

CONNECTICUT BAR ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT
Of Sections and Committees
2014-2015

Connecticut Bar Association

30 Bank Street

New Britain, CT 06050-0350

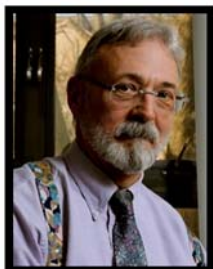
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2014-2015



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HOUSE OF DELEGATES

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16	Brandon Marley	Groton
16	Douglas J. Monaghan	Groton
17	Cassie N. Jameson	New Haven

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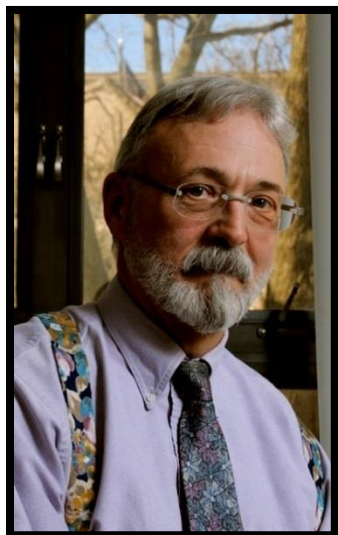
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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Mark A. Dubois, 2014-2015 President



The 2014-2015 year was a challenging one, and may in retrospect prove a turning point for the CBA in several important respects.

The year began with a controversy over whether the Association should become an amicus on a brief in a matter at the Second Circuit seeking to overturn Connecticut's newly enacted gun laws concerning semi-automatic weapons and high-capacity magazines. After a spirited debate at the House of Delegates, it was voted by a large margin to do so. We then received a petition to submit the matter to the full membership for reconsideration.

While the petition process has been a part of our constitution for as long as anyone could remember, no one could remember it ever being invoked before. The process allows a small number of members to move a question from the representative body to the entire membership, a fascinating shift in governance. The debate on the merits raised an issue which the CBA has struggled with since its inception—whether it should involve itself in political or social issues or causes or limit its efforts to professional matters. This debate had occurred in the past

over issues ranging from prohibition to the Vietnam War. Ultimately, though the initiative won slightly more votes than its opponents, I ruled the vote a dead tie and we did not endorse the brief.

The issues raised by the referendum will continue to be in tension—whether we have a representative form of governance or will revert to pure democracy on matters of social or political notoriety and import. Whether we should be the voice of the profession just in matters of parochial interest or whether there is a role for social activism and advocacy in our mission continues to be an unresolved puzzle.

The second issue we had to struggle with was, again, our form of governance. Past President Kim Knox had appointed a charter revision committee and, during my term, it held several long, open meetings to obtain input from the members on many issues. After the meetings, the Committee began working on some proposed changes. It then reported to the House at its December meeting that the drafters had come to believe that the Association would be best served by moving to a unicameral form of government.

This proposal ignited a firestorm of opposition, as it had been the clear consensus of those who attended both of the workshops that the existing bicameral system be retained. A long and acrimonious debate followed, and it was agreed that the committee would prepare a conceptual outline of a new form of governance for the House to consider. However, the Executive Committee decided to “slow walk” the process because of some concerns about how to best integrate sister bars from the diversity communities into the governance structure and a concern that we were not ready to propose answers in this area. No one on the Executive Committee felt it wise to have a constitutional revision only to have to do another one within a few months. The issue may be revisited during President Clendenen's year.

The third event, which signified a potentially important shift in CBA focus, was an attempt to reach out to the four minority bars, Crawford, SEBAC, CAPABA, and the Hispanic Bar. Several years ago we had modified the constitution to allow for “affinity” representatives in the House. Unfortunately, “affinity” might not have been the best choice of words, as the program allowed non-minority groups to claim what had been thought of as diversity seats and two of the four diversity bars did not qualify for representation. And the idea that “affinity” seats at the governance table would promote membership from minority bars proved unrealistic.

The officers began attending meetings and events of the four diversity bars and ultimately hosted a meeting at the CBA of the presidents of all four diversity bars. It became apparent that none of the diversity bars felt any great need to be a part of the CBA, and they had all been very successful in creating their own calendar of educational, networking, and social events for their members. The idea that a chance to share in CBA governance would propel members of diversity communities to become CBA members was clearly one not well received.

In response to this meeting, a diversity policy was adopted by the House at its March meeting, pledging to welcome and encourage members of all communities to become CBA members and promising to make appointments and take official actions with the goal of inclusiveness and diversity in mind. This policy will serve as the foundation of a larger diversity program that incoming leaders Clendenen and Frank have pledged to pursue.

Finally, the CBA struggled this past year with the same issues all bars and many other professional groups have—declining membership, increased competition from other specialty and affinity bars, and a sea change in the practice of law, how legal services are delivered, and how lawyers define themselves as professionals. We are approaching 10 percent membership by non-JD legal service providers.

Our Paralegal Section, as have many others nationally, is urging the adoption of new laws and rules that would allow them to provide consumer-direct legal services, in competition with lawyers. Many other legal service providers operate on the Internet, seemingly without regulation or control by judicial officials. Many of the public refuse to hire lawyers for routine matters, preferring to use Internet information and relying on the judges and court personnel to help them through the process. At least three dockets of the superior court now involve virtually all self-represented parties.

How to provide legal services to those who need them but cannot or will not use lawyers is a huge social challenge. The need will be met by redefining how our courts work and the role of advocates in many areas of dispute. Whether the CBA will be an important voice in creating this new regime or whether we will contract and focus our efforts on the needs and issues of lawyers alone will define and shape our future. It will be an interesting debate, perhaps as divisive as the gun discussion.

It has been a pleasure to lead the CBA this year. As I leave, I am certain that it will continue to be a relevant, forceful, and vibrant organization. We have wonderful new leaders in the succession process, and our best years are ahead.

SECTION REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW SECTION

Winona Kimberlin, Chair

Purpose

The purpose of the Administrative Law Section is to provide a forum on current administrative law issues. The section concentrates primarily on the Connecticut Administrative Procedures Act and the practices of the various agencies governed by the Act.

Annual Report

Section Accomplishments

- A major accomplishment has been to reach out to the Young Lawyers Section. We hope to make them a vital part of our Section in the future. We offered YLS free meals at our meetings. This has helped with attendance, especially at our wine tasting event. Free food is a great way to boost attendance.
- We spent several meetings discussing our bylaws. A subcommittee was appointed to make revisions. We hope to finalize the new bylaws soon.
- We all adapted to the new CBA website to communicate with each other.
- We hosted Brett Boskiewicz at a meeting regarding the State Contracting Standard Board.
- We are having a meeting in June on the topic of hearing procedures at the Department of Public Health.
- We are planning our annual presentation at the CBA legal conference in June.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION SECTION

Sylvia R. Rutkowska and Carmina K. Tessitore , Co-chairs

Purpose

This Section aims to increase the awareness of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) within the Bar and the general public; promote communication among lawyers and others involved in ADR; act as a resource to the courts and other entities; improve the quality of ADR services; and encourage members of the Bar to serve as neutrals in various ADR settings.

Annual Report

Executive Board

Co-Chairs: Sylvia R. Rutkowska, Dzialo, Pickett & Allen, P.C. and Carmina K. Tessitore, The Law Offices of Carmina K. Tessitore, Esq., LLC

Secretary/Treasurer: Sylvia Rutkowska & Carmina Tessitore

Bylaws Liaison: William D. Stempel

Education Liaison: Peter W. Benner

Judicial Liaison: Barbara D. Aaron

Judicial Sub-Committee: Eric W. Wiechmann

Law School Liaison: Charles A. Pillsbury

Law School Student Liaison: Emily C. Kaas, Quinnipiac University School of Law, J.D. Candidate 2016

Legislative Liaison: Gary F. Sheldon

Legislative Sub-Committee: Barbara D. Aaron & Frances Z. Calafiore

Long-Range Planning Liaison: Roy L. De Barbieri

Executive Committee Meetings & Section Meetings

October 23, 2014: The Executive Committee and Section members met at the CBA headquarters in New Britain to discuss community outreach projects, programming, scholarships for law students to attend meetings, and long term planning. The CBA also provided a tutorial on the new website features. In light of the small size of the Section, the Executive Committee does not meet separately from the Section aside from a planning session at the start of the meeting.

November 20, 2014: The Executive Committee and Section members met at the Quinnipiac University School of Law and extended an invitation to attend for students and members of the law school's Center on Dispute Resolution to discuss potential collaboration on future projects and for recruitment of new members. This meeting featured distinguished panelist Dean M. Cordiano who spoke on his article centering on vacating arbitration awards in Connecticut published in Connecticut Lawyer Magazine. The substance of the meeting portion of the evening centered on community outreach projects, programming, mentoring of law students, and long term planning. In light of the small size of the Section, the Executive Committee does not meet separately from the Section aside from a planning session at the start of the meeting.

February 11, 2015: The Executive Committee and Section met at The Inn at Middletown for a joint meeting with the Construction Law Section Executive Committee and its Section members. The meeting featured distinguished panelists Dean M. Cordiano and Brian J. Donnell who spoke on the utilization of ADR methodologies in construction law matters. The substance of the meeting portion of the evening centered on community outreach projects, programming, and long term planning. In light of the small size of the Section, the Executive Committee does not meet separately from the Section aside from a planning session at the start of the meeting.

March 26, 2015: The Executive Committee and Section met at The Graduate Club. The substance of the meeting centered on the designation of officer, liaison, and committee roles for the 2015-2016 bar year, community outreach

projects, programming, legal conference seminars, and long term planning. In light of the small size of the Section, the Executive Committee does not meet separately from the Section aside from a planning session at the start of the meeting.

Section Activities

The Section has placed a priority on increasing our age diversity, with a goal of establishing stronger connections with law students interested in ADR. In addition to meeting at Quinnipiac University School of Law, the Section offered to pay for a limited number of law students to attend Section dinner meetings as guests of the Section. Additionally, the Section initiated a law student mentorship program, matching Section members with law students interested in a career in ADR. The Section is offering up to three scholarships to the Connecticut Legal Conference to qualified law students with a demonstrated interest in ADR.

On November 6, 2014 the Section co-hosted a seminar with the Sports and Entertainment Law Section entitled “The Importance of ADR in Professional and Amateur Athletics” featuring distinguished panelists (see below). The panelists, with participation from attendees, discussed the multi-utilization of ADR methodologies in addressing sports related disputes. The seminar was well attended by legal and non-legal professionals and law students.

Additionally, the Section has begun its utilization of trending technology by commencing a web series of BarChats beginning April 2015 and to be distributed throughout the 2015-2016 bar year. The BarChats will focus on various aspects of ADR and its utilization in diverse ways to benefit practice management and a wide-range of legal issues.

In light of the small size of the Section and the fact that the Section’s focus applies to many substantive areas of law, the Section initiated outreach for joint section programming, joint section meetings, to affinity bars, and to Connacca (an in-house counsel organization wherein potential future networking opportunities may exist for Section members).

Seminars/CLE

November 6, 2014: “The Importance of ADR in Professional and Amateur Athletics” with program faculty of: Paul V. Kelly, Jackson Lewis P.C.; Jack McDonald, Athletic Department at Quinnipiac University; Professor Lew Kurlantzick, University of Connecticut Law School; and Robert J. Romano, RISE International.

Connecticut Legal Conference

June 15, 2015: The ADR Section will sponsor two sessions:

“The Future of Mediation: Mediation and Collaborative Concepts to Manage Your Business or Law Practice for Better Outcomes” with featured panelists: Peter W. Benner, PWB Resolve; Frances Z. Calafiore, Frances Z. Calafiore, Attorney at Law; William D. Logue, Quinnipiac University School of Law; and Brenda Cavanaugh, Community Mediation, Inc. The seminar will cover the history and current issues and mediation trends for immediate implementation to improve client relationships and practice management in several issue areas (including business, healthcare, employment, family, real estate, and personal injury matters), best practices, the role of community mediation, and utilization of collaborative law for improving processes in family disputes.

“The Resolution of Municipal Tax Appeals” with featured panelists: the Honorable George Levine, James Stedronsky, Stedronsky & D’Andrea; and Barry Cunningham, PHD, MAI. The seminar will cover the prosecution and defense of tax appeals through negotiation and mediation.

ANIMAL LAW SECTION

Colette S. Griffin and Suzan M. Porto, Co-chairs

Purpose

Formed in 2002, the purposes of the Animal Law Section are to provide a forum for members to exchange ideas, and to study and understand laws, regulations, and case law pertaining to all areas of animal law; to organize periodic CLE seminars on various issues relating to animals and the law in order to educate the members of the Connecticut bar, bench, and the public about animal law and about different ways in which the legal system can work to protect animals; to be a resource for people, organizations, and government agencies that wish to obtain information about the subject; to create and maintain a referral service for the public in order to be able to refer people with animal-related problems or concerns to attorneys who are prepared to handle such cases; and to create and maintain a brief and resources bank for use by attorneys practicing in the field of animal law.

Annual Report

Meetings

Quarterly section meetings have been held.

Executive Committee Meetings

Executive meetings have been held quarterly.

Legislative Efforts

The section has followed pending legislation concerning animals and has forwarded information to the members accordingly. The section has sought and obtained authority to take positions on pending legislation and has submitted testimony to the legislators.

Volunteer Activities

We have continued to provide legal guidance regarding animal laws to a number of not for profit organizations as well as to individuals who have contacted us with legal inquiries.

Other Programs and Events

On Saturday, September 27, 2014, the CBA Animal Law Section and Yale Law School Student Animal Legal Defense Fund hosted a full day conference on "The Agricultural Gag Laws--Your First Amendment Rights, Your Health, Animal Welfare, and Our Environment" at Yale Law School in New Haven, CT. The conference was open to both the legal and non-legal communities. Agricultural Gag Laws, also known as Ag-Gag Laws or "whistleblower suppression" bills, criminalize those who want to expose animal abuse and food safety issues as well as environmental and labor violations. This conference examined the impact of these laws on freedom of speech, health, food safety, consumer advocacy, animal welfare, and the environment. Presenters included: Alicia Wagner Calzada, Esquire, past President and current Chair of the Advocacy Committee of the National Press Photographers Association; Matthew Liebman, Senior Attorney, Animal Legal Defense Fund's Litigation Program; Taylor Radig, animal rights activist arrested under Ag-Gag Laws; Wayne Pacelle, President and CEO of The Humane Society of the United States; Amanda Hitt, Esquire, Director of the Food Integrity Campaign, Government Accountability Project; and Paige Tomaselli, Senior Attorney, The Center for Food Safety. This conference was recorded and may be accessed via the CBA archives.

On January 8, 2015, we partnered with Quinnipiac School of Law on January 8, 2015 presenting a seminar on the legislative process and how it can be used to effectively further the interest of animals. Our speakers included: Diana Urban, State Representative, Annie Hornish of HSUS, Amy Harrel, President of Connecticut Votes for Animals and Attorney Robert Shea.

ANTITRUST AND TRADE REGULATION LAW SECTION

Michael Kurs, Chair

Purpose

This section aims to familiarize CBA members with all aspects of state and federal antitrust and trade regulation law.

Annual Report

Our Section had the honor of hearing from Connecticut's Attorney General, the Honorable George Jepsen, at a joint meeting of the Section and the Health, Consumer and Business Law Sections. Attorney General Jepsen spoke about his office's enforcement and other activities in the area of antitrust and trade regulation and about proposed hospital merger legislation.

The Section also made arrangements to hold a meeting with the Consumer and Business Law Sections on "CUTPA After Forty Years – Why so Many Unanswered Questions." The meeting will take place in the fall.

Members of the Section received a special invitation, and attended, a program at the University of Connecticut School of Law at which Thomas G. Krattenmaker spoke on Competition Policy in Telecommunications: Law and Institutions. Mr. Krattenmaker has served as a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice John M. Harlan, as director of research at the Federal Communications Commission, as dean at William and Mary School of Law and as senior counsel at Mintz Levin.

Additionally, members of the Section have received an invitation from the Criminal Justice Section to its May 26, 2015 meeting at which the speakers are the Honorable Richard N. Palmer and the Honorable Andrew J. McDonald of the Connecticut Supreme Court. Justices Palmer and McDonald are to speak on the court's decision making process and the dynamics of the Connecticut Supreme Court.

We look forward to like events in 2015-2016 with our section members and members of the Associations other sections.

APPELLATE ADVOCACY SECTION

Kathryn Calibey and Linda Morkan, Co-chairs

Purpose

The Appellate Advocacy Section serves to promote excellence, professionalism and continuing education in the area of appellate litigation. The Section seeks to improve appellate practice through its periodic meetings where appellate practitioners discuss issues of common interest regarding appellate litigation and appellate procedure. The Section frequently invites appellate judges and clerks to its meetings to foster greater understanding of the appellate process and encourage dialogue among Bench and Bar. The Section also sponsors CLE programs on appellate issues.

Annual Report

The Section has met a number of times during the year to discuss appellate practice and procedure:

In October 2014 the Section held their meeting in Hartford with Chief Judge Alexandra DiPentima leading an informal discussion regarding recent developments at the Appellate Court. This discussion was followed by members Jeff Babbini and Vicki Canevari presenting overviews of three new notable Supreme Court decisions: *Niro v. Niro*; *Lane v. Commissioner of Environmental Protection*; and *Hylton v. Gunter*.

During the year, a subcommittee (Kathy Calibey, Caitlin Anderson and Barbara Schellenberg) assisted the judiciary by completing a PAC education project for appellate self-represented parties. As part of the project, the committee created a voice over video power-point presentation and written handbook. The project's goal was to explain the PAC program and provide parties with information regarding what to expect and how best to prepare for attendance at a scheduled PAC. The materials were completed and went online in October. Both the video and handbook can be found at:

http://www.jud.ct.gov/Publications/PAC_Handbook.pdf

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/Publications/videos/PAC.htm>

In February 2015 the Section hosted an informal roundtable conversation in New Haven with guest speaker Judge Jose Cabranes. Judge Cabranes discussed his experience at the US Second Circuit Court of Appeals and a variety of practice topics including procedures, oral argument and summary orders. Following Judge Cabranes' talk, the section business meeting was held. Members were informed of the nominating process for new officers. Interested members were asked to submit their names for review by the nominating committee composed of Jeff Babbini, Dan Klau and Kim Knox.

In April 2015, Justice Richard Robinson addressed the Section on the topic of petitions for certification to the Supreme Court. His insightful presentation was followed by an informal question and answer period. Following Justice Robinson's appearance, the section held its business meeting. A short discussion was held on the nominating committee's recommendation for new officers: For section co-chairs- Dan Krisch and Matt Weiner; for secretary/treasurer- Rebecca Harris. Rebecca Harris gave an update of the section's CLE planned for the June 15th Connecticut Legal Conference. The topic of the CLE will be on certification petitions and will focus on both state and federal practice.

The final meeting of the section this year will be held in early June.

BUSINESS LAW SECTION

Mark G. Sklarz, Chair

Purpose

The purpose of the Business Law Section is “to promote the educational and professional objectives of the Connecticut Bar Association within the general field of business organizations law, including in particular securities law and the law of corporations, limited liability companies, partnerships and other unincorporated businesses.” See Section 1.2 of the Bylaws of the Business Law Section. In addition, the Section focused on seeking to encourage greater participation of members of the Young Lawyers Section. In furtherance of this purpose, the Executive Committee of the Section conducts monthly meetings to which all members of the Section are invited. At each monthly meeting, the Section presents a program of topical interest to its members, often with guest speakers. The Section also monitors local, regional and national developments affecting business law and, from time to time, proposes legislation designed to keep pace with those developments. Finally, the Section serves as a resource to the General Assembly, the Governor’s office and state agencies on business and securities law matters.

Annual Report

Officers and Committee Chairs

The following persons served as officers of the Section during 2014-2015: Mark. G. Sklarz, Chair; Hillel Goldman Vice Chair and Legislative Liaison; Robton Perelli-Minetti, Vice Chair and Program Chair and Kenneth B. Lerman, Treasurer. Committee chairs and co-chairs were Andrew C. Glassman, Business Corporations; Edward B. Whittemore, Securities Law; and Marcel J. Bernier and David M. Levine, Limited Liability Companies and Other Pass-through Entities.

Monthly Programs

The Business Law Section again offered informative programs at our regular monthly meetings.

September 9, 2014: Benefit Corporations. Hillel Goldman of Mix & Goldman, LLC, Jack Horak of Reid and Riege, P.C., John Lawrence of Shipman & Goodwin LLP, James W. McLaughlin of Murtha Cullina LLP, and James Woulfe of reSET Social Enterprise Trust reviewed the key provisions of the new Connecticut Benefit Corporation Act (which became effective on October 1, 2014) and discussed the pros and cons of benefit corporations, where to incorporate a benefit corporation, the primary structural considerations in forming a Connecticut benefit corporation, fiduciary duties of benefit corporation directors, and what to consider in drafting the certificate of incorporation and bylaws of a Connecticut benefit corporation.

October 14, 2014: LLC Executive Compensation. Morris Banks of Pullman & Comley LLC and Rob Perelli-Minetti of Singer, Anner & Perelli-Minetti, LLP presented a program on the Taxation of Equity Interests and Incentive Units issued to Service Members of limited liability companies.

November 11, 2014: Joint meeting with Commercial Law & Bankruptcy Section. Professor Edward I. Altman, Professor of Finance at Stern School of Business, New York University, presented a discussion on the Applications in Business and Law of the “Altman Z-Score Bankruptcy Prediction Family of Models. This was an extremely successful joint section meeting.

January 13, 2015: Mini M&A Seminar. David Albin of Finn Dixon & Herling LLP presented the annual mini M&A Seminar on “Trends and Topics in Negotiating Private Deals: A Discussion of the ABA’s 2013 Market Trends Study.”

February 10, 2015: 2015 Securities Law Mini-Seminar

Mark W. Klein of Brody Wilkinson PC, James W. McLaughlin of Murtha Cullina LLP and Edward B. Whittemore of Murtha Cullina LLP led a discussion addressing the following topics:

Age-old question No. 1: what is a “security”?

- *Jarozewski v. Gamble*, 2013 Conn. Super. LEXIS 2064 (Sept. 12, 2013)
- Social impact bonds – SEC no-action letter, Social Finance, Inc. (Nov. 13, 2014)
- SAFE (Simple Agreement for Future Equity) shares – Y Combinator

Age-old question No. 2: what is “material” information for securities law disclosure purposes?

- Registered/public offerings
- SEC rule requirements (e.g., Regulation S-K/S-X)
- Private placements
- Transaction agreements

Legal opinions in securities offerings

- ABA, Bus. Law Section (Fed. Reg. of Sec. Committee) – Subcommittee Report on No Registration Opinions -- Working Draft (2014 Update)
- Attorney Reliance on Officer’s Certificate; SEC action – *In re: Briner, et al* (Jan. 15, 2015)

Update: Securities Division of the CT Department of Banking

- CUSA Task Force update
- *In re: Ulysses Partners, LLC* (Nov. 13, 2014)
- Legislative efforts in 2015

March 10, 2015: “Sellers Beware: Attorney-Client Privilege and Conflicts Risk in M&A Transactions.” David Atkins, a member of Pullman & Comley LLC, and John H. Lawrence, Jr., a partner at Shipman & Goodwin LLP, presented a program discussing conflicts of interest and the attorney client privilege in M&A transactions in the aftermath of the decision in *Great Hill Equity Partners IV, LP v. SIG Growth Equity Fund I, LLLP*, 80 A.3d 155 (Del. Ch. 2013). David and John also discussed the *Great Hill* case and the earlier case of *Tekni-Plex, Inc. v. Meyner and Landis*, 674 N.E.2d 663 (1996), and their implications for M&A transactions, particularly their impact on engagement letters and purchase agreement provisions.

March 19, 2015: Special Joint Meeting with Sections of Taxation and Commercial Law and Bankruptcy. Frank Agostino of Agostino & Associates (Hackensack, NJ), who tried the United States Tax Court case *Martin Ice Cream v. Commissioner*, the seminal case in the area of personal goodwill and Mark G. Sklarz of Day Pitney LLP (New Haven, CT) presented a program of the “Best Practices for Planning, Valuation and Sales of Personal Goodwill” including the following:

- Personal Goodwill in Estate Planning Transactions
- Personal Goodwill in C Corporation Sales
 - Capital Gain – Assignment of Income
 - Ordinary Income – Deduction Off Purchase Price
 - Personal Goodwill v. Enterprise Goodwill
- Insurance & Captive Insurance – Deductions for the Insurance of Personal Goodwill and Reputation
- Self-Created Goodwill – Depreciation & Amortization Issues
- Personal Goodwill in Corporate Bankruptcies
- The Valuation of Personal Goodwill
- Conduct of the IRS Examination

April 14, 2015: The Uniform Limited Liability Company Act (“ULLCA”) Drafting Committee chaired by Marcel Bernier of Murtha Cullina LLP and David Levine of Cohen and Wolf, P.C. conducted monthly and more recently semi-monthly meetings over the past two years to review the ULLCA and consider its submission to the Connecticut Legislature for enactment in Connecticut to replace the current Connecticut Limited Liability Company Act. The April meeting was devoted to presentation of the Committee’s recommendations of Article 2, 3, and 5 of the ULLCA.

May 14, 2015: The ULLCA Drafting Committee will continue its presentation and discuss Articles 4, 5 and 6 of the ULLCA.

June 9, 2015: The ULLCA Drafting Committee will complete its presentation of the ULLCA.

