



Voices & Views



A NEWSLETTER FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA BAR ASSOCIATION • COMMISSION ON WOMEN IN THE PROFESSION

The WIP Spring Conference/Book Group

By Dolly Shuster, Co-Chair, WIP 2016 Spring Conference

On Wednesday, March 16, 2016, WIP held its first combined Spring Conference/Book Group featuring the book “Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg” by Irin Carmon and Shana Knizhnik. “Notorious RBG,” has been described as “...a never-before-told story of an unusual and transformative woman who transcends generational divides. As the country struggles with the unfinished business of gender equality and civil rights, Ginsburg stands as a testament

to how far we can come with a little chutzpah.” The program featured co-author Shana Kniznik who spoke in Philadelphia. The program was simulcast to Mechanicsburg, Pittsburgh and Scranton.

Ms. Kniznik’s presentation on her book included humorous slides about Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. She then answered questions from the audience in which the satellite locations participated. This was followed by discussion in each location led by WIP members. A reception was held in each location. Shana signed copies of the book in Philadelphia and book plates for those in the satellite locations.

The program was a resounding success. A total of 80 people pre-registered in the four locations, 35 in Philadelphia, 18 in Pittsburgh, 14 in Mechanicsburg and 13 in Scranton. The course evaluations were very positive from all of the locations, with a common comment that the program was “inspirational.” There was also positive feedback from the locations about combining the Spring Conference with the Book Group.

The Spring Conference/Book Group could



not have taken place without the hard work of many WIP members. Special thanks to WIP Co-Chair Nancy Conrad, my Spring Conference Co-Chair Marion Munley, WIP Book Club Co-Chairs Bernadette Hohenadel and Mary Cushing Doherty, PBA staff Ursula Marks and Tameka Altadonna and PBI staff liaison Stacey Thomas.



In this ISSUE

Message from the Co-Chair	2
WIP 23 rd Annual Conference	3
Message from the Co-Editor	4
President Judge Jolene Grubb Kopriva	5
2016 Anne X. Alpern Award	6
2016 Lynette Norton Award	6
Welcome New Members	8
Award for Outstanding Leadership & Inclusion ..	9
Members in the News	10
Bar Leadership Institute Seeks Young Leaders..	10

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Message from the Co-Chair

“Women’s progress has been a collective effort.” Gloria Steinem




Nancy Conrad

For our Commission, it has been a year of progress thanks to the collective efforts of our members and I am so proud to have been a part of it all. Throughout the year, we developed, offered and participated in exceptional events that included programs about living in the moment, articulating a personal brand and recognizing the achievements of a notorious woman. During these events, we have continued our commitment to community service and raised funds and collected donations for the Food Bank and the Ronald McDonald House. During the year, we mentored our members, communicated our voices and views, and reported

on the status of our profession. At critical times, we engaged in collaborative dialogue about significant issues that impact our profession. We submitted a recommendation to the Board of Governors about the need for a fair, thorough and impartial review process regarding conduct that related to our practice of law. We identified the need for action and submitted a recommendation that supported the adoption of the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act. Both recommendations were approved by the Board of Governors.

And as I write this final message, we look forward to a unique and substantive program at our Annual Conference, “The Women of the United States Supreme Court.” We also look forward to recognizing our awardees, The Honorable Norma L. Shapiro and Marion Munley, Esq. and highlighting the Report Card. And, we are thrilled that our Commission will be receiving the 2016 PBA Award for Outstanding Leadership in Diversity and Inclusion.

It has been an outstanding year, a year of extraordinary progress, and I thank each of you for your individual and collective efforts and most especially, for your meaningful engagement. Thank you for the privilege of serving as a co-chair of our WIP. 

Nancy Conrad

Pennsylvania Bar Association
WOMEN IN THE PROFESSION 23rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“The Women of the United States Supreme Court”

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 • Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA

WIP Registration Fee: \$145 (PBA Members)*

Includes breakfast, WIP Annual Luncheon, reception and access to WIP CLE sessions. CLE credits are an additional cost.

**Non-Member Registration Fee - \$195*

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

WIP Business & Breakfast Meeting

Commission Co-Chairs: Nancy Conrad, Esq. and Mary Kate Coleman, Esq.

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

“Profiles of Female Supreme Court Justices”

Join us for in-depth presentations that will focus on the background of each Justice and the obstacles she encountered in her path to the Supreme Court.

