

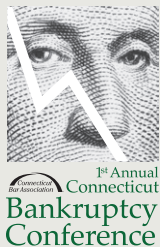
CONNECTICUT BAR ASSOCIATION NEWS & EVENTS

Annual Fall Conferences



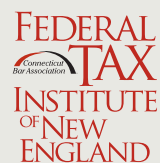
Fourth Annual LegalTech/LPM Conference

On September 28, the CBA held its fourth annual LegalTech/Law Practice Management Conference at the CBA Law Center in New Britain. This full-day conference provided attendees with solutions to meet the challenges of technology, law firm management, and productivity. Experienced practitioners and legal tech professionals presented interactive seminars on what you need to know about the latest technology, including: web resources for law practice; tools and techniques for e-mail, time, and task management; social media marketing for law firms; cyber data and security; how to best use PowerPoint; and how to avoid ethical violations when using technology.



First Annual Connecticut Bankruptcy Conference

On October 4, the CBA Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section presented the First Annual Connecticut Bankruptcy Conference at the Water's Edge Resort and Spa in Westbrook. At this full-day conference, attendees learned how to keep their practice current with a critical overview of key aspects of the changes in the Local Bankruptcy Rules from Connecticut's Bankruptcy Court judges. Topics included: Chapter 13 updates; third-party releases and exculpation provisions in Chapter 11 reorganization plans; not-for-profit insolvencies; ethical considerations for bankruptcy lawyers; and the issues faced by debtors, creditors, counsel, and the court in individual Chapter 11 bankruptcies, including the absolute priority rule, fiduciary duty obligations, and the role of non-debtor family members.



Eighth Annual Federal Tax Institute of New England

On October 18, the CBA Estates and Probate Section along with the Tax Section, presented the Eighth Annual Federal Tax Institute of New England at Saint Clements Castle in Portland, CT. At this full-day event, attendees learned from national authorities about the latest developments in estate planning and tax issues, including digital currency, the impact of federal tax law changes, and asset protection techniques. ■

Presidential Fellows Begin New Term



(L to R) Suphi A. Philip, Kyle J. LaBuff, Patricia Nachilima, Abena A. Sarpong, Daniel R. Cooper, Jennifer L. Shukla, and Thomas H. Wilkeson.

The Connecticut Bar Association Presidential Fellowship Program encourages the active involvement of young lawyers in the activities of CBA sections and to increase section membership diversity. Fellows are appointed by the CBA president after an application process. The program provides the Fellows with the opportunity to become involved in the substantive work of CBA sections, to help them develop into future leaders, and serves to promote sections to other members of the YLS and the bar.

Each Fellow is affiliated with a senior bar section and selects a project intended to increase engagement in that section. Throughout the bar year, they will receive training and support for their work with their respective sections.

The new Presidential Fellows for the 2018-2020 term include: Claire Howard, Labor and Employment Law Section; Kyle J. LaBuff, Solo and Small Firm Section; Patricia Nachilima, Litigation Section; Abena A. Sarpong, Health Law Section; Jennifer L. Shukla, Alternative Dispute Resolution Section; and Thomas H. Wilkeson, Tax Section.

The Presidential Fellows for the 2017-2019 term include: Daniel R. Cooper, Intellectual Property Section; and Suphi A. Philip, Family Law Section. ■

CBA Attorneys Volunteer for Stand Down 2018



Stefany Buckley and Major Michael Criscuolo consulting with a veteran at this year's Stand Down.

On September 21, the Connecticut Bar Association joined over 100 agencies and social service organizations helping more than 1,000 Connecticut veterans at Stand Down 2018 at the Veterans Home in Rocky Hill. CBA volunteer attorneys provided assistance, as well as direction on where to go for ongoing services.

CBA volunteer attorneys included Lawrence Andrea, Richard D. Arconti, Stefany Buckley, Linda Bulkovich, Carrie M. Coulombe, Major Michael Criscuolo, Captain Vergil T. Decker, Jason M. Fragoso, Monte E. Frank, Major Donnal Hinds, Carmina Hirsch, Barbara Housen, Jonathan Klein, Frank A. Manfredi, Geoffrey Naab, Meghan Smith, and Winona Zimmerlin.

