Delay Sought for Reforms to Represent City's Indigent

By Jeff Lyons

The city’s proposed reforms for representation of indigent defendants and others in the court system fail to adequately provide for sufficient legal representation of the needy and vulnerable clients whom the project seeks to serve and should be delayed, Chancellor Kathleen D. Wilkinson wrote in a letter sent to city officials last month.

In November, the city issued a request for proposals seeking “proposals from qualified firms or entities for the purpose of providing legal representation for indigent criminal defendants, and other litigants, in the City of Philadelphia where the Defender Association of Philadelphia is prohibited from providing such representation due to the existence of a conflict of interest.”

continued on page 16

Bench-Bar Returns to Revel

Revel, the Atlantic City casino resort that hosted the Philadelphia Bar Association’s 2012 Bench-Bar & Annual Conference, will host this year’s conference on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 4-5. Read more on Page 3.

Conviction Builds Case for Merit Selection

By Jeff Lyons

The conviction of suspended state Supreme Court Justice Joan Orie Melvin underscores the need for changing the way appellate judges are selected in Pennsylvania, Chancellor Kathleen D. Wilkinson said following the Feb. 21 announcement that Orie Melvin was found guilty on six of the seven counts against her.

“This is a sad day for the justice system in Pennsylvania,” said Wilkinson. “When judges are forced to engage in election campaigning requiring large sums of money to be raised, citizens become concerned.

continued on page 16

Trailblazing Women at March 14 Leadership Event

A panel of trailblazing women lawyers in government and business will share their personal journey and reflections on leadership at the March 14 Chancellor’s Leadership Institute program.

Speakers include Risa Vetri Ferman, District Attorney, Montgomery County; Pennsylvania state Rep. Kate M. Harper; Judge Renee Cardwell Hughes, chief executive officer, American Red Cross; and Kathy Manderino, senior vice president, Interact.

The program, sponsored by event host Benesch, will be held at the Philadelphia Bar Association’s 2012 Bench-Bar & Annual Conference, will host this year’s conference on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 4-5. Read more on Page 3.

Want to be part of the Benesch team? Contact Ray Lemisch, Partner-in-Charge of the Philadelphia office, at (215) 297-2947 or rlemisch@beneschlaw.com, or download Benesch’s recruiting app “Opportunity” from the iTunes store (keyword: Benesch).
This section will feature articles as well as a roundtable discussion on key diversity issues in
the legal field. It will also feature a section honoring the top “Diverse Attorneys of the Year”.

• Impact our 20,000+ readers interested in diversity issues.
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Bonus distribution to Corporate Counsel and Managing Partners

Honor the contribution made by many members of the PA legal community by attending
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Citizens’ Access to Justice Reinforces Merit Selection Need

The Philadelphia Bar Association has maintained longstanding support for an appointive, merit-based process of selecting appellate court judges. In fact, we have been on record as supporting merit selection for more than half a century.

Through such an appointive system, the qualified candidates are sought out based on stringent standards, and those assessed qualified by a nominating commission are forwarded to the governor for consideration and appointment. This process helps to get judges and candidates for judge out of the business of raising large sums of money from contributors, often lawyers and law firms and their clients with cases before the court, and reduces concerns over elected judges being beholden to campaign contributors, party officials and special interest groups.

Unquestionably, many well-qualified judges have been elected to our appellate courts. However, there are no minimum standards or qualifications concerning a judicial candidate’s legal background, experience or abilities. And after being forced to raise large sums of money, the judges running for appellate courts often do not generate even minimal name recognition among the electorate, which can lead to ultimate decisions based on the product of party affiliation, ballot location, voter turnout and other factors having nothing to do with qualifications.

Today, two-thirds of all states have some form of merit selection. No state has experienced the judicial election process and its consequences on the people it affects. They deserve the security and peace of mind knowing that those who mete out justice do so with the highest integrity.

Revel to Host Bench-Bar on Oct. 4-5

Revel, the Atlantic City casino resort that hosted the Philadelphia Bar Association’s wildly successful and popular 2012 Bench-Bar & Annual Conference, will host this year’s conference on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 4-5.

The Bench-Bar & Annual Conference provides attendees with the opportunity to earn continuing legal education credit while networking with colleagues and members of the bench. Hundreds of attorneys and judges are expected to attend.

Marla A. Feeley, a partner at Pepper Hamilton LLP, and Julia Swan, a partner with Fox Rothschild LLP, are co-chairs of the Bench-Bar & Annual Conference. Bench-Bar Committee vice chairs are John Encarnacion, an associate at White and Williams LLP; Scott W. Reid, a partner with Cozen O’Connor; and Mindy J. Reuben, a partner with Weinstein Kitchener & Asher LLC.

A new addition to this year’s conference will be a Law Practice Management track among the 21 CLE seminars that will be offered. Another highlight of the weekend will be the Friday night reception at Revel’s HQ nightclub. Prices for the 2013 edition of the Bench-Bar & Annual Conference are being kept at 2012 levels.

“We are looking forward to returning to Revel for the Bench-Bar, which was a total sellout last year. We are expecting tremendous interest again in this wonderful venue,” said Chancellor Kathleen D. Wilkinson.

“I am thrilled we are returning to Revel this year. The Conference is always the premier event for our legal community,” said by Jeff Lyons.
Panelists Present Custody Update from Superior Court

By Julia Swain

Interpretation of the new custody statutes, polyamorous relationships and application of the UCCJEA were just some of the issues addressed by the Pennsylvania Superior Court in 2011 and 2012. The Family Law Section’s Custody Committee reported on these cases at the Section’s Feb. 4 meeting featuring speakers Michael Bertin, Elaine Smith, Kristine Calalang, Lawrence Abel and Mark Allen Taylor.

The first reported appellate decision related to the custody statutes that became effective on Jan. 1, 2011 emphasized the importance for the parties and the trial court to specifically analyze all 10 relocation factors and all 16 custody factors.

E.D. v. M.P., 33 A.3d 73 (Pa. Super. 2011). Also emphasized was the need to assess all members of each parent’s household, including their criminal, drug use and mental health histories. The court also stressed that the nature of sibling and half-sibling relationships must be considered; and that no favorable presumption may be made toward a court-approved interim relocation prior to trial.

Serving a relocation notice followed by filing a petition for relocation is not tacitly conceding that the proposed move is actually a relocation under the statute, warranting an analysis of the 10 relocation factors. C.M.K. v. K.E.M., 45 A.3d 417 (Pa. Super. 2012). The court can elect to treat a purported relocation case as a regular custody action based upon the circumstances presented.

