a hard copy is requested and approved. Requests for submission of a hard copy should be made by emailing dpetit@philabar.org or by calling (215) 238-6367.

- Must be submitted with only the title on the first page of the submission. Each set of submissions shall be accompanied by a separate one-page document stating the author’s name, law school, expected date of graduation, telephone number(s), email address(es), mailing address(es) and an abstract of no longer than 100 words describing the thesis of the submission. This document, which shall be signed by the person submitting the entry, also shall certify the word count of the submission and certify that the work is solely the work of the author. The author must also certify that the text of the submission is no longer than 5,000 words, and the footnotes are no longer than 2,000 words.
- Other than as noted on the one-page document identifying the author and describing the submission, the submission may not otherwise refer to the identity of the author or the author’s law school. This includes direct identification by name, or indirect identification by, for example, reference to the size or location of the law school, and the like.
- Receipt will be acknowledged.
- A submission that does not comply with any of the requirements will be rejected without further review.
- Must be received by no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 3.

Determination of the First, and if chosen, Second and Third Place Awards, will be made in November 2014, and winners will be announced as soon as possible thereafter. The winner of the First Place award will be presented with the award at the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Annual Meeting Luncheon. The Bar Association will waive the cost of attendance at the meeting and luncheon; however, the winner is expected to bear any travel and accommodation costs associated with attending this event.

Frontline

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If you are interested in making a donation to a Philadelphia public school, please contact Charlie Klitsch at 215-238-6326 or cklitsch@philabar.org.

I would like to end this column with a special mention of the feel-good story of the summer, the Taney Little League team and their awesome pitcher, Mo’ne Davis. As a city, nothing would have made us feel better than Taney emerging as champions. But they fell short of that goal and have inspired us with their grit, their character and their charm. The coaches, the parents and all those associated with the Taney program are to be commended.

These are truly their glory days.

One sobering thought emerges. Most of the children on the Taney team attend Philadelphia public schools. Many politicians have attached themselves to the Taney bandwagon to procure some of the reflected glory of the Taney championship run. As great as this run is for those children (and I am sure it is a once-in-a-lifetime moment), the education they receive is more important. So I say to those who love the Taney children on the field, you should love them just as much in the classroom.

William P. Fedullo (williamfedullo@gmail.com), counsel to Bowman, Schuyler & DiMaio LLP, is Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association.
ACE Marks 6 Years, Plans Ahead

By Jenimae Almquist

The Advancing Civics Education program celebrated its sixth year of providing education to Philadelphia students in the basic tenets of the U.S. Constitution and branches of government earlier this year and additional ACE events are coming soon.

An annual meeting and CLE program “Justice for Kids: Is Backpack Search OK?” is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 24, which will train new volunteers while at the same time rewarding existing volunteers with one free credit of continuing legal education. The program offers two options, with one for orienting newcomers to ACE and another to expand upon existing volunteers’ relationships with their assigned schools.

With Chancellor William P. Fedullo’s platform focused on education, and the ongoing public schools budget crisis, the work of the ACE volunteers remains more crucial than ever. Beyond ACE, other Philadelphia Bar Association programs seek to augment the scarce resources in our classrooms. The Young Lawyers Division hosted a back-to-school supply drive. Many ACE volunteers were surprised to learn that Philadelphia students lack necessities such as pens and textbooks, and that teachers often are relegated to one ream of paper per semester.

ACE participants often comment that they have been educated as much, or more, than their pupils through exposure to actual classroom dynamics. While some students are immediately engaged, others begin to come to terms with current events and constitutional concepts in our media-driven world. The rewards of instruction are boundless, particularly when a student delves into debate and civic engagement with peers, and starts to critically examine the duties and benefits of citizenship.

To celebrate ACE’s sixth year, more than 150 students from seven area high schools attended a culminating event at the U.S. Courthouse in May. Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge and ACE Committee Honorary Chair Genece E. Brinkley welcomed the students, and lauded their hard work in the program. “ACE has been successful in its goal to teach civics to public school students in a creative and interactive way which will stay with them for the long term,” she said.