CLE credit: 2.5 Ethics hours

Panelists:

- Sharon R. López, Esq., Triquetra Law
- Nancy Conrad, Esq., White and Williams, LLP
- Sarah C. Yerger, Esq., Post & Schell P. C.
- Andrea Farney, Esq., Triquetra Law

11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Morning Wrap-Up

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Annual Luncheon

Featured Keynote Speaker: Author and Journalist Joan Biskupic



Joan Biskupic

Joan Biskupic, award-winning author and journalist, writes about the U.S. Supreme Court through the lens of judicial biography. Her most recent book, *Breaking In: The Rise of Sonia Sotomayor and the Politics of Justice*, was published by Sarah Crichton/Farrar, Straus & Giroux in 2014. Univision anchor Jorge Ramos declared it “superb... a remarkable book about an extraordinary woman in very challenging times,” and *Time* magazine

deemed *Breaking In* one of the seven great books of the Fall season. Biskupic’s earlier works include *American Original: The Life and Constitution of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia* (2009); and *Sandra Day O’Connor: How the First Woman on the Supreme Court Became its Most Influential Justice* (2005). Biskupic has covered the Court for *The Washington Post*, *USA Today*, and now *Reuters*. She is a regular panelist on PBS’s *Washington Week* with Gwen Ifill. Biskupic holds a law degree from Georgetown Law and in 2014 received an honorary degree from the university. In 2015, she was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Explanatory Journalism.

Awards Presentation

The Commission on Women in the Profession will award the prestigious Anne X. Alpern Award to Hon. Norma L. Shapiro, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of PA and the Lynette Norton Award to Marion K. Munley, Munley Law PC.



Hon. Norma L. Shapiro



Marion K. Munley

2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

“Opinions of Female Supreme Court Justices”

This panel presentation will focus on an overview of key opinions authored by the female Justices followed by a discussion among the panelists comparing and contrasting the opinions and positions of the Justices.

CLE credit: 2 Substantive hours

Moderator: Joan Biskupic

Panelists:

- Prof. Susanna Fischer, Columbus School of Law, The Catholic University of America
- Prof. Catherine J. Lancot, Villanova University School of Law
- Prof. Mark C. Rahdert, Temple University Beasley School of Law
- Prof. Nancy A. Welsh, Penn State University Dickinson School of Law

4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Afternoon Wrap-Up

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Reception & Networking Opportunity

The CLE programs for the 2016 PBA WIP 23rd Annual Conference are presented in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. The Pennsylvania Bar Institute is approved by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court CLE Board as an accredited CLE provider. The individual CLE programs for this conference have been approved for the number of credit hours indicated.



Continuing Legal Education Arm
of the Pennsylvania Bar Association

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-EDITOR

WIP: It's On Us

By Samantha E. Phillips

In my role as a Title IX Coordinator in higher education, I am responsible for ensuring my university's compliance with gender discrimination laws. One of the initiatives our students recently engaged in is the "It's On Us" campaign (see our video here: <https://vimeo.com/157794359>). This campaign was initiated in 2014 by President Obama and Vice President Biden and is aimed at creating awareness at schools across the nation to help end sexual assault on college campuses.

This year, Governor Wolf launched "It's On Us PA," the first statewide campus sexual assault prevention campaign. The mission is to change campus culture by challenging leaders such as university presidents, superintendents, students, teachers, families and communities – men and women alike – to make a pledge to stand up against sexual violence. This pledge requests men and women across the nation to step off the sideline and be part of the solution to end sexual assault.

During the national launch, President Obama appropriately noted that "as far as we've come, the fact that from sports leagues to pop culture to politics, our society still does not sufficiently value women." (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2014/09/19/president-obama-launches-its-us-campaign-end-sexual-assault-campus>). This is certainly an all-too-common sentiment that is discussed during many of our WIP events. Why aren't we on an equal playing field yet in the legal profession, and how do we get there?



I have been pleased to notice an increase in male-student involvement at my university regarding the initiatives to stop sexual assault on campus. Many of our male campus leaders have played a very active role in the "It's On Us" initiative and have shown a genuine interest in how they can help spread awareness. These young gentlemen have truly accepted the challenge to let their peers know that *it is on all of us* to protect the women on our campus from becoming an unfortunate statistic (an estimated one in five women is sexually assaulted during their college years). I am excited that these male students will be entering the workforce shortly and hope they will take their active bystander intervention approach with them. Perhaps these young men will help shape our future by continuing to step off the sideline in all of their endeavors!