Monthly meetings also customarily included a case note on a recent judicial decisions, a discussion of the Section’s legislative agenda and the status of bills supported by the Section pending in the General Assembly. CBA Lobbyist William Chapman addressed the Executive Committee at the February monthly meeting.

CLE Programs

On September 19, 2014, the Section presented a CLE program on the new Connecticut Benefit Corporation. Panelists were: William H. Clark Jr., Corporate & Securities Practice Group, Drinker Biddle and Reath LLP, Philadelphia, PA; Hillel Goldman, Mix & Goldman LLC, Danbury; John M. Horak, Reid & Reige, Hartford; John H. Lawrence Jr., Shipman & Goodwin LLP, Hartford; James W. McLaughlin, Murtha Cullina LLP, Hartford; Erik Trojian, Director of Policy, B Lab, New York, NY; and James Woulfe, Public Policy and Impact Investing Specialist, reset, Hartford.

The Section also will continue its commitment to presenting an annual CLE Program at the CBA’s Connecticut Legal Conference by sponsoring a program in conjunction with the Young Lawyer Section: **Tool Kit for LLCs – What Every Lawyer Should Know About LLCs and the LLC Operating Agreement**. This program will provide a practical overview by experienced business lawyers of limited liability companies and members of the Young Lawyers Sections. The program will include an in-depth analysis of the key provisions of an LLC operating agreement, default rules provided by the current Connecticut LLC Act, consideration of possible changes in the law and the tax concepts which underlie specific provisions of an LLC operating agreement. Panelists will include: Arunan D. Arulampalam, Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.; Morris W. Banks, Pullman & Comley, LLC; Nisha Kapur, Murtha Cullina LLP; John H. Lawrence, Jr., Shipman & Goodwin LLP and Mark G. Sklarz, Day Pitney LLP.

Legislative Activities

The Business Law Section continued its practice of annually proposing revisions to the Connecticut Business Corporation Act based upon changes in the Model Business Corporation Act. The Business Corporation Act amendments were introduced in the Judiciary Committee as Senate Bill No. 967, “An Act Concerning Revision to the Connecticut Business Corporation Act, The Uniform Limited Partnership Act and The Connecticut Limited Liability Company Act.” Mark Sklarz testified before the Judiciary Committee in support of the bill and it was favorably reported out of the Judiciary Committee.

Marcel Bernier, Hillel Goldman and other members of the Section reviewed and commented on a draft of House Bill No. 7614 relating to Series Limited Liability Companies and worked with Representative David Labriola to develop a timeframe for further consideration. Marcel Bernier submitted written testimony.

Finally, the Section has participated in the Act Sponsored by Representative William Tong to create the Commission on Connecticut’s Leadership in Corporation and Business Law. Commission members include Section Members David Albin, Andrew Glassman, James Lotstein and Mark Sklarz.

The Section especially wishes to thank Bill Chapman for his tireless support, advice and efforts on behalf of the Section during the past legislative session; Shirley Perrin for her endless patience, help and assistance in the planning of meetings and distribution of notices; and Suzanne Hard for her ultimate tolerance in extending deadlines to accommodate the schedules of program participants.

CHILD WELFARE AND JUVENILE LAW SECTION

Karen Oliver Damboise, Chair

Purpose

The purpose of the Child Welfare and Juvenile Law Section is to discuss and consider issues impacting children and parents who become involved in the legal process as it pertains to child protection and juvenile justice and to promote the continuing education of CBA members and the general community with respect to such issues. To that end, the Section shall monitor proposed legislation, regulations, policy and court rules affecting children and their families in the Superior Court for Juvenile Matters, develop positions with respect to said proposals and foster relationships between attorneys and private, public and governmental organizations dealing with families involved in the child protection and juvenile justice systems. The Section will also be attentive to other issues affecting children and families that arise in areas including but not limited to family, probate, criminal and education law.

Annual Report

Meetings

The Section has had monthly meetings from August 2014 through May 2015 (excepting a combined November-December meeting) averaging 8 members per meeting. The agenda items for each meeting include review of pending legislative matters and mini-CLE for Section members. This year the executive committee did not propose any new legislation or rule changes. The section sought authorization to oppose HB5505. On March 13, 2015, the CBA Executive Committee authorized this position. The subject of amending C.G.S. § 52-466(f) (that foster parents utilizing this statute be required to give notice to biological parents whose rights have not been terminated) was approved and will be submitted in the next legislative session. The section also discussed amending C.G.S. §46b-129 to include sibling relatives and changing the time frame for qualification in the permanent transfer of guardianship definition. The section also discussed seeking rule changes consistent with the "Protocol for Efficient and Consistent Handling of Matters where Family and Juvenile Courts have Concurrent Jurisdiction" to become incorporated into the Rules of Court. Competency Standards in Civil Cases; the cases of In re Elijah C., In re Santiago G., and In re Alexandria L., et al were among the subjects of mini-CLEs.

CLE

The Section sponsored "Psychological Evaluations." The presenters were Marilou Giovanucci from the State Judicial Branch, Barbara Berkowitz and Rodolfo Rosado, psychologists approved by the State to conduct court ordered evaluations. The program was held on September 18, 2014.

Legislative Efforts

This Section takes as its primary core responsibility the monitoring of legislation pertaining to its mission statement. Consistent with this responsibility, an agenda item for every meeting has been the legislative watch list. The Section's executive committee monitors legislation which impacts the areas of law related to the Section's mission. The Section took a position on HB 5505. The section sought authorization to oppose HB5505. On March 13, 2015, the CBA Executive Committee authorized this position.

Other Programs, Events, and Activities

This Section continues to explore ways for child protection lawyers to advance their professional objectives. The Section held meetings in various venues to encourage attendance and renew interest in the mission of the Section. The Section executive committee unanimously voted to open the monthly meetings to all members of the CBA and further discussed opening certain future meetings to all lawyers. The Section will hold a "Meet and Greet," Social/Networking Event on May 14, 2015.

COMMERCIAL FINANCE SECTION

Thomas J. Welsh, Chair

Purpose

The Commercial Finance Section is intended to promote the educational and professional objectives of the Connecticut Bar Association within the practice area of commercial finance, which includes the substantive topics of commercial law, finance law and transactions, real estate finance law and associated topics in the law of contracts, administrative law, enforcement and remedies in litigation and otherwise and bankruptcy law.

Annual Report

The Section was formed in the summer of 2013 and started slowly. The Section's first dinner meeting of the 2014-2015 'academic season' was held on October 1, 2014 in New Haven. An Executive Committee Meeting was also scheduled prior to the dinner meeting. The dinner lecture was titled "A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE UNIFORM CERTIFICATE OF TITLE ACT ADOPTED IN 2014 IN CONNECTICUT -- EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2016" and the speaker was Thomas J. Welsh of Brown & Welsh, P.C. [This presentation reported on the work of the Section (formerly Committee) and its members on the Connecticut Law Revision Advisory Committee on the drafting and adoption by the State of Connecticut of the Uniform Certificate of Title for Vessels Act (UCOTVA) drafted by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. With the support of the Section and testimony by Section Chair Welsh in three sessions of the General Assembly, this act was adopted as P.A. 14-63.]

The second dinner meeting of the Section was held on October 22, 2014 in New Haven and members of the Young Lawyers Section were invited to attend. The dinner lecture was titled " 'BOTTOMS UP' – CONSIDERATIONS IN BUYING, SELLING, FINANCING AND LIQUIDATING COLLATERAL IN CONNECTICUT LIQUOR-RELATED TRANSACTIONS AND BUSINESSES" and the speaker was Peter Berdon of Berdon, Young & Margolis, P.C.

The final dinner meeting of the Section was held on November 19, 2014 jointly with the Environmental Law Section and members of the Young Lawyers, Business Law and Commercial Law & Bankruptcy Section were also invited to attend. This was an extremely well-attended dinner meeting and the program received excellent comments. The dinner lecture was titled "WHAT CONNECTICUT BUSINESS AND FINANCE LAWYERS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CONNECTICUT ENVIRONMENTAL, BROWNFIELDS & REMEDIATION REGULATION" and the speakers were Nancy K. Mendel of Winnick Ruben Hoffnung Peabody & Mendel, LLC., Alfred E. Smith, Jr. of Murtha Cullina LLP and Erin Dorman of Webster Bank, N.A.

The Section, together with the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section, had obtained permission from the Connecticut Bar Association to support the adoption of the 2012 revisions to UCC Article 4A (Funds Transfers) drafted by the American Law Institute and National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws – which corrects potential problems in coordination between the UCC provisions and the federal Electronic Fund Transfer Act of 1978 (Title XX, Public Law 95-630, 92 Stat. 3728, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1693 et. seq.) resulting from recent changes to the federal law. Section Chair Thomas J. Welsh testified and presented written materials on behalf of the Committee and the Section before the Joint Committee on Banks in last year's session on March 11, 2014. These revisions to UCC Article 4A were not passed before the end of the 2014 Session and were reintroduced in the 2015 session and Section Chair Welsh again testified and presented written materials in support of this bill before the Joint Committee on Judiciary on February 25, 2015 – which bill was approved by the Judiciary Committee and is pending approval by the General Assembly.

Members of the Section are currently working on an update to the Connecticut comparative law chapter in the book titled COMMERCIAL LENDING LAW: A STATE BY STATE GUIDE, which was published by the American Bar Association in 2009

under the auspices of the ABA Business Law Section. Committee members Michael F. Maglio, James C. Schulwolf, R. Jeffrey Smith and Thomas J. Welsh collaborated on the drafting of the Connecticut chapter as a project of the earlier Commercial Finance Committee and are authoring the revision. We expect that this update will be completed for publication by the American Bar Association in 2015.

Finally, a Nominating Committee, comprised of the former Committee Chairs and the current Section Chair, nominated a slate of candidates for the positions of Chair of the Section (recommendation to the CBA President, as the appointing authority) and for Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer. The Executive Committee has approved these recommendations by unanimous consent. These appointments will be effective at the Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Bar Association and comprise a full slate of Section officers under the By-Laws of the Section.

CONSTRUCTION LAW SECTION

Brian J. Donnell, Chair

Purpose

The purpose of the Construction Law Section is to bring together those CBA members practicing in the fields of construction and design law to discuss the current issues affecting this practice area, to educate that membership on the legal issues affecting those rapidly developing topics, and to foster collegial relationships between those practicing attorneys and the members of the construction industry.

Annual Report

During the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the Construction Law Section continued its long-standing tradition of presenting informative programs to its members and to the construction industry at large.

On September 17, 2014, the Section and Executive Committee met in a joint session and charted the Section's course for the fiscal year addressing, among other topics, the Section programs to be offered, developments with the CBA website and scholarship program, and the Section's legislative positions regarding mandatory ADR provisions in some construction contracts, pass-through claims by subcontractors on State projects, False Claims Act issues, and the implications of the holdings in the recent *State of Connecticut v. Lombardo Bros. Mason Contractors, Inc., et al* case. In particular there was a Panel discussion focusing on the planned legislative efforts to establish a statute of limitations for the State and its political subdivisions in making claims for construction and design issues on construction projects, and thereby overturn the Nullum Tempus doctrine that was applied in the *Lombardo* case. Finally, capping an effort covering many months, the Section unanimously approved the revised Bylaws of the Section that were later approved by the CBA's Board of Governors on November 17, 2014.

On October 22, 2014, the Section and Executive Committee met in a joint session and sponsored the Section's seventh annual program, in association with the Construction Management Department at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) in New Britain, entitled "Construction Documentation—How Developments in Technology are Changing Management of Projects and Legal Disputes." The subject matter included: 1) developments in progress photos and how they can be used to remotely monitor projects and document or defend against legal claims; 2) how new technologies will expand and enhance as-built-documentation; and 3) the use of 3-D laser surveying and how it will facilitate the design of both new construction and renovation projects, and better enable the use of BIM technology. The dinner meeting was attended by Section members, students, and faculty members from the CCSU Construction Management Program.

Approximately 14 years ago, the Section established a scholarship fund at CCSU to benefit undergraduate students in the Construction Management or Civil Engineering Programs. The Section was pleased to once again enhance the available scholarship money, and enable the University to provide scholarships sponsored by our Section to two students in the current academic year and with plans to continue the scholarships in the future. On March 25, 2015 the CCSU Foundation gratefully acknowledged the receipt from the Section of an additional \$1,600.00 to help fund those two scholarships in addition to the income generated from the prior investments in the scholarship fund.

On January 21, 2015, the Executive Committee met jointly with the Section and presented a program on "No Damage for Delay Clauses" including their enforceability, the common law exceptions and the impact of the Connecticut Supreme Court's decision in the *C&H Electric v. Town of Bethel* decision. The program was well-received and was well-attended by Section members.

On February 11, 2015, the Executive Committee met jointly with both the Construction and ADR Sections of the CBA. Speakers from both Sections made presentations on the use of ADR mechanisms to resolve disputes in construction and other situations. The topics included: 1) ADR options and their differences; 2) mediator/arbitrator selection processes; 3) mediation techniques and presentations; 4) early intervention mediation; 5) risk assessment and ADR; 6) types of ADR clauses; and 7) options for ADR providers.

The Construction Section, carrying on a longstanding and valuable annual project, the Section once again committed to produce during May 2015 its annual *Construction Case Law Summary*, detailing important court decisions and legislative developments that affected the construction industry in Connecticut during 2014. This extensive analysis and compilation of materials—amassed and edited by about 20 Section members—will be made available online as a resource for all Section members. In addition it was decided that the annual presentation of this material would be made on June 15, 2015 at the CBA Legal Conference.

On April 22, 2015, the Executive Committee met to endorse a new slate of Officers for the next two fiscal years which was unanimously approved under the new Bylaws. Effective July 1, 2015, the current Chair, Brian J. Donnell, will become an Ex Officio Member of the Executive Committee; the current Vice Chair, Mark A. Rosenblum, will become the Chair; the current Secretary, Thomas G. Librizzi, will become Vice Chair; Donald Doeg will become the Secretary with the vacancy in the Treasurer's position; and the new Treasurer will be Michael J. Donnelly.

On the legislative front, the Section and Executive Committee—with authorization from the CBA—pursued the adoption of Senate Bill 1032, "an Act Concerning the Applicability of Statute of Limitations to Construction and Design Actions Brought by the State or a Political Subdivision of the State." The Section worked hard with other industry groups to convince the Judiciary Committee to vote the Bill out of committee by 43 to 0 and members of the Section were all urged to contact their legislators to prod its passage this year.

The final event of the fiscal year will be on June 15, 2015 at the CBA Legal Conference when the annual *Construction Case Law Summary* will be presented to the Section and all other CBA members who attend.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SECTION

Alan J. Sobol, Chair

Purpose

The purpose of the Criminal Justice Section is to promote the objects of the Connecticut Bar Association within the field of the administration of criminal justice. The Section provides a forum for the discussion of issues of common interest to members of the Judiciary and both the criminal defense bar and those who serve with state prosecuting authorities.

Annual Report

In furtherance of the above stated purpose, the Section conducts meetings throughout the year in order to explore and discuss issues and legislation relevant to the field of the administration of criminal justice. At such meetings, a guest speakers address topics of current interest to both prosecution and defense. The Section also tracks Connecticut legislative developments relevant to the criminal law. Certain members of the Section serve on a criminal legislation committee that is developing a common agenda concerning reform of the criminal justice system. Section members also serve on the by-laws committee and are conducting a review and considering possible changes to update the by-laws. Section members also serve on the speakers and educational committee to plan meeting topics and the CBA annual meeting seminar.

The Criminal Justice Section has held numerous dinner meetings throughout the year to explore and discuss issues relevant to the Section's purpose. Speakers who have presented or are scheduled to present on issues within their jurisdiction or areas of expertise include the following:

Mark A. Dubois, Attorney	Former Chief Disciplinary Counsel and Past CBA President
The Honorable William M. Rubenstein	Commissioner, Department of Consumer Protection
Elizabeth S. Tanaka, Attorney	Hartford Assistant State's Attorney
Brian Carlow, Attorney	Deputy Chief Public Defender
The Honorable Juliett L. Crawford	Judge, Superior Court
Deirdre M. Daly, Attorney	United States Attorney
The Honorable Anne C. Dranginis	Retired Judge; Private Practice
Tara L. Knight, Attorney	Private Practice
Shelley R. Sadin, Attorney	Quinnipiac University Law School
The Honorable Hope C. Seeley	Judge, Superior Court
Susan O. Storey, Attorney	Chief Public Defender
The Honorable Richard N. Palmer	Justice, Supreme Court
The Honorable Andrew J. McDonald	Justice, Supreme Court

The Section served as a co-sponsor with the YLS for the Woman Trailblazers in Criminal Law presentation and has invited other sections to attend presentations on topics relevant to them.

Additionally, the Section has continued to monitor and receive information from members regarding legislation that relates to criminal justice issues.

The Section's criminal legislation subcommittee is also considering drafting legislative proposals concerning reform of Connecticut's grand jury system, in conjunction with the State Grand Jury Reform Task Force.

The Section Chair in collaboration with the criminal legislation committee presented testimony to the Judiciary Committee on Senate Bill 796, "An Act Concerning Lengthy Sentences For Crimes Committed by a Child or Youth and the Sentencing of a Child or Youth Convicted of Certain Felony Offenses."

From time to time, upon request by the CBA, the Section has responded to media inquiries during the year concerning developments in the criminal law (i.e., body cameras, warrant affidavit sealing, constitutionality of tracking devices).

The Section's Executive Committee, after input from Section members, voted to: 1) Support proposed Rules of Professional Conduct changes regarding medical marijuana; and 2) Oppose the CBA filing an amicus curia brief regarding firearm legislation.

COMMERCIAL LAW AND BANKRUPTCY SECTION

Evan S. Goldstein, Chair

Purpose

Section 2 of the By-Laws of the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section states that the purpose of this Section “shall be to promote objectives of the Connecticut Bar Association...within the field of Commercial Law and Bankruptcy.” The Section seeks to implement this general purpose by regular meetings to promote the education of its members in the commercial law and bankruptcy areas, the promotion of good relations among the members who practice in these areas, the ethical practice of law in the commercial law and bankruptcy fields, and good relationships between the Section and the bench before whom it practices.

Annual Report

Evan S. Goldstein, Chair of Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section. Terms of the Officers expire in July 2016.

Jessica Grossarth, Vice-Chair of Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section

Thomas Sansone, Treasurer and Secretary of Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section

Programs/ Continuing Legal Education Committee: Jeffrey Sklarz, Patrick Linsey and Erin Boatman

State Legislation Committee: Joanna Kornafel, Derek Phelps and Ashley Calabrese

The Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section has been very active and has had a very good year (2014/2015).

In September 2014 at the Milford Yacht Club, the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section had Judge Dabrowski, Judge Shea and Judge Aurigemma offered their observations about effective advocacy in their respective courtrooms and “Five Things You Need to Know About Practicing in My Court.”

On October 23, 2014, prior to the our section meeting, the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section held our Executive Committee meeting at the Q-Club. Later that same evening, Attorney Linsey and Attorney Boatman presented to our section regarding jurisdictional issues in Bankruptcy Court, *Stern v. Marshal* case and the *Wellness* case.

In November 2014, Dr. Ed Altman, Professor of Finance at NYU's Stern School of Business presenting to the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy and Business Law Sections in a Joint Meeting at the New Haven Lawn Club.

On November 17, 2015, I attended the CT Bar Institute (“Institute”) meeting in Bridgeport. A motion to authorize the CBA Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section to utilize the Institute’s charitable 501(c)(3) qualifications for one-year to assist with the proposed Pro Bono Local Rule, hold monies raised by our Section and administer monies for costs and expenses for attorneys’ fees approved by the Bankruptcy Court was made. The motion was seconded. Thereafter, a question was raised whether our Section had received a tax opinion on this subject and whether the Institute’s 501(c)(3) status would be jeopardized if audited. The motion on the table (as set forth above) was amended and became subject to Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section obtaining a tax opinion that would represent that the Institute’s 501(c)(3) designation would not be lost and there would be no violation under the IRC should the Institute “sponsor” our Section for this pro bono purpose. Thereafter, Attorney Smolnik and I met with D. Brown and Atty Dubois at CBA in New Britain regarding tax exemption and opinion letter. We continue to work through the process and protocol.

On November 21, 2015, our section Officers and Chief Judge Manning, Judge Shiff and Judge Dabrowski met in New Haven. We discussed (i) Administration of the cases at the Office of The United States Trustee Giamo Federal

Building are continuing to be delayed or rescheduled because attorneys and debtors cannot get to the 341 meetings of the creditors on time due to the lengthy security lines; (ii) The no continuance rule is unclear and appears to be inconsistent throughout the different Bankruptcy Courts. A local rule codifying the standards and requirements would be helpful in understanding what constitutes cause and clarifies the exceptions; (iii) The Bar suggested that a Local Rule setting forth an objection and response deadline would be well received and beneficial; (iv) The Notice of Bankruptcy Case, Meeting of Creditors and Deadlines contains the Debtor's full social security number. Please advise if the Clerks' office can include only the last four numbers of the Debtor's social security number so to avoid unscrupulous actors from using the information for nefarious purposes. Counsel and Debtor's are concerned about privacy issues; (v) Are the Bankruptcy Courts considering updating its technology systems (i.e., monitors and screens in the courtroom that rise to the same level of the District Courts.); (vi) Is there Wi-Fi in the Bankruptcy Courts to accommodate the technology usage?; (vii) If a Chapter 11 case is jointly administered and a creditor files an appearance in the main case, and the Debtor subsequently submits its amended schedules in a related/associated case, will the creditor who filed an appearance in the main Chapter 11 case receive ecf/notices and notice of the amended schedules.

In December 2014, the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section and the Turnaround management Association had a Joint Holiday Event at the Q-Club.

In January, our section received the consent from the widow of the late Robert L. Krechevsky to use his name to honor him and to hold monies received for the proposed Pro Bono Local Rule. The Fund will be named the Robert L. Krechevsky Pro Bono Fund and will hold monies donated to CT Bar Institute for the reimbursement of costs and expenses of litigation in a pro bono matter.

On February 12, 2015, prior to our section meeting, the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section held our Second Executive Committee meeting at UKS. The Executive Committee Meeting was followed by a presentation of our Legislative Committee and a UConn v. Tulsa basketball game at the XL Center. Motions were made in the Executive Committee session to amend Bylaws regarding annual dues being raised from \$35 to \$45 and Pro Bono Expense Committee and Protocol for Reimbursement.

On March 2015, our section had a panel of Hon. Barbara Bellis, Hon. Lynda Munro and Jay Sandak regarding mediation and effectiveness of ADR. The Event was held at the Riverview Bistro in an effort to appeal to Fairfield and Stamford attorneys. Section voted in favor of increasing the annual dues being and Pro Bono Expense Committee and Protocol for Reimbursement.

On April 20, 2015, the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section coordinated Judge Dabrowski's Portrait Unveiling and Retirement Ceremony at the Marriott Downtown Hartford. Almost two hundred Judges, attorneys and friend and family of Judge Dabrowski attended this monumental event.

On April 27, 2015, Judge Manning, Attorneys Sklarz, Kindseth and White presented a CLE regarding the Fundamentals in Adversary Proceedings at the Graduate Club in New Haven. I moderated the event. Approximately 60-people attended the CLE.

The Commercial Law and Bankruptcy (Attorney Roberta Napolitano) is coordinating a presentation with the Insurance Section for the CBA Annual Meeting and the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section will be presenting (Patrick Linsey, Jonathan Kaplan and Erin Boatman) the year in review related to commercial and bankruptcy related case law recently decided.

Our section is also attempting to coordinate an outing at the Rock Cats in June 2015. In addition, the Officers are trying to coordinate a follow-up meeting with the Judges in July. We are also in preliminary discussions with Gary Gfellar regarding the appointment of Judge Nevins to the Bankruptcy Court bench and the investiture. The Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section has also formed a separate committee to coordinate a fund raiser for the Robert L. Krechevsky Pro Bono Fund that will be held sometime in the summer of 2015 or fall.

EDUCATION LAW SECTION

Winona Zimmerlin, Chair

Purpose

The Education Law Section brings together education lawyers to discuss matters of mutual interest. Lawyers who practice in the area of special education or labor law, hearing officers, litigators, lawyers who are teachers, and school administrators are members. Section members represent boards, parents, and teachers.

Annual Report

April 29, 2015

Section Accomplishments

We reached out to the Young Lawyers Section, offering them free meals at our meetings.

We sponsored a seminar program on School Attendance. Offering this program at a discounted fee dramatically increased attendance. Bet Gailor was appointed as our new Education Liaison.

Attorney Christon Kurker-Stewart from the Office of Higher Education led a presentation on complaints against post-secondary institutions.

We are planning a meeting in June, which will be our annual legislative wrap up. We will also plan for next year's CLE program on Athletics and the Schools.

ELDER LAW SECTION

Peter J. Boorman, Chair

Purpose

The purpose of the Elder Law Section is to bring together those CBA members practicing in the elder law field or who are interested in the legal problems of the elderly. Discussion of current issues affecting this practice area, education of the section membership and the general public on legal issues involving the elderly and fostering relationships among attorneys who practice in this field are primary purposes of this section.