After remarks by Chancellor Fedullo and Chief Judge Theodore A. McKee of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, the students broke into small groups to devise arguments on both sides of the famous “I Heart Boobies” case, affording them first-hand experience in appellate procedure and the rudiments of the First Amendment. To conclude, two teams selected at random from the attendees presented a moot court argument of the case, and participants received certificates for completing their ACE year.

In 2014, 11 schools, including two elementary schools, received instruction from ACE’s volunteer lawyers and judges, with dozens of volunteers giving their in-kind contributions through lessons ranging from statutory interpretation to search and seizure.

Following the event, volunteers were invited to give feedback about ACE and help plan for its future. With the hope of reaching ever-more schools, the ACE steering committee – headed by Judge Brinkley along with Vice Chair Nycole Watson, Elvin Ross III and Christopher Varano – is striving to locate much-needed administrative funding or grants to help streamline the matchmaking process between needy schools and willing volunteers. To attend the CLE program or volunteer at the ninth- or fifth-grade level, contact Nycole Watson at niqesq@msn.com.

Jenimae Almquist (JAlmquist@messalaw.com) is an attorney with Messa & Associates.
PRO BONO SPOTLIGHT: PA. INNOCENCE PROJECT

Working to Free the Wrongly Convicted

By Joshua D. Snyder

The principle that the innocent must not be convicted of crimes is fundamental to our society. Even the most skilled lawyer, trained to argue either side of a contested proposition, would be unable to make a credible case against it.

Speaking to a similar point, Judge Learned Hand wrote in United States v. Carson, 291 F. 646 (S.D.N.Y. 1923), that “our [criminal] procedure has been always haunted by the ghost of the innocent man convicted. It is an unreal dream.” Id. at 649. Judge Hand was partially right: the notion that one could be convicted of a crime they did not commit is one that “haunts” like a “dream,” or, more precisely, a nightmare.

But Judge Hand was wrong in his factual assessment. The “unreal dream” is in fact real: the innocent are convicted. Researchers have identified more than 1,400 exonerations since 1989 – cases in which a person was wrongly convicted of a crime and later cleared of all the charges – detailed in the National Registry of Exonerations database. Innocence Network member organizations secured 31 exonerations in 2013 alone. And in 2014, the Pennsylvania Innocence Project exonerated Eugene Gilyard and Lance Felder, resulting in their release from state prisons where they had been incarcerated for 15 years. Gilyard’s case was one of the first that the Pennsylvania Innocence Project took on after its founding in 2009.

My own experience working as co-counsel with the Pennsylvania Innocence Project on an arson case has been one of both darkness and light. The darkness is, of course, the conviction of an innocent person, as well as the underlying tragedy that led to the wrongful conviction; in our case a fatal fire. Working with the Project also requires confronting, on a deeply personal level, the dark reality that a defendant’s fate can be determined by the conviction of an innocent person becomes merely an “unreal dream,” we have an obligation to support the innocent and hold onto faith that a system that is a “true and fair” – rather than a science. There has been a revolution in the field of arson investigation, and what was once thought to be valid has been shown to be superstition and myth. The Pennsylvania Innocence Project works tirelessly to advocate for persons who were convicted on the basis of invalid arson “science.”

Second, the leadership and staff of the Pennsylvania Innocence Project serve as beacons – signaling to all that exonerating the innocent is a fight necessary to take on, no matter how hard or how long. Working with them is a reminder that the practice of law can be among the most noble, and most worthwhile, of endeavors, and their skill as advocates are matched only by their compassion for their clients.

Finally, the Pennsylvania Innocence Project’s clients are a source of tremendous hope and inspiration. In the face of unfathomable adversity – in some cases having been incarcerated for decades – they remain steadfast in maintaining their innocence and hold onto faith that a system that has betrayed them will ultimately exonerate and free them as well. There is no clearer example of strength and courage, and no greater testament to the fact that faith in justice, and in oneself, can be unbreakable.

And their clients serve as proof that until such a time as the conviction of an innocent person becomes merely an “unreal dream,” we have an obligation to support the Pennsylvania Innocence Project in whatever ways we can.

Joshua D. Snyder (JSnyder@bonizack.com) is a partner with Boni & Zack LLC.

