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PBA Launches Statewide Child Support Public Education Campaign

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are hoping that everyone

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come first."

In an effort to educate Pennsylvanians about changes in state child support laws, the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Client and Community Relations Committee launched its statewide "Your Kids Come First" public education campaign March 27 at

the state Capitol.

Joining with PBA President Louis N. Teti and Committee Chair Thomas M. Golden for the campaign's kick-off news conference were

Philadelphia Judge Pamela Pryor Dembe, president of the State Conference of Trial Judges; Mary Cushing Doherty, chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section; and Richard K. Betts, immediate past president, Domestic Relations Association of Pennsylvania.

"Child support is an issue of great concern to many Pennsylvanians and their children. The guidelines surrounding the awarding of support in Pennsylvania were changed last year, and they still are not fully understood by the public," said Teti. "The 'Your Kids Come First' public education campaign is designed to educate people about the support law changes, make parents aware of new guide-

lines and eligibility, and protect the interests of children."

The PBA's child support educational effort, which ran March 27 through April 10, focused on issues related to the new guidelines, such as the sharing of day care and health

care costs, support order changes, and the relationship between seeing the children and paying support. Such issues were addressed statewide at local bar associationsponsored events,

including free public seminars, radio call-in programs and informational expos. The campaign is funded through grants from the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation and the Pennsylvania Bar Trust.

A series of ads highlighting legal questions and the campaign toll-free hotline number of (888) 799-4557 to receive the free PBA Guide to Child Support in Pennsylvania appeared in most newspapers statewide during the campaign. These ads were the result of a partnership between the PBA and the Pennsylvania Newspapers Association.

"We are pleased that thirty-one local bar associations, common pleas judges, and domestic relations officers across the state joined with the PBA

for this important project," said Golden. "Through this campaign, we are hoping that everyone involved in support issues will be reminded that children should, indeed, always come first." (Continued on page 2)

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Send Us Your News

If you have submissions for future issues of *The County Line*, please send in the enclosed "News and Views" form or contact PBA County Bar Services Director Arthur Birdsall at (800) 932-0311, ext. 2218.

June 12 is the deadline for the next issue of the newsletter.

Pennsylvania and Montgomery Bar Associations Offer Attorneys Alternative Method for Finding Software

In the newly- opened software resource center in the Montgomery Bar Association's (MBA) computer training center,



attorneys and legal administrators can determine whether time and billing, case management, real estate, bankruptcy and other software is right for their offices without first fending off sales people or installing the software.

"Normally attorneys ask someone else what (software) they are using and then sometimes just purchase it, and are often surprised and disappointed," said Ellen Freedman, CLM,

2000-2001 CCBL Executive Committee

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law practice management coordinator for the PBA who organized the opening of the center. "They may have a salesperson do a quickie demo, which only highlights the strongest points of the software," she continued, "Or they may rely on a demo disk which does not demonstrate the full product." Finally, said Freedman, attorneys can sometimes use full packages on a trial basis, but they are usually reluctant to install the software on their own.

The software resource center offers an alternative. MBA members, members of surrounding county bar associations and their office administrators can visit the center and test fullblown versions of these popular and lesser-known software packages at no cost: Abacus Case Management, Gryphon Case Management, CaseMaster III, Easy Soft Case Management, Juris Time and Billing, TABS III, QuickBooks, Bookmaster -HUD 1 Plus, Collection Master, Worldox, Quick & Easy Federal Estate Tax Form, CaseView I, Bankruptcy Master, Blankrupter, Easy HUD, Best OmniForm Filler Debtmaster and Quick & Easy Federal Estate Tax Forms. The PBA plans to offer at least twelve additional packages.

The PBA and MBA plan to place a reference book in the center which will contain information on the cost of the available packages, compatibility with other programs and contact for purchasing.

The software resource center will remain open to members of surrounding county bar associations unless and until overcrowding occurs. Freedman hopes to set up similar centers with several other county bar associations in Pennsylvania.

"Montgomery County was an ideal location for our pilot center," said Freedman, "because they have a commitment to assisting their attorneys in using automation to work

smarter, and they have the hardware in place." George Cardenas, the MBA's MIS manager, installed the software.

Contact John Ringwood at (610) 279-9660, ext. 211, for computer room availability before visiting the center. To contact Ellen Freedman, call 800-932-0311, ext. 2228 or e-mail her at lawpractice@pabar.org.