Excluding evidence of facts and circumstances that exist prior to trial but after a court approved interim relocation is error. B.K.M. v. J.A.M., 50 A.3d 168 (Pa. Super. 2012). To hold other would result in a presumption continued on page 13

UPS General Counsel is Speaker at March 11 Quarterly Meeting

Teri Plummer McClure, senior vice president of legal, compliance, audit & public affairs, general counsel & corporate secretary at UPS, will be the keynote speaker at the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Monday, March 11 Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon. The Bar Association will also present the Justice Sonia Sotomayor Diversity Award at the program. The award publicly acknowledges, recognizes and honors an individual or entity that has demonstrated a strong commitment, and has made a substantial contribution, to diversity and promoting full and equal participation and inclusion in the legal profession.

Also at the event, Immediate-Past Chancellor John E. Savoth will be presented with a gold box, an exact replica of the one presented to Andrew Hamilton for his defense of John Peter Zenger in 1735. The gold box is presented annually to the immediate-past Chancellor and is inscribed with the message “acquired not by money, but by character.”

In her role at UPS, McClure oversees all ethics and compliance, audit and legal initiatives in more than 220 countries and territories where the company does business, and advises and supports the UPS Board of Directors. McClure also leads UPS worldwide public affairs and government relations efforts advocating increased global trade, stronger business competitiveness and improved economic growth worldwide, among many other public policies.

A native of Kansas City, Kan., McClure received a bachelor’s degree in marketing and economics from Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., and a juris doctorate degree from Emory University School of Law in Atlanta. McClure began her legal career in private practice focusing on labor and employment-related civil litigation. She is a trustee of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, which grants funds to programs that improve outcomes for children at risk. McClure serves on the boards of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, the Atlanta Legal Aid Society, and the Emory University Board of Trustees.

Tickets for the Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon are $55 for Bar members and can be purchased at philadelphiabar.org.

Call 215.574.1505 today and use code: 2013-03-BR to join – take advantage of our 2013 promotional rate.*

*For new members only.
Among her many earlier initiatives as Chancellor, Kathleen D. Wilkinson is working to re-launch and re-energize the Large Firm Management Committee to study the common issues that face large firms in Philadelphia.

“The nature of the legal market has changed and there are many firms that started in Philadelphia that are now national or significant regional firms. Moreover, there are other firms like mine that have both a Philadelphia office and an international practice,” said Wilkinson, a partner with Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP. “This development gives us a tremendous opportunity to meet and talk about the common challenges that face large law firms and the unique nature of the Philadelphia legal community. Moreover, we need to take steps through the committee to make the Bar relevant to attorneys in large firms and make certain that talented attorneys in those firms understand how the Bar can help them grow and develop as professionals.”

To help this initiative, Chancellor Wilkinson has tapped Vincent R. McGuinness, managing partner of Cozen O’Connor, and Ben Barnett, a partner with Dechert LLP, to chair the LFMC. McGuinness and Barnett are currently lining up committee representatives from a number of large firms in Philadelphia.

The committee will have its first meeting in March that will be an opportunity for firm leaders to meet and talk with Chancellor Wilkinson.

One of the committee’s first planned projects will be the commissioning of a study to quantify the significant role that the legal market has in the economy in the Philadelphia region. The committee also plans direct meetings with key public officials in order to discuss key economic issues that impact law firms and an event for summer associates to showcase the Philadelphia legal community.
Do’s, Don’ts for Magistrate Judge Trials

By Annie Kelley

Ever wonder about a consent trial by a federal magistrate judge? Curious as to what advantages there are, or what powers the magistrate judge has in this type of trial? Litigators are sometimes less familiar with this option because of a lack of understanding the process or a misnomer about the judges and their backgrounds.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Timothy R. Rice, veteran litigator Peter G. Rossi and moderator Peter F. Vaira explained how to try a case in front of a magistrate judge, and the do’s and don’ts of a consent trial at the Feb. 20 meeting of the Federal Courts Committee.

Federal magistrate judges are granted the authority to conduct a civil action or proceeding, including a jury or non-jury trial, if all parties consent. Because district court judges often have a huge backlog between a lengthy criminal and exploding civil dockets, Judge Rice noted that a main advantage to consent trials is scheduling and convenience. Consent trials are given a date certain, and are not placed in trial pool.

If a case is going to go to trial, a consent trial is a good way to expedite the case. Plaintiff attorneys often like this option, as a goal may be to get a case into court as quickly as possible. Judge Rice explained that he tries to be accommodating and works with lawyers for a date certain agreeable to both sides to make the process more user-friendly and less stressful.

Once both parties consent, the case is assigned to the magistrate judge from the district judge. The case functions on the same track and the same rules apply as if tried by the district court. For example, parties still have a jury trial right, the same appeal rights, the judge has full contempt powers (both civil and criminal), and the same recusal process applies. After the district court judge signs the consent form, it is off his/her docket, and all proceedings are under the magistrate judge. As such, appeals go directly to the circuit court.

Magistrate judges are granted the authority to conduct a civil action or proceeding, including a jury or non-jury trial, if all parties consent.

Ten or 20 years ago, magistrate judges did not try as many cases. As magistrate judges are appointed by federal district judges and the selection process has become less political, the caliber and criteria has greatly risen for magistrate judges. Judges know that they will have to handle litigation, are there is no one on the bench who has not been in the litigation field.

Every type of case can, and has, consented. From class actions to medical malpractice to breach of contract, magistrate judges adjudicate all types of cases. As there are more good trial attorneys in the bar, it was noted that the time has come for an even greater rise in consent trials, as magistrate judges are very well qualified and litigants are learning more about the judges, their backgrounds, and the process and advantages to a consent trial.

Annie Kelley (anniekelley@gmail.com) is a judicial clerk to Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Albert J. Snite Jr.
How would Philadelphia be different if we could double the amount of money we give to our grantees?

This question is consistently being presented by one of our trustees. And it is truly something we discuss often at our board meetings. It caused me to delve into philanthropy and foundation websites where I came upon Bill Gates’ Annual Letter from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Now I recognize that we can’t compare ourselves to the Gates Foundation in terms of dollars or in terms of accomplishments, but we can compare ourselves to the Gates Foundation in terms of the definition of philanthropy (philin – to love, anthropos – human being), a desire to help humankind. Our mission, promoting access to justice for all people in the community, particularly those struggling with poverty, abuse and discrimination, is impactful.

What Bill Gates spoke of this year in his annual letter is the need to be able to measure the progress made toward a goal. It is a relatively simple task to measure a numeric goal, the doubling of our grant moneys to more than $1 million annually, the doubling of our endowment to $10 million, a donation by each member of the Philadelphia legal community to the Bar Foundation and/or our grantees, the support of the law firms in Philadelphia to the Raising the Bar promise of $300 per attorney to support our nonprofit legal community.

