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Building the PABAR-PAC in 2007

By Lauren Brinjac, PBA Legislative Coordinator

In addition to monitoring and developing legislation, and lobbying for the positions taken by the Pennsylvania Bar Association on a range of legislative issues before the Pennsylvania General Assembly, one of the major goals of the PBA Legislative Department over the past year has been to increase member participation and raise funds for the PBA's political action committee — its voice on Capitol Hill - the PABAR-PAC. The PABAR-PAC has always been the best vehicle by which the PBA ensures the consideration and representation of its views in the Legislature because it helps lawmakers who support the legal community to maintain their seats, and it supports the candidates who have shown their support of the legal profession. With the PABAR-PAC standing in only 32nd place among PACs in the state during the last election cycle, it became clear that this voice was not nearly as loud as it could be given the strong membership numbers of the PBA.

In order to most effectively and efficiently build the PABAR-PAC to the point where it could assert real political power, the PBA Legislative Department and the PABAR-PAC board of directors sought the assistance of Michael Dunn, chairman and CEO of Michael E. Dunn & Associates, Inc., a public affairs consulting firm based in Arlington, Va., that specializes in the development of strategic political programs for corporations and associations. Over the past year, Dunn has brought his 30+ years of experience in developing and growing political action committees to the PBA, and has worked with the PABAR-PAC's board and new chair, William Carlucci, to strengthen the structure of the PAC and develop a multi-faceted fundraising campaign.

First, the PABAR-PAC expanded the membership of its board to ensure adequate geographic representation by including 12 new zone directors who are to be appointed by each PBA zone governor. Next, it established the PABAR-PAC Capitol Club: PBA members who contribute at least \$250 annually will be recognized as Silver members of the Capitol Club; those who contribute at least \$500 will be recognized as Gold members; and those who contribute at least \$1,000 will be recognized as Platinum members. The PAC also began offering automatic monthly credit card deductions as a more convenient way for members to contribute.

The new fall fundraising campaign kicks off in October. The campaign is comprised of electronic, direct mail and peer-to-peer solicitation. The most important of these components, peer-to-peer solicitation, will be done by a team of PABAR-PAC "ambassadors." These ambassadors are PBA members who have volunteered to represent the PABAR-PAC within each county by conducting individual and small group meetings



Lauren Brinjac

with fellow members in order to get them involved in contributing to the PABAR-PAC. The PAC is continually looking for members willing to join the team of ambassadors. Training sessions outlining ambassador roles and responsibilities are conducted by Michael Dunn.

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Thirty County Bar Associations Participate in Second Phase of Lawyer Image Campaign

Thirty county bar associations have partnered with the PBA for the second phase of the statewide campaign to improve the public's understanding of the role of the lawyers in society. Television and radio commercials featuring how lawyers can help clients in starting a business or in taking care of an elderly parent will be seen again throughout the state during the month of October as part of a joint PBA and county bar association public education initiative. The PBA worked with media buyer Gene Kolber of Willow Grove to secure statewide placements of the ads.

Three, 30-second "You Have Rights. Lawyers Protect Them" commercials, developed by the PBA Public Relations Task Force Implementation Committee, communicate positive messages about lawyers on network and cable television stations and radio stations throughout the commonwealth. The commercials can be viewed on the PBA Web site at www.pabar.org/public/youhaverights.asp.

The PBA contributed \$200,000 toward the project and received a onetime grant from the Pennsylvania Bar Trust in the amount of \$200,000 to fund the project. County bar associations were solicited for contributions at a rate of \$7 per PBA member, and over \$97,000 was contributed by 30 participating county bar associations.

The county bar associations listed at right partnered with the PBA for the October phase of the campaign.

Allegheny Beaver Bucks Butler Cambria Cameron Centre N Chester Clinton Delaware Erie Fayette Indiana N Lackawanna Lawrence

Lebanon Lycoming Mercer Monroe Montgomery Northampton Northumberland Philadelphia Pike Schuylkill Washington Wayne Westmoreland Wilkes-Barre York

Building the PABAR-PAC in 2007

(Continued from Page 1)

The goal of the PBA is to build a program that will rank among the top in the state. Whether the issue is advertising in legal journals, sales tax on legal services, the unlicensed practice of law, medical malpractice, joint and several liability, etc., there is a host of legislative issues that affect the practice of law in the commonwealth, and the PBA has made the commitment to be a leading voice on Capitol Hill by its efforts to build the PABAR-PAC in 2007.