Stand Down for homeless veterans was modeled after the Stand Down concept used during the Vietnam War to provide a safe retreat for units returning from combat operations. It provided battle-weary soldiers the opportunity to renew their spirit, health, and overall sense of well-being. ■

Workers' Compensation Section Hosts 20th Annual Golf Event



(L to R) Lucas D. Strunk, Richard S. Bartlett, Event Chair Richard L. Aiken, Jr., and Erik S. Bartlett play in the 20th Annual Verrilli-Belkin Workers' Compensation Charity Golf and Dinner Event.

The Connecticut Bar Association's (CBA) Workers' Compensation Section held their 20th Annual Verrilli-Belkin Workers' Compensation Charity Golf and Dinner Event at Shuttle Meadow Country Club on September 13. More than \$200,000 has been raised, over the life of the tournament, for Connecticut Food Bank and Foodshare.

This annual event is named after former Commissioners Frank J. Verrilli and Howard H. Belkin, who were avid golfers.

More than 120 commissioners, workers' compensation practitioners, and staff members of the Workers' Compensation Commission offices played golf and sponsored this year's tournament, which raised over \$10,000. Event sponsors included Commissioners Salerno and Truglia, as well as retired Commissioners Engel, Mastropietro, Waldron, and White. In attendance were Commissioners Morelli and Dilzer and Mrs. Louise Belkin, wife of the golf event's deceased namesake. ■

CBA Officer Nominations Requested

The CBA is currently looking to fill the positions of vice president, secretary, treasurer, and assistant secretary-treasurer for the 2019-2020 bar year. The primary work or home address of the nominee for vice president must be in Hartford County as of March 1, 2019.

CBA members are encouraged to submit their own names, or names of other CBA members who may have an interest in serving as an officer of the association. Each nominated name should be accompanied by a biographical sketch or resume detailing participation in activities, including CBA governance, such as in the House of Delegates; Board of Governors; sections or committees; involvement with local, affinity, or specialty bar associations; and volunteer and community activities, particularly those related to the practice of law such as pro bono service, service on judicial panels and commissions, and services on standing committees.

Proposed names should be e-mailed to the Nominating Committee chair, Karen DeMeola, at kdemeola@ctbar.org or sent in an envelope marked "CONFIDENTIAL" to the Connecticut Bar Association, 30 Bank St, New Britain, CT 06051. Please submit names by **December 31, 2018.** ■

For more information, visit ctbar.org/OfficerNominations.

Diversity and Inclusion Committee Co-presents Second Annual Symposium



"Ensuring Meaningful Inclusion for Lawyers with Disabilities" panel discussion.

The Connecticut Bar Association (CBA) Diversity and Inclusion Committee and the Connecticut Bar Foundation (CBF) James W. Cooper Fellows presented The Second Annual Diversity and Inclusion Symposium: Achieving Meaningful Diversity and Inclusion for Lawyers and Law Students with Disabilities on September 7 at UConn School of Law. The program focused

on challenges and strategies for effective diversity and inclusion for members of the Connecticut legal community with disabilities, with CBA President Jonathan M. Shapiro and CBF President Andrea Barton Reeves providing welcome remarks.

The first panel discussion included speakers Jennifer Cerny, Michael Johnson, Ndidi Moses, Alix Simonetti, and Dallis Vargas, who provided an overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act and its application to the law school admissions process as well as a discussion of the increased awareness and response to the mental health and wellness challenges facing law students.

Next, panelists Kathleen M. Flaherty, Hon. Anne C. Dranginis (Ret.), and Beth D. Griffin discussed barriers facing law students with disabilities when they take the bar examination and seek admission to the legal profession, the historical and current perspectives of the Connecticut Bar Examining Committee in assessing applicants with disabilities, and the challenges facing lawyers with disabilities as they transition into practice.

In the final panel discussion, speakers Hon. John Danaher III, Luke E. Debevec, Anna Curry Gualano, and Matan A. Koch shared the experiences of lawyers practicing with disabilities; the legal obligations at issue; and recommendations for best practices in the recruitment, retention, and promotion of lawyers with disabilities.

Then-Connecticut State Senator Ted Kennedy, Jr., closed the event with a keynote address. ■

YLS Collecting Donations for Horn of Plenty



The Young Lawyers Section (YLS) is hosting a Horn of Plenty Food Drive to

benefit those struggling with hunger. You can make a difference without leaving your desk by giving a monetary donation through **December 31, 2018**. This year, Bank of America is multiplying your impact on hunger: for every \$1 you donate, Bank of America will donate \$2.

