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# Press for change on critical issues impacting the legal profession during PBA Day on the Hill, May 3

By Lauren Brinjac, PBA Legislative Coordinator

Lawyers are greatly impacted by the public policy decisions made in the Pennsylvania Legislature every year. This year, the legal profession is confronted by several very substantial concerns that we cannot afford to ignore. The right to legal representation and access to the courts for all Pennsylvanians are being threatened — by the governor's proposed

sales taxes on legal services and by inadequate funding in the state budget that endangers the viability of the courts and civil legal services. Now, more than ever, it is critically important for the General Assembly to be aware of, and to understand, the issues that affect the administration of justice in this commonwealth. Now, more than ever, it is critically important for you to make your voice heard on these

issues that are so vital

to access to justice.

For this reason, the Pennsylvania Bar Association is offering opportunity the to meet with your state legislators to share your opinions about these issues during the 13th annual PBA Day on the Hill program, Monday, May 3, at the state Capitol complex in Harrisburg. This full-day program includes an educational session outlining the PBA's key issues of the day and how to talk to legislators about them, the opportunity to schedule personal visits with your senators and representatives, afternoon continuing legal education sessions, and an early evening reception with legislators in the Capitol Rotunda.

County bar leaders play a vital role in the overall legislative strategy of the PBA. Although PBA lobbyists are constantly on the

Hill, monitoring legislation and advocating for the interests of the association and its members, it is most important for legislators to hear directly from their constituents. Active grassroots participation at the county bar level is vital to successfully educating the legislature on issues of importance to lawyers. The ability to establish and strengthen relationships with members of the General Assembly – not only as PBA members, but as constituents who live, work and vote in their districts

 makes the job of advocating on major issues much more effective.

Adequate funding for the courts and for civil legal services has, unfortunately, become perennial concerns. And, while there may be limited support in the legislature for the

governor's proposal to expand the sales tax to include legal services this year, the issue is not going away. The more that attorneys throughout commonwealth make their opposition known these increasing constraints on access to justice by speaking with their legislators directly, the easier it will be to fight these battles now and in the coming legislative sessions.

As a county bar leader and member of the PBA, we urge you to join us in making the voice of Pennsylvania's legal profession heard on Capitol Hill this year.

Additional information on the PBA Day on the Hill program, including registration materials, can be found on the PBA Web site at http://www.pabar.org, or by calling 1-800-932-0311, ext. 2231.

PBA Day on the Hill is a joint effort of the PBA Young Lawyers Division and the PBA Legislative Department. ■







Photo highlights from the 44th Annual Conference of County Bar Leaders Feb. 25-27, 2010, Lancaster













### Local bar associations receive recognition awards at CCBL

The Pennsylvania Bar Association presented County Bar Recognition Awards during the 44th annual seminar of the Conference of County Bar Leaders, Feb. 25-27, in Lancaster. Twenty-six local bar associations were honored for sponsoring projects and programs to improve the legal profession, justice system and community. The awards, which are non-competitive in nature, are sponsored annually by the PBA.

"Each year, thousands of Pennsylvania lawyers voluntarily invest their time and expertise in programs that improve our local communities and this ongoing commitment to service is to be commended," said PBA President Clifford E. Haines. "It is our hope that the County Bar Recognition Awards will encourage even more legal professionals to take part in activities that make positive impacts on the lives of their fellow citizens."

The following local bar associations received awards for notable projects and programs:

Allegheny County Bar Association: Backpack Project Berks County Bar Association: Speed Networking events and Diversity Pipeline

**Blair County Bar Association**: Credit Card Court "Low Bono" Assistance Program

**Bucks County Bar Association**: Diversity Symposium and Sexting Prevention Task Force

**Butler County Bar Association**: "Get Help Now, Pennsylvania" Helpdesk, Red Mass and hymn, and Charles E. Dillon Memorial Cup

**Centre County Bar Association**: Eugene W. Lederer Bar Center opening, "Get Help Now, Pennsylvania" Helpdesk and Naturalization Day Ceremony

Chester County Bar Association: TRIAL RUN event, Wings for Success Clothing Drive and Veterans Day Celebration
Clearfield County Bar Association: Legal Eagles 9
Cumberland County Bar Association: Law Day 2009
Dauphin County Bar Association: new membership benefit
Delaware County Bar Association: District Justice Committee
– free seminars to the community, Community Outreach
Committee – Working Wardrobe clothing drive and Corporate

g the 44th annual seminar of the Helpdesk raders, Feb. 25-27, in Lancaster. Franklin County Bar Association: Breakfast with the

Candidates, Project KidCare event and Law Day

Lackawanna Bar Association: Legal Legends seminar

Lancaster Bar Association: "Wills for Heroes" event

Lebanon County Bar Association: Outstanding Senior Award,

Modest Means Program and pro bono recognition ceremony

Lycoming Law Association: "Get Help Now, Pennsylvania"

Initiative, Lawctoberfest and Law Day 2009

Erie County Bar Association: "Get Help Now, Pennsylvania"

**Monroe County Bar Association**: Bar Foundation raffles, Young Lawyers Division's "Spirit of Giving" events and Superior Court welcome and reception

