

# The COUNTY LINE



Published by the Pennsylvania Bar Association

January 2008

Don't gamble on the future of your bar ...

**Attend the 42nd Annual CCBL!**  
Feb. 28-March 1  
Nittany Lion Inn  
State College

## Final Call for County Bar Recognition Award Nominations

You should have received a letter requesting your submissions for the PBA County Bar Recognition Awards that will be presented at the CCBL. If you have not responded, please do so immediately. It's especially easy when you use our online submission form at [www.pabar.org/public/localbar/recognitionawards.asp](http://www.pabar.org/public/localbar/recognitionawards.asp).

This awards program is unique in that it does not place your bar in competition with other county bars for statewide recognition. Instead, it is designed to recognize projects of all county bar associations that in some way contributed to the improvement of the legal profession, the justice system or the community.

Those bar associations whose projects meet the criteria will be presented an award and a news release will be distributed to the media in their counties. The project must have been undertaken during 2007, although it may have begun previously or is to be continued in 2007 and beyond. There is no requirement that it be entirely contained within the calendar year. A bar association may submit more than one project for consideration but *no more than three*.

Please submit an entry on behalf of your local county bar association so that we may give your efforts appropriate recognition in your community and among your colleagues across the state. ■

*By Terry D. Weiler, Esq.*

The theme of the Conference of County Bar Leaders (CCBL) this year says it all. We have again gathered leaders in their fields to tackle hard topics designed to help you manage a healthy bar association with the least possible risk.

Two new topics to be presented this year include:

- Penina Lieber, Esq., Pennsylvania's legal expert on nonprofit organizations, will address the difference between a 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(6) filing and why the distinction matters. This one-hour plenary session will be followed by a breakout session reviewing your specific bar association and foundation issues and common legal issues faced in this area.
- Identifying employee theft and embezzlement within your organization, and what to do when you find it. Even if you have been personally reviewing your organization's records and have had

yearly professional audits, find out how fraud can occur and be missed by your staff and audit firm.

Those of us who attend regularly have come to expect and enjoy several favorite presentations: We will again have Bill Hoffmeyer present on the Unauthorized Practice of Law and Ellen Freedman will have a new presentation on law office management. We have revamped the presentation on planning for your year as bar president. It's shaping up to be a winner. As always, there will be plenty of time to learn and to socialize.

Bar leaders rely on the CCBL to provide the forum for bar execs and boards to exchange ideas, solve regional and statewide issues and stimulate the improvement of the legal profession in general. This year will be no exception!

As the president of the CCBL Executive Committee, I look forward to meeting you all for a fun-filled and educational seminar this year! ■

# CCBL Schedule of Events and Session Descriptions

February 28-March 1, 2008 — Nittany Lion Inn, State College

## Thursday, February 28

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

### **PABE Meeting**

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

### **Legal Service Dinner for PABE Members and County Bar Association Presidents**

9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

### **Meet & Greet and Early Bird Registration**

## Friday, February 29

8:00 a.m.

### **Registration and PBA Supermarket**

8:30 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.

### **Pick up Tips for Winning the Jackpot at the 42nd Conference — CCBL Orientation**

*Moderators:* Terry D. Weiler, Esq.  
Michele S. Dawson, Esq.

8:50 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

### **Are You Betting That You Know the Difference?... 501(c)(3) vs. 501(c)(6)**

*CLE 1.0 hour substantive*

How does your bar appear to the IRS? Are you qualified under sections 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) and why does it matter?

*Moderator:* Alfred Jones Jr., Esq.

*Panelist:* Penina Lieber, Esq.

## **THREE BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

### **You Hit the Jackpot — You're Now President**

Attend a nuts and bolts primer on preparing for, surviving and (most importantly) enjoying your year as president. Helpful hands-on tips from experienced bar executives with varying backgrounds and bar sizes, as well as first-hand experience from a former president.

*Moderator:* Terry D. Weiler, Esq.

*Panelists:* Wendy C. Hoffman  
JoEllen Pastore

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

### **You Dabble, You Gamble — Avoidance of Malpractice**

*CLE 1.5 hours ethics*

Members of the PBA Professional Liability Committee have again developed a funny, yet educational, seminar designed to teach lawyers how to avoid committing legal malpractice. The issues reviewed this year involve a potpourri of the most common areas of malpractice faced in every practice area.

*Moderator:* Colleen M. Neary, Esq.

*Panelists:* Robert I. Johnston, Esq.  
James R. Schadel, Esq.  
Jay N. Silberblatt, Esq.  
Paul Troy, Esq.

*Conference members who attend this session will receive a 5 percent discount on their PBA-endorsed malpractice insurance, plus 1.5 hours of CLE ethics credit.*

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

### **Don't Gamble That You Are Doing It Right ... Compliance Problems & Pitfalls for 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(6)**

*CLE 1.5 hours substantive*

A sequel to the first seminar designed to specifically address the needs of county bar foundation officers, bar association executive directors and county bar financial officers. Learn about the most frequently committed legal errors in general and review your specific legal and practical problem areas with the experts in a casual workshop format.

*Moderator:* Alfred Jones Jr., Esq.

