

# News & Events



*Over 100 new attorneys wait to be sworn in to the Connecticut Bar.*

## Congratulations to Connecticut's Newest Attorneys

**On November 1, over 100 new attorneys appeared** before the justices of the Connecticut Supreme Court to be sworn in to the Connecticut Bar. Chief Justice Richard A. Robinson provided welcome remarks, in which he stressed the importance of pro bono work and reflected on its impact throughout his own career. After the presentation of the candidates, CBA President Ndidi N. Moses welcomed the new attorneys into the bar, and relayed her own experience with bar association participation throughout her career. "What I do know is that to be successful in this world as

a professional, you need a network. For me, the Connecticut Bar Association was that network that kept me sane and connected as a law student, young lawyer, and now, even as a not so young lawyer. The friends I have made in the CBA over the years have taught me so much about how to live and not simply exist. They have been my lifeline, my soldiers, and champions. They are responsible for my success in my legal career but,

more importantly, they have helped me achieve the balance I need to be healthy enough to do all the things I want to do," stated President Moses. 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 other bar associations across Connecticut.

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## Federal Practice Section Celebrates the Hon. Martinez's Retirement

On October 15, the CBA Federal Practice Section hosted a retirement celebration for the Honorable Donna F. Martinez at the New Haven Law Club. More than 100 federal and state judges, government and private attorneys, law clerks, and section members celebrated Judge Martinez's dedication to public service and her nearly 40-year distinguished career as both an assistant United States attorney and a United States magistrate judge.

"For so many years, Judge Martinez has been a valued and important part of the federal court family here in the District of Connecticut," said Federal Practice Section Co-chair Robert M. Frost, Jr. "On behalf of the Federal Practice Section, we hope everyone enjoyed the evening and we wish Judge Martinez all the best in the next phase of her life and career."

The Federal Practice Section aims to disseminate information to Connecticut federal court practitioners to enhance their skills and awareness of legal or procedural developments affecting federal practice and to provide a forum for consultation and dialogue between the federal Bar and Bench on issues of rules and practice, personnel needs, and facilities. The section also reviews and responds to pending legislation affecting federal court practice.



Honorable Donna F. Martinez thanks attendees at her retirement party.

## YLS Hosts Fall Events

### AXE THROWING

On November 14, YLS members gathered at Pine & Iron Axe Throwing for axe throwing followed by socializing, networking, and relaxing at Hog River Brewery. Donations of healthy, non-perishable food items were also collected at this event for their annual Horn of Plenty Food Drive. All donations that were collected benefited the Foodshare and Connecticut Food Bank networks.

### HOCKEY GAME

The YLS hosted a Friends and Family Hockey Outing on October 13 at a Hartford Wolf Pack game as part of their Balance Series. Attendees mingled with fellow section members and their families for a night of fun. The YLS Balance Series is focused on creating balance for a better legal profession by helping members achieve professional success in their careers, emotional well-being at work and home, and ensuring equal access for all in the legal profession.



YLS members enjoying a night out with their fellow members and their families.

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## CBA-YLS Host Annual Horn of Plenty Food Drive

The CBA Young Lawyers Section (YLS) hosted its annual Horn of Plenty Food Drive, which ran from November 11-22 this year. In partnership with Foodshare and Connecticut Food Bank, the YLS collected both food and monetary donations for Connecticut's hungry families through an online fundraising drive and in-person drop-off locations throughout the state.

Through the generosity of CBA members and their friends, families, and colleagues, the YLS collected \$3,599 in cash donations, surpassing their \$1,500 fundraising goal by more than double. This donation resulted in nearly 9,000 meals for those in need in Hartford and Tolland counties.

The drive also collected food donations at law firms around the state, totaling 700 pounds, which were donated to local food pantries in each county that are part of Foodshare and Connecticut Food Bank's network of partners. The food donations provided nearly 600 additional meals.

This year's Horn of Plenty Food Drive was organized by YLS Public Service co-directors, Kyle McClain and Sara Saucier, and Austin Berescik-Johns, Cindy Cieslak, Shari-Lynn Cuomo Shore, Jonathan Friedler, Marissa Hernandez, Johanna Katz, Joanna Kornafel, and Megan Wade assisted with food collection along with their law firms, which acted as donation sites.

"The 2019 Horn of Plenty Food Drive was a tremendous success thanks to the kindness of CBA members," said YLS Public Service Co-directors Kyle McClain and Sara Saucier. "Participants demonstrated fantastic support for the drive's fundraising focus this year in helping us to raise nearly \$3,600—well beyond what we had imagined. While a monetary donation to a food drive may feel impersonal, putting those dollars into the hands of experts—like our partner Foodshare—results in a much more meaningful impact than any one person could make on his or her own. We would like to extend special thanks to YLS Executive Committee member Johanna Katz and her colleagues at Pullman & Comley for their remarkable firmwide participation in the drive."



(L to R) Al Marino of Foodshare with YLS members Sara Saucier and Kyle McClain.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Justice Robert I. Berdon** passed away on October 31, 2019. After graduating from the University of Connecticut with a Bachelor of Science in accounting, Justice Berdon served as a lieutenant in the US Army during the Korean War; he went on to attend the University of Connecticut School of Law. After graduating law school in 1957, he practiced law with his brother David and Pasquale (Pat) Young until his election to state treasurer in 1971. In 1973, Justice Berdon was appointed to serve as a judge of the Superior Court by Governor Meskill, where he served until his elevation to the Supreme Court by Governor Lowell Weicker. In 1999, Justice Berdon retired from the Supreme Court but continued to serve as a judge trial referee until his retirement in 2014. While serving as a superior court judge, Justice Berdon obtained a Master's in Law in Judicial Process from the University of Virginia School of Law. He also taught state constitutional law at the University of Bridgeport School of Law from 1986 until 1991.