If you have any questions about the PABAR-PAC's fundraising campaign, or any of the PBA's current legislative issues, please feel free to contact Legislative Coordinator Lauren Brinjac at (800) 932-0311, Ext. 2207, or via e-mail at lauren.brinjac@pabar.org. Information can also be found on the Legislative News/PABAR-PAC section of the PBA Web site at www.pabar.org/public/legislative.

Lancaster Bar Executive Named National Association President

Lancaster Bar Association Executive Director Evelyn Sullivan took the helm as president of the National Association of Bar Executives (NABE) on Aug. 9 in San Francisco, prior to the ABA Annual Meeting. Sullivan has been the executive director of the Lancaster Bar for 19 years and has served as a NABE board member for eight years. She is the first NABE president from a non-metropolitan sized bar association.

During her tenure on the NABE board, the organization has reached out to smaller bars and increased its membership from 420 to 642 members. "NABE has been doing what every local bar needs to do: pay attention to what its members want and then provide it," says Sullivan. NABE's mission is to "unite and inspire bar executives in promotion of excellence in bar association management."



Sullivan says her view of leadership is not to take the organization in a different direction but to fine-tune things. "I want us to look for ways we can improve and learn from our shortcomings."

Fall Avoidance of Legal Malpractice Seminars

Unless otherwise noted by an "*," all seminars are CD-ROM presentations and online registration is available at www.pabar.org/pdf/ALMS.pdf. Conference members who attend will receive up to a 5 percent discount on their PBAendorsed malpractice insurance, plus 1.5 hours of CLE credit.

CRAWFORD

October 8 at 3:00 p.m. Holiday Inn Express, 18240 Conneaut Lake Road, Meadville

WARREN

October 9 at 9:00 a.m. Holiday Inn, 210 Ludlow Street, Warren

MCKEAN

October 9 at 3:00 p.m. Mutzabaugh & Saunders, L.L.P., 13 Main Street, Bradford

POTTER

October 10 at 9:00 a.m. Mill Stream Inn, 918 East Second Street, Coudersport

CAMERON

October 10 at 3:00 p.m. Office of Paul Malizia, 25 East Fourth Street, Emporium

CLINTON

October 11 at 9:00 a.m. Dutch Haven Restaurant, 201 East Bald Eagle Street, Lock Haven

MIFFLIN

October 11 at 3:00 p.m. Quality Inn, Route 322, Burnham

CENTRE

October 12 at 9:00 a.m. Days Inn State College, 240 South Pugh Street, State College

VENANGO

October 22 at 3:00 p.m. Quality Inn (Inn at Franklin), 1411 Liberty Street, Franklin

CLARION

October 23 at 9:00 a.m Holiday Inn, Route 68 and I 80, Clarion

JEFFERSON

October 23 at 3:00 p.m. Plyler's Family Restaurant, 234 Allegheny Boulevard, Meeting Room, Brookville

ELK

October 24 at 9:00 a.m. Best Western Executive Inn, 1002 Earth Road, St. Marys

CLEARFIELD

October 24 at 4:00 p.m. Moena Restaurant, 215 East Market Street, Clearfield

BLAIR

October 25 at 9:00 a.m. Quality Inn, 2915 Pleasant Valley Blvd., Altoona

SOMERSET

October 30 at 9:00 a.m. Oakhurst Tea Room, 2409 Glades Pike Road, Route 31 West, Somerset

FAYETTE

October 30 at 3:00 p.m. Penn State Fayette, Eberly Building, Room 116, One University Drive, Uniontown

WESTMORELAND

October 31 at 10:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. Westmoreland Bar Association, 129 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Greensburg