At the same time, the light shines from many sources. First, there is the light of empirical, scientific truth. Although the Pennsylvania Innocence Project handles all kinds of cases, much of its work concerns advancing scientific information previously unavailable to the defense. The most well-known example is DNA evidence, and such evidence has resulted in 317 exonerations involving DNA evidence in the past quarter century. Another focus is arson cases, and while the crime of arson may be as old as the common law, until recently, arson investigation was held to be an “art” rather than a science. There has been a revolution in the field of arson investigation, and what was once thought to be valid has been shown to be superstition and myth. The Pennsylvania Innocence Project works tirelessly to advocate for persons who were convicted on the basis of invalid arson “science.”

By Joshua D. Snyder

VIP Honors K. Dolan

PHILADELPHIA VIP recognizes Kimberley Dolan as Volunteer of the Month for providing pro bono legal services to low-income families in Philadelphia.

Kim is a staff attorney at Regional Housing Legal Services, where she assists community-based organizations and consumers with affordable housing and economic development issues. Kim has specific expertise in nonprofit corporate formation, tax-exemption issues, and closing projects involving a variety of financing. She began volunteering with VIP in 1994 when she was in private practice and has handled 51 cases since, representing clients in 19 of VIP’s practice areas ranging from custody to tax and homeownership. Kim served on VIP’s Board of Directors from 2002 to 2009 and as Board president in 2007.

Kim says she enjoys doing her pro bono work through VIP, because it provides "the chance to work on one-on-one with individuals who are extremely grateful for your assistance – interacting with these clients, really digging into their cases, and serving as their advocates when very few others have done that for them. To see a client’s eyes when you do that – there's really nothing more rewarding." Kim also says that she feels capable to step outside of her usual practice areas, including representing homeownership clients. "If you've never taken a homeownership case because they are unfamiliar, [have] no fear! VIP’s staff and training materials will make you feel like a seasoned expert."

Kelly Gasley, VIP supervising attorney, says that Kim stands out as a volunteer attorney who consistently goes above and beyond to serve her clients. "She takes a holistic approach to serving her clients, assisting them with not just their immediate legal needs but also with all of the ancillary issues they are facing. Because of her efforts, her clients find themselves in a markedly better place at the end of Kim's representation. Kim is also eager to take cases outside of her practice areas and even outside of her past pro bono cases, allowing VIP staff to match her experience with a client with virtually any type of legal need. We are so grateful for Kim's willingness to continuously venture into new territory to serve our clients."

Kim is a dedicated volunteer attorney who provides zealous representation to her pro bono clients. VIP applauds her unswerving commitment over the years.

For details on placing a Lawyer to Lawyer referral ad, contact Lana Ehrlich at 215-557-2392 or lehrlich@alm.com.
**HEALTH CARE REFORM UPDATE FROM USI AFFINITY**

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**IRS Comments Help Clarify Employer Penalty**

By Brian McLaughlin

Annually, the American Bar Association’s Joint Committee on Employee Benefits (JCEB) meets with representatives from the Internal Revenue Service and Treasury Department for a question-and-answer session. While the responses are informal and cannot be relied upon, they provide helpful clarification on a number of issues. In this year’s meeting, the agency highlighted the employer shared responsibility provisions under Code § 4980H, as described below.

**Large Employer Determination:** IRS officials stated that for purposes of determining large employer status (whether the employer is subject to Code § 4980H), the statute requires employers to use 120 hours as full-time. In other words, each employee who works at least 120 hours in a month counts as one full-time employee (FTE). Employees who worked less than 120 hours in a month are counted as a fraction where the numerator is the employees’ actual hours worked and the denominator is 120. This response has caused some confusion as, under a fair reading of statutory provisions and final regulations, full-time status is based on 30 hours of service in a week or 150 hours a month. Those working less than 30 hours of service a week are considered full-time equivalents. Regardless of which approach used, the net result remains the same. (Q/A-24)

**Variable Hour and Seasonal Employment**

The comments of agency officials in Q&A-25 contain various helpful hints in understanding the appropriate categorization of an employee.

**Employment contract terms and variable status:** The terms of an employment contract can be relevant in terms of how many hours a week an employer expects an employee to work for a specified period. If the employer does not know if the hours are going to be above 130 hours in a month, the employer can treat the employee as a variable hour employee.