**Montgomery Bar Association**: MBA 125 – A Yearlong Celebration, Marking 125 Years of Service to the Profession and Community, *Montgomery Bar Association 1980 – 2009: Meeting the Challenges of a Dynamic Era* book and the Judicial Candidate Media Project

**Northampton County Bar Association**: Holiday Hope Chest Project, Project KidCare event and Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program

**Pike County Bar Association**: Publication of the *Pike County Legal Journal*, formation of Charitable Committee and Continuing Legal Education Program

**Schuylkill County Bar Association**: Courthouse Bicentennial pins, Commonwealth Court dinner, Breast Cancer Awareness event

Washington County Bar Association: "Get Help Now, Pennsylvania" events and "Wills for Heroes" program Westmoreland Bar Association: Innocence Project art show and continuing legal education program, Custody Conciliation Partnership with Family Law Committee and Defending the Indiciary

Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association: Juvenile Defense training and continuing legal education programs, Centennial Race Judicata and Summer Outing

**York County Bar Association**: "Sidebar Monthly" program and Supreme Court Admission ceremony ■

### Monroe County exec. director, Wyomissing attorney honored at CCBL

During the 44th annual Conference of County Bar Leaders seminar in Lancaster, the CCBL honored Susan L. Kenny, executive director of the Monroe County Bar Association, with its 13th annual Arthur I.

Association, with its 13th annual Arthur J. Birdsall Award and Wyomissing attorney Terry D. Weiler with its Chief Justice John P. Flaherty Award.

Counsel Committee – membership drive

CCBL President Samuel T. Cooper III (left) presents the Arthur J. Birdsall Award to Susan L. Kenny, executive director of the Monroe County Bar Association.

The Birdsall award is presented to a county bar executive who demonstrates professional excellence, who is committed to the success of his or her bar association and who significantly enhances the stature of his or her bar association. It is named in honor of Arthur J. Birdsall, the PBA's county

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(Continued on Page 6)

### PBA Avoidance of Legal Malpractice seminars scheduled

The PBA County Bar Services Department, the PBA Professional Liability Committee and USI Affinity, in cooperation with local bar associations, have scheduled more than 20 spring malpractice avoidance seminars in Pennsylvania.

Seminar attendees will receive a 5-percent discount on their PBA-endorsed malpractice insurance through USI Affinity and 1.5 hours of CLE ethics credit. Seminars are presented live and include a CD-ROM of reference material. Unless otherwise noted below, register by contacting PBA County Bar Services at 800-932-9311, ext. 2297, or online on the County Bar Services page of the PBA Web site at http://www.pabar.org/public/localbar/countybar.asp.

The schedule follows:

#### **FRANKLIN**

April 7 at 10 a.m. Chambersburg Country Club, 3646 Scotland Road, Chambersburg

#### **ADAMS**

April 7 at 3 p.m. Best Western Gettysburg Hotel, 1 Lincoln Square, Gettysburg

#### **CUMBERLAND**

April 8 at 9 a.m. Hotel Carlisle, 1700 Harrisburg Pike, Carlisle

#### **PERRY**

April 8 at 1 p.m. Perry County Court House, Centre Square, New Bloomfield

#### **DAUPHIN**

April 9 at 11:30 a.m. Aug. 13 at 11:30 a.m. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 23 S. 2nd St., Harrisburg To register, call 717-232-7536.

#### LANCASTER

April 16 at 12:30 p.m. Lancaster Bar Association, 28 E. Orange St., Lancaster To register, call 717-393-0737.

#### **TIOGA**

April 19 at 9 a.m. Mansfield University, Memorial Hall, Room 211, Mansfield

#### **NORTHUMBERLAND**

April 19 at 3 p.m. Edison Hotel, 401 Market St., Sunbury

#### COLUMBIA/MONTOUR

April 20 at 9 a.m. Days Inn Danville Conference Center, 50 Sheraton Road, Exit 224, I-80 and SR54, Danville

#### UNION/SNYDER

April 20 at 3 p.m. Lewisburg Hotel, 136 Market St., Lewisburg

#### **LYCOMING**

April 21 at 9 a.m. Holiday Inn, 100 Pine St., Williamsport

#### WAYNE/PIKE

May 4 at 9 a.m. The Setters Inn, 4 Main Ave., Hawley

#### **MONROE**

May 4 at 3 p.m. Monroe County Bar Association, 913 Main St., Stroudsburg

#### **CARBON**

May 5 at 9 a.m. Inn at Jim Thorpe, 24 Broadway, Jim Thorpe

#### **SUSQUEHANNA**

May 5 at 3 p.m. County Office Building, 31 Public Ave., Montrose

#### **LACKAWANNA**

May 6 at 9 a.m. The Colonnade, 401 Jefferson Ave., Scranton

#### **SULLIVAN/WYOMING**

May 6 at 3 p.m. Shadowbrook Inn & Resort, 615 SR 6 East, Tunkhannock

#### **LUZERNE**

May 7 at 9 a.m. The Westmoreland Club, 59 S. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre

#### **NORTHAMPTON**

May 20 at 1 p.m. Best Western, Routes 512 & 22, Bethlehem To register, call 610-258-6333, ext. 5027.