As for now, I think, *it is on us*, fellow WIP members, to continue engaging one another and our male counterparts in the conversation on how to achieve gender equality in the legal profession. ❧



Samantha E. Phillips, Esq., co-editor of *Voices & Views* is the Title IX Coordinator at Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre.

WOMEN IN THE PROFESSION

Incredible Leaders in Unexpected Places: Blair County

By Karen Grethlein

Approximately three hours west of Philadelphia and two hours east of Pittsburgh lies the little town of Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania. For those of you attending the annual WIP retreat this fall, Bedford Springs is about a 20-minute drive from Hollidaysburg. This picturesque town is home to the Blair County Court of Common Pleas, which has been the base of operations for nearly three decades to the amazing President Judge Jolene Grubb Kopriva.

An alumna of the Pennsylvania State University and Duquesne School of Law, Judge Kopriva is a Pennsylvania native through and through. After finishing law school in Pittsburgh, Judge Kopriva returned home to Hollidaysburg where she joined a local firm as the first female attorney in its history. While at this firm, Judge Kopriva experienced her fair share of derogatory comments, lewd jokes and what we would today call micro-aggressions. The most vivid example she could share with me, was of one partner's habit of introducing her by saying, "Have you met Jolene? Before her, we only hired one boob at a time."

Despite moments like these, Judge Kopriva looks back fondly on her time at the firm and emphasized that she is extremely grateful that the firm took a chance on her in a time when hiring female lawyers was uncommon. As a new associate, she had the chance to litigate her first jury trial and argue a case before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. After ten years of practice, Judge Kopriva set her sights on the bench. A



President Judge Jolene Grubb Kopriva

perfect storm of circumstances created an opportunity, which Judge Kopriva pursued with tenacity and optimism despite a lack of familiarity with the intricacies of a political campaign. Recognizing members of the community at various political events, Judge Kopriva realized that she could connect with the electorate on a personal level and parlayed this enthusiasm into a successful judicial campaign. Once on the bench, Judge Kopriva helped bring diversionary court programs (e.g. drug, DUI and credit card debt), pro bono mediation and a common sense of purpose to the Court, as demonstrated by the Court's motto "We work to serve justice."

When asked what advice she might have for young attorneys, female or male, Judge Kopriva responded: "Set principles you are willing to follow. Be genuine to these principals. Be genuine to yourself. Believe in yourself. Do the right thing. Be willing to withstand

pain and see the value and necessity of it. Look for inspiration in the world around you." Judge Kopriva credits her ability to cope with the inherent stress of her job to her supportive husband, her faith, her ability to detach herself from work at home, her dedication to an exercise regimen and chocolate.

Perhaps the most important advice she had for me was this: "Nobody has it all and nobody does it all." This advice resonates strongly with a generation of female professionals who are conflictly told that they must be perfect constantly but not appear to try too hard, to aggressively pursue careers but also make family a priority, and to speak up and take initiative but not to be perceived as too bossy. With poise, integrity and compassion, Judge Kopriva has led the Blair County Court of Common Pleas despite such challenges. And when asked about her upcoming retirement, Judge Kopriva enthusiastically shared that she will be happy to not have to "squeeze in time for fun" anymore. It looks like this grandmother and active member of her local community will have her hands full when she steps down next year.



Karen E. Grethlein is a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Wade A. Kagarise of Blair County.

2016 ANNE X. ALPERN AWARD

Federal Senior Judge Norma L. Shapiro to be Honored by PBA Commission on Women in the Profession

The Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) Commission on Women in the Profession will present its annual Anne X. Alpern Award to Senior U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania Norma L. Shapiro at the commission's 23rd annual conference on May 11, at the Hershey Lodge, Hershey.

The Alpern Award is presented annually to a female lawyer or judge who demonstrates excellence in the legal profession and who makes a significant professional impact on women in the law. Established in 1994, the award was named for Anne X. Alpern, Pennsylvania's attorney general in 1959 and the first woman state attorney general in the nation.