INDIANA

November 1 at 9:00 a.m. Rustic Lodge, 2025 Route 286 South, Indiana

CAMBRIA

November 1 at 3:00 p.m. Comfort Inn & Suites, 455 Theatre Drive, Johnstown

HUNTINGDON

November 2 at 9:00 a.m. Comfort Inn, 100 South 4th Street, Huntingdon

BEDFORD

November 13 at 9:00 a.m. Hampton Inn, 4325 Business 220, Bedford

FULTON

November 13 at 3:00 p.m. First National Bank, 101 Lincoln Way West, McConnellsburg

SCHUYLKILL*

Schuylkill County Bench Bar October 18 at 1:00 p.m. Schuylkill Country Club, Route 443, Orwigsburg 1.5 credits Call (570) 628-1235

LANCASTER*

October 26 at 11:00 a.m. Lancaster Bar Association, 28 East Orange Street, Lancaster Call (717) 393-0737

YORK*

November 6 at 12:15 p.m. Yorktowne Hotel, 48 East Market Street, York Call (717) 854-8755, ext. 201

MONTGOMERY*

December 4 at 10:00 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Montgomery Bar Association, 100 West Airy Street, Norristown Call (610) 279- 9660, ext. 211

ERIE*

December 6 at 4:00 p.m. Lake Shore Country Club, 5950 Lake Shore Drive, Erie Call (814) 459-3111

DAUPHIN*

December 7 at 1:30 p.m. Dauphin County Bar Association, 213 North Front Street, Harrisburg Call (717) 232-7536

DECEMBER 3, 2007 IS THE COPY DEADLINE for the January 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, PO Box 186, Harrisburg, PA 17108.



On the Local Scene...

Chester

3rd Annual State vs. Federal Judges Softball Game

On Aug. 16, several federal judges, Commonwealth Court judges, and Chester County Bar Association members headed to Rutgers Camden Campus for their Third Annual Federal Judges vs. State Judges Softball Game. The state judges attempted a rally in the sixth inning, but after nine innings and darkness falling, the federal judges were victorious with a final score of 26-8. The federal team is now leading 2-1 in this three- year series.

Common Pleas Judge Honored with Pro Bono Award

The Pennsylvania Bar Association awarded a special achievement Pro Bono Judges Award to Chester County Court of Common Pleas Judge Katherine B.L. Platt, for her legal assistance to the poor, outstanding leadership in the legal profession and her commitment to the importance of pro bono services. Judge Platt serves as the judicial liaison for the Pro Bono Committee for the county bar association. In conjunction with singlehandedly doubling the number of volunteers for pro bono family cases, she administers a tutoring class to instruct non-family lawyers on how to assist with pro bono family law cases. She has also opened up non-traditional areas of the law for pro bono services, namely guardianships and small estates. The bar association hosted a reception for its members to recognize Judge Platt for her outstanding contribution to the commitment of pro bono work.

Cumberland

Annual Picnic

More than 100 members of the Cumberland County Bar Association attended the association's annual picnic at Allenberry Resort and Playhouse at the end of July.

Annual Casino Night

The Young Lawyers Division of the Cumberland County Bar Association is gathering prizes and sponsors for its 10th Annual Casino Night to be held in November in Carlisle.

Response to New ADR Program Exceeds Expectations

The Cumberland County Bar Association's new ADR Program has processed three mediations and one arbitration since March 2007 when the program began. ADR Program Chair Grace D'Alo said, "The response to this program in the last six months is more than any of us projected. There is definitely a need out here and I am glad our program is in place for the public."

Dauphin

Minority Intern Program Places 15; Will Expand Next Year

The Capital Area Managing Partners (CAMP) Diversity Initiative, administered by the Dauphin County Bar Association Equal Professional Opportunity Committee, completed its Second Annual 1L Summer Intern Program, hiring 15 first-year minority law students for eightweek internships at Harrisburg and York law firms and corporate legal departments. Each week featured a presentation describing the practical aspects of practicing law in different substantive areas. The program will be expanded to include Lancaster County in 2008.