#### **LEBANON**

May 26 at 3 p.m. Lebanon Country Club, 3375 W. Oak St., Lebanon

#### **LEHIGH**

May 27 at 9 a.m. The Bar Association of Lehigh County, 1114 W. Walnut St., Allentown

#### **CHESTER**

May 27 at 3 p.m. Chester County Bar Association, 15 W. Gay St., 2nd Floor, West Chester

#### **DELAWARE**

May 28 at 9 a.m. Delaware County Bar Association, 335 W. Front St., Media

### **Stepping Out 2010**

The Stepping Out booklet has been updated for 2010 and is now available on the PBA Web site at http://www.pba.org/lre.asp.

The Stepping Out program encourages attorneys and judges to visit lo-

cal schools to talk with students about issues they will face when they turn 18 and "step out" on their own.

The booklet can be copied and given to students for ongoing reference after your visit.

If you have questions about the Stepping Out program, contact Susan Etter, eduation and special projects coordinator at the PBA, by phone at 800-932-0311, ext. 2256, or by e-mail at susan.etter@pabar.org. ■

### The value of InCite®: It's well worth your PBA dues dollar

In December 2001, the Pennsylvania Bar Association launched InCite®, a customized legal research program that combines the quality and reliability of LexisNexis® service with the PBA's commitment to supporting members in their practice. Reinforcing that commitment, InCite content recently was enhanced with additional information and features that make the system easier to use and even more valuable to today's practicing attorney.

InCite's improved library now includes the following new or expanded information and features:

- All federal cases (all districts)
- All federal court rules (all districts)
- Code of Federal Regulations
- Statutes from all 50 states
- Supreme Court and appellate case law since 1950 from all 50 states
- Pennsylvania attorney general opinions
- Pennsylvania suggested jury instructions
- Pennsylvania state case law and ethics opinions
- Pennsylvania regulations
- Improved functionality, including combined federal search; natural language search; "FOCUS" search within a search; highlighted pagination; dual column and other printing options; book browse feature in statutes, rules and regulations; annotated reports for statutes (\$9 per report); Shepard's® reports for statutes (\$6 per report); and discount of 50 percent on Shepard's packages.

These enhancements offer InCite's regular users more of what they want. And for those who still haven't taken advantage of InCite, these recent upgrades argue more strongly than ever for why you should join the more than 12,700 of your fellow PBA members already using InCite.



In terms of your PBA dues dollar, current full-year dues are less than what most lawyers would spend for two months of a 12-month online legal research contract with LexisNexis or

Westlaw®. Translation; InCite-users have an estimated yearly savings of \$1,500 or more in online research fees when compared with the price of a separate subscription service.

InCite pulls directly from the LexisNexis database, making InCite just as useful as a separate LexisNexis subscription. And if you don't find what you want in the InCite research library, your PBA member access allows you to purchase any material offered through a LexisNexis subscription via a portal on the InCite page.

In addition to saving you money, InCite is easy to use. To get started, go to the PBA InCite login page at http://www.pabar.org/public/cobranded.asp, or you can reach that page by clicking on the **PBA InCite Enter Here** box on the right side of the PBA home page, http://www.pabar.org. Or call the PBA at 1-800-932-0311 and ask for the Member Services Department, and someone will walk you through the start-up process. Once you're a registered InCite-user, you are eligible for a free, one-hour telephone training session. Our PBA Member Services Department representatives can tell you more about that.

Access to free legal research through InCite is well worth your PBA dues dollar. Add in all the other member benefits, from networking opportunities to publications, law practice management support to legislative news — to name just a few — and you can see why your PBA membership pays for itself!

# David Blaner elected new PABE president

David Blaner, executive director of the Allegheny County Bar Association, is the new president of the Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives.

The other PABE officers are:

- Vice president Carolyn Seibert-Drager, executive director of the Franklin County Bar Association
- Secretary Kathleen Sabol, executive director of the Washington County Bar Association
- Treasurer Wendy Hoffman, executive director of the Chester County Bar Association

The four began their two-year terms in January. They were elected at PABE's December meeting.

# NABE Small Bar Conference planned for June 25-26 in Louisville, Ky.

Looking for solutions to problems facing your county bar association?

Then you'll want to attend the National Association of Bar Executives Small Bar Conference to discuss ideas and resources for better management of your organization. Scheduled for June 25-26, 2010, in Louisville,

Ky., the conference is geared toward bar associations with limited staffing, a budget of less than \$300,000, and/or membership of 1,500 or fewer individuals.



At the low fee of \$100 for NABE members and non-members alike, you cannot afford to miss this event. Registration information will be available at http://www.nabenet.org in early April. Questions? Contact Tondanisha Nevels at 312-988-5360 or nevelst@staff.abanet.org.

## http://www.pabar.org

the county line

#### Monroe County executive director, Wyomissing attorney honored at CCBL

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bar services director who retired in 2006 after nearly 40 years of support to local bar associations.