Annual Report

Peter J. Boorman, Esq., Chairperson
Amy Todisco, Esq., Vice Chairperson
Paula Boa Sousa, Esq., Treasurer
Margaret M. Murphy, Esq., Secretary

Members of the Elder Law Section continue to engage in a wide range of activities designed to further enhance the practice in this area of law and improve the lives of those we represent. Substantive monthly educational presentations, continuing legal education programs, appointment of work groups to address topics of interest and concern, regulatory and legislative advocacy efforts, and continued service to our veteran's all help to achieve the purpose of our Section. Elder Law Section continues to collaborate with Legal Services to recruit private attorneys to accept pro bono referrals of low income elders.

Consistent with its prior practice, the Section continues to open its monthly meetings to the entire Section membership. (All meetings are noticed as Executive Committee meetings for voting purposes under the Section's bylaws.) Over the past year the Elder Law Section provided educational presentations to the Section on issues such as: 1) Presenting the Contested Probate Case: Will Contests, Conservatorships and Fiduciary Litigation 2) Medicaid update – view from DSS 3) Reverse Mortgage update 4) Understanding Social Security: 5) Adding value to an Elder Law Practice 6) Uniform Power of Attorney Act – proposed legislation 10) Aid in Dying – proposed legislation 11) Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act – proposed legislation.

Continuing Legal Education (CLE)

Chaired by Laurel Mangan, Esq.

The Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Committee consists of Laurel Mangan, Esq., Deborah Hadaway, Esq., Joy Maini, Esq., Jeannine Lewis, Esq. and Amy Orlando, Esq.

In addition to assisting with the selection of monthly meeting topics and identification of speakers, the CLE Committee continues to coordinate an Elder law Section presentation for the CBA Annual Meeting program.

Legislative Workgroup

Chaired by Amy Todisco, Esq.

The Elder Law Section continues to vigorously engage in relevant legislative and regulatory advocacy on the State level. Our emphasis continues to be a positive engagement with our lobbyists, legislators and members of the Department of Social Services to advance the concerns of our existing elders, future elders and their caregivers. Amy

Todisco, Esq., coordinates this workgroup, made up of Sandra Sherlock-White, Esq., Paula Boa Sousa, Esq., Steve Allaire, Esq. and Peter J. Boorman, Esq. Various other Section members participate on an issue by issue basis.

Major areas of effort continue to include:

1. Advocate for the Uniform Power of Attorney Act.
2. Advocate for the Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act.
3. Advocate for the increase of the community spouse protected amount - Under the Medicaid program, it is sound public policy to increase the amount of assets allowed for the spouse who remains in the community to promote his/her ability to successfully remain in the community instead of being put in a position of need and therefore necessitating additional social welfare.
4. Advocate for the approval of appropriate regulations from the Department of Social Services to implement provisions of the Federal Deficit Reduction Act.
5. Advocate for an increase of the personal needs allowance for nursing home residents on Medicaid.
6. Advocate for an increase of home care services for the elderly and individuals with disabilities.
7. Advocate for a pilot program to implement the use of medical orders for life sustaining treatment (MOLST)
8. Advocate for the passage of legislation to establish Aid in Dying legislation.
9. Advocate for the passage of legislation to establish ABLE accounts.
10. Oppose elimination of the Commission on Aging.
11. Oppose DSS proposed regulations that would change the calculation of interest on life estate issues and expand the state's recovery for medical assistance benefits paid to include claims against life uses.
12. Oppose the current version of Senate Bill 1005 in that the current language creates significant adverse unintended consequences for families of elder citizens. As such we look to work with the sponsors to address attempts to recognize the issues and address accordingly.
13. Oppose the addition of new grounds for the discharge of the elderly from nursing homes.

During the 2015 legislative session, Section members have and continue to present written and oral testimony to legislators on bills as they work their way through the legislature. The Section utilizes the services of our lobbyists, Bill Chapman and Bob Shea on frequent occasions. All of these measures are designed to promote the areas discussed above.

Aid in Dying Workgroup

Chaired by Sandra Sherlock White, Esq.

This group was established in 2014 to address proposed legislation in the 2014 legislative session. Although that legislation did not pass, the Elder Law Section made it a priority to address because of the expected return in the 2015 Session. Our initial inquiry was whether we as a Section thought it appropriate to take a position on the topic. The Section agreed it was. Our second inquiry was what should that position be? Two monthly meetings were dedicated to the topic. Presentations were provided to the Section by the work group who consisted of James Young, Esq., Deborah Tedford, Esq., Mark Dost, Esq., Margaret Murphy, Esq. and Sandra Sherlock White, Esq. Coordination with the Human Rights Section resulted in an approved CBA position.

DRA Workgroup

Chaired by Amy Todisco and Brendan Daly

This group was first established in the Fall of 2006 to address implementation of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA) by presenting synopses of the law, liaising with DSS, and leading the advocacy effort to challenge DSS' proposed regulations promulgating the DRA before the legislative Regulations Review Committee. Due to the Section's leadership during the past several years, our seniors in Connecticut have a strong and enduring voice in legislation and public policy particularly as it impacts their benefits. The Section's perseverance, determination, and time commitment is unparalleled in the history of the Section and its work embraces the purpose of our Section.

As noted above, Section members continue to invest substantial advocacy time focused on the DRA-related revisions to the Uniform Policy Manual that were proposed by DSS. This effort resulted in the rejection of proposed DSS

regulations by the Regulations Review Committee of the legislature and a directive from the Regulations Review Committee to DSS to meet with all stakeholders to address the issues concerning DSS's proposed regulations. Legislative advocacy efforts by the DRA Workgroup are continuing to ensure that the final regulations comport with law. Because of the delay in the regulatory process, the Workgroup looked to legislative advocacy in 2012 to address an issue of particular concern. As a result of our advocacy, we were able to support the adoption of a bill that was passed into law that establishes the right for individuals to receive benefits even though previously denied if undue hardship exists.

This effort has lasted for more than eight years due to the delay in the final adoption of the DRA regulations. Certain critical issues remain contested and will eventually come before the legislature's regulations review committee.

Certification and Specialization Study Group

In 2010, the Section began addressing a request before the Rules Committee of the Superior Court by the Connecticut Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (CT NAELA). Its request sought to amend Rule 7.4(e) of the Rules of Professional Conduct to define Elder Law as a field in which an attorney may be certified as a specialist. The Section continues to explore implementation with an emphasis on testing issues for certification.

ENERGY, PUBLIC UTILITY, AND COMMUNICATIONS LAW SECTION

Michael A. Chowaniec, Chair

Purpose

As was the case last year, one of our Section's main focuses was education and programming. Because energy, utility and communications law is complex and ever-changing, our members seek out educational opportunities at every turn, and the Section meetings provide a convenient way to provide this service to our members. In addition to allowing for collegiality and discussion among the members, our speakers provide the Section with up-to-date information that members can use for their practice.

Annual Report

Our programming year began in November, with guest speaker the Honorable George Jepsen. Mr. Jepsen is the newly-reelected Attorney General of the State of Connecticut. The Attorney General discussed his first-term successes and outlined major issues he is seeking to address in the upcoming year. We co-hosted the event with the Center for Energy & Environmental Law on the campus of the University of Connecticut's School of Law. In addition to our Section, school faculty members and many students attended the meeting. We were very pleased to work with the Center to organize informal networking sessions with our members— provided a great opportunity for students to gain a first-hand perspective from active practitioners. The Section plans to partner with the Center again on another event in the fall of 2015.

In January, the Section hosted a joint meeting with the Connecticut Power and Energy Society and invited the leadership of the Legislature's Energy & Technology Committee to address our members. Senate Co-Chairman Paul Doyle, House Co-Chairwoman Lonnie Reed, and Ranking Members Senator Paul Formica and Representative Tim Ackert participated in the event. The Committee leaders outlined their agenda for the upcoming session, and discussed various pending energy-related issues (ex. solar power). Following their presentations, the legislators engaged the audience in a robust question-and-answer period.

Our last meeting of the year will occur in June. We have invited recently reappointed Department of Energy & Environmental Protection Commissioner Rob Klee, and his Deputy Commissioner for Energy, Katie Dykes, to meet with our Section. We expect that the Commissioners will address their current priorities and pending issues of interest (ex. electric and natural gas infrastructure planning). At previous meetings, both of them have been very engaging, willing to spend a great deal of time addressing questions from Section members.

It is also important that we highlight two important governance-related issues that were addressed this year. First, the Section is now operating under a revised set of bylaws that were formally adopted by the CBA leadership in the fall of 2014. Second, the Section's Executive Committee is circulating a brief survey to the membership to elicit their input on future programming, meeting format/venue options and various other organizational issues. The objective of the survey is to obtain new ideas, assess our responsive to the needs of the Section. We plan to discuss the survey results at our June meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SECTION

Keith R. Ainsworth, Chair

Purpose

The purpose of this section shall be to safeguard and enhance conservation and environmental quality; to promote the objectives of the CBA relative to environmental law; to promote the practice of environmental law, including compliance with the Rules of Professional Conduct; to foster relationships among attorneys with an interest in conservation and environmental law; to offer opportunities for discussion of an exchange of information about current issues; to aid in the drafting, review, and interpretation of legislation and regulations; to assist with education of the general public, the news media, and others about conservation and environmental law; and to undertake such other activities as the section or the CBA may deem appropriate.

Annual Report

Section Meetings

A. September 23, 2014: The Graduate Club- “Clyde Fisher Award Presentation.” The Section held a meeting in New Haven at which it awarded the Clyde Fisher award to Edward Albrecht of Trout Unlimited for his work in establishing the Trout in the Classroom program in Connecticut schools.

B. October 15, 2014: The Hartford Club - “Evening Discussion with the DEEP Commissioner” The Section held a meeting at which Commissioner Robert Klee, Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, addressed his priorities for the Department’s year including the Transformation and the Risk Based Assessment Self Evaluation which was in aid of making the Significant Environmental Hazards and the RSR’s more attuned to risk-based standards, and also took questions on a number of topics of interest to the section.

C. November 19, 2014: Quinnipiac Club – New Haven- Joint Meeting with the Commercial Finance – The ELS presented a panel of two attorneys (Nancy Mendel and Al Smith) and a bank lending specialist from Webster Bank (Erin Dorman) to discuss the challenges of lending on commercial properties impaired by contamination, including loan documentation, the use of Phase I’s and other transactional advice. The section held an Executive Committee Meeting the sole agenda item being endorsement of a potential legislative fix to Conn.Gen.Stat. §8-8(l) to add in language which would expressly allow for remand as an option for a reviewing court.

D. December 18, 2013: The section met informally for a holiday gathering at Dakota Steak House in Rocky Hill’s. Those in attendance discussed various aspects of the practice of environmental law.

E. January 16, 2015: Due to extreme snowfall and low temperatures, the section declined to hold a January meeting.

F. February, 2015: “A Connecticut Legislative Update with the Co-Chairs of the Legislature’s Environment Committee.” The Section met at the UConn Law School with the Center for Energy and Environmental Law (Joseph A. MacDougald, Professor-in-Residence and Executive Director). Senator Ted Kennedy, Jr. and Rep. James Albis gave an update regarding the various bills before the Environmental Committee of the legislature. An executive committee meeting was held to approve the section’s new By-Laws and to nominate the Executive Committee.

G. March 27, 2015: Gordon Brookman and Rich Derosiers of GZA GeoEnvironmental gave a presentation on High Resolution Site Characterization (HRSC) techniques. An Executive Committee meeting was held to nominate the new

officers for 2015-2017 - Christopher McCormack, Chair-elect, Anne Peters, Vice Chair-elect, and Lee Hoffman, Secretary-elect.

H. April 23, 2015: "Conservation Easements – Using the Model and Enforcement Issues" Keith Ainsworth (section chair) and Linda Francois will present a program to the section on the various considerations in creating and managing conservation easements.

I. May, 2015 – The section will hold a meeting with a program that is yet to be determined at the time of this report.

J. June, 2015: We will have our annual summer outing.

Executive Committee Meetings

See above.

CLE

A. Maureen Hanley-Bellitto, and section members United Bank, Emilee Mooney Scott, M. Anne Peters, Christopher P. McCormack (moderator) will present a CLE at the June 16th CBA Legal Conference entitled "Decontaminating the Deal: A Transactional Lawyer's Guide to Buying, Selling and Financing Contaminated Property."

Legislative Efforts

The Section took a position in support of SB1033 which in part proposed giving authority to a superior court judge hearing an appeal under Conn.Gen.Stat. §8-8(l) and §22a-43 to remand cases back to the agency where the agency has failed to consider an issue. It is the section's position that the authority to remand is a tool necessary to the efficient administration of justice as well as public and private resources. Under current law, the Superior Court does not have the express statutory authority to remand a case back to an agency to consider issues that it may have neglected to consider in its deliberations.

As a result, the courts are left with the option of overturning the decision requiring a re-start of the local agency proceeding from the beginning which results in unnecessary costs and time for applicants, agencies and the public. Individual members of the section have submitted both written and oral testimony on a number of bills this session.

Volunteer Activities

None by the Section as a whole, but some members of the section have donated significant time to pro-bono or public and charitable efforts.

Budgetary Notes

The section began the year with a healthy balance of \$14,737.83 and as of March 31, 2014 (the latest report available at the time of this report) the section treasury held a balance of \$11,872.27. The section made an effort to make attendance attractive to newer attorneys by using section funds to reduce the price of several section program meetings.

ESTATES AND PROBATE SECTION

Amy L. Y. Day, Chair

Purpose

The mission of the Estates and Probate Section is to focus on all issues affecting wills, estates, trusts, guardianships, conservatorships, powers of attorney, living wills, health care documents and probate litigation, as well as estate, gift and income taxes. The section promotes sound public policy and best professional practices.

Annual Report

We started off the year trying to get acclimated to the new CBA website, which was difficult for many of our members and continues to be a challenge for some. At the end of December, we had to say goodbye to our much loved old listserv and are now trying to work with the Forums portion of the new website as a substitute. This new technology does have some advantages, but is still difficult for some. Hopefully, as members become more familiar with this new technology we will be able to appreciate its benefits.

Last fall, we were invited by the Connecticut Supreme Court to submit an Amicus brief in the case of *Dinan v. Patten*. This turned out to be somewhat of a challenge due to the fact that so many firms in Connecticut had been involved in various stages of the case leading us to disqualify those Executive Committee members from those firms from participating in the process. Despite this fact and the very short time window for submission of the brief we were able to agree on the positions to be taken on two points of law posed to us by the Supreme Court and get the brief written on time. Particular thanks go to Richard Marone (and his colleagues at Murtha Cullina) and Kelley Galica Peck (and her colleagues at Robinson & Cole).

Over the past year, we held four Executive Committee meetings and four open Section meetings. Once again the severe winter weather resulted in us having to postpone an open Section meeting to the following month which then meant that we had to cancel one Executive Committee meeting. All of our meetings were held at the Quinnipiac Club in New Haven.

Our Open Section meetings and our Executive Committee meetings continued to have a strong CLE component. For our four open meetings, we had a presentation by Mary F. Radford, Marjorie Fine Knowles Professor of Law at Georgia State University College of Law on Representing Clients with Diminished Capacity, a program on Recent Developments in Connecticut Estate and Probate Law by Jeffrey A. Cooper, Professor of Law at Quinnipiac University School of Law and John R. Ivimey of Reid and Riege, a panel discussion on Probate Litigation presented by Douglas A. Brown of Brody Wilkinson and Robert I. Wyld of Shipman & Goodwin, and a presentation by Carolyn Reers, Managing Director for JP Morgan Private Bank on International Estate Planning Issues. In addition, the Executive Committee heard a presentation by Dara Goings from Rome McGuigan on Estate Planning and Divorce, a discussion of the Legislative Process by one of the CBA lobbyists, Robert F. Shea, Jr., a roundtable discussion with the Probate Court Administrator, The Honorable Paul J. Knierim, and a program on Trusteed IRAs by Ed Patterson and Paul Stauffer from Merrill Lynch.

The Section was also involved in sponsoring, along with the Tax Section, the Federal Tax Institute of New England. And will be putting on a program on Probate Court Accountings at the Law Conference in June.

In addition to CLE, we have been active in other ways as well. We have published two issues of our newsletter so far, including a special issue containing an article written by Frank S. Berall on Same Sex Marriage, and will be publishing a third edition of the newsletter shortly.

Our Integrity of the Practice/Pro Bono Subcommittee finished a draft of an updated manual on Court Appointed Attorneys in Courts of Probate. This draft is currently being reviewed by the rest of the Executive Committee and by the Elderlaw Section and the Probate Assembly. We would hope to have a final version approved shortly.

We again are having an extremely active year on the legislative front. We are actively pursuing, with the Elderlaw Section, the passage of the Uniform Power of Attorney Act which is still pending in the legislature as of the writing of this report. Many members of our section have been involved in testifying on this bill and meeting with legislators to clarify any questions that they have raised. In addition, we submitted the Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act and are currently trying to work with legislators to get a reduced version of this bill passed this year despite strong lobbying efforts by the internet industry in opposition to the bill.

I want to thank the many members of our Section who put in countless hours with all these activities this year.

FEDERAL PRACTICE SECTION

James R. Smart and Patrick A. Klingman, Co-chairs

Purpose

The Federal Practice Section (the “Section”) is involved with all aspects of practice in the federal courts in Connecticut. Working primarily with the federal district and magistrate judges, who are *ex officio* members of the Executive Committee, with the invaluable assistance of Clerk of Court Robin Tabora and Chief Deputy Clerk Dinah Milton Kinney, the Section seeks to create a forum for consultation and dialogue between members of the federal bar and the bench on issues of mutual interest, including rules and practice in the federal courts, relevant legislation, content for general meetings, presentations, and topics for the federal bench - bar conference. On its own or through its two main Committees (Civil Practice and Criminal Practice), the Section takes an active role in shaping and commenting on legal and procedural developments affecting federal practice.

Annual Report

On September 17, 2014, the Section’s new co-Chairs conducted their first Executive Committee meeting. Before a receptive audience of 26 members, in addition to reports from Chief Judge Hall and Clerk of Court Tabora, the co-Chairs laid out their plans for the remainder of the calendar year and beyond, as well as their long-term goals to become more financially stable through a combination of increased membership and slightly increased dues.

On October 17, 2014, the Section hosted its ninth annual Bench Bar Conference at St. Clement’s Castle in Portland, attended by approximately 200 federal practitioners and virtually all members of the District Court and Bankruptcy Court. Panel discussions focused on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, which included remarks from Sen. Richard Blumenthal, patent enforcement rights, and ethical issues in attorneys’ use of social media. Chief Judge Janet C. Hall gave remarks on the “State of the District” and Second Circuit Executive Karen Greve Milton provided an update on the “State of the Circuit.” Chief Judge Hall also presented the District’s Pro Bono Award to attorneys Antonio Ponvert and Thomas Farrish for their efforts representing pro bono clients before the District Court.

On November 12, 2014, the Section held an Executive Committee meeting at the Quinnipiac Club in New Haven, attended by approximately 25 members. Discussions included the recent Bench Bar Conference and the October 30, 2014 commemoration activities of the District’s 225th Anniversary, as well as the 100th Anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the Courthouse in New Haven. The latter celebration included the witty remarks by the Honorable José A. Cabranes, United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit Court of Appeals and former Connecticut District Court chief judge, and a fascinating keynote address by Professor John F. Witt, the Allen H. Duffy Class of 1960 Professor of Law at Yale Law School.

The Section’s next general meeting took place on January 21, 2015, when the Section co-hosted a reception with the New Haven County Bar Association (NHCBA) in honor of the appointment of the newest member of the Court, the Honorable Victor A. Bolden. Prior to his appointment, Judge Bolden had been President-elect of the NHCBA. Judge Bolden gave brief remarks and thanked those present. The reception, held at the Union League Café in New Haven, was well-attended by members of both the Section and the NHCBA, and provided a unique opportunity to not only socialize, but to recruit potential members to join the Section. The Section believes such collaborative events should be encouraged and facilitated in the future.

On March 3, 2015, the Section hosted a reception in honor of retiring Magistrate Judge Holly B. Fitzsimmons. The event was held at the New Haven Lawn Club and, despite a snow storm, was well attended, by 344 people. The sponsorships of a number of law firms were vital to the success of this event, enabling reasonable pricing, including a discounted “Clerk’s Office” rate. The event was thoroughly enjoyed by Judge Fitzsimmons and all her well-wishers.

On March 31, 2015, the Co-Chairs and numerous members attended the Court's open house in New Haven marking the retirement of Senior Judge Ellen Bree Burns. At the event, which was very well attended, the Section presented Judge Burns with a beautiful, framed photograph of her courtroom captioned with a plaque expressing the appreciation of the Section for Her Honor's many years of service. Section member Ethan Levin Epstein was instrumental in conceiving and arranging the creation of the gift.

The next general meeting of the Section was on April 22, 2015, at the Federal Courthouse in New Haven, and featured dinner followed by a CLE presentation entitled "Perspectives on 'Loss' for Purposes of Federal Sentencing," organized by members of the Section's Criminal Practice Committee (chaired by Brian Spear and Joseph Martini). 78 people attended, including a substantial number of federal prosecutors and public defenders. The panel discussion was highlighted by a lively discussion of loss calculation under the United States Sentencing Guidelines, which are applicable in federal criminal cases. A number of practitioners commented that the event was the most interesting panel discussion they had ever attended.

The Section, together with the Litigation Section, is presenting a panel discussion on effective trial advocacy at the 2015 Connecticut Legal Conference, and will have its annual social gathering at the Pine Orchard Club in Branford on June 17, 2015.

Since late last year, at the request of Chief Judge Hall, the Section's Civil Practice Committee (chaired by Jonathan Orleans and Adam Mocchiolo) has been involved in a comprehensive review and analysis of the District Court's Local Rules. It is believed to be the first "overhaul" of the Rules in at least a decade.

During the year, the Section considered and passed an amendment to its bylaws to raise the Section's annual dues from \$35 per person to \$45. The reasons for the change included allowing the Section to remain active in sponsoring activities and programs that were of interest to its membership, while keeping the annual dues in line with those paid by other Sections of the Connecticut Bar Association. The amendment passed unanimously at the April 22, 2015 meeting.

2015 - 2016 Officers

James R. Smart, co-Chair, McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP, Southport

Patrick A. Klingman, co-Chair, Klingman Law, LLC, Hartford

Robert Frost, Treasurer, Frost Bussert LLC, New Haven

James J. Healy, Secretary, Cowdery & Murphy, LLC, Hartford

Sherwin M. Yoder, Legislative Liaison, Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey LLP, New Haven

FRANCHISE, DISTRIBUTION, AND DEALER LAW SECTION

Nicole Liguori Micklich, Chair

Purpose

This section aims to provide (1) a forum in which those practicing in the field of franchise law can share ideas, continue their professional growth, and meet others who share the same professional interests; (2) an educational forum for those who may not practice in the field on a regular basis, but want to learn more about the field of franchising in order to better serve clients with needs in that area; and (3) a resource for groups outside the legal profession who want to learn more about the business, legal, and practical aspects of franchising.

Annual Report

May 8, 2015

This year the Section had more than two officers and a truly engaged membership. The year was a rebuilding one, and we are pleased. The Section has had two programs so far this year. The first included a presentation by two McCarter & English partners, including Dave Reif, immediate past chair, regarding joint employment in the franchise context. About fifteen individuals, including some who are not franchise section members, attended that event. This was a very good turnout relative to past events. The second program included presentations by Allan Hillman, past chair, and Melissa Durso, secretary, regarding franchise transfers and assignments. Over a dozen individuals attended that program, most of whom were section members. A QU Law student attended the program and we were pleased to have him join us, and look forward to adding him to our section next year. Both of those programs were held at the Quinnipiack Club in New Haven.

In early June the section will host a social event incentivized so that section members will bring colleagues or friends who are not section members, but might be interested in joining. This event is being planned with the help of our newly nominated membership liaisons, who are not going to wait for the next bar year to begin working for the section.

Next year we are hoping to have a joint program with the bankruptcy section, which was originally planned for this year, but the winter weather proved problematic. That program may be held on the new QU Law campus.

We are excited about next year, 2015-2016, our second year under the current section leadership, which the Executive Committee realizes has brought a renewed energy to the section. And, we are looking forward to then adding additional officers in the 2016-2017 bar year.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES SECTION

Barbara J. Collins, Chair

Purpose

The purpose of the Section is to promote the educational and professional objectives of the Connecticut Bar Association within the general field of civil and human rights and responsibilities, as well as the lawyer's role in the pursuit of such rights through the Rule of Law. The main forum for our efforts is the General Assembly.

Annual Report

Meetings

Meetings are always open to all Section members. The Section meets several times a year; but, generally, the Section communicates with its members via e-mail.

CLE

In 2014–2015, the Section has concentrated on monitoring legislation being proposed such as the death penalty and human trafficking. In addition in this legislative session we worked with members of the elder law section to ensure that the assisted suicide bill being contemplated protected the rights of the disabled community. We also continue to monitor the budget battles to ensure that the Commission on Human Rights and Responsibility (CHRO) retains adequate funding especially to handle all the discrimination complaints that it faces and the new responsibilities the Legislature imposes. We were disappointed in the outcome of the vote regarding the constitutional amendment to ease absentee ballots restrictions and continue to seek ways to ease voting for Connecticut citizens.

INSURANCE LAW SECTION

Regen O' Malley, Chair

Purpose

The Insurance Law Section, (the "Section" or "ILS"), includes approximately 195 members who represent the interests of insurance policyholders, insurance companies, and industry representatives in legal matters. The purpose of the Section is to promote the educational and professional objectives of the Connecticut Bar Association within the general field of insurance law, regulation, and practice.