Child Support

(Continued from page 1)

Local bar associations involved in the campaign included the Allegheny County Bar Association; Berks County Bar Association; Bradford County Bar Association; Bucks County Bar Association; Butler County Bar Association; Cameron County Bar Association; Chester County Bar Association; Columbia & Montour County Bar Association; Dauphin County Bar Association; Delaware County Bar Association; Erie County Bar Association; Fayette County Bar Association; Franklin County Bar Association; Lancaster Bar Association; Lehigh County Bar Association; McKean County Bar Association.

Mercer County Bar Also, Association; Monroe County Bar Association; Montgomery Association; Northampton County Bar Association; Philadelphia Bar Association; Potter County Bar Association; Schuylkill County Bar Association; Snyder County Bar Association; Susquehanna County Bar Association; Venango County Bar Association; Washington County Bar Association; Wayne County Bar Westmoreland Association: Association; Wilkes-Barre Law & Library Association; and York County Bar Association.

How to...Seize the Future, Part I of a Series

Submitted to the PBA by Maryland State Bar Association President, James L. Thompson

On Nov. 5 and 6, 1999, I attended a very valuable conference in Phoenix, Arizona, entitled "Seize the Future." The conference was co-produced by the ABA Law Practice Management Section and Lotus. Along with the information given by the program speakers, we received books written by many of the speakers including Tom Peters' book entitled "The Professional Service Firm," his book entitled "The Work Matters," two books by Gary Hamel, one entitled "Competing for the Future," and the other entitled "Alliance Advantage," a book by Roberta Katz entitled "Justice Matters," a video cassette by Lotus entitled "Knowledge Management: Beyond the Hype," two additional cd's, one by Lotus and one by the AICPA. In addition to this, the conference has its own web site with information and data on the conference at www.futurelaw.com. My name is Jim Thompson, President of the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA), and these are my notes from the conference plus some of my questions and observations.

The conference started off with a bang. Our first speaker was Tom Peters. He is a very dynamic nationally known writer, speaker and business consultant. He wanted to acquaint us with the revolution which is taking place in the business community as a result of the internet. These are "bizarre times." Microsoft is worth more than GM, Ford, Boeing, Sears, Lockheed plus seven other Fortune 500 companies. What does this mean?

- Once every 1,000 years we have a change such as what we are seeing
- This is the age of talent. Incumbency and history are no longer that important. How does a company get talent?
- Ninety percent of white collar jobs that we know today will be gone or unrecognizable within the next ten years. That giant sucking sound is the middlemen (e.g. distributors of products and information such as stockbrokers, insurance salesmen, car dealers, tax preparers and lawyers) being sucked out of the global economy.
- The problem is not how to get new innovative thoughts into your mind, but how to get the old ones out. This is especially difficult for successful people but necessary in the age of the inter-

net. Incrementalism is our worst enemy. Generally, it is much easier to kill an organization than to change it. Many existing corporations such as Amway are in the process of creating internet companies to eliminate the parent company within ten years. e.g. Quickstar. Does this mean that our bar associations and firms will be replaced by new competitors or entirely new types of organizations? Quite possibly.

- Business' objective should not only be to be the best but to be considered the only ones who do what you do --Jerry Garcia.
- He believes that our businesses need a massive transfusion of talent and talent, he believes, is mostly to be found among non-conformist, dissenters and rebels -- not exclusively the top ten percent of the Harvard class of 1999. Diversity is very important for creativity. Diversity deals with "stuff that does not fit comfortably together."
- Eighty-five percent of what goes on within a business is nonsense.

Look for Part II of Seize the Future in the July 2000 issue of The County Line or visit the PBA Web site at www.pabar.org.com for the entire article.

U.S. Public Defender Vacancy - District of Delaware

Chief Judge Edward R. Becker announces the appointment of a Search Committee to make recommendations to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit concerning the appointment of the United States Public Defender for the District of Delaware.

A federal public defender is appointed to a four-year term pursuant to 18 United States Code §3006A and compensation is currently \$121,900 per annum. An applicant should have the following qualifications: (1) a member in good standing in the bar of each state in which admitted to practice; (2) a minimum of five years criminal practice experi-

ence, preferably with significant federal criminal law experience, which demonstrates an ability to provide zealous representation of consistently high quality to criminal defendants; (3) the ability to effectively administer the office; (4) a reputation for integrity; (5) a commitment to the representation of those unable to afford counsidered equally and without regard to race, sex, religious affiliation or national origin. This application form is available on the Third Circuit Web site, http://pacer.ca3.uscourts.gov.

Qualified persons wishing to be considered for appointment may also obtain a copy of the application materials by contacting the following office:

Circuit Executive Office Third Judicial Circuit 22409 U.S. Courthouse 601 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19106-1721 Tel: 215-597-0718

Completed applications (submit an original plus 7 copies, including writing samples with each copy) should be received by the Circuit Executive Office at the above address, marked Attention: Federal Public Defender Search Committee, no later than Monday, May 1, 2000.