Kenny has served as executive director of the Monroe County Bar Association for 17 years. She oversaw the purchase and renovation of the Monroe County Bar Center. In 1996, the bar association purchased a Victorian home in the borough of Stroudsburg. With the help of her executive board, Kenny toured other bar association buildings. Through her involvement in the Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives (PABE), she gathered information regarding available funding from the Pennsylvania Bar Trust Fund to help further the renovations. The bar center opened two years later.

Kenny recently prepared a member survey of bar activities, part of her ongoing efforts to keep up with the substantial growth of the association's membership and to seek out new and interesting ways to make sure the association remains an integral part of the legal community.

The Flaherty award honors the work of an association member for supporting and promoting the projects and purposes of the CCBL and for efforts to improve the legal profession, the justice system and the community.

Weiler was the president of the Berks County Bar Association in 2001. He is a member of the PBA House of Delegates and president of the Berks County Bar Foundation Board of Trustees. He served on the CCBL board from 2001 to 2009. During his CCBL presidency in 2008, Weiler was integral in the smooth transition of county bar services directors at the PBA.

Weiler was also involved in his county bar headquarters' renovations, having helped conceive and plan the renovation to the basement and third floor of the Berks County Bar Association building, and in leading the related fundraising effort.

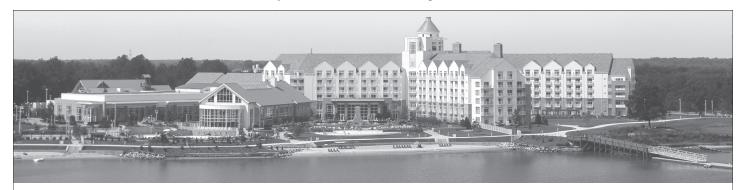
He instituted the county bar association's program to improve civility and help lawyers deal with stress in the profession.



CCBL President Samuel T. Cooper III (left) presents the Chief Justice John P. Flaherty Award to attorney Terry D. Weiler.

He also helped to create a lawyers' assistance committee that provides a local resource center for attorneys in need.

During his county bar presidency, Weiler led the first-time effort to create a public service television announcement to promote the positive contributions of lawyers and urge viewers to use the lawyer-referral service.



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CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND

### **PBA hosts National High School Mock Trial competition**

■ The competition requires thousands of hours of organizational time voluntarily invested by Pennsylvania lawyers, judges, teachers and community leaders.

With the support of hundreds of generous volunteers and donors, the PBA will host the 27th annual National High School Mock Trial Championship from May 6-9. The PBA last hosted the event 14 years ago in Pittsburgh.

This year, more than 750 high school students, teacher coaches and lawyer advisers will travel to Philadelphia to compete in the competition. More than 300 Pennsylvania law students, lawyers, judges, educators and other volunteers will staff the event and judge the mock trials.

Nearly 50 teams will compete for the national title. Teams from more than 40 states will be joined by teams from beyond the United States, including Guam, the Northern Marina Islands (a commonwealth of 15 islands in the west Pacific Ocean in political union with the U.S.) and South Korea.

Representing Pennsylvania will be Scranton Preparatory School of Lackawanna County, winners of the PBA Young Lawyers Division's 27th Annual Statewide High School Mock Trial Competition.

The Scranton Preparatory School Mock Trial Team is composed of Jennifer Boland, Joseph Burke, Allison Durkin, Julia Fick, Stephen Murphy, Daniel Penetar, Devon Sheridan and Anna Walsh. The teacher coach is Mary Grace Phillips. The attorney advisers are Magistrate Judge Malachy Mannion of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania and John O'Brien.

The team played the role of defense and B. Reed Henderson High School, Chester County, play the role of prosecution in the final round of competition on March 27. Joanna Epps, dean, Temple University Beasley School of Law, served as the presiding judge.

Through the mock trial competition, eight-member student teams are given the

opportunity to argue both sides of the case in an actual courtroom before a judge. The students, who play the roles of lawyers, witnesses, plaintiffs and defendants, are assisted by teacher coaches and attorney advisers in preparing for competition. Volunteer lawyers and community leaders serve as jurors in the trials. The juries determine the winners in each trial based on the teams' abilities to prepare their cases, present arguments and follow court rules

Benjamin Franklin for a 1754 edition of his Pennsylvania Gazette newspaper. The cartoon appeared with Franklin's editorial about the importance of unity among the colonies. The cartoon has been reprinted and redrawn widely throughout American history, including during the Revolutionary War, the Civil War and now the National High School Mock Trial. This year's mock trial case will focus on a criminal action arising from a protest with historic themes.

The competition requires thousands of



For the national competition in May, PBA and event planners are ensuring that students see the places, meet the people and taste the food that will make for lasting memories in Pennsylvania. Some of the special events planned include stops at Philadelphia City Hall (the final trial will take place in the courtroom used in the movie, "Philadelphia") and the National Constitution Center; receptions hosted by First Lady Judge Marjorie O. Rendell, honorary chair of the competition: visits from the Phillie Phanatic, the Eagles Pep Band and the Mummers: and menus that include samplings of Philadelphia cheesesteaks and Tastykakes.