**Additional clarification on the definition of a seasonal employee:** An employee is seasonal if his/her position tends to be reoccurring and is tied to a specific season. Examples include a lifeguard or ski instructor, but the FAQ clarifies that the definition is not limited to an individual whose job is affected by weather. Therefore, a seasonal employee may include a summer associate in a law firm or someone who works during a peak season in a hotel.

**Short-term, non-seasonal employees:** An employer cannot treat a non-seasonal, short-term employee who is hired to work 40 hours a week, but only for a six-month period, as a part-time employee because the average hours over a year are 20 hours per week. An employer always has until the beginning of the fourth month to get an employee who is reasonably expected to be full-time as of his/her start date on the plan. If the employee is a non-seasonal, short-term FTE employed for two months, the employer will not need to bring that employee on the plan.

**Measurement Periods:** The length of the initial and standard measurement period (IMP and SMP) must generally be the same, subject to a limited exception. In using the look back measurement method, the length of the stability periods that are tied to the SMP and the IMP must be the same. The guidance clarifies a special rule for new employees. Under this special rule, the IMP may be a month shorter than the initial stability period. This means the employer can use an 11-month IMP with a ½-month administrative period and a 12-month initial stability period. Other than this special one-month rule, the measurement period (IMP and SMP) must be the same length. (Q/A-26)

**Monthly Measurement Period:** In an example, the agency is asked how the penalty would be applied in the case of an FTE who was not eligible for the employer’s plan for his/her first calendar year of employment due to failure to satisfy a substantive eligibility requirement (for example, the employee had not obtained the required professional license). As of the first day of the second calendar year, the employee satisfies this eligibility requirement. The IRS responded that as long as the employee is brought onto the coverage by the first day of the fourth month in the second year, the employer gets a pass for the first 3 months of the second year. However, there is no pass for the first year. (Q/A-27)

**Different Measurement Methods:** In what was a confusing question posed to the IRS, the agency restated that an employer may apply either the monthly measurement method or the look back measurement method. However, one cannot apply two different methods to the same category of employees and certainly not to the same individual. (Q/A-29)

**Counting Hours — On Call Employees:** The IRS states that if an employee is getting paid for on-call hours, if the employee is required to remain on the employer’s premises or if the employee is subject to “sort of severe restrictions” on what the employee can do, even when the employee receives a reduced hourly rate, the employee must receive credit for all hours of service for the on-call time. There is no concept of partial hours. (Q/A-28)

Brian McLaughlin (Brian.Mclaughlin@usiaffinity.com) is vice president of USI Affinity’s Benefit Solutions Group. For more information about insurance and benefits options for Philadelphia Bar members, visit http://www.mybarinsurance.com/philadelphia

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Naturalization Ceremony Speakers

A. Harold Datz (from left) joins U.S. District Court Judge L. Felipe Restrepo and Christina Aborlleile after an Aug. 21 naturalization ceremony at the U.S. Courthouse, where 95 people from 48 nations became U.S. citizens. Judge Restrepo, a native of Colombia, told the new citizens about his own naturalization. Both Datz and Aborlleile addressed the audience. The program was sponsored by the Philadelphia Bar Association.

PNC Perspectives

Defining Success in Words as Well as Numbers

By Carol Claytor

The definition of wealthy includes both the tangible and intangible—the actual fortunes as well as the values that make a family fortunate. In this month’s interview, I sat down with Dr. Bruce Bickel, managing director of Private Foundation Management Services for Hawthorn, PNC Family Wealth®, to discuss how wealthy families can move from an inspirational framework to a legacy action plan that resonates with current family members as well as future generations.

How does legacy planning begin?

Legacy planning begins with a personal discovery of what is truly important, capturing family values and belief systems and outlining goals with clarity. Working with an advisory team, a strategic plan that includes a clear definition of a family’s vision, mission, and values is created collaboratively, before any tactical action plan emerges. A clearly defined vision, mission, and values statement serves as a guide to making wise decisions. It provides a tool to help measure achievement or a failure to meet goals and how a person’s beliefs and values can be fulfilled and ultimately sustained. Each new strategy, concept, or direction can be tested against each respective statement, and the appropriate choice for the family becomes apparent.