It is not so simple a task to quantify the difference we make to our grantee organizations, and to the individuals they support and to whom they provide services. We are inviting our grantees to come to our Board meetings and educate our trustees on what needs their organizations have and how we can help. Cathy Car of Community Legal Services led the way presenting at our February Board meeting. CLS had just celebrated the opening of a new facility on North Broad Street, a beautiful state-of-the-art building representing an investment in and commitment to the community it serves. Cathy spoke of how CLS helps more than 15,000 people a year, how in 1979 there were 100 attorneys, and today there are only 49. She stressed that the “crux of the problem is money.” Cathy emphasized that she has “fabulous attorneys with creative ideas and strategies for whom pulling in the dollars is critical, so they can do the work they want and need to do.” The value of a Bar Foundation grant is measured in more than mere dollars; the support of PBF is persuasive and compelling when we go to other funders.

And how can we double the amount of money given out by the Bar Foundation, or the amount of the endowment, or increase awareness and financial support from the Philadelphia legal community? We will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Bar Foundation in 2014 and have plans to involve each of you during the next two years to assist us in achieving these goals, and in turn assist our grantee organizations. You will hear more details in upcoming articles, but suffice it to say, this Philadelphia legal community has many remarkable stars whose paths we should follow, uphold and surpass. And thus, an answer to the trustee’s question is that while we may not be able to specifically measure or quantify how Philadelphia would be different, we can commit to ensuring it will be different by securing the Bar Foundation’s existence and continued support to Philadelphia’s public interest legal services community for the next 50 years and beyond.

Deborah R. Gross (debbie@bernardmgross.com) of the Law Offices of Bernard M. Gross, P.C. is president of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation.
By Dafney Dubuisson-Stokes

The First Judicial District needs to take fairness and practicality into account when trying to collect more than an estimated $1.5 billion in forfeited bail, supervision fees and other criminal debt, members of the Public Interest and Criminal Justice Sections were recently told.

Panelists for the Jan. 30 program “The Court Collections Effort in Philadelphia: Fair Game or Foul Play?” were Sharon Dietrich, managing attorney for public benefits and employment at Community Legal Services (CLS), and Mary Achilles, former Pennsylvania Victim’s Advocate. The moderator was David Udell, director of the National Center for Access to Justice at Cardozo Law School. Representatives of the First Judicial District were invited to participate but did not attend.

Following the viewing of the documentary “Pay Up,” created last year by University of Pennsylvania Law School students, panelists examined the following questions: Is the court collections system functioning effectively and fairly and if not, what can we do to improve that? Udell began the discussion by giving a national context to court debt collection efforts and a historical context to the efforts of the Philadelphia courts. While he did not find it surprising that Philadelphia is making an effort to collect old debt, he expressed surprise at how the courts are choosing to do so.

Dietrich explained that public interest attorneys do not take the position that people should not pay their criminal court costs, but want the FJD to take issues of “fairness and practicality” into consideration. Many individuals who come to CLS for help with old court debt are indigent, disabled, unemployed and have difficulties handling the regular costs of day-to-day life. According to Dietrich, some of these court fees are as much as 20 years old, and they add an undue and unmanageable burden. Many alleged debtors claim the debts sought are not actually owed or that court officials informed them that all outstanding obligations had been paid or waived.

A large chunk of the alleged debt is bail forfeitures, debt that is owed to the court when a criminal defendant who is out on bail during a criminal case fails to appear for court. Also owed are probation supervision fees, general court costs and restitution to victims. According to Dietrich, much of the debt is from before the implementation of the computerized criminal filing system. Adding to confusion is the problematic recordkeeping of the now-defunct Office of the Clerk of Quarter Sessions and the destruction of local prison records before 1991. Because faulty record-keeping means that in some cases there is no way to know exactly how much an individual owes and whether fees were waived, public interest attorneys have asked the courts to waive alleged debts that are more than 10 years old. Advocates also ask for relief for those who are simply unable to pay due to age or other disability.

Achilles noted the importance of the collection of restitution fees to victims and their families. For victims fines, court costs and restitution fees are about accountability, not punishment. The goal, she says, is not to force indigent defendants to pay what they can’t afford, but instead to give victims a sense that defendants are being held accountable. She worried that the court might not give equal priority to paying victims as it does to retaining monies recovered for bail or supervision fees, a concern echoed by assistant district attorneys who attended the panel as well.

Members of the panel acknowledged that it has been difficult to determine the position of some of the larger stakeholders in this debate. However, according to Achilles, one thing is clear — victims will lose if the focus remains funding the courts. While the panelists did not come to an agreement about how best to improve the court collections system, they made many concrete recommendations on ways to increase fairness to all in the effort to collect debt.

Dafney Dubuisson-Stokes is a legal fellow with the ACLU of Pennsylvania.

Many individuals who come to CLS for help with old court debt are indigent, disabled, unemployed and have difficulties handling the regular costs of day-to-day life.

Wilkinson Honored

Pennsylvania Bar Association President Thomas G. Wilkinson (from left), Chancellor Kathleen D. Wilkinson and Justinian Society Chancellor Annette Ferrera meet at a Feb. 20 luncheon at The Union League of Philadelphia where Chancellor Wilkinson was honored by the Justinians.
Do you remember the last time you had to renew your driver’s license or passport? What about the last time you had to dispute a charge on your credit card? Have you ever had to call your insurance company for assistance? Completing what can seem like the most basic tasks can often take hours and involve repeated phone calls, letters and supporting documents.

If you can remember the frustration and difficulty during any of these times, stop and realize one point: you are a college-educated attorney who has been trained in this system. You also likely have friends who are attorneys and can provide you with insight into whatever legal issues you have.

Now imagine if you took all of that away: the training, the access to help. This is the reality for more than one in four Philadelphians who live below the poverty line. The March 18, 1963 ruling in Gideon v. Wainwright confirmed the right of all criminal defendants to an attorney. However, for many life-changing civil cases, indigent clients still struggle for access to legal advice.

Fortunately, Philadelphia has one of the most respected, innovative and dynamic public interest communities in the country. The organizations and programs started here have served as a model for many communities across America. If there is one thing I accomplish in my year as chair of the Young Lawyers Division, I hope I can convince the amazing collection of young legal minds to engage with the public interest community and provide energy, time, legal services, financial assistance and an influx of new ideas.

To my fellow young attorneys, I can promise you this: if you get involved with our wonderful public interest sector, you will get a lot more out of it than you put in.

If you are looking for reputable organizations with which to get involved, the Philadelphia Bar Foundation supports more than 30 organizations that are among the most respected and well-organized in Philadelphia.

This March, the YLD together with the Bar Foundation and the Delivery of Legal Services Committee is starting its second year of the Board Observer Program. The program provides young lawyers the opportunity to develop leadership skills and to learn about nonprofit board service while networking with seasoned professionals and serving their community. Each observer is paired with a Philadelphia legal services organization and a mentor for a one-year period to observe the organization and its board activities.

Along with the board service, the observers are invited to attend our Live Lunch and Learn lectures. The lectures include topics from among the experienced professionals including organizational dynamics, accounting for nonprofits, and fundraising for nonprofits.

