
CONNECTICUT BAR ASSOCIATION NEWS & EVENTS

CBA Federal Practice Section Participates in Unveiling Portraits of Retired Magistrate Judges

In June, the Connecticut Bar Association's Federal Practice Section participated in the unveiling of portraits of four retired U.S. Magistrate Judges at the Richard C. Lee Courthouse in New Haven, who have served the court of a combined period of over 100 years. These judges were Hon. Arthur H. Latimer, Hon. F. Owen Eagan, Hon. Thomas P. Smith, and Hon. Holly B. Fitzsimmons.

Among those offering remarks at the ceremony were James Ross Smart and Patrick A. Klingman, co-chairs of the CBA Federal Practice Section.

After opening remarks led by Chief Judge Janet C. Hall, U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut, the portraits were presented for each magistrate judge. Karen I. Clute, partner at Wiggin and Dana LLP (former law clerk of Judge Latimer), led the remarks for Magistrate Judge Arthur H. Latimer's portrait presentation. He was identified as Connecticut's first full-time U.S. magistrate judge as well as having two law degrees (one from the University of Oxford and the other from Harvard Law).

Next, Michael Gustafson, assistant U.S. attorney, District of Connecticut (former Law Clerk of Judge Eagan), introduced Magistrate Judge F. Owen Eagan's portrait presentation. Judge Eagan was recognized for serving as magistrate judge for over two decades and, upon retirement, founded the Canterbury Resolution Cen-

ter, a mediation firm located in West Hartford.

The third portrait, for Magistrate Judge Thomas P. Smith, was introduced by Rowena Moffett of Brenner Saltzman & Wallman LLP (former law clerk for Judge Smith). Judge Smith was acknowledged for being the longest sitting magistrate judge in the country and is currently serving the district as a recalled magistrate judge, with focus on settlements and mediation.

The presentations were concluded with Magistrate Judge Holly B. Fitzsimmons's remarks, spoken by Alyssa Esposito, (former law clerk of Judge Fitzsimmons). Judge Fitzsimmons was cited as serving as a U.S. magistrate judge for nearly 22 years and as being a member of the Federal Magistrate Judges Association as well as the Raymond Baldwin Inn of Court. The ceremony concluded with a reception that was held for all guests. **CL**



(L to R) Unveiled portraits of Judges Arthur H. Latimer, F. Owen Eagan, Thomas P. Smith, and Holly B. Fitzsimmons.

New Courts of Probate Manual Now Available

CBA Estates and Probate Section Chair Amy E. Todisco and fellow section members Christopher S. Drew, Ellin M. Grenger, Monica R. Lally, Jeannine M. Lewis, Carmine Perri, and Lisa P. Staron, as well as Young Lawyer Section member Heather Clark and Disability Law Section member Kirk Lowry, participated in the creation of the *Court-Appointed Attorneys in Courts of Probate Manual*. This manual is an updated version of the 1995 edition,

which was prepared by a committee of the Connecticut Probate Assembly consisting of judges as well as attorneys.

This manual can be used as a resource for all attorneys (including those who are new to the practice and those who have been practicing for many years), when appointed to serve in numerous capacities in probate proceedings. To view the manual, visit ctbar.org/ProbateManual. **CL**

Peers & Cheers

E-mail editor@ctbar.org with submissions for the Peers & Cheers section.



Keane E. Aures

Keane E. Aures of **Robinson+Cole** was recognized as one of three “Emerging Young Professional Leaders,” at the Construction Institute’s Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner. Attorney Aures represents owners, contractors, trade contractors, sureties, and design professionals in both state and federal litigation.



Maggie Castinado

Maggie Castinado, senior assistance public defender with the **Office of the Public Defender**, has been nominated by Statewide Legal Services for the National Legal Aid and Defender’s 2016 Kutak-Dodds Award. This award seeks to identify attorneys who have significantly contributed to the quality of life of those unable to afford legal representation, as well as honoring long-standing advocates for equal justice.