Annual Report

Section Accomplishments

Much was accomplished this year by many members of the ILS working together. The Chair of the Section communicated with all section members on a regular basis through email and LinkedIn, keeping them informed of ILS activities and encouraging members to be active participants in Section activities.

Programs

We are pleased to report that by the conclusion of FY 2015, the ILS will have:

- Conducted four CLE programs;
- Hosted a dinner meeting with, and presentation by, the Deputy Insurance Commissioner;
- Co-Hosted two networking events;
- Held four Section meetings; and
- Held four Executive Committee meetings.

Legislative Efforts

Legislative review and communication efforts were well-coordinated, timely and comprehensive, resulting in a better-informed membership. Our Legislative Liaisons provided detailed electronic updates and written materials regarding pending legislative matters.

Notably, for the first time in the Section's history, the ILS took a position on proposed legislation. The legislation in question, HB 5195, was opposed by the Section as it would have done away with mandatory uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage in Connecticut. Bill Chapman of the CBA has reported to us that the legislation is effectively "dead," as it failed to make it out of the Judiciary Committee.

YLS Involvement

There was much more direct involvement and participation in the Section by the YLS contingent than in any past year. As a Section, we are effectively utilizing the resources available to both sections and are bridging the relationship to younger constituents in order to solidify our base for the future.

Membership

We increased our membership over last year by about 25 members and more than doubled LinkedIn participation over last year to 60 members.

Communication

Meeting minutes have consistently been posted to the CBA ILS website, and announcements and articles have been posted regularly to the Section's LinkedIn site.

2014-2015 Meetings and Events

These meetings and events held to date are as follows:

- **September 16, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting:** At the first executive committee meeting, the following elected officers were present: Regen O'Malley, Chair; Marilyn Fagelson, Vice-Chair, and Elizabeth Ahlstrand, Treasurer; and Gregory Podolak, Secretary. Ryan Suerth had no report for the Legislative Committee. Marilyn Fagelson, again serving on the Education Committee, presented on CLE ideas for the coming year, and two programs were decided on, including a winter program at UConn Law on claims handling, and a June (annual conference) program on bankruptcy and insurance issues. Section dues were discussed and it was agreed that dues would be kept to the minimum \$35. Regen O'Malley discussed planning for a networking event with the ILS and a presentation by the Insurance Department's Deputy Commissioner. Joseph Blyskal of the YLS discussed planning regarding a Cyber Risk CLE program. Additional goals and agendas for the fiscal year were also discussed such as a membership, LinkedIn and the new CBA website.
- **October 15, 2014 Section Meeting & Networking Event:** We held a Section meeting at Firebox in Hartford in advance of the first of two networking events with the YLS. The University of Connecticut School of Law also co-sponsored this event. About 35 attended. At the Section meeting, Section Chair, Regen O'Malley introduced herself to members. Attendees were informed regarding financials and meeting minutes from the EC meeting were approved. Legislative Liaisons, Assaf Ben-Atar and Theresa Guertin were introduced. Regen O'Malley and Greg Podolak reported on the upcoming November 3rd CLE on Cyber Risk Insurance and future planning of CLEs, including a winter program at UConn Law School and an insurance and bankruptcy-related program in June at the annual conference. Regen O'Malley also reported that the December 3, 2014 section Insurance Law Section meeting would take place at the Quinnipiac Club and feature the Deputy Insurance Commissioner Anne Melissa Dowling as the guest speaker. Attendees were also reminded of the Section's LinkedIn site and were welcomed to join the group. Finally, Regen O'Malley reported on the membership initiative undertaken by Steve Rogers.
- **November 3, 2014 CLE Program on Cyber Risk Insurance:** The ILS and YLS co-sponsored a 2.0 credit-hour CLE program, "Cyber Liability Insurance Coverage." The event was held at the CBA Law Center and focused on the types of insurance coverages for technology-related risks and common legal issues arising under traditional policies such as Commercial General Liability, Directors & Officers and Professional Liability, and about the new types of coverages available for cyber risks and how these policies respond to risks that traditional lines do not cover. Speakers included Section member and Secretary, Gregory D. Podolak of Saxe Doernberger & Vita PC, Hamden and Karen Imus Johnson of Travelers Insurance, in St. Paul, MN. Additionally, YLS Insurance Law Committee Co-Chair, Joseph Blyskal, of Gordon & Rees LLP's Glastonbury, CT office served as moderator.
- **December 3, 2014 Section Meeting & Presentation by Deputy Insurance Commissioner:** Section members were updated regarding Section finances and the CLE events planned for February and June 2015. Section Chair, Regen O'Malley, also the membership initiative and the need to increase geographic and other diversification of the Section. Regen also discussed a request from the CBA Standing Committee on Professionalism & CLE, for participation in the CBA Statewide Mentoring Program, and two members of the section volunteered. Subsequent to the Section meeting, Deputy Insurance Commissioner Anne Melissa Dowling spoke to the Section about topics of importance to Connecticut consumers and the insurance industry, including the insurance department's achievements and current agenda, legislative plans, the insurance department mediation program, federal regulatory issues affecting the insurance industry, new online access to insurer filings and other developing issues.
- **January 13, 2015 Executive Committee Meeting:** The EC approved prior meeting minutes and a financial report was given by Section treasurer, Elizabeth Ahlstrand. Co- Legislative Liaison, Assaf Ben-Atar gave a report on pending legislation concerning insurance law and indicated that written reports would be sent to the Section. Marilyn Fagelson reported on CLE planning, including progress on the February 6, 2015 "Symposium on

Insurance Claims Handling: Rights, Wrongs and Remedies” at UConn Law School. The EC voted to approve free tuition for all law students to attend this event. The EC also discussed planning of the Annual Review of Insurance-Related Case Law to be held in March and the June program to be co-sponsored with the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section. A discussion was also held on a networking event to be held in the spring. YLS ex-officio member, Bethany Barrese, agreed to assist with planning. It was noted that a volunteer was needed to replace Steve Rogers in the Section’s membership initiative. It was agreed that revitalization of the Disaster Relief Hotline would be discussed further at the next meeting.

- February 6, 2015 CLE Program:** The ILS sponsored a 3.0 credit-hour CLE “Symposium on Insurance Claims Handling: Rights, Wrongs and Remedies” at UCONN Law School. This program began with a primer on the submission of a claim and the processes used in claims handling of property and casualty claims presented by a third party administrator, broker and public adjuster. The panels then discussed claim handling errors and the wide range of remedies for improper claims handling under both common law and Connecticut statutory law. The Symposium concluded with a discussion of the role of the Connecticut Insurance Department in resolving disputes and overseeing insurance market conduct. Following the CLE program, we hosted a networking cocktail reception, which provided an opportunity for ILS members and students from the UCONN Insurance Law Program to socialize and network.
- March 2015 (various dates) Section Position on Legislation:** In March, Section Chair Regen O’Malley solicited and obtained feedback from the Section and EC regarding HB 5195, which had been voted out of committee and which, if passed, would eliminate mandatory uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage in Connecticut. The response was unanimously in favor of opposing the bill. Assaf Ben-Atar, Michael McCormack and Regen O’Malley worked to draft a position statement on behalf of the Section with feedback from the EC. Regen then participated in a meeting of the CBA’s Legislative Policy and Review Committee, which voted to allow the Section to take the proposed position. The CBA’s House of Delegates then voted to allow the Section to take the proposed position against HB 5195. Upon last report from Bill Chapman of the CBA, the legislation does not appear to be going anywhere.
- March 25, 2015 Section Meeting & CLE Program:** We held a dinner meeting at The Quinnipiac Club in New Haven. At the meeting, ILS members were updated regarding the ILS’s position HB 5195, CBA directives and members were asked to participate in updating and rejuvenating the Disaster Relief Hotline. Regen O’Malley of Gordon & Rees LLP and Edward McCreery of Pullman Comley, LLC presented an “Annual Review of Insurance-Related Case Law” from 2014. Additionally, Gerry Giaimo of Halloran & Sage, LLP and Susan Miller of O’Connell, Attmore & Morris, LLC presented Point-Counterpoint on the Connecticut Supreme Court case: *Travelers Casualty & Surety Company of America v. The Netherlands Insurance Company*, 312 Conn. 714 (2014). The event was attended by approximately 35 section members.
- April 23, 2015 Executive Committee Meeting:** The EC held a meeting by teleconference as is permitted by Section by-laws. This format was well-received, and it was decided that the final EC meeting of the year would be held on June 24, 2015 by teleconference as well. The conference was necessary to discuss CBA directives as well as the selection of officers for the coming bar year, EC membership, and the appointment of various liaison positions now required by the CBA. The EC was able to come to agreements on the same, and they are: Education Liaison - Marilyn Fagelson of Murtha Cullina; Legislative Liaisons – Assaf Ben-Atar of Pullman & Comley & Theresa Guertin of Saxe, Doernberger & Vita; Membership Liaisons – Janice Favreau of LEGO Corp. and Michael McCormack of O’Sullivan, McCormack, Jensen & Bliss, PC; Publicity Liaison – Brianna Spinnato of Biller, Raio & Zito; and Website Liaison – Brian Glenn of UConn Law School (student). New EC members will include Theresa Guertin, and Karen Cusato and Brian Glenn. The April 30, 2015 event was also discussed and volunteers were solicited to take shifts at the door greeting and signing in attendees. Marilyn Fagelson also discussed CLE planning for the remainder of the year.
- April 27, 2015 Section Meeting & Networking Event:** The Section held its last Section meeting of the year, followed by a networking event, at Two Roads Brewing Company in Stratford, CT. The meeting updated Section members regarding Section finances, legislative efforts including the status of HB 5195, upcoming CLE

programs and planning for the coming year, efforts to update protocols and volunteers for the Disaster Relief Hotline, as well as CBA Directives and the recent Executive Committee meeting during which officer and liaison positions for the coming bar year were discussed. The networking event was co-sponsored by the YLS, and about 31 attended, including ILS members, YLS members and law students. Section member Karen Cusato of Cusato Consulting, LLC sponsored live music for the event as well.

Plans for the Rest of the Bar Year

- **June 15, 2015 CLE Program:** Connecticut Legal Conference: At the Connecticut Legal Conference on June 15, 2015, the ILS will present a CLE program entitled, *When Bankruptcy and Insurance Coverage Collide*. This program will provide an overview of bankruptcy law and insurance coverage issues, how they intersect, and issues that typically arise when an insured seeks protection under the Bankruptcy Code. ILS members who will participate include Bill Goddard of Day Pitney as a presenter, and Elizabeth Ahlstrand of Seiger Gfeller Laurie, LLP as moderator.
- **June 24, 2015 Executive Committee Meeting:** This meeting will be held from 12:00 to 1 pm by teleconference. The EC meeting will focus on CLE and event planning for the fall.

Plans for the Coming Bar Year

- The ILS is planning additional CLEs for FY 2016. Marilyn Fagelson has suggested crime insurance as a potential CLE topic for the fall. She has also suggested a winter event to take place at UConn Law School on the topic of discovery issues in insurance coverage cases. This and additional CLE programs will be discussed further at the June 24, 2015 Executive Committee meeting.
- New Section EC Member, Karen Cusato, and Ted Stein of Anderson Kill are working on updating materials and protocols for the Disaster Relief Hotline. A CLE may also need to be planned in order to train Section members to participate as Hotline volunteers.
- The Section is planning another networking event for the fall and will look for co- sponsorship of the event from UConn Law School and at least one other affiliate. Pond House Café has been suggested as a location. This will be discussed further at the next Executive Committee meeting.
- The ILS hopes to continue to increase interest and participation by more members in Fiscal Year 2016. This includes membership in general, attendance at CLE events and participation in the ILS LinkedIn group. The goal for LinkedIn is to increase article postings and interactive on-line discussions among ILS members.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SECTION

Nike V. Agman, Chair

Purpose

The purpose of this Section shall be to promote the objects of the Connecticut Bar Association in Patent, Trademark, Copyright, and other related fields of law.

Annual Report

Section Meetings

The Section held its Spring Meeting and Networking Event on April 22, 2015 at the Hartford Office of Robinson+Cole. Thirty-five were in attendance. The attendees included new and seasoned practitioners from thirteen Connecticut law firms, in-house counsel and counsel from the State of Connecticut Judicial Branch. Robinson+Cole graciously sponsored food and beverages for the meeting.

A panel entitled “How to Break your Adversary without Breaking the Bank: IP Litigation Strategies,” followed about 30 minutes of networking. The panel of intellectual property litigators discussed strategies to reduce intellectual property litigation costs in the patent, trade secret, and trademark arenas. The panel participants were:

Moderator:	Nuala Droney, Robinson+Cole LLP
Speakers:	John Tanski, Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider LLP
	Nicholas Geiger, Cantor Colburn LLP
	Tara Rahemba, Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider LLP

The presentation was structured so that the moderator and attendees asked the panelists questions and discussion about responses was open to all attendees.

This section meeting was originally planned as a fall meeting and networking event for mid-November, but was postponed as a result of speaker conflicts.

Executive Committee Meetings

An Executive Committee meeting was held directly following the Spring Section Meeting on April 22, 2015. Present at the meeting were Nike Agman, Chair, Amy Span Wergeles, past Chair, Jonathan Tropp, Allison Cantor, Elaine Doolan and Deborah Vennos.

During the meeting, we discussed the current state of the section, the proposed amended Section by-laws (discussed below), the committee make-up for the coming year and the proposed membership survey (discussed below). The attending members of the executive committee also discussed better defining the role of the Connecticut Bar Association intellectual property section in the vast array of more-specialized intellectual property associations, including the International Trademark Association, the American Intellectual Property Law Association, the American Bar Association Intellectual Property Law Section, the Connecticut Intellectual Property Law Association, the New York Intellectual Property Law Association and the newly formed Intellectual Property Inns of Court based in New Haven, Connecticut.

As not all members of the committee were in attendance, discussion of the by-laws and membership survey were continued by e-mail.

Continuing Legal Education

When it was first proposed in the fall, it was suggested that the subject matter of the presentation at the Spring Section Meeting was suitable for Continuing Legal Education credits. After discussion with Suzanne Hard, CLE director, and the presenters, and taking into account that attendance at previous meetings was historically weak, it was decided that the program would be presented without CLE credits, as a benefit to the section members.

The role of CLEs was also discussed during the Executive Committee meeting. It was decided that, as many members of the section do not currently have a CLE requirement, and as many of the competing organizations provide a number of high-level and advanced subject-matter specific CLE programs, the section should for the time-being focus on producing introductory CLEs directed to the general CBA membership. The role will be revisited in the event that Connecticut adopts mandatory CLEs.

Non-CLE Programming

Over the past few years, in order to reinvigorate the section which has been unfortunately dormant for too long, it is has been the desire of the Executive Committee and the Chairs to produce large-scale programming that would attract the entire membership as well as CBA members outside the section. Several programs have been planned, but have not made it past the planning stage because of time conflicts with presenters and availability of venues, and the overarching uncertainty about the number of members that would likely attend.

In discussions among committee members, there has grown a consensus that the large-scale “kick-off” event should be postponed until the section is truly reinvigorated. The focus should be on putting together events at reasonable cost for more attainable attendance. More frequent, smaller, events, perhaps appropriate only for sub-sections of the section membership would line-up more closely with the role of an IP section of a state bar association, and include, for example, IP-specific networking gatherings, workshops on career development, and presentations on marketing.

By-Laws

The Executive Committee is currently reviewing and commenting on newly drafted Section by-laws, based on the current CBA model by-laws. The proposed new bylaws redefine the composition of the executive committee, their terms of office and other standing committees as well as update the section membership dues.

Membership Survey

As already discussed in multiple sections of this report above, the Intellectual Property Law section has struggled over the years with attendance and interest in section events. The factors that contribute to this struggle include many competing Intellectual Property organizations, both local and national, and a membership whose practice areas and work situations are diverse and often non-overlapping.

In order to get a better and truer picture of what value the general members expect and want, the executive committee has put together a survey to be sent to the membership including questions about practice focus, programming of interest, other services that the section should provide and general interest in CLEs. The results of the survey will be used by the incoming executive committee as a guide to programming for the upcoming years. Ideally, the membership survey will be conducted annually and amended to include feedback on the current year’s programming.

IP Law Associations Regional Roundtable

On May 13, 2015, Nike Agman, Chair, attended the IP Law Associations Regional Roundtable for New England and New York, sponsored by the American Intellectual Property Law Association IP Law Associations Committee. During the roundtable, associations from across New England discussed their successes and challenges in the past year.

Nike Agman raised challenges faced as a section of a local bar association competing with other local and national IP associations. Similar challenges were faced by other New England bar associations. Especially vocal with suggestions was the chair of the Intellectual Property Law Section of the New Hampshire Bar Association.

The smaller New England sections agreed to reconvene outside the larger group for brainstorming sessions on collaborative enterprises with the purpose of increasing attendance at their own events and providing more valuable programming to their respective memberships.

Plans and Suggestions for the Coming Year

In order to reinvigorate the Intellectual Property Law Section, small steps need to be taken in several directions simultaneously. The action plan below will be updated with the results of the proposed membership survey.

- Two CLEs – programming suggestions below
 - Introduction to Intellectual Property CLE
 - Strategies for reducing costs associated with IP litigation
- Pro Bono Patent Program
- Four Section Meetings – programming suggestions below
 - Fall – Legislative Update from AIPLA Representative
 - Fall – Networking Event for In-house Counsel
 - Spring – World IP Day
 - Spring – Women in IP Global Networking Event

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LAW SECTION

Gary Phelan, Chair

Purpose

The Labor and Employment Law Section is comprised of practitioners who represent individuals, unions, employers and agencies, or serve as neutrals. The functions of the Section include studying and analyzing legal principles having particular significance to labor or employment law; providing leadership in matters of public importance affecting labor or employment law; educating through the publication of works of legal scholarship and presentation of the highest quality educational programs; promoting diversity within the labor and employment Bar, and fostering collegial relations among the diverse practitioners within the section and between the section and other professions and disciplines.

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Accomplishments to Date

- Five Executive Committee Meetings with speakers who discussed the following topics: (1) Restatement of Employment Law, (2) Developments of the Connecticut Commissions on Human Rights and Opportunities, (3) Presentation of Evidence and Social Media discovery, (4) National Labor Relations Act's new policies on Representative cases and Employee Handbooks, and (5) Appellate Advocacy for the Employment Law Practitioner.
- On December 8, 2014 - Full day conference entitled "Back to the Future," which focused on what we expect will be the major issues in the workplace over the next 10 years. 22 speakers covered the following topics:
 - Medical Marijuana
 - Transgender Rights
 - Privacy and the Restatement of Employment Law
 - NLRB Practice and the Non-Union Workplace
 - Pregnancy, Disability and Reasonable Accommodations
 - Developments with the Affordable Care Act and the
 - Connecticut Health Exchange
 - Computer Forensics: Protecting your Electronic Trade Secrets;
 - Defending Against Accusations of Data Theft
 - Wage and Hour Law Developments
 - U.S. Supreme Court and Connecticut Supreme Court decisions

The conference was considered a great success. On a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest possible rating, the overwhelming majority of evaluations rated the program with 4's and 5's. One individual who attended the program said that it was the best employment law conference he attended in his 20 years practicing in Connecticut. 84 individuals attended the conference - one more than the number who attended our Fall Conference the previous year.

- The NLRB conducted three hours of training on April 8, 2015, at its office in Hartford for our members on its new Final Rule governing Representation cases.

Plans for the Rest of this Year

- A monthly meeting in early June that will include a speaker on developments under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

- An Annual Meeting Program from 9 AM- Noon on June 15 that will cover (1) the "Big Picture" Issues of Racial and Gender Discrimination in the Workplace, (2) A "Year in Review" summary of developments in Employment Law and at the National Labor Relations Board, and (3) a Keynote Speaker who will discuss the Employment Lawyer as Problem Solver.

Projects that will Extend into the Next Year

- This year the Executive Committee decided that every year we would select a public interest project. This year's project will focus on celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") with three activities: (1) On July 21, we will co-sponsor and participate in an ADA celebration being held at the City of New Haven City Hall. Our section will co-sponsor a panel discussion for the public on the progress made in the area of employment for people with disabilities; (2) During the week of July 21-25, we will have a half-day program for attorneys about the ADA that is tentatively planned to be held at and co-sponsored by the University of Connecticut School of Law. In addition to our section members, we plan to reach out to lawyers with disabilities; (3) Coordinate with a Connecticut daily newspaper for an article about the ADA's 25th Anniversary. (I have had discussions with a reporter from the Hartford Courant who has covered disability-related issues and they are interested.)

LAW LIBRARIANS SECTION

Jason Eiseman, Chair

Purpose

The purpose of this Section is to promote the educational and professional objectives of all practice areas within the Connecticut Bar Association by insuring open access to law-related information, both print and electronic, an open access best secured by strengthening law libraries as institutions charged with the organization and dissemination of that law-related information. Further, the purpose of this Section is to support the mission of the Connecticut Bar Association by promoting best practices in legal information research and management through education and advocacy.

Annual Report

Overview

This year the Law Librarians Section of the CBA has been focused on reaching out to other members of the CBA and in particular exploring the ways we can deliver valuable CLE content to CBA members. This has taken a variety of forms, formal and informal. We have had a few successful activities, and have a plan for expanding those activities in the coming year.

Meetings

The Law Librarians section has, thus far, officially held two meetings with two more meetings to follow in May and June. The meetings have been focused on two general areas, CLEs and a strategy for reaching out to other CBA members.

The main idea for future meetings and CLEs is to leverage technology to increase the frequency and reach of our meetings and also as a platform for delivering CLE. At the end of May or beginning of June we hope to host a pilot project webinar with the Librarian heading the Connecticut Secretary of State's new e-regulations platform. This pilot meeting would be entirely virtual and open to all CBA members. If successful, we hope to use this webinar platform to hold additional meetings and perhaps even deliver virtual CLEs throughout the year.

CLE

This year our section has been focused on how to expand our delivery of CLE to CBA members. This year we are approaching this in several ways. First, we will be presenting a CLE session at the annual meeting in June. This is a reprise of our popular "Zen & the Art of Google" CLE from the annual meeting two years ago. In addition, we plan to record the CLE and deliver that content virtually to CBA members as well. So CBA members who are unable to attend the CBA meeting can still get CLE credit from the recorded session.

In addition, we have plans to use the webinar platform mentioned earlier to deliver virtual CLEs in the future. These CLEs can be recorded via webinar software and then deposited with the CBA for distribution. We hope this allows our section to increase our activity without onerous travelling demands on CBA members and speakers.

Legislative Activity

This year our most important achievement was the area of legislative activity. In February, Governor Malloy introduced S.B. 942, An Act Implementing the Budget Recommendations of the Governor Concerning Education.

This bill would devastate libraries in the state of Connecticut. The bill would eliminate funding for Connecticard which allows members of the public to borrow material from any public library, eliminates mandated grant funding to public libraries, and removes the mandate to support the Connecticut Library Consortium which saves libraries across the state save money through a single statewide cooperative.

The CBA has made a commitment to supporting access to justice for all in Connecticut. And that mission requires fully funded libraries which provide access to critical information for all Connecticut citizens. Our section feels strongly that these cuts would be a matter of great importance to the CBA by threatening the public libraries, librarians, and programs that are on the front lines of delivering legal information and access to justice to the people of Connecticut.

Our executive committee called for a full section vote on taking a position opposing these cuts. Our members supported taking such a position. On April 3 the Executive Committee approved our section position and formally adopted a position opposing these cuts. Recently we have learned that thanks to the public outcry, including the work of the CBA, the Connecticut legislature is looking to restore funding for the cuts which had been proposed in S.B. 942. This has been a great victory for our section and the CBA.

2015-2016 Planning

As mentioned earlier, our focus in 2015-2016 will be reaching out to the larger CBA membership by holding webinars which are of general interest to the CBA members. While our first experiments with using this technology will not be for CLE credit we hope to use this platform as a way to deliver CLE content to CBA members virtually. This will allow us to leverage the strengths of our section without having the same infrastructure other CBA sections seem to have.

We also look forward to working with other sections to leverage this technology and expand our outreach. We have already engaged in preliminary talks with the Young Lawyers section and Paralegals section about ways in which we can collaborate in the future. I believe using technology to bridge different parts of the state may be a way to engage other CBA sections and members and introduce them to everything our section has to offer.

Purpose

The purpose of this Section is to promote the educational and professional objectives of the Connecticut Bar Association within the practice area of issues and concerns to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (“LGBT”) individuals in the profession, which includes (1) monitoring the progress and enhancing the status and opportunities available to LGBT individuals in the legal profession; (2) providing LGBT attorneys, as well as, non-LGBT individuals that are members of the Connecticut Bar Association with an opportunity to share concerns, communicate, and network with one another in a supportive forum; and (3) promoting the participation of the Connecticut Bar Association in substantive areas of law and legislation that present issues of particular concern to LGBT individuals in the profession, and to those who seek legal services.

Our main goal this second year was to cement interest in the Section and to continue to build membership, which we have done with approximately 70 members to date. Our other goal was to offer slightly more to Section members than the inaugural year. We did this by offering not only speakers, but a panel event with our Section’s leadership speaking on the state same sex marriage.