*Panelists:* Penina Lieber, Esq.  
Tracy McCurdy, Esq.  
Joseph P. Fedeli, CPA

11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

### **Kick-Off Luncheon**

*Presiding:* Terry D. Weiler, Esq.

*Welcome:* Dennis O. Reiter, Esq.

*Presentation of Awards:*

*Introduction of Speaker:*

Andrew F. Susko, Esq.

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

### **Break and photographs for County Bar Recognition Awards**

## **AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### **Hi/Lo and All Cards In Between — How to Offer Services to Your Community with Pro Bono and Low Bono Programs**

The PBA has recently adopted several resolutions and incentives that reinforce the importance of an accessible legal system to every person who needs it, regardless of their financial situation. This program will provide information for county bar associations on how to establish pro bono or low bono legal assistance programs, as well as, give examples of existing programs and provide suggestions to increase lawyer participation.

*Moderator:* Michele S. Dawson, Esq.

*Panelists:* David Trevaskis, Esq.  
Andrew F. Susko, Esq.  
John McKenna, Esq.

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### **Don't Roll Snake Eyes When Interacting With the Bench**

Learn how to build rapport and maintain a good working relation between your bar association and the county bench.

*Moderator:* Thomas V. Casale, Esq.

*Panelists:* Judge Maggie Worthington  
Elizabeth C. Price

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### **Diversity: A Smart Bet ... Establishing a Relationship between County and Minority Bars**

*CLE 1.0 hour substantive*

Learn how developing a relationship with a minority bar association will expand your county bar's marketplace and increase the participation of racially and ethnically diverse lawyers in your association.

*Moderators:* Samuel T. Cooper III, Esq.

Justice J. Michael Eakin

Sharon R. López, Esq.

*Panelists:* Maria Gonzalez Calvet, Esq.  
Jaqueline DeGarcia  
Bedard, Esq.

Prince Thomas, Esq.

Grace P. Manno, Esq.

Scott W. Reid, Esq.

# CCBL Schedule of Events and Session Descriptions

February 28-March 1, 2008 — Nittany Lion Inn, State College

## Friday, February 29, continued

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### **Up the Ante: Developing Leadership Skills of New and Younger Lawyers**

This presentation will explain how joining county and state bar associations can assist young and new attorneys in developing effective leadership skills. Learn how to initiate and maintain a Young Lawyers Division (YLD) in your county. Members of the PBA YLD and various county YLDs will discuss activities their organizations have pursued and how to implement similar programs. This presentation is a must for any new or young lawyer wishing to obtain new program ideas.

*Moderator:* Hope Guy, Esq.

*Panelists:* William Higgins, Esq.  
Traci Naugle, Esq.  
Andrew F. Susko, Esq.

### **THREE BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

#### **Do You Have a Card Shark in Your Organization?**

*CLE 1.0 hour substantive*

Hear from two experienced and respected local bar association executives about how their organizations were sabotaged by employee embezzlement. Then, get the facts from the financial expert on where the clues to finding evidence of embezzlement lie and what to do when you find them. As a bonus, learn about the auditing requirements for your organization under the IRS code and Sarbanes Oxley.

*Moderator:* Carolyn V. Blume, Esq.

*Panelists:* Jessica Engel  
David Goss, CPA, CIA, CFE  
Barbara I. Kittrell

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

#### **Don't Let Non-Lawyers Stack the Deck Against You**

*CLE 1.0 hours ethics*

The unauthorized practice of the law is a threat to all lawyers and bar associations. Get an update on the latest claims and cases in the field of UPL, learn what some of your fellow associations are doing to stop it, and find out how you can set up a UPL committee in your own county. This highly rated program is always a favorite of conference attendees.

*Moderator:* Kenneth G. Vasil, Esq.

*Panelists:* John M. Able, Esq.  
William F. Hoffmeyer, Esq.

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

#### **Double Down in Your Legislative Efforts**

*CLE 1.0 hour substantive*

The complicated legislative process can be our strongest ally if we address it with the right information and tools at the right time. Learn from legislators how to get the results your members need.

*Moderators:* Diane Krivoniak

George A. Verlihay, Esq.

*Panelists:* Nevin Mindlin  
Rep. Sean M. Ramaley  
James Joseph Ross, Esq.  
Hon. Stewart J. Greenleaf

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

#### **Beer and Bull**

*Moderator:* Terry D. Weiler, Esq.

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

#### **Dinner**

8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

#### **Casino Night**

## Saturday, March 1, 2008

7:30 a.m.

### **Hot Breakfast Buffet**

### **BREAKFAST BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

### **PLENARY SESSION**

#### **Stacking the Deck – Building Up Your Image**

Suggestions on how to promote your Bar Association and your membership with positive PR; working with the local media and other resources such as schools and community centers to facilitate a positive image of your bar and its membership.

*Moderator:* Michele M. Dawson, Esq.

*Panelists:* Tom Loftus

10:05 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

#### **Business Meeting**

10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

#### **The Virtual Office and Remote Technology**

*CLE 1.5 hours substantive*

Lawyers can manage their practices and improve client service when they understand they can practice outside of their office while having access to everything their office provides, except for live companionship. This program will explain the technology and techniques that let you improve client communication and service from your home, a courtroom, or your client's location.