The mock trial pays homage to Pennsylvania history.

The severed snake image and the words "UNITE OR DIE" used in this year's mock trial logo are references to a famous political cartoon created by

hours of organizational time voluntarily invested by Pennsylvania lawyers, judges, teachers and community leaders and more than \$400,000 in funding support from universities, nonprofits, law firms and individual lawyers from every corner of the state.

Drexel University is a proud partner of the PBA Young Lawyers Division Statewide Mock Trial Competition and the leadership sponsor of the 2010 National Mock Trial Competition.

To add financial support in any amount, simply go to the Web site of the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation, which is administering the tax-deductible donations to the 2010 National Mock Trial, at http://www.pabarfoundations/org and click on "Contribute."

For more information on the competition, visit http://www.2010nationalmocktrial.com.



#### **Allegheny**

#### Online 'Law Office Management Guide'

The Allegheny County Bar Association added another valuable resource to member services in January with the launch of the online "Law Office Management Guide," offering an in-depth look at the management and maintenance of a law practice in Pennsylvania.

Based on a similar project at the Ohio State Bar Association, the guide is composed of more than 100 pages of information reviewing "everything that one needs to know about running a law practice," according to ACBA President Kimberly A. Brown. The guide, which can be found on the association's Web site at <a href="http://www.acba.org">http://www.acba.org</a>, includes chapters on opening and maintaining a law practice; time billing and accounting; case management and office operations; hiring, retaining, and terminating employees;

marketing; practice challenges; quality of life; and closing, selling or acquiring a law practice. The guide also provides sample forms and letters for practicing attorneys.

#### Chester

#### CCBA offering 'Bar Bucks'

To promote membership in the Chester County Bar Association, the association offers "Bar Bucks" to members that refer a new member. Upon receipt of new members' dues, the existing members receive \$25 "Bar Bucks" for use at CLEs and events.

#### **Honoring** past presidents

In December of each year, the Chester County Bar Association holds a breakfast to honor all of its past presidents. It is held during the week of Christmas and is always very well attended. It's a great opportunity for a holiday gathering, camaraderie and

discussion on the current and future state of the bar association.

#### **Dauphin**

#### **Membership Meeting**

The annual Dauphin County Bar Association Membership Meeting was held at the National Civil War Museum on Jan. 27 and featured election of officers and admission of 39 new members. The Hon. Clarence C. Morrison Diversity Award was presented to Keefer Wood Allen and Rahal LLP for the firm's efforts to promote diversity in the local legal community, and the Public Service Committee presented its 2010 Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year Award to Dorothy L. Mott.

#### President's Gala

Almost 200 people attended the rescheduled DCBA President's Gala on Feb. 20 in honor of outgoing President



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Renee Mattei Myers. The event featured a reception, dinner, live band and *après*-party festivities.

#### **Pro Bono Program reception**

On Feb. 24, 456 participants in the DCBA Pro Bono Program were invited to a reception in their honor that featured remarks from President Judge Todd A. Hoover and DCBA President James P. DeAngelo. Program participants received a special edition recognition coffee mug and will have their names inscribed on the Bar Association Pro Bono Honor Roll throughout 2010.

#### Summer internship program

The DCBA interviewed almost 40 first-year law students for the fifth annual Capital Area Managing Partners (CAMP) Diversity Initiative 1L summer internship program on March 4 and 5. Students will be placed with local law firms and corporate

law offices for eight-week internships from June 7 to July 30.

#### Erie

#### NPR correspondent at Law Day events

Ari Shapiro, justice correspondent for National Public Radio, will be the

keynote speaker at the Erie County Bar Association's annual Law Day Luncheon at noon on Friday, May 7, at the Bayfront C o n v e n t i o n Center, Erie.

Shapiro, who travels extensively to investigate and report on legal



Ari Shapiro

issues across the country, will address "The War on Terror: Legal Issues and

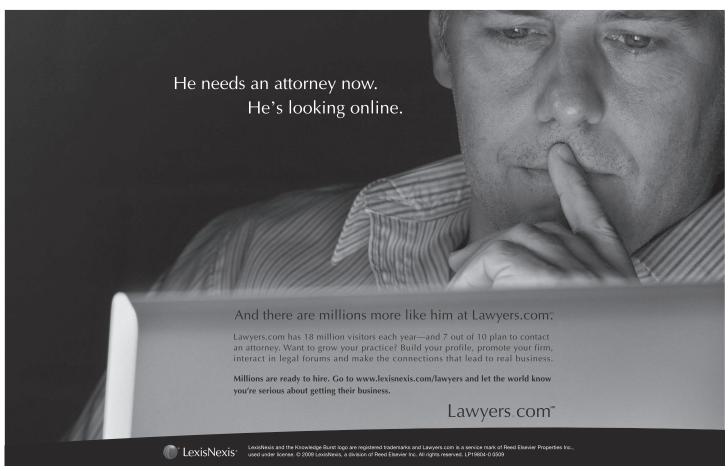
Controversial Court Cases." Shapiro has received several honors for his work, including the American Bar Association's Silver Gavel Award for his coverage of New Orleans' uprooted legal system following Hurricane Katrina.