Annual Report

Officers

The Section’s Officers for the 2014/2015 year have been:

Jessica Grossarth, Chair; Pullman & Comley, LLC, Bridgeport
Meghan Freed, Vice Chair; FreedMarcroft, Hartford
Erick Russell, Treasurer; Pullman & Comley, Bridgeport
Teresa DiNardi, Secretary; The Ruane Attorneys, Wethersfield

Meetings

Our Section held 4 meetings in the 2014/2015 year, with Executive Committee meetings held directly prior to each meeting. Our initial meeting took place at Pullman & Comley’s offices in Hartford on **September 11, 2014**, at which meeting Ben Klein of GLAD spoke about the legal landscape concerning same sex marriage across the country. Our second event was held on **November 13, 2014** at O’Toole’s in New Haven. Mark Dubois spoke to the Section about diversity in the CBA and what is being done to achieve the organization’s diversity goals. The third event was held on **April 30, 2015** at Max Downtown in Hartford, at which Section leadership formed a panel and spoke about the recent developments in same sex marriage law and the practical implications of same. Our final event will be held on **June 11th** at Salute in Hartford. We will have Aaron Romano speaking at Salute with respect to the “Jane Doe” matter.

The Section officers and liaisons for the 2015/2016 year will be:

Officers:

Meghan Freed – Chair
Erick Russell – Vice Chair
Teresa DiNardi – Treasurer
Brittany Cates – Secretary

Liaisons:

Jess Grossarth – Membership
Leslie Jennings-Lax- Education

Yam Menon/Colt Holmes – Legislative
Brittany Cates - Website
Beck Fineman – Publicity

Legislative Session Summary

During the 2015 legislative session, the Section monitored the progress of 3 bills of cognizance and took action accordingly. None of these bills have made it further in the legislative session, likely at this point having died through the committee process. We will continue to monitor as needed:

- **House Joint Resolution 36: Resolution Amending the State Constitution to Prohibit Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation.** Introduced on 1/22, this resolution proposed amending the state constitution to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. There has been no activity on this bill since its introduction, so no action taken to date.
- **House Bill 5530: An Act Concerning Health Care Services Relating to a Minor Child's Sexual Orientation.** Introduced on 1/16, this bill would have amended the statutes to prohibit a licensed health care professional from providing therapy or other services that has the goal of changing the sexual orientation of a person under eighteen years of age. There has been no activity on this bill since its introduction, so no action taken to date.
- **House Bill 5193: An Act Concerning Health Insurance Coverage for Gender Reassignment Surgery.** Introduced on 1/9 with a public hearing on 2/24, this bill would have amended statute to specify that health insurance policies delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this state shall not be required to provide coverage for gender reassignment surgery or related surgical expenses. We presented and had approved our policy position by the Executive Committee of the CBA, but no further action was taken and the bill has not gone any further to date.

PARALEGALS SECTION

Marc Vallen and Jennifer Zakrzewski, Co-chairs

Purpose

The purpose of the Paralegals Section is to disseminate information to attorneys regarding the paralegal profession, to publicize issues of importance regarding this profession, to encourage attorneys to practice with qualified paralegals in order to lower costs, and to improve the quality of service to clients.

Annual Report

Meetings/CLEs

September 2013

An executive committee meeting was held in September 2014 where we appointed and elected officers.

October 2014

A continuing legal education meeting was held on October 8, 2014. Our guest speaker was Sandra Staub, Legal Director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut. Attorney Staub's presentation was entitled "The Rules and Art of Amicus Briefs." Attorney Staub discussed how the ACLU determines cases to file amicus briefs and discussed the parts of a brief.

November 2014

A continuing legal education meeting was held on November 12, 2014. Our guest speaker was Attorney Karen Oliver Damboise, a Certified Child Welfare Law Specialist. Attorney Damboise's presentation addressed the child protection/juvenile delinquency process, its impact on other areas of the law, and the paralegal's role in this process.

December 2014

A meeting was held on December 10, 2014. Other paralegal associations (Central Connecticut Paralegals Association and New Haven County Association of Paralegals) were invited to attend this meeting to have a roundtable discussion on paralegal licensing.

January 2015

A continuing legal education meeting was held on January 14, 2015. Our guest speaker was Caroline Sennett, who is a staff attorney at the Hartford office of the International Institute of Connecticut (IICConn). Attorney Sennett's presentation addressed human trafficking issues as it occurs both within the United States and across international borders. She further addressed the work that IICConn does to combat trafficking in Connecticut.

February 2015

A meeting was held on February 25, 2015. Our guest speaker was Elizabeth Visone, who is the President of the Connecticut Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Society. Ms. Visone discussed the APRN road to regulation and the similarities to the paralegal road to licensing.

March 2015

A continuing legal education meeting was held on March 11, 2015. Our guest speaker was CBA President, Mark Dubois. Attorney Dubois presented on the topic of the shifting sands in the world of paralegal services.

April 2015

A meeting was held on April 8, 2015. Our guest speaker was Jessica Grossarth, Chair of the LGBT Section. She discussed how the LGBT Section started and provided tips and pointers on how she keeps the Section meetings exciting.

May 2015

The Paralegals Section and Litigation Section will be joining together to hold a joint meeting. The guest speaker will be Professor Leslie Levin.

June 2015

The Paralegals Section will be holding an end of the year networking event at Esca Bar in Middletown.

Fundraising

The Paralegals Section will be sponsoring a collection fundraiser wherein members will be collecting items to go to trafficking victims that IICConn services in the State of Connecticut.

PLANNING AND ZONING SECTION

Amy Souchuns, Chair

Purpose

The Planning and Zoning Section has continued to emphasize its core goals, which are to educate our own section members and the bar in general about the changing law of land use, to educate lay members of local land use agencies about their legal authority and responsibilities, to improve the legislative structure within which land use decisions are made, and to foster goodwill and credibility between the bar and the general community.

Annual Report

Seminars

On March 21, 2015, the section held its biennial seminar for land use commission members and staff at Wesleyan University. The panelists covered the gamut of land use issues to a record audience of over 300 participants. Many section members heard glowing reviews from the attendees, even weeks later. On March 31, 2015, the section was a co-sponsor of a CLE entitled "What Every Administrative Law & Land Use Attorney Should Know."

Section Meetings

The section meets regularly in the New Haven area. Meetings have addressed a variety of topics, including the interplay of land use and the Americans with Disabilities Act, the recent Appellate court ruling in *Ven-illo v. Zoning Board of Appeals*, and the status of the land use docket based in Hartford. The section also held a cocktail gathering to encourage junior land use attorneys to join and participate in the section. A joint meeting with the Connecticut Developer's Council served as an opportunity to mingle and discuss issues with residential builders and contractors from across the state.

Legislation

Our legislative liaison, Eric Bernheim, has provided us with regular updates of important legislation. The section supported a bill introduced by Judge Marshall Berger to expressly authorize remand of a case to the agency.

From the Chair

The Planning and Zoning Section has had a very good year. We have had speakers who addressed a number of traditional topics of interest, as well as more informal social gatherings. As chair, I have made an effort to reach out to and include those newly minted in the land use practice to take an active role in the section. Our section has continued to enjoy the highest level of collegiality and cooperation among members, a sentiment not often shared among lawyers on opposing sides in various matters. It has been a pleasure and an honor to work with the section officers, Mario Coppola, Beth Critton, and Jackie Kaufman and to chair such a well-established section.

REAL PROPERTY SECTION

Elton B. Harvey, Chair

Purpose

The purpose of the Real Property Section is to promote the educational and professional objectives of the Connecticut Bar Association within the field of real property law. The section provides a forum at executive committee and section meetings throughout the year for the exchange of information and ideas relative to real property issues, concerns, and transactions, both residential and commercial. The section also welcomes consideration and discussions of issues related to conveyancing, mortgages, land use, title insurance and other matters of interest to the real estate Bar.

Annual Report

Officers:

Elton B. Harvey, III, Chair
Matthew Cholewa, Vice Chair
Brian S. Cantor, Treasurer
Edward S. Shelton, Secretary

Meetings

The Real Property Section, one of the largest and most active sections in the Connecticut Bar Association, has presented the following programs at its monthly meetings commencing in September 2014 through May 2015 to provide professional development and enrichment to its members:

- Greetings from Nigeria: How to Protect Your IOLTA Account
- Environmental Concerns In Residential and Commercial Real Estate Transactions
- He Who Has The Gold Makes The Rules: Lender's View Of Commercial Real Estate Transactions
- Foreclosure By Market Sale: A New Twist On The Foreclosure Process
- The CFPB And You: This Time Straight From The Horse's Mouth
- Are Native American Land Claims Making A Comeback In Connecticut?
- RESPA/TILA Integrated Disclosures: What We Know, What We Don't Know.
- Swap Mortgages

Legislation

The Section has an active Legislative Subcommittee that works closely with the CBA lobbyist to identify bills of interest to the Real Property practitioner. One of the problems that continue to plague the Section is the fact that many of these bills require immediate responses and the current method of securing CBA approval of Section positions is cumbersome and ineffective. Often, we are submitting testimony long after the public hearing and the value of a Bar Association position on a particular issue is often lost. Despite these shortcomings, we have taken the following positions on legislative matters this year:

Summary of legislative activity 2014-2015, RPS:

Positions taken:

We opposed Committee Bill No. 756, which would require a statewide standardized contract for the sale of residential property to be administered by the Department of Consumer Protection.

We opposed Substitute Bill No. 887, which proposes to expand the Mechanics Lien statute to allow any person, whether “an independent contractor or an employee” to avail themselves of the ability to place a lien pursuant to the mechanic’s lien statute on an employer’s property, for “any . . . service rendered to an owner of land”.

We opposed Raised Bill No. 1037, which proposes to enable the Labor Commissioner or an employee to put a lien on any personal or real property in which an employer has an interest to enforce payment of wages to such employee under Chapter 558.

We opposed House Bill 5117, An Act Concerning The Time Period for The Filing of Mechanic’s Liens.” The bill would increase, from ninety days to ninety “business days,” the period in which a prospective mechanic’s lienor has to file a mechanic’s lien after work has ceased on the property in question.

We opposed House Bill 5436, An Act Concerning Adverse Possession.” The bill would eliminate the possibility of adversely possessing property when the owner pays the property taxes on the land in question.

We again supported Good Funds legislation, Substitute for Raised Senate Bill 886, which would require lenders offering first and second mortgages to deliver the loan proceeds as the date and time of closing.

Initiatives

One of our goals was to emphasize the role of the transactional lawyer as bringing value to the table. To accomplish this goal we have spoken at Connecticut Realtor, Connecticut Mortgage Bankers Association and Connecticut Bankers Association functions and advanced the Section in Continuing Legal Education seminars.

The Section held a meeting in Fairfield County in October of this past year in an attempt to make the Section more visible in places other than Hartford and New Haven Counties. While a successful meeting, the logistics of finding a venue that is accessible and affordable continues to be a challenge.

We also sponsored a networking event in Stratford to encourage collegiality and camaraderie between the Section and the Young Lawyers Section. The event was well attended and successful.

Members of the Real Property Section volunteered their time again to participate in a Habitat For Humanity Project in New Haven, Conn. That effort has been submitted to the CBA for their media efforts.

The Section made its annual \$1,500 award each to a law student at the University of Connecticut School of Law and the Quinnipiac University Law School who has demonstrated exceptional academic excellence in the area of real property law. The recipients of this year's awards were invited to attend our May meeting to be recognized by the Section for their achievements.

The Section increased its contribution to the Connecticut Bar Association Real Property Section Memorial Prize Endowment Fund which is administered by the UConn Law School Foundation by an additional \$2000.00, in an effort to get to a point where the Fund generates sufficient income yearly to fund the award.

Under the leadership of Attorney Edward M. Rosenblatt, the Residential Real Property Certification Program appointed a subcommittee to create and administer the examination to be given in connection with certification of residential real property practice in the State of Connecticut. The examining committee has met sporadically throughout the year, having suffered losses to its membership and loss of the CBA Liaison. Suzanne Hard has stepped in to provide CBA assistance and we are again up to strength in terms of numbers. It is expected that the examination will be completed and ready for approval by the Screening Committee by late fall of 2015.

A major on-going initiative has been the Model Residential Contract which was approved for use by the Section on September 18, 2013. Despite the fact that the Contract, as approved, was tabled by the CBA House of Delegates, the Model Contract Committee has continued and been reconstituted to involve lawyers from each county in Connecticut and the amended mission is to educate the local Bar and affinity groups about the benefits of a

statewide contract. To that end, Committee members have spoken at Bar meetings and Realtor meetings about the Model Contract. The Committee meets regularly and approved a Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) Addendum to be used in residential contracts. The CFPB Addendum was approved for use by the Section.

Of the newer subcommittees, the Social Committee, whose mission was to provide a vehicle for the Executive Committee to participate in outreach activities to advance the role and image of real estate lawyers, has been a resounding success. The other subcommittee, the Unauthorized Practice of Law committee, formed to work with the CBA Unauthorized Practice Committee to identify and address unauthorized practice issues in real property law, has languished and will likely not be continued.

A Lunch and Learn at UConn Law School was initiated by the Young Lawyers Section (YLS) liaison to the Section and attended by 3 other Executive Committee members to speak with law students about careers and opportunities in Real Property Law.

In addition to the other educational efforts of the Section, we presented two programs at the Annual Legal Conference. The first was a program on Purchasing Real Estate Owned (REO) Property, which was presented by Larry Garfinkel, Esq. The Section also presented its Annual Survey of Case Law and States at the Connecticut Legal Conference on June 15, 2015. Attorneys Eugene Marconi, Valerie Votto, Michael Ceccorulli and Denis Caron will be presenting.

We have prepared a handbook for Officers of the Section and a yearly calendar to aid in-coming officers about their duties and responsibilities throughout the year.

SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW SECTION

Donald P. Tutson, Jr, Chair

Purpose

The goals of the section are: (1) Provide a forum for attorneys to discuss and take action on issues important to the law and business of the sports and entertainment industries; (2) Provide a networking system for attorneys in this area; (3) Prepare and present seminars on sports and entertainment law for those attorneys and participants in the industry; (4) Promote such other legal and equitable programs as the section of Board of Governors of the Association deems fit:

Annual Report

Meetings, Programs & Presentations:

1. Sports Law Panel Discussion;

On November 6, 2014 section co-sponsored a substantive panel to discuss the legal applications of ADR in professional and amateur/collegiate athletics with the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section. This event, which was held at Quinnipiac University School of Law, was open to all members and functioned as an Executive Meeting as well.

2. Entertainment Law Panel Discussion;

On March 25th, 2015 our section hosted a panel discussion open to all CBA members held at the Infinity Hall & Bistro in Hartford. Complimentary appetizers were provided by a new, external sponsor, Ellinson & Sloves Marketing of Farmington who have been promoting sports, entertainment and corporate functions in Connecticut for the last 20 years. The panel was a mix of seasoned attorneys, film producers, and music industry professionals who discussed hot topics and provided valuable practice tips for those looking to expand their entertainment law horizons. This event was open to all members and functioned as an Executive Meeting as well.

Membership Development Initiatives:

The Executive Committee authorized TWO new subcommittees: (1) The "Entertainment Law Committee" that will function to grow the number of entertainment law specific attorneys and events for the section's overall membership. (2) The "Law Student Development Committee" that is tasked with reaching out to, and including more law students in all section activities.

Two new corporate affiliates were established to build the networking capacity of the section. (1) Elkinson & Sloves Marketing Co. of Connecticut provides our members [and their clients] a local resource in developing and producing sports and entertainment events. (2) The "Music Biz" is a national organization that agreed to provide our section members with discounts to events, seminars and educational resources related to the legal and business aspects of the music industry.

Community Activities:

Members supported Quinnipiac University School of Law's Sports & Entertainment Law Society by providing two member-attorneys to participate on a panel for law students. The event was held on February 11, 2015 at the QU law school.

The section continues to support the New Britain Rock Cats Foundation, which is the non-profit affiliate of the New Britain Rock Cats. This year, several of our members made financial donations and attended the foundation's Hot Stove Lunch Fundraiser on January 15th in Hartford.

Legislative Efforts:

The section reviewed two items of current, or proposed legislation. The first was related to required extension of certain benefits for college scholarship athletes. The second was the legislative history and effect of suns setting tax credits that had been previously allowed for the television and film industries. Discussion and action on these two topics has been tabled for consideration in the future.

Purpose

This section aims to: (1) promote the objectives of the CBA within the field of taxation and further the continuing legal education of members of the section and the Bar at large; (2) serve as a resource concerning federal and state tax laws to section members, the General Assembly, and the Bar in general; and (3) serve in a liaison capacity on behalf of the Bar with the Internal Revenue Service and the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services.

Annual Report

As we conclude the 2014-2015 bar year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on this past year.

It has been with deep gratitude that I serve as chair of the section. I could not have done it without the unwavering support from the section's officers and executive committee, who have spearheaded many of our efforts.

Meetings

The Executive Committee of the Section had five meetings, all of which were open to all members of the Section. At the September 17th meeting, section business focused on plans for the coming bar year and included a discussion on the section's newsletter and website, future meetings and joint meetings with other sections, section membership growth and participation, an update on the 2014 Federal Tax Institute of New England, and legislative and regulatory priorities for the bar year.

The November 13, 2014 meeting included reports from various subcommittees and a special presentation from Louis Bucari, First Asst. Commissioner, CT Department of Revenue Services. Mr. Bucari provided an update on recent Connecticut litigation.

The January 8, 2015 meeting featured an update on the status of same-sex marriage by section member Frank Berall, in addition to routine business and sub-committee reports. Changes in the sales tax filing deadline and the state's tax gap initiative were also discussed.

The March 19, 2015 meeting included routine business and various sub-committee reports as well as a special presentation on best practices for the planning, valuation, and sale of goodwill. Frank Agostino, who tried *Martin Ice Cream v. Commissioner*, and Mark Sklarz, Business Law Section Chair, were the program speakers. The well-attended meeting was jointly sponsored with the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section and Business Law Section.

The final meeting of the year was held on June 10, 2015. The guest speakers, Peter Jongbloed, AUSA and Maria Papageorgiou, Special Agent, Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation, reviewed IRS and Department of Justice Enforcement in the area of cash transactions, structuring and enforcement of the Bank Secrecy Act.

CLE

Each year, the section works jointly with the Young Lawyers Section to present introductory tax topics. On February 23, 2015, Continuing Legal Education Committee Chair, Richard Convicer, presented "Introduction to IRS Practice and Procedure," sponsored by the Young Lawyers Section.

Legislative Efforts

The Tax Section continued to pursue the legislative changes that it has been seeking for some time, including changing the refund statute, the burden of proof in tax cases, and creating financial guidelines for Offers of Compromise. To that end, section leaders met with members of the legislature to discuss these priorities.

The section's standing subcommittee on Legislative and Administrative Initiatives with the DRS, chaired by Alan Lieberman, has worked tirelessly to pursue these efforts.

Other Programs and Events

Members of the Tax Section were very involved in the Fourth Annual Federal Tax Institute of New England (FTINE), which is a project of the CBA and chaired by Frank Berall. (The Tax Section chair serves as second vice-chair of the FTINE). This year's Tax Institute was given on October 24, 2014 at the Hartford Marriott. Several sessions focused on the tax and legal issues surrounding the life cycle of a business, in addition to the traditionally-offered estate planning topics. As the conclusion of the Fourth Institute marked the retirement of program chair Frank Berall, the section expresses its deep gratitude to Mr. Berall for his leadership. Plans are underway for the Fifth Annual Federal Tax Institute on October 30, 2016. The section will sponsor two programs, the topics being (1) Offshore Voluntary Disclosure Program and other Foreign Reporting Requirements, and (2) Tax Issues in the Acquisition, Operation and Disposition of Pass-through Entities.

The CBA, CT CPA, and DRS Liaison Dinner, with representatives of the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services, is scheduled for June 24, 2015 at the Farms Country Club in Wallingford.

Next Year's Plans

As the 2014-2015 bar year marks the conclusion of my two-year term, I want to congratulate our new incoming chair, Daniel Gottfried.

We will be sending out subcommittee selection forms in the fall. If you have a suggestion for a future seminar or meeting, I encourage you to reach out to Dan directly at dgottfried@hinckleyallen.com.

I wish everyone a fun and safe summer.

WOMEN IN THE LAW SECTION

Alaine C. Doolan, Chair

Purpose

The purpose of this Section is 1) to monitor the progress and enhance the status and opportunities available to women in the legal profession; 2) to provide women attorney's in Connecticut with an opportunity to share concerns, communicate, and network with one another in a supportive forum; and 3) to promote the participation of the Connecticut Bar Association in substantive areas of law and legislation that present issues of particular concern to women in the profession, and to those who seek legal services.

Annual Report

In this term the Women in Law Section appointed eight (8) members to its Executive Committee and the Section's membership continues to grow with over ninety (95) members.

In January 2015, the Section hosted a brown bag lunch for the UConn Women's Law Student Association. The lunch consisted of a panel of Section members who discussed their careers and how they have changed paths over time. Over 30 students attended and we hope to do another brown bag lunch in the fall.

We were working with the UConn Women's Law Student Association to join forces for a community service project in spring of 2015. The timing did not work out so we will try to find a date for such a project in fall 2015.

The Section's annual Pathways to Leadership dinner, co-sponsored with the Young Lawyers Section was again a success. The Section recognized Diane W. Whitney, of Pullman & Comley, with the Ladder Award – an award that recognizes one attorney whose extraordinary efforts help foster the careers of other new women attorney. This year's Pathways dinner also featured Fran Pastore, President & CEO of the Women's Business Development Council, as its keynote speaker. Over one-hundred people attended the event, held for the fourth year at the Inn at Middletown.

The Section spent some time discussing whether it wanted to oppose or support any legislation proposed by the Connecticut House and Senate in 2015, but there was not enough backing from the Section to proceed.

On March 16, 2015, the Section co-hosted with Quinnipiac University School of Law Women's Law Society and the New Haven County Bar Association Women Attorneys Committee a film screening of "Girl Rising." Girl Rising is a global campaign to promote awareness for girls' education worldwide. The Sections contribution towards the event allowed the Quinnipiac Women's Law Society to secure perpetual rights to show the film.

A group of the Section's members met with William Clendenen, President Elect, to discuss ways to expand the profile of the Section.

A group of the Sections' members will be meeting with the Connecticut Bar Foundation to discuss an event/fundraiser which will be centered around the Oral History of Women program.

The Section is considering holding a social event for its members. The Section is large and such an event would allow members to get to know each other and hopefully create a comradery whereby the members would get more involved in the Section.

In March 2016 the Section will hold the annual Pathways to Leadership Dinner.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION

Lawrence Morizio, Chair

Purpose

Our Section represents one of the most well-represented and active in the entire Bar Association. In the selection of our up to 35 members on the Executive Committee, we attempt to balance the presence with attorneys representing both the injured worker (claimant) and employers/insurance carriers (respondent). In addition to those members and due to a recent change in our bylaws, the Section now recognizes "Emeritus" members as those that have either completed a term as Chair/Immediate Past Chair and/or have spent 20 or more years on the Executive Committee. Emeritus members have voting rights as well. We are proud to be the only current Section to offer members the opportunity to become a Board Certified Specialist. In order to be certified or recertified, applicants or pending specialists are required to maintain a sum certain of CLE credits. Our Section, guided by our CLE Committee, ensures that the highest level of CLE programming is available for Section members and Specialists throughout the bar year.

Annual Report

Year in Review

The 2014-15 bar year started out with a couple of summer meetings with fellow officers Joseph Passaretti (Vice Chair), Colette Griffin (Secretary), Mike Kerin (Treasurer) and David Weil (Past Chair). For the second consecutive year, the efforts of these officers of the Section proved to galvanize the entire Executive Committee and Section to action.

Compensation Board Review "On Circuit"

The Chairman of the Workers' Compensation Commission, John A. Mastropietro, has been cooperative beyond measure with the Section to ensure that our programs are well attended and publicized throughout the various districts. This year was no different. The Chairman was presented with a unique opportunity to take the Compensation Review Board arguments "on the road" and in this case literally across the street from the CRB hearing room on Oak Street to the Legislative Office Building in Hartford. The CLE Committee, led by Attorney Joseph Passaretti organized this event so that younger attorneys or those who haven't seen a live Review Board argument and interested in seeing an appeal of a workers' compensation claim could watch the Review Board in action. Several arguments were scheduled with the assistance of the Chairman's staff and the Review Board, consisting of the Chairman and two Commissioners (Commissioner Michelle Truglia and Commissioner Dilzer) heard live arguments in one of the LOB hearing rooms. Following the arguments, the Chairman and the Commissioners offered helpful oral argument tips to practitioners in attendance.



Continuing Legal Education Committee

Following last year's Symposium which took place in October, the Section got back in the groove of presenting an all-day medical/legal seminar in the fall. On October 17, 2014, the Section presented "Workers' Compensation Courtroom Medicine," a 7.0 CLE credit seminar at which a panel of experienced doctors covered an array of subjects including joint replacement and treatment of upper extremities, hips, knees and spine. St. Francis Hospital, Gengras Auditorium was the location and speakers included Dr. Steven Schutzer along with 7 other doctors from various orthopedic specialties. Commissioner Morelli added opening remarks and a perspective about the importance of the relationship between attorneys and physicians within the system.



The CLE Committee also presented a spring seminar at the CBA Law Center devoted entirely to ethics within the forum. Commissioner Goldberg moderated a stellar panel that spoke on the pitfalls and traps to avoid during representation of the injured worker and the respondent employer and/or insurer. The attorneys on the panel

included Mike Kerin, Nathan Shafner, Brian Smith and James Sullivan. The CLE program was also recorded for later consumption on the CBA “On Demand” network.