The first lecture in the series will be on Thursday March 21 and features University of Pennsylvania Prof. Fernando Chang Muy speaking on organizational effectiveness. Registration for the event is now open to all members of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

I hope you’ll join me in congratulating this year’s Board Observer class – Matthew Faranda-Dietrich, Allison Finnegan, Kevin Golden, Abigail Green, Jaime Jano, Andrew Kornblau, Jacob Lehman, Sekou Lewis, Syreeta Moore, Kenny Oh, Andrew Olen, Christopher Reese, Eli Segal, Lisa Swaminathan, Kimberly Takacs, Susan Toth and Benjamin Wanger.

I’d also like to thank to our Board members Wendy Smith and Ryan Gatto for their continuing work in expanding and promoting the program.

And a special thanks goes out to Philadelphia’s legal services organizations that continue to provide high-level legal services for the community.

Aneesh A. Mehta (amehta@vklaw.com), an associate with Volpe and Koenig, P.C., is chair of the Young Lawyers Division.

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By Aneesh A. Mehta

Mark Gideon’s 50th Anniversary with Board Service

6ABC Anchor, Board Chair Welcome New Citizens

6ABC Action News anchor Tamala Edwards (above) speaks to new American citizens at a Feb. 21 naturalization ceremony as U.S. District Judge John R. Padova looks on. Board of Governors Chair Marc J. Zucker (right) also spoke at the ceremony, where 111 people from 37 countries took the oath of citizenship. The event was sponsored by the Philadelphia Bar Association.
Ginsburg Essay Deadline is May 8

Entries are now being accepted for the Philadelphia Bar Association’s 2013 Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Pursuit of Justice Legal Writing Competition.

Candidates may submit a law review quality submission on any topic relating to rights, privileges and responsibilities under federal law. The Bar Association recognizes the importance of excellence in legal analysis and writing skills, and seeks to award a

The Bar Association recognizes the importance of excellence in legal analysis and writing skills, and seeks to award a

federal law. The Bar Association recognizes the importance of
top-quality competition submission. Entries must be received

This competition is open to full- and part-time law students

provisionally approved Philadelphia-area law school for authoring

who are in their second or third year of study during the 2012-

Entries must be received

This competition is open to full- and part-time law students

academic year at one of the following six institutions: Drexel

who are in their second or third year of study during the 2012-

who are in their second or third year of study during the 2012-

University Earle Mack School of Law, Rutgers University School of Law – Camden,

Entries must be received

University of Pennsylvania Law School, Villanova University School of Law and Widener University School of Law (Delaware Campus).

Entries are now being accepted for the Philadelphia Bar As-

Part-time law students in their third or later year of study are also eligible. Students must be in good standing at their

The committee established the award in 1993 to

The submission may not have been published previously, al-

The submission may not have been published previously, although it may have been prepared in connection with a law school course or for a law journal. The submission also may not have been submitted for any other competition during the time when it is under consideration for this competition, until after the

The submission must be the work of one author alone (joint submissions will not be

The submission must be the work of one author alone (joint submissions will not be considered), and the author must certify that the submission has been prepared without substantial editing from others.

The chair of the competition is Bar Association Chancellor

The chair of the competition is Bar Association Chancellor


The author of the winning submission will receive a cash award of $2,500, and have the essay published in The Philadelphia

The author of the winning submission will receive a cash award of $2,500, and have the essay published in The Philadelphia Lawyer magazine, on the Bar Association’s website and/or in an

The award has since been presented to the late Juanita Kidd Stout, former justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Deborah R. Willig, first woman Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association; Professor Marina Angel, of the Temple University Beasley School of Law faculty; Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Edelman & Dicker.

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The Women in the Profession Committee

The Women in the Profession Committee

is seeking nominations for the 2013 Sandra Day O’Connor Award.

The deadline for nominations is Monday, April 1, 2013.

The award is conferred annually on a woman attorney who has demonstrated superior legal talent, achieved significant legal accomplishments and has

The award is conferred annually on a woman attorney who has demonstrated superior legal talent, achieved significant legal accomplishments and has furthered the advancement of women in both the profession and the community.

The committee established the award in 1993 to recognize the important contributions that women attorneys in Philadelphia have made to the legal profession.

That year, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor presented the first award to U.S. District Court Senior Judge Norma L. Shapiro. The award

That year, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor presented the first award to U.S. District Court Senior Judge Norma L. Shapiro. The award has since been presented to the late Juanita Kidd Stout, former justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Deborah R. Willig, first woman Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association; Professor Marina Angel, of the Temple University Beasley School of Law faculty; Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge

The Philadelphia Bar Association will move up to 50 of our members for admission to the Bar of

The Philadelphia Bar Association will move up to 50 of our members for admission to the Bar of the United States Supreme Court on Monday, May 14. The admission ceremony will be made to the full
court sitting in Washington, D.C.

The court’s requirements for a group admis-

The court’s requirements for a group admission ceremony are very comprehensive. To review

The court’s requirements for a group admission ceremony are very comprehensive. To review these requirements and to download the forms for admission please visit the Supreme Court’s website at supremecourtus.gov. Select the Bar Admissions tab on the left-hand side and this will bring you to the link for the Bar Admissions Form and Bar Admissions Instructions. Please read the instructions carefully. Once you have determined that you are eligible for admission, please print out and complete the Admission Form. The instructions and guidelines are very specific and must be followed scrupulously. Do not fold the application or use staples. Use paper clips only.

Once you have successfully completed the Admis-

Once you have successfully completed the Admission Form, please mail it along with a check made payable to the Philadelphia Bar Association. The cost to attend the ceremony is $225 for members of the Philadelphia Bar Association that includes your

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Philadelphia is undergoing a renaissance of redevelopment and the housing market is on the rise again. Philadelphia City Council passed an ordinance amending the Philadelphia Zoning Code on Jan. 24, which had gone into effect in August 2012. Some amendments increase notice requirements for developers, and change the quantity of community civic meetings in which a developer must participate.

Philadelphia City Council members attended the “Conversation with Council” meeting of the Real Property Section’s Zoning, Land Use & Code Enforcement Committee on Feb. 22. Discussing the amendments to the zoning code were City Council members Jannie Blackwell (3rd District), Bill Green (Councilman At-Large), and Maria Quiñones-Sánchez (7th District). Philadelphia is divided into 10 districts, each with its own elected council member, as well as seven additional City At-Large members.

Answering a question regarding what precipitated the recent amendments, Green responded, “The protection of councilmanic prerogative.” His vision is to make the zoning code transparent. Providing bright line rules allows people to navigate the code without encountering difficulty with regard to potentially confusing or obscure procedures. “The interests of the districts should not conflict with the needs of the rest of the city,” said Quiñones-Sánchez. In the next four to five years, she said every Philadelphia neighborhood will be remapped in an effort to promote development and predictability.