*Moderator:* Hope Guy, Esq.

*Panelist:* Ellen Freedman, CLM

11:45 a.m.

#### **Lunch on the Run - boxed lunch**

**Download the CCBL registration form at [www.pabar.org/public/localbar/08ccblregform.pdf](http://www.pabar.org/public/localbar/08ccblregform.pdf).**

Return completed registration form and payment by February 8, 2008 to:

PBA Meetings Department, P.O. Box 186, Harrisburg, PA 17108-0186

or fax credit card registration to 717-238-4134.

For further information, call the PBA Member Service Center at 800-932-0311.

**Room reservations should be made directly with the hotel.**

Call 800-233-7505 and reference Reservation ID Number PAB0227

before Monday, January 28, 2008, to obtain the special group rate.



# Can We Talk? A Unique Opportunity

By Sam Milkes, Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network (PLAN) Executive Director

We are pleased to announce a new attraction to the Conference of County Bar Leaders (CCBL) Meeting in State College. A dinner will be held the evening of Feb. 28 to bring together county bar presidents and chancellors, county bar executives and secretaries, and leaders from the legal services programs, as well as PBA executive staff and officers. The purpose of this not-just-social, by-invitation-only occasion will be to allow close dialogue about successes, challenges and next steps in the provision of civil legal aid and pro bono services across the state. PBA President Andy Susko and I will provide a statewide overview of efforts to improve civil legal aid for the neediest among us, but the main focus of the dinner will be to foster conversations at a county-by-county level. Andy and I hope that the dinner provides such a successful exchange between legal services and the organized bar that this inaugural event, sponsored by PLAN and the PBA Pro Bono Office, becomes an annual part of the CCBL Seminar.

## Legal Aid Programs Provide Extensive Services Across the State

Legal aid programs that are part of the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network provide direct client services to over 100,000 eligible clients each year. Every county in the state is served by a local program and six specialized programs target special needs such as healthcare and housing. Considering the size of a typical family, over 300,000 people in Pennsylvania

have been served. Nearly 300 full-time legal aid attorneys in Pennsylvania handle this tremendous volume of cases in a highly professional manner, providing much-needed support to those in need. Even though the program is working to capacity, only one in five poor people in Pennsylvania who are in need of attorney representation ever get it.

## Pro Bono Services Fill a Major Need In Every County

The pro bono services of private lawyers help ensure access to representation for many of the poor in Pennsylvania who are not able to be served through the Legal Aid Network. Many counties have a pro bono plan, but the best programs involve a partnership of the PBA, PLAN, the local bar and local legal services providers.

The Pennsylvania Bar Association Board of Governors and House of Delegates recently reconfirmed the PBA's vision of access to justice for all by asking for an increase in legal aid funding and an expansion of legal services to the poor. The PBA has also broadly enunciated its commitment to pro bono services in support of the poor, asking every lawyer annually to either take a new pro bono case or to continue to work on one, provide direct client services in other ways listed in the resolution, or make a financial contribution.

The upcoming dinner will allow leaders of the organized bar, at both the state and local levels, to join with their counterparts in legal aid to set forth next steps as to how Pennsylvania can narrow the gap between need for, and availability of, legal representation. ■

# PBA Solicits Nominations for Pro Bono Awards

PBA President Andrew F. Susko has announced the opening of the nomination period for the Annual Pro Bono Awards of the PBA's Legal Service to the Public Committee. This is the 21st year that the Committee has sought nominees and these awards have come of age under the leadership of the Committee this past year as the PBA Board of Governors and House of Delegates have passed resolutions endorsing pro bono service and supporting the expansion of funding and services for civil legal aid. The 2008 Pro Bono Awards will be presented at the PBA Annual Pro Bono Conference, which will be held in Harrisburg in connection with the PBA Day on the Hill at the beginning of May. The award winners also will be acknowledged at the PBA Annual Meeting in early June in Hershey.

This is your chance to recognize and thank those attorneys and judges who have used their talents to help the needy in your county. While the obstacles to equal access to justice continue to mount, the willingness of attorneys to help meet the legal needs of the indigent in their communities is important to those in need of service and bestows honor upon our great profession. These nominees provide services that allow the doors of justice to remain open to all citizens.

Additional criteria can be found at [www.pabar.org/public/probono/ProBonoAwardPresidentsMemo2008.pdf](http://www.pabar.org/public/probono/ProBonoAwardPresidentsMemo2008.pdf). The nomination form is located at [www.pabar.org/public/probono/probonohome.asp](http://www.pabar.org/public/probono/probonohome.asp). The form can be completed electronically and you will receive instant confirmation that we have received your nomination. Please contact PBA Pro Bono Coordinator David Keller Trevaskis at (800) 932-0311, Ext. 2236, or [david.trevaskis@pabar.org](mailto:david.trevaskis@pabar.org) with any questions.

The deadline for nominations is April 11, 2008. ■

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## 2008 PBA Unit County Dues Schedule

**November 2007** — First dues billing sent to unit county bar associations.

**January 1, 2008 - March 31, 2008** — All unit county dues received within this time-frame qualify for a 10 percent discount.