All donations will benefit the local food banks in the Foodshare and Connecticut Food Bank networks. Visit ctbar.org/ylsfooddrive to learn more and donate. ■

In Memoriam



Richard P. Terbrusch, 53, of Ridgefield, passed away on October 13. He was a principal attorney with Terbrusch Law Firm LLC of Danbury. His practice focused on matrimonial law, probate, and

bankruptcy. He formerly worked in the family court system in Connecticut supervising enforcement of child support orders and later as an attorney for the Chief Court Administrator of the Connecticut Judicial Branch, responsible for the daily operations of all State Courts in Connecticut.



Francis M. McDonald, 87, of Middlebury, passed away on October 8. After earning his JD from Yale Law School in 1956, Attorney McDonald joined the FBI in Kansas City and then

served as one of two Assistant US Attorneys for Connecticut in New Haven. He worked in private practice in Waterbury before becoming the State's Attorney for the Judicial District of Waterbury. He was appointed to the Connecticut Superior Court and then served on the Connecticut Supreme Court, finishing his term as the chief justice. ■

CBA Hosts Third Annual Diversity & Inclusion Summit: The Collaborative Blueprint

On October 24, members of the Connecticut Bar Association (CBA) Diversity & Inclusion Summit Committee gathered with other leaders in the legal profession at Quinnipiac University School of Law for the third annual Connecticut Diversity & Inclusion Summit: The Collaborative Blueprint, to empower attendees with tools to make Connecticut a more diverse and inclusive bar. This year's Diversity & Inclusion Summit's focus was on hiring and pipeline initiatives as well as retention.

As part of this initiative, started in 2016, the CBA solicited signatories for a collective pledge reflecting the commitment of Connecticut legal organizations to create more diverse and inclusive environments and for a collaborative plan to reach this goal. To view the Connecticut Legal Community's Diversity & Inclusion Pledge & Plan and the organizations who have signed on, visit ctbar.org/pledgeandplan.

CBA President Jonathan M. Shapiro welcomed attendees, stating, "We gather today

not just to talk about diversity and inclusion, but to take specific actions to ensure that we are taking the necessary steps to make Connecticut a more diverse and inclusive bench and bar. We hope you will



CBA Diversity & Inclusion Summit Committee members.

leave here empowered with new tools and knowledge to help you create a more inclusive legal work environment for your organization that will ensure successful recruiting and retention of diverse talent."

After the "Signatory Data Collection Overview and Summary of Training Initiatives" seminar, presented by CBA Diversity & Inclusion Committee Co-chair Cecil J. Thom-

as, CBA Immediate Past President Karen DeMeola moderated the "Pipeline Lunch Panel," where attendees learned the importance of pipeline initiatives, the many different types of pipeline programs available, and how to participate in them or develop their own. "When young people experience skills early on and the development is encouraged, they are more likely to develop a career," stated panelist Joy Dingle of Street Law Inc.

The program's final seminar, "Recruitment/Retention Workshop: More Than Hiring, the Path to a Diverse and Inclusive Organization," explored the path to creating an inclusive organization that leverages diversity and the actions needed

to enable both the successful recruitment and retention of talent. Many organizations believe that hiring is the fundamental key to success. However, hiring alone does not guarantee the retention of talent. Attendees learned what inclusion is and is not, methods for joining not judging, and conscious actions for inclusion to support the creation of a diverse, inclusive, and vibrant workplace. ■

Congratulations to Connecticut's Newest Attorneys



Newly admitted attorneys at this year's Swearing-in Ceremony.

On November 2, nearly 200 new attorneys were sworn in to the Connecticut Bar, where they appeared before the justices of the Connecticut Supreme Court during the morning or afternoon session.

Chief Justice Richard A. Robinson provided welcome remarks in the morning session, while Justice Richard N. Palmer gave remarks during the afternoon session. Both justices urged the new attorneys not to forget those who cannot afford legal assistance, and stressed the importance of pro bono work.

After the presentation of the candidates, CBA President Jonathan M. Shapiro welcomed the attorneys into the bar, and en-

couraged them to join bar associations, relaying that his bar involvement has been a cornerstone of building both his personal and professional network over the years. He further stressed the importance and continued relevance of the rule of law in today's world, telling new admittees, "You are the defenders of the rule of law."