One attendee, a zoning lawyer, reflected on the challenges faced by having to provide notification to adjacent residents in advance of a development or sought-after zoning variance. Large apartment and condominium buildings make it difficult, and costly, to properly distribute flyer notifications within the code requirements. Council members advised that in order to develop real estate, or seek a variance, first meet with the local community civic association.

Participants discussed how the code seems to have become more complex with regard to overall processes. In response to this concern, a suggestion was made to establish a community or citywide educational forum on the zoning code in order to remove any confusion among residents and developers.

“All my legislation is for positive action,” said Blackwell. “I believe that politics is an open-ended opportunity to make life better for others. We are all elected to do the best for the people who elected us, and we have to take that seriously and do what they asked us to do.”

Mary-Kate Breslin (arykatebreslin39@gmail.com), a judicial clerk to Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Albert J. Snite Jr., is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.

The 2013 PENNSYLVANIA TAX HANDBOOK is Here!

NEW FOR THE 2013 TAX HANDBOOK:

LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES
- Marcellus Impact Fee
- Sales and Use Tax guidance related to the taxability of vouchers issued by social marketing networks.
- Changes in mandatory e-filing of returns
- Newly enacted tax credits
- Guidance regarding taxability of vouchers issued by social marketing networks
- Changes to Corporate Net Income Tax

MAJOR COURT DECISIONS
- Personal Income Tax – Marshall v. Commonwealth
- Sales and Use Tax – Northeastern Pennsylvania Imaging Center v. Commonwealth
- Property Tax – Mesivtah Etz Chaim of Bobos, Inc. v. Pike County Board of Assessment Appeals
- Capital Stock/Foreign Franchise Tax—Systems & Computer Technology Corporation v. Commonwealth
Temple Students, ELC Work to Fight Expulsion

By Rachael Eisenberg

The Student Discipline Advocacy Service (SDAS) is a group of volunteer law students from the Temple University Beasley School of Law and the University of Pennsylvania Law School. SDAS works to stem the school-to-prison pipeline by advocating on behalf of students and parents at school disciplinary hearings. Many parents and students who seek services from the Education Law Center (ELC) are referred to SDAS for advocacy. ELC staff attorneys also serve as advisers on many of our cases, teach SDAS advocates education law in Pennsylvania, and help to ensure the highest quality of representation for our clients. One of the cases on which ELC provided SDAS support involved Marcus, a sixth-grade student facing expulsion from his charter school in Philadelphia.

Last fall, Marcus committed a series of school code violations at his school, including a physical altercation with one of his teachers. After this incident, the school suspended Marcus and scheduled an expulsion hearing. Marcus’ parents contacted the SDAS intake line for assistance in opposing the expulsion and getting help for Marcus.

Although Marcus did well academically, his parents and SDAS advocates were obviously concerned about his ongoing behavioral problems and requested that the school conduct an evaluation to determine if Marcus had any emotional disabilities before they made a decision about his expulsion. The school was obligated to start the evaluation process even while the expulsion was moving forward.

In preparation for the expulsion hearing, SDAS advocates Hayden Nelson-Major, Ben Fils and myself obtained and reviewed Marcus’ education records from the school and interviewed him and his parents about his educational and family background and his history of behavioral issues in school. The advocates also consulted with Temple Law faculty member Susan DeJarnatt and ELC staff attorney David Lapp to develop a compelling argument to defend against the expulsion action. The case theory was that the school should exercise discretion and allow Marcus to remain in school because of Marcus’ unique circumstances – his academic capacity, his possible disability, and his potential for improved behavior with the development of an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

During the expulsion hearing at the charter school, SDAS Advocates Hayden and Ben spoke on behalf of Marcus’ family. Despite the compelling arguments on Marcus’ behalf, the hearing officers recommended his expulsion to the charter school’s Board of Trustees.

At the Board of Trustees meeting, Hayden and Ben argued again that Marcus should stay in school and introduced evidence that the parents were seeking counseling for Marcus and counseling for themselves. The Board was receptive to the arguments and was impressed by the continued involvement of Marcus’ parents. The Board ruled in our favor and decided not to expel Marcus.

With the help of SDAS, Marcus and his parents continue to work with the charter school to develop an appropriate IEP that includes both in-school behavior support and additional counseling.

Marcus’ parents told us that our advocacy gave them a voice in the hearing room and left them feeling optimistic about Marcus’ prospects for school success. As future lawyers, these pro bono experiences help remind us why we went to law school in the first place – to do justice and to ensure that all people have access to quality legal representation. We hope to continue to work with the Education Law Center on this project and intend to continue to engage in pro bono service throughout our legal careers.

Rachael Eisenberg is a member of the Class of 2014 at Temple University Beasley School of Law.

March 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

Mar. 1  •  Special Needs Trusts
•  Cross Examination of the Movies
•  Law and Policy in Obama’s Second Term: Looking Forward
•  Preliminary Agreements
•  26th Annual Civil Litigation Update
•  Gifted Due Process: A Hearing Officer’s Perspective
•  Due Diligence in Real Estate Transactions
•  A Conversation With the Honorable Annette M. Rizzo
•  Business Divorce, Shareholder Relations
•  Arbitration Law: Beyond the Basics
•  19th Annual Health Law Institute
•  Instant Access: Making Cred & Lasting First Impressions
•  INFLUENCE: The Art and Science of Changing Minds
•  Turning Time into Money
•  Managing Disasters & Business Risk in the Law Firm
•  Best Practices in Petitional Litigation in the Federal Courts II
•  Understanding the Basics of Elder Law

Mar. 15  •  Techne/Lets
•  iPad for Legal Professionals
•  eCommerce: Legal and Practical Issues
•  eDiscovery, Computer Forensics and the Cloud
•  Leading Like Lincoln
•  Integrity: Good People, Bad Choices & Life Lessons from the White House
•  Medical Malpractice Update
•  From File to Trial: 8 Keys to Success in Court and Beyond
•  Fire Al-Will in Pennsylvania
•  International Business Institute

Video Seminars

Mar. 4  •  From Pro Bono Programs in a Box to Celebrating the Heroes Among Us
•  Who is the Client? Should Your Client Face the Media?
•  Ethical Concerns for Estate Planner
•  Environmental Law Issues Affecting Oil and Gas Developments
•  Ethics of Handling Evidence and Discovery
•  Ethical Issues in Mergers & Acquisitions Deals
•  19th Annual Auto Law Update
•  Handling the Dog Bite Case
•  2012 Public Interest Law Day
•  Ethical Considerations for Workers’ Compensation Lawyers: Marketing Your Practice with Social Networking
•  Family Law in the Internet Age
•  Veterans’ Pension and Aid & Attendance Benefits
•  Wage & Hour Law Symposium
•  Slip, Trip and Fall Winning Tactics for Settlement and Trial

Simulcasts from PLI

Save yourself the time and expense of an overnight trip to New York City and take advantage of the specialized educational programs for which PLI is famous.