The luncheon cost is \$25 per ticket. Reservations can be made online at the ECBA's Web site, http://www.eriebar.com.

Prior to the luncheon, Shapiro will speak at a program for college and high school students. Reservations for the morning program, which is free to students and ECBA members, can be made by e-mail to sbsmith@eriebar.com or by telephone to 814-459-3111.

"Having such a well-respected broadcast journalist make himself available to local college and high school students is a substantial opportunity for these students, especially if they are interested in a similar

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career," said Michael A. Fetzner, chair of the ECBA Law Day Committee. "Mr. Shapiro is young, very down-to-earth, and we felt that his 'words of wisdom' would be of real benefit and inspiration to the students."

#### Law Day 5K Run/Walk set for May 1

The Erie County Bar Association, in cooperation with the Erie Runners Club, will present the seventh annual Law Day 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, May 1, beginning at 9 a.m. in front of the Erie County Courthouse, 140 W. Sixth St.

The race benefits the ECBA's Attorneys & Kids Together Program, supporting the educational needs of homeless students, and the Runners Club Scholarship Fund. In the six previous years, more than \$50,000 has been raised for the two programs.

#### **Franklin**

#### **FCBA's Barristers Spring Gala**



Forest Myers, Unit County Governor on the PBA Board of Governors and past president of the Franklin County Bar Association, welcomes PBA President Cliff Haines to the FCBA's 2010 Barristers Spring Gala. The annual dinner for FCBA members and guests was held March 6 in Waynesboro.

#### **Bar welcomes Common Pleas judges**

More than 80 members of the Franklin County Bar Association participated in the Jan. 4 swearing-in ceremony of two new Common Pleas judges in historic Courtroom One at the county courthouse in Chambersburg. The addition of Judges Shawn Meyers and Angela Krom gives the 39th Judicial District, which encompasses Franklin and Fulton counties, five judges total and two women on the bench, both firsts. FCBA hosted a reception after the ceremony to honor the new judges. A separate ceremony was held in Fulton County the same day.

#### Lackawanna

#### Samuel Fallk award presented

The Lackawanna Bar Association and Lackawanna Pro Bono recently presented the Samuel Fallk Equal Access to Justice Award to Charles F. Wilson, a partner in the firm of Epstein, Utan, Wilson & Marsili, a firm he has been with for more than 30 years.

The award is bestowed to one or more individual attorneys each year for their outstanding pro bono work. This is the second year in which the award has been given in honor of Fallk. Previously, the award was named the Equal Access to Justice Award.

Fallk, a native of Old Forge, began practicing law in Lackawanna County in 1937 and continued to practice until his death in 2000. For many years, before funding became available, Fallk was a one-man legal aid society and the public defender, both on a volunteer basis. He was called upon by the courts to find representation for the poor and indigent. If a fellow lawyer could not be found to volunteer, Fallk would take on the case by himself.

This year's Fallk award recipient, Wilson, graduated from Villanova University in 1965 and from Dickinson University School of Law in 1969.

After graduating from law school, he served as an assistant district attorney for seven years. He has been in private practice since then. He practices primarily in the areas of personal injury, civil litigation and general practice.



Charles F. Wilson (left) receives the Samuel Fallk award from Judge Chester T. Harhut, president judge of the Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas.

Since Lackawanna Pro Bono began operating, he has handled 13 pro bono cases that the organization referred to him. Those cases involved landlord/tenant and unemployment compensation matters.

His commitment to pro bono service is exemplified in a landlord/tenant case he handled last year in which he was successful in preventing his client from being evicted from public housing.

#### Lebanon

#### **Inauguration Day**

A standing-room only crowd had much to applaud when elected city and county officials took the oath of office on Monday morning, Jan. 4, Inauguration Day. Charlie Jones, former chief public defender, became the fifth judge of the Lebanon County Court of Common Pleas to serve his 10-year term. A new mayor and two city council members were also sworn into office.

#### **Bench Bar Breakfast**

The Lebanon County Bar Association held its annual Bench Bar Breakfast in February. The program is designed to provide an open, relaxed forum for questions and answers and to improve the working relationship between members of the bench and the bar. The discussion was



facilitated by attorney Wiley Parker, chair of the Bench Bar Breakfast.

#### **Montgomery**

#### **Helping the Working Attorney**

Under the leadership of President Steven H. Lupin, the Montgomery Bar Association's primary charge for 2010 is "helping the working attorney." To this end, the MBA is leveraging its inhouse (MYA) technology to offer several new services for the convenience of its members.

One recent example is the launch of an online PR utility, which allows members to share their news, announcements and "good deeds" via the members-only section of its Web site, http://www.montgomerybar. org. Members submit their news using a simple online form; a text file is then generated and sent to the MBA's "Clean (vs. Dirty) Laundry" database, which, in

turn, alerts the bar's PR staff. Upon receipt, MBA staff members are able to review, edit, publish and circulate it as a press release to appropriate news media and inhouse publications.

Since launching this feature, several attorneys have already been recognized by local news media for their contributions in our community.

