

News & Events

CBA Leadership Honored by UConn School of Law

On September 12, UConn School of Law honored numerous CBA leaders during its Gallery of Pioneers Celebration at the Thomas J. Meskill Law Library. At the event reception, photographs were unveiled for the law school's alumni, honoring CBA President Ndidi N. Moses, CBA President-elect Amy Lin Meyerson, CBA Vice President Cecil J. Thomas, CBA Past President Karen DeMeola (2017-2018), and CBA member Christine Jean-Louis.

In honor of UConn School of Law's upcoming centennial in 2021, the Gallery of Pioneers was created to hold a series of photographic portraits of "pioneer" alumni and faculty from the law school's history, representing individuals who were among the first to break through barriers and/or emerge as leaders in public, business, or philanthropic life. The photo series is meant to inspire students and faculty who follow. There are currently 80 alumni honored as pioneers.



(L to R) CBA President-elect Amy Lin Meyerson, Past President Karen DeMeola (2017-2018), CBA Vice President Cecil J. Thomas, and CBA President Ndidi N. Moses.

CBA Officer Nominations Requested

The CBA is currently looking to fill the positions of vice president, secretary, treasurer, and assistant secretary-treasurer for the 2020-2021 bar year. The primary work or home address of the nominee for vice president must be in Litchfield County, Middlesex County, Windham County, Tolland County, or New London 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, Jonathan M. Shapiro, at jshapiro@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, 2019.

For more information, visit ctbar.org/officernominations.

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IN MEMORIAM



The Honorable Warren W. Eginton passed away on October 7, 2019 at the age of 95. He graduated from Princeton University in 1948 and Yale Law School in 1951.

His undergraduate years were interrupted in 1944 when he was commissioned at Ft. Sill and then became an armored officer at Ft. Knox. He was sent to the Philippines with the 716th Tank Battalion, and then became a war-crimes investigation officer for the trials of Japanese Generals Yamashita and Homma. Judge Eginton served as a partner of Cummings & Lockwood LLC in Stamford before he went on to become a United States District Judge; he served for more than 40 years on the bench, making him the longest-serving federal judge in Connecticut history. Judge Eginton was an active CBA member throughout his career, most recently as a member of the Federal Practice Section. During the 1956-1957 bar year, he served as chair of the Young Lawyers Section.

Ronald L. Sheiman passed away on September 8, 2019 at the age of 71. Attorney Sheiman owned his own firm, Law Office of Ronald L. Sheiman, in Westport. He was a distinguished tax attorney for nearly 40 years. Attorney Sheiman was a member of the CBA Estates and Probate Section as well as the Tax Section.



Henry B. (Hank) Anderson passed away on June 22, 2019 at the age of 101. Attorney Anderson was a decorated Navy veteran who survived two

kamikaze attacks on ships during World War II. Following the war, he earned his law degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law. In 1962 he joined his firm, Anderson and Altermatt, with Cramer Blick Fitzgerald & Hume to create Cramer & Anderson. In 1990, the CBA awarded Attorney Anderson with the John Eldred Shields Distinguished Professional Service Award for his outstanding service to the community at large.

Annual Fall Conferences

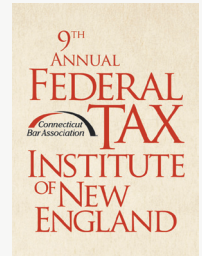
CONNECTICUT BANKRUPTCY CONFERENCE

On October 3, the CBA Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section presented the Second Annual Connecticut Bankruptcy Conference at Saint Clements Castle in Portland, CT. At this full-day conference, attendees learned about best practices and ethical considerations in both commercial and consumer bankruptcy from top practitioners. Topics included: issues in advanced ADR, first day motions, how to confirm a contested Chapter 11 plan, payment and discharge of taxes in Chapters 7 and 13, representing the self-employed debtor engaged in business in Chapter 13, and more.