Norma L. Shapiro

Judge Shapiro's career has been marked by many firsts for a female Pennsylvania lawyer and judge. She was

the first woman to serve as a law clerk on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the first woman partner at Dechert, Price & Rhoads (now Dechert LLP), the first woman to serve as a member and later as chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association Board of Governors, the first woman to be appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and the first woman to serve as a judge on any federal court in the Third Circuit.

Active in the organized bar, Judge Shapiro has served as chair of the PBA Leadership Development and Recruitment Committee, co-chair of the PBA Diversity Task Force and member of the PBA House of Delegates and PBA Minority Bar Committee. As a long-

Continued on page 7

2016 LYNETTE NORTON AWARD

PBA Commission on Women in the Profession to Award Scranton Lawyer Marion Munley

The Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) Commission on Women in the Profession will present its annual Lynette Norton Award to Marion K. Munley, a partner of Munley Law, Scranton at the commission's 23rd annual conference on May 11, at the Hershey Lodge, Hershey.

The Norton Award was created in memory of Lynette Norton, a founding member of the PBA Commission on Women in the Profession who died in 2002. Norton was an advocate for young women in the legal profession and worked to promote literacy and women's rights. The award is designed to recognize and encourage female attorneys who excel in litigation skills



Marion K. Munley

and who are devoted to mentoring female lawyers.

In 1998, Munley founded the Association of Women Lawyers in Lackawanna County that provides mentoring, networking and scholarships to female lawyers.

Munley served for three years as chair and currently serves as a member of the Board of Trustees for Marywood University. She is the current chair of Marywood's Academic Affairs Committee. During her involvement at university, Munley has served as a role model and mentor to young women anticipating and preparing for careers in the law and law-related fields. She delivered the keynote address and was awarded an honorary doctorate at the

Continued on page 7

2016 Anne X. Alpern Award

Continued from page 6

standing member of the PBA Commission on Women in the Profession, she has co-chaired its Nominating Committee and Awards Committee and served on its Annual Conference Committee and Project Constitution Task Force.

As a long-time leader in the judiciary, Judge Shapiro serves as a delegate to the American Bar Association (ABA) for the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) and as a member of the association's Nominating Committee and Committee on Women in Prison. She previously served on the NAWJ Board of Directors, Federal Judges Committee and Judicial Academic Network/Judicial Education Committee. Judge Shapiro served as chair of the National Conference of Federal Trial Judges and has served in numerous

leadership roles in the ABA, including service on its Board of Governors and as chair of the Justice Center Coordinating Council and the Judicial Division Program Committee.

Also active in the community, Judge Shapiro serves as chair of the board of directors for the Violette de Mazia Foundation, which supports the educational activities of the Barnes Foundation. She has served as an elected member and president of the Lower Merion School Board, member and president of the board of trustees of the Jewish Publication Society, vice president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Philadelphia, trustee of the Albert Einstein Medical Center and member of the Board of Overseers of the University of Pennsylvania Law School. She is a Life Member of the American Law Institute.

Judge Shapiro is a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania and is a

recipient of the ABA's John Marshall Award, the Meador-Rosenberg Award and the Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award presented by the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession. She has been recognized as NAWJ's Honoree of the Year and presented with the NAWJ Excellence in Service Award. Judge Shapiro was the first recipient of the Philadelphia Bar Association Sandra Day O'Connor Award. She received the Distinguished Service Award from the University of Pennsylvania Law Alumni Society and the Federal Bar Association Bill of Rights Award. She was named Woman of the Year by the Oxford Circle Jewish Community Center and Woman of Distinction by the Golden Slipper Club.

Judge Shapiro holds degrees from the University of Michigan and the University of Pennsylvania Law School.



2016 Lynette Norton Award

Continued from page 6

university's 2014 graduation ceremony.

Munley is active in Circle 200, a group created to provide mentoring and networking among senior-level executive women in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Active in the organized bar, she is a member of the PBA Commission on Women in the Profession Executive Council, served as moderator at the commission's 2015 spring conference and co-chair of the 2016 spring conference.

Munley is a member of the Pennsylvania Association for Justice Executive Committee and Board of Governors. She served as the 2012-13 chair of the association's Women Trial Lawyers Committee.

Munley is a past president of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers.