**March 2008** — Follow-up dues billing sent to unit county bar associations.

**April 1, 2008 – June 30, 2008** — All unit county dues received within this time-frame qualify for a 6 percent discount.

**June 2008** — Third dues billing sent to unit county bar associations.

**July 31, 2008** — Any unit county members whose dues are not paid are dropped from PBA membership.



# On the *Local Scene*...

## **Allegheny**

### **Children's Book**

The Allegheny County Bar Association has published an illustrated children's book titled *That is No Joke!* The book, written and edited by two bar association directors, promotes the key messages of the association's successful "This is a Joke: Making Fun of Others is Not!" program that bar members present to students in K-5. The book is free to students and schools.

### **Asian Attorneys Committee**

The ACBA has formed an Asian Attorneys Committee.

### **Judicial Elections Public Education Campaign**

Leading up to the Nov. 6 merit retention and judicial elections, the Judicial Merit Selection Committee of the Allegheny County Bar Association conducted a public education campaign. The Committee developed a Web site, newspaper and radio ads, press releases and op-eds to provide voters with information about the judges running for retention and the candidates running for open judicial positions.

## **Beaver**

### **Habitat for Humanity Workday**

The Beaver County Bar Association's Charitable Giving and Fundraising Committee held a Habitat for Humanity Workday in the fall. Attorneys and judges from the association spent the day helping Habitat for Humanity renovate a house in Beaver Falls. In addition, the Committee made a financial contribution to the organization to help further its efforts in providing homeownership for low-income families in Beaver County.

### **Pro Bono Award**

The Beaver County Bar Association recognized Attorney Joseph Spratt of Bridgewater for his receipt of a Pennsylvania Bar Association 2007 Attorney Pro Bono Award. The award honors lawyers who fulfill the requirements of the profession to provide pro bono service in ways that deserve special recognition. Spratt

was nominated for expending numerous hours without compensation to serve the public need. BCBA President James Ross presented Spratt with a special plaque recognizing this service.

## **Blair**

### **Football Social**

Members of the Blair County Bar Association attended a Steeler Monday Night Football party at Atty. Laverne M. Kovacs' Black and Gold Tavern on Nov. 5. The courthouse was closed on the next day, Election Day, thus giving the attorneys a chance to relax and not worry about court appearances the next day.

## **Bradford**

### **Memorials**

The Bradford County Bar Association sponsored a free showing of *To Kill a Mockingbird* in memory of county attorney David Keefe and his wife, Carol, who were murdered in 2006. The association also held a memorial for late attorneys Michael DeSisti, John Schmitthener and Joseph Galletti.

## **Bucks**

### **Katrina Relief**

Members of the Bucks County Bar Association, in partnership with the Bucks-Mont Katrina Relief Project, returned to the Gulf Coast in November for a fourth round of rebuilding and reconstruction. University of Pennsylvania graduate student Connie Hoe, who has been working with the group, commented that the spirit of [Katrina-] affected communities is sustained by continued interest from the outside, "When they see volunteers, they see hope." Attorney Maureen Gatto has relocated from Bucks County to Mississippi to oversee coordination of volunteer groups.

## **Chester**

### **Newspaper Supplement**

The Chester County Bar Association raised over \$14,000 for three Chester County nonprofit organizations by publishing its third annual special supplement entitled "Your Access to Justice" to the

*Daily Local News*. The 24-page supplement raised awareness of the association's numerous community programs and supported Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania, the Crime Victims' Center and the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County. It also described various programs offered by the association and the Chester County Bar Foundation, and provided insight and updates on various aspects of the local court system. The association also held a "Meet Your Judges" event that included the reenactment of the 1821 case *Commonwealth v. John Reed*.

## **Clinton**

### **Public Education Op-Eds**

Members of the Clinton County Bar Association have written a series of articles intended to educate the public about legal issues. The most recent one to appear, titled "Child Support Works in Pennsylvania," detailed the process of obtaining child support, what is included in child support and what sort of legal representation is available.

## **Cumberland**

### **Legislative Reception**

The Cumberland County Bar Association hosted a legislative reception Dec. 14, in Camp Hill to talk about issues including the sales tax bills.

### **Charity Casino Night**

Seventy people attended the CCBA YLD Casino Night, with the proceeds of \$1,300 going to Victory Circle, a local charity helping troubled children with their homework, projects and providing educational fun.

## **Dauphin**

### **Lecture Series**

The Seventh Annual Arthur L. & Harry B. Goldberg Lecture Series, sponsored by the Dauphin County Bar Foundation, took place on Oct. 25. The program featured Mark A. Pacella, chief deputy attorney general (Charitable Trusts & Organi-

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# On the *Local Scene...*

zations); Linda J. Williams, chief deputy attorney general (Bureau of Consumer Protection); Frank G. Fina, chief deputy attorney general (Criminal Prosecutions); and Edward M. Marsico Jr., Dauphin County district attorney. The lecture series, which included two CLE credits at no charge, attracted 140 attendees.