34th Annual - Seminar of Conference of County Bar Leaders - State College, PA



W. Richard Gentry, immediate past president of the CCBL, (right) presents Chief Justice John P. Flaherty (left) with a plaque granting him honorary membership in the CCBL.



Gentry presents Martha Baum Walker with the Gilbert Nurick Award.



Executive Director of the Allegheny County Bar Association, James I. Smith, III (left), accepts the Art Birsdall Award from W. Richard Gentry.



Marianne S. Canning, PABE president, (right) presents outgoing PABE President, Sandra A. Brydon-Smith, with a plaque honoring her dedicated work with the PABE.



CCBL President Rea Boylan Thomas talks with Chief Justice John P. Flaherty.



CCBL participants discuss county bar activities in one of the meeting's many informative sessions.



Participants review county bar legal journals on display.



After a long day of meetings, participants take a break in the hospitality suite.

Pennsylvania Bar Institute Courses

Here is the most recent listing of live 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.

Ethics Potpourri, live via videoconference, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 1 CLE credit (ethics).

Erie - April 17 Scranton - April 28

Fundamentals of Family Law, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., 6 CLE credits (5 substantive, 1 ethics).

Media - Apr. 17 State College - May 4

Tax Planning Strategies for the Small Business, live via videoconference, Apr. 19, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Erie County Bar Association, 3.5 CLE credits (substantive).

Recent Developments in Assessment Practice & Procedure in PA, live via satellite, Apr. 27, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., 4 CLE credits (substantive).

Chambersburg Allentown Doylestown Erie Greensburg Honesdale Indiana Johnstown Kingston Lancaster Lewisburg Mansfield Media Mill Hall Montrose New Castle Schuylkill Haven Reading Stroudsburg Uniontown Warren Waynesburg West Chester York

Silent Advocacy, Apr. 28, 2000, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Holiday Inn West Chester, 3 CLE credits (substantive).

Fundamentals of Estate Planning, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., 6 CLE credits (5 substantive, 1 ethics.)

Greensburg - May 5 West Chester - May 16 Willamsport - May 18

Title Insurance: From Commitment to Claim, live via satellite, May 18, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., 6 CLE credits (5 substantive, 1 ethics).

Allentown Chambersburg Clarion Easton Erie Gibsonia Hollidaysburg Honesdale Johnstown Kingston Lancaster Lewisburg Mansfield Media Mill Hall Montrose New Castle Reading Scranton Stroudsburg West Chester York

Talking and Defending Depositions, May 24, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Mars, Sheraton Inn Pittsburgh North, 4 CLE credits (substantive). Current Issues in Land Use Practice, May 31, 2000, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Villanova University School of Law, 6 CLE credits (5 substantive, 1 ethics).

17th Annual Criminal Law Symposium, May 31-June 1, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Harrisburg Hilton & Towers, 12 CLE credits.

How to prepare the PA Inheritance Tax Return, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 4 CLE credits (substantive).

Wilkes-Barre - June 16 Erie - June 28

Civil Tax Controversy in U.S. Tax Court, June 14, 2000, 1:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m., Villanova University School of Law, 3 CLE credits (substantive).

Four County Civil Practice, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 4 CLE credits (substantive).

Trevose - May 23
Mendenhall - June 23
□



On the Local Scene...

Beaver

Free Legal Clinics

The Beaver County Bar Association and the Neighborhood Legal Services Association are now sponsoring two free legal clinics for low-income clients. The Family Law Clinic opened in February 2000 and provides general information about divorce, support and custody law. The Debt Advice Clinic opened in September 1999 and provides general information about how to cope with debt collectors and how to manage debt.

Chester

Speaker's Bureau

The Chester County Bar Association has formed a speaker's bureau to provide legal programs for area civic organizations. Attorneys will provide programs on real estate law, criminal law, family law, constitutional law, litigation, business law, estate planning, the court system, elder law, employment law, the Americans with Disabilities Act and other current issues in the law.

Board of Directors Award

John L. Hall, a partner in the West Chester firm of Unruh, Turner, Burke and Frees, has won the Chester County Bar Association's Board of Directors Award, given annually in recognition of outstanding achievement in advancing the goals and principals of the constitutional form of government. Hall won the award for his outstanding record of community service, specifically for his work with the Bar Association's Law-Related Education Committee, which prepares course materials on legal issues for area students and helps teachers present those materials in the classroom.