Mar. 1  •  Nuts and Bolts of Tax Penalties
Mar. 11  •  Asset-Based Financing Strategies
Mar. 12  •  Taking and Defending Deposits
Mar. 13  •  Doing Deals 2013: The Art of M&A Transactional Practice
Mar. 15  •  Securities Offerings 2013: A Public Offering How It Is Done
Mar. 20  •  How to Read Financial Statements
Mar. 27  •  Post-Grant USPTO Proceedings 2013 - The New Patent Litigation

www.pbi.org  800-932-4637
Family Law

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against relocation and would shift the burdens of proof set forth in the custody statute.

In the first reported appellate decision involving a polyamorous family, the court confirmed that a rebuttable presumption in favor of a parent can only be overcome by a non-parent with clear and convincing evidence. V.B. v. J.E.B., ___ A.3d ___, (Pa. Super. 2012). The trial court's decision in favor of a grandparent was overturned due to its focus on father's former polyamorous relationship. The court applied precedent by holding that a parent's prior sexual conduct should have little bearing on a custody determination without evidence of a harmful effect on a child.

The filing of a complaint in another state, although a custody determination is not yet made, is sufficient to constitute a pending proceeding under the UCCJEA. M.E.V. v. R.D.V., ___ A.3d ___, (Pa. Super. 2012). Also under the UCCJEA, the six-month residency requirement for home state jurisdiction applies to a period of when a child lives with a parent, but not with a grandparent or third party. R.M. v. J.S., 20 A.3d 496 (Pa. Super. 2011).

The court confirmed the application of the primary care doctrine. Durning v. Balent/Kurdilla, 19 A.3d 1125 (Pa. Super. 2011). After mother recovered from a serious illness that caused her to remit custody to the father, the court awarded custody back to mother as she had been the primary caregiver for most of the child's life.


The need for a full hearing in certain matters was found to be required by the court. For example, a determination made by a parent coordinator is subject to a de novo hearing by the trial court. A.H. v. C.M., ___ A.3d ___, (Pa. Super. 2012). Also, in restricting a parent's custody time a trial court must have a hearing and make best interest findings. J.R.M. v. J.E.A., 33 A.3d 647 (Pa. Super. 2011).

In the context of a contempt proceeding, a court cannot clarify a prior custody order that effectively results in a change of that order, without an underlying modification action and hearing. J.R.M. v. R.R.D., ___ A.3d ___, (Pa. Super. 2012).

Admitting a custody evaluation report into evidence without having the expert testify and subject to cross examination was not error when the expert was jointly hired and father not only referenced the report but also presented rebuttal witnesses to refute its allegations. M.O. v. F.W., 42 A.3d 1068 (Pa. Super. 2012).

Julia Sizemore (jsizemore@foxrothschild.com), a partner with Fox Rothschild LLP, is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.
Guidance has been released that the requirement for employers to provide the Exchange Notice by March 1, 2013 under Health Care Reform has been delayed until the issuance of further guidance. The guidance indicated that it will be late summer or fall this year before employers are required to provide this notice and that model notices or language will likely be forthcoming. We are not sure if this is a leading indicator that exchanges themselves will be delayed or if it was decided that the exchange notices should be provided in conjunction with the education effort surrounding the exchange open enrollment period.

Guidance was also issued that Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRAs) cannot be integrated for employees to purchase individual coverage. This is significant as some employers were considering using HRA accounts as a way to allow employees to purchase individual coverage. This cannot be integrated for employees that use a flat dollar contribution, which they use to pick the plan that fits their individual and family medical needs across a larger number of plan offerings from one carrier selected by the group.

We have also received guidance on the religious exemption for contraceptive coverage. Under the ACA, most health plans must cover women’s preventive services, including contraception, without charging a co-pay or deductible. The interim final rules provided that group health plans established or maintained by religious employers were exempt from these requirements until the first plan year that begins on or after Aug. 1, 2013.

The proposed rules simplify the existing definition of a “religious employer” as it relates to contraceptive coverage. The rule eliminates the criteria that a religious employer have the inculcation of religious values as its purpose; primarily employ persons who share its religious tenets; and primarily serve persons who share its religious tenets. For purposes of the exemption, the simple definition follows a section of the Internal Revenue Code, and would primarily include churches, other houses of worship, and their affiliated organizations.

The proposed rules define an organization eligible for the accommodations as one that:
- Opposes providing coverage for some or all of any contraceptive services required to be covered, on account of religious objections;
- Is organized and operates as a non-profit entity; and
- Holds itself out as a religious organization; and
- Self-certifies that it meets these criteria and specifies the contraceptive services for which it objects to providing coverage.

The accommodations provide that eligible organizations would not have to contract, arrange, pay or refer for any contraceptive coverage to which they object on religious grounds. Participants of eligible organizations would receive contraceptive coverage through separate individual health insurance policies, without cost-sharing or additional premiums (neither the religious organization nor the enrollees would be charged). For fully insured plans, an eligible organization will need to provide its self-certification to the insurance carrier, which would automatically provide separate, individual market contraceptive coverage at no cost for participants. For self-insured plans, the self-certification would be provided to the third-party administrator, which would then automatically work with an insurance carrier to provide separate individual health insurance policies at no cost for participants.

The proposed rules do not change the existing rules that require for-profit organizations to provide contraceptive coverage under this provision, despite religious objections. This contraceptive mandate has been challenged in a number of lawsuits throughout the country and it is likely we will see this issue reach the U.S. Supreme Court in the future.

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

For more than 75 years, the divisions of USI Affinity have developed, marketed and administered insurance and financial programs that offer affinity clients and their members unique advantages in coverage, price and service. As the endorsed broker of the Philadelphia Bar Association and more than 30 other state and local bar associations, and with more than 30,000 attorneys insured, USI Affinity has the experience and know how to navigate the marketplace and design the most comprehensive and innovative insurance and benefits packages to fit a firm’s individual needs.

Leadership

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Fox Rothschild LLP, will be followed by an audience Q&A and light reception. The event will be held at Fox Rothschild’s Conference Center, 2000 Market St., lower level.

Ferman began her term as district attorney in January 2008 after serving 15 years as an assistant district attorney in the county. Harper represents the 61st Legislative District that includes portions of Montgomery County. She serves as chair of the House Local Government Committee for the 2013-14 legislative session. Judge Cardwell Hughes has been CEO of the Red Cross since May 2011. She was first appointed to the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas in 1995. She was elected to a full 10-year term in 1996 and was re-elected in 2005. Manderino is a former member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives who represented the 194th District (parts of Montgomery County and Philadelphia) from 1993 through 2010. She started with Interact in April 2011.

