

CONNECTICUT BAR ASSOCIATION NEWS & EVENTS

Litigation Section Hosts Retreat

In May 2017, the Litigation Section produced their first section retreat at the Chatham Bars Inn in Massachusetts. The goal of the three-day retreat was to provide attendees with first-rate CLE courses, networking, and opportunities to get to know other practitioners in a non-adversarial atmosphere.

The retreat presented a creative mix of speakers and topics, which included William O'Sullivan (commercial litigation developments), Scott M. Harrington and Edward P. McCreery III (cutting edge trends in motion practice), John C. Brandon (technology in courtrooms), Sarah Poriss (law firm profitability), Sharon Pope and James A. Budinetz (paralegals and legal assistants), and James F. Sullivan (social media and ethics). On the final day of the retreat, participants confronted their inner realities to improve their trier effectiveness with Jude Basile from California, formerly of the Gerry Spence Institute. John Bonee wrapped up the event with health tips from years of survival in the litigation trenches. The rigorous curriculum allowed attendees to earn 8.0 CLE credits.

This retreat was made possible through the work of Litigation Section volunteers John Bonee (event chair), along with James A. Budinetz, Scott M. Harrington, Edward P. McCreery III, Ralph J. Monaco, Andrew B. Nevas, Jim Nugent, William O'Sullivan, Thomas J. Rechen, and James F. Sullivan. **CL**



(L to R) Sarah Poriss, John Bonee, and David Reif work on analysis



(L to R) Incoming Litigation Section Chair William O'Sullivan, Retreat Chair John Bonee, retreat speaker Jude Basile, and Immediate Past Section Chair Scott M. Harrington.

MEMBERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Veterans' and Military Affairs Section Assists with New Rule for Military Spouses Practicing Law

Due to licensing requirements, many military spouse attorneys in Connecticut encounter difficulties maintaining a career in law during a family's time in the jurisdiction. A new rule recognizes these barriers and has reduced them for military spouse attorneys accompanying their service member during assignment to Connecticut.

The CBA's Veterans' and Military Affairs Section began their efforts back in 2015, advocating for military spouse attorneys to help move this rule through the Connecticut Bar Examining Committee and the Rules Committee of the Superior Court. Jonathan Klein, section member and retired Army Judge Advocate General (JAG), addressed many questions from members and gathered support for the accommodation. "It was gratifying to me, as a member of the military

community, to see the enthusiastic reception this initiative received from both bench and bar," stated Attorney Klein. As a supporter of the military community, CBA Immediate Past President Monte E. Frank also contributed to getting this accommodation passed.

Connecticut Practice Book Section 2-13A will become effective January 1, 2018. It will allow attorneys admitted to practice in other states or the District of Columbia, who are married to a military service member stationed in Connecticut, to practice law in the state without needing an additional bar exam.

To read the rule in its entirety, visit ctbar.org/MilitarySpouseLicensing. **CL**

Governor Malloy Appoints Justice McDonald as Chair of Connecticut's Criminal Justice Commission



Andrew J. McDonald

With the resignation of Supreme Court Justice Richard N. Palmer, Governor Dannel Malloy appointed Supreme Court Justice Andrew J. McDonald to fill the role as chairman of the Connecticut Criminal Justice Commission. This group is constitutionally charged with appointing all state prosecutors in the Division of Criminal Justice and is composed of the Chief State's Attorney as well as six members nominated by the governor who are confirmed by the General Assembly, two of whom must be judges. Governor Malloy trusts that Justice McDonald "will faithfully lead the commission in focusing on the public safety needs of our state, including the enforcement of crime victims' rights." **CL**

Connecticut Judicial Branch Announces Assignment of Judges

The Connecticut Judicial Branch has announced the assignment of judges, which are effective September 4, 2017 - September 2, 2018. To view the assignment of judges, visit ctbar.org/JudgeAssignments. **CL**



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Attorney Announcements



Danielle Bercury

Danielle M. Bercury has been hired as a senior associate at **Brenner Saltzman & Wallman LLP**, creating an expansion of the firm's real estate and land use practice groups. Attorney Bercury has extensive experience in transactional real estate as well as land use.