YLD Answers Legal Questions Members of the Young Lawyers

Division of the Chester County Bar Association are taking phone calls the second Tuesday of each month to answer legal questions from the county's populace. The YLD attorneys are not allowed to solicit cases while answering questions. Callers are told of the bar association's Lawyer Referral Service. The service directs the public to attorneys who will accept cases in connection with specific areas of the law.

Crawford

Honoring 50 Years of Service

Yolanda Barco, longtime Crawford County attorney, was heralded and honored at a recent dinner by the Crawford County Bar Association for her 50 years of service to the bar, the community and the local government. In her honor, the bar association donated \$3,000 to the George J. and Yolanda Barco Law Library at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dauphin

Hon. Clarence C. Morrison Award

The inaugural presentation of the Hon. Clarence C. Morrison Award for Equal Professional Opportunity was recently made at a dinner celebration at the Harrisburg Hilton & Towers. The dinner was hosted by the Dauphin County Bar Association in honor of retiring Dauphin County Common Pleas Court President Judge Morrison. The first recipient of the Morrison Award was the late Louis J. "Larry" Adler, Esq. Accepting the posthumous presentation on behalf of their father were Larry's sons, Craig and Bill, both of who are attorneys and members of the DCBA.

Delaware

Man of the Year Award

Gerald Montella, Esq., the Court Administrator for the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas, was recently honored as "Man of the Year" for 1999 by the Lawyers Club of the Delaware County Bar Association.

Greene

Habitat for Humanity

Members of the Greene County Bar Association recently braved cold, windy damp conditions to be the latest Greene County group to help Habitat for Humanity build a home in partnership with a family in need. According to Dave McKenney, executive director of Habitat for Humanity, the day was warmed by the volunteers' upbeat and positive attitudes.

Jefferson

Honoring over 100 Years of Service

Lawyers Jesse P. Long and Donald J. Dennison were recently honored for over 100 years of joint service to the Jefferson County Bar Association at a special dinner.

Lackawanna

Mock Trial Competition

The Lackawanna Bar Association recently hosted the District III Northeastern Region Mock Trial Competitions.

Young Lawyers Division

The YLD sponsored its annual "Meet the Judges" program in March and a "Get to Know the YLD" social to familiarize new members with YLD/LBA programs and encourage association involvement. The YLD also recently participated in and served as a sponsor for "Bowl for Kids' Sake" to benefit Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Lackawanna, Wayne and Susquehanna counties.

Lehigh

Holiday Assistance Program

The Bar Association of Lehigh County, through its Community Services Committee, sponsored its Eleventh Annual Holiday Assistance Program in 1999, with the goal of pro-



viding meals for the homeless and needy in Lehigh County. Members, staff and firms contributed over \$6,600.

Luzerne

150th Anniversary

The Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association/Luzerne County Bar will celebrate its 150th anniversary in May. Luzerne County is the fourth oldest county bar in the United States. The celebration will begin with special "Law Day 2000," ceremonies at the Luzerne County Courthouse on May 5. To mark the occasion, the observance will include a panel of justices of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania, which will hold a special session of the court in Wilkes-Barre. A formal dinner in observance of the anniversary will also be held.

Montgomery

The Montgomery Bar Foundation recently donated \$1,000 to the North Penn Valley Boys and Girls Club, a Lansdale organization that offers children educational and recreation activities as alternatives to empty houses or life on the streets. The donation by the foundation, the charitable arm of the Montgomery Bar Association, will enable the club to offer free memberships throughout the year. The foundation also donated \$1,000 to help Accion Comunal Latino Americana provide translators and interpreters for Spanish-speaking individuals involved in area legal matters.

Child Support Campaign

As participants in the PBA's educational campaign "Your Kids Come First," members of the Montgomery Bar Association spent two mornings in early April at Bar headquarters answering the public's questions about changes to Pennsylvania's Support Guidelines and other child and spousal issues.

Doctor-Lawyer Project

The Montgomery County Bar Association's Doctor-Lawyer Project, which the Young Lawyer's Section initiated, is in full swing. The project allows doctors and lawyers who witness the consequences of drug and alcohol abuse in their daily lives to share their knowledge with fourth and fifth grade students and aims to prevent the students from trying drugs and alcohol later in life.

Schuylkill Scholarships

The Schuylkill County Bar Association recently presented scholarships to county law students encouraging them to stay in the area.

Somerset

Memorial Service

The Somerset County Bar Association recently held a special memorial service for former President Judge Charles H. Coffroth, who passed away in in 1999, and Wilbert H. Beachy II, who passed away in 1992.

Honoring 30 Years of Service

Robert M. Philson, former district justice in the Meyersdale area, was recently presented with a honorary plaque by the Somerset County Bar Association for his 30 years of "honest, faithful and dedicated" service to the bar association.