## **Minority Attorney Dinner**

The Eighth Annual Joint Dinner Meeting with the Keystone Bar Association (formerly known as the Harrisburg Black Attorneys Association) was held on Nov. 8, and featured Pedro A. Cortes, secretary of the commonwealth. The Hon. Robert N.C. Nix Scholarship Awards were presented to Christopher B. Neal, from the Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law, and Kusha Desai and Michael White II, both of the Widener University School of Law, Harrisburg Campus.

## **Memorial Service**

The DCBA Memorial and Outreach Committee coordinated a Memorial Service on Nov. 28 at the Dauphin County Courthouse to honor Thomas P. Brogan, Lawrence R. Wieder and Michael A. Koranda, all of whom had died over the past year. This event provides members an opportunity to demonstrate respect for former colleagues and commitment to one of the finest traditions of the bar association.

## **Erie**

### **Collaboration with Medical Society**

The Erie County Bar Association and Erie County Medical Society have formed a joint organization called the Coalition of Attorneys and Physicians in Erie (CAPE). Its goal is to provide education in areas of mutual interest as well as networking opportunities. The first such venture, a seminar, was held on Nov. 1 at the new Erie Bayfront Convention Center, with 120 attorneys and physicians registered. The program dealt with advance directives and provided a panel of three attorneys and three physicians discussing the topic from their professional perspectives.

It was eye-opening for physicians to learn some details of the Act 169, which they did not fully understand, and for attorneys to hear real-life scenarios from physicians who deal with patients, their families and advance directives issues on a daily basis.

## **Indiana**

### **United Way Fundraiser**

Members of the Indiana County Bar Association were servers for the annual United Way Pancake & Sausage Day fundraiser.

## **Lancaster**

### **Mortgage Crisis Help**

Members of the Lancaster Bar Association joined with representatives of H&R Block, the state Department of Banking, the state attorney general's office and others to staff a Help Center for local residents impacted by the national mortgage crisis and the related bankruptcy filings of two local agencies.

## **Lebanon**

### **Speakers Hosted**

The Lebanon County Bar Association hosted several speakers over the past few months. PBA President Andrew Susko was the guest speaker at the LCBA's annual meeting, held at the Lebanon Country Club. Outgoing LCBA President Loreen Burkett introduced Susko, who spoke about the proposed sales tax on legal services. Committee chairs presented year-end reports and seven attorneys were unanimously voted into the association. Superior Court Judge Correale Stevens presented "Appellate Practice Issues" at a LCBA Lunch and Learn. Attorneys were enlightened and entertained with stories and information relating to brief writing, oral arguments and interpretation issues. Members of the association also sponsored a "Meet Your Legislators" event with Rep. Rosemarie Swanger and Rep. Mauree Gingrich, and Joe Sterns, public relations director for Sen. Mike Folmer. The evening did not include a specific agenda, but was meant as a time for socializing with local legis-

lators in a private audience. However, a hot topic of discussion did include the proposed sales tax on legal services.

## **Technology Improvements**

Installation of cable and the purchase of equipment is underway for the LCBA to begin hosting its own CLEs as well as simulcasts from the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. Seed money came from a \$4,800 grant from the PA Bar Trust Fund and Insurance Fund.

## **Community Outreach**

The LCBA now has a Web site (at [www.lebanoncountybar.org](http://www.lebanoncountybar.org)). The site, was completed gratis, as a resume builder by an area man attending Harrisburg Area Community College's Lebanon campus. Designed for members and the general public, the site includes the Lawyer Referral Service application and contact information, attorney membership information, notes of local interest and other information pertaining to the association.

The LCBA is also partnering with the national nonprofit career exploration program "Exploring" to expose local students to careers in law. Approximately 10 students have registered for monthly, hands-on activities to discover what lawyers do every day. Ten lawyers have volunteered to lead discussions and activities, which will include a mock trial, field trips and special guest speakers.

## **Lower Luzerne**

### **Superior Court Guest Speaker**

Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge Correale Stevens was the guest speaker at a monthly meeting of the Lower Luzerne County Bar Association.

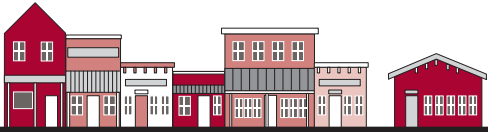
## **Monroe**

### **Mock Trial**

Teams representing high schools from Monroe County and surrounding areas participated in the annual Mock Trial Invitational on Nov. 17 at Stroudsburg High School. Teams were advised by members of the Monroe County Bar

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Association and judged by MCBA attorneys. The first place team was Wallenpaupack High School, second place was Pocono Mountain East and third place was Valley View High School.

## **Holiday Socials**

The MCBA held its annual holiday gathering at Skytop Lodge. On Dec. 15, the MCBA sponsored its annual Children and Youth Services Christmas Party at the Great Wolf Lodge in Scotrun. The party featured a visit from Santa Claus (a.k.a. Magisterial District Judge Michael Muth), gifts for the children and refreshments. The association also sponsored its third annual bus trip to New York City for a day of shopping, tourist activities and a Broadway play for MCBA members, their families and friends.