Meghan M. Cooper

Robinson+Cole attorney, **Meaghan M. Cooper**, has been appointed to Interval House’s Board of Directors for a two-year term. With a focus on health law, Attorney Cooper advises hospitals, physician groups, community providers, and other health care entities on health care issues and general corporate matters.



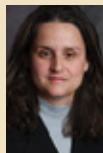
Jodie L. Driscoll

Jodie L. Driscoll has been welcomed to **Murtha Cullina LLP** as a new associate in the business and finance department. Attorney Driscoll will be assisting clients in the areas of Commercial Real Estate and Banking, as well as Affordable Housing and Municipal Law.



Anthony P. Gangemi

Murtha Cullina LLP is pleased to announce **Anthony P. Gangemi** as a new partner and chair of its Intellectual Property Practice Group. Attorney Gangemi is licensed to practice in Connecticut and before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.



Nicole L. Micklich

Nicole L. Micklich of **Garcia & Milas PC** co-authored, “Strange Weather: California’s Amended Franchise Relations Act, AB 525,” in the American Bar Association’s *Franchise Law Journal* Volume 35, Number 4. The article analyzes main elements of the new law through the authors’ points of view of representing franchisees and franchisors.



David J. McGuire

David J. McGuire has been appointed chair of the **Connecticut State Advisory Committee for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights**, of which he has served on as a member since 2014. State Advisory Committees produce reports and recommendations concerning statewide or local civil rights issues, including justice, voting, discrimination, housing, and education.



Kelly G. Peck

Cummings and Lockwood LLC has announced **Kelley G. Peck** as a principal in the Private Clients Group of the firm’s West Hartford office. Attorney Peck handles complex charitable gift planning, estate planning for nontraditional families, planning for protection and preservation of assets, and estate, gift, and income tax return preparation and review.



Sylvia K. Ruthowska

Sylvia K. Ruthowska has been named principal of **Dzialo Picket & Allen PC**. Attorney Ruthowska practices in personal injury, litigation/pre-litigation, land use, and municipal matters. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Bar Association’s House of Delegates.



Leslie Shanley

Leslie Shanley was honored with the 2016 Pro Bono Attorney Award presented by the Hartford County Bar at Connecticut’s ceremony for recognition of “National Law Day” for her dedication to representation of low income individuals.



Jay B. Levin

Jay B. Levin has joined **Suisman Shapiro Attorneys at Law**, bringing the new practice area, Jay B. Levin Government Relations Consulting, LLC to New London. Attorney Levin graduated from Connecticut College magna cum laude and has decades of experience working in and around government politics on major Connecticut projects in infrastructure, energy, urban revitalization, healthcare, retail, and the cultural arts.



Joseph B. Schwartz

The **Mandell Jewish Community Center** of Greater Hartford has elected **Joseph B. Schwartz** of **Murtha Cullina LLP** to its Board of Directors. Attorney Schwartz represents his clients in the areas of municipal and land use litigation, construction law, and general commercial litigation.



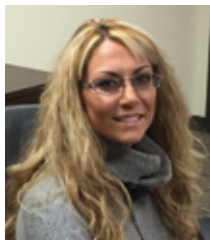
Alfred E. Smith

Murtha Cullina LLP Partner, **Alfred E. Smith, Jr.**, has been appointed as the town attorney in Cheshire. Attorney Smith is the current chair of the firm’s Regulatory Department and co-chair of the Municipal Practice Group. He has been the Cheshire town attorney since 2006.

The production of the 2015 Pro Bono Honor Roll, which appeared in Vol. 26, No. 8 of *Connecticut Lawyer*, was produced by **Statewide Legal Services of Connecticut (SLS)**, with particular thanks to Pro Bono Manager **Ashleigh Backman** for all her hard work on coordinating this list.

To learn more about how you can volunteer with SLS, visit slsct.org/volunteer.

MEMBERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Court Visitation Program

Carmina Tessitore, The Law Offices of Carmina Tessitore, Shelton

It was in upstate New York while a student at Sage College working with juveniles that sparked Carmina Tessitore's interest in legal work, and continued at Albany School of Law. In the courts she became more fascinated with the process and experience of small claims and alternative dispute resolution. After deciding to return to Connecticut, and then being admitted to the Connecticut Bar in 2008, her involvement in the CBA began first in the Young Lawyers Section then as a member of the Alternative Dispute Resolution, Small Firm Practice Management, and Family Law Sections. Last year she served as chair of the Women in the Law Section.

Attorney Tessitore spends most of her practice with family law issues. Through serving as an adjunct professor at Quinnipiac Law and working with children in family practice, she became interested in the CBA's Court Visitation Program, in which she started volunteering in 2013. This program continues to open her eyes to working with juveniles and their experience in the court system, and how the program can offer options to kids and make a difference through the tour.

The Court Visitation Program provides high school students with a backstage view of how the court system works. Each

geographical area (GA) has a court visitation volunteer attorney who receives notice that a school is interested in a tour. That volunteer then contacts the school and coordinates a date with both the school and the court. The volunteer attorney meets the school at the court, sometimes with additional volunteer attorneys, and they start their 2-3 hour tour.

Attorney Tessitore works with both GA 1 (Stamford) and GA 20 (Norwalk). She schedules tours for the students to experience how court works by sitting in a Q&A with a judge, prosecutor, and public defender to talk about how they got involved in their professions and what it entails. In some courts, the marshals share their experiences and occupation. They also talk about why they have chosen this career, and explain that the court is not like TV. The students ask about murder cases, domestic violence, drug cases, favorite cases, and disappointments. The students then sit quietly through arraignments, and sometimes criminal cases, to finish their tour.

Giving the tours is a reminder of why Attorney Tessitore chose her profession. The tours give other options to the students and shows them how they can make a difference. Almost all the students state that they are not interested in a legal career. However, the tour brings the experience to a human level and the potential professions they could choose.

The Court Visitation program is co-sponsored by the Connecticut Bar Association, the Connecticut Judicial Branch, and the Connecticut Judges Association. **CL**

Additional volunteer attorneys are always helpful to assist in the tours or to visit classrooms of the participating schools throughout the state. Similarly, if you identify a school that might be interested in a court visitation, contact Bill Chapman at bchapman@ctbar.org or (860)612-2004.

Thank You to Participants of the Law Advisory and Civics Education Program

The CBA and its Civics Education Committee gratefully acknowledges the following lawyers and judges who participated in the Law Advisory and Civics Education Program 2015-2016.

These volunteers met weekly with groups of Middle School students across the state, exposing them to topics, including The

Declaration of Independence, The Revolutionary War, The Constitution, The Bill of Rights, Habeas Corpus, civics, the presidential election, and the court system itself.

For most of the kids, the highlight of the program was the courthouse visit where they interacted with court personnel, observed real cases, and then performed their mock trial in a courtroom. Volunteers included:



Judge Kenneth Shluger and Rep. Ernie Hewitt at the State Capitol with students from Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School in New London.

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| Barbara Aaron | Ralph Monaco | Allenston Sheridan |
| Dr. Alison Burdick | Paige Quilliam | Judge Kenneth Shluger |
| Michael Cartier | Robert Tukey | Robert Simpson |
| Judge Leo Diana | Erica Rodriguez | Kelly Therrien |
| Kevin Emerson | Kraig Sanquedolce | Judge Dawne Westbrook |
| Brette Fitton | Sarah Capalbo | Kevin Wickless |
| Karen Gersten | Saunders | |
| Kristi Hanney | Lindsay | |
| Jonathon Lane | Savona-Donka | |

If you would like to learn more about getting involved in the program this year, please contact Judge Kenneth Shluger at kenneth.shluger@jud.ct.gov. **CL**