Dena Castricone



Paul McCary

Attorneys **Dena M. Castricone** and **Paul R. McCary** of **Murtha Cullina LLP** have been named James W. Cooper Fellows of the Connecticut Bar Foundation. This program honors the leading members of the Connecticut legal community to promote better understanding of the profession and the judicial system, and to improve the state's administration of justice. Membership is by invitation only.



Monte Frank

CBA Immediate Past President **Monte E. Frank**, has joined **Pullman & Comley LLC's** litigation practice, representing business and municipal clients in Connecticut's state and federal courts, and before administrative agencies on a wide range of matters.



Colleen Garlick



Anthony Famiglietti

Attorneys **Colleen M. Garlick** and **Anthony C. Famiglietti** of **Neubert Pepe & Monteith PC** have been appointed to the Executive Committee of the Young Lawyers Section for the 2017-2018 bar year. The YLS's primary goals are the promotion of justice, encouragement of public service, and promotion of diversity and education of young lawyers and newly admitted practitioners.



Edward Heath

Edward J. Heath of **Robinson+Cole** has been elected to the Connecticut Bar Foundation's (CBF) board of directors. In addition to serving on the board of directors, Attorney Heath is a Fellow of the CBF's James W. Cooper Fellows Program.



John Houlihan

John J. Houlihan Jr., managing partner of **RisCassi & Davis PC**, has been named a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. Fellowship is by invitation only, and limited to 500 U.S. trial attorneys under the age of 70.



Daniel King

Suisman Shapiro Attorneys at Law welcomes **Daniel J. King** as a new associate. Attorney King focuses his practice in business/commercial law and litigation.

Attorneys **Robert Katz**, **Bruce Loudon**, and **David McGrath** have formed a firm for the practice of family-matrimonial law called Loudon, Katz & McGrath, with offices in Hartford.



Adam Maiocco



Sandy Roussas



Vimala Ruszkowski

Neubert Pepe & Monteith PC, has named **Adam V. Maiocco**, **Sandy T. Roussas**, and **Vimala B. Ruszkowski** as new partners.

Attorney Maiocco is a civil litigation attorney, Attorney Roussas is a litigation attorney, and Attorney Ruszkowski represents healthcare providers in medical malpractice defence and general liability claims.

Pullman & Comley LLC has welcomed attorneys **Michael J. Marafito** and **Keinan J. Meginniss** as new associates. Attorney Marafito practices in litigation, property tax and valuation, and family law while attorney Meginniss practices in business and finance.



Sandra Marin

Robinson+Cole attorney, **Sandra Marin**, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Horizons at the Ethel Walker School, the first all-girls Horizons program. Attorney Marin is a member of the firm's Labor and Employment Group.



Dwight Merriam

Dwight H. Merriam of **Robinson+Cole** has been elected as chair of the Connecticut Bar Foundation's James W. Cooper Fellows Program. This program honors the leading members of the Connecticut legal community to promote better understanding of the profession and the judicial system, and to improve the state's administration of justice.



Scott Siedor

Robinson+Cole Attorney **Scott N. Siedor** has been elected to the Channel 3 Kids Camp Board of Directors. Channel 3 Kids Camp provides year-round opportunities to children through educational and recreational programs that promote diversity, acceptance, and environmental appreciation.



Jeffrey Slavin

Jeffrey A. Slavin has joined **Cummings & Lockwood LLC** as an associate in the Corporate & Finance Group of the Stamford office. Attorney Slavin assists companies with mergers and acquisitions, secured financing, business entity formation, corporate governance, trademark formation and maintenance, private equity financing, and other general corporate transactions.



Suzanne Walsh

The Uniform Law Commission has appointed **Murtha Cullina LLP** Partner **Suzanne Brown Walsh** as chair of its new Drafting Committee on Electronic Wills. Attorney Walsh will lead the committee in drafting a uniform act addressing the formation, validity, and recognition of electronic wills.



Calvin Woo

Calvin K. Woo, partner at **Verrill Dana LLP**, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Bar Foundation. Attorney Woo focuses his practice on commercial and employment litigation. **CL**