Pro Bono Guardianship Monitoring Program Developed

The Pro Bono Guardianship Monitoring Program, implemented through the efforts of the DCBA Public Service Committee and Pro Bono Coordinator Sandy Ballard, and managed by the deputy court administrator, has been developed to act as the eyes and ears of the Orphan's Court to ensure that incapacitated persons are not being personally or financially mistreated. Each monitor is required to attend three hours of free CLE-approved training to participate in the program. After visiting wards and guardians and completing interview checklists, the monitors review records and submit reports to the court on forms provided - for which they receive pro bono credit.

Delaware

Seniors Seminar Seeks to Prevent Scams on the Elderly

The Delaware County Bar Association co-sponsored a seminar for county senior citizens on estate law and planning, and how to protect assets from scam artists and other professional criminals. The association promoted use of its "The Delaware County Elder Law Handbook and Resource Guide," which can be downloaded from the association's Web site. Members presented talks on powers of attorney, and several members were on hand to personally answer questions for the approximately 200 attendees.

Franklin

First Affinity Program Created

The Franklin County Bar Association and Global Data Consultants, a Chambersburg-based information technology company, recently teamed up to create the bar association's first affinity program for its members. Under the program, which began Sept. 1, bar association members can receive discounted rates on a host of IT services. Global Data will provide a free static Web page containing contact information and practice areas for interested attorneys. The FCBA and Global Data, which designed and hosts the bar's Web site, also will work together on providing periodic seminars for attorneys and their staffs on a variety of technology issues.

Court Administrator Honored

When Bill Sheaffer, the first court administrator for Franklin County, retired in July after 35 years in his post, he may have left the courthouse behind, but not his relationship with the Franklin County Bar Association. In recognition of his dedication to the court and his commitment to the administration of justice, the bar association surprised Bill at his retirement party by making him an honorary member of the bar — the first such person to be so named.



Monroe

YLD Sponsors Baseball Outing

On July 20, Monroe County Bar Association members attended the Scranton/ Wilkes-Barre Yankee game at PNC Stadium. The event was sponsored by the Young Lawyer's Division.

Annual Leges Cup Golf Tournament

On July 27, the Annual Leges Cup Golf Tournament was held at the Glenbrook Country Club. The tournament was won by Susan L. Kenny, executive director of the bar association, and her daughter, Katie. Also on July 27, the Monroe County Bar Association held its annual summer outing at the Stroudsmoor Country Inn.

Foundation Sponsors Fine Art Benefit

The Monroe County Bar Foundation sponsored a showing of fine art at the Monroe County Bar Center on Sept. 14. The showing benefited the Valerie M. Hodge Memorial Endowment Fund for the Children's Dental Center. Works of art, jewelry and artifacts by local artists were featured. Hors d'oeuvres, wine and beverages were served and entertainment was provided by musician-members of the bar association.

11th Annual Bench Bar Conference

On Sept. 28, the Monroe County Bar Association sponsored its 11th Annual Bench Bar Conference at Fernwood Hotel and Resort in Bushkill. In addition to three CLEs that provided three substantive credits and one ethics credit, the conference featured special guest speaker Howell Raines, former executive editor of the *New York Times*. Breakfast, lunch and a cocktail reception, plus a vendor expo were included in the day-long activities.

Montgomery

Law Day Celebration

The Montgomery Bar Association held its Law Day Celebration in Courtroom A of the county courthouse.

The celebration began with an introduction by President Judge Richard J. Hodgson followed by opening remarks from MBA President Robert E. Slota Jr. and the chair of the MBA Law Day Committee, Michael E. Furey.

New members of the MBA were then introduced by attorney Marie A. Patterson. Following the Address of Court, given by Judge William T. Nicholas, winners of the Young Lawyers Section Law Day Essay Contest, the winning team of the Montgomery County Mock Trial Competitions and recipients of the MBA Law Day Awards were honored.

Slota presented the Law Day Awards. The first award presented was the Henry Stuckert Miller Public Service Award, given to a member of the bar association in recognition of extraordinary service to the legal community. Robert F. Morris, of Morris, Clemm, Heleniak & Associates, accepted the award for his dedication and service to the North Penn Valley Boys and Girls Club. For more than 20 years, Morris has been on the board of directors, and for 11 of them, served as president. During his service, the North Penn Valley Boys and Girls Club has grown from 350 members to more than 6,000.