Can a legacy be created while a person is still alive?

Legacies that are created intentionally during a person’s lifetime make it easier to address complex issues about wealth, provide peace of mind because of their inherent direction, define a person beyond financial worth, and allow actions to have impact. When families embrace legacy as they live now rather than the wealth that is left at the end, they become living examples of what wealth means to their family.

How long does a legacy plan typically extend?

We often extend the legacy timeline to include future generations in a 100-year plan. Knowing who your great-grandparents were and what they stood for means more than their names on a building or the trust account that bears their names. The origin of a family’s wealth, the motivation behind its accumulation and the framework to sustain the fortune provide a unique perspective of the family.

How is success of a legacy plan most likely achieved?

Success of a legacy plan is achieved by families articulating the values they want to preserve, the legacy they want to perpetuate, and the social causes they want to promote. Family conversations come full circle with input from all members to support the desired impact of their legacy. We identify four steps along the journey—Information, Illumination, Incarnation, and Incorporation.

What do each of those steps entail?

The information stage involves collecting a complete integration of ideas, which provides a rich environment in which family members learn from each other. A story emerges that provides information about the family history and members, as well as aspirations for the future. Next, illumination adds clarity to the discovery process and considers the leadership potential and talent development within the family structure. Incarnation is introspective. The focus is on managing the information. What sort of impact can a family have on itself, others, and the community? Finally, incorporation is the outward expression of the family. It adds sustainability and relevance to the mission. Incorporation frames the commitment a family has to living its mission, and that evolves over time.

What outcome might a family expect from this kind of communication process?

Outcomes of the experience include developing and recognizing talents, building family leadership skills, and outlining family governance issues. Most importantly, everyone has a voice in the process, and what first appears to be complex generally becomes manageable. The momentum is innovative and forward-thinking rather than focusing on the past.

Is legacy planning a continuous process throughout a person’s lifetime?

Legacy planning is a work in progress, assuming a person has the time and patience to allow the process to work and the family is fully engaged. People can help control the number of “if only” scenarios if they consider how they live today and how the family will live for generations to come. Legacy has been thought of as what you leave. However, families have a unique opportunity to create and live amazing legacies today. The discovery process is the opening act of one’s legacy story and can produce results during a person’s lifetime and beyond.

Carol Claytor can be reached at carol.claytor@pnc.com or 215-508-5679. For more information, visit pnc.com/wealth-management.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Note: While the following listings have been verified prior to press time, any scheduled event may be subject to change by the committee or section chairs. Lunches are $8 for members and $12 for non-members, unless otherwise indicated.

Monday, Sept. 1
Labor Day: Bar Association offices closed.

Tuesday, Sept. 2
Committee on the Legal Rights of Persons with Disabilities: meeting, 9 a.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.
Women’s Rights Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.
Philadelphia Bar Reporter Editorial Board: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 10th Floor Cabinet Room.

Friday, Sept. 5
Workers’ Compensation Section Executive Committee: meeting, 10:30 a.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.

Monday, Sept. 8
Delivery of Legal Services Committee: meeting, 8:30 a.m., 10th Floor Board Room.
Family Law Section: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Tuesday, Sept. 9
Cabinet: meeting, 8:30 a.m., 10th Floor Board Room.
Real Property Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaer Toddy, P.C., 1818 Market St., 13th Floor

Wednesday, Sept. 10
Rules and Procedure Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Monday, Sept. 15
Public Interest Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.

Tuesday, Sept. 16
Employee Benefits Committee: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $8.

Wednesday, Sept. 17
Young Lawyers Division Cabinet: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th Floor Board Room.
Federal Courts Committee: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Thursday, Sept. 18
Family Law Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.

Friday, Sept. 19
Social Security Disability Benefits Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

The Philadelphia Lawyer magazine Editorial Board: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.

Monday, Sept. 22
Young Lawyers Division Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th Floor Board Room.
Zoning, Land Use and Code Enforcement Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Young Lawyers Division: Executive Committee election meeting, 1 p.m., 10th Floor Board Room.