She has served on the Board of the Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (IOLTA) and as a member of the Lawyers Advisory Committee of the Judicial Counsel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

She currently serves as secretary for the Trucking Litigation Group of the American Association for Justice and recently served as first vice chair of the association's Women Trial Lawyers Caucus.

Munley became the second woman in Pennsylvania to earn board certification as a civil trial advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocacy. In addition, Munley is board certified by the Association of Plaintiff's Interstate Trucking Lawyers of America and is a certified mediator for the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

A sought-after speaker, Munley educates other legal professionals about litigation issues in Pennsylvania and across the nation. In 2013, she was honored with membership in the Melvin M. Belli Society, which is dedicated to the promotion of continuing legal education and advancing the litigation skills of the trial bar. She annually serves as a faculty member of the nonprofit Gerry Spence Trial Lawyers College in Wyoming. She is a frequent lecturer for the Pennsylvania Association for Justice and the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, the educational arm of the PBA.

In service to the community, Munley provided pro bono representation to 9/11 rescue workers before the Victim's Compensation Fund in New York City, serves as a volunteer with


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2016 Lynette Norton Award

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the Hope Clinic that provides free legal services to the needy, and frequently offers lectures to seniors citizens at Northeastern Pennsylvania Senior Centers on topics of interest to them.


In 2011, Munley was named one of the Top 25 Women Business Professionals by the Northeast Pennsylvania Business Journal. In 2013, she received the Scranton Chamber of Commerce Women of Excellence Award.

Munley holds degrees from the University of Scranton and Temple University School of Law. 

WIP Member Directory

The WIP Directory is integrated with PBA membership records to ensure that information is up-to-date in real time with changes made to those records. Members can upload their photos to their Directory profile and search for each other by name, city, county, area of practice and the year the member was admitted to practice.

To access the WIP Directory, go to the PBA website and log in using your user I.D. and password. Under “My Dashboard,” click on “My Committees.” Click on “Women in the Profession,” then click “Search” and complete the criteria, i.e. name, address, county, etc.

If you have any problems accessing the Directory, please email [Ursula Marks](mailto:Ursula.Marks@pba.org) or [Tameka Altadonna](mailto:Tameka.Altadonna@pba.org). 

Welcome New Committee Members!

The Pennsylvania Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession extends a warm welcome to the new Commission members who joined during the months of January through April, 2016. The Commission hopes that these new members enjoy their committee membership and experience the many benefits of serving on the Commission on Women in the Profession.

Megan A. Armstrong, Cumberland
 Hanna Borsilli, Cumberland
 Winifred M. Branton, Branton Strategies LLC, Philadelphia
 Wendelin A. Brown, Cumberland
 Yudith R. Bujanda, Cumberland
 Kristy Marie Castagna, Kane Pugh Knoell Troy & Kramer LLP, Montgomery
 Jaskirat Chhatwal, Carlisle
 Loralee Anne Choman, Choman Law Office, Clearfield
 Alexandra V. Dellarco, Marcello & Kivisto LLC, Cumberland
 Leah Ann DiMatteo, Philadelphia
 Angela A. Edris, Pennsylvania Bar Institute, Cumberland
 Keila Estevez, Allegheny
 Julia A. Feld-Caralle, PA Department of State, Dauphin
 Kathy Jean Flaherty, Allegheny
 Jillian T. Flax, Cozen O'Connor, Philadelphia
 Michele T Grenier, Philadelphia
 Sarah E. Harebo, Out of State
 Gwendolyn Brown Hauck, Dauphin
 Sarah E. Holmes, Sarah Holmes Law, Philadelphia
 Maria Kennison, Cumberland
 Angeline M. Kogut, Kingery & Kogut, Out of State
 Darleen M. Langan, Cumberland
 Helena Lazares, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP, Delaware
 Yio K. Lee, Cumberland
 Jacquelyn Nicole Martin, Cozen O'Connor, Philadelphia
 Stephanie McDermott, Cumberland
 Janine Clare Melvin, Out of State
 Maria Denise Miksich, Jefferson
 Elizabeth Zwaan Milne, Connor Weber & Oberlies PC, Chester
 Dalin Mo, Cumberland
 Amy Elizabeth Molloy, SR Law LLC, Butler
 Hon. Sallie Updyke Mundy, Superior Court of Pennsylvania, Tioga
 Deanna Beth Murawski, Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP, Out of State
 Erin Nichole Pearson, Crawford County Court of Common Pleas, Crawford
 Brittany Quinn, Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas, Luzerne
 Katherine Louise Riggelman-Thomas, Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott LLC, Dauphin
 Stephanie Nicole Rosser, Magnolia Law PLLC, Fayette
 Katelyn Marie Sadowski, Curley & Rothman LLC, Montgomery
 Ashley Marie Securda, Williamson, Friedberg and Jones, Schuylkill
 Alexia Tomlinson, Cumberland
 Erin Varley, Cumberland
 Maureen A Weidman, Cumberland