**Francis Xavier Dineen** passed away on September 25, 2019. He graduated Dartmouth College in 1956. He was in the Naval Reserves while at Dartmouth and was commissioned as an Ensign in the USNR upon graduation. He went on to Yale Law School, graduating in 1961, and began working for New Haven Community Progress Inc. (CPI) as a community lawyer. He was later appointed the head of the Legal Aid Bureau and served as deputy director of the New Haven Legal Assistance Program. He was one of the longest-serving legal services lawyers in the country and is credited with reinventing landlord/tenant practice in Connecticut. Attorney Dineen also taught at the Yale Law School Clinic for many years on top-

*Continued on page 10 →*

## IN MEMORIAM

*Continued from page 9*

ics such as CT Landlord/Tenant Law, Supreme Court Practice & Procedure, CT Pleadings, and CT Appellate Practice. He is the 1984 recipient of the CBA Charles J. Parker Legal Services Award.

**Andrew A. Glickson** passed away on December 30, 2019 at the age of 70. He attended Harvard College, graduating magna cum laude in 1970, and Boston University School of Law, graduating cum laude in 1975. At the time of his death, Attorney Glickson was a member of the Pullman & Comley LLC's real estate and land use practice areas. Prior to that, he had developed his own practice in Norwalk for 13 years and had previously spent 19 years at Cuddy & Feder LLP in White Plains, NY, including 15 years as a partner. Additionally, Attorney Glickson served a two-year term in the Connecticut

House of Representatives from 1979-1981 and he served as a commissioner of the Norwalk Transit District since 1986 until his death.

**James William Kambas** passed away on November 7, 2019 at the age of 88. He graduated from Central Connecticut State University, Columbia University Teachers College, and Cornell Law School. Attorney Kambas' career began with teaching, and he ultimately pursued a career in the practice of law in Stamford. For the majority of his career he practiced as a partner of Durey & Pierson and as a partner of its successor, Winthrop Stimson Putnam & Roberts, and culminated his career at the law partnership of Roberts Kambas Rose & Bates. He long represented banks, lending institutions, and closely held businesses. He has been actively involved in the CBA as a past section chair and, during retirement, served as

an arbitrator for the Connecticut Bar Association in fee disputes.

**Richard D. Stapleton** passed away on December 30, 2019 at the age of 83. Attorney Stapleton received his BA in accounting from Lehigh University in 1958, his JD from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1961, and his Master of Law and Taxation from the Boston University School of Law in 1962. He was licensed as an attorney-at-law in the State of Connecticut in 1961 and as a Certified Public Accountant in 1966. Prior to his retirement in 2002, Attorney Stapleton served as the Executive Vice President of Administration and Finance, Secretary and General Counsel to the Lane Construction Corporation of Cheshire, CT. His tenure with Lane began in 1966, including many years spent serving as a director on the company's board.

**PULLMAN & COMLEY** 100 YEARS

We are Pleased to Welcome  
Six New Associates to Our Firm



Standing (L-R): Thomas Wilkeson, Nicole Riel, Thomas Lambert, Zachary Zeid  
Seated (L-R): Julie Pinette, Daniel Scholfield

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**WESTPORT**  
203.254.5000

**WHITE PLAINS**  
914.705.5355

## PEERS AND CHEERS

### Attorney Announcements

**Jane Elaine Ballerini**, principal with the firm of Neubert Pepe & Monteith PC, has been elected as a fellow of the American College of Mortgage Attorneys (ACMA). ACMA fellows distinguish themselves through their bar association activities, lecturing, authoring articles and program materials, participation in the legislative process, and writing briefs and/or arguing cases that are significant to mortgage transactions.

**Daniel Cooper**, of Cooper & Kurz in Stamford, was recently named co-chair of the American Bar Association Section of International Law's Middle East Committee.

#### CORRECTION

The 2019 "Celebrate with the Stars" annual awards celebration program incorrectly stated that Morton N. Katz had served at Pearl Harbor at the time of the attack. He did not serve at Pearl Harbor and, at the time of the attack, he was a graduate student. The CBA regrets this error.

**Jonathan Shapiro** has joined Aeton Law Partners LLP as a partner. Attorney Shapiro represents individuals and businesses on a wide variety of litigation and corporate matters. He also provides outside general counseling services for small and mid-sized, privately held companies, including medical practices, technology companies, restaurant groups, and contractors.

### Firm/Organization Announcements

**Rawle & Henderson LLP** has added three new offices, including one at 157 Church Street, 19th Floor, in New Haven, which will be the firm's first Connecticut office. William S. Spiegel, who represents healthcare providers in all medical specialty fields, has joined the firm as a partner and will practice in the firm's New Haven, Midtown Manhattan, and Jersey City offices.

**Seiger Gfeller Laurie LLP**, which changed its name to **Gfeller Laurie LLP**, is celebrating its 10th anniversary. ■

**PEERS and CHEERS SUBMISSIONS**  
e-mail [editor@ctbar.org](mailto:editor@ctbar.org)

## CZEPIGA DALY POPE & PERRI WELCOMES Paul J. Knierim



We are pleased to announce that the recently retired probate court administrator and long-time judge Paul J. Knierim has joined our firm as Counsel to lead our expansion into the dispute resolution practice area.

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