Created by Chancellor Kathleen D. Wilkinson, the Chancellor’s Leadership Institute provides ongoing substantive programming aimed at assisting and developing leadership skills and tools for women attorneys, attorneys of diverse backgrounds and young lawyers so they can succeed in their careers. The Institute harnesses the wisdom and experience of some of our region’s top legal minds and business leaders.

The event is free and open to all members of the Association. RSVP is required. Deadline to RSVP is Monday, March 11. Visit philadelphiabar.org to register.
Fiscal Cliff Cut to Economically Manageable Size

By Jackie B. Lessman

Early in 2013, President Obama signed into law the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, cutting the $600 billion fiscal cliff down to an economically manageable size. In this month’s interview, I sat down with Stuart Hoffman, chief economist for The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc., who serves as the principal spokesperson on all economic issues for the company. We discussed the ramifications and expected outcomes of what is now known as the “fiscal cliff.”

What is the overall impact of the fiscal cliff bill on federal taxes and on spending by the U.S. government?

The bill will result in about $160 billion in tax hikes in 2013 relative to 2012. The bill postponed until March 1 the mandated $100 billion in spending cuts under the sequestration that was set to take effect on Jan. 1, 2013. We expect the Congress will reduce those spending cuts to near $50 billion in 2013.

What are the specific tax ramifications for Americans?

The higher taxes include an end to the 2 percentage point Social Security payroll tax “holiday” that was in place for the past two years; this will boost tax revenues by about $110 billion in 2013. The top income tax rate is raised to 39.6 percent for incomes above $450,000 for married couples ($400,000 for single taxpayers). The tax rate on long-term capital gains and dividend income is raised to 20 percent for incomes over $450,000; this is on top of a 3.8 percent Affordable Care Act tax rate on investment income that takes effect this year. In addition, the bill re-imposes limits on tax exemptions and deductions starting at taxable incomes of $250,000, with limits on itemized deduction kicking in at taxable incomes of $300,000. Altogether, the income tax provisions should raise about $50 billion in tax revenue this year.

Do you expect these tax increases to affect consumer spending?

Yes, the increase in the Social Security payroll tax will likely be a larger drag on consumer spending in 2013 compared to the increase in personal income taxes for two reasons: first, it is larger, and second, it hits lower- and middle-income households harder; these households are more likely to cut back spending in response to tax increases than upper-income households.

What are some of the specific provisions of the bill that will result in reduced tax revenues flowing into the U.S. Treasury in 2013?

The Act extends for one year the 7 weeks of extended unemployment benefits, which will boost spending by about $35 billion in 2013. The bill makes permanent current income tax rates for (taxable) incomes under $450,000; fixes the Alternative Minimum Tax exclusion and adjusts it for inflation going forward, saving middle-class families from a big tax hike; extends Medicare physician payments at current levels; raises the estate tax rate from 35 percent to 40 percent above an inflation-adjusted $5 million exemption; and extends for five years certain tax breaks for low-income Americans. Added together these provisions will reduce tax revenues by $213 billion in 2013. Finally, the Act extends for one year the full package of temporary business and energy tax breaks (reducing tax revenues by $68 billion in 2013), fixes a farm bill to avoid a doubling of milk prices, and re-imposes a pay freeze on members of Congress.

What is your economic forecast for 2013 in light of these changes in taxes and spending?

As we have long expected, the total amount of federal fiscal contraction in 2013 will likely be between $160 and $210 billion (just over 1 percent of GDP). Thus, our 2013 economic forecast includes continued moderate real GDP growth of 2.1 percent; payroll jobs up by 2 million over this year, pushing the unemployment rate down to 7.4 percent at the end of 2013; inflation at about 2 percent; $1 trillion in Federal Reserve quantitative easing and balance sheet expansion, holding the 10-year Treasury note rate under 2 percent; and a rise in the S&P 500 of close to 7 percent.

Jackie Byrne Lessman, CFP® (jacqueline.lessman@pnc.com; 215-585-5831), PNC Wealth Management Senior Vice President. For more information, visit pnc.com/wealth-management.

The following disclosure is made in accordance with the rules of Treasury Department Circular 230 governing standards of practice before the Internal Revenue Service: Any description pertaining to federal taxation contained herein is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used by you or any other person, for the purpose of (i) avoiding any penalties that may be imposed by the Internal Revenue Code, and (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein. The material presented in this article is of a general nature and does not constitute the provision by PNC of investment, legal, tax or accounting advice to any person, or a recommendation to buy or sell any security or adopt any investment strategy. Opinions expressed herein are subject to change without notice. The information was obtained from sources deemed reliable. Such information is not guaranteed as to accuracy or completeness. You should seek the advice of an investment professional to tailor an investment plan to your particular needs. For more information, please contact PNC at 1-888-772-4224.

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Reform
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“We are pleased that the RFP requires the provision of investigative, expert consultation, social services and other ancillary services...necessary in order to provide effective assistance of counsel and to protect the legal rights of their client,” Wilkinson wrote.

“We are concerned, however, that as

Orie Melvin
continued from page 1

that those judges are then beholden to campaign contributors, party officials and special interests. As a result, many citizens question whether they will receive fair treatment in a court of law,” she said.

“The Philadelphia Bar Association has long supported a merit-based, appointive system of selecting appellate court judges. Through such a system, the best-qualified candidates are sought out based on stringent standards, and those who are unqualified to serve are eliminated from consideration,” the Chancellor said.

“The time has come to stop electing appellate court judges, to restore the confidence of the electorate in our judicial system, and to open the process to a wider and more diverse pool of well-qualified candidates, by adopting a system of merit selection for the election of judges in Pennsylvania,” she said.

Justice Orie Melvin and her sister, Janine Orie, were charged with misapplication of state funds, theft of services, and conspiracy for using Orie Melvin’s former Superior Court staff and the legislative staff of a third sister, former State Sen. Jane Orie, to work on Melvin’s campaigns Supreme Court races in 2003 and 2009.

In May, Chancellor John E. Savoth called for Justice Orie Melvin to resign following her indictment, “to maintain the integrity of our justice system.” The charges “cast a shadow on the court that compromises the ability for justice to be dispensed fairly,” Savoth said.

Supreme Court
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sociation, 1101 Market St., 11th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Do not send the application directly to the Supreme Court.

The event will be on a first-come, first-served basis and all applications must be received by 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 28. If you have any questions regarding this event, please do not hesitate to contact Dawn Petit at 215-238-6367 or dpetit@philabar.org.
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 nonmembers, unless otherwise indicated.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1
Workers’ Compensation Section Executive Committee: meeting, 10-30 a.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.
Workers’ Compensation Section: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

MONDAY, MARCH 4
Family Law Section: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Business Litigation Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $8.