Award for Outstanding Leadership in Diversity and Inclusion to be Presented to PBA Commission on Women in the Profession

The Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) Commission on Women in the Profession (WIP) will receive the 2016 Award for Outstanding Leadership in Diversity and Inclusion from the PBA Diversity Team. The award will be presented during the PBA Women in the Profession Annual Luncheon on May 11 in Hershey.

Established in 2010, the PBA Diversity Team works collaboratively with PBA leadership, staff and all other PBA-related groups and entities to promote and enhance existing diversity initiatives and to assist with creating new opportunities. The award recognizes a PBA entity for outstanding efforts, contributions or service to promote diversity and inclusion in the association's membership and for demonstrating commitment to and leadership in promoting full and equal participation in the legal profession.

The WIP's mission is to assess the status of women in the legal profession and identify barriers that prevent them from fully participating in the work, responsibilities and rewards of the profession. The commission makes recommendations to the PBA Board of Governors and House of Delegates for actions to solve problems. In addition, the commission identifies and develops educational programs to address discrimination against women lawyers and the challenges they encounter in their careers.

The WIP is cited as having a long-term, demonstrated commitment to and leadership in promoting full and equal participation within the legal

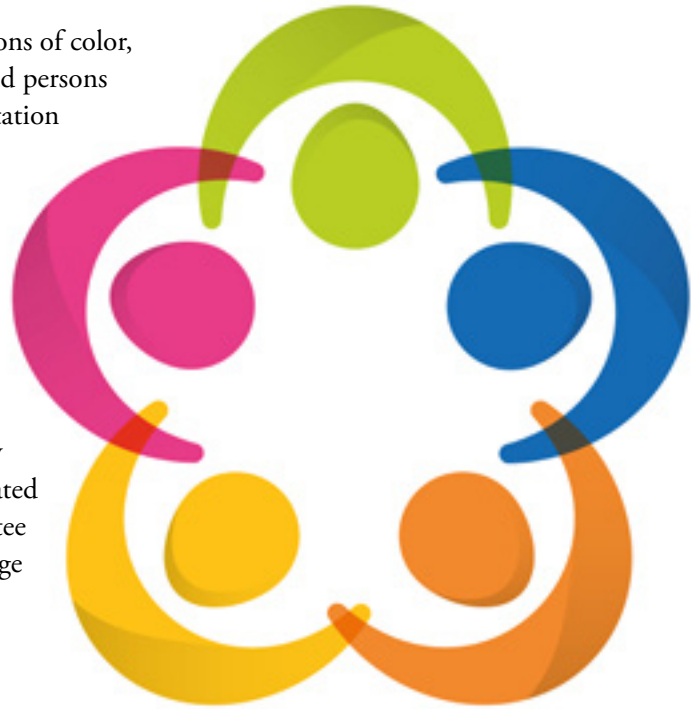
profession of women, persons of color, persons with disabilities and persons with differing sexual orientation and gender identities.


The WIP is furthering the implementation of the PBA Strategic Diversity Plan, which provides a blueprint for enhancing diversity within the legal profession. The WIP developed its own diversity mission statement and created its own Diversity Committee to explore ways to encourage women of all backgrounds to join and be active in the commission and the PBA.

To recognize women who focus on leadership and mentoring, the WIP annually presents the Anne X. Alpern Award and the Lynette Norton Award. Its Honor Roll of Legal Organizations Welcoming Women Professionals honors Pennsylvania firms, corporate law developments and other organizations providing legal services that have instituted programs or initiatives that help women lawyers continue and advance in their careers while maintaining a work/life balance.

The WIP routinely issues its "Report Card," which highlights collected data on the PBA's women members and measures the evolving participation of women in the association, in legal practice and in the judiciary.