The second award presented was the Courthouse Employee Award, accepted by Elizabeth Catalano, second deputy court administrator. The award is given to a member of the courthouse staff for extraordinary dedication and service to the county legal system and community. Catalano has worked at the courthouse for 20 years and hers is the highest countylevel position in the Civil Division of court administration.

The final award of the day was the Public Citizen's Service Award, which was presented to John Wood, chief of open space planning for the county. The award is given to a member of the community in recognition of excellent dedication and service to the citizens of the county.

The Montgomery Bar Association held its annual memorial service, honoring members who died in the previous year, including Francis T. Dennis Jr., Ronald J. Psaris, Roger B. Reynolds Jr., John F. Solomon Jr., Cornelius G. Sullivan and Parke H. Ulrich.

Pike

New Web Site

The Pike County Bar Association has launched a new Web site at www. pikebar.com. Designed for members and the general public, the site includes the court schedule, various fee schedules, lawyer and Lawyer Referral Service contact information as well as other information specific to the association.

Schuylkill

Law Day/Stepping Out

The Schuylkill County Bar Association reported a successful 2007 Law Day/Stepping Out program chaired by John R. Kantner with Arlen R. Day, assistant chair. Nearly 20 attorneys and 13 schools were involved this year.

Scholarship Fund Seeks Applicants

The Schuylkill County Bar Association also announced that its Scholarship Fund is accepting applications for aid for county residents attending law school.

Westmoreland

Pro Bono Attorney of the Year Named At its annual meeting, the Westmoreland Bar Foundation named Terrence O'Halloran of Greensburg its 2007 Pro Bono Attorney of the Year.

PLAN NOW FOR THE PBA MIDYEAR MEETING Jan. 29, - Feb. 2, 2008 El Conquistador Resort and Golden Door Spa, Las Croabas, Puerto Rico

Special County Bar Program: January 30 from 4:00- 5:00 p.m. Tour the resort at www.elconresort.com. More information available at www.pabar.org or by calling the PBA at (800) 932-0311. With the wrong lawyer's professional liability insurance plan, you could end up practicing here.



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Courses from the Pennsylvania Bar Institute

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West Conshohocken

14th Annual Auto Law Update, Oct. 19; 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/ 1 ethics)

LIVE VIA SATELLITE

11th Annual Family Law Update 2007, Oct. 24; 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 4 substantive CLE credits

Allentown
Beaver
Bellefonte
Easton
Erie
Greensburg
Hollidaysburg
Honesdale
Indiana
Johnstown
Lewisburg
Mansfield
Mechanicsburg
Media
Montrose

Philadelphia Reading Scranton Stroudsburg Towanda Uniontown Villanova Warren Waynesburg West Chester West Decatur Wilkes-Barre Williamsport York

New Castle

LIVE VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE Erie

Selecting and Influencing Your Jury, Oct. 25; 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 6 substantive CLE credits

Scranton

14th Annual Auto Law Update, Oct. 30; 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/ 1 ethics)

LIVE VIA SATELLITE

Elder Law Update, Nov. 28; 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; registration at 8:30 a.m.; 3 substantive CLE credits

Allentown Beaver Bellefonte Easton Erie Greensburg Hollidaysburg Honesdale Indiana Johnstown Lewisburg Mansfield Mechanicsburg Mill Hall

Philadelphia Reading Scranton Stroudsburg Towanda Uniontown Villanova Waynesburg West Chester Wilkes-Barre Williamsport York

New Castle

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PRESIDENT: Terry D. Weiler (Berks) 1136 Penn Avenue, P.O. Box 6895 Reading, PA 19610 (610) 378-1933, Fax (610) 378-9896 tdweiler@fast.net

VICE PRESIDENT: Michele S. Dawson (Washington)

90 West Chestnut St., Suite 700 Washington, PA 15301 (724) 228-5338, Fax (724) 228-5181 mdawson@johnsondawson.com

MEMBER YLD: Hope Guy (Allegheny) KidsVoice, The Frick Building, 437 Grant St., Suite 700 Pittsburgh, PA 15219-6009 (412) 391-3100, Fax (412) 391-3588 hguy@kidsvoice.com