## **Swearing-in Ceremony**

On Dec. 17, the MCBA sponsored a swearing-in ceremony for attorneys who passed the bar and wished to be admitted to the association. Following the ceremony, MCBA members and their family and friends were invited to the bar center for a reception, refreshments and entertainment by the Barbershop Chorus of the Poconos.

## **Montgomery**

### **Sexual Predator Information Programs**

The Montgomery Bar Association Community Outreach Committee recently completed production of a 45-minute television program and DVD titled "The Process of a Sexual Predator." The program intends to provide parents and educators with many of the tools needed to protect children from the threat of online sexual predators.

Over 300 copies of the free video will be distributed to area schools, libraries, parent groups and individuals. The program will also be available for viewing on Comcast's Video-on-Demand service, select cable channels and public access.

In the program (hosted by MBA Women in Law Committee Chair Elizabeth L. Lippy), past and present members

of the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office, the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and the Sexual Assault Task Force provide chilling yet realistic perspectives from the trenches. Viewers will witness a live chat room demonstration and learn about other hotbeds for online predators. The program also uncovers key prosecution and defense strategies, ramifications and common misconceptions about Megan's Law, how sexual predators get caught and — most importantly — how to protect children from being victimized.

To generate early interest, the MBA announced pre-release availability of the video at the U.S. Attorney's Eastern District Web Wise Kids training program for middle school teachers and faculty, held recently at Montgomery County Community College. Montgomery County D.A. Risa Vetri Ferman announced the release in her opening remarks.

Funding for the program was provided by the Montgomery County Office of the District Attorney, the Bar Association Community Outreach Committee and Commerce Bank.

## **Northampton**

### **New Social**

The Northampton County Bar Association began a new event this fall — The Amicus Soiree, held at a new golf resort. This event replaces the more formal Barristers' Ball that had been held in December.

### **People's Law School Adds New Topics**

The NCBA held their People's Law School this fall. In addition to the regular programs, two new twists were added this year. The last night of the semester included a program on gambling and casino law. The new casino in Bethlehem will be opening within two years. Since this is a new and hot topic in the Lehigh Valley, the association decided to offer the course, which included a brief history on how gambling began, requirements casinos must follow regarding state laws, and plans for the new casino. The other addition to the class was a fictional scenario of a couple, with children, in the middle of a

divorce and involved in a fatal car crash. The scenario brought together how one family can go through the many different types of law and courts with just one unfortunate accident.

## **Holiday Ceremony**

The Northampton County Bar Association held a holiday ceremony to celebrate and tour the expanded county courthouse. Speakers included state Superior Court Judge Jack Panella and U.S. Third Circuit Senior Judge Franklin S. Van Antwerpen, both of whom are county residents.

## **Westmoreland**

### **Operation Safe Surf**

Members of the Young Lawyers Association of the Westmoreland Bar Association presented the Operation Safe Surf Program at the Regional Family YMCA in October. The presentation was one of a four-part program presented by the Young Lawyers Public Service Committee.

## **Wilkes-Barre/Luzerne**

### **Charitable Golf Tournament**

The Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association/Luzerne County Bar held their annual charitable golf tournament at the Fox Hill Country Club. Money raised was donated to the Luzerne County Bar Association Charitable Foundation Inc., which in turn presented donations to Allied Service of the John Heinz Rehabilitation Center for its autism services program, Habitat for Humanity, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Luzerne County Head Start, Victim's Resource Center, Hoyt Library, Volunteers of America, Meals on Wheels of Hazleton, the Catherine McAuley House, Greater Pittston YMCA, Catholic Social Services and the Wilkes-Barre YMCA.

## **York**

### **Real Estate Mediation**

Members of the York County Bar Association, in cooperation with the Realtors Association of York and Adams Counties, are participating in a mediation program for buyers, sellers and others involved in real estate transactions. ■

## 2007-2008 CCBL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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**Michelle M. Shuker, Esq., at  
Michelle.Shuker@pabar.org or PBA,  
PO Box 186, Harrisburg, PA 17108.  
Call Michelle at (800) 932-0311,  
Ext. 2218 with your questions.**

**MARCH 3, 2008 IS THE COPY DEADLINE  
for the April 2008 issue of the County Line.**

Send your news for *The County Line* to PBA County Bar Services Director  
Michelle M. Shuker, Esq., at Michelle.Shuker@pabar.org or c/o PBA,  
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# PBA Quality of Life/Balance Committee Offers FREE Ethics CLE

*By Carlton Walker, Esq.*

We all know there is no such thing as a free lunch. But, thanks to the PBA Quality of Life/Balance Committee, free CLE *does* exist.

The Quality of Life/Balance Committee (QOL) has several video vignettes that dramatize the difficult situations in which we attorneys sometimes find ourselves. The videos serve as a jumping-off point for audience discussion of the ethical and practical problems presented. This discussion can be moderated by a volunteer member of the QOL, local attorneys and/or judges, or a combination of these.

These presentations vary between one hour and 90 minutes in length and work well as breakfast sessions, Lunch-and-Learns, or after-work gatherings. The videos address different topics from which you may choose, and the presentations have been approved for ethics continuing legal education credit.