Tuesday, Sept. 23
LGBT Rights Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Civil Gideon Access to Justice Task Force: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th Floor Board Room.

Register online for most events at philadelphiabar.org. Unless otherwise specified, all checks for lunches and programs should be made payable to the Philadelphia Bar Association and mailed to Bar Headquarters, 1101 Market St., 11th fl., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2955. Send Bar Association-related calendar items 30 days in advance to J. Lyons, Senior Managing Editor, Philadelphia Bar Reporter, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2955. Fax: (215) 238-1159. Email: jlyons@philabar.org.

Law School Outreach

Grant G. Berger (left) of the YLD Executive Committee and Board of Governors Vice Chair Brad V. Shuttlevorth touted the benefits of Philadelphia Bar Association membership at a Rutgers School of Law - Camden student organizations fair on Aug. 20. The Bar Association’s Law School Outreach Initiative volunteers are actively visiting area law schools and meeting with students.

Barristers’ Installation Sept. 10

U.S. COURT OF APPEALS CHIEF JUDGE Theodore A. McKee will preside over the Barristers’ Association of Philadelphia, Inc., 64th Annual Installation Ceremony on Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ritz-Carlton Philadelphia, 10 Avenue of the Arts. The program is co-sponsored by Kessler Topaz Meltzer & Check, LLP.

The Installation Ceremony will introduce the following Executive Board members for the 2014-2015 term: Monique Myatt Galloway, president; Shabreli M. Parker, president-elect; Kevin Harden Jr., vice president of administration; Nathaniel L. Koonce, immediate-past president; and Amber Racine, immediate-past president.

The Installation Ceremony will also welcome the following new and returning Advisory Board members: George R. Burrell, Universal Companies; Hon. Renee Cardwell-Hughes (ret.), American Red Cross; Valerie I. Harrison, Lincoln University; Ronald J. Harper, The Law Firm of Harper & Paul; Naomi K. McLaurin, Philadelphia Bar Association; Kevin V. Mincey, Mincey & Firepatrick LLC; Scott W. Reid, Cozen O’Connor; Hon. Karen Y. Simmons, Philadelphia Municipal Court; Leigh M. Skipper, Federal Community Defender Office; Bernard W. Smalley Sr., The Tucker Law Group; Denise J. Smyler, Ahmad, Zaffarano & Smyler, LLC; Joel C. Trotter, GlaxoSmithKline; Twanda Turner-Hawkins, Allstate Insurance; and Rhonda Hill Wilson, The Law Offices of Rhonda Hill Wilson, P.C.

Attendance is complimentary, but an RSVP to phillybarristers@gmail.com by Tuesday, Sept. 2, is required for admittance.

philadelphiabar.org

September 2014 Philadelphia Bar Reporter 21
Bar Foundation
continued from page 1

Philadelphia Bar Foundation. Originally, it focused on criminal justice reforms, training for police in an era of raised awareness of civil rights, promoting opportunities for minority law students, and supporting technical innovations to improve the administration of justice. Having tackled those difficult issues, the Foundation turned to another issue that was then only beginning to be addressed — providing access to justice for the underprivileged. That was just the beginning.

Over the next 30 years, the Bar Foundation, in partnership with the Bar Association, helped found and/or foster public interest legal aid entities whose critical services to Philadelphians — the elderly, the young, the impoverished, the working poor, the recent immigrants, the ill, the abused, the homeless — strengthen and stabilize our families, communities and general welfare. The Foundation began to raise funds from the legal community and provide substantial economic support to this growing network of legal services organizations, e.g., Community Legal Services, the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia and the Support Center for Child Advocates. In its third decade, the Bar Foundation provided more than $2 million in unrestricted operating funds. By the end of its fourth decade, the funds granted by the Bar Foundation had tripled and that trend continues. At the same time, the network of public interest organizations continued to grow and today constitutes more than 30 public interest legal aid and affiliated service agencies. Unrestricted grants are key. One of the Foundation’s most important roles is providing unrestricted funds to this network of nonprofit legal services organizations. Last year alone, the Foundation granted more than $600,000 to 35 organizations. These unrestricted funds are essential to the agencies’ abilities to manage their operations.