Statewide and regional educational programs, presentations and seminars sponsored by the WIP address specific issues facing women and other attorneys of diverse backgrounds.



For many years, the WIP has maintained a mentoring program that provides support and guidance to young women lawyers through a voluntary network of experienced and established members of the bar. 



WIP Members in the News

Jill Kelly McComsey has been selected by the Lehigh Valley Business Group as one of the 25 “Women of Influence” to be honored at a luncheon on May 11, 2016, at Cedar Crest College.



Jill Kelly McComsey

The Women of Influence Award honors women business leaders for their contributions to their companies, industries and communities.

Roberta D. Liebenberg, a partner at Fine Kaplan and Black in Philadelphia, was named to the Board of Directors of the American Antitrust Institute (AAI). The AAI is a national research, education and advocacy organization whose mission is to advance the role of competition in the economy, sustain the vitality of the antitrust laws, and protect consumers. Ms. Liebenberg focuses her practice on antitrust and complex commercial litigation and class actions.



Roberta D. Liebenberg


of Directors of the American Antitrust Institute (AAI). The AAI is a national research, education and advocacy organization whose mission is to advance the role of competition in the economy, sustain the vitality of the antitrust laws, and protect consumers. Ms. Liebenberg focuses her practice on antitrust and complex commercial litigation and class actions.

Bar Leadership Institute Seeks Young PBA Leaders for 2016 Class

The PBA Bar Leadership Institute (BLI) looks to the future of the association, developing well-informed, committed leaders who will serve the PBA for many years to come. It familiarizes participants with the day-to-day operations of the association, provides a foundation on governance and policy issues and introduces participants to PBA staff and resources.

Participation in the BLI provides numerous opportunities to network with PBA members and leadership and helps build lasting relationships that will serve as an invaluable resource for future success.

To be selected for 2016-17 class, an applicant must be a PBA member, 38 years old or younger or have practiced law for five years or less, and have demonstrated leadership ability. Those selected as part of the 10-member class are required to attend and participate in three meetings: July 27 – 29, Young Lawyers Division Summer Meeting, State College; Nov. 16 – 18, Board of Governors, Committee Section Day and House of Delegates meetings, Harrisburg; Feb. 26 – 27, 2017, Conference of County Bar Leaders, State College. The costs of attending these required meetings (rooms, meals provided at the events and registration fees) will be paid by the PBA. Travel expenses to and from the meetings will not be covered by the PBA.

Visit the PBA Bar Leadership Institute [webpage](#) for details and application materials. Questions can be directed to the PBA’s Susan Etter by [email](#) or by phone, 800-932-0311 ext. 2256. Applications are due by May 13. 



The 2015-16 Class of the PBA Bar Leadership Institute

Sunday, August 7, 2016 • ABA Annual Meeting • San Francisco, CA

Noon – 2:00 p.m. • Moscone West Convention Center

26th Annual Margaret Brent Awards Luncheon

The ABA Commission on Women in the Profession established the Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award in 1991 to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of women lawyers. This award honors outstanding women lawyers who have achieved professional excellence within their area of specialty and have actively paved the way to success for other women lawyers. The award is presented to up to five women lawyers who excel in a variety of professional settings and who personify excellence on either the national, regional, or local level.

2016 Honorees

- **Ginger Ehn Lew**; Managing Director and General Counsel; Cube Hydro Partners LLC; Bethesda, MD
- **Roberta D. Liebenberg**; Senior Partner; Fine, Kaplan and Black, R.P.C.; Philadelphia, PA
- **Nancy E. O'Malley**; District Attorney; Alameda County District Attorney's Office; Oakland, CA
- **Judith W. Rogers**; Circuit Judge; U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit; Washington, DC
- **Judith A. Scott**; General Counsel, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) and Senior Partner, James & Hoffman, P.C.; Washington, DC

Support Levels

All supporters will be acknowledged on a prominently placed sign at the luncheon, listed in the commemorative program book, and recognized for their contributions as follows:

GOLD PREMIER: \$20,000

- Opportunity to include a flyer or brochure on the informational table at luncheon;
- Opportunity to take a photograph with the honorees;
- Projection of name on main screen during the luncheon;
- Verbal acknowledgement at luncheon;
- Full-page color tribute ad in commemorative program book;
- Acknowledgement as a Gold Premier supporter on Commission on Women website for one year;
- Individual sign board with name acknowledging Gold Premier supporters;
- Acknowledgement as a Gold Premier supporter on sign at luncheon listing names of all supporters;
- Invitation to a private reception for ABA leadership and award recipients;
- Three reserved tables.