Please consider offering this valuable — yet priceless — CLE opportunity to members of your bar. It's as easy as contacting me at AttorneyWalker@gmail.com or at (717) 485-4529. I look forward to hearing from you! ■

*Carlton Walker is a solo practicing in McConnellsburg, Fulton County. She serves as co-vice chair of the PBA Quality of Life/Balance Committee.*

## Change to Bylaws

The proposed changes to the CCBL bylaws will face a confirmation vote at the Saturday morning CCBL business meeting. If you have not already done so, you can review the changes at [www.pabar.org/public/localbar/ProposedBYLAWS2007.pdf](http://www.pabar.org/public/localbar/ProposedBYLAWS2007.pdf)



# Courses from the Pennsylvania Bar Institute

Here is a listing of courses being offered by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. Dates, times and locations are subject to change. Contact PBI's Customer Service Department for more information at (800) 932-4637, (800) 247-4724 or (717) 796-0804 or visit their Web site at [www.pbi.org](http://www.pbi.org).

## *Bethlehem*

**Civil Practice in Eastern Pennsylvania**, Tues., Feb. 12, 2008; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:00 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

## *West Chester - SIMULCAST*

**Elder Law Update**, Thurs., Feb. 14, 2008; 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

## *SIMULCAST*

<i>Easton</i>	<i>New Castle</i>
<i>Erie</i>	<i>Pittsburgh</i>
<i>Greensburg</i>	<i>Stroudsburg</i>
<i>Mansfield</i>	<i>Villanova</i>
<i>Mechanicsburg</i>	<i>Wilkes-Barre</i>

**Representing a Buyer or Seller of Residential Property**, Tues., Feb. 19, 2008; 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; check-in at 8:00 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics\*) \*Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit

## *Media*

**Four County Civil Practice**, Wed., Feb. 20, 2008; 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; check-in at 8:00 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

## *Pittsburgh*

**Trials! Tips, Tactics & Practical Tales**, Thurs., Feb. 21, 2008; 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; check-in at 8:00 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics\*) \*Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit.

## *SIMULCAST*

<i>Mansfield</i>	<i>Stroudsburg</i>
<i>Mechanicsburg</i>	<i>West Chester</i>
<i>New Castle</i>	<i>Wilkes-Barre</i>
<i>Philadelphia</i>	<i>York</i>

Fri., Feb. 22, 2008; 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; check-in at 8:00 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics\*) \*Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit.

## *Scranton*

**Family Law Practice in Northeastern PA**, Fri., Feb. 29, 2008; 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:00 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics\*) \*Must attend entire program to receive ethics credits.

## *Easton - SIMULCAST*

**Selecting and Influencing Your Jury**, Thurs., Mar. 6, 2008; 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; check-in at 9:00 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (substantive)

## *Bethlehem*

**Family Law Practice in the Lehigh Valley**, Thurs., Mar. 6, 2008; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:00 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

## *SIMULCAST*

<i>Bellefonte</i>	<i>Philadelphia</i>
<i>Doylestown</i>	<i>Reading</i>
<i>Erie</i>	<i>Scranton</i>
<i>Greensburg</i>	<i>Stroudsburg</i>
<i>Hollidaysburg</i>	<i>Towanda</i>
<i>Indiana</i>	<i>Villanova</i>
<i>Lewisburg</i>	<i>Washington</i>
<i>Mansfield</i>	<i>Waynesburg</i>
<i>Mechanicsburg</i>	<i>West Chester</i>
<i>Mill Hall</i>	<i>Wilkes-Barre</i>
<i>New Castle</i>	<i>Williamsport</i>

**21st Annual Civil Litigation Update**, Wed., Mar. 12, 2008; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:00 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

## *King of Prussia*

**2nd Annual Land Use Institute**, Fri., Mar. 14, 2008; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; & Sat., Mar. 15, 2008; 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; check-in at 8:00 a.m. both days; 10 CLE credits (9 substantive/1 ethics)

## *Lock Haven*

**Collecting & Enforcing Judgments**, Fri., Mar. 14, 2008; 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

## *Emporium*

**Elder Law Update – VIDEO REPLAY**, Wed., Mar. 19, 2008; 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

**How to Prepare the Pennsylvania Inheritance Tax Return – VIDEO REPLAY**, Thurs., Feb. 28, 2008; 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; check-in at 8:00 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

<i>Allentown</i>	<i>Philadelphia</i>
<i>Bellefonte</i>	<i>Reading</i>
<i>Doylestown</i>	<i>Stroudsburg</i>
<i>Easton</i>	<i>Towanda</i>
<i>Erie</i>	<i>Villanova</i>
<i>Greensburg</i>	<i>Washington</i>
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<i>Indiana</i>	<i>West Chester</i>
<i>Mansfield</i>	<i>West Decatur</i>
<i>Mechanicsburg</i>	<i>Wilkes-Barre</i>
<i>Mill Hall</i>	<i>Williamsport</i>
<i>New Castle</i>	