Last year alone, the Foundation granted more than $600,000 to 35 organizations. These unrestricted funds are essential to the agencies’ abilities to manage their operations. In addition, the agencies are able to leverage the imprimatur of the Bar Foundation to attract other funding and to diversify and strengthen their financial health. There is more being done.

While the Foundation’s emphasis remains focused on grantmaking, its mission extends to fostering collaboration and innovation. The Bar Foundation joins with other stakeholders — government, the public interest community, the Bar Association and the courts — to promote innovative, collaborative strategies to improve access to justice for all. For example, in 2013 the Bar Foundation provided support to the collaborative Landlord Tenant Legal Help Center. Also in 2013, the Foundation secured a reservation of rights for land from the City of Philadelphia to create an Equal Justice Center to house many of the Foundation’s grantees. This groundbreaking project will provide better and more economical space, allow grantees to take advantage of shared services, and make life easier for clients, who often now come to one agency only to find out that their problem is handled by another agency in a different location. And our work is never finished.

Even as the network of agencies continues to grow, the demand for services continues to outpace the capacity of the public interest community to deliver services. Only one out of five low-income individuals in need of legal assistance has access to those services. To fulfill the fundamental promise of access to justice for all, the Bar Foundation and its supporters must increase our collective efforts to respond to the growing need.

So what are we going to do on Nov. 8 (and throughout this Anniversary Year)?

The Andrew Hamilton Gala has never been just a party. It has been a critical piece of the Foundation’s efforts to promote its mission. At the National Constitution Center, with an original copy of the Bill of Rights exhibited, the Foundation will continue that tradition, as it takes this occasion to honor some of the many who have been instrumental to the Foundation.

• First, the presidents of the Foundation. As Debbie Gross, the Bar Foundation’s current president observed, “Without the leadership of this group of distinguished members of the bar, the Foundation would not be where it is today.”

• The Foundation will present to Robert C. Heim the inaugural Honorable Louis H. Pollak Champion of the Public Interest Award. Judge Pollak remains in our collective memories as a lawyer and jurist who throughout his life championed the rights of the underprivileged. As a hero to so many of us, it is a great honor that his wife has allowed us to present an award in his name to Bob Heim. Throughout Bob’s career, he has advocated in the public interest and staunchly supported Philadelphia’s public interest bar, as well as consistently demonstrated personal support of the Foundation.

• The evening will be filled with other honors and highlights, including the awarding of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation’s Pro Bono Award, honoring outstanding pro bono efforts of a local law firm or corporate legal department, and the Philadelphia Bar Foundation Award, honoring an exceptional public interest attorney. The recipients will be announced in advance.

Most of all, it will be a night to honor all who have assisted the mission of the Bar Foundation. We invite all members of the Bar, the public interest community; and the judiciary to join the Bar Foundation to celebrate and honor the past and ensure the future. For more information, contact the Philadelphia Bar Foundation’s Executive Director Jessica Hiliburn-Holmes at jhiliburnholmes@philabar.org or 215/238-6347.

Leslie E. John (john@ballardspahr.com), a partner with Ballard Spahr LLP and Amy B. Grinolsky (grinolsky@pepperlaw.com), a senior partner with Pepper Hamilton LLP, are co-chairs of the Andrew Hamilton Gala.

Bar Foundation

Philadelphia Bar Foundation Presidents

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Sadie T. M. Alexander.......1973
Joseph K. Gordon............1974-1976
John Butterworth.............1977-1978
Paul Carpenter Dewey.........1979-1980
Jerome E. Bogutz.............1981
Hon. Bruce Kauffman........1982-1983
Marvin Comisky...............1984
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Gabriel L. I. Bevilacqua.....2001
Gerald A. McLaugh Jr........2002-2003
Edward F. Chacker............2004
Robert D. Lane Jr............2005-2006
Elaine M. Rinaldi............2007-2008
Amy B. Ginensky................2009-2010
Wendy Bestlestone.............2011-2012
Deborah R. Gross..............2013-2014
People

Gaetan J. Alfano, a partner in Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspantii, LLP & Vice Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, was a presenter at the CLE seminar “Trial of a Federal Court Case” sponsored by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute on July 23.