This year, Attorney Kevin Coombs and Attorney Jeremy Brown have organized a journey to Cape Cod and the Chatham Bars Inn where this year’s Exotic Seminar will take place (May 17-19, 2015). Speakers, covering a wide array of topics, will include Commissioner Charles Senich, Commissioner Ernie Walker, Dr. Norman Andrekus, Dr. Steven Paine, Dr. Judith Gorelick, Attorney Colette Griffin and Attorney Ralph Russo. To date, over 50 members have registered to attend.

Finally, the Section will hold its’ annual Current Issues in Workers’ Compensation Law update at the Connecticut Legal Conference on June 15, 2015. The Chairman will be present to provide his “State of the Commission” address along with other important updates involving the Commission. Attorney Jack Clarkson will offer his case law review which is always entertaining and informative. Attorney Lucas Strunk will cover the action at the Legislature to address the updates in the law affecting our Section. Also, the candidates that successfully passed their examination and satisfied other requirements will be awarded their certificates confirming that they are Board Certified Workers’ Compensation Specialists.

As a prelude to our customary annual review at the CT Legal Conference, our young lawyer members of the Executive Committee will present an introductory seminar for lawyers new to the practice. “Navigating the Workers’ Compensation System,” a one hour CLE program, will have a claimant and respondent perspective presented by speakers Attorney Jennifer Levine and Attorney Alyssa Swaniger. The program allows the Section to have its own morning “track” and comports with our YLS Initiative which promotes the interaction between our experienced lawyers and younger lawyers within the Section.

Bylaws

Finally, our Section Bylaws were approved by the Board of Governors last hurdle will be to have the newly minted version adopted by the Board of Governors at their meeting scheduled for October 20, 2014. Attorney Bystrowski deserves special commendation for his efforts along with those of his committee.

Compensation Quarterly

Editor-in-Chief, Attorney Frank Costello, continues to produce an incredible resource with focused articles and content along with the assistance from the editorial board. The *Compensation Quarterly* headlines for this bar year ranged from ethical pitfalls in settlement agreements, the remedies for National Guard members, interviews of newly appointed Commissioner Thomas Mullins and Dr. Steve Paine and technology tips related to the practice. In addition, the case comments provided in each edition serve as a valuable tool for practitioners throughout the state.

Charitable Efforts

Attorney Rick Aiken and his Charitable Golf Outing Committee ran had another beautiful day and successful charitable effort at the 16th Annual Verrilli/Belkin Golf Tournament at the Shuttle Meadow Country Club. This year, 102 golfers participated with 18 attendees attending the reception and 2 members attending the lunch only. A total of \$8,633.16 profit was generated and later split between the two charities, FoodShare and Connecticut Food Bank. The event also serves as a wonderful opportunity for our members to interact with other counsel and Commissioners socially after the outing and during dinner.



Attorney Chris Setaro, appointed as Chair of the Charitable Efforts committee, has organized a long term plan that will enable the Section to continue its efforts to contribute to the community for years to come.

Medical/Legal Cooperative

The Committee was in full presentation mode this year as a core group of attorneys, led by Mike Kerin and Colette Griffin, met with several orthopedic groups to address the Guidelines that physicians are called upon to follow and the case law that governs. Many physicians commented that they came away with a better understanding of how the workers' compensation system worked and how the presentation would give them a better dialogue with their patients suffering from work related injuries. These meetings also facilitated physician and staff interaction with workers' compensation carriers, adjusters and third party administrators. The efforts of this group have furthered a spirit of cooperation between attorney and physician within the system.

Pomeranz/O'Brien Award

This year, the Executive Committee voted to honor the career of Attorney Douglas Drayton by awarding him the prestigious Pomeranz/O'Brien award. The award, named after two former member that dedicated their lives to the practice of workers' compensation, serves to honor those practitioners who have achieved excellence as attorneys and who have contributed to our Section. Attorney Drayton, currently a principle in the firm Pomeranz, Drayton & Stabnick, continues to practice representing the interests of the respondent and remains a great contributor to the Section.

I have had an incredibly rewarding two years as Chair. I am truly thankful to be surrounded by passionate members that care immensely about the work we seek to accomplish. I am also thankful that the Section is in great hands with Attorney Passaretti as Incoming Chair, the current officers and the entire Executive Committee.

YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

Emily Graner-Sexton, Chair

Purpose

I. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The Young Lawyers Section (YLS) is the largest section within the Connecticut Bar Association (CBA) and is comprised of more than 2,500 CBA members who are either thirty-seven years of age or younger or have been practicing less than six years. The YLS also includes approximately 700 law student (i.e. “non-attorney”) members of the CBA.

The YLS’s mission is to further the CBA’s goals and purposes, and thereby to serve the community and the legal profession; to represent Members in the CBA, and to represent the CBA to Members; to help shape the policies and priorities that affect Members and the legal culture in which they practice; to create a deliberate forum for the exchange and expression of Members’ views, and a voice to advocate views; to promote diversity within the CBA, the Bar and Connecticut law schools; to perform acts of charitable service to the Bar and the Community; to provide continuing legal education; and to facilitate the participation of Members in the American Bar Association.

Annual Report

II. GOVERNANCE OF YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

The 2014-2015 YLS officers are:

Chair: Emily Graner-Sexton

Chair-Elect: Matthew Necci

Vice Chair: Dana Hrelac

Treasurer: Aidan Welsh

Secretary: Jennifer Mira

Immediate Past Chair: Christopher Nelson

The activities of the YLS are governed by its Executive Committee, which is comprised of approximately sixty-five lawyers, representing a variety of practice areas and parts of the state, who are selected each spring. Most members are selected through an open and competitive application process however, in order to further its goal of promoting diversity in the bar, the YLS also works with affinity bar organizations who are able to appoint their own liaisons to the Executive Committee. To remain in good standing, all Executive Committee members are required to: attend 2/3 of designated Executive Committee and section meetings and take an active role in planning the section's programming; each member is responsible for planning, individually or in collaboration with other members of the group, events such as formal continuing legal education (CLE) seminars,

informal/non-traditional educational programs, networking events, public services projects or other section-wide programs.

The following is a list of all Executive Committee Members for the 2014-2015 Bar year:

ABA/YLD District Delegate: Austin Berescik-Johns

Continuing Legal Education Director: Tiffany Spinella

Education Programming Director: Joanna Kornafel

Law School Outreach Director: Rebecca Paolino

Membership Outreach Director: Walter Welsh

Mentoring Program Director: Jennifer Miller

Social Media Director: Joseph Blyskal

Special Projects Coordinators: Emily Gianquinto, Sylvia Rutkowska and Caitlin Anderson

Administrative Law: Clarissa Matthews and Christopher Houck

Appellate Practice: Matthew Weiner, Ben Abrams, and Michael Weil

Child Welfare & Juvenile Law: Kristen Wolf and Tara Dugo

Commercial Finance Law: Noel Bishop

Business Law: Thomas Noonan and Leland Moore

Commercial & Bankruptcy Law: Erin Boatman and Patrick Linsey

Criminal Justice: Brian Altieri and Sean Barrett

Education Law: Christopher Sugar

Elder Law: Andrew Knott

Estate & Probate Law: Bernardo Cuadra and Linda Bulkovitch

Family Law: David McGrath, Mark Randall and Kathryn Phillips

Federal Practice: Eric Miller, Tamar Esperance and Sabrina Victor

Gay & Lesbian Legal Rights: David McGuire

Government Affairs: Melanie Dykas and Steven Stafstrom

Health Law: Meahgan Cooper and Daniel Kagan

Insurance Law: Michael Barrese, Bethany Barrese and Joseph Blyskal

Intellectual Property Law: Elana Bertram Dolce

Labor & Employment Law: Susan Masters

Litigation: Eamonn Wisneski, Amanda Gordon, Jason Gamsby and Jeffrey Mueller

Planning & Zoning Law: Evan Seeman

Human Rights & Responsibilities Law: Tammy Laracuenta-Rissolo and Anna Keegan

Professional Responsibility: Lila McKinley and Courtney Chaplin

Real Property Law: Katie Carey

Small Firm & Solo Practice: Shari-Lynn Cuomo-Shore, Garlinck Dumont and Carmina Tessitore

Tax Law: Michael Duffy

Technology Law: Alfredo Fernandez

Workers' Compensation Law: Katherine Russo, Jennifer Levine and Alyssa Swaniger

Women In The Law: Suphi Philip, Jessica Rivera and Tamar Bakhbava

Quinnipiac Law School Liaisons: Kate Clark and Jonathan Canestri

UConn Law School Liaison: Thad Bochain

The Executive Committee met for the first time at the Annual YLS Executive Committee Leadership Retreat, which was held at the Mystic Marriott on June 27th and 28th, 2014. Several seminars and breakout sessions were held at this meeting in order to introduce Executive Committee members to each other, orient them to CBA and YLS policies and practices, and develop much of the bar year's programming in order to maximize the Section's productivity during the remainder of the bar year from September through June. Doug Brown and Suzanne Hard of the CBA gave valuable presentations on effective program development and planning.

We were also lucky enough to have Andrea Obston of Andrea Obston Marketing Communications, LLC, present a seminar on communication and networking skills. It was a terrific presentation that many of executive committee members found to be extremely useful and helpful not only in their role as a EC member, but also in their legal practice. Connecticut Appellate Court Judge Raheem Mullins served as the keynote speaker at the annual leadership luncheon, and provided inspiring comments and stories from his life and his transition to the bench as the youngest ever appointed judge to both the Superior and Appellate Courts. At the luncheon, Immediate Past Chair Christopher Nelson also presented the annual “Stars of the Year,” “Rookie of the Year” and “Chair's Award” honors to several Executive Committee members in recognition of their outstanding efforts in making the 2013-2014 bar year a success.

Starting in September, 2014, the Executive Committee began holding its regular monthly meetings, most of which were held at the CBA Law Center. This continues a trend prevalent in recent years of having more Executive Committee meetings in New Britain for budgetary reasons rather than New Haven, which had been the traditional venue for such meetings. As in previous years, some the Executive Committee meetings also were held in conjunction with statewide meetings or special events, which are described below.

III. SECTION-WIDE MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Diversity Award Dinner: November 5, 2014

The ninth annual YLS Diversity Award Dinner was held on November 5, 2014, at Amarante's Sea Cliff in New Haven. This year's honoree was Superior Court Judge Angela Robinson for her career-long commitment to educating youth from diverse backgrounds about the legal and justice systems. We were delighted to have the event sponsored by the law firm of Koskoff, Koskoff & Bieder, which was the last firm Judge Robinson worked before she was nominated to the bench at the young age of 33 years old. More than 150 attorneys, judges and community members attended the dinner and award presentation.

B. Pro Bono Fair/New Admittee Welcome Reception: November 10, 2014

The annual Pro Bono Fair returned to the Mark Twain Museum in Hartford. As has become the tradition with this event, this year's Pro Bono Fair included a networking component to welcome the newest attorneys sworn in to practice in Connecticut. The event was organized in conjunction with the Judicial Branch and the Connecticut Bar Foundation and focused on providing opportunities for attorneys to obtain practical experience and free training representing indigent clients by working with several of Connecticut's legal service providers. The goal of the Pro Bono Fair was to make attorneys aware of the many opportunities that are available to provide a valuable public service while also increasing their respective knowledge and experience in practice - thereby helping them become more attractive to potential employers and/or providing a foundation to develop a profitable practice representing low or middle income clients. The fair featured welcoming remarks from Superior Court Judge William H. Bright, who co-chairs the Judicial Branch's Access to Justice Commission. Judge Bright spoke about the volume of self-represented individuals in Connecticut Courts and the dire need for pro bono service. The fair also permitted the various legal services organizations to speak to and meet with attendees to

discuss opportunities for pro bono service. This meeting also served as the EC's monthly meeting, in which all members of the section are invited.

YLS Vice Chair Dana Hrelc planned and executed this event with great success.

C. Charitable Holiday Party: December 11, 2014

The YLS organized a holiday party to raise money for two extremely deserving organizations: The CT Food Bank and My Sister's Place, an organization committed to ending homelessness by empowering women, families and others in Greater Hartford to achieve independence and stability in their community by providing housing and supportive services. The event was held at Firebox restaurant in Hartford and was set up as a fun, social networking event. The event brought out many new YLS members and other YLS members, who had not attended a YLS event previously. The Faxon Law Group graciously matched all donations made to the featured organizations. The event was, in every respect, a tremendous success; boasting more than 90 attendees; receiving very positive reviews from attendees; and most importantly, raising over \$2,500 for the CT Food Bank and My Sister's Place.

YLS Treasurer Aidan Welsh worked very hard to make this event a success and is owed a special debt of gratitude.

D. United States Supreme Court Admission Program: April 6, 2015

One of the most exciting events of the year, thanks to the tremendous work of Emily Gianquinto, was the wildly successful YLS sponsored United States Supreme Court Admission Program, where 45 attorneys were sworn into the nation's highest court, followed by a private luncheon where we had the honor of having United States Supreme Court Associate Justice Samuel Alito serve as our keynote speaker. It is not every day that our members get an opportunity to share an intimate lunch and question and answer session with a United States' Supreme Court justice and I am so proud that the YLS was able to arrange this unique experience.

E. Vanguard Award at CBA Annual Awards' Dinner: April 16, 2015

On April 16, 2015, the YLS was honored to present the first ever Young Lawyers Section Vanguard Award to Emily Gianquinto at the CBA Annual Awards' Dinner. The Vanguard Award is given to a current or recent member of the YLS Executive Committee who has a demonstrated record of outstanding service to the bar association over an extended period of time. The YLS was delighted to recognize and honor Emily Gianquinto's many contributions to the association over the last six years of service.

F. The Youth Law Academy: May 29, 2015

On May 29, 2015, the YLS was thrilled to host over 150 high school students from school districts around the state at the Youth Law Academy for an all-day event at Quinnipiac University School of Law in North Haven. The program was designed to educate primarily students of minority backgrounds about the law and to encourage them to consider a career in the legal profession. The day featured a panel discussion with Supreme Court Justice Richard A. Robinson and Superior

Court Judges Antonio C. Robaina, Nina F. Elgo, and Vernon D. Oliver, as well as a mock law class taught by Judge Angela C. Robinson. CBA member attorneys participated in breakout sessions to engage students in small group discussions about legal concepts and explore potential career paths in the law. Students also received tips on the college and law school admissions process from Karen DeMeola, Assistant Dean of Students at UConn Law and Kathy A. Kuhar, Associate Dean of Students at Quinnipiac University School of Law. The academy was supported with a generous sponsorship from Day Pitney LLP. A special thank you to Garlinck Dumont, who was instrumental in the planning of this event. I would also like to acknowledge Dana Hrelac, Aidan Welsh, Kate Russo and Linda Bulkovitch for their time and support in executing this memorable day for the students.

G. YLS GALA: May 30, 2015

The ninth annual YLS Gala was held on May 30, 2015 at the Hartford Club in Hartford. Approximately 55 YLS members and their guests attended the event, which featured a cocktail hour, full dinner and dancing. YLS Treasurer Aidan Welsh is to be commended for her work in organizing this event.

IV. CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (CLE) PROGRAMMING

This year, the YLS continued the new approach approved and encouraged by the CBA to produce fewer traditional CLE programs. In an effort to provide educational programs to new lawyers at a price point below traditional CLE programs, while at the same time ease the financial strain placed on the CBA that was associated with traditional CLE programs, YLS Committees were charged with planning more non-traditional educational programs. Some of these programs were based around substantive legal topics, while others were based on educational components associated with the business of law or topics ancillary to the practice of law such as professional networking and business development. Committees were encouraged to hold these non-traditional educational programs in locations outside the CBA Law Center when possible in order to provide excitement based on venue, to reach different geographic demographics, and to help reduce costs where possible. All of the CLE programs, both traditional and non-traditional, will be explained in greater detail in part XII of this report, which encompasses the activities of the YLS substantive law committees. CLE Director Rebecca Paolino and Educational Programming Director Joanna Kornafel did an excellent job in organizing the Committees and overseeing these programs.

V. SOCIAL PROGRAMS

In an effort to increase membership and engagement among members statewide with “fun” events, the YLS held a variety of social networking programs throughout the state. Social programs are seen as vital to the foundation of the YLS insofar as these events tend to be the programs most likely to generate attendance. This in turn, provides the greatest opportunity for members to interact with each other as the realities of modern practice increasingly stymie new attorneys from meeting in other workplace settings. In planning social programming this year, the YLS set a goal to reach out to members outside of Hartford County and made deliberate attempts to reach members in Fairfield County, which has a very large population of YLS members who generally (and understandingly) are unable or unwilling to attend events in the Hartford area.

The YLS held the following social events this year:

- On August 25, 2014, the YLS held a kick-off event at Salute Restaurant in Hartford. We had over 50 attendees, including many members who had not attended a YLS event previously.
- On September 4, 2014, the YLS held a second kick-off event at Kona Grill in Stamford. We had a great turnout of approximately 50 young lawyers from Fairfield County. This event represented the YLS's continued effort to have better outreach to our Fairfield County members.
- In addition to the receptions, we also sponsored a group trip to the New Haven Tennis Open on August 20, 2014, where YLS members were able to purchase tickets to the Open and watch several international tennis stars play the fast-paced sport.
- On October 1, 2014, the YLS teamed up with the CT CPAs for a networking reception with the added unique bonus of having the opportunity to have a professional headshot taken to be used for marketing materials, etc. We had terrific turnout from both organizations and many individuals took advantage of the chance to have their headshot updated.
- On December 4, 2014, the YLS sponsored a Holiday Craft Beer Dinner at Half Full Brewery in Stamford. Coalhouse Pizza, also located in Stamford, provided food for the event in which more than 100 attorneys from Fairfield County attended.
- On March 1, 2015, the YLS sponsored a group trip to the UConn Men's Basketball game against Southern Methodist University. Member's met at the Black Bear Saloon for a networking event prior to tipoff and then sat together to route on the Huskies.
- May 19, 2015, the YLS held its final section meeting of the year in at Amarante's Sea Cliff in New Haven. This event had a short business session followed by a cocktail type networking reception. In light of the devastating earthquake in Nepal the month prior, the YLS leadership decided to incorporate a charitable component to this meeting with all registration proceeds donated to the American Red Cross. More than \$1,000 were raised and donated to the victims of this natural disaster.

YLS Membership Outreach Director, Walter Welsh, is to be noted for his commitment and hard work in planning the extremely active and successful calendar of social events that the YLS implemented this year.

VI. LAW SCHOOL OUTREACH AND NEW MENTORING PROGRAM

In an effort to plant the seeds for future CBA membership, the YLS put a much greater importance to Law School outreach than it had in the past. The YLS continued its career panel series at the University of Connecticut Law School (UConn Law) and Quinnipiac University School of Law

(QUSL). The career panels were set up to provide insight for law students on what the practice of law is like in a particular field, from the perspective of a new attorney.

In addition to the Career Panels, the YLS also attended orientations and/or welcoming ceremonies at UConn Law and QUSL whereby students were provided information on free YLS membership. The YLS also held two networking events for each of the schools, one per semester. These events were marketed in conjunction with the law schools student government as a way for classmates to meet each other and other young lawyers at the start of a semester.

The list of law school outreach functions which took place this year are as follows:

- Fall, 2014, Mentoring Program Meet and Greet for Mentors and Law Student Mentees at Salute Restaurant
- Fall, 2014, Lunch and Learn Career Panel at QUSL: Family Law lead by Aidan Welsh, Dave McGrath, Mark Randall and Katherine Phillips
- November, 2014, Career Panel at UConn Law: Careers in Law and Government lead by Melanie Dykas
- March 19, 2015, Spring Semester networking event at the Half Door in Hartford for UConn Law
- March 27, 2015, Spring Semester networking event at the Cask Republic in New Haven for QUSL
- April 8, 2015, Lunch and Learn Career Panel at UConn Law: Real Property Pursuit lead by Katie Carey

YLS Law School Outreach Director Rebecca Paolino with the help of law school liaisons Kate Clark, Jon Canestri and Thad Bochain, planned and coordinated all of the events and programs listed above. YLS Leadership is very grateful for the tremendous work which was accomplished in Law School outreach and finds it notable to mention that in a time when law school admissions are down considerably, YLS membership of Law School members has actually increased thanks to these efforts.

One of the major initiatives of the year was the implementation of a very successful mentoring program between YLS members and law students at both UConn Law and QUSL. This program was extremely important to the YLS leadership because it not only allowed YLS members to give back and serve the bar in a meaningful way by mentoring the next generation of young lawyers, but it also helped to achieve our goal of increasing law student participation in the YLS and CBA in general. Jennifer Miller served as the Mentoring Program Director and she did an outstanding job.

After publicizing the program in the law schools, prospective mentees filled out applications and they were subsequently paired with appropriate YLS member mentors. Jennifer Miller carefully took the mentees interests and career aspirations into consideration and then matched each mentee the best suited mentor possible. The mentors met with their mentees at

a meet and greet at Salute restaurant in the fall of 2014 where they got to know one another. Throughout the year, mentors were encouraged to stay in regular contact with their mentees, assist with resume and interview preparation, invite mentees to other CBA events in order to foster networking opportunities, assist and support mentees as they navigated the Bar Exam, and generally be available to answer questions and concerns that the mentees may have had. The program received rave reviews from both the mentors and mentees. We were pleased that several mentees actually acquired post-law school employment as a result of their mentoring relationship. The YLS is hopeful that it can continue to grow this program in the coming years.

VII. PUBLIC SERVICE

“Lawyers in the Classroom/Kids in the Courtroom” Program

YLS Special Projects Coordinator Caitlin Anderson followed up on the past three years of civics education by continuing and expanding the “Lawyers in the Classroom; Kids in the Courtroom” initiative, as set forth below:

1. Mock Trial Programs

The first part of the “Lawyers in the Classroom/Kids in the Courtroom” program was to continue support of our long standing sponsorship of the New Haven region Mock Trial high school competition through the recruitment of volunteer attorneys to serve as judges. This year, the YLS was able to help organize the competition which was held in the New Haven Superior Courthouse, a venue that was greatly appreciated by the participants.

2. Classroom Visits

The second yearlong portion of the “Lawyers in the Classroom/Kids in the Courtroom” program was to arrange visits by volunteer attorneys to various school classrooms across the state in order to teach students about the importance of the rule of law, the legal process and what it is like being a lawyer in our society - perhaps even inspiring some of the students to consider careers in the law. The state Judicial Branch again contributed to this project by providing copies of its publication, *Laws and the Courts: A Workbook for Upper Elementary Students* for our volunteer attorneys to use in planning and conducting their lessons.

The YLS was also delighted to expand the classroom visits in some schools to include a new curriculum designed by the ABA Young Lawyers Division called Bullyproof, which is a comprehensive initiative that provides education and resources to help empower parents, educators, students, and lawyers to make bullying an issue of the past. The addition on this initiative was exceptionally well received by the students and schools in which it was taught. A special thank you to Melanie Dykas and Eamonn Wisneski, who spearheaded the Bullyproof efforts.

Commercial and Bankruptcy Committee co-chair Patrick Linsey also worked incredibly hard to organize more than a dozen volunteer attorneys to teach fourteen classes on the basics of appellate procedure at four high schools in Fairfield County. The classes prepared the students to attend the Connecticut Supreme Court’s arguments held “on circuit” at Fairfield Warde High School in October of 2014.

A. Dress for Success Clothing Drive

This year the YLS began what we hope will become a new tradition when we partnered with the Dress for Success Hartford to hold a clothing drive during the month of April. Dress for Success is a world-wide non-profit organization that provides interview suits, confidence boosts, and career development to low-income women in over 75 cities around the world. The YLS marketed the clothing drive throughout the CBA and due to the generosity of so many throughout the state, we were able to donate a tremendous amount of business suits and business clothing to women in need. Melanie Dykas, Erin Boatman, Joanna Kornafel, Patrick Linsey, Leland Moore and Katie Carey were instrumental in the planning and execution of this initiative.

VIII. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

On April 22, 2015 the YLS hosted the 2015 Legislative Breakfast, an annual event that provides members with a unique opportunity to meet with state legislators in a relaxed and social atmosphere, allowing both members and legislators the opportunity to informally discuss both legal and legislative issues facing Connecticut. In addition to remarks from keynote speaker and fellow EC member, State Representative Steven J. Stafstrom, guests also heard from Connecticut Attorney General George Jepsen and Senator Len Fasano. Government Affairs Chair/Legislative Liaison Melanie Dykas took a lead role in organizing this event.

IX. AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION/YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION (ABA/YLD) REPORT

YLS participation in ABA/YLD activities continues to increase steadily each year, which reflects the section's renewed commitment to participation in organized bar activities on the national level. Specifically, the YLS sent representatives to all of the ABA/YLD conferences during the 2014-2015 bar year.

Specifically, during the 2015-16 bar year, the YLS sent representatives to each of the major ABA meetings: the annual meeting of the full ABA in Boston, Massachusetts; the fall conference of the YLD in Portland, Oregon; the midyear meeting of the full ABA in Houston, Texas; and the spring conference of the YLD in Tampa, Florida. YLS representatives participated in the House of Delegates of both the full ABA and the YLD, in addition to attending a great many lectures and events, at each of the meetings this year. Austin Berescik-Johns served as the YLS' ABA YLD District Delegate and he did a terrific job representing the CBA YLS at each conference and meeting along with the other members of the YLS who attended with him.