*Chambersburg* – Thurs., Mar. 27, 2008  
*Milford* – Fri., Mar. 28, 2008

**11th Annual Family Law Update – 2007 – VIDEO REPLAY**

*West Chester* – Wed., Feb. 13, 2008  
*Sunbury* – Fri., Feb. 22, 2008  
*Kittanning* – Fri., Mar. 28, 2008  
9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

**Outsourcing – VIDEO REPLAY**

*West Chester* – Wed., Mar. 5, 2008  
*Reading* – Thurs. Mar. 13, 2008  
*Doylestown* – Tues., Mar. 18, 2008  
9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

**Annual Disclosure Documents and SEC Update – VIDEO REPLAY**

*Johnstown* – Tues., Mar. 11, 2008  
*West Chester* – Tues., Mar. 18, 2008  
*Morrisville* – Thurs., Mar. 27, 2008  
9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

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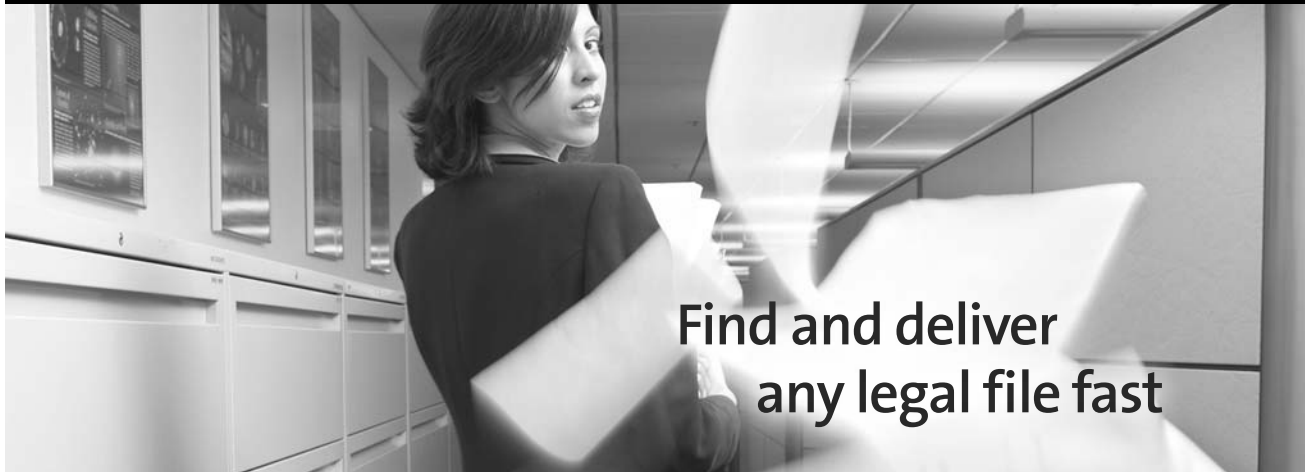
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**For more information, please contact:**  
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1-800-932-0311  
lauren.brinjac@pabar.org

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# Law Day Marks 50th Anniversary: Pennsylvania Theme is 'Growing Strong Citizens'

This year is the 50th anniversary of Law Day, and the theme for Pennsylvania's ninth annual celebration is "Growing Strong Citizens." Through this observance, children of all ages will have the opportunity to explore the ways in which they can become active, involved citizens who can make a positive impact on society.

Lawyers and judges again are being encouraged to visit schools and use the PBA's free law-related lesson plan guide during classroom visits. Because many local bar associations already have plans underway for their annual Law Day festivities, the PBA Law Day program and materials are specifically designed to enhance and supplement those existing efforts. Interested local bar associations can request free lesson plan guides to distribute to members and schools. Information regarding all of the Law Day plans will be mailed to local bar associations shortly.

The PBA Law-Related Education Committee, which coordinates the statewide

Law Day observance, is planning a special 50th birthday party for Law Day on May 1, in the state Capitol in Harrisburg. Law Day is an excellent vehicle for county bar associations to reach out to their membership, not only by including them in Law Day activities, but also by helping them to reach out into the community.

The PBA regularly receives inquiries as to why it does not use the American Bar Association Law Day theme. Several years ago, the PBA LRE Committee decided to adopt Law Day themes that are unique to Pennsylvania. The committee considered using the ABA's themes when it initiated the statewide Law Day program, but found them to be too focused on one aspect of the law. Many Pennsylvania schools expressed interest in having broader themes to which their students could better relate. In addition, the PBA selects a new theme in the spring of the preceding year so that it can be used throughout the school year — from Cele-

brate the Constitution through Law Day. The ABA does not release its theme until late summer or early fall.

Call the PBA Law Day toll-free hotline at (877) 329-7621 or visit the PBA Web site at [www.pabar.org/public/education/lawday/lawdayinformation.asp](http://www.pabar.org/public/education/lawday/lawdayinformation.asp) for more information or send an e-mail to [lawday2008@pabar.org](mailto:lawday2008@pabar.org) with any questions. ■

## **Law Day 2008 "Planning Schedule"**

### **February – May 2008:**

Law Day 2006 K - College Lesson Plan Guide Available

### **May 1, 2008:**

Law Day 2008

### **May 1 – 31, 2008:**

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