PREMIER: \$10,000

- Projection of name on main screen at luncheon;
- Verbal acknowledgement at luncheon;
- Full-page color tribute ad in commemorative program book;
- Acknowledgement as Premier supporter on Commission on Women website for one year;
- Acknowledgement as a Premier supporter on sign at luncheon listing names of all supporters;
- Invitation to a private reception for ABA leadership and award recipients;
- Two reserved tables.

BENEFACTOR: \$5,000

- Acknowledgement as a Benefactor supporter on Commission on Women website for one year;
- Full-page black-and-white tribute ad in commemorative program book;
- Acknowledgement as a Benefactor supporter on sign at luncheon listing names of all supporters;
- Invitation to a private reception for ABA leadership and award recipients;
- One reserved table.

PATRON: \$2,500

- Acknowledgement as a Patron supporter on Commission on Women website for one year;
- Half-page black-and-white tribute ad in commemorative program book;
- Acknowledgement as a Patron supporter on sign at luncheon listing names of all supporters;
- One reserved table.

This list includes items that are considered benefits to the donor and will reduce the value of the charitable deduction accordingly.

Become a Supporter

To purchase your level of support, tribute ad, and/or table, visit www.ambar.org/brentawards.

Deadline is June 17, 2016.

Tribute Ads

- Full page – \$1,000
- Half page – \$500
- Quarter page – \$250

Tables

Individual tables seating 10 are available for purchase for \$1,750.

Individual Tickets

Individual tickets are available for \$110 through Thursday, June 16, 2016 or \$135 after that date.

Purchase tickets online at www.ambar.org/brentawards.

For more information, please contact Commission staff member Kirsten Crowhurst at 312-988-5668 or Kirsten.Crowhurst@americanbar.org.



The Margaret Brent Awards Luncheon receives funding through the ABA Fund for Justice and Education (FJE). The FJE was created to accept gifts and grants to support the ABA's public service work. The FJE qualifies as an exempt fund under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and all contributions to the FJE are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law. Any proceeds from this event will go toward the projects of the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession.

Upcoming PBA Events

Commission on Women in the Profession 23rd Annual Conference

Hershey • May 11

PBA Annual Meeting

Hershey • May 11-13

Civil Litigation Section Regional Dinner

Philadelphia • May 18

Public Utility Bench Bar Conference

Harrisburg • May 24

33rd Annual Criminal Law Symposium

Harrisburg • June 2

Inside-Outside Counsel Summit

Gettysburg • June 16-17

Co-sponsored by the PBA In-House Counsel Committee and Civil Litigation Section



Pennsylvania Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession Communications Committee

Editorial Policy

Voices & Views is a publication of the Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) Commission on Women in the Profession and is published by the Communications Committee three times per year. The purpose of the publication is to facilitate communication among the membership of the commission on topics and events of general interest to women lawyers. The editors of *Voices & Views* reserve the right to accept or reject any submission and to edit any submission to ensure its suitability for publication, its adherence to the Mission Statement of the Communications Committee and its furtherance of the objectives of the Commission on Women in the Profession.

The articles and reports contained in *Voices & Views* reflect the views of the writer and do not necessarily represent the position of the commission, the editors of *Voices & Views* or the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the PBA WIP Communications Committee to foster improved communication among its members in the furtherance of the goals of the commission. To this end, the publication, *Voices & Views*, provides a forum for professional and open exchange among the WIP membership on all issues related to women and the law. *Voices & Views* shall be utilized for the following purposes:

- To publicize opportunities and events that may be of interest to the WIP membership;
- To provide information to the membership on topics that may be of general interest to women lawyers;
- To reach a wider audience and increase the visibility of the commission;
- To inform the WIP membership of the projects and goals of the commission; and
- To share information with the WIP membership regarding accomplishments of the members, other women lawyers and public figures.

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The editors of *Voices & Views* encourage our membership to contribute articles and announcements, including articles on your area of practice, topics relating to women and the law, book reviews, save-the-date notices, members in the news and photos of members at events.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

Summer 2016 Edition: July 1, 2016

Please send information, news and articles to: the
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