X. SOCIAL MEDIA & COMMUNICATION

Over the last several years, YLS leadership determined that it was imperative to make a concerted effort to improve the way that the organization communicated with its members. Given that the cost of increased postage was prohibitive, YLS leadership created a dedicated director position to bolster and concentrate on its social networking presence. This endeavor has proven to be extremely beneficial to reaching both members and non-members and consequently, increasing attendance at CBA events. Thanks in large part to the creation of the position of Social Media Director, the YLS has seen a great increase in its social media presence including incredible gains to our membership pages on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

Aside from an increase in membership generally, our activity and “reach” online has grown by leaps and bounds. This has all been accomplished through organic growth without the use of paid advertising. The efforts of Social Media Director, Joe Blyskal, are to be commended for this tremendous accomplishment and CBA leadership is encouraged to spread news of these successes to its other sections leaders. While increasing communication with members still remains a large priority for YLS leadership, we are very much encouraged by the opportunities that social media has created for our organization.

XI. REPORTS SUBMITTED BY YLS SUBSTANTIVE COMMITTEES

1. Administrative Law (Clarissa Matthews, Chris Houck)

On March 31, 2015, the Administrative Law Committee sponsored a CLE called “What Every Administrative Law and Land Use Attorney Should Know: Tips, Tricks and Pitfalls CLE.” This program provided a unique opportunity to learn valuable lessons in administrative and land use practice and strategy from experienced judges and practitioners. The panel addressed important considerations and nuances in Connecticut practice and recent substantive and procedural developments in the law, and offered tips, tricks, and advice on how to avoid or address pitfalls that attorneys commonly face before local agencies at the administrative level. Speakers included the Honorable Carl J. Schuman, of the Connecticut Superior Court, Attorney Amy Souchuns of Hurwitz Sagarin Slossberg & Knuff LLC, Attorney Louis Todisco of the Connecticut Department of Education, and the Honorable Henry S. Cohn, a Superior Court judge, who served as moderator.

On April 28, 2015, the committee co-sponsored a government networking event called “Meet the Branches.” The event was co-sponsored by the YLS Professional Responsibility Committee. The event was held at Salute restaurant in Hartford. Meet the Branches was designed to be a networking opportunity for government attorneys from all three branches of government. This was the event’s third year and it was very successful. Roughly 60 attorneys attended the event, including attorneys employed by the judicial, legislative, executive branches of state government. Military JAG attorneys, as well as attorneys in the private practice, attended the event as well.

2. Appellate Practice (Matthew Weiner, Ben Abrams, Michael Weil)

On March 26, 2015, the YLS Appellate Practice Committee sponsored a dinner and panel of distinguished speakers in honor of the 50th anniversary of the 1965 Connecticut Constitution. The Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society and the law firm of Horton Shields & Knox co-sponsored the event, which was titled “Celebrating 50 Years of the Connecticut Constitution.” The panel included Justice Peter Zarella of the Connecticut Supreme Court, Sandra Staub of the Connecticut ACLU, Brendon Levesque of Horton Shields & Knox, and Professor Gary Rose of Sacred Heart University. Mike Besso of the Connecticut Attorney General's Office served as the moderator. The event was held at the Hartford Club, and approximately 75 attorneys attended.

On April 21, 2015, the YLS Appellate Practice Committee co-sponsored with the YLS Criminal Justice Committee a CLE titled "Immigration Law for Defense Attorneys." The CLE was geared toward defense attorneys who wanted to learn more about their obligation to provide immigration law counsel to non-citizen clients charged with crimes. Attendees were provided an overview of the history of US immigration law, strategies for representing non-citizen defendants, and tips for pursuing post-conviction remedies for those clients. Speakers included Attorney Anthony Collins of Collins & Martin, PC, Attorney Milagros Cruz of Milagros Immigration Law LLC, and Attorney Tanya Dorman of The Dorman Law Firm. Matthew Weiner served as the moderator.

3. Business Law (Leland Moore, Thomas Noonan)

The Business Law Committee was actively engaged with the senior bar counterpart section in cross-promoting attendance at their respective events. Additionally, the Committee organized a CLE entitled, "What Every Lawyer Should Know About LLCs and the LLC Operating Agreement." The CLE will be held at the Connecticut Legal Conference on June 15, 2015 and will provide a practical overview by experienced business lawyers of limited liability companies and the great flexibility and tax advantages they offer to entrepreneurs and business owners. The program will include an in-depth analysis of the key provisions of an LLC operating agreement, default rules provided by the current Connecticut LLC Act, consideration of possible changes in the law and the tax concepts that underlie specific provisions of an LLC operating agreement.

4. Children Welfare and Juvenile Law (Tara Dugo, Kristen Wolf)

This year, the Child Welfare & Juvenile Law Committee sponsored two CLEs. The first took place on October 30, 2014 and was entitled "DCF Investigations: Details, Pitfalls and Practice Tips." This CLE had a panel of three (3) speakers all from the Agranoff Law Firm who spoke in great detail about the specific consequences one may face as a result of a DCF investigation, the rights of parents and guardians in DCF investigations and specific steps lawyers and paralegals representing parents in said investigations should take and the pitfalls to avoid.

In addition, the Committee also co-sponsored a CLE with the YLS Estates and Probate Committee entitled "The Anatomy of a Special Needs Trust." This CLE took place on February 25, 2015 and had a panel of two (2) speakers who spoke in great detail about the drafting and application of special needs trusts and all of the topics that one may need to consider if drafting such a trust.

5. Bankruptcy Law (Patrick Linsey, Erin Boatman)

YLS Commercial Law & Bankruptcy Committee worked closely with the Commercial Law & Bankruptcy Section of the senior bar to organize seminars and other educational opportunities this Bar year. The senior bar section had such faith in the YLS co-chairs that the senior bar section appointed the YLS co-chairs to lead the senior section's Continuing Legal Education Committee. In October of 2014, the YLS co-chairs presented a lecture on bankruptcy court jurisdiction under several recent and pending U.S. Supreme Court cases at a dinner meeting of the senior bar section.

On April 27, 2015, the committee co-sponsored along with the senior bar section and the YLS Federal Practice Committee a CLE entitled "Fundamentals of Adversary Proceedings in U.S. Bankruptcy Court." Speakers included Chief Bankruptcy Judge Julie A. Manning, as well as several experienced bankruptcy practitioners including, Attorneys Evan Goldstein, Stephen Kindseth, Jeffrey Sklarz and Robert White.

The Committee will also deliver presentations on consumer and commercial bankruptcy law at the Connecticut Legal Conference on June 15, 2015.

6. Criminal Justice (Brian Altieri, Sean Barrett)

On April 21, 2015, the Criminal Justice Committee co-sponsored a CLE entitled "Immigration Law for Defense Attorneys" (discussed above.)

7. Estate & Probate Law (Linda Bulkovitch, Bernardo Cuadra)

The Estate & Probate Law Committee planned two CLEs this year. The first event, which was discussed above, was a co-sponsored CLE held on February 25, 2015 entitled "The Anatomy of a Special Needs Trust." The second was a CLE that took place on May 12, 2015 dealing with the drafting of trustee releases and beneficiary consents. The program targeted attorneys who represent fiduciaries and beneficiaries who are often called upon to resolve issues related to trust administration. Co-chair Bernardo Cuadra served as the moderator, while Attorney Charles Pieterse of Whitman Breed Abbott & Morgan LLC and Attorney Robert Wyld of Shipman & Goodwin LLP were the featured speakers.

8. Family Law (David McGrath, Mark Randall, Kathryn Phillips)

On November 18, 2014, the Family Law Committee presented "Family Law Practice Essentials." This program introduced attendees to the basics of family law practice and procedure. Attendees learned tips and practice pointers from experienced family law attorneys and a presiding Judge. The seminar began as most family law cases do: with the initial interview. The panelists then explained the steps of a typical family law case including post-judgment and appellate issues. Attendees also learned about pertinent case law, the relevant statutes in family law cases and the judicial processes currently in place including: short calendar, family relations, discovery and dispute resolution.

Also in the fall of 2014, the Family Law Committee hosted a Lunch and Learn Career Panel on the topic of family law at QUSL.

9. Federal Practice (Eric Miller, Thamar Esperance, Sabrina Victor)

On October 21, 2014, the Federal Practice Committee hosted a Federal Practice 101 CLE aimed at introducing attorneys to the basics of federal practice. The panel consisted of two experienced federal civil litigators, Elizabeth Stewart and Tim Shearin, who provided practical guidance on how to navigate the federal judicial system and the Honorable Stefan R. Underhill, who offered his insights to give attendees a better understanding of the

expectations of the federal bench. The event was co-sponsored by the Federal Practice Section of the senior bar and was very well attended.

In addition, the Federal Practice Committee co-sponsored a CLE on the Fundamentals of Adversary Proceedings in U.S. Bankruptcy Court, discussed above, on 4/27/15.

The Committee also co-sponsored an “In-Chambers Lunch with Judge Covello” on June 10, 2015. The brown bag lunch with United States District Judge, Alfred V. Covello, held in Judge Covello’s chambers in the Federal Courthouse in Hartford provided attendees with the unique opportunity to have lunch in an intimate setting with a federal judge who has over forty years’ experience on the bench.

10. Gay & Lesbian Legal Rights (David McGuire)

The YLS Gay & Lesbian Rights Committee partnered with the CBA LGBT section to host a panel discussing “Recent Developments in Marriage Equality and Some Practical Implications for Practitioners.” Topics included developments in the law in the areas of family, immigration, bankruptcy, tax, trusts and estates and employee benefits. The panelists included Meghan Freed of Freed Marcroft, who served as moderator, Attorney Leslie Jennings Lax of Lax & Truax, Attorney Kenneth Bartschi of Horton, Shield & Knox, P.C. and Attorney Kristen Marcroft of Freed Marcroft.

11. Government Affairs (Melanie Dykas, Steve Stafstrom)

See discussion above regarding the very successful Legislative Breakfast that this Committee sponsored on April 22, 2015.

Also in the fall of 2014, the Government Affairs Committee hosted a Lunch and Learn Career Panel on the topic of careers in Law and Government at UConn Law.

12. Insurance Law (Bethany Barrese, Michael Barrese, Joseph Blyskal)

The Insurance Law Committee put on three events this year. First, on November 3, 2014, the Committee hosted a CLE on Cyber Risk Insurance at the CBA Law Center in New Britain. The speakers for this event included Attorney Gregory Podolak of Saxe Doernberger & Vita, and Attorney Karen Johnson of Travelers Insurance. This two hour CLE discussed types of insurance coverages for technology-related risks and common legal issues arising under such policies.

In addition to the CLE, the co-chairs planned two mixers between the YLS Insurance Law Committee and senior bar Insurance Law Section. The first took place on October 15, 2014 at Firebox restaurant in Hartford. The second occurred on April 30, 2015 at Two Roads Brewery in Stratford.

13. Litigation (Eamonn Wisneski, Amanda Gordon, Jason Gamsby, Jeffrey Mueller)

On September 29, 2014, the Committee presented the “Short Calendar 101” CLE focused on how young lawyers can most effectively prepare for oral argument, effectively present

themselves before the court, and also included an overview of Connecticut's short calendar system (with particular emphasis on recent changes due to e-filing). Speakers included the Honorable Edward S. Domnarski (Superior Court, Middlesex Judicial District), Peggy George (Superior Court Operations), Tucker G. McWeeny (Szilagyi & Daly), and Eamonn Wisneski (Dzialo, Pickett & Allen, P.C.).

On October 27, 2014, the co-chairs sponsored the "Depositions 101" CLE. This program taught young lawyers how to conduct (and defend) depositions in Connecticut civil practice, including how depositions complement other discovery tools, how to most effectively prepare for and take a deposition, and how to use deposition transcripts for the remainder of the action. Speakers included Amanda Gordon (Robinson + Cole), Cullen Guilmartin (McCarter & English), Kelly Reardon (The Reardon Law Firm), and Jonathan Shapiro (Shapiro Law Offices).

On March 9, 2015, the Committee hosted the Negotiation/Mediation 101 CLE, which focused on how young lawyers can develop particular skills for resolving matters, such as negotiation and mediation, and provided knowledge to evaluate when these processes would be particularly effective. Attendees of this CLE received an overview of how to most persuasively represent clients in both negotiation and mediation in Connecticut civil practice, including how these resolution methods complement other resolution methods, how to most effectively prepare for negotiation and mediation advocacy, and how these methods can be used in particular types of cases. Speakers included Joel Faxon (Faxon Law Group), Charlie Pillsbury (Mediations Beyond Borders International, Quinnipiac University School of Law), Robert L. Holzberg (Pullman & Comley LLC, Superior Court Judge Ret.), the Honorable Antonio Robaina (Superior Court, Hartford Judicial District), and Jason Gamsby (Faxon Law Group).

The Committee also continued the wildly popular series entitled "What I Wish I Knew as a Young Litigator That I Know Now" at Esca Restaurant in Middletown on February 12, 2015. As the title suggests, the event consisted of prominent speakers offering insights into the practice of law, with a particular emphasis on litigation, in an informal networking reception setting. We were very fortunate to have Attorney General George Jepsen as our featured speaker.

The Committee is also going to be presenting an E-Discovery seminar at the upcoming Connecticut Legal Conference on June 15, 2015. The presentation will focus on the practical aspects of e-discovery, providing a "how to" guide to get from the beginning to the end of an e-discovery project in an organized, defensible manner. It will start with an overview of the importance of a thoughtful, well-documented e-discovery process in modern civil litigation and will then focus on the various milestones throughout the process including custodian interviews, collection, culling techniques, review methodologies and production considerations. It will be practical and process oriented, providing both outside and in-house counsel. Speakers will include Andrea Napp (Robinson + Cole) and Amy Markham DeCesare (Allied World).

It is also notable that co-chair Eamonn Wisneski wrote an article for the Connecticut Lawyer magazine, published in March 2015, entitled "Short Calendar 101." Although for many young lawyers, arguing a short calendar matter before a judge in a courtroom filled with experienced practitioners can be a daunting task, Attorney Wisneski's article provides information on the fundamentals of short calendar and guidance on appearing and arguing before the court.

14. Planning and Zoning Law (Evan Seeman)

On November 20, 2014, the Planning & Zoning Committee co-sponsored a meeting with the senior bar Planning & Zoning Section in New Haven. The purpose of the event was to encourage a new and younger generation of lawyers to become more involving with the senior bar section and to make connections with established members of the senior section. The event was exceptionally well-attended.

On March 31, 2015, the Planning & Zoning Committee co-sponsored a CLE entitled "What Every Administrative Law & Land Use Attorney Should Know: Tips, Tricks & Pitfalls." (discussed above.)

15. Professional Responsibility (Lila McKinley, Courtney Chaplin)

On March 6, 2015, the Professional Responsibility Committee co-sponsored a CLE entitled "Cloud Computing: What Every Lawyer Needs to Know Now". The CLE on cloud computing was a joint effort between the Professional Responsibility Committee, the Technology Committee, and the Solo and Small Firms Committee. The event detailed the basics about what cloud computing is, how it impacts an attorney's practice, best practices and technology that small firms can use with respect to cloud computing to safely protect client data, and the ethical implications of cloud computing and what steps to take to avoid ethical pitfalls. The event featured speakers from local technology firms and the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel.

On April 28, 2015, the Professional Responsibility Committee co-sponsored the Meet the Branches Government Attorney Networking Event (discussed above.)

16. Real Property Law (Katie Carey)

On August 12, 2014, the Real Property Committee co-sponsored a networking event with the Greater Hartford Realtor's Association. The event was entitled "Appy Hour" where 5 speakers presented mobile apps that are geared toward helping real property professionals' businesses. The event took place at Rooftop 120 in Glastonbury and more than 70 individuals attended.

Also in the Spring of 2015, the Real Property Committee hosted a Lunch and Learn Career Panel at UConn Law entitled "Real Property Pursuit". Participants included the current and former chairs of the senior bar's Real Property Section and a vice president from CATIC, the largest title insurance company in CT.

17. Small Firm and Solo Practice (Shari-Lynn Cuomo-Shore, Garlinck Dumont, Carmina Tessitore)

The Small Firm and Solo Practice Committee hosted a three-part series entitled The Legal Entrepreneur. This series focused on starting one's own practice, generating revenue within said practice and, ultimately marketing the practice. A condensed version of this seminar series will be presented at the Connecticut Legal Conference this June. Each seminar was held at Quinnipiac University School of Law and was followed by a networking reception at Leon's Restaurant in North Haven, Connecticut.

- Part I was held on September 17, 2014 and was entitled Starting Your Own Law Firm
- Part II was held on November 19, 2014 and was entitled How to Build Revenue for Your New Solo/Small Firm
- Part III was held on January 29, 2015 and was entitled Marketing for Your New Solo/Small Firm

On March 6, 2015, the Small Firm and Solo Practice Committee co-sponsored the CLE entitled "Cloud Computing: What Every Lawyer Needs to Know Now" (discussed above).

18. Tax Law (Michael Duffy)

On February 23, 2015, the Tax Law Committee sponsored a CLE entitled "Introduction to IRS Practice and Procedure." The seminar included a basic review of IRS practice and procedure for attorneys, including administrative appeals, statutes of limitations, and collections. The program addressed strategies for resolving civil and criminal controversies with the IRS. Attendees learned alternatives for resolving payment of delinquent taxes, how to deal with a tax audit involving potential criminal conduct, and how to challenge a tax liability through administrative appeal and judicial review.

19. Technology Law (Alfredo Fernandez)

On February 26, 2015, the Technology Law Committee sponsored an event focused on the legal considerations of social media and the Quinnipiac Club in New Haven. This panel presented well-known panelists including David Lat, Dan Schwartz and Lauri Stevens. The panel introduced the attendees to the new generation of mainstream social media platforms such as Vine and Instagram and Snap Chat and discussed ways in which employers, potential employers, employees, law enforcement bodies and criminals use social media and the legal considerations that result from such uses. The session concluded with some anecdotal and entertaining examples of lawyers and judges using social media improperly and negatively affecting their careers.

On March 6, 2015, the Technology Law Committee co-sponsored the CLE entitled "Cloud Computing: What Every Lawyer Needs to Know Now" (discussed above).

20. Women in the Law (Suphi Philip, Jessica Rivera, Tamar Bakhbava)

On October 9, 2014, the Women in the Law Committee hosted an event called "Every Body Has Something to Say." Attendees learned about the significance of body language and how non-verbal cues can be read and utilized in meetings, media, and in the courtroom from

featured speaker Carolyn Finch, who is a body language expert. The event was held at Kelly's Restaurant in New Haven and was extremely well attended.

On March 12, 2015, the Committee co-sponsored in conjunction with the senior bar Women in the Law Section the presentation of 2015 Ladder Award at the annual Pathways to Leadership for Women in the Law event, which was held at the Inn at Middletown. The award was presented to Diane W. Whitney, Environmental Law Department Chair at Pullman & Comley LLC in Hartford.

Since 2007, the Ladder Award honors a female attorney in Connecticut who has demonstrated exceptional leadership affecting women. The award recipient reflects outstanding contributions to women's leadership development in terms of impact, sustainability, comprehensiveness, distinguished excellence, and leadership empowerment, particularly in mentoring junior female attorneys.

Attorney Whitney was nominated by her colleagues for her service as immediate past chair of Pullman & Comley's Women's Leadership Initiative, specifically, for the development and implementation of women's leadership programs both within the firm and the greater community. She was also recognized for her contribution to the firm's culture, namely her mentoring, which has been described as both important and meaningful to the firm's women attorneys. Attorney Whitney has guided associates on issues such as work-life balance, confidence building, legal instruction, and networking.

In addition to the presentation of the Ladder Award, the 2015 Pathways to Leadership for Women in the Law event also included an overview of the Best Practices for Gender Equity Pledge, including recognition of those law firms who have taken the pledge, and a keynote address from Fran Pastore, President and CEO of the Women's Business Development Council.

On May 14, 2015, the Committee sponsored the Women's Professional Golf Event at Lyman Orchards. This day-long event provided female attorneys with an opportunity to learn about the usefulness of golf for networking in the legal profession. Our guest speaker was Susan Powers, a certified Sandler Trainer, professional coach and a dynamic public speaker. The event included golf clinics, lunch and a presentation by Susan Powers, afternoon 9-hole special followed by a post-play reception.

XII. FUTURE LEADERSHIP

Chair-Elect Matthew Necci will automatically assume the office of Chair for the 2015-2016 bar year. In April, 2015, the Executive Committee, acting in its capacity as Nominating Committee, nominated the following slate of additional officers, who subsequently were elected to serve for the 2015-2016 bar year: Chair-Elect, Dana Hrelac, Vice-Chair; Aidan Welsh; Treasurer, Suphi Philip; Secretary, Courtney Chaplin.

XIII. CONCLUSION

It is with equal parts satisfaction and sadness that I write this annual report as Chair of the Young Lawyers Section. When I undertook this role about a year ago, I never imagined how challenging and gratifying the experience would be. It has been a true privilege to serve as Chair of a section that I believe is the most active, energetic, creative and inspiring. The Section also represents the future of the legal profession and based on the law students and young attorneys I had the chance to meet and the colleagues with whom I was fortunate enough to work, I feel confident that we are in excellent hands going forward.

As demonstrated by the length and substance of this report, the YLS had a busy, meaningful and productive year that was due to the hard work of so many. I was particularly proud of the work we did to develop the young lawyer and law student mentoring program, the tremendously successful and memorable United States Supreme Court Admission Program that featured a private lunch with Justice Alito and the inspiring Youth Law Academy that the YLS presented for over 150 high school students with the goal of encouraging the students to consider pursuing a career in the law and eventually increasing diversity in the legal profession. It is through programs like those mentioned in this annual report that the YLS helps to connect members and foster networking, encourage the pursuit of continued education and create opportunities to serve the public. For that, I am honored to be part of such an incredible organization.

I would be remiss if I did not thank several folks who have been instrumental in helping me to serve as Chair. First and foremost, I extend heartfelt appreciation to the CBA staff, including Doug Brown, our executive director, all of whom are energetic, supportive and eager to assist in any way possible. The staff are consummate professionals, who work tirelessly and who consistently go above and beyond what is expected to ensure member satisfaction. In particular, I would have been lost without the guidance and expertise of Suzanne Hard and Carol DeJohn. These women do not possess the word “no” in their vocabulary and handled near-daily requests from me with such grace and patience.

I also owe a debt of gratitude to my officers, directors, the entire EC and the recent past Chairs of the YLS, all who worked incredibly hard to support my goals and to better the CBA overall. Thank you to Chair-Elect Matt Necci, Vice-Chair Dana Hrelac, Treasurer Aidan Welsh and Secretary Jennifer Mira. A special thank you to Joanna Kornafel and Rebecca Paolino, who served as educational programming directors and who did their job so stellarly that if any issues arose, they were handled before I even knew about them. I am grateful to Past Chairs Chris Nelson, Jonathan Shapiro and Jonathan Weiner, for their friendship and advice when difficult situations arose that only they as former YLS leaders could fully appreciate. The YLS is extraordinarily lucky to have Matt Necci and Dana Hrelac as its future leaders and the upcoming slate of YLS officers brings tremendous talent and perspective in leading the organization.

On behalf of the YLS officers, I respectfully submit this report and thank the CBA Executive Officers, the House of Delegates and the Board of Governors for their continued support of the YLS and its mission to develop the future of the Connecticut bar.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AWARDS COMMITTEE

William H. Prout, Jr., Chair

Annual Report

The 2014-2015 Awards Committee (“Committee”) was initially constituted by the CBA on August 11, 2014; thereafter, consistent with CBA goals of inclusiveness and diversity, the Committee roster was expanded to 16 members, each of whom actively participated in the work of the Committee. A list of Committee members is attached. All CBA members received a call for nominations advising them that nominations would remain open through November 3, 2014 and urging them to submit nominations for each of the Awards within the Committee’s jurisdiction:

- Citizen for the Law Award
- Citizen of the Law Award
- Charles J. Parker Legal Services Award
- Distinguished Public Service Award
- Henry J. Naruk Judiciary Award
- John Eldred Shields Distinguished Professional Service Award
- Tapping Reeve Legal Educator Award

During the nominations period, the Committee met by conference call on various occasions to (1) review the criteria for each Award; (2) review the lists of Award recipients from prior years; (3) identify organizations and individuals to contact directly urging nominations; (4) appoint individual “precinct captains” to lead Committee discussions as to each Award; and (5) address logistical, jurisdictional, and process issues. All nominations and related documentation provided to the Committee, from whatever source, during this period – and thereafter – was shared with each member of the Committee. An impressive cadre of potential recipients was compiled for each Award; it should be noted, however, that with few exceptions, the source of those nominations was the Committee itself rather than the CBA membership at large.

Once the nominations period closed, the Committee continued to meet by conference call, but ultimately met twice face-to-face to reach agreement on its final slate of nominations, which slate was submitted to the CBA Executive Committee on December 9, 2014. That slate was thereafter recommended by the Executive Committee to the Board of Governors, and approved by the Board on January 26, 2015. On April 16, 2015 the following distinguished recipients were presented their Awards by President-Elect Clendenen and Vice-President Frank at the CBA’s “Celebrate with the Stars” reception:

- Citizen for the Law Award – Carolyn Golden Hebsgaard
- Citizen of the Law Award – Henri Alexandre
- Charles J. Parker Legal Services Award*
- Distinguished Public Service Award – Carlton L. Highsmith
- Henry J. Naruk Judiciary Award – The Honorable Janet Bond Arterton
- John Eldred Shields Distinguished Professional Service Award – Louis R. Pepe
- Tapping Reeve Legal Educator Award – Jon Bauer

* Debra C. Ruel, recipient of the Charles J. Parker Legal Services Award, was unavailable on April 16, 2015; she will be presented her Award at the June 15, 2015 Annual Meeting

CONNECTICUT BAR JOURNAL BOARD OF EDITORS

James E. Wildes, Chair

Purpose

The Board of Editors is charged with the responsibility of producing, editing, and publishing the *Connecticut Bar Journal*, the official publication of the Connecticut Bar Association. The bylaws of the CBA mandate publication of Formal Opinions of the Committee on Professional Ethics and the Committee on Unauthorized Practice of Law in the *Connecticut Bar Journal*. The *Connecticut Bar Journal* also publishes scholarly articles of interest to the Bar.