After the ceremony, the newly admitted attorneys and their families were invited to attend a reception at the State Capitol, hosted by the Connecticut Bar Association Young Lawyers Section along with bar associations across Connecticut. ■

Attorney Announcements



Jill Heitler Blomberg

Jill Heitler Blomberg of **Schoonmaker George Colin & Blomberg PC** was sworn in as president of the Connecticut Chapter of American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, which was founded in 1962 to encourage the study, improve the practice, elevate the standards, and advance the cause of matrimonial law.



Sara C. Bronin

Sara C. Bronin of the **University of Connecticut School of Law** was elected chair of the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, the statewide advocacy group that focuses on the preservation and protection of the state's significant buildings, landscapes, and sites.



Steven A. Certilman

Steven A. Certilman of **Steven A. Certilman PC** was appointed to the arbitration panel of the International Centre for Dispute Resolution, the international division of the American Arbitration Association.



William H. Clendenen

William H. Clendenen, Jr., of **Clendenen & Shea LLC**, was presented with the Yale Sappern Civility Award for fairness, decency, courtesy, and respect for all by the New Haven County Bar Association at its Annual Dinner on October 4.



James O. Craven

James O. Craven of **Wiggin and Dana LLP** received the 2018 Defense Research Institute (DRI) Lifetime Community Service Award. This award honors a member of DRI who has demonstrated their outstanding commitment to the improvement of social and/or cultural well-being of the general public.



Michael T. Cretella

Michael T. Cretella has been named partner at **Brenner Saltzman & Wallman LLP**. Attorney Cretella is a member of the firm's litigation and land use practice groups.



Karen Culton

Gordon & Rees is pleased to announce that **Karen Culton** joined the firm as senior counsel in the business transactions practice, and **Jeffrey Bouchard** joined as associate in the business transactions practice as well as the intellectual property practice.



Jeffrey Bouchard



Pamela Elkow

Pamela Elkow of **Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey LLP** has been named one of the American College of Environmental Lawyer's (ACOEL) 2018 Fellows. ACOEL is a professional association of distinguished lawyers practicing environmental law.



Melissa A. Federico

Melissa A. Federico of **Murtha Cullina LLP** was appointed to the CBA Executive Committee of the Antitrust and Trade Regulation Section, which promotes the educational and professional objectives of the CBA within

the practice area of state and federal antitrust, trade regulation, and related laws pertaining to the regulation of business.



Robert M. Fleischer

Green & Sklarz LLC welcomes **Robert M. Fleischer** as a partner in the firm. Attorney Fleischer will continue his practice handling general business guidance, business bankruptcy, and commercial litigation matters.



Michael W. Kaufman

Day Pitney LLP welcomes **Michael W. Kaufman** as a partner in their finance group at the Stamford office. Attorney Kaufman's practice involves all aspects of secured and unsecured bank, mezzanine, and other senior and subordinate lending.



Christie D. Jean

Christie D. Jean of **Robinson+Cole** was elected to the executive board of the George W. Crawford Black Bar Association. Attorney Jean is a member of the firm's public finance group.



Joseph Morales

Joseph Morales was promoted to partner of **Withers Bergman LLP's** Greenwich office. Attorney Morales advises on M&A, commercial real estate, and corporate finance transactions.



Michael D. Neubert

Michael D. Neubert of **Neubert Pepe & Monteith PC** was appointed to the board of directors of Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity (LCD). LCD's mission is to make the state a more attractive place for attorneys of color and women to practice law.



Joseph D. Szerejko

Murtha Cullina LLP welcomed **Joseph D. Szerejko** to its litigation department. Attorney Szerejko is also a member of the firm's municipal and land use practice groups.



Kristen L. Zaehring

Kristen L. Zaehring of **Murtha Cullina LLP** was appointed co-chair of the CBA Federal Practice Section. This section promotes awareness of legal developments affecting federal practice and provides a forum between the federal bar and bench on rules and practice, personnel needs, and facilities.

Firm/Organization Announcements



Robinson+Cole was honored by **Greater Hartford Legal Aid Foundation (GHLA)** as a leader for justice at the Celebrating Leaders for Justice event. The event honors leaders in the legal industry who have dedicated their time, expertise, and financial resources to help GHLA. ■