Another significant enhancement now underway to assist the working attorney is the highly-anticipated launch of MBA Mobile, a portable application that will allow members access to more than 2,500 "MBA Legal Directory" contacts — all from the convenience of their mobile devices.

#### **Northampton**

#### **Law Explorer Post returns**

The Northampton County Law Explorer Post, on hiatus for more than 10 years, has

been brought back to life. The first meeting was held in January; more than 15 students joined that night. Along with general information on the Exploring program, the association presented a criminal program with Northampton County Court of Common Pleas President Judge F.P. Kimberly McFadden, District Attorney John Morganelli and Public Defender James Connell. The students, as well as the parents, really enjoyed the program. The next meeting will be held at the Juvenile Justice Center with a panel of judges, attorneys and parole officers.

#### Trip to Flyers/Islanders game

The NCBA Activities Committee scheduled its first event of the year with a trip to Philadelphia to see the Flyers vs. Islanders game. This trip was sold out within two weeks and a good time was had by all. The Flyers even won – a bonus!



#### BE A LEADER OF THE PAC

#### **Protect Your Profession Through Political Action**

**PABAR-PAC** is the political action committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Its mission is to help elect legislators who represent the interests of Pennsylvania's legal profession – our profession – and the clients we serve. Pennsylvania lawyers and the clients we represent are greatly affected by the decisions made by our lawmakers in the state legislature, yet today, *only about* 20% of these lawmakers are attorneys.

With issues such as taxes on legal services, the unlicensed practice of law, and caps on noneconomic damages in medical malpractice cases, the legal community cannot afford to have fewer legislators on Capitol Hill who lack an understanding of our profession. We need your help to elect legislators who will consider our views on the legal issues that affect us all.

Make your profession's voice heard and become a leader of PABAR-PAC.

#### For more information, please contact:

Lauren E. Brinjac, Legislative Coordinator 1-800-932-0311, lauren.brinjac@pabar.org or visit the Legislative News section of the PBA Web site, http://www.pabar.org

### **Courses offered by the PBI**

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.

#### **Five County Juvenile Court Practice**

April 7: Doylestown April 8: Norristown 12 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.; check-in at 11:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits

#### **Great! Adverse Depositions**

Simulcast – April 7: Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Lebanon, Mansfield, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, Montrose, New Castle, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Wilkes-Barre, and Cleveland, Ohio 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in begins at 8 a.m.; 6.5 CLE credits (substantive)

#### Piercing the Corporate Veil

Simulcast – April 8: Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Johnstown, Meadville, New Castle, Philadelphia, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Wilkes-Barre 12 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.; check-in at 11:30 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

#### **Gas Leasing Colloquium**

Video – April 9: Ridgway 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (substantive)

#### Medicine for Lawyers: The Most Common Injuries to the Brain and Spine

Simulcast – April 9: Allentown, Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Lebanon, Mansfield, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, New Castle, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York 8:25 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (substantive)

#### **Finding Hidden Assets**

Simulcast – April 12: Allentown, Erie, Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, Pittsburgh, Reading, Wilkes-Barre 1:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.; check-in at 1 p.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

### Contract Law for the 21st Century Lawyer

Simulcast – April 13: Easton, Greensburg, Mansfield, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, Philadelphia, Uniontown, Wilkes-Barre 9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

#### Facebook, Twitter, & Blogging... Oh MySpace! – Legal Issues with Social Networking Sites

Simulcast – April 14: Chambersburg, Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Mansfield, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, New Castle, Pittsburgh, Uniontown, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York, and Cleveland, Ohio

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

#### Civil Litigation Annual Retreat

April 16, 17, 18: Baltimore, Md. Call PBI for times; 8 CLE credits (6 substantive/2 ethics)

#### **Internet Law Update**

Simulcast – April 19: Allentown, Mechanicsburg, Norristown, Philadelphia 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics\*) \*Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit.

#### **Basics of e-Discovery**

Simulcast – April 20: Chambersburg, Easton, Greensburg, Lebanon, Mansfield, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Media, Mill Hall, Montrose, New Castle, Philadelphia, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, Williamsport 9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

### The Amazing Case: How to Make a Commercial Case Come Alive!

Simulcast – April 23: Allentown, Easton, Greensburg, Lebanon, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, New Castle, Pittsburgh, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, West Chester, York 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics\*) \*Must attend entire program to receive the

ethics credit.

### **Driving Under the Influence: Skills that Win Cases**

Simulcast – April 26: Allentown, Greensburg, Johnstown, Mansfield, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, Reading, Stroudsburg, Wilkes-Barre 12 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.; check-in at 11:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

#### **Long Term Care Planning for Seniors**

Simulcast – April 28: Chambersburg, Doylestown, Easton, Johnstown, Mansfield, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, New Castle, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

#### **Effective Legal Negotiation Skills**

Simulcast – April 30: Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, Philadelphia, Reading, Wilkes-Barre, York 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics\*) \*Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit.