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Exec. Dir., Cumberland County Bar Assn. 32 Bedford Street, Carlisle, PA 17013 (717) 249-3166, Fax (717) 249-2663 ccba@pa.net

BOARD OF GOVERNORS LIAISON: Alfred Jones, Jr. (Centre)

300 S. Allen St., Ste. 300 State College, PA 16801-4841 (814) 237-6268, FAX (814) 237-3660 ajones@dmjklaw.com

PBA STAFF LIAISON: Michelle M. Shuker, Esq. PO Box 186, Harrisburg, PA 17108 (800) 932-0311, Fax (717) 238-7182 Michelle.Shuker@pabar.org

LIVE VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE Wilkes-Barre

Thinking Inside the Box: Building Strong Relationships with Jurors and Judges, Nov. 29; 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

LIVE VIA SATELLITE

Allentown	Mill Hall
Beaver	Montrose
Bellefonte	Philadelphia
Easton	Reading
Erie	Stroudsburg
Greensburg	Uniontown
Hollidaysburg	Warren
Honesdale	Washington
Indiana	Waynesburg
Johnstown	West Chester
Lewisburg	West Decatur
Mansfield	Wilkes-Barre
Mechanicsburg	Williamsport
Media	York

Murray on Contracts: Litigating the Contract Dispute and Drafting Contracts to Avoid Litigation, Dec. 14; 9:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; registration at 8:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

Bethlehem

Civil Practice in Eastern Pennsylvania, Dec. 19; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 4 substantive CLE credits

Norristown

Anatomy for Lawyers, Dec. 28; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 6 substantive CLE credits

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PENNSYLVANIA BAR INSTITUTE Continuing Education Arm of the Pennsylvania Bar Association BRINGING EXCELLENCE TO CLE

Allegheny County Bar Association Hires First Gender Equality Coordinator

The Allegheny County Bar Association announced that it has contracted the services of Linda Varrenti Hernandez as Gender Equality Coordinator, which is the first such bar association position in the country. Hernandez will work closely with the Gender Equality Task Force which was formed following the release of the results of a membership survey in 2006 that showed little or no improvement in the pay disparity between male and female attorneys in the 15 years since the last survey was conducted.

According to Ken Gormley, president of the Allegheny County Bar Association, "Creating a gender equality coordinator position is a significant step in making real progress in the area of gender equality. We believe that tackling head-on the issues being addressed by the gender equity task force constitutes one of the most critical challenges confronting the legal community. Our ambitious goal is to make progress that can be seen and measured, in part by establishing a blueprint of best practices for law firms and legal employers in Allegheny County. In the process, we hope to establish a new standard of excellence that can serve as a model for bar associations across the country. Linda Hernandez will be a tremendous asset in helping us to accomplish those daunting yet attainable goals."

Hernandez most recently was a litigator for Dickie McCamey, L.L.C. A graduate of the Duquesne University School of Law, she worked a year at Neighborhood Legal Services Association as a "Lawyer on Loan" from Dickie McCamey. During that time she litigated and closed 133 cases. She also has been a member of the bar association's Gender Equality Committee since its inception. Hernandez raised a family before deciding in 1998 to enter law school.

According to Dave Blaner, executive director of the Allegheny County Bar Association, "While we were all disappointed with the results of our 2006 membership survey, we vowed then not to just talk a good game about gender equality but to be proactive and to champion significant change. Because our results were similar to other cities, it would have been easy to maintain status quo. But our members know that we don't take the easy way out, especially when something is impacting people's rights."

Blaner said that the creation of a diversity coordinator position in 2005 has led to encouraging results in the area of diversity in the legal community.

Hernandez will follow up on many of the findings of the Gender Equality Task Force, which is made up of both female and male attorneys and judges and includes four subcommittees: Work Life and Compensation Disparity Committee; Job Satisfaction and Retention Committee; Perceptions and Attitudes Committee; and the Information Gathering Committee.

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