FEDERAL TAX INSTITUTE OF NEW ENGLAND

On October 24, the CBA Estates and Probate Section along with the Tax Section, presented the Ninth Annual Federal Tax Institute of New England at Saint Clements Castle in Portland, CT. At this full-day event, attendees learned from national speakers about cutting-edge tax and estate planning issues, including tax implications and concerns under the new Connecticut Uniform Trust Code (UTC) as well as drafting trusts under the UTC, the significance of the *Kaestner Trust* decision and its impact on state income taxation of trusts, real estate tax planning, and more. Christine M. Brew was honored posthumously for her outstanding achievement in the fields of tax, trusts, and estates law.



LEGAL ENTREPRENEUR CONFERENCE

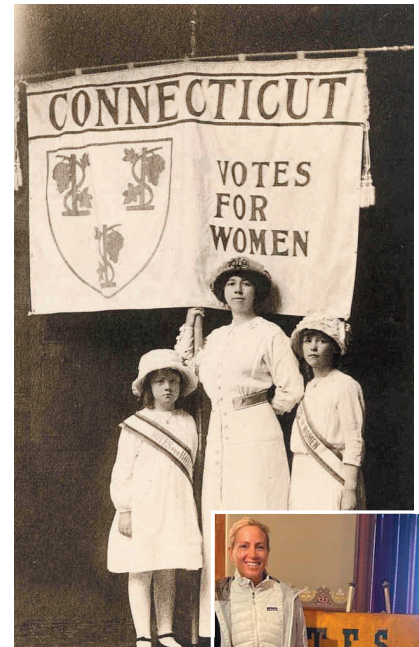
On October 29, the CBA held its Legal Entrepreneur Conference featuring 2019's best law office technology, software, and tools. This full-day conference provided attendees with solutions to meet the challenges of legal technology, law firm management, and productivity. Practitioner and legal tech expert, Barron Henley of Affinity Consulting Group LLC, presented on the latest technology and web resources for law practice, Microsoft Word tips and solutions, everything lawyers need to know about PDF files, and more.



PRO BONO ORGANIZATIONS SERVING CONNECTICUT

In the September/October 2019 issue's listing of pro bono organizations, some were inadvertently left off. This list was meant to provide a sampling of pro bono organizations in the state, rather than a comprehensive list, and wasn't meant as a slight to any organizations that did not appear on the list. Below is an updated list of pro bono organizations serving Connecticut that can also be found on our website and in our Membership Guide and Directory:

- **Center for Children's Advocacy** (cca-ct.org)
- **The Children's LAW Center of Connecticut** (clcct.org)
- **The Connecticut Appleseed Center for Law and Justice, Inc.** (ctappleseed.org)
- **Connecticut Fair Housing Center** (ctfairhousing.org)
- **Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants** (cirict.org)
- **Connecticut Legal Rights Project, Inc.** (clrp.org)
- **Connecticut Legal Services, Inc.** (ctlegal.org)
- **Connecticut Veterans Legal Center** (ctveteranslegal.org)
- **Disability Rights Connecticut, Inc.** (disrightsct.org)
- **Greater Hartford Legal Aid, Inc.** (ghla.org)
- **H.E.L.P. Project Hartford** (homelesslegalprotection.com)
- **Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS) Legal Services Department** (irisct.org)
- **Lawyers for Children America** (lawyersforchildrenamerica.org)
- **Lawyers Without Borders, Inc.** (lawyerswithoutborders.org)
- **New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Inc.** (nhlegal.org)
- **Pro Bono Partnership** (probonopartner.org)
- **Statewide Legal Services of Connecticut** (slsct.org)
- **University of Connecticut School of Law Tax Clinic** (law.uconn.edu/academics/clinics-experiential-learning/tax-clinic)
- **Victim Rights Center of CT** (endsexualviolencect.org)
- **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)** (irs.gov/individuals/irs-tax-volunteers)



State Senator Alex Bergstein found the September check point.



19th Amendment Centennial Scavenger Hunt

In honor of the centennial anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, the CBA is hosting a statewide, 11-month long scavenger hunt. This scavenger hunt identifies and highlights 11 different historical sites across the state related to the suffrage movement and the passage of the amendment.