Annual Report

The *Connecticut Bar Journal* originated after a resolution passed on April 26, 1926, at the Connecticut Bar Association Annual Meeting. The resolution stated that "...the President of the State Bar Association appoint a Special Committee of five members to consider the advisability of publishing with power to publish if they deem it wise to do so, a quarterly bulletin or journal of the State Bar Association." President Terrence F. Carmody appointed the five-member panel in June 1926. The first issue of the *Connecticut Bar Journal* was published in January 1927 and has been published at least quarterly since that date.

This past year the Board of Editors, a group of volunteers, published four issues of the *Connecticut Bar Journal*. The Board held two meetings this past year.

The Board is committed to serving the interests of CBA members and remaining relevant in the quickly changing legal landscape of the times. With this goal in mind, the following summary of the steps the Journal has taken is outlined below.

In the 2012-2013 Bar year—in an effort to provide the delivery of the *Connecticut Bar Journal* as fast, green, and convenient—the Board decided to offer the membership the choice of receiving the *Connecticut Bar Journal* as a digital publication. The digital version has been sent as an e-mail attachment to the membership. The digital *CBJ* offers some advantages, in that it has much faster delivery because members will receive it in their inbox sooner without the delay of printing and mailing. In addition, the digital version has a positive effect on the environment because it will save in the use of paper to print and recycle. The digital version is also more convenient because members can load it into their laptops, tablets, or smartphones and then be able to read it anywhere and anytime. Starting with Volume 86, Numbers 1 and 2, all members of the Connecticut Bar Association received both the print and digital version of the publication. As members have renewed their membership, they have selected a box on their membership renewal form to opt-in for a print copy. Starting with Number 3, only members who opted-in for the print version received a printed copy; others received a digital version. The above choice continued through the last two years and it is expected to continue into future years.

In the 2013-2014 Bar year, the Board discussed and agreed to implement a new way of delivering the *Journal* to members. As articles are completed, they are posted to the *CBJ* page. When enough articles are received and edited, a full traditional issue is still assembled. The objective of the proposal was to deliver articles in the *Journal* in a timelier manner without sacrificing the scholarly quality that the *Journal* is known for. The Board implemented this new delivery in 2014 and it continued into 2015. This has not been a substitute for the regular issues; rather it has been in addition to. The articles have been edited as all other articles, so quality has not been negatively impacted. There has been no extra cost to the CBA. Announcements of this change were sent out to CBA members. The articles have also been announced by way of the Weekly Docket with a link to the article on the *CBJ* page.

The Board also received and reviewed the results of a CBA survey regarding the *Journal*. The purpose of the survey was to hear from CBA members about what has been going well and what the Journal could do to meet the evolving needs and expectations of members. The Board also sent representatives to an executive meeting of the CBA YLS with the hope of hearing ideas from newer members of the Bar. Although the feedback has been positive, the Board also elicited feedback that it would benefit the Journal and CBA membership to add some new members. To that end, five new members were added in 2014-2015, of which four were newer members of the Bar and/or members of the YLS.

The Board will also have a presence at the 2015 Connecticut Legal Conference. The Board looks forward to speaking directly to members of the CBA about how the *Journal* may best serve the interests of CBA members.

CONNECTICUT LAWYER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Elizabeth C. Yen, Chair

Purpose

The Connecticut Lawyer is an official publication of the Connecticut Bar Association, sent nine times a year to all members of the Association. This glossy color magazine includes articles on new legislation, recent state court decisions, interpretations of ethics rules, other significant developments affecting members of the Connecticut bar, and highlights of recent and upcoming Association activities. The Connecticut Lawyer Advisory Committee works with Association staff by reviewing selected articles submitted for publication at the request of Association staff, suggesting possible topics and authors for articles, and establishing editorial policies. Several Committee members are also regular contributors to the Connecticut Lawyer; all Committee members are encouraged to solicit articles on timely substantive legal topics from their colleagues.

Annual Report

Each issue of the Connecticut Lawyer includes one or more feature articles on substantive legal matters, highlights from recent Superior Court decisions (provided by the publishers of The Connecticut Law Reporter), and several columns (including columns about recent Connecticut Supreme Court decisions, recent Young Lawyers Section activities, and law practice management topics). The magazine also periodically includes ethics opinions drafted by the Committee on Professional Ethics, and digests prepared by the Professional Discipline Committee of recent Statewide Grievance Committee decisions.

The magazine also informs Association members of significant Association events, including the Connecticut Legal Conference (formerly the Association's annual meeting), annual Association awards, the Association's legislative agenda, pro bono and other initiatives.

The editorial guidelines for authors are available at:

https://c.ymcdn.com/sites/ctbar.site-ym.com/resource/resmgr/CT_Lawyer/CT_Lawyer_Editorial_Guidelin.pdf

Meetings

The Connecticut Lawyer Advisory Committee meets in person once a year; most of the Committee's work is handled effectively through e-mails. During the Committee's in-person meeting on January 20, 2015, the Committee reviewed the overall finances of the Connecticut Lawyer, and discussed possible ways to expand the variety of advertising that appears in the Connecticut Lawyer. The Committee also reviewed the results of a readership survey that was made available online to Association members. The vast majority of survey respondents indicated a strong level of interest in the Connecticut Lawyer, including a strong level of interest in articles about substantive areas of law. The Committee also discussed possible topics for future articles, and present and future online availability of Connecticut Lawyer issues (including partial online access for non-Association members).

The Connecticut Lawyer's continued success would not be possible without the interest and hours invested by many volunteers from the Advisory Committee, and the support of the Association's general membership and staff.

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

Mark A. Dubois, Chair

Purpose

The Diversity Committee meets on a quarterly basis with the aim at making the Connecticut Bar Association (CBA) and its leadership more diverse. In particular, we focused on fostering frank and open discussion that encourages all members of the CBA to own and take responsibility for diversifying the CBA through active involvement in diversity and inclusion programs in their own organizations and their communities in the areas of recruitment, retention, and promotion.

Annual Report

Prior to assuming the office of president, I assembled a group I called my “Diversity Cabinet” to assist and guide me in matters concerning diversity, inclusiveness and such during my term. I asked the leadership of all four diversity bars—CAPABA, SEBAC, CHBA and The George Crawford Black Bar to send members and they did. I also appointed representatives from the CBA’s new LGBT Section. We also drew from the ranks of bar leadership and membership, including members who had served on prior Diversity Committees.

After becoming President, I made the Diversity Cabinet into the Diversity Committee. They were invaluable to us in providing outreach to diversity communities, helping us to publicize meetings and events of shared interest, and in strengthening communication between the CBA and the diversity bars and the larger community of lawyers of diverse backgrounds.

Having opened the channels of communication with these groups, I am pleased to say that whenever I was at a particularly difficult point or had a sticky diversity issue to deal with, the Diversity Committee was here to help. Incoming bar leadership—President-Elect Clendenen and Vice-President Frank have both pledged to build on this foundation in the future and to develop a diversity program with goals, policies, and implementation schemes. Incoming Vice-President DeMeola will be the first CBA president drawn from a racial minority community. But she will not be the last. I credit the Diversity Committee and its members for what we have accomplished in this regard this year, and thank them for their excellent efforts.

FAIR AND IMPARTIAL COURTS COMMITTEE

James T. Shearin, Chair

Purpose

The Fair and Impartial Courts Committee was established by the Connecticut Bar Association to assist our state and federal judges when confronted by systemic attacks on their proper functions and from unfair and inappropriate criticism or assault, whether from individuals, organizations, the press or other sources, which are political and/or private in nature and which undermine the independence and fairness of the judicial system. We also investigate any issues that may arise concerning judges who may be questioned because of actions arising while performing their judicial role, particularly when these issues arise during re-appointment or the appointment process (for our sitting judges nominated to the Appellate or Supreme Court).

Annual Report

The Committee met this past year on a periodic basis, together, and with members of the Judiciary, to discuss the Committee's business. We tracked legislation and other political actions by the Governor and General Assembly to determine whether action was necessary by the Committee to support the Judicial Branch. We also investigated and addressed issues relating to the judicial re-appointment process.

FEDERAL JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

James T. Shearin, Chair

Purpose

The Federal Judiciary Committee reviews and reports on nominations proposed by Connecticut's United States Senators for judicial appointments, primarily to the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut.

According to the Rules, our recommendations are reported to the President of the Connecticut Bar Association, where he or she forwards the findings to the proposed nominee; the Office of the President of the United States; the two U.S. Senators from Connecticut; the Attorney General of the United States; and the Chair of the Committee of the Judiciary of the United States Senate.

Annual Report

The Committee investigated and discussed the qualifications of Victor A. Bolden to be a Judge of the United States District Court. The Committee met with the nominee and unanimously found him to be qualified. The Committee reported its findings to the President of the Connecticut Bar Association, who promptly reported this finding to the United States Senate. In due course, Mr. Bolden was confirmed as a United States District Judge. Judge Bolden is presently sitting in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

LEGISLATIVE POLICY AND REVIEW COMMITTEE

Monte E. Frank, Chair

Purpose

The Legislative Policy and Review Committee reviews proposals for taking positions concerning legislation—including Administrative Regulations and Judicial Rulemaking — and makes recommendations to the governing bodies of the Association whether such proposals or positions, as the case may be, should be authorized. It conducts a thorough analysis of the requested authorization; the underlying legislative or regulatory issue; the impact on the Bar and on Connecticut law; and whether the requested authorization is inconsistent with any other position of the Association or any of its Sections or Committees.

The Legislative Policy and Review Committee is appointed annually by the CBA president and consists of at least nine (9) members of the Association, not including the chair, at least two-thirds of whom shall be members or former members of the House of Delegates or the Board of Governors. The members for 2014-2015 were Howard Schiller, James T. Shearin, Kara T. Murphy, Sylvia Rutkowska, Vincent Pace, Emily Gianquinto, Suzanne Caron, James Craven and Anne Peters. Bill Chapman was the legislative lobbyist. The Legislative Policy and Review Committee was chaired by Monte Frank, vice president of the Association.

Annual Report

The Legislative Policy and Review Committee held telephonic meetings each Friday morning of the legislative session from January through mid-May. Some weeks during the session, the Committee met more often. Each meeting had a quorum of members, and all members were provided with copies of the legislative or regulatory proposals and an analysis of each such proposal prior to the meetings. Section leadership joined the meetings to present their requested positions. For the remainder of the Bar year, the Committee convenes on an “as-needed” basis for any upcoming legislation, regulations, rules, and CBA policy.

Throughout the year, the Committee provided input to the Rules Committee of the Superior Court, especially from Professional Ethics, and is working with our sections to create a process for certification as both Elder Law and Family Law attorneys.

During this legislative session, the Committee was very active. The Committee monitored over 1,000 bills that were submitted to the General Assembly. At the time of this report, the General Assembly is still in session and the Committee will continue its efforts as voting on bills will be occurring in the remaining weeks. At this time, bills from Commercial Finance, Construction Law, Business Law and Criminal Justice have made it through at least one chamber. While the Association has authorized section positions on Aid in Dying, the bill (with modifications urged by the CBA) did not advance this session.

As a result of the efforts of our Sections working with the Committee and Bar leadership, the Association has defeated bills that were opposed such as legislation to increase the amount of damages in small claims, a state-wide standardized contract for real property, changes to underinsured motorist insurance, and attachments on mechanics liens. Significantly, the CBA successfully opposed a sales tax on legal services. The CBA leadership also testified in support of the re-nomination of the Chief Justice. Meanwhile, there is significant work being done at the General Assembly to move the Power of Attorney Act, the Uniform Partition of Heirs Act, Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act, the elimination of the sunset on the foreclosure mediation program, and protecting the elderly from exploitation, along with other important legislation.

With close to 25 sections with authorized positions on legislation this year, the LPRC provides continuous and ready support to the Association, and remains active at the Capitol.

PRO BONO COMMITTEE

William H. Clendenen, Jr., Chair

Purpose

Pro bono service is an integral part of the mission of the Connecticut Bar Association and each individual lawyer's responsibility. As such, the CBA Pro Bono Committee strives to "promote the public interest through the advancement of justice and the protection of liberty," and more specifically, "facilitate the delivery of competent legal services to the public particularly those in greatest need." *Constitution of the CBA*, Art. II. The Committee also investigates, implements and otherwise provides opportunities for members to render public interest legal service, which includes "providing professional legal services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means" or such service as defined in *Rules of Professional Conduct*, Rule 6.1. A most important component of the Committee is the Pro Bono Network, which is a collaboration between the Connecticut Bar Association and Connecticut's legal service organizations.

Annual Report

April 29, 2015

The Pro Bono Committee, principally comprised of members of the private bar, executive directors, and attorneys of the State's legal aid agencies, serves a core function of the Connecticut Bar Association. The members practice in a broad spectrum of firms from some of Connecticut's largest firms to solo practitioners. A broad array of members are from various agencies providing pro bono publico services and activities.

Activities

The Committee continued to promote pro bono activities within the CBA during the year. The Committee provides leadership and support to the organized bar.

At the October 27, 2014 committee meeting the Hon. William Bright, Judge Superior Court made a presentation concerning the Tennessee online pro bono. Following the presentation the CBA surveyed the membership as to its interest in the program. Unfortunately, there was very little interest expressed. The Committee continued to work with the Judicial Branch to determine the feasibility of implementing such a program.

The Committee has also had Doug Brown, the CBA Executive Director, report on the status of CBA Pro Bono programs. There are presently 30 CBA Pro Bono programs of which only 15 are presently active. The Committee continues to study the increasing pro bono demands on the CBA membership.

The Connecticut Legal Aid Programs continue to face severe funding problems. The Governor's proposed budget eliminated Social Service Block Grants from the proposed budget. The Pro Bono Committee requested the CBA to seek through the legislature process to restore these grants. The loss of these grants will have a severe negative impact on the programs and Connecticut's economically disadvantaged.

The Pro Bono Awards Committee selected Norman Jones, Elizabeth McMahon, James Hirschfield and Michael Smily to receive the 2015 Honorable Anthony V. DeMayo Pro Bono Awards. These awards were presented at the CBA Annual Celebrate With the Stars on April 16 2015 at the Oakdale Theater. More than 275 people attend the event to honor these awardees.

On April 23, 2015 the Pro Bono Committee entertained five (5) requests for support for new pro bono initiatives. The Committee referred these requests to incoming Vice President DeMeola who agreed to chair a sub committee to study the proposals and make recommendations to the full committee. The report will be due at the Committees June meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

Marcy Tench Stovall, Chair

Purpose

The Standing Committee on Professional Ethics provides members of the Bar with opinions on matters of professional ethics. Written requests for opinions are referred to a drafting committee of one or two Committee members for preparation of a draft opinion, which is then debated and considered for adoption, revision or rejection at the Committee's monthly meeting in New Haven. Some opinions are referred to subcommittees for research, reconsideration, and revision. All of the Committee members are, therefore, given an opportunity to participate in the activities of the Committee. The Committee issues Formal and Informal Opinions, and the Formal Opinions are published in the Connecticut Bar Journal and the ABA/BNA Lawyers Manual on Professional Conduct. Informal Opinions are provided to the Yale, University of Connecticut School of Law, and Quinnipiac Law Libraries and are made available at the CBA office. Digests are published in the ABA/BNA Manual. The CBA publishes the Professional Responsibility Reference Guide, which includes updated Formal and Informal Opinions rendered by the Committee since adoption of the Rules of Professional Conduct in Connecticut, October 1, 1986.

Annual Report

In the past Bar year, the Standing Committee on Professional Ethics continued its active pace. As of May 5, 2015, the Committee has adopted six new informal opinions (with a seventh anticipated to be approved at the Committee's May meeting), addressing a variety of topics, including; when client consent is necessary in limited scope representation of Chapter 7 bankruptcy debtor; whether a lawyer's personal use and possession medical marijuana violates the Rules of Professional Conduct; ethical considerations when an attorney has a dual role as attorney and real estate agent in the same transaction; and the prohibition on conditioning settlement of a civil matter on agreement not to report professional misconduct (revising and updating a 1993 Informal Opinion on the same topic). All the opinions the Committee has adopted in recent years (since 2011) are now available on the CBA's Web site. These opinions are located on the page dedicated to the Professional Ethics Committee.

We continue to review the Committee's Web page in an effort to update its content for the benefit of the Bar.

The Committee has completed its work on integrating the American Bar Association's Commission on Ethics 20/20 changes to the Model Rules of Professional Conduct with the Connecticut Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC). The Committee continues to recommend various Rule and commentary changes to Rules of Professional Conduct. With the approval of the CBA's Legislative Policy Review Committee, the Committee Chair, as the Committee's legislative liaison, has presented the Committee's proposed RPC changes to the Superior Court's Rules Committee. The Rules Committee has approved our recommendation to amend Rule 1.15 to provide a safe harbor for attorneys who disperse funds notwithstanding a third party claim to some or all of the funds. When the Committee's proposal first came before the Rules Committee, the judges requested revisions to the proposal that had the effect of providing greater protection, including the request that the proposed addition to the commentary be moved to the Rule itself. The Rules Committee has now recommended that the judges adopt the revised proposal.

The Committee also provides ethics education to members of the bar. This is accomplished not only through the opinions issued, but also through answering practitioners' phone calls regarding ethical topics/concerns. Of course, the committee provides continuing legal education via formal seminars covering multiple ethics topics. Further, the Committee answers inquiries from both the press and members of the public.

Personally, I commend the hard-working members of the Standing Committee on Professional Ethics for their time, dedication, and professionalism. The consistently high level of quality work product produced by these members – including the very spirited discussion and extensive revision that precedes the adoption of nearly every opinion – is not only a tribute to their legal acumen, but also to the serious nature of the task.

I hope the members of the Bar find the work of the Committee helpful in their practice. Members of the Bar interested in serving on the Standing Committee on Professional Ethics should make such preference known to the CBA staff.

In addition, the Committee encourages Connecticut lawyers who have questions about their professional responsibilities in specific situations to request an opinion from the Committee.

PROFESSIONALISM AND CLE COMMITTEE

Timothy Diemand and Louis Pepe, Co-chairs

Purpose

The mission of the Connecticut Bar Association Standing Committee on Professionalism and CLE is to enhance the level of professionalism among lawyers and judges and to promote their commitment to the *Lawyers' Principles of Professionalism* (adopted by the Connecticut Bar Association House of Delegates on June 6, 1994), by: 1) encouraging, recommending and providing assistance to CBA Committees and Sections in the development and coordination of professionalism initiatives; 2) encouraging and providing assistance to local bar associations, law schools and the judiciary in their efforts to improve professionalism; 3) educating members of the legal profession and the public about professionalism issues; and 4) identifying, evaluating and reporting on trends and developments affecting lawyer professionalism and proposing and implementing programs to address them. The Committee engaged in the following activities during the past bar year in an attempt to implement those objectives.

Annual Report

April 22, 2015

Mentoring Program

After the receipt of two task force reports and the implementation of pilot programs in conjunction with the New Haven and Hartford County Bar Associations, the Committee this year expanded its efforts to provide a senior lawyer to mentor and guide every new admittee who wanted such assistance. By asking the chairs of the various Sections and Committees for recommendations for mentors, the Committee added some thirty-six names to its list of mentors, who now cover most geographic areas in the State. The new mentors were provided with an orientation program and all the materials necessary for the successful one-year mentoring effort they are being asked to provide, and they now stand ready for an assignment of a mentee. With this new cadre of senior lawyers -- along with the previous support it has enjoyed from the NHCBA and HCBA -- the Committee is confident it is now in a position to establish a uniform and permanent mentoring program.

Mandatory Continuing Legal Education

Another longstanding effort of the Committee has been the adoption by the Superior Court Rules Committee of a requirement for minimum continuing legal education, so as to align Connecticut with the forty-seven other states already having such a requirement. After the Rules Committee declined to adopt such MCLE rules proposed by the CBA and rejected even the minimal requirements for a statewide "Professionalism Day" and required training for newly admitted lawyers, which were proposed by the Chief Justice's Commission appointed to study this issue, the Committee decided to take a different approach. With the assistance of Attorneys Fred Ury and Larry Morizio, a rule proposing a "minimalist approach" to MCLE was presented to the Rules Committee for consideration. This proposed rule would require twelve hours of MCLE every year, but if the lawyer wished, he/she could take all of those hours on-line or from webinars or other such remote presentations. The lawyer would not be required to attend any formal CLE sessions. The rule received better reception than anything else previously presented to the Superior Court Rules Committee, which has now tabled the proposal so as to provide the various bar associations an opportunity to submit their input. The Rules Committee intends to address the issue again in September. The Committee remains committed to the adoption of MCLE in this state.

Bench/Bar Professionalism Symposium 2014

The signature event of the Committee has been its Professionalism Symposium, which it presents, in partnership with a local bar association, every year in a different Judicial District. On November 7, 2014, the Committee held the symposium in the Hartford Superior Courthouse and had a record 225 lawyers and judges attending. Michael Bowler,

Statewide Bar Counsel, and Patricia King, Chief Disciplinary Counsel, assisted by Fred Ury, conducted the plenary session regarding practice and disciplinary proceedings in a changing legal profession. After the breakout sessions, the attendees heard from the keynote speaker, the Hon. George Jepsen, Attorney General.

Edward F. Hennessey Professionalism Award

Since its inception, the Committee has recognized a member of the bar of the State of Connecticut for conducting his/her career with the highest standards of professionalism and civility. This year, the Committee nominated Hartford attorney Albert Zakarian, who was subsequently approved by the Board of Governors and who will receive the award at the Connecticut Legal Conference in June.

The undersigned would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee members for their ongoing work to enhance professionalism, and for the full support the Standing Committee has always received from the Judicial Branch.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF TITLE

Denis R. Caron, Chair

Purpose

The Special Committee on Standards of Title has the responsibility of (1) considering, formulating, and proposing new Standards of Title; (2) reviewing and updating present Standards of Title; and (3) soliciting suggestions from members of Connecticut's conveyancing bar with respect to title matters where the formulation of new standards would be helpful.

Annual Report

The committee continues its work on a new chapter addressing conveyances by powers of attorney. Additionally, the committee is revisiting Chapter 29, Tax Collector Sales, to address various changes in the law that were introduced as a result of P.A. 13-276.

The committee is also finalizing a new standard, Standard 19.8, entitled "Title Derived through Foreclosure Where Owner Is Known or Believed To Be Deceased at Commencement of Action." It is anticipated that this standard will be approved in the fall of 2015.

The committee is also reviewing the possibility of revising Standard 19.5, "Conclusiveness of Foreclosure and Other Judgments Affecting Title to Land," to address issues brought to light as a result of the decision in *Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. v. Melahn*, AC 34726, released February 4, 2014, permitting a foreclosure judgment to be opened after title had become absolute in the plaintiff notwithstanding the fact that the statutory period for opening such judgments had long since passed. The Committee is also considering the possible effect on title resulting from noncompliance with the requirement of Standing Order JD-CV-104 that the plaintiff send timely notice of the entry of a foreclosure judgment to all non-appearing owners.

The committee is always attentive to requests or suggestions by the bar regarding potential new standards or modifications or corrections to existing standards. Please feel free to contact any member of the committee with any such proposals.

Members

Richard J. Beatty, Guilford
Denis R. Caron, Rocky Hill (Chair)
George H. Jackson III, Danielson
Gregory Muccilli, Stamford
James A. Nugent, Orange
James E. Rice, Southport
Michael W. Sheehan, New London
Ellen L. Sostman, Rocky Hill
William C. Stokesbury, Farmington
John D. Thomas, Hartford

UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW COMMITTEE

Carl Porto, Chair

Purpose

The Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee (UPL Committee) receives inquires and complaints regarding various UPL issues from admitted Connecticut attorneys and attorneys admitted in other jurisdictions, as well as others not admitted to the practice of law. Complaints are referred to the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel when appropriate. Inquiries are responded to and, when requested or deemed appropriate by the UPL Committee, a written opinion is issued.

Annual Report

The Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee continues to receive inquires, complaints and requests for information regarding what does and does not constitute the authorized practice of law in the State of Connecticut. When appropriate, the UPL Committee issues written “informal opinions” which are now available on the CBA website. The UPL Committee continues to respond to inquiries from attorneys from other jurisdictions who are not admitted in Connecticut, licensed Connecticut attorneys and others not admitted to the practice of law regarding what they can and cannot do in Connecticut.

The UPL Committee and the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel continue to work closely on UPL issues, and the UPL Committee refers complaints and inquiries that involve UPL issues to that office for review, investigation and enforcement when necessary. The overwhelming number inquires received by the UPL Committee still concern services proposed to be offered by out of state non-admitted attorneys wishing to represent Connecticut clients in various aspects of Connecticut commercial and real estate transactions.

As I have previously indicated, the business of the UPL Committee continues to be active, and I again wish to thank all of the UPL Committee members for their time, effort and hard work.