Tuesday, March 5
Legal Rights of Persons with Disabilities Committee: meeting, 9 a.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.
Philadelphia Bar Foundation Board of Trustees: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Solo and Small Firm Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $8.
Philadelphia Bar Reporter Editorial Board: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 10th floor Cabinet Room.

Wednesday, March 6
Delivery of Legal Services Committee: meeting, 8:30 a.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Immigration Law Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $8.

State Civil Litigation Section: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Family Law Section ADR Committee: meeting, 4 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.

Thursday, March 7
Women in Intellectual Property Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $8.

Friday, March 8
The Philadelphia Lawyer Editorial Board: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $8.

Monday, March 11
Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon: 12 p.m., Hyatt at The Bellevue, Broad and Walnut streets. Tickets: philadelphiabar.org.

Tuesday, March 12
Criminal Justice Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Real Property Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., Ballard Spahr LLP, 1735 Market St., 51st floor.

Wednesday, March 13
Intellectual Property Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $8.

Thursday, March 14
Legislative Liaison Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $8.
Chancellor’s Leadership Initiative: 4 p.m., 2000 Market St., Lower Level. Register at philadelphiabar.org.

Friday, March 15
Social Security Disability Benefits Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Monday, March 18
Public Interest Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

Appellate Courts Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Tuesday, March 19
Civil Gideon Housing Committee: meeting, 9 a.m., 10th floor Board Room.

Chair: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Civil Rights Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Employee Benefits Committee: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $8.

Wednesday, March 20
Business Law Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Board Room.

Young Lawyers Division Cabinet: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Cabinet Room.

Federal Courts Committee: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

LegalLine: 5 p.m., 11th floor LRIS offices.

Thursday, March 21
Family Law Section Executive Committee: meeting, 11th floor Committee Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Monday, March 25
Young Lawyers Division Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

Tuesday, March 26
Criminal Justice Section: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Women in the Profession Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $8.

Wednesday, March 27
LGBT Rights Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.

Thursday, March 28
LRIS Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.

Philadelphia Bar Reporter Editorial Board: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 10th floor Cabinet Room.

Board of Governors: meeting, 4 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

Friday, March 29
Good Friday: Association offices closed.

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 Jeff 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.

Bench-Bar continued from page 3

having it at Revel really added a new level of excitement and energy,” said Feeley. “We also plan to duplicate the expanded CLE schedule we offered last year, offering 21 CLEs again so that we can continue to attract a diverse group of practitioners and make the educational component of the Conference relevant to as many of our members as possible.”

“We look forward to returning to Revel, the finest beachfront resort that A.C. has to offer, and to developing meaningful programs that will appeal to all members of the legal community. This is sure to be one of the finest events of the year,” said Swain.

Proposals for CLE courses for the 2013 Bench-Bar & Annual Conference should be submitted by Friday, March 22 to Feeley (fFeeley@pepperlaw.com) and Swain (jswain@foxrothschild.com).

The proposals should include a brief description of the program and identify the course planner and faculty members. The proposed panels should be representative of the Association and include members of the bench when appropriate. Programs should be one hour long, with no more than four panelists. Decisions regarding the programs selected will be made by Friday, March 29.


For sponsorship information, contact Tracey McCloskey at 215-238-6360 or tmccloskey@philabar.org.
Advocate Award by the American Bar Foundation, received the Philadelphia Victim Services at its Feb. 28 Annual Meeting for “Mentoring,” a publication produced by Thomson Reuters.

Molly Callahan, director of the Legal Center at Women Against Abuse, Inc., received the Philadelphia Victim Advocate Award by Center City Crime Victims Services at its Feb. 28 Annual Community Enrichment and Engagement Benefit.

Roberta Jacobs-Meadoway, a member of Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC, was honored in the “Outstanding Contributions to Mentoring” category at the 2013 Chamber USA “Women in Law” Awards ceremony on Jan. 15 in New York City.


Jerry Lehocky and Thomas Giordano Jr., partners with Pond Lehocky Stern Giordano, were guests on CBS 3’s “Talk Philly” on Feb. 20 where they discussed what someone’s first step should be when injured on the job, or in applying for Social Security Disability.

Joan C. Arnold, a partner with Pepper Hamilton LLP, has been elected vice chair of the American College of Tax Counsel.

Stephen G. Harvey, a partner with Pepper Hamilton LLP, has been appointed president of the Board of Directors of the Homeless Advocacy Project.

Michael A. Morse, a partner with Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick and Rasanelli, LLP, was a presenter at the Health Care Compliance Association’s South Atlantic Regional Annual Conference in Orlando, Fla., on Feb. 8.

Brian J. McCormick Jr., managing partner of Sheller, P.C., was recently appointed by Mayor Michael Nutter to the Philadelphia Board of Ethics.

Norman Weinstein, counsel of Galfand Berger, LLP, was a panelist at the Feb. 7 program “Reaching Across the Table: Collaborating to Improve Community Health and Wellness” at The Free Library of Philadelphia.

Richard Jurzewicz, a senior partner at Galfand Berger, LLP, was a course planner & Dodig LLP, was a faculty member at the continuing legal education program “Social Security Disability: From Start to Finish” on Feb. 13-14 at the Radisson Plaza Warwick in Philadelphia.

Bernard M. Resnick, principal in Bernard M. Resnick, Esq., P.C., recently presented “The IAEL Master Class: Negotiation of an Artist-Brand Deal” at the 47th Annual MIDEM conference in Cannes, France on Jan. 27.

Joseph E. Murphy, a sole practitioner, recently returned from Kuwait City, Kuwait where he participated in an event sponsored by the United Nations Development Program and Kuwait Transparency Society. Murphy spoke in the regional workshop “Building Capacities and Promoting Collective Action to Strengthen Private Sector Integrity.”

Alfred J. Carlson, a partner with Martin Banks, was a presenter at the program “Workers’ Compensation: The Settlement Process and Hearings.”

“People” highlights news of members’ awards, honors or appointments of a community or civic nature. Information may be sent to Jeff Lyons, Senior Managing Editor, Philadelphia Bar Reporter, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th fl., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2955. Fax: (215) 238-1159. E-mail: reporter@philabar.org. Color photos are also welcome.
This trusted resource has been the #1 choice for attorneys, legal staff and businesses for over a century and is available in three formats: print, online and mobile, to use when you’re “on-the-go.”

The 2013 Legal Directory has over 17,000 attorney listings and 1,600 law firm listings. It is conveniently indexed so you can effortlessly find what you’re looking for in the Philadelphia, Montgomery, Delaware, Chester & Bucks County areas. Each listing is complete with name, full address, phone, fax and email.

Sections include:
- Alphabetical listings of attorneys and law firms
- Index of attorneys/law firms by city/county, as well as index of attorneys by area of concentration
- Corporate Counsel listing
- Judges Index
- Federal, Pennsylvania and County Government Listings
- Associations, Organizations and Law Schools
- Philadelphia Bar Association Key Contacts
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