To participate in the 19th Amendment Scavenger Hunt, visit our Facebook page on the first business day of each month to collect a clue leading you to a different historical site across the State of Connecticut. Each site will have a sign saying "Check Point" with the CBA's logo on it.

The next clue release date is December 2, 2019. For the full list of dates and scavenger hunt rules, visit ctbar.org/scavengerhunt.

CBA Volunteers Give Back to Veterans

On September 20, the Connecticut Bar Association joined over 100 agencies and social service organizations to help more than 1,000 Connecticut veterans at the annual Stand Down event. The CBA has been involved in the event for 21 years.

This year, CBA volunteers assisted more than 50 Connecticut veterans with their legal needs, as well as directed them to where they may receive resolution. Veteran services at this event include anything from hearing screenings to a pop-up courtroom with a superior court judge on hand.



CBA members volunteering at the 2019 Stand Down event.

CBA Presents Fourth Annual Diversity & Inclusion Summit

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION SUMMIT



On October 23, members of the Connecticut Bar Association (CBA) Diversity & Inclusion Summit Committee gathered with other leaders in the legal profession for the fourth annual Connecticut Diversity & Inclusion Summit: The Collaborative Blueprint at Quinnipiac University.

Through collaborative workshops and panel discussions, attendees gained knowledge and inspiration to help lead their organizations into a revolutionary transformation that will make a positive effect in the realm of diversity and inclusion in the State of Connecticut. Christine Jean-Louis, chair of the Diversity &

well as how to obtain the necessary tools toward retaining diverse talent and advancing them within an organization. The morning began with facilitators Chris Armstrong and Vince Brantley, of Veritas Culture in Washington, DC, who created an environment for attendees to discuss challenging topics openly and honestly. The facilitators emphasized the importance of leaders recognizing their diversity and inclusion challenges, and understanding their own role in effectuating change. Attendees of the workshop participated in a candid dialogue with both the facilitators and colleagues, sharing personal experiences, asking questions, and suggesting possible courses of action. The facilitator's key

from microaggressions, or make them feel comfortable.

The Summit serves as an annual benchmarking point for the signatories to the Connecticut Legal Community's Pledge & Plan. Signatories respond to an annual survey, sharing their demographic data and progress on the goals of the prior year of the Pledge & Plan. CBA Vice President Cecil J. Thomas, who led the development and launch of the Signatory Initiative in 2016, presented an overview of the data shared by the signatories, and previewed plans for the Signatories Year Four Focus on Retention. "Successful diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts are intentional, strategic, and accountable," said Attorney Thomas. "Assessment data, such as that presented at the Summit, allow us to look at our representation successes and challenges, and benchmark our progress for future improvement." This year's collected data, he noted, showed small but measurable gains in the representation of diverse individuals in the legal community since 2018.

The Diversity & Inclusion Pledge & Plan reflects a reaffirmation of the legal profession's commitment to approaching diversity and inclusion strategically, collaboratively, and with accountability. The Pledge & Plan, along with the 37 organizations that have signed on, may be viewed at ctbar.org/pledgeandplan.

CBA President Ndidi N. Moses provided closing remarks, which stressed the importance of the presence of the attendees at the summit. "You have joined a community of legal practitioners who understand that diversity and inclusion efforts work to advance the interests of us all, irrespective of our race, ethnicity, color, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability status, or socio-economic status.... Armed with the knowledge of our aligned interests, we look forward to your continued participation in our efforts to develop innovative ideas and solutions to enhance diversity and inclusion in the legal profession in Connecticut," she stated.



Inclusion Summit Committee, explained the event's emphasis on workshop style discussions for this year: "Every year the Summit builds on work from the following year. With this being the fourth year, we all have learned that diversity does not work without inclusion. Therefore, building on all the tools we gained the prior three years, we have reached a point where an intimate breakout session was necessary. This session allowed us to dive into the nuances impeding diversity and inclusion initiatives, such as human behavior, personal discomfort and self-preservation instincts that frustrate true inclusivity within an organization."