In Memory

Attorney Joseph E. Gallager, Sr. of Scranton recently passed away. Gallagher was a founding partner of the law firm O'Malley Morgan Bour and Gallagher and practiced law for more than 50 years.

2000-2001 CCBL Executive Committee

PRESIDENT:

Hon. Rea Boylan Thomas (Bucks) Bucks County Courthouse Main & Broad Streets Doylestown, PA 18901 215-348-6709 Fax 215-348-6503

VICE PRESIDENT:

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MEMBER PABE:

Marianne S. Canning (Lehigh) 1114 Walnut Street Allentown, PA 18102 610-433-4930 Fax 610-770-9826

PBA Malpractice Avoidance Seminar Schedule

For more information, contact: Art Birdsall, PBA County Bar Services, at 800-932-0311, ext. 2218.

BERKS

Tuesday, April 25 - 9:00 a.m. Reading Spring Bench Bar Conference LIVE, 1.0 ethics credit

CUMBERLAND

Monday, May 1 - 9:00 a.m. Carlisle Clarion Hotel **You be the Judge, Tape 1** 1.5 ethics credits

PERRY

Tuesday, May 1 - 3:00 p.m. Newport Newport Hotel **You be the Judge, Tape 1** 1.5 ethics credits

NORTHAMPTON

Tuesday, May 2 - 1:30 p.m. Bethlehem Holiday Inn You be the Judge, Tape 1 1.5 ethics credits

CARBON

Tuesday, May 16 - 9:00 a.m. Jim Thorpe Inn at Jim Thorpe You be the Judge, Tape 1 1.5 ethics credits

MONROE

Tuesday, May 16 - 3:00 p.m. Stroudsburg MCBA Headquarters **You be the Judge**, **Tape 1** 1.5 ethics credits

LEHICH

Wednesday, May 17 - 9:00 a.m. Allentown BALC Headquarters You be the Judge, Tape 1 1.5 ethics credits

COLUMBIA/MONTOUR

Thursday, May 18 - 9:00 a.m. Bloomsburg Magee's Main Street Inn You be the Judge, Tape 1 1.5 ethics credits

LYCOMING

Thursday, May 18 - 3:00 p.m. Williamsport Genetti Hotel **You be the Judge**, **Tape 1** 1.5 ethics credits

FRANKLIN

Wednesday, May 24 - 9:00 a.m. Chambersburg Lighthouse Restaurant **You be the Judge, Tape 1** 1.5 ethics credits

ADAMS

Wednesday, May 24 - 1:30 p.m. Gettysburg Best Western Gettysburg Hotel **You be the Judge, Tape 1** 1.5 ethics credits

MONTGOMERY #1

Thursday, June 1 - 9:00 a.m. Norristown MBA Headquarters **You be the Judge, Tape 1** 1.5 ethics credits

MONTGOMERY #2

Thursday, June 1 - 12:30p.m. Norristown MBA Headquarters You be the Judge, Tape 1 1.5 ethics credits

PIKE

Tuesday, June 6 - 9:00 a.m. Matamoras Best Western Inn at Hunts Landing **You be the Judge, Tape 1** 1.5 ethics credits

WAYNE

Tuesday, June 6 - 1:00 p.m. Honesdale Wayne County Courthouse **You be the Judge, Tape 1** Pennsylvania Bar Institute, 1.5 ethics

WYOMING (including SULLIVAN)

Wednesday, June 7 - 9:00 a.m. Tunkhannock Shadowbrook Inn **You be the Judge , Tape 1** 1.5 ethics credits

SUSQUEHANNA

Wednesday, June 7 - 3:00 p.m. Montrose County Office Building You be the Judge, Tape 1 1.5 ethics credits

TIOGA

Thursday, June 8 - 9:00 a.m. Wellsboro Penn College (North Campus) You be the Judge, Tape 1 1.5 ethics credits

BRADFORD

Thursday, June 8 - 3:00 p.m. Towanda Williamston Inn You be the Judge, Tape 1 1.5 ethics credits

WESTMORELAND

Saturday, June 17 - 8:00 a.m. McHenry, MD Bench Bar, The Wisp LIVE, 1.0 ethics credit

Don't miss_{the}

PBA ANNUAL MEETING

May 10-12, 2000

Hershey Lodge & Convention Center - Hershey, PA

FEATURING:

- Committee/Section Day
- WIP Annual Conference
- Workers' Compensation Spring Meeting

ALSO:

- The Greaseband
- PBA Golf Tournament

Pre-registration deadline: April 30

For more information, call: 1-800-932-0311

Register on-line at www.pabar.org!