#### **Post Conviction Relief Act – The Basics**

Simulcast – May 5: Allentown, Doylestown, Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Johnstown, Lebanon, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Media, Mill Hall, Montrose, New Castle, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Washington, Wilkes-Barre, York 12:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.; check-in at 12 p.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

#### **Navigating the Retirement Maze**

Simulcast – May 11: Doylestown, Mechanicsburg, Reading, Wilkes-Barre, and Cleveland, Ohio 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

#### Representing the Liquor Licensee

Simulcast – May 12: Easton, Mechanicsburg, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Wilkes-Barre 8:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

#### Digital Detectives: How the Science of Computer Forensics Can Win Your Case

Simulcast – May 13: Allentown, Doylestown, Easton, Mechanicsburg, Norristown, Philadelphia, Reading, Wilkes-Barre, and Cleveland, Ohio 9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

#### **Parenting Coordination**

Simulcast – May 14: Allentown, Mechanicsburg, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Wilkes-Barre 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (substantive)

#### **Insolvent Estates: A Practical Primer**

Simulcast – May 19: Allentown, Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, Media, New Castle, Stroudsburg 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

#### **Arbitration Litigation**

May 20: Philadelphia Simulcast – May 20: Doylestown, Easton, Mechanicsburg, Pittsburgh 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (substantive)

### Workers' Compensation Practice & Procedure 2010

Simulcast – May 25: Allentown, Chambersburg, Doylestown, Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Lebanon, Meadville, Mill Hall, Montrose, Norristown, Philadelphia, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Wilkes-Barre, York 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

### Fundamentals of ERISA – Mystery Solved!

Simulcast – June 2: Allentown, Doylestown, Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Mansfield, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, New Castle, Philadelphia, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Washington, Wilkes-Barre, York 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

#### Handling the Dog Bite Case

Simulcast – June 3: Greensburg, Meadville, Mill Hall, Montrose, New Castle, Philadelphia, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Wilkes-Barre, York June 17: Allentown

12 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.; check-in at 11:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

#### **Directors and Officers Liability**

Simulcast – June 4: Erie, Mechanicsburg, Norristown, Reading, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York 9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

#### 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Workers' Compensation Conference

June 7 to June 8: Hershey
Mon: 9:15 a.m. to 4:45 pm; check-in at
7 a.m.; Tues: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; check-in
at 7 a.m.; 10 CLE credits (ethics)

#### Juvenile Injustice in Luzerne County: Ethical Consideration for Lawyers, Judges and Prosecutors

Simulcast – June 14: Easton, Erie, Mansfield, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, Montrose, Philadelphia, Reading, Stroudsburg, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York 9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;

### **Electronic Discovery 2010: Rules, Tips and Practical Tactics**

4 CLE credits (ethics)

Simulcast – June 22: Doylestown, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, Pittsburgh, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York, and Cleveland, Ohio

8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

#### **Drafting Legal Opinion Letters**

Simulcast – June 23: Allentown, Mechanicsburg, Norristown, Philadelphia, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre

9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

#### **General Practitioners' Update 2010**

Simulcast – June 30: Allentown, Doylestown, Erie, Greensburg, Lebanon, Mansfield, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, New Castle, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Washington, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, Williamsport, York 8:30 a.m. to 4:10 p.m.; check-in begins at 8 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

#### **RESPA: A Primer**

Video – April 9, Kittanning; April 16, Somerset; April 19, Milford; and April 23, Washington

9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

Simulcast – April 22: Greensburg, Johnstown, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, Norristown, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh

9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

#### **Sophisticated Issues for Family Lawyers**

Simulcast – June 17: Doylestown, Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, Philadelphia, Reading, Wilkes-Barre, York

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

### The Anatomy of an Injury to the Back or the Knee

Simulcast – June 25: Allentown, Greensburg, Mansfield, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, Montrose, New Castle, Pittsburgh, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

#### The Basics of Intellectual Property Law

Video – April 16: Ridgway 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

#### The Dead Man's Rule

Video – April 2: Coudersport 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

### The New Wave of Title Problems and How to Solve Them

Simulcast – April 15: Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, Wilkes-Barre 12:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.; check-in at 12 p.m.; 3 CLE credits (2 substantive/1 ethics)

### Wills vs. Trusts: A Primer on the Right Tool for Your Clients

Simulcast – June 16: Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, Norristown, West Chester, York

12:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 11:45 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

the county line



# SAVE THE DATES May 12-14, 2010

Annual Dinner

Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives (PABE) Meeting

Continuing Legal Education

Awards Luncheon

Committee/Section Day

House of Delegates Meeting

Women in the Profession Conference

Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section Annual Meeting

# Pennsylvania Bar Association **ANNUAL MEETING**

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# Mark your calendars for these 2010 PBA events

#### **PBA** Day on the Hill

May 3

State Capitol, Harrisburg

#### **PBA Law Day kick-off**

May 5 Harrisburg

#### National High School Mock Trial Championship

May 6-9 Marriott Philadelphia, Philadelphia

#### **PBA Annual Meeting**

May 12-14 Hershey Lodge, Hershey

### PBA Committee/Section Day

May 13 Hershey Lodge, Hershey

#### **PBA House of Delegates Meeting**

May 14 Hershey Lodge, Hershey

For more details, check the PBA Events Calendar at http://www.pabar.org or call the PBA at 800-932-0311.

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