Stella M. Tsai, a partner with Archer & Greiner PC., is to be honored Sept. 4 by the Pennsylvania Diversity Council as one of its “Most Powerful and Influential Women” in recognition of her leadership, accomplishments and professionalism.

H. Ronald Klasko, founding partner of Klasko, Rulon, Stock & Seltzer, LLP, recently presented “Hot Issues in EB-5” at the Artisan Business Group’s 5th Annual EB-5 Boot Camp in Los Angeles. He recently presented “Preparing for the I-829 Bubble” during a webinar sponsored by NES, the largest EB-5 escrow administrator.

Phyllis Horn Epstein, a partner with Epstein, Shapiro & Epstein, PC., served as moderator and organizer of a panel discussion at the American Bar Association Tax Section meeting in Washington, D.C., on May 9. She also spoke at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute seminar “The Family of Laws” on June 6 highlighting the tax aspects of a family law practice.

Deborah A. Beck, of counsel at Rawle & Henderson LLP, will be a presenter at the 30th Annual Fall Meeting of the Workers’ Compensation Law Section of the Pennsylvania Bar Association in Hershey, Pa., on Sept. 11.

Marilou E. Watson, a partner with Fox Rothschild LLP, received the Philadelphia Business Journal’s Minority Business Advocate Award at a special dinner on Aug. 7.

Kathleen D. Wilkins, a partner with Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP and a former Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association will receive the “Leadership Excellence in the Law Award” at the 5th Annual Philadelphia Diversity and Leadership Conference on Sept. 4.

Amanda K. DiChello, an associate with Saul Ewig LLP, served as a faculty member for the CLE program “Hot Topics in Fiduciary Litigation” presented by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute on Aug. 5.

Steven Berk, a partner at Segal, Berk, Gaines, & Lis, has been elected to a third term as chair of Einstein Healthcare Network’s Board of Trustees, the governing body of the organization, and Einstein Healthcare Network’s Board of Overseers.

Theodore Simon, a sole practitioner, was sworn as president of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers at its 57th Annual Meeting on Aug. 2.

Steven K. Mignogna, a shareholder with Arter & Greiner PC., presented “Seven Deadly Claims” at the American Law Institute CLE Group “Representing Estate and Trust Beneficiaries and Fiduciaries” in Chicago on July 24. He has been reappointed to a second term as chair of the Litigation, Ethics and Malpractice Group of the American Bar Association.

Tracy D. Milkovich, an associate at Rawle & Henderson LLP, was a presenter at the Defense Research Institute’s second annual Government Enforcement and Corporate Compliance Seminar on July 24-25, 2014 in Washington, D.C.

Sang Woo Lee, an associate in Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin, has been named to the Lawyers of Color Hot List for the Eastern U.S. region.

Frank Cervone, executive director of the Support Center for Child Advocates, recently received the Third Annual Mark Hardin Award for Child Welfare Legal Scholarship and Systems Change from the American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law in New Orleans.

John Dogum, Amit Shah and Joseph Cantan of Martin LLC are certified workers’ compensation specialists after successfully taking the Pennsylvania Bar Association certification exam.

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Sheryl L. Axelrod, founder of The Axelrod Firm, PC., was one of the three individuals appointed by the president of the American Bar Association to the ABA’s Gender Equity Task Force.

Lloyd Freeman, an associate with Archer & Greiner PC., has been appointed to the New Jersey Supreme Court Civil Practice Committee.

Kevin Harden Jr., an associate with Eckert Seamans Cherin & Melott, LLC, has been named an ex officio member of the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia Board of Directors.

Daniel Jeck, a partner at Eisenberg, Rothweiler, Winkler, Eisenberg & Jeck, PC., recently spoke about civil trial tactics during a Pennsylvania Bar Institute on distracted driving.

Leslie E. John, a partner with Ballard Spahr LLP, is featured in the 2014 edition of Top 250 Women in Litigation, published by Benchmark Litigation, a legal guide that evaluates leading law firms and attorneys based on peer and client interviews.

Anthony R. La Ratta, a partner with Archer & Greiner PC., has been reappointed as chair of the Probate & Fiduciary Litigation Committee of the American Bar Association.

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