This year's summit discussed the systemic and internal dynamics that negatively impact the ability to recruit, retain, and promote diverse talent as

message mirrored the summit's format: the most important piece in making progress is recognizing that people drive the culture, systems/processes, and dynamics of an organization, and it is important to create an environment in which people listen to understand, and then take action.

The afternoon programming continued with panelists David R. Jimenez, Felice Gray-Kemp, and Meghana D. Shah along with moderator An-Ping Hsieh, who discussed their own narratives of diversity throughout their legal careers and participated in an interactive discussion with attendees.

The keynote address was presented by E. Macey Russell on "The Employer's Role with Diverse Hires," and provided insight into why law firms fail to mentor diverse attorneys, protect or shield them

PEERS AND CHEERS

Attorney Announcements

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

Christine Baptiste-Perez joined Saxe Doernberger & Vita PC as an associate in the firm's Trumbull office. Attorney Baptiste-Perez has a background in product liability litigation, foreclosure litigation, personal injury litigation, international business compliance, and securities regulatory matters.

Joseph J. Cherico of McCarter & English LLP was elected president of the Fairfield County Bar Association, beginning September 1, 2019. Attorney Cherico is a litigation partner and the office managing partner in the firm's Stamford office.

Patrick Clendenen has been elected to a one-year term as chair of the American Bar Association Business Law Section. He will serve until September 2020. Attorney Clendenen practices in the areas of civil, business, intellectual property litigation, and personal injury at Clendenen & Shea LLC in New Haven

Robinson+Cole announced the addition of partner **John L. Cordani** to the firm's business litigation practice. Attorney Cordani will focus his practice on intellectual property and information technology litigation.

The Connecticut Society of Public Accountants (CTCPA) named **Paul T. Czepiga** of Czepiga Daly Pope & Perri LLC to the society's advisory council for the 2019-2020 activity year. This council contemplates the future of CTCPA and the accounting profession.

Geraghty & Bonnano LLC welcomed **Johanna McCormick** as senior associate. Attorney McCormick concentrates her practice in the areas of probate, wills and trusts, and Medicaid planning.

Lindsay T. Reed joined Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey LLP as a litigation associate in the firm's Stamford office. Attorney Reed represents clients in complex matters involving a wide variety of business and commercial disputes, in state and federal courts, and in arbitration.

McCarter & English LLP associate **Tara Sheldon** was selected to join the Oliver Ellsworth Inn of Court as a barrister for the 2019-2020 membership year. This organization is made up of attorneys and judges from the Hartford area who discuss significant legal issues to help foster excellence in professionalism, ethics, civility, and legal skills.

Alderman & Alderman LLC welcomed **Catherine M. Spain**. Attorney Spain has years of experience with estate planning and probate law.

Gregory F. Ugalde was named chair of the board of directors of the National Association of Home Builders. Attorney Ugalde is president and chief legal officer of T&M Building Co. Inc.

Karen E. Yates joined Withers LLP's New Haven office as partner. Attorney Yates focuses her practice on wealth transfer tax planning and fiduciary administration.

Firm/Organization Announcements

Murtha Cullina LLP has established an entertainment and sports practice group, which represents clients in litigation matters, including breach of contract, right of publicity and privacy, and copyright and trademark infringement; and manages immigration matters for international talent and athletes.

The Pro Bono Partnership honored **Robinson+Cole** with the "Volunteer of the Year" distinction during an event hosted by the organization in celebration of volunteer lawyers who provided free legal services to nonprofit organizations throughout Connecticut in 2018. ■

PEERS and CHEERS SUBMISSIONS

e-mail editor@ctbar.org

PPP & C | PARRETT,
PORTO,
PARESE
& COLWELL P.C.
attorneys at law

is pleased to announce that

Michael A. Carbone

has become a partner of the firm



Parrett, Porto, Parese & Colwell welcomes Attorney Michael A. Carbone as a partner. Michael clerked for Judge Paul M. Foti of the Connecticut Appellate Court, and Judge Gerard L. Goettel, of the United States District Court, District of Connecticut. Michael joins our commercial and real estate practice group, and leads the firm